

Bernadette Mangan
Cloonaglasha,
Tuam,
Co. Galway

07/11/25

To:
An Coimisiún Pleanála
Re: Objection to Shancloon Windfarm – ABP Ref 323699

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to object to the proposed Shancloon Windfarm (ABP Ref 323699) on the grounds that it would seriously injure the residential amenity, landscape character, and environmental integrity of the Cloonaglasha area, and would therefore be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

I grew up in Cloonaglasha. The house I grew up in is approximately 950 metres from the proposed turbine T11. I have always cherished the beautiful view of Castlehackett Hill, the peace and tranquility of the countryside, and the unspoiled nature that surrounds us. This is a quiet rural community that has remained largely untouched, where people live in harmony with the land and its wildlife.

While I understand the importance of renewable energy, this proposal is wholly inappropriate for this sensitive rural setting and would have an unacceptable impact on local residents and the environment.

From my reading of the EIAR, I believe my home could be vulnerable to shadow flicker and I am deeply concerned about the effects this will have on my family and others in the area. My father suffers from epilepsy, and I am extremely worried that the flicker effect could act as a trigger for seizures. Others in the area who have similar health conditions, or who experience vertigo or light sensitivity, would also be vulnerable. This is a serious health and wellbeing concern that must not be ignored.

The constant humming noise and flicker from turbines can cause sleep disturbance, stress, and loss of peace and quiet. These are not theoretical impacts - they are well-documented issues for people living close to industrial-scale turbines.

The turbines, would have a dramatic visual impact on the surrounding landscape. They would dominate views from my home towards Castlehackett Hill, permanently altering one of the most beautiful and tranquil outlooks in the area. The visual intrusion would be completely out of character with the existing rural environment, which is defined by open farmland, bogland, and gentle natural features.

The proposed site involves significant peat removal and excavation, which poses serious risks to local hydrology, water contamination, and flooding. Once disturbed, peatland ecosystems cannot easily recover, and their drainage releases stored carbon and damages biodiversity.

This area supports a variety of wildlife that depends on the bog and surrounding habitats for feeding and nesting. The destruction of the bog and associated ecosystems would be a major ecological loss.

Residents are very concerned about devaluation of local properties and the potential difficulty of obtaining planning permission for future home improvements or family housing. The perception and reality of living within close proximity to turbines will have a lasting negative effect on the area's viability as a place to live and raise a family.

Developers will not have to live beside these turbines, yet the local people who have built their lives here will have to endure the long-term consequences.

There has been no proper public consultation or community meeting. Local people have not been listened to or given a meaningful say in a project that would fundamentally change their environment. This is inconsistent with the Aarhus Convention and with national planning policy promoting public participation in environmental decision-making.

I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to think of our families and young people, and to consider the environmental and social risks of this proposal - the disturbance of the bog, the loss of wildlife, and the long-term change it would bring to our community.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that permission be refused for the proposed Shanclon Windfarm.

Yours faithfully,
Bernadette Mangan