

Name: Claire Murray-Smole
Address: Clonmore
Edenderry
Co. Offaly
Eircode: R45XR58
Date: 21 - 10 - 2025 .

Subject: Submission on Ballinla Wind Farm (Ref. 323579) – Concerns Regarding Noise, Health Impacts, and Compliance with Environmental Assessment Requirements

Opening:

I wish to make this submission in relation to the proposed Ballinla Wind Farm (An Coimisiún Pleanála Reference 323579). This development raises serious concerns regarding the potential adverse effects on local residents' health and wellbeing, particularly in relation to noise, vibration, and shadow flicker, and whether the Environmental Impact Assessment Report adequately addresses these issues in accordance with EU and WHO health protection standards.

Absence of a baseline health assessment

Given the absence of any formal baseline health assessment, the undersigned community members wish to confirm that, should this application be granted, we will be undertaking an independent baseline study of the community's health. This will be carried out to establish a verifiable record of local health prior to any operation of the proposed turbines, in line with the precautionary approach recommended by the World Health Organisation (2018) *Environmental Noise Guidelines* and the Department of Health in April 2014 (letter enclosed).

Legal Basis

Under the **EU Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive** (Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU), all projects likely to have significant effects on the environment must include an assessment of effects on **human health**. Article 3(1) of the Directive explicitly requires that the EIA identifies, describes and assesses the direct and indirect significant effects of a project on:

"population and human health; biodiversity; land, soil, water, air and climate; material assets; cultural heritage; and the interaction between these factors."

This means that **human health cannot be limited to simple noise or shadow flicker measurements** — it requires a **systematic Health Impact Assessment (HIA)** addressing potential physiological and psychological effects.

The **World Health Organization (WHO) Environmental Noise Guidelines for the European Region (2018)** further reinforce this, stating that decision-makers should:

"conduct health impact assessments that include environmental noise as a risk factor, whenever possible within an environmental impact assessment."

Accordingly, any Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for a wind energy development must:

1. Assess **impacts on human health** as required by the EIA Directive; and
2. Incorporate or be accompanied by a **Health Impact Assessment**, consistent with WHO 2018 recommendations.

Failure to include a proper HIA would therefore constitute **non-compliance with both EU and WHO guidance** on environmental assessment and health protection.

Closing:

We respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála take full account of these health-related concerns and the absence of an appropriate baseline assessment before determining this application. The protection of public health must be a core consideration in the assessment of this and all similar developments.

Regards,

No.	Date	Name	Address	Eircode	Signature
1		Don Keady	Orchard Hse	R45Y590	Don Keady
2			1 Donmore		
3		John Lennon	Ballymore Hse	R45FD70	
4		Yvonne Quinn	Ballymore	R45FD70	
5		Conal Clynna	Corbettstown	R35TX95	
6		Michael Conlan	Cantrich	Castlejordan	R35VOC9
7		Michael McKelvey	Derrylea (Clonenny) Laois	R32Y320	

No.	Date	Name	Address	Eircode	Signature
8	Hugh	Murray Eddenders		R45T221	Hugh Murray
9	13/10/25	Donna Birmingham	Killaween, Co. Offaly		
10	13/10/25	Cluire Murray	Clonmore, Edenderry	R45 XR58	Cluire
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Community Petition to HSE Public Health

Request for a Baseline Health Assessment

To:

Health Service Executive

Health Centre

Midland Regional Hospital at Tullamore

Arden Road

Tullamore

Co. Offaly

R35 HP73

Subject: Request for a Baseline Health Assessment in

We, the undersigned residents of Leitrim, Lumville, Ballinla, Clarkeville, Ballyfore Big, Ballyfore Little, Ballyeakin and Ballykilleen, (Coolestown) Co. Offaly, are deeply concerned about the potential health impacts arising from existing and proposed wind farm developments in our community.

Numerous residents living near similar developments in neighbouring areas have reported significant adverse health effects, including sleep disturbance, stress, and other symptoms associated with prolonged exposure to wind turbine noise and vibration.

In line with the precautionary principle and the World Health Organisation (WHO) 2018 Environmental Noise Guidelines, we respectfully request that the HSE Public Health Department initiate or support a baseline health assessment of our community. This assessment would establish a record of the community's health prior to any new or expanded wind farm operations and provide essential data to inform public health protection measures.

We believe such action is consistent with the HSE's responsibility to protect public health and to provide evidence-based advice to planning and environmental authorities.

We, the undersigned, support this request:

No.	Name	Address	Eircode	Signature
1	Miriam Walsh	Leitrim House, Edenderry Co Offaly	R45 TW56	M Walsh
2	Peter Dodan	Bullybrittan Rhode Offaly	R35 WP93	P Dodan
3	[Signature]	[Signature]	W34 21	[Signature]
4	Aisling Oostan	Ballybrittan, Rhode	R35 KR82	Aisling Oostan

No.	Name	Address	Eircode	Signature
5	Donna Birmingham	Kellaseen Co Offaly	R35 AK 77	Donna Birmingham
6	Caroline McLaughlin	Lunville, Edenderry, Co. Offaly	R45 PH 56	Caroline
7				
8	Colin J. Drummond	Edenderry	R45 P 744	
9	Tina McNABOLA	Edenderry	R45 HX 00	
10	LORAN HUGHES	EDENDERRY	R45 ER 85	
11	Don Kidd	Castle Jordan	R45 Y 590	
12	Maureen Quinn	Ballymore	R45 FD 70	
13	Maureen Quinn	Ballymore	R45 FD 70	
14	Hugh Murray	CLONMORE EDENDERRY	R45 T 221	
15	Michael Murray	CLONMORE, LOUIS (Derry) (Lea)	R32 Y 320	
16	Michael Carlan	Corrick Castle Jordan		
17	Conal C. Lynn	Corrick Castle Jordan	R35 H 029	
18	Clair Murray	CLONMORE EDENDERRY Co Offaly	R35 T 195	
19	Johnny Daly	Clonin Rhode	R45 X 558	Johnny Daly
20	Handy Daly	Clonin, Rhode		Handy Daly
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