

Hello Chairman & Deputies.

My name is Michael Barrett.

My petition is regarding the unfairness of unauthorized development on the River Shannon and its lakes and the potential damage it can do to the environment.

My presentation today is to explain all the documents and photographs that I have submitted to the committee. What I want the committee to investigate is how could some people be allowed to develop over a period of years, some in recent times, without any planning permission on property owned and governed by Waterways Ireland in an SAP & SPA. And without contributing anything to the owners of the property who at the end of the day are the citizens of Ireland. Furthermore, how these people could receive grant aid while they were the subject of an enforcement order and an investigation by Waterways Ireland. In their application form for the grant aid, they clearly state that it is for expansion of existing activities. In other words, for an expansion on unauthorized development, on public property.

I am delighted to be before this committee and fully confident I will get a fair hearing and hope that any injustices that have occurred will be made good. Without further ado I will hand you over to Mr. Jack O Sullivan who is an environmental consultant of many years and highly experienced who will endeavor to explain the planning and environmental implications to you.

Thank you.