

An Coimisiún Pleanála

ABP Ref: 323699

Subject: Objection to the Proposed Shancloon Windfarm

Dear Sir / Madam,

My name is Paul Walsh and I live with my wife and daughter in Ballinapark, Caherlistrane. I am writing to object to the proposed Shancloon Windfarm development. We moved to this area because of its quiet rural setting, clean air, and the strong sense of community. It is a place where families can enjoy nature, peace, and outdoor space without disturbance from large industrial structures.

The area around our home is one we value deeply. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the local countryside played a huge part in supporting our wellbeing — the ability to step outside, clear our heads, and walk in fresh air was incredibly important. These surroundings are not just scenery; they have become part of our way of life and the reason we chose to make our home here.

I am very worried about the impact that this windfarm would have on our home and the wider community. The issues of noise pollution, possible vibration, shadow flicker, heavy construction traffic, constant maintenance works, and the industrialisation of an unspoiled landscape are extremely concerning. We rely on this environment for a peaceful day-to-day life, and I don't believe that this development is compatible with rural residential living.

Another major concern for us is our daughter's future. We had hoped that she would be able to build a home close to us on family land when she is older. If this development goes ahead, it is very unlikely that she will ever be allowed to build here, and with the housing crisis already limiting young people, she may be forced to move far away from her community and support network. This is devastating for families who want to maintain generational roots and continuity in their own place.

We also have serious concerns around the potential devaluation of our property. Like many working families, we have put everything into our home, and the thought that its value could fall or become difficult to sell is extremely stressful.

In addition, I am not reassured by the level of communication from the developers or the way residents' concerns have been handled so far. The discovery in the EIAR that a substation was proposed close to our home, without advance clarity, raises further questions about transparency.

This development risks permanently changing and damaging an area that has remained natural, peaceful, and family-focused. For these reasons, I respectfully ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for this project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Walsh

Ballinapark

Caherlistrane

Co. Galway