

Damien Walsh,  
Abbeytown,  
Caherlistrane,  
Co. Galway  
H91 AW0X

16<sup>th</sup> November 2025

An Coimisiún Pleanála,  
64 Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1

**Re: An Coimisiún Pleanála Ref. No. PAX07.323699 - Objection to Shancloon Wind Farm**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to strongly object to the proposed Shancloon Wind Farm.

I live in Abbeytown with my wife and our three young children (all under six years old). I have lived here all my life. I work from home and rely heavily on stable communications infrastructure. My family, like many others in this rural residential area, would be significantly and negatively affected by this development.

**Residential Amenity & Unsuitability**

This is a populated rural residential community, not an industrial zone. The scale, height and proximity of the proposed turbines and substation are incompatible with the principles of protecting residential amenities, health and quality of life.

**Construction & Haul Route Impacts**

My home is on the proposed haul route for substation construction. Local roads here are narrow, rural and unsuitable for sustained HGV and abnormal load traffic. This presents serious road safety concerns for children, pedestrians and residents and conflicts with national transport and road safety guidelines.

**Public Health & Human Impact**

The development would introduce operational noise, infrasound, shadow flicker and night-time lighting, which are recognised internationally as having potential adverse effects on nearby residents, especially young children. Such impacts are inconsistent with proper planning for a residential area. The Planning and Development Act 2024 (Schedule 4) states that permission may be refused where a project is likely to have "serious danger to human health or the environment."

**Consultation Failures**

Public engagement has been inadequate. Households on the haul route and 1KM of the substation did not receive any consultation, contrary to best-practice standards for major infrastructure.

**Landscape & Visual Impact**

The 180-metre turbines and substation would permanently alter the landscape and destroy scenic views from Knockma and the wider rural setting. This conflicts with Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028 and Directive 2014/52/EU of the European Parliament which states that :-

“In order to better preserve historical and cultural heritage and the landscape, it is important to address the visual impact of projects, namely the change in the appearance or view of the built or natural landscape and urban areas, in environmental impact assessments.”

I do not believe the development can comply with this, given the scale of the wind turbines in a rural setting.

**Environmental & Biodiversity Concerns**

Major concerns raised consistently by residents include:

- Significant peat removal, leading to increased flood risk.
- Habitat loss and disturbance to wildlife.
- Threats to bird species travelling to and from our local lake, Lough Hackett.

**Conclusion**

Given the impacts on health, safety, amenity, landscape, environment, community cohesion and rural residential living, this development is not suitable for this location.

I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the Shanclon Wind Farm.

Yours sincerely,

Damien Walsh

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