

Rachel Maguire
Cloonbar
Kilconly
Co Galway

To:
An Coimisiún Pleanála / An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 2
30th October 2025

RE: **An Coimisiún Pleanála - Case reference: PAX07.323699**

PROPOSAL FOR 11 approx.180 M HIGH WIND TURBINES AND GROUND WORKS TO SUPPORT THEM in the townlands of Beagh, Beagh More, Cloonbar, Cloonweelaun, Cloonnaglasha, Cloonteen, Corillaun, Derrymore, Ironpool, Shancloon, Toberroe and Tonacooleen, Co. Galway.

I am objecting strongly against this proposed windfarm development in Cloonbar and surrounding areas on several grounds under the following headings:

1. LEGALITY
2. ENVIRONMENT
3. WILDLIFE
4. SHADOW FLICKER, LIGHT AND NOISE DISTURBANCE
5. HEALTH IMPACT, SLEEP DISTURBANCE AND POPULATION
6. HOUSE PRICE DEVALUATION AND ECONOMIC HARDSHIP
7. ARCHAEOLOGY AND TOURISM
8. SAFETY, SIZE, SCALE AND SITE SUITABILITY
9. FALSE, MISLEADING OR IRRELEVANT INFORMATION IN APPLICANTS' APPLICATION
10. CONSTRUCTION AND UNSUITABLE ROADS

01.LEGALITY

I believe it is essential that The Bord, in considering application 323699, take account of the fact that the EIAR is fundamentally flawed and is not fit for the purpose intended in allowing a full and robust assessment of the likely significant effects of the proposed development on the receiving environment direct or indirect, or in combination with other effects. The criteria for these considerations of what must be assessed and considered is set out in the criteria of projects falling under the remit of the EU EIA Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU under Article 3(1).

The Bord cannot permit this development on the basis of an inadequate adherence to the regulations of this Directive and therefore must refuse.

Council Regulations (EU) 2022/2577 permits streamlining of permit granting processes for renewable energy projects. This does not set aside the obligations for a proper environmental impact assessment and the identification of likely significant and cumulative impacts of a proposed project on the receiving environment.

I have to question the legality of this whole process. We were told that when the SSE wind turbine park was constructed over near Oughterard with 58 approx. 100m high turbines that they would be generating enough wind electricity for Galway City and County, that it was an ideal situation due to wind speeds etc, that those turbines were the ideal height and efficiency. It went ahead, causing **great heartache** for many in the area, causing much destruction of landscape and untold and unchartered damage to wildlife. But there it is and on the SSE website they still claim to be able to provide all the electricity we need.

Galway Wind Park | SSE Renewables

sse renewables.com/onshore-wind/ireland/galway-wind-park/

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Located south-west of Oughterard, Galway Wind Park comprises 58 Siemens 3MW wind turbines, each rated to the highest international standard and specifically engineered for the prevailing wind conditions at the Connemara site to optimise generation output performance.

As a result, Galway Wind Park produces enough renewable energy every year to power over 140,000[^] Irish homes. This means Galway Wind Park can power more than the equivalent of every home in Galway city and county. In a typical year, the green energy produced at Galway Wind Park will offset over 140,000 metric tonnes of harmful CO₂ emissions*.

The Galway Wind Park

KRX +3.28%

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[^]Total annual homes powered quoted based on installed capacity, historic onshore wind load factor of 40% at site, typical annual consumption (4,200kWh). * Quoted CO₂ emissions abated based on typical annual MWh output and average CO₂ Emissions in 2021 (0.236g/kWh) in the All-Island Single Electricity Market, and published by the CRU in its Fuel Mix Disclosure and CO₂ Emissions for 2020, October 2021.

So why are several much higher developments such as this Cloonbar/ Seanclon etc one being landed on communities in Galway such as in this area? Surely if this part of County Galway is to be turned into a power plant, with immense change of land use, views, damage to people's lives, destruction of bogland, 1000's of metres of mature hedgerows, trees, habitats, ecosystems, wildlife, protected species etc there should be a **Strategic Environmental Assessment** done?

Galway has a multitude of (ugly) industrial estates and retail parks which could facilitate acres of solar panels on roofs and link up with the city infrastructure without causing huge damage to established, rich, varied, unique and beautiful ecosystems. There are alternatives to destroying rural Galway!

If all this is unlawfully going ahead just to tick a few political boxes and make some companies a lot of money in the name of greenwashing then there is something very wrong with this ACP/ABP system/ process.

I request that the extent of these plans are disclosed to EPA and all relevant European bodies, I believe there are several plans for multiple approx.. 180m high wind turbines in this area of Galway alone that ABP/ ACP is aware of and consulting with companies on.

I also put in a freedom of information request to find out how much money ABP was making from these many planning submissions for wind turbines developments that are affecting so many of our lives and causing huge amounts of **stress and upset** and was refused the information unless I provided the individual case numbers of all the applications.

I think that it is unfair to have to pay 50 euro to put an observation in, as I said there are so many applications going in this cost is impacting us financially as well as stress levels (amongst other things). We would have a prison grid of turbines destroying this area of County Galway and some of the people I spoke with just don't have the money to keep paying out 50 euro even though they want to save this area for themselves, the wildlife and for their children and grandchildren. I request that if this process is found un lawful by the National or European courts that we are all refunded the 50 euro/s that we have had to pay for each observation. And that future observations for any developments that are impactful enough to change the use of the area (i.e. from rural to industrial) should be open to all people who live in Ireland to object to of make an observation to free of charge.

It seems highly likely from reading what has happened in other countries that we not only are having to pay to attempt to protect the environment from these companies destroying our very valued ecosystems and peace; but also if they get the go ahead we also end up paying again while these huge turbines stand idle.

There is nothing environmental about this whole process in my opinion and if this Cloonbar/Seanclon RWE development got the go ahead it would be highly unlikely that it would ever offset the huge damage and destruction caused from producing, installing and maintaining these 180m monstrosities even in a carbon sense let alone any other sense (such as loss of wildlife, habitats etc). There are many areas where the necessary Irish data is just not available. RWE has not calculated the amount of destruction even in a carbon sense as data and proper guidelines are not in place.

I believe we are still paying fines from the awful environmental destruction caused by building on other bogs without following proper guidelines. To make this mistake again would be unforgivable An Coimisiún Pleanála / An Bord Pleanála if you allow this to go ahead and even touch our wonderful, ecosystem rich bogland. There are reports available concluding that putting turbines on sensitive areas, especially peatland areas have a negative environmental impact.

Photo taken 5th October 2025 approx. 200m from proposed foundation turbine 10



From what I have read/ observed in numerous reports all the 'wind energy guidelines' seem completely out of date and not relating to these huge industrial 180m high turbines at all. This is surely leading to or allowing this situation of communities/ people's health/ wildlife etc being put at risk. I call on all of the wind energy guidelines to be reviewed, risk assessed and for the appropriate bodies to be informed that this lack of care is causing harm. Where the company has used/ quoted these guidelines I make the observation that they are now not relevant, are very outdated and are in need of revision.

There has been much anger and **distress** at the meetings relating to why on earth we are even having to gather together and fund a fight for our wildlife, our health, our homes etc when the whole development seems insanely wrong! How are companies such as this RWE being allowed to apply to do this to us?

