

Subject: Objection to the Proposed Shancloon Windfarm
(ABP Ref: 323699)

To whom it may concern,

I wish to lodge a formal objection to the proposed Shancloon Windfarm (ABP Ref. 323699).

My name is Damian Concannon, and I live in Ironpool, approximately 2km from the nearest proposed turbine. I grew up here and my family and I have only recently moved into our new home, which we have spent years planning and building. The news of this proposed development has caused us considerable stress and uncertainty, just as we are trying to settle into what we hoped would be our long-term home.

When applying for planning permission for our house, we were required to meet very strict conditions. We had to carefully position the house to ensure it was more than 50 metres from a nearby ring fort, and we were refused permission for a particular window because of visual impact concerns. I hope that the same level of rigour and scrutiny applied to small individual applications like mine will also be applied to a development of this scale and significance.

My main concerns regarding the proposed windfarm are as follows:

- **Visual Impact:** The proposed turbines will dominate the surrounding landscape, which is currently a peaceful and unspoilt rural area. The sheer scale of the structures will be entirely out of character with the setting.
- **Destruction of Bogland:** The proposed works involve significant disturbance to local bogs, which act as important carbon stores and natural flood defences. Removing or draining peatland could have long-term environmental consequences, including increased flood risk.
- **Wildlife and Birdlife:** The area is rich in wildlife, particularly bird species. The Whooper Swans, which frequent this area, are of particular concern. These are protected migratory birds, and any disturbance to their feeding or flight patterns would be a serious loss.
- **Lack of Consultation:** At no point were local residents properly informed or consulted about this proposal. Considering the major impact it will have on our community, this lack of engagement is very disappointing.

This proposal threatens to undermine the rural landscape and natural environment that make this area special. I strongly urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for this development.

Yours sincerely,
Damian Concannon
Ironpool,
Kilconly,
Tuam,
Co. Galway