



# Councillor Brigid Teefy

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Cllr. Brigid Teefy
Limerick City and County Council
Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
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31 October 2025

Re: Objection to Proposed Wind Energy Development at Garrane, Bruree - Case Reference ACP 25/323635 | PAX91 323635

Dear Sir/Madam,

As an elected representative for the Area,

I wish to formally object to the proposed Garrane Bruree Wind Energy Development. This proposal has generated widespread concern among local residents, farmers, and community members. Having reviewed the details of the application, I believe the proposed development is inappropriate for this rural location and would cause significant and lasting adverse impacts on the area's community, environment, and rural character.

My specific grounds for objection are as follows:

#### 1. Unsuitable Location and Road Infrastructure

The proposed site is accessed via narrow rural roads that are incapable of safely accommodating large construction and delivery vehicles. The transport of turbine components would create serious road safety risks, disrupt local life, and damage existing road surfaces essential for residents, school transport, and agricultural traffic.

## 2. Excessive Turbine Height and Visual Impact

The proposed turbine height of approximately 170 metres is completely out of scale with the surrounding landscape. The visual intrusion would be severe, altering the natural rural skyline and diminishing the scenic quality of the area.

### 3. Proximity to Residential Properties

The turbines are proposed too close to existing homes. This raises serious concerns regarding noise levels, shadow flicker, and visual dominance, all of which would reduce residential amenity and quality of life for affected households.

### 4. Noise and Health Impacts

Wind turbine noise has been associated with sleep disturbance, stress, and potential cardiovascular effects. The World Health Organization (WHO) Environmental Noise Guidelines for the European Region (2018) recommend limiting noise from wind turbines to below 45 dB Lden to prevent these effects.

The Health Service Executive (HSE) should be fully consulted on this proposal to assess potential public health risks before any decision is made.

#### 5. Shadow Flicker Effects

Shadow flicker from turbine blades can cause serious disturbance and discomfort for nearby residents, particularly during morning and evening hours. This phenomenon is known to affect concentration, relaxation, and mental well-being.

# 6. Rural Farming Character of the Area

This is a predominantly rural farming community, where agriculture forms the social and economic foundation of local life. The proposed development would disrupt farming activity, disturb livestock, and undermine the agricultural integrity and peaceful character of the area.

### 7. Environmental and Wildlife Impacts

The site and surrounding lands support a variety of wildlife, bird species, and protected habitats. The construction and operation of turbines would result in habitat loss, disturbance, and displacement of sensitive species. A full and independent ecological impact assessment is required to ensure compliance with environmental and biodiversity protection standards.

### 8. Poor Communication and Lack of Community Engagement

Communication from the applicant to local residents and stakeholders has been poor and inadequate. Many residents were not properly informed or consulted about the proposal. Meaningful community engagement is essential for projects of this scale, and the applicant has failed to meet reasonable standards in this regard.

### 9. Impact on Future Planning and Future Generations

The industrial nature of this project would hinder future planning, housing, and community development in the area. It would create environmental and visual impacts that would affect future generations, undermining the sustainability and attractiveness of the region as a place to live, farm, and work.

I also urge that the HSE, National Parks and Wildlife Service, and other relevant statutory agencies be fully consulted regarding this application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr. Brigid Teefy

**Limerick City and County Council** 

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