Clientelism... On top of that these companies are allowed to consult privately with ABP/ACP, have years to prepare etc how is that in any way fair? Please let me know who I can get to apply to and privately consult with you to save our environment from destruction! How many working hours and money are being lost by people like me who don't want a massive industrial scale turbine development in anyone's 'backyard'?

I question the legality of whether giant turbines of this size and construction were ever meant by their designers to be used in locations such as this, so close to peoples' homes and causing such huge damage to a beautiful ecologically diverse country areas with their immense foundations and substructure not to mention huge blades in an area so rich in birdlife.

I question RWE on their statement saying that the proposal is 'strongly supported by EU and national policy and legislation'. It seems to me that it is proposing to put the 180m turbines in an area not suitable for huge turbines they are they saying that the EU and national policy legislation, government, citizens of the country etc have no say in where these developments should be, no regard for scale, wildlife destruction, health etc? Are they saying that a company has the right to say it has EU support and be allowed to apply for planning regardless of size, toxic substances, irreversible damage to areas, destruction of community, noise levels, pollution, deaths of wildlife, visually changing a whole area etc as long as they call it 'renewable energy development' or similar?

I would observe and argue that the location, scale (points mentioned) etc are very relevant and a blanket allowing of the company to apply causing the suffering and stress to many communities is not right and I question the legality of it.

Where is the bond kept for the decommissioning of the turbines? Who signs off on the legality of this bond?

RWE has already caused a lot of stress as has the company with a planning application in approx. 10km away from where I live. I would point out that even just one tiny part of this rich ecologically abundant area the bat population is protected under E.U. Directive 92/43/EEC. There are of course many many more species living or migrating through this beautiful area and the legality of this application proceeding even on this point needs to be highlighted/ observed.

I would request that the appropriate bodies need to be informed that this kind of threat is being allowed to get even to this stage with ACP/ABP. I question the legality of this application based on the direct destruction of bogland that it would cause and how without proper data sources the damage to bogland, trees, hedgerows, wildlife etc cannot be calculated accurately even in relation to carbon. There would also need to be similar studies to acquire accurate Irish data based on the amount of toxic gases being released into our very clean air area here. Such as the 1000's of

trucks..presumably diesel trucks, their emissions, emissions from generators, emissions from workers vehicles, emissions from concrete production and transportation, emissions from maintenance crews/ vehicles etc, emissions/fuel/toxic substances from road building, emissions from production of roads, metal rod production and transportation, heavy machinery, pile drivers, quarry vehicles, excavators, crushers etc (all heavy machinery involved).

The information contained within the report so far relating to this is in my opinion very misleading and incomplete. It should not be allowed to progress due to this incompleteness and legal implications.

02.ENVIRONMENT

The proposed site of the windfarm has large areas of bogland/ peatland, wetland, mature hedgerows, hazel, hawthorn, mature trees, young trees, shrubs, grassland, rivers, streams and is a unique habitat to many birds, bats, frogs, butterflies and a huge variety of other wildlife (many protected species that we have the honour to have in this peaceful area). I am asking the board and staff of An Coimisiún Pleanála/ An Bord Pleanála to consider this area very carefully as the future existence and lives of these species depends on you.

My family and I are heartbroken at the thought of the beautiful bogland in Cloonbar being industrialised and built on by RWE. I had the misfortune to see some (smaller) turbines on bogland recently and it was just horrific.

I go out on the bogland daily, the air is amazing quality and the whole area is teeming with life. There is the day when you see the frogs all hopping down the bog track ready to spawn. The pools at the sides of the track then look like they are boiling with all the movement just beneath the surface. This year I counted over 100 frogs just on my short walk. This bog track is right near the proposed site of the turbines and all of them would be killed, there would be no pools left for them at the side of the track because the track would be widened to a huge road size and unrecognisable. That's just one species that lives its life out in this nature rich area.

I have come across many reports from scientists/ experts saying that it is not advisable to build on bogland/ peatland especially if foundations will puncture any area of the bogland as RWE would.

Our bogland/ peatland is home to specialised plants like sphagnum moss, sedges, rushes, and carnivorous plants such as sundews. It supports a unique and rare array of plant and animal species and is an important part of our local heritage.

Peatlands act like sponges, absorbing large amounts of water and releasing it slowly, which helps with flood control and maintains river flows. We didn't get flooded in this area of Cloonbar even in the really bad flooding of 2015 where a lot of roads in Galway were impassable and I think we have the bog to thank for that.

To interfere with and destroy this beautiful area would be madness. Many of the scientific reports referenced the importance of bogland/ peatland as 'carbon sinks' and this is yet another thing I don't think RWE have addressed adequately. The **chronic long term effects** (100+ years as they don't intend to remove the foundations etc) of huge concrete constructions in the bogland, effect on ph/acidity levels of that whole area and everything that lives on it and around it (plants, wildlife, ecosystem, water quality, pollution, destruction, carbon).

Below photo taken 5th September 2025 close to proposed turbine 10 foundation area.



Mature hedgerows have been a focus recently in Teagasc, not just with regards to the ecosystem, flood control, bio diversity and shelter that they provide; but also with regards to carbon. I request that the EPA are informed with regards to the massive destruction of bogland, mature hedgerows, shrubland and trees that these wind turbine applications are currently encouraging and causing.

This destruction is especially the case in this area of Galway where we have an abundance of small fields and roads often bordered by mature hedgerows, trees, shrubs and streams. In short our area is currently nothing like the barren expanses of fields and large roads that you might encounter in the East. And so this company would be directly destroying 1000's of meters of hedgerows causing huge damage to ecosystem, flood control, bio diversity, shelter, wildlife and carbon levels if allowed to go ahead.

The removing of trees and hedgerows, widening of roads, building 13+ km of new roads, massive foundations, substation, extremely tall visually impacting people made structures etc would change this environment from what it currently is to a totally different one and calls for protection agencies to step in.

Turning a rural area into an industrial scale power plant, a **strategic Environmental Assessment** is called for. I also would question this companies' assessment of how much 'tree and hedgerow' removal they would need to do to put these industrial turbines in this area and how they calculate the impact, toxic fumes and carbon to do all this.

There would be an impact on protected habitats: The report states that the site contains sensitive peat habitats, including "the Annex I habitats European dry heaths (4030) and active raised bog

(7110)." The construction of turbines, concrete foundations, access tracks, roads, substation, underground cables, piling, backfilling, drainage infrastructure, pollution of waterways, particles of toxic substances, change in ph levels, vibration, temperature etc in this area poses a direct threat to these habitats, which are of European importance. The proposed development includes extensive new drainage, watercourse crossings, and culverts. This level of hydrological modification could have severe and unpredictable consequences for local water quality and the surrounding ecosystems mentioned above (and for the whole area as it is connected not in isolation!).

Quote from: DIRECTIVE 2014/52/EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

(11)The measures taken to avoid, prevent, reduce and, if possible, offset significant adverse effects on the environment, in particular on species and habitats protected under Council Directive 92/43/EEC [\(10\)](#) and Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council [\(11\)](#), should contribute to avoiding any deterioration in the quality of the environment and any net **loss of biodiversity**, in accordance with the Union's commitments in the context of the Convention and the objectives and actions of the Union Biodiversity Strategy up to 2020 laid down in the Commission Communication of 3 May 2011 entitled 'Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020'.

