

An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Objection to Shancloon Windfarm – ABP 323699

From:

Dylan Lardner and Aisling Steede
Bodane, Tuam, Co. Galway

Date: 08/11/2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

We, Dylan Lardner and Aisling Steede, residents of Bodane, Tuam, Co. Galway, wish to formally object to the proposed Shancloon Windfarm (ABP Ref. 323699). Our home is located extremely close to the proposed development site, and we believe the project will have a profoundly negative impact on our lives, health, and local environment.

1. Residential Amenity and Quality of Life

Dylan has lived in Bodane all his life (28 years), and Aisling has lived here for five years. We both value the peace, safety, and sense of community that rural living provides. The proposed turbines would completely alter this environment. The constant noise, flicker, and visual dominance of such large structures would destroy the tranquillity that is central to why we live here.

We are particularly concerned about the noise pollution from the turbines, especially during nighttime, which is likely to cause sleep disturbance and stress. Dylan suffers from migraines, and Aisling from anxiety, both of which could be seriously exacerbated by the ongoing noise and vibration.

2. Visual and Landscape Impact

Our home, along with several others in the area, enjoys unobstructed views of green fields, bogland, and Knock Ma. The introduction of multiple large turbines would dominate the skyline and drastically reduce the visual amenity of the area. What is now a natural, open, and scenic rural landscape would become an industrial zone. This would permanently alter the character of our local environment and destroy its natural beauty.

3. Property Devaluation

We are deeply concerned that our property value will be significantly reduced as a result of this development. The noise, visual intrusion, and loss of amenity associated with windfarms have been well documented to deter potential buyers. For young families like ours, this represents not only an emotional loss but a serious financial threat to our future stability.

4. Health and Wellbeing

We are expecting our first child and are extremely anxious about raising a baby so close to such a large industrial development. There are significant concerns about the long-term health impacts of low-frequency turbine noise and shadow flicker, especially for children. The stress, disruption, and anxiety caused by this development would have lasting effects on our family's wellbeing.

5. Environmental and Wildlife Concerns

The proposed site is home to a variety of wildlife that thrives in the peace and natural balance of this area. We fear the windfarm would lead to habitat loss, disturbance to bird and bat populations, and irreversible changes to the local ecosystem. Furthermore, we are concerned about potential pollution of local water sources, which would have serious implications for both human and environmental health.

6. Lack of Proper Consultation

We also wish to express our disappointment that local residents were not adequately informed or consulted during the early stages of this project. Many of us feel we were kept in the dark and have had little opportunity to voice our views or concerns before now. Developments of this scale should only proceed with genuine community engagement and transparency, which has not occurred in this case.

Conclusion

We strongly believe that the Shancloon Windfarm would have a devastating impact on our home, our health, our community, and the local environment. We urge An Bord Pleanála to refuse permission for this development in order to protect the wellbeing of local residents and preserve the natural landscape of Bodane and its surroundings.

Thank you for considering our submission.

Yours faithfully,

Dylan Lardner & Aisling Steede