

23rd October 2025

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

Our reference no: 25-99CMCLL01

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.

1. Being only approximately 1.2km from the nearest turbine we believe that flicker of sunlight and the resultant shadow flicker will be a significant problem for us and our family. We understand that turbines can be turned off to avoid such affects but we can only rely on the hope that this would be done in the event that this development proceeds and this hope is not something we can have full faith in happening.
2. The visual effects of such large turbines is simply a matter of fact and the utter proliferation of such large turbines in the immediately surrounding area is something that does not appear to exist elsewhere. We recognise the importance of green energy, but this area surely cannot be expected to carry far more than its fair share and to now be expected to carry even more of this share.
3. At this proximity to the turbines we are also very concerned regarding noise levels and the cumulative noise effects of turbines in such close proximity to each other. In addition to this the prevailing winds will carry this noise towards us. The red light at nighttime will be a big issue for us and again the cumulative effect of this together with existing red lights in the vicinity is something that we feel is very unfair for us to have to tolerate forever and extending into the lifetimes of our children. As it stands, the upstairs rooms of our home facing towards an existing windfarm in the locality are lit up red at night time.

4. Due to the proximity of the turbines and the number of them we are extremely concerned regarding the wake affect on us, our animals, the extensive elite level equine industry in the area and the considerable wildlife which we have enjoyed all of our lives. We operate a working farm on the land to the rear of our home, where we produce *An Bord Bia* Quality Assured beef. We are deeply concerned about the potential impact this development could have on grass growth, as well as the overall health and welfare of our livestock. Any alteration to the local environment, including potential changes air quality and/temperature, could have serious implications for our farming operations and the sustainability of our production standards. We therefore urge the planning authority to give full consideration to the potential agricultural and environmental consequences of this proposal.
5. We consider ourselves truly fortunate to live in such a beautiful part of rural Ireland. This landscape, its peace, and its natural heritage are integral to our way of life. However, we now feel that our surroundings are becoming increasingly dominated by wind farm developments, to the point where we feel almost entirely enclosed by them. From an environmental and ecological perspective, we are deeply concerned about the potential negative impacts of the proposed development on local wildlife. Species such as kestrels, swans, pheasants, barn owls, pine martens, and the graceful Irish hare — among many others — rely on this landscape for their habitat and survival. The loss or disruption of these species would represent not only an environmental setback but also a profound diminishment of the natural character and beauty of this rural area.
6. As a family, we regularly use our local country roads for recreational activities such as dog walking, running, and cycling. We are genuinely concerned that the introduction of increased construction traffic and large vehicles associated with this development could significantly compromise the safety of these rural roads. What are currently peaceful and enjoyable routes for local residents and families could become hazardous and intimidating, particularly for children, pedestrians, and cyclists.
7. Caroline has diagnosis of Fibromyalgia. Fibromyalgia is considered a disorder of pain processing within the central nervous system, where the brain and spinal cord amplify pain signals. Fibromyalgia is a chronic pain processing disorder characterized by widespread musculoskeletal pain, fatigue, and a heightened sensitivity to amongst others, noise, light and temperature and is often exacerbated by stress, sleep problems, and environmental factors. Fibromyalgia symptoms can fluctuate, and flare-ups (periods of worsened symptoms) may be triggered by various factors, including:
 - Stress

- Lack of sleep: Poor-quality or insufficient sleep.
- Weather changes: Especially cold, damp, or sudden changes in temperature or barometric pressure.
- Sensory overload: Loud noises, bright lights can worsen symptoms for some people.

We are deeply concerned that, should this proposal proceed, it could have a detrimental impact on Caroline's health and overall wellbeing.

8. Is the future development for dwelling houses for our children and families now to be effectively sterilised due to the presence of the windfarm either by refusal of planning permission or the simple desire of people and our children not wanting to live here?
9. We were never offered any community engagement or education on this development. Such community engagement would of course have been welcomed but in the absence of it we have been left with trying to make sense of it for ourselves and making an objection with extremely limited information at a very late stage.

We are aware that there is cross community support against this development, and we fully support the objection of our neighbour's including those with very significant health, equine and animal welfare concerns.

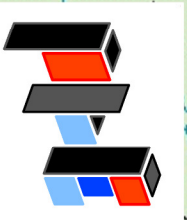
We truly believe there is nothing to recommend this application to us or to the people of this area and we call on An Comisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for this application for all of the reasons outlined above.

Yours Sincerely.

John & Caroline McLoughlin

Date: 23/10/2025

John & Caroline McLoughlin
Lumville
Edenderry
Co. Offaly, R45 PH56



Ballinla Wind Farm

2km Buffer outlined
Blue, 1km Buffer
outlined Magenta

Location of
dwelling house

Caroline & John
McLaughlin

Turbines

Substation

Site Entrance

TDR

1km Buffer

