

Bernard Geraghty
H91k6C7
Derrymore,
Caherlistrane,
County Galway

Date: 12-11-2025

To:
The Secretary,
An Coimisiun Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1,
D01 V902
Ireland

An Coimisiún Pleanála - Case reference: PAX07.323699

In the townlands of Beagh, Beagh More, Cloonbar, Cloonweelaun, Cloonnaglasha, Cloonteen, Corillaun, Derrymore, Ironpool, Shancloon, Toberroe and Tonacooleen, Co. Galway (www.shancloonwindfarmsid.ie) Galway County Council.

Description : 11 no. turbine wind farm and associated infrastructure.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally make an observation to the proposed Wind Farm shown above, which is being planned within approximately one kilometre of my home in County Galway.

This letter outlines my observations in relation to the proposed development.

1. Excessive Proximity to Residential Dwellings

The proposed turbines are located far too close to homes, including my own. (See attached Map 1) At less than one kilometre away, this would have a significant and lasting impact on the residential amenity, tranquillity, and safety of those living nearby. National and local guidance recognises that turbines should maintain sufficient separation to protect residents from noise, shadow flicker, and visual intrusion — this proposal clearly fails to do so.

2. Noise and Health Concerns

Turbine noise, particularly low-frequency noise and amplitude modulation, can cause severe disturbance, especially during night-time hours. Given the short distance from my property, I am deeply concerned about continuous noise pollution that could affect sleep, wellbeing, and quality of life.

3. Visual Impact and Landscape Character

The turbines would dominate the surrounding rural landscape, which is currently unspoiled and visually open. The proposed structures would alter the skyline and destroy the visual amenity of the area, not only for residents but also for visitors who appreciate the natural environment and open views.

4. Shadow Flicker

The potential for shadow flicker from rotating blades is significant at this range. This effect can be distressing, particularly for children, older residents, and those sensitive to light fluctuations. Mitigation measures are rarely sufficient in practice.

5. Environmental and Wildlife Impact

The proposed site is located on bogland, a sensitive and valuable natural habitat supporting a range of wildlife. Construction and operation of turbines would disrupt ecosystems, damage peatland, and contribute to carbon release rather than sequestration — directly conflicting with environmental protection principles.

6. Property Devaluation

It is well-documented that large-scale turbine developments can reduce nearby property values. The visual and noise intrusion, combined with perceived health and safety risks, would make my home less desirable and devalue what is my primary investment and family home.

7. Community Impact

Our community has not been adequately consulted about this proposal. Large-scale projects such as this should be developed with the input and consent of the people most affected. The proposal undermines the rural character and community cohesion that make this area special. In light of the above, I respectfully request that An Bord Pleanála refuse permission for this development. Renewable energy is important, but it must be achieved in a way that respects existing communities, protects local environments, and maintains a fair balance between national objectives and residents' rights.

9. Incorrect information shown on Planning Application

I wish to point out that part of land owned by myself and my brother is shown on the planning maps submitted as land under the control of the planning applicant (Outlined in Blue). This Land is directly adjacent to one of the proposed wind Turbines. (see attached map 2) and I hereby wish to confirm that we have **not** entered into any agreement/ contract with the planning applicant. This map is misleading and therefore the lands as shown outlined in blue are incorrect and not in accordance with Planning Guidelines in relation to making a valid planning application.

10. Potential flooding issues with Turbines and Substation

I wish to express concern that the proposed wind turbines and the proposed Substation in Tonacooleen may exacerbate flood risk within the surrounding bogland, particularly given the site's proximity to an area with a recorded flooding event. (See attached map 3 showing flood info in the area).

Bog habitats function as natural water-storage systems, and their hydrology is highly sensitive to disturbance. The construction of turbines, foundations, access roads and cable trenches has the potential to alter established drainage patterns within the peat. Such alterations can impede or divert the slow, diffuse flow of water that normally occurs within intact bogs, potentially resulting in increased surface-water accumulation upslope or adjacent to the development area.

In addition, the compaction and disturbance of peat during construction may reduce the bog's capacity to absorb and retain rainfall. This can lead to accelerated runoff during periods of heavy precipitation, increasing downstream flood risk. The introduction of new drainage channels or access routes may further create artificial flow paths that concentrate water and deliver it rapidly to nearby watercourses, contrary to the natural slow-release hydrology of peatlands.

