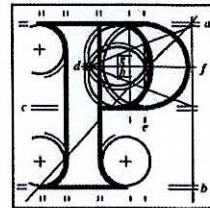


Our Case Number: ABP-316051-23

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Gerard Byrne
Mullenmeehan
Ballymore
Co. Westmeath

Date: 05 May 2023

Re: Renewable energy development comprising 9 no. wind turbines and associated infrastructure.
Umma More and adjacent townlands, County Westmeath.

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your observation or submission in relation to the case mentioned above and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

Please be advised that copies of all submissions / observations received in relation to the application will be made available for public inspection at the offices of the Local Authority and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

For further information on this case please access our website at www.pleanala.ie and input the 6-digit case number into the search box. This number is shown on the top of this letter (for example: 303000).

Yours faithfully,

Niamh Thornton
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737247

BL50A

Teil
Glaio Áitiúil
Facs
Láithreán Gréasáin
Ríomhphost

Tel (01) 858 8100
LoCall 1890 275 175
Fax (01) 872 2684
Website www.pleanala.ie
Email bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde 64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1 Dublin 1
D01 V902 D01 V902

Gerard Byrne
Mullenmeehan
Ballymore
Co Westmeath
2nd May 2023

The Secretary
An Bord Pleanala
64 Marlborough St
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Observation on Ummamore Wind Farm. Case Ref. 316051

A Chara,

I wish to make the following observations on the proposal by Ummamore Ltd/MKO to build a wind farm consisting of 9 turbines of 185 metres high in south Westmeath to be known as the Ummamore Renewable Energy Developments.

My home is located within the 1km zone (house #34 on planning map), 900 metres to the nearest wind turbine.

I have serious concerns about the impact of this proposed wind farm on our local area and the wildlife.

Turbines 185 metres high would dominate the local landscape and skyline. They are simply too tall to be situated in Ballymore and Drumraney. The visual impact would be severe and unacceptable.

The EIAR lists a broad range of local wildlife, to name just a few, birds, bats, badgers. These turbines will have a detrimental effect on the wildlife in this area. On a daily basis I witness Buzzards, Owls and many other species of birds all of which are at risk from these monstrous sized turbines.

Our Local roads cannot support the volume of traffic which has been totally underestimated and the impact of the removal of forestry and hedgerows to the wildlife and environment.

The 2006 guidelines being used for planning these wind farms are grossly outdated. They are relevant to small domestic lower scale turbines, not the 185 metre industrial sized ones planned for the proposed Ummamore wind farm. The current Irish planning guidelines for wind farms rely on a

UK noise assessment model that dates from 1996. This model is widely recognised as not fit for purpose in light of the vast increases in turbine size and power that has occurred in recent decades.

The applicants are obliged to comply with CPO 10.147 of the County Plan when monitoring the noise generated by the development as follows:

Ensure that proposals for energy development demonstrate that human health has been considered, including those related to the topics of:

- Noise (including consistency with the World Health Organisation's 2018 Environmental Noise Guidelines for the European Region);

(Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027, CPO 10.147)

It is noted that the applicants have failed to present their noise assessments in accordance with the requirement of these W.H.O Guidelines

My home will also be affected by shadow flicker (house #24 on the shadow flicker map)

I ask the Board to please take my points into consideration and to refuse planning permission for Ummamore Wind Farm in order to protect the local environment and the people who live here.

Yours in good faith

Gerard Byrne

Gerard Byrne