

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) on the grounds that the development would seriously injure the residential amenity, rural character, landscape, and ecological value of the area, and would therefore be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

I have lived in Cloonaglasha for 45 years. This is a strong rural community built on good neighbours, mutual respect, and peaceful surroundings. The area supports rich biodiversity and a traditional way of life that depends on the quality of our natural environment. While I support renewable energy in principle, the scale and siting of this proposal are wholly inappropriate for such a sensitive landscape.

#### 1. Residential Amenity and Noise

The proximity of the proposed turbines will result in unacceptable levels of noise and shadow flicker. I believe my home could be classified as a shadow flicker receptor, and I am concerned about the resulting stress, disturbance, and loss of peace and quiet.

#### 2. Visual and Landscape Impact

The proposed turbines, by reason of their height, scale, and number, would dominate the local landscape and permanently alter its rural and scenic character. The development would be visually obtrusive when viewed across open farmland and bogland.

#### 3. Biodiversity, Peatlands, and Whooper Swans

The proposed site includes bogland and wetland habitats that support important biodiversity, including Whooper Swans, a species listed for protection under the EU Birds Directive. The excavation and storage of peat will destroy valuable habitats, release stored carbon, and alter local hydrology, increasing the risk of flooding.

#### 4. Water Quality and Private Wells

Many homes and farms in the Kilconly/Caherlistrane area rely on private wells. The disturbance of peat and soil during turbine and road construction poses a real risk of groundwater contamination and changes to drainage patterns.

#### 5. Traffic and Road Safety

The narrow local roads in this area are entirely unsuitable for the level of heavy construction traffic proposed. The transport of turbine components, materials, and machinery will cause road damage, safety hazards, and prolonged disruption to local residents and farm operations.

## 6. Lack of Public Consultation

There has been no meaningful consultation with the community. No public meeting was held, and neighbouring residents were not engaged in any transparent or participative process. This approach is inconsistent with the Aarhus Convention and national policy requirements for public participation in environmental decision-making.

### Conclusion

The proposed development would have a significant negative impact on the residential amenity, landscape, biodiversity, and community fabric of Kilconly and the surrounding area. It conflicts with several objectives of the Galway County Development Plan and does not constitute sustainable development in this rural context.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the Shancloon Windfarm.

Yours faithfully,  
Gerard Mangan,  
Cloonaglasha,  
Tuam, Co. Galway