My Observation is that this application and Laurclavagh application, which is also very local and thus cumulative, blatantly disregard proper procedure with regards to protecting the habitats of species protected under Council Directive 92/43/EEC.

As we have seen from other developments the sheer size of the blades etc means that roads that have been serving the communities for the last decades are suddenly not wide enough and even more destruction takes place. As we have also read recently in many media sources this destruction is often not even leading to active turbines as they say the grid can't take it. This would lead to even more destruction putting in even more infrastructure such as huge ugly pylons in totally unsuitable beautiful rural areas or it means they stand idle while we pay. Either option is not good for the environment and points to **misleading figures** in companies such as RWE's applications.

Below photo's taken at the turning near Castlegrove 8th October 2025.



Below photo's taken at the turning near Castlegrove 12th November 2025.



I am concerned about the cumulative environmental impacts of this project when combined with other wind farms in the region. The report references "ornithological considerations," indicating a potential impact on local bird populations, which would be compounded by the large scale of the project and other large scale projects in the area.

Birds and other wildlife such as bats and mammals live here and also travel through this area for example on the way to Lough Corrib. The size, noise and damage of this project could quite easily kill or displace all these creatures from this whole area. There would also be a cumulative effect with all the emissions from the 100's of extra vehicles in the area, the quarry's etc. The noise and vibration going past houses, schools, wildlife etc in a previously quiet area. This project alone would lead to a loss of established wildlife corridors and habitats, negatively impacting local biodiversity so the cumulative impact would be even worse.

I request that this proposal for erection of wind turbines and all infrastructure needed for this project to take place be refused based on the lack of accurate data with regards to **carbon figures for the destruction caused** to the bogland/ peatland, wetlands, hedges, tree, shrubs, fields, grasslands, meadows, forests/ woodlands, all the plant life within these areas etc. This should include what positive contribution this area if left unspoilt and un destroyed/ un removed would

contribute as it grows and matures over 100+ years and bare in mind it would continue after this also. The reason I am saying 100+ years rather than 30+ years is because RWE in the EAIR state they intend to leave the concrete in the bog which will continue to 'poison' the bogland by leaching. I could only find reference to short term risk to surface water during the pour stage not to the chronic long term leaching from these massive concrete bases not just over the 30 years operation use but as they will be left for much longer. There was no long term chemical analysis monitoring plan that I could find.

Please bare in mind I've only had a few weeks to check through this EIAR and it is very long with a lot of the information being quite difficult to locate in my opinion, so if this and other information re carbon, archaeology research, stress etc is contained within it I apologise..I didn't find it.

Concrete curing releases high levels of calcium hydroxide ($\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$), which is highly alkaline. This creates a slow-moving alkaline plume that can persist for decades, altering the sensitive pH and geochemistry of the acidic bog, potentially leading to increased peat decomposition and **carbon loss**. The conclusion of an "imperceptible" impact on geological/hydrogeological receptors seems inaccurate given the scale of the concrete mass and the lack of a detailed chemical study to support it.

This long term cumulative damage combined with the other risks mentioned for building/ constructing on and in bogland should be taken into account when calculating carbon figures. This should also include all carbon levels from mining, construction, transportation, installation and maintenance of the turbines with openness on carbon related issues that have occurred when building on bogland/ peatland areas which the environment (and climate) are still paying a heavy price for. All the heavy vehicle carbon plus emissions for diesel for transportation, mining, quarry work, transportation, workers vehicles etc

Include accurate figures that effect the carbon calculations over the timeframe (ie houses are being build much more energy efficiently now so to calculate gains over 30 year lifespan without taking in to account positive advancements is misleading).

RWE spent about 40 pages going on about climate yet were, in my opinion, extremely lacking in actual realistic facts and figures to back up the benefits of this particular development for the environment/ climate.

In fact the one time I met with RWE representatives one of them admitted this project was about making money for their company. I believe from what I've read about the company that destruction of the environment is actually more their norm. In the below article RWE are described as "one of the largest greenhouse gas emitters in Europe". **I wonder what the below area looked like before RWE moved in and what it looks like now.** The 2nd below article is about raising the required rate of return.

earth.org/this-peruvian-farmer-is-fighting-a-german-fossil-fuel-giant-heres-what-you-need-to-know/

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Next week, the Higher Regional Court in Hamm, Germany will hear the first ever lawsuit by an individual against a European company for its contributions to climate change. A Peruvian farmer and mountain guide filed a lawsuit in 2015 against RWE, one of the largest greenhouse gas emitters in Europe, claiming that the company was responsible for mitigating the threat of flooding due to accelerated climate change-driven glacial melt into Lake Palcacocha. If successful, the case will establish a precedent for millions of others impacted by climate change to seek damages directly from corporate emitters.

Windows taskbar: Search, HP, Chrome, 17:38 11/11/2025

Germany's RWE Slashes Green Energy Investments by 11 Billion

oilprice.com/Latest-Energy-News/World-News/Germanys-RWE-Slashes-Green-Energy-Investments-by-11-Billion.html

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However, "The company is responding to regulatory uncertainties, constraints in the supply chain, geopolitical risks and higher interest rates," RWE added.

As a result of higher costs and higher risks, RWE is now raising the required rate of return for new projects from an average of 8% to an average of more than 8.5%.

"As a result of stricter risk management and higher return expectations, RWE will invest less in the coming years than previously planned," the German electric utility giant said.

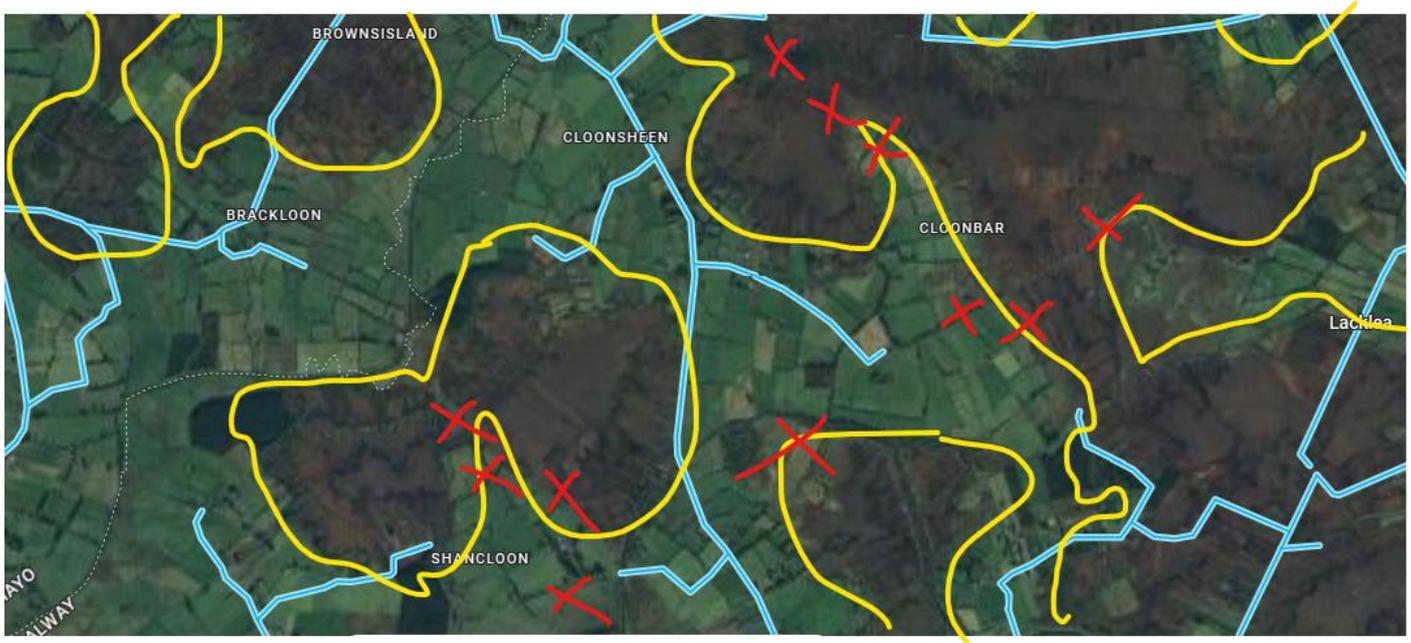
The company now guides for a total of \$38.1 billion (35 billion euros) of net investment for the period 2025 to 2030, which is about \$10.9 billion (10 billion euros) net less than previously planned.

