

To: An Coimisiún Pleanála

Re: Objection to Shancloon Windfarm – ABP Ref 323699

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to object to the proposed Shancloon Windfarm (ABP Ref 323699). I live in Kilshanvey, less than 2 kilometres from the proposed turbines. This is the place I grew up and where I have always imagined building my own home in the future.

Kilshanvey is a quiet, rural area surrounded by natural beauty and close-knit neighbours. The countryside here has always been part of our lives — peaceful, unspoiled, and safe. I am very worried that if this project goes ahead, it will change all of that.

1. Future Housing and Local Development

As someone hoping to stay in the area, I'm concerned that living near such a large industrial development will make it extremely difficult to get planning permission in future or to secure a mortgage. Lenders are often reluctant to finance homes located close to windfarms, and local authorities may be less likely to approve new houses within this zone.

That means young people like myself who want to remain close to family and community could lose the chance to live here. It would be a real setback for rural life and for keeping local communities alive.

2. Flooding and Water Quality

The proposed site lies within an area of bogs, turloughs, and underground water systems, which are naturally sensitive to disturbance. Digging foundations and access roads through peat and wet ground could alter drainage patterns, leading to flooding in surrounding lands.

There is also a serious risk of polluting local wells and watercourses if runoff from construction or peat spoil enters nearby streams. Once damaged, these natural systems are almost impossible to restore.

3. Visual and Environmental Impact

The turbines proposed for Shancloon are extremely large and will completely dominate the landscape for miles around. This is a rural, scenic area, valued for its open views and calm surroundings. The scale and industrial appearance of the turbines would destroy that sense of place and change the countryside forever.

The natural environment here is one of the main reasons people live in Kilconly. It's not just about the view - it's about the feeling of space, quiet, and connection to nature.

Conclusion

I support renewable energy when it is planned in the right locations, but this site is far too close to homes and too sensitive environmentally. The loss of visual amenity, increased risk of flooding, and the negative impact on local housing prospects make this proposal completely unsuitable for our area.

I respectfully ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for this development and to protect the future of Kilshanvey and its community.

Yours faithfully,

Kieran Farrell

Kilshanvey, Kilconly, Tuam, Co. Galway