

Shancloon Wind Farm (Ref: ACP 323699)

We wish to lodge our formal objection to the proposed Shancloon Windfarm. Our family home in Derrymore, Caherlistrane is located less than 1 km from the nearest proposed turbine site. This is an extremely close distance for a development of such scale, particularly one involving turbines of 180 metres in height, and we are gravely concerned about the implications for our home, our health, and our environment.

Our family has lived in the area for generations, and we always hoped our own young children would have the opportunity to live here as well. We value the peace, safety, and rural character of the area. However, we now fear that this development may jeopardise our ability to remain living in our home. We are deeply worried that the level of noise, vibration, and shadow flicker generated by turbines of this height will make the house unliveable for our family.

It is deeply unfair for rural families like ours—who have worked hard and invested everything into our home—to be placed in this position. As numerous studies, and indeed recent court cases in Ireland, have demonstrated that large-scale wind turbines sited too close to dwellings can materially affect the use and enjoyment of homes, leading to a reduction in amenity. This has been acknowledged in legal rulings where residents' rights were found to have been compromised.

While we are not against renewable energy in principle, and fully support responsible action on climate and sustainability, this particular development is far too close to people's homes and is entirely unsuitable for this location. Rural communities should not be expected to bear disproportionate burdens when viable alternatives exist.

The environmental sensitivity of the local area must also be recognised. The surrounding landscape support a wide range of wildlife, and we fear the disturbance caused by turbines of this scale will impact biodiversity and local habitats.

In addition, the proposed development lies on active bogland that is already prone to waterlogging. Bogs act as natural water regulators, and excavating peat or installing large concrete turbine bases will displace water and alter drainage patterns. This increases surface run-off and raises the risk of flooding for nearby homes, including ours less than 1 km from the site. These impacts are long-term, irreversible, and pose a serious threat to our property and community.

We must also express our disappointment with the lack of meaningful engagement from the developers. Apart from receiving a leaflet, we were never given an opportunity to speak directly with them. No public meeting was held in Caherlistrane or the neighbouring communities—only a clinic in Tuam requiring pre-booking. Given the scale of the proposal and its proximity to our home, this level of communication is simply not acceptable. Residents living closest to the site deserve clear, proactive engagement, and this did not occur.

We ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to consider the very real and lasting impacts this development would have on the landscape and the people who live here. We urge you

to recognise the risks this proposal poses to our wellbeing, our environment, our community, and our children's future.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that permission be refused for the Shancloon Windfarm.

Yours faithfully,

Michelle & Noel Browne

Derrymore, Caherlistrane, Co Galway, H91P8XD