

Mary Burke
Cloonteen,
Kilconly,
Tuam,
Co. Galway
05/11/2025

Objection to Planning Application Ref. 323699 – Shancloon Windfarm, Co. Galway

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to object to the proposed development of the Shancloon Windfarm (Planning Reference 323699) in County Galway. I am a farmer living in the local area, where I keep sheep and donkeys on my land. I wish to express my serious concerns about the impact this wind farm would have on my animals, my health, the landscape, local heritage, and the surrounding wildlife.

My donkeys, who originally belonged to my late uncle, are of great sentimental importance to me. They are gentle animals, and I am deeply worried that the noise, vibrations, and shadow flicker from nearby turbines would distress them and my sheep. I have read and heard reports of livestock becoming agitated or unsettled near wind farms, and the thought of my animals suffering in this way causes me great anxiety.

As a recovering cancer patient and someone on medication for high blood pressure, I am also concerned about how constant turbine noise, vibrations, and light flicker might affect my physical and mental wellbeing. The quiet and calm of my surroundings have been vital to my recovery. Living close to an industrial development of this scale could lead to stress, disturbed sleep, and increased blood pressure - all of which could have a serious impact on my health.

The proposed turbines would dominate and destroy my view of the Mayo Mountains and Knock Ma, which I have always cherished. This view is not just scenery to me - it is part of my daily life and my connection to the land. The peace and beauty of this rural landscape are what make this area special, and the presence of large turbines would permanently alter that.

There is a Cillín located near the proposed site. This is a historic children's burial ground that holds deep cultural and spiritual significance for the community. I am very concerned that construction works and ongoing turbine activity could disturb this sacred site or its surroundings.

I often see kestrels flying over my home and fields. Watching them hover and hunt is one of the joys of living here. I fear that the turbines could pose a real danger to these birds, as well as to other local wildlife, through potential collisions. The loss or displacement of kestrels and other birds of prey would be devastating for our local environment and biodiversity.

While I understand the importance of renewable energy, it must be developed in a way that respects local communities, heritage, wildlife, and the wellbeing of residents. The Shancloon Windfarm, as proposed, would have a significant negative impact on all of these. Surely there's another way?

For these reasons, I respectfully request that An Bord Pleanála refuse permission for Planning Application 323699.

Yours sincerely,
Mary Burke

