

**Submission of Objection to Planning Application – Case Ref. 323699  
Proposed RWE Wind Farm Development at Kilconly & Caherlistrane, Co.  
Galway**

To Whom It May Concern,  
An Bord Pleanála,

I wish to object to the proposed RWE wind farm development in the Kilconly and Caherlistrane area (Case Ref. 323699). I am a resident of Toberroe, Kilconly, living approximately 960 metres from the nearest proposed turbine location. This is our family home, where my partner and I have built our life, and we are deeply concerned about the impact this project would have on our health, surroundings, and community.

### **1. Our Home and Way of Life**

We moved to Toberroe for its peace, space, and natural beauty — qualities that are increasingly rare and deeply valued. The landscape here is open, quiet, and alive with birdlife. It provides not only a place to live but a sense of calm and well-being that supports daily life and mental health.

The introduction of 180-metre industrial turbines less than a kilometre from our home would fundamentally alter that. The noise, shadow flicker, and night-time lighting would disrupt sleep, concentration, and the sense of tranquillity that defines rural living. As someone who works from home, I rely on this quiet environment to do my job effectively — something that would no longer be possible if this development proceeds.

### **2. Environmental and Landscape Concerns**

The proposed turbine sites sit on deep, wet peatland that floods easily after heavy rain. Excavation, drainage, and piling would disturb this fragile ground, increasing surface-water run-off and flood risk for nearby properties and roads.

Visually, turbines of this scale would dominate the landscape, transforming open countryside into an industrial skyline. The character of Toberroe and Kilconly — and the enjoyment residents and visitors take in this unspoilt rural setting — would be permanently damaged. The development would also degrade the setting of local heritage features such as Feartagar (Jennings) Castle and nearby ringforts.

### **3. Health, Amenity, and Planning Policy**

The World Health Organization's *Environmental Noise Guidelines* (2018) recommend low night-time noise levels to protect health and well-being. In such a quiet rural area, these standards could not realistically be maintained with turbines of this size and proximity.

I have read and fully support the detailed submission made by my partner, Maria Smyth, which outlines how the proposal conflicts with the *Galway County Development Plan 2022–2028*, the

*National Planning Framework, and the current and draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines. In my view, the proposed development is incompatible with these policies and would seriously erode local amenity, environmental integrity, and community well-being*

#### **4. Consultation and Community Impact**

Public consultation around this project has been limited and impersonal. Many residents, ourselves included, only received a few letters but no meaningful engagement or follow-up. This lack of transparency leaves people feeling ignored in a decision that will reshape our area for generations

I am also concerned that, as seen in other parts of the country, residents have little recourse once turbines are built and operational issues arise. Preventing those problems through careful siting and planning is far preferable to attempting to fix them later.

#### **5. Conclusion**

Renewable energy is vital, but it must not come at the cost of people's health, environment, or quality of life. Locating 180-metre turbines within 960 metres of family homes and on sensitive peatland is incompatible with sustainable planning or fair treatment of local residents.

I respectfully urge An Bord Pleanála to refuse permission for this development and to protect the people, landscape, and heritage of Kilconly and Caherlistrane.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Sincerely,



**Conall Daly**

Toberroe, Kilconly, Co. Galway

Eircode: H54 RY93

Date: 24 October 2025