"Given higher uncertainties in the investment environment, we have raised the requirements for future investments. As a result of stricter risk management and higher return expectations, we will invest less than previously planned through to 2030," CEO Krebber said.

I would like to question the recyclability of the turbines at end of life, given that we don't even know which turbine RWE plan to use amongst other things, I wasn't satisfied with the level of information given. I believe they would also need to state where and at what facility these blades/ bases etc would be recycled. Is it in Ireland or would further transportation be needed to remove them from the island of Ireland? Where would they be shipped to etc? (Carbon involved etc to be calculated).

Below screenshot is just to give a **rough** idea of how boggy this area is and we love it!

Screenshot taken 12th November 2025. Bogland marked roughly with yellow outline. Proposed turbines marked roughly with red x.



03.WILDLIFE

There is a cumulative destructive effect on wildlife for each and every turbine that is proposed and if it goes ahead to construction. I can see in my area how even just these companies going around with their plans (and money) have caused some land owners to start ripping out mature hedgerows and trees. If these proposals go ahead the damaging effect on wildlife will get cumulatively worse for each turbine constructed. The habitats of the wildlife such as protected birds, mammals, amphibians etc will be severely affected as large areas of ecosystems will be destroyed by noise, building, the 1000's of tons of concrete used for the foundations and infrastructure needed to support the turbines, such as substations, roads, road widening etc. The EIAR mentions some of the findings such as the following birds listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) recorded in the area:

- **Common Kingfisher** (*Alcedo atthis*)
- **Common Crane** (*Grus grus*)
- **Corn Crake** (*Crex crex*)
- **Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*)
- **European Golden Plover** (*Pluvialis apricaria*) / **Golden Plover**
- **Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*)
- **Greater White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons*)
- **Hen Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*)
- **Little Egret** (*Egretta garzetta*)
- **Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*)
- **Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*)
- **White-tailed Eagle** (*Haliaeetus albicilla*)
- **Whooper Swan** (*Cygnus cygnus*)

Also the red list birds:

- **Eurasian Curlew** (*Numenius arquata*)
- **European Golden Plover** (*Pluvialis apricaria*)
- **Northern Lapwing** (*Vanellus vanellus*)
- **Kestrel** (*Falco tinnunculus*)
- **Eurasian Woodcock** (*Scolopax rusticola*)
- **Pochard** (*Aythya ferina*)
- **Common Redshank** (*Tringa totanus*)
- **Meadow Pipit** (*Anthus pratensis*)
- **Northern Shoveler** (*Anas clypeata*)
- **Corn Crake** (*Crex crex*)
- **Barn Owl** (*Tyto alba*)
- **Bewick's Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus subsp. bewickii*)
- **Red Grouse** (*Lagopus lagopus*)
- **Redwing** (*Turdus iliacus*)
- **Snipe** (*Gallinago Gallinago*)

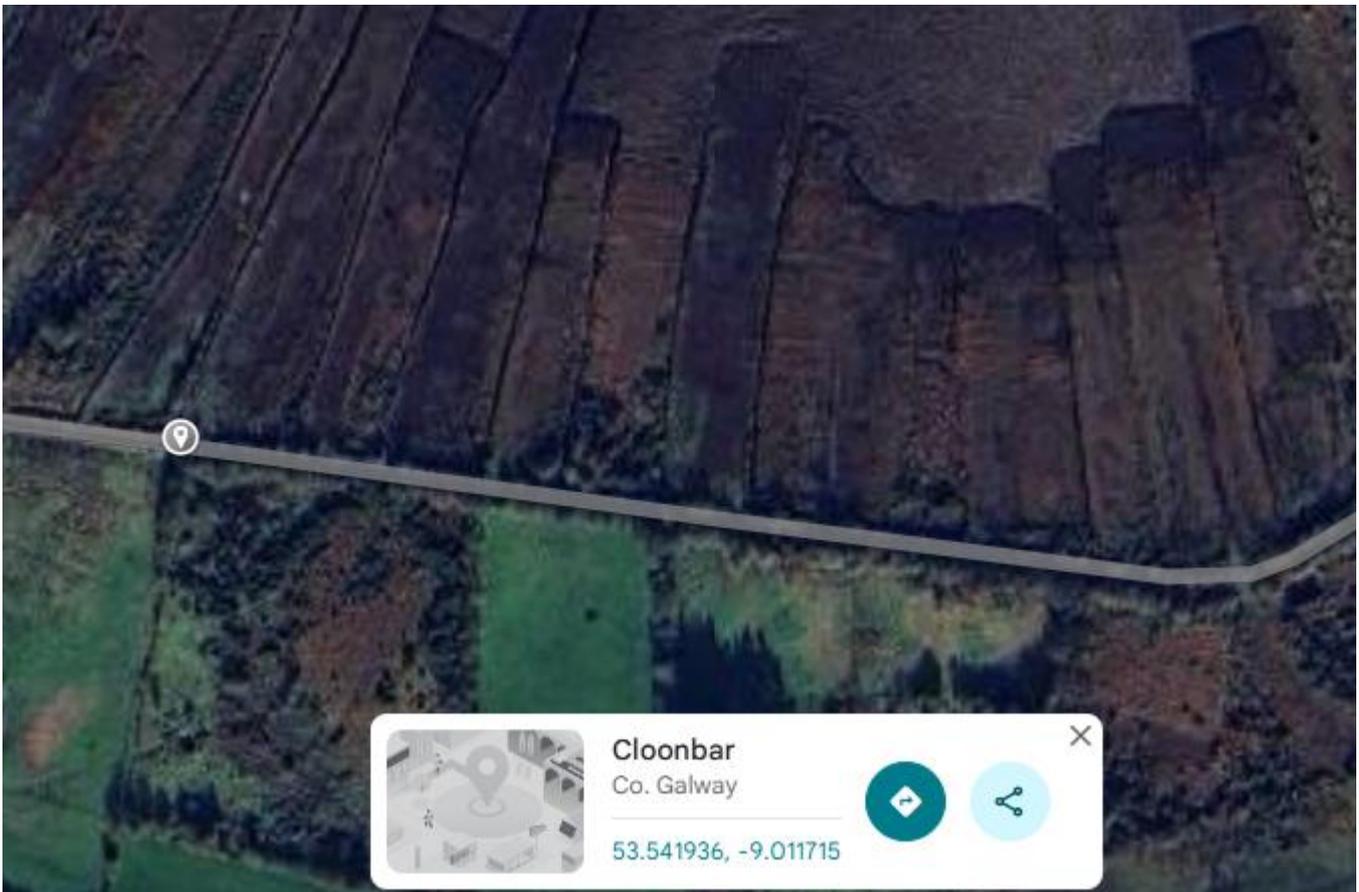
Since living and walking in the area for over 20 years I am aware of many species of birds including the above; but also many more as this is such an ideal habitat for so many birds. The Snipe is a regular companion on my peaceful bog walks as I often scare it without meaning to and it makes me jump in return by flying up suddenly out of the bogland/ grassland. Living in this area is currently like living in a nature reserve. Please do not allow it to be destroyed!

