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15/11/25

Re: Formal Objection to Proposed Wind Farm Development at Shancloon [Case Ref 323699]

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to register my strong and unequivocal objection to the proposed wind farm development near my home and village. As a lifelong resident, I am deeply invested in the wellbeing, safety, and environmental integrity of this area. This proposal represents a major, intrusive, and inappropriate development within a sensitive rural and environmentally protected landscape.

Severe Impact on Landscape and Local Character

The industrial scale and height of the proposed turbines would dominate the rural countryside, permanently altering the scenic views and tranquillity that define this area. This is an unacceptable intrusion on a landscape that residents have valued for generations.

Noise Pollution and Uncertain Impact Range

The noise generated by wind turbines—both audible and low-frequency—presents serious concerns. These issues are particularly troubling given the proximity of the proposed turbines to family homes.

Crucially, there has been no clear or transparent modelling provided that shows:

- the projected noise levels,
- the distance over which noise will travel, or
- how many households will be affected.

Without accurate, independent assessment, there is no way for residents to understand the full scale of the impact or to properly protect our health, wellbeing, and quality of life.

Shadow Flicker and Lack of Impact Assessment

Shadow flicker is another significant concern. This strobing effect—caused by the blades passing between the sun and nearby homes—has well-documented impacts on comfort, concentration, and wellbeing. Yet, the developers have provided no reliable information on:

- how far shadow flicker will extend,
- which properties fall within the affected zone, or
- how long residents may be exposed each day or each year.

The absence of this information is unacceptable and leaves households unable to assess the risks or understand how their daily lives may be affected.

Negative Impact on Property Value

The industrialisation of the landscape, combined with noise, shadow flicker, and visual impact, poses a real risk to property values. It is unfair that local homeowners may suffer substantial financial harm due to a development that offers them no direct benefit.

Threats to Local Wildlife, Wetlands, and SAC-Protected Areas

The area includes Special Area of Conservation (SAC) land, which is legally protected due to its ecological importance. Any development that may disturb or damage these protected habitats requires the highest level of scrutiny. Additionally, the local wetlands—which support diverse wildlife—face significant risk from construction disturbance, changes to water flow, and habitat fragmentation.

Risks to Local Water Supply

These wetlands feed the local watercourses that supply our community. Disturbing them could directly impact water quality and safety. No adequate assessment or public explanation has been provided regarding how water contamination or disruption will be prevented.

Absence of Proper Community Consultation

Despite the scale of the proposal, there has been no meaningful engagement with the community. No representatives have visited my home, and no public meetings have been organised. Residents have been left with no opportunity to ask questions or understand the full impacts of the development. This lack of transparency and consultation is unacceptable.

Conclusion

Given the unresolved issues surrounding noise pollution, shadow flicker, water-supply risks, SAC-protected habitats, wildlife disturbance, property-value impacts, landscape destruction, and the complete lack of community engagement, I urge the planning authority to reject this application outright.

Thank you for considering my serious concerns.

Yours faithfully

Pat Reilly