

To:
An Coimisiún Pleanála

Objection to Shancloon Windfarm – ABP Ref 323699

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to object to the proposed Shancloon Windfarm (ABP Ref 323699). I live in Kilshanvey, less than 2 kilometres from the nearest proposed turbine. This is the place where I was born and raised, and where my family has lived for generations. It's a quiet, close community where people know one another and care for the land around them.

I value the peace, the views, and the natural surroundings that make this area so special. That is why I am deeply concerned about what this development would mean for Kilshanvey and for the wellbeing of everyone living here.

1. Loss of Peace and Change to the Landscape

The biggest loss we face is the peace and calm that defines our area. Kilshanvey is a place where people can enjoy the countryside, hear the birds, and see the stars at night. The proposed turbines would dominate the landscape and change that forever. The visual impact of such tall structures, combined with the noise they produce, would destroy the character of this rural setting.

For local families, this is not just about views — it's about quality of life and mental wellbeing. Many people live here for the quiet and the connection to nature, and that would be lost.

2. Risk of Flooding and Water Contamination

I am also very concerned about flooding and water contamination. The area has bogs, turloughs, and underground streams, which are easily disturbed. Construction and excavation on peatland could interfere with natural drainage and lead to surface flooding, especially during heavy rain.

If peat or silt from the site gets into the local streams, it could contaminate water sources and harm wildlife. The consequences of such damage would last for years.

3. Lack of Consultation and Respect for Local People

What has made this situation worse is the complete lack of consultation with local residents. There has been no public meeting, just a leaflet drop, and no meaningful effort to explain the project to the people who live closest to it.

Some of us didn't even get a leaflet. Many of us only learned of it when planning notices appeared. This is deeply disappointing and unfair. A development of this scale should involve open communication and respect for the community - not decisions made without those most affected.

4. Impact on Young People and the Future

As a young person who may want to build a home here in the future, I am worried that living near a large windfarm will make it impossible to get planning permission or a mortgage. It would be devastating to have to leave the area just to find somewhere suitable to live.

Our community needs to stay alive — not be pushed out by developments that make rural living harder.

Conclusion

I support renewable energy when it is planned in a way that fits the local environment and respects the people who live there. The Shancloon proposal does neither. It threatens our landscape, our peace, and our future.

I ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for this development and to protect the people, wildlife, and heritage of Kilshanvey.

Yours faithfully,
Brendan Farrell
Kilshanvey, Kilconly, Tuam, Co. Galway