There are also many bats living and flying in the area, many more than mentioned as they were limited by access to where they could study them. This area has 100's of old sheds which the bats love and they are a welcome part of the inhabitants of our area. Each turbine puts their lives and this ecosystem at risk.

At different times of the year the turloughs and lakes in the local area attract different species of birds to fly over the area where the turbines are proposed. There are also many, many smaller species that make up the ecosystems in the proposed area such as types of insects, beetles, frogs, lizards, flies, snails, many many spiders etc all of these would be affected. I see so many insects on my walks, with such variation throughout the year and in different weather conditions. Some days are just full of crane flies, dragon flies, loads of different beetles such as varied longhorn beetle, bees and butterflies such as Marsh Fritillary all within the area close to my home (within 2km). I couldn't find much in the report relating to the 100's of species of these insects that we have I guess because it was a very limited number of days that people were here and insects are very sensitive to weather conditions; but if you take into consideration the abundance of birds listed then logically I hope you will be aware that we have the insect life in abundance here too.

The bog road/track that I described as having all the frogs hopping down at spawning time also is the place I have most often seen the common lizard. It seems to like that area a lot. I have seen it basking on the small concrete bridge several times as well as on the actual track and at the side of the track. If you haven't found them then you just didn't look enough because they are 100% living there.

Screenshot below of where I have seen the most common lizards over the years I have lived in Cloonbar.



In the proposed area I have seen otters near the Togher river and Black river we are also near many turloughs, Lough Hackett and Lough Corrib (Special Area of Conservation no 00297 so it is reasonable to say that wildlife such as birds travel across to these lakes and turloughs (and away again) through/from areas such as this at different times of the year. The applicants EIAR has stated that the Hen Harrier has been found in the area which I agree with, sadly it has been in the news just this year with the highlight of habitat loss due to wind farms.

Existing studies about displacement due to noise and other disturbance from wind turbines are primarily on smaller turbines: A key finding in a 2023 systematic review on wildlife displacement stated that "most studies assessed the effects of turbine towers of <100 m high, while considerably larger turbines are being built today." The maximum potential height mentioned for older-generation turbines was around 160m, with tower heights typically 80–100m. This means that a large proportion of the published ecological data is based on smaller-sized wind farms than those being proposed today, including this application by RWE for 11 180 meter high turbines. The general consensus is that as turbine size increases, the risk to wildlife, both from displacement and collision, could increase. There is obviously a gap in data therefore I don't believe that any claims that wildlife will protected/ unharmed can be stated with any degree of accuracy. What we are sure of (the people who live in this area) is that it is very biodiverse, very eco system rich and we do not want these species to be harmed.

I believe that the huge impact on the large number of wild species in the area is enough grounds to refuse this application. I also believe this proposed development contravenes all conservation measures put in place by the EU to protect nature and biodiversity. This includes migratory routes for birds and mammals under article **15 of the E.U. Directive 2023**. A competent planning authority shall ensure these species, wildlife and biodiversity are protected. They do not have an income to be able to object unfortunately so it is up to us to speak up for them and try to avoid harm of or even extinction of these precious species. Let them continue living their lives please in their home!

Photo taken 19th July 2025 approx 100m from proposed foundation turbine 10.



04. SHADOW FLICKER, LIGHT & NOISE DISTURBANCE

My home/studio/garden are situated less than 1 km from 3 of the proposed turbines (T8 T9 T10) and will be effected by all of the above. My home is less than 2 km from all of the proposed turbines apart from T11.

Currently we enjoy the peace of the area and the natural undisturbed light from our windows. As we have seen on video examples and reports of residents, shadow flicker can make some rooms in the home unusable. I know I would not want to sit in a room with the flicker effect. There have also been reports of it effecting people with epilepsy, this was not mentioned in the report as far as I could see.

I can see how very quickly the noise and shadow flicker would impact general well being. These are such big turbines it hasn't been possible in the short space of time to find out what the general increase in noise level could be exactly.

Currently it isn't noisy even in the daytime, it is very peaceful, other than maybe brief noise such as from a lawnmower or car/tractor passing. At night it is very quiet. I have read articles from people who now sadly live close to these turbines and say the noise is pretty much constant and often unbearable.

The figures are misleading and in my opinion useless as they are just estimates and with no actual accurate noise measurements near my house at all and no actual real world examples. As the turbine they plan to use is still not even named and the only data is from manufacturers data this is not acceptable. Even with these limited figures it goes some way to show that the quiet at night is currently very quiet and that the estimated noise would be over an acceptable level all night long. They call us the receptors and number us like we just stay put in one place all the time in our houses, this is inaccurate and misleading. We actually are outside and move around, like to have windows open, like to go for walks, to do work outdoors, people from outside the area also come in and move around the area, visit houses etc. My daily walk around Cloonbar would bring me within 5 metres of 3 of the turbines. The animals, birds and other wildlife are also 'receptors' and are not taken into account with regards the constant noise disturbance and shadow flicker. I am at home a lot and would be concerned about noise levels, especially if I was minding children outside or trying to work in my house, studio or garden.

A lot of data references re noise seemed to be quoting British standards and seemed lacking in data for Ireland (which has a lot lower population). Re the reference section it is easy to observe that a lot of the references used seem to be old such as pre 2010 when turbines were a lot smaller in size. I would observe that a lot of these references should be disregarded as not relevant to this wind development based on location, turbine size etc. Assumptions seem to be made from these references that I believe are misleading. I believe it would be very foolish to put peoples and animals health and welfare at risk with this lack of regard for up to date guidelines and real world examples and information.

I have been told that increased noise/ pollution/ traffic levels that would affect the schools hasn't been adequately dealt with and that not **all schools** were even listed on the routes etc. If this is the case this needs to be addressed.

The cumulative effects seem to be dismissed; but surely if there is any cross over of facilities used such as quarries, roads etc this would be a noise/ pollution/ traffic level issue?

My hearing is very sensitive and apparently there are different levels of noise, it would be awful to think I could no longer live here due to these turbines effecting my hearing and well being.

I would be very concerned about the children's hearing as it also is very sensitive and they currently love to be outside, on a windy or wet day these turbines are apparently are even louder (how loud I haven't had the answer given as they also have not named the turbine make) and should not be situated near to people's homes. There are reports on the noise being damaging, this can be discussed in more detail as there are many reports on it.

