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Date: 30/Oct/2025

To:
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Planning Application – *Garrane Green Energy Wind Farm, Co. Limerick*
An Bord Pleanála Case Ref.: 323635

Dear Sir / Madam,

I wish to make a formal objection to the planning application lodged by Garrane Green Energy Limited for the construction of a wind energy development consisting of nine turbines with a maximum tip height of 170 metres and associated works at Garrane, Co. Limerick.

I am a resident of Smiths Road, Charleville, approximately 3km from the proposed site. I grew up in Ballincolly, Charleville which is alongside Charleville Lagoons. This is a sanctuary for wildlife and wind turbines would have a detrimental effect on the wetland birds and mammals that habitat in the area. I now live and work in the local area and have long-standing ties to the community and landscape that would be affected by this proposal.

Grounds for Objection

1. Landscape and Visual Impact

The proposed turbines, at 170 m in height, will be visually dominant over a wide rural area. The landscape between Charleville and the Limerick border is predominantly low-lying farmland, and turbines of this scale would appear intrusive and disproportionate. The development would be visible from several approach roads to Charleville and from nearby scenic viewpoints, altering the rural character and sense of place.

2. Noise and Shadow Flicker Impacts

The noise and flicker modelling provided in the EIAR is unlikely to reflect real-world background conditions in rural Charleville and surrounding areas. Low-frequency and amplitude-modulated noise can travel significant distances under certain weather conditions, and these impacts have not been adequately assessed or mitigated. I request independent verification of predicted noise levels at the nearest dwellings.

3. Ecological and Biodiversity Concerns

There are several environmentally sensitive areas within the wider zone of influence, including habitats supporting bat populations and bird species associated with the Maigue River catchment. The applicant's Natura Impact Statement (NIS) should be carefully reviewed to ensure that survey data are up to date, seasonally representative, and sufficient to meet the requirements of the Habitats Directive.

4. Cumulative and Precedent Effects

When considered together with other existing and proposed wind farms in North Cork and South Limerick, this project adds to an already significant concentration of turbines. The cumulative landscape, visual and noise impacts have not been adequately addressed in the submitted EIAR.

5. Inadequate Public Consultation and Transparency

Residents in Charleville and the surrounding townlands received minimal information about this proposal during its early stages. A project of this scale should be subject to thorough, transparent consultation, allowing affected communities to review and respond meaningfully before an application is lodged.

Relief Sought

I respectfully request that **An Bord Pleanála** refuse permission for this development unless it can be demonstrated beyond doubt that:

- the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) are comprehensive, evidence-based, and legally compliant;
- residential amenity, landscape character, and ecological integrity will not be adversely affected; and
- meaningful, good-faith community consultation has occurred.

Conclusion

The proposed Garrane Wind Farm, by reason of its scale, height, cumulative impact, and inadequate environmental assessment, represents an unsuitable and excessive development for this rural landscape.

Please confirm receipt of this objection and ensure I am notified of any further information requests or decisions relating to this application.

Yours faithfully,

Dessie Fitzgerald