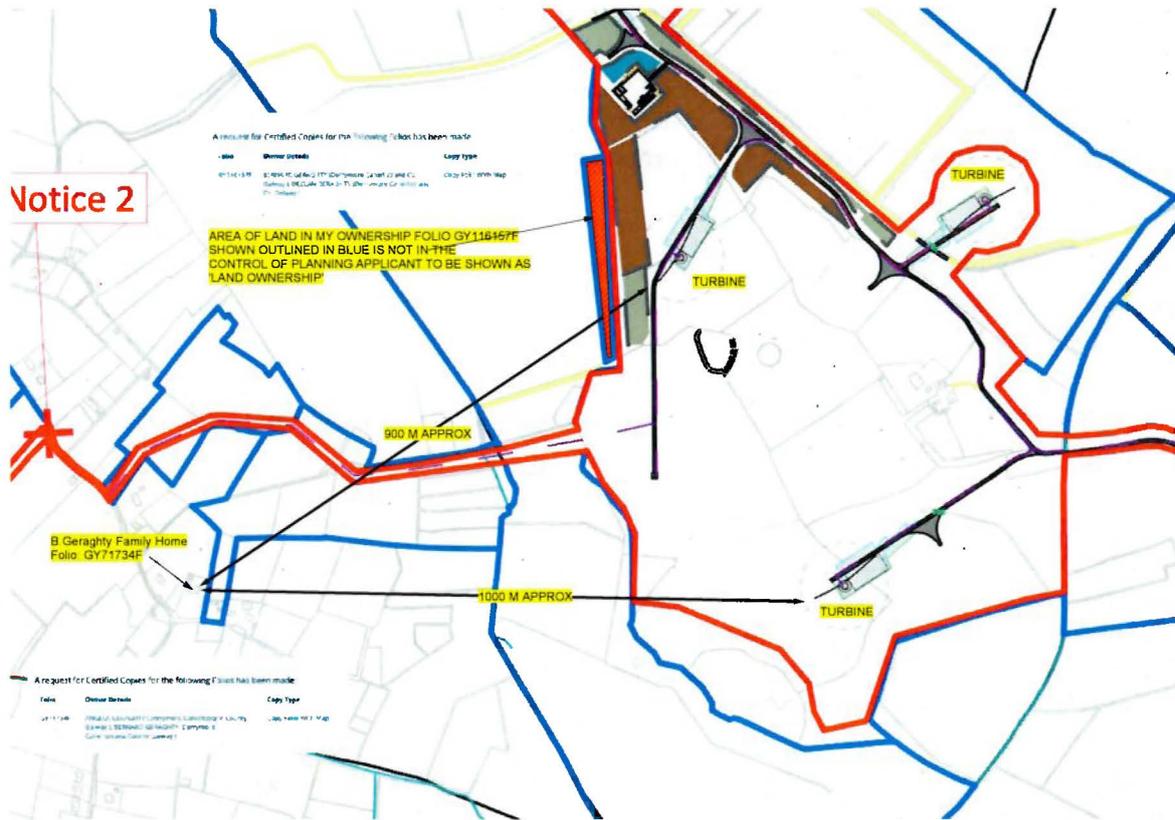
It should also be noted that peatlands can become unstable when disturbed, and several historic examples in Ireland demonstrate that construction activity in deep peat can contribute to peat slippage. Any such destabilisation would pose additional risks to local drainage systems and could lead to localised flooding impacts.

Given the area around Shancloon's existing history of flooding, even relatively small hydrological changes associated with turbine construction could exacerbate pre-existing vulnerabilities. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the planning authority require a comprehensive, independent hydrological and peat-stability assessment to ensure that the proposed development does not increase flood risk within the local catchment.

I trust that all the above points will be taken into consideration when dealing with this application.

Thankyou for considering my observation.

Yours sincerely
Bernard Geraghty



MAP 1 SHOWING APPROX DISTANCE TO PROPOSED WINDTURBINES AND LAND IN OUR OWNERSHIP HATCHED IN RED AND WRONGLY OUTLINED IN BLUE IN APPLICATION.

