

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

An Coimisiún Pleanála  
64 Marlborough St,  
Rotunda,  
Dublin 1,  
D01 V902

*Our reference no: 25-99DSL01*

***RE: Proposed Windfarm development of 7 Turbines, 110kV substation and associated works within the townlands of Leitrim, Lumville, Ballinla, Clarkeville, Ballyfore Big, Ballyfore Little, Ballyeakin and Ballykilleen, in (Coolestown By) Co. Offaly***

***An Coimisiún Pleanála - Case reference: PAX19.323579***

Dear Sir/Madam,

We wish to make the following objections against the above SID application for the following reasons outlined below and can confirm that our property is located as per the attached map.

We confirm that we have not at any point had any communication with any representative of Statkraft. We have received no offer of community engagement or information, and it is only through local knowledge that we even became aware of this planning application very recently and have now prepared this objection at the last available opportunity.

1. Our family business is located around our home and is entirely based around horses. We have built up a successful business that includes breeding horses and selling them to Europe, training horses and this includes training horses to draw carriages on the public road. These horses are then supplied to Killarney, Dublin and the Aran Islands and we are one of the very few horse trainers in Ireland to now provide this historic service which is so valued and important to tourism.

In addition, we also provide a horse livery service School going children visit us every evening to ride ponies after school and we know how valued this service is by parents in the immediate and surrounding areas

We also provide a horse and carriage service for weddings and funerals and weddings and again we are one of a limited few capable of providing this service due to the training and temperament of horses that is required. As previously stated, our horses must be trained on the public roads, and we have first hand experience of horses being scared and spooked by operating turbines. We have direct experience of new turbines being erected and it is only when the blades are erected and turning that the horses have become agitated and spooked. This creates an obvious danger for ourselves in training the horses, but also for other road

This creates an obvious danger for ourselves in training the horses, but also for other road users and ultimately this threatens our livelihood and the rare and valuable services being provided by us.

The after-school children who use our arena will simply not be able to do so if ponies become nervous and spooked by turbines. Even the slightest risk of this immediately puts and end to this facility for very obvious safety reasons. Considering the closest turbines are only 1.2km-1.5km from us this is a very real risk.

The prevailing wind is also likely to heighten the risk of this occurring unfortunately and we also fear the wake affect in this regard for both us and the horses on our premises.

We also provide horse riding lessons at the weekends and even on Sundays for families.

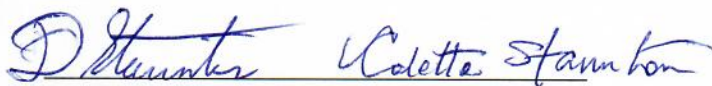
2. Our family home is only 10 years old and pictures of this are attached. It can be seen how sympathetically this has been designed and constructed to sit into the landscape. Not only did we design a very low-profile sympathetic house but we excavated some of our site to further lower the house into the landscape.

And now we are to accept being surrounded by structures that will literally tower above us at approximately 50 times the height of our house. This makes our sympathetic design and effort seem entirely pointless! As can also be seen the front of our house is all glass and therefore flicker and reflection are very real concerns for us, as are the red warning lights.

3. The affect of such turbines on horses is very well documented and all of the above affects either on their own or in combination have to the best of our understanding the ability to threaten the health of our animals and by extension our livelihood and that of our family and children. The extended effect on the services we provide and the people who depend on these is also a huge concern.
4. Furthermore is the future of our children in this area now in jeopardy because of these turbines? Will the area surrounding us be effectively sterilised due to the presence of the windfarm either by refusal of planning permissions and therefore our children not being able to spend their lives here?

I truly believe there is nothing to recommend this application to us and that it will only bring stress and hardship to us and the areas and we call on An Comisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for this application for all of the reasons outlined above.

Yours Sincerely.



**David & Collette Staunton**

Ballymoran  
Edenderry  
Co. Offaly  
R45 YH97

Date: 23/10/2025



# Ballinla Wind Farm

2km Buffer outlined  
Blue, 1km Buffer  
outlined Magenta

Location of  
dwelling house

David Staunton

Turbines

Substation

Site Entrance

TDR

1km Buffer