The company hasn't given accurate readings of what it is like to be close to one or several of their turbines in relation to shadow, light and noise disturbances combined and they haven't given any real world examples.

They have failed to address concerns or recognise actual examples of people having to fight for example for 12 years in court to finally get these monsters turned off. Sadly the **damage, destruction, stress** etc is already horrendous by this stage. They have failed to recognise that people have had to move house due to the un bearable conditions of living near a windfarm. That houses often need triple glazing to combat the noise; but even then the low-frequency hum from

wind turbines can be particularly difficult to block. This solution doesn't of course help if you are used to having your windows open or if you are used to living outside as well as inside!

There are people in the area who have moved away from the Clare turbines as the conditions weren't liveable in any more for their family, only to be attacked here. I have a friend down in the Laurclavagh area who cries when she thinks about how will they cope if the Laurclavagh ones go ahead, they've put every cent into their home, how will they fight this? They specifically wanted a peaceful area for their autistic child to thrive in.

Sadly, I can see the Oughterard turbines red lights on a clear night, it used to just be the stars.

On the internet I found this in relation to the 850nm near infrared lights (Department of Defence pdf) they intend to use if given planning approval: high-intensity 850nm infrared (IR) light can be harmful to wildlife and affect dark skies by disrupting nocturnal ecosystems and potentially contributing to light pollution. Excessive IR light can harm nocturnal animals that rely on darkness for navigation, hunting, and breeding, and its impact on human health, particularly on circadian rhythms, is an area of ongoing research.

Harm to wildlife and ecosystems

- **Disruption of nocturnal species:** Nocturnal animals use darkness for essential behaviors like hunting, hiding, and mating. Artificial light, including IR, can disrupt these behaviors.
- **Pollinator impact:** Research indicates that nocturnal pollinators rely on darkness to navigate, and artificial light can interfere with their function.
- **General disruption:** Any artificial light at night (ALAN) can have a detrimental effect on the delicate balance of nocturnal ecosystems, and IR light is no exception.

I observe that RWE would need to prove that this light is not harmful to us or ecosystems as I don't believe they have addressed this issue. Especially as these lights would be on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (+what is the carbon cost of that btw as they would have to be on even when the turbines aren't?).

Quotes from <https://darksky.org/resources/what-is-light-pollution/effects/wildlife-ecosystems/>

“Scientific evidence suggests that artificial light at night has negative and deadly effects on many creatures, including amphibians, birds, mammals, insects, and plants.” “Migratory birds depend on cues from properly timed seasonal schedules. Artificial lights can cause them to migrate too early or too late and miss ideal climate conditions for nesting, foraging, and other behaviors.” “Many insects are drawn to light, but artificial lights can create a fatal attraction. Declining insect populations negatively impact all species that rely on insects for food or pollination. “

There is some unrealistic nod to if the turbines are too loud the company will turn them off..I 100% do not trust RWE. They have been very dishonest/misleading/unhelpful in my opinion in any encounter that I have had with them. I absolutely wouldn't trust them to be approachable, to do

the right thing, to put people's welfare ahead of their profit so I can't see this changing during construction or when the turbines would be in place.

Even just the amount of this EIAR report that is lacking the full information shows a tendency to mislead in my opinion. To conclude that we/ the area/ the animals won't be effected etc despite data not actually being available (AM, turbine hub height noise, rain impact on noise etc), not bringing in real world examples, not acknowledging other communities distress with these issues, using equipment and readings that are questionable are some of the many proofs to me that this should not be allowed to progress any further in the planning process.

Obviously if these ones go ahead the light pollution will be much worse as they are proposed a lot bigger, as are the ones proposed for down the road (Laurclavagh). People staying with me would often comment on the amazing views of the night sky, seeing many layers of stars as it is so dark in this area, so little light pollution. This 'stargazing' appreciation and tourism that appreciate a night sky will be destroyed with the construction of these 180 m turbines with their v bright lights on top. It would likely seem like we were living in a prison of turbines due to their size, noise and lights. I believe this planning application should be refused on these grounds. I believe that any future planning applications for industrial turbines near to people's homes and wildlife rich areas should not even be considered.

I believe that based on the impact significance criteria the impact would be "Profound : An impact which obliterates sensitive characteristics" for our beautiful, peaceful, rural bogland area and RWE should not be granted planning permission for these turbines.

05. HEALTH IMPACT, SLEEP DISTURBANCE AND POPULATION

It is possible to die from a broken heart! Already, I have seen my friends, neighbours who live in this area, suffer upset, **stress and financial loss** because of this whole process and the potential damaging effects the turbines would have on their lives. I have also felt stressed about this and like there is a dark foreboding cloud hanging over me.

The idea of our peace being taken from us, the bogland being destroyed and 1000's of plants, animals, birds, frogs, insects etc being gone forever is horrific.

I have friends who visit some of whom or their children have illnesses which have been shown in studies are negatively affected by large wind turbines noise and shadow flicker. At the moment parents are happy for their children to play in the peaceful country surroundings, and we have above average health most likely due to the clean air, good water and peace; if this development is allowed to go ahead this will no longer be the case.

The long periods outside playing, going for walks, bike rides, enjoying nature, drawing, photographing and sleeping with the window open would be impacted and our health would decline as we would be forced to stay inside more to avoid the harmful effects of the turbines and construction.

The houses we have worked so hard on to be our homes have been put under threat even by this company being allowed to apply for permission. I have seen my friends and I becoming more stressed and even look into how we could sell up and leave the area despite having many friends and roots here. The stress has been here for a while now as we felt utterly helpless during the 'preplanning stage' which was a joke as public engagement remains a large missing piece with companies like and including RWE. True consultation would involve conversation prior to notification! A leaflet through a letterbox is just notification (and I can attest induces shock, stress, disbelief and anger). Meaningful engagement did not take place and I feel there was zero respect for residents and our knowledge of the area in this process. The leaflet that came through the door was beyond insulting and nearly completely lacking in actual authentic information. The map was so tiny (less than ¼ of the size) in comparison to a promo picture of a child jumping in a puddle that I had to email to get an actual readable size map from them. This ended up taking several days and several emails. I believe they had already bought land or negotiated/ contracted deals with landowners by this stage.

Every time I am enjoying the peace, wildlife, undeveloped beauty and ease of this area I remember with a heart wrenching jolt that it is all under threat. As these industrial scale turbines are huge they have been shown to increase the noise levels in an area such as this to much higher level when working. The EIAR just seems to guess at it with various estimates, the positioning of monitors is questionable. The true answer is these turbines are too big, too industrial and should not be placed near us, our homes or wildlife. One of my friends lives 5km from one, not as big, down in Clare, and she says when it's raining the constant swoosh from it drives her crazy especially at night.

Night time out in the country is currently extremely peaceful and I dread that being changed. Even during the day often the only sounds are birds singing. The company and ACP/ABP need to be more realistic about the impact of types of noise and effects of noise levels on people's health and wellbeing. Also the health of animals and wildlife in the area.

