

To:

An Coimisiún Pleanála
(An Bord Pleanála)

Re: Objection to Shancloon Windfarm – ACP Ref. 323699

Dear Sir / Madam,

I wish to object to the proposed Shancloon Windfarm (ACP Ref. 323699). My name is John Lardner, and I live approximately 1 kilometre from the proposed development site.

I am very concerned about the impact this windfarm will have on the surrounding bogland and the increased risk of flooding. This area is already known to be prone to flooding, and the disturbance of peat and changes to the natural drainage patterns could make that significantly worse. Once the peat is removed and the hydrology altered, the water has nowhere to go — it will affect adjoining lands, roads, and local homes.

I also have serious concerns about the impact on my land and the grazing for my animals. I have been renting and maintaining a piece of land for which I paid a deposit many years ago to the late owner's nephew, pending completion of probate. This arrangement was made in good faith, and I have continued to care for and use that land since.

However, it appears that the developers have now made a deal with the beneficiaries of that estate, as they are listed against that same folio in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). This raises a very serious question:

If the land in question is still under probate, do the developers actually have the legal authority to enter into any agreements or carry out works on that land?

This is a matter of both property rights and due process, and it needs to be fully clarified before any development is allowed to proceed.

The fact that such an issue has arisen adds to my overall concern that the project has been rushed and poorly considered, with inadequate consultation and insufficient respect for those who live and work the land in this area. The potential consequences for local people — flooding, loss of grazing, and the destruction of peatlands — are being ignored in favour of industrial-scale construction on fragile ground.

For these reasons, I am asking An Coimisiún Pleanála to take this matter seriously and to refuse permission for the Shancloon Windfarm. The environmental, hydrological, and legal issues surrounding this project are too significant to overlook.

Yours sincerely,
John Lardner
Cloonaglasha, Tuam,
Co. Galway