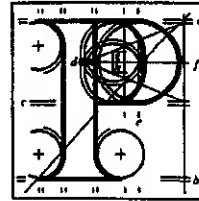


**Our Case Number: ABP-316051-23**

**Planning Authority Reference Number:**



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

Tracey Cuffe & Jason Nugent  
Mullenmeehan  
Ballymore  
Co. Westmeath  
Co. Westmeath  
N91PX73

**Date: 25 April 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](http://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,

Kevin McGettigan  
Administrative Assistant  
Direct Line: 01-8737263

BL50A

Tell  
Glao Aitiúil  
Facs  
Lálthreán Gréasáin  
Ríomhphost

Tel  
LoCall  
Fax  
Website  
Email

(01) 858 8100  
1890 275 175  
(01) 872 2684  
[www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)  
[bord@pleanala.ie](mailto:bord@pleanala.ie)

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde  
Baile Átha Cliath 1  
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

Tracey Cuffe  
Mullenmeehan  
Ballymore  
Co Westmeath  
N91 PX73

Date April 19 2023

The Secretary  
An Bord Pleanála  
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.

Our home is located within the 1km zone (house #50 on planning map), 989 metres to the nearest wind turbine.

Both my husband and I have serious concerns about the impact of this proposed wind farm on our local area, the wildlife and also my health.

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. When I applied for planning permission to build my home, planning was refused. Among the reasons for refusal was due to the location of the entrance gate we would have to cut a large tree down, it was deemed by the planning office to be "detrimental to the local area and landscape" if we cut this tree. We changed the location of the entrance gate to save the tree. I ask you? if the cutting down of that tree was going to be detrimental to the local area and landscape what effect will 9 industrial size wind turbines have on the local area and landscape.

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 we 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

Existing low background noise levels reflect the fact that this is a quiet rural area. Noise pollution emitted by industrial turbines would destroy this positive quality of the local environment. Due to this new and unnatural noise I am likely to experience stress, annoyance, sleep disturbance and concentration problems, if not worse. The potential health consequences of this situation on me are a justified major cause for concern.

[REDACTED] Symptoms vary from patient to patient but typically involve walking difficulties, numbness, vision problems, disturbed balance and impaired cognitive function. [REDACTED] I attribute this to my quality of life living in this quiet stress free rural area [REDACTED]

The Low Frequency Noise (LFN) emitted from wind turbines has been proven to affect Heart Rate Variability (HRV) on healthy individuals. [REDACTED] is known to lower and effect [REDACTED] heart rate, with this in mind the worry and concern I have about the LFN exposure from these turbines is causing me a great deal of stress. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and with the added effects from the LFN exposure from this proposed wind farm I am fearing for my [REDACTED] health and in turn my life.

I also refer to the shadow Flicker, my home (house #38 on shadow flicker map) will be affected by these turbines. As I already stated [REDACTED] I am concerned about the impact this will [REDACTED] The shadow flicker will also block sunlight which is also important to my health [REDACTED]

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

Tracey Cuffe  
Tracey Cuffe

Jason Nugent  
Jason Nugent