Folio	Owner Details	Copy Type
GY116157F	B. SHAW & SIBBA (477) (Barrington) (unincorporated) Barrington, 138 CLARIBARRA DRIVE, GERRARD ONTARIO, ONT. (Canada)	Color Folio with map

Folio Number GY116157F
Title Level Freehold
Plan Number C9KU3
Property Number 1
Area of selected plans 0.99 hectares.
Number of Plans on this folio: 1
Address: Not Available

[View Folio PDF](#) [Request Certified Copy](#)

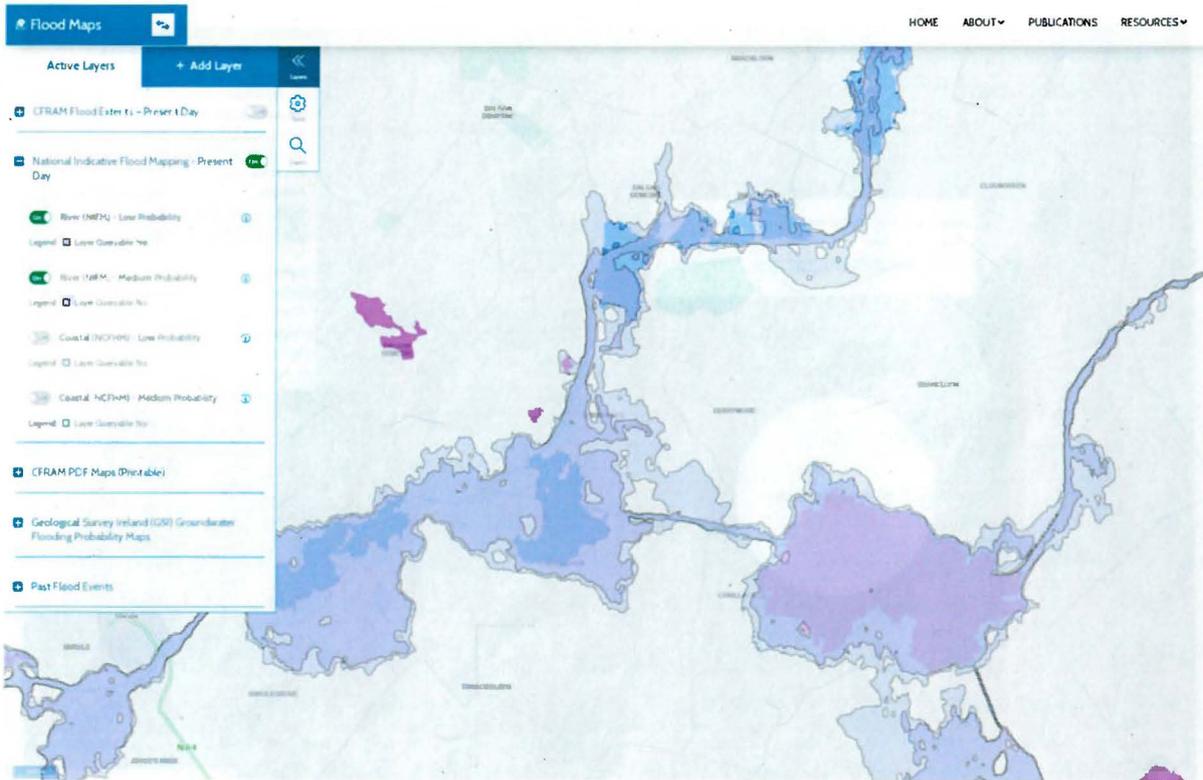
Burdens: Turbary on Folio GY116157F, Property 1

*Title Éireann Registration Boundaries and Plan Area are **not conclusive**. See [Section 62\(2\) of Registration of Title Act 2006](#) and [Rule 8\(3\) of the Land Registration Rules 2012](#).

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Please Note
 Your current balance is €5A

MAP 2 SHOWING APPROX DISTANCE TO PROPOSED WINDTURBINES FROM LAND OWNED BY MY BROTHER AND I AND WRONGLY OUTLINED IN BLUE ON PLANNING APPLICATION.



MAP 3 SHOWING FLOOD INFO SURROUNDING THE PROPOSED WIND TURBINES AND SUB-STATION IN TONACOOLEEN.