There is also the issue of light pollution as well as this noise pollution. There is also the issue of toxic substances used in constructing these turbines and their proximity to houses, people, livestock etc. The issue of the environmental impact of fibreglass in acidic soil and leaching from epoxy resin in peat and both contaminating the many waterways which run through the bog and this whole stream/ waterway rich area.

Lightning strikes are relatively common in these areas (my house and neighbouring houses have suffered being hit by lightning in the past) this apparently can also cause damage and release more of these toxins from the turbines into the land and/ or water supply. I can get written evidence from the Eir and ESB people who would have had to attend our area/ homes in the past after the lightning if needed to prove lightning strikes happen in this area.

Obviously the contamination of waterways would be damaging to our health and the health of other wildlife and creatures. There is also the air contamination due to many factors such as the huge increase in emissions from a huge increase of traffic and heavy vehicles in the area. Emissions from trucks etc would be damaging to our health. I find it misleading that they can state

the following when taking so few of our actual concerns and actual health impacts into consideration: "In conclusion, once mitigation measures set out throughout this EIAR are implemented, no significant negative impacts on population and human health are predicted to occur as a result of the proposed development of the Project of Shancloon Wind Farm." This kind of statement which occurs again and again does I feel negate the validity of this EIAR which I feel is written purely for financial gain. Where is the actual recognition to the size and impact of these giant turbines, the misery of the people living near them or like us fighting to save our precious ecosystem and home life?

Below are just a few of the health impacts stress can have (Mayo Clinic). Was any of this recognised in the EIAR? Bare in mind wind farm planning/construction/operation/court cases is v.long term stress over years!

Common effects of stress

| On your body | On your mood | On your behavior |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Headache | Anxiety | Overeating or undereating |
| Muscle tension or pain | Restlessness | Angry outbursts |
| Chest pain | Lack of motivation or focus | Drug or alcohol misuse |
| Fatigue | Memory problems | Tobacco use |
| Change in sex drive | Feeling overwhelmed | Avoiding friends and staying at home |
| Stomach upset | Grumpiness or anger | Exercising less often |
| Sleep problems | Sadness or depression | |

Quote from Niall Williams and Christine Breen who sadly now have turbines near them in County Clare "what we can attest to is that in the year in which we have been living next to the erection and the commission of two turbines, the noise pollution is almost constant". "When the wind is coming towards us, we cannot open our bedroom window at night without hearing the constant thump or stand at the kitchen window without seeing the blades spinning."
 (https://www.breakingnews.ie/ireland/hen-harrier-helps-put-pay-to-plans-for-turbine-wind-farm-for-west-clare-1452284.html).

Any stress or excess noise can impact sleep which can impact health, is this recognised at all? Most people I know who live out in this fresh air countryside area like to sleep with a window open as do I, this would be impacted by noise from these turbines at night. There is also the stress of feeling stuck in this situation now that to try to escape when this currently long process of a company like this fighting to put up these unwanted turbines means you can't sell up and leave as people do not want to buy a house with the threat of these monstrosities possibly round the corner.

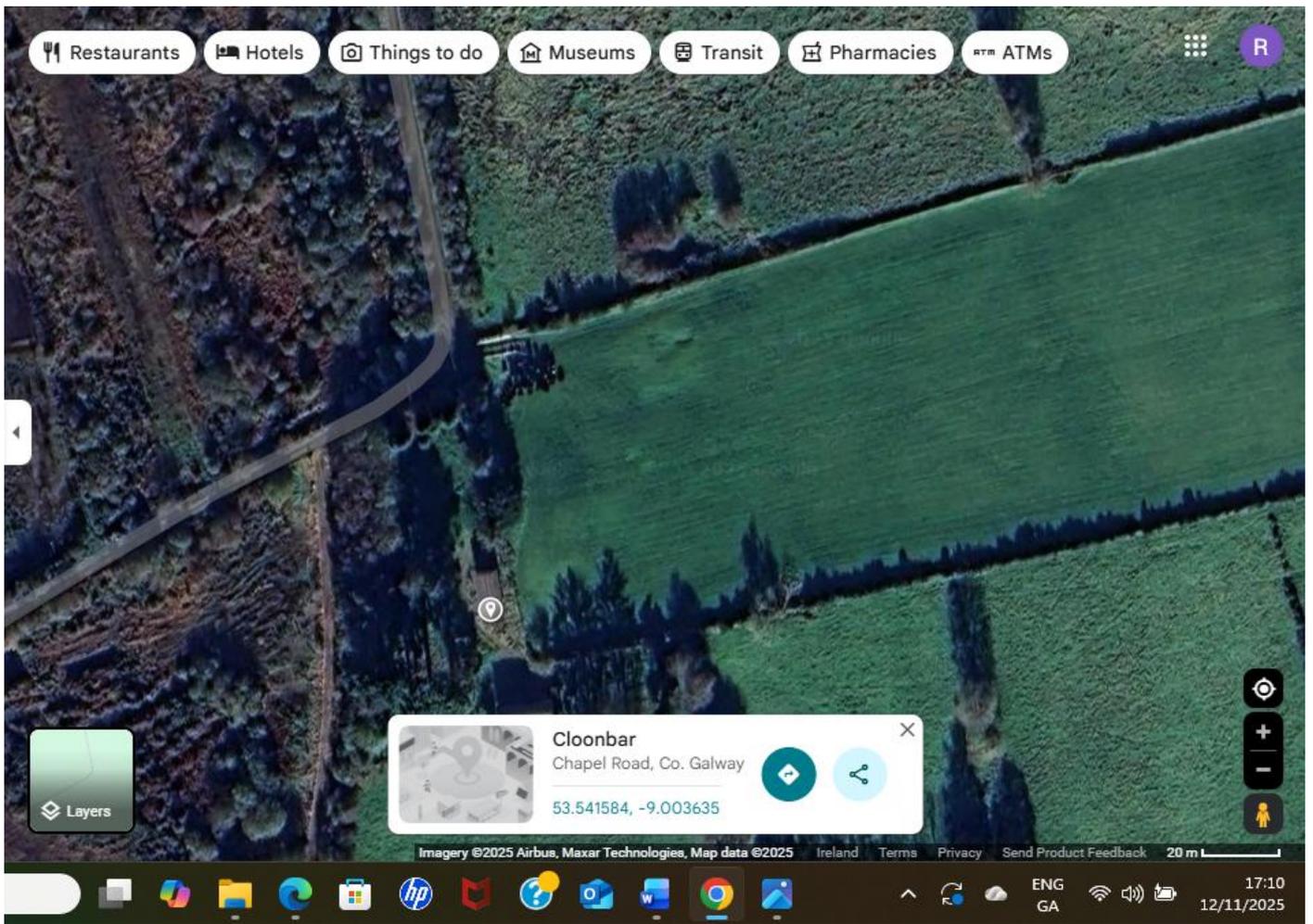
'Your health is your wealth' if this statement is correct then I am already being effected by RWE health wise and therefore economically. I do 100% think that my health has been worse already due to the stress from the threat of wind turbines being planned for this area. I feel that where ABP are pandering to these wind turbine companies seeming to me to indulge them it is at the

detriment to the mental health of communities of people such as ours. I would request that a survey be opened online for people within a 1km or 2km radius of proposed wind turbines to ask do they feel stressed about the proposed wind 'farm' and that those findings are included in any submission. Do you even recognise that stress can effect health especially long term stress?

