

23rd October 2025

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

Our reference no: 25-99J&NGL01

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. While we recognise the importance of renewable energy in achieving national climate goals, I believe this particular development is grossly inappropriate for this location and believe it would have significant negative impacts on the local community, the environment, and my personal health and wellbeing.

At the outset, we would like to confirm that we happened upon two representatives of Statkraft over 12 months ago, who were dropping generic “Dear Resident” letters into post boxes, which amongst other things, thanked me for my “feedback”, without having ever had any communication previous to that. We read this letter with them, and challenged directly, and was told they would arrange a meeting with residence in March of 2025. This never happened, despite me calling and leaving voice messages.

Offaly, and in particular, North Offaly has already accommodated a disproportionality high number of wind energy developments relative to other regions in Ireland. The cumulative visual, environmental and social impacts are already pronounced, and the addition of further turbines represents an **unbalanced concentration of industrial-scale energy infrastructure** in a rural county. The local landscape has borne the brunt of previous developments, and the ongoing addition of turbines undermines both residential amenity and rural character of the area.

Our home is 1.45km from T5, as per plans. Living in close proximity to seven turbines would present a serious risk to my health and quality of life, and I believe this must be fully and independently assessed before any decision is made. At this proximity to the turbines we are also very concerned regarding noise affects and the cumulative noise effects of turbines

in such close proximity to each other. I, Joan, suffer from arthritis, Mitral valve prolapse (MVP) and superior canal dehiscence syndrome (SCDS), all of which are medical conditions that heighten my sensitivity to vibration, pressure changes, and noise, and make me particularly vulnerable to the physical and physiological effects associated with wind turbine developments. The low-frequency noise and infrasound generated by large turbines are known to adversely affect individuals with vestibular and cardiac sensitivities such as SCDS and MVP. The constant mechanical hum and low-frequency vibrations have been reported to affect sleep quality, stress levels, joint pain, heart rhythm and blood pressure, all of which are significant health concerns for me.

Further to these personal health concerns, we hold serious concern over the impact of this development to both the proposed site and wider surrounding areas, which are farmlands to many, and support diverse habitats, flora, and fauna. Such large-scale turbine installation will directly impact on habitat fragmentation and disturbance of local wildlife and will have negative impact upon the land and animals. Due to the proximity of the turbines and the number of them we are extremely concerned regarding the 'wake affect' on not just us, but on the animals, including the extensive elite level equine industry in the area and the considerable wildlife which we have enjoyed all of our lives.

We understand that turbines can be turned off to avoid flickers of sunlight and resultant shadows, but we can only rely on the *hope* that this would be done, and in the event of this development proceeding, based upon the lacklustre engagement and poor communication from Statkraft to date, hope feels futile. We already suffer from the red lights of one such wind farm within our view at nighttime (site 6.6km away from home) and together with such a proposal, less than 2km away, is something that we feel is very unfair for us to have to tolerate for the remainder of our lifetimes, and extending into the lifetimes of our children.

As a nation, we speak frequently about economic issues such as emigration and a housing crisis', yet we are creating a future where development of dwelling houses for our children in their local communities and family lands will effectively stopped, either by refusal of planning permission or due to an understandable lack of desire from our children to want to live here due to the presence of this wind farm.

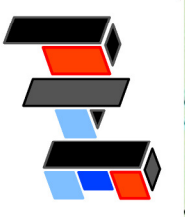
In the absence of engagement, we have been left with trying to make sense of this ourselves and making an objection with extremely limited information at a very late stage. We are aware that there is a cross-community support against this development, and we fully support the objections of our neighbours including those with significant health issues, and 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Nicholas Gover', written in a cursive style.

Joan Gover
Nicholas Gover
Lumville
Edenderry
Co. Offaly
R45 KP80
23 October 2025



Ballinla Wind Farm

2km Buffer outlined
Blue, 1km Buffer
outlined Magenta

Location of
dwelling house

Joan & Nick
Gover

Turbines

Substation

Site Entrance

TDR

1km Buffer



Statkraft

0 0.75 3 km