This is another reason I think the process needs revising, putting large numbers of people under this stress is harmful to mental health. It is leaving it open for far too many companies to apply in far too many areas, sometimes again and again even after they have been refused. These companies should not be allowed to get to this stage as there is no EIA done for Ireland. We have heard from several people now living in areas where they let turbines near their homes of how much it has impacted their health. For example tinnitus, migraines, sleep disturbance etc. Also that their mental wellbeing was impacted in a number of ways such as stress, loss of members of the community, people leaving the area, empty houses due to people not wanting to live in the area any more, distress about the future as children would leave the area and not want to come back, sadness that they allowed it to happen as they didn't realise/ weren't told how bad it would be.

On top of these health concerns there is the very real possibility of drinking water/wells/springs/river contamination. As full and extensive tests do not seem to have been carried out by the company and there has been no proper **strategic environment assessment** it seems highly likely that the huge foundations, thousands of tons of concrete would interfere, possibly irreversibly with the underground aquifers and water system. I don't think they have even checked who has a well in the area. I have encountered this water interference in the past where I lived in an area known for natural springs and sadly after a building project involving large concrete foundations took place the springs were no more.

Down the bog track in Cloonbar basically right near to where proposed turbine 8 foundations are located is a house that was in the process of being done up. The person had put a new roof and new guttering on the cottage, done a good bit of general ground work and clearing. Then all this stopped, I am presuming because of RWE. I asked Kieran O'Byrne about this at the one meeting we had and his reply, which I took as totally facetious, was 'I didn't buy it'. Clearly I was thinking I was having a meeting with RWE representatives not asking Kieran personally did he buy this property. I don't know who now owns this property; but I am bringing to your attention how turbine companies are interfering with the population in the countryside. I believe they bought this property and I believe they also as part of their sales pitch have led another property owner to believe that he still will be able to use his property despite it also being right next to a turbine. It's hard to find out the truth; but I hope you will investigate it. Obviously when people are doing up vacant houses in the area this is generally good for the area. The lady at the below property would have most likely got the windows and doors done next, then things like floor, tiling etc.



Below photo taken 21st October 2025. Property near proposed turbine 8 site (property shown on map above).

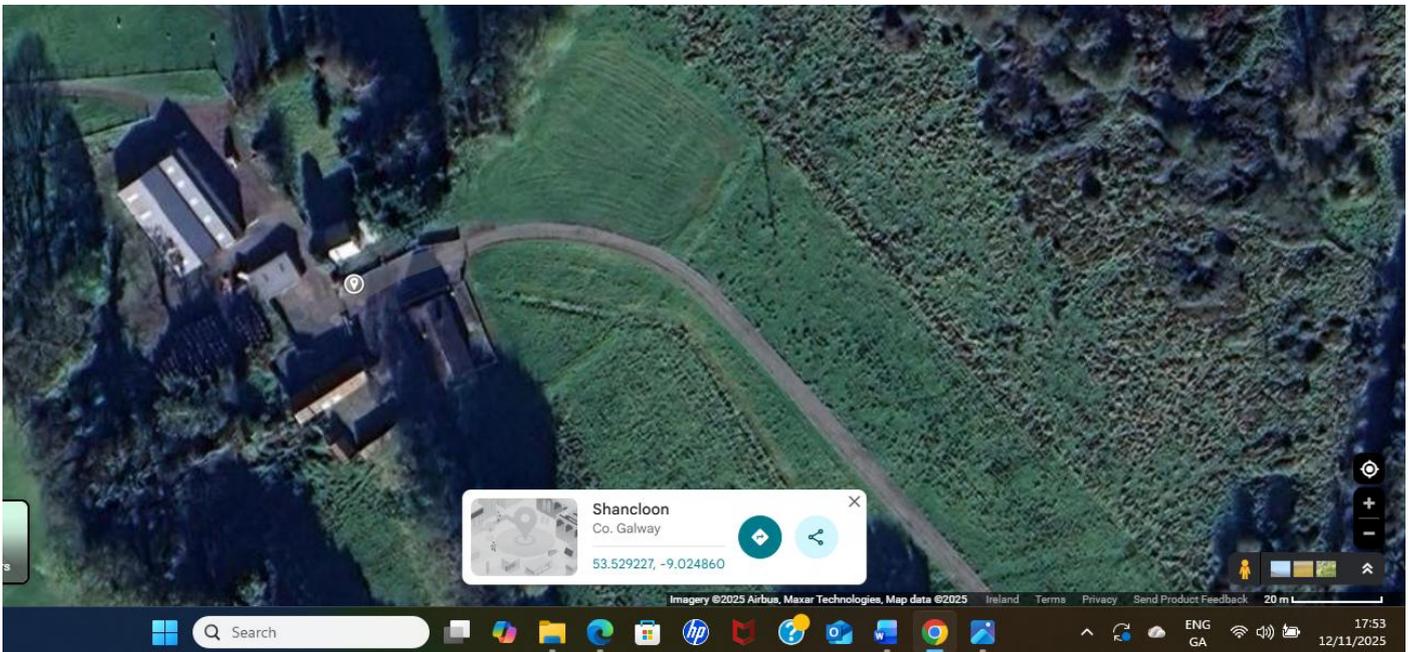


At the same meeting I heard Kieran O'Byrne denying 'he' bought somewhere else as well after being asked by another person. I found RWE very slippery and hard to deal with or get any, what I would call, straight answer out of them.

This has been hanging over us for a long time now and I'm wondering how many other plans people have had re their property RWE have interfered with. What is the legality of this situation and how appropriate is it for Councils to be allowing (or even facilitating) this interference given our housing crisis needs and the encouragement to do up derelict houses etc?

Please see article <https://www.independent.ie/regionals/tipperary/news/wind-farm-company-challenges-planning-permission-for-tipperary-womans-home/a2077572701.html> where Orsted Onshore seem to be directly interfering with the house planning application because they want to put turbines there...seems very underhand; but sadly not surprising. I would say this kind of thing is happening and being allowed to happen all over the country and it needs to be addressed. So, it's not okay to live out in the country anymore; but it's okay to cover it in giant industrial turbines?

Below, property at Seanclon near turbines 1, 3 & 4.



06. HOUSE PRICE DEVALUATION AND ECONOMIC HARDSHIP

The siting of industrial sized turbines near to homes negatively impacts the house valuation. I have asked several auctioneers on their opinion on the impact of industrial size turbines and how it would affect the value of my home with 3 180m turbines less than 1 KM away. I was told by 1 it was unlikely anyone would want to move to the area and the house would probably be unsaleable.

The devaluation of people's homes needs to be considered by ACP with this and any large scale turbine developments, there could be legal consequences to this as well as with the health impacts and other legal issues mentioned earlier.

This seems to be lacking from the EIAR to recognise that the loss of the value of your house would actually impact people negatively. Many people in the country also work from home it is also therefore devaluing their place of work.

I have been told there are impacts on phone and internet in places where these turbines are erected as well as the noise levels and shadow flicker. All of these would impact the ability to work from home.

If we could no longer work from home or have the freedom of hybrid working this would impact on everyone in the area, who currently has this option, economically.

Businesses require people who work from home to be contactable so there is the possibility of loss of employment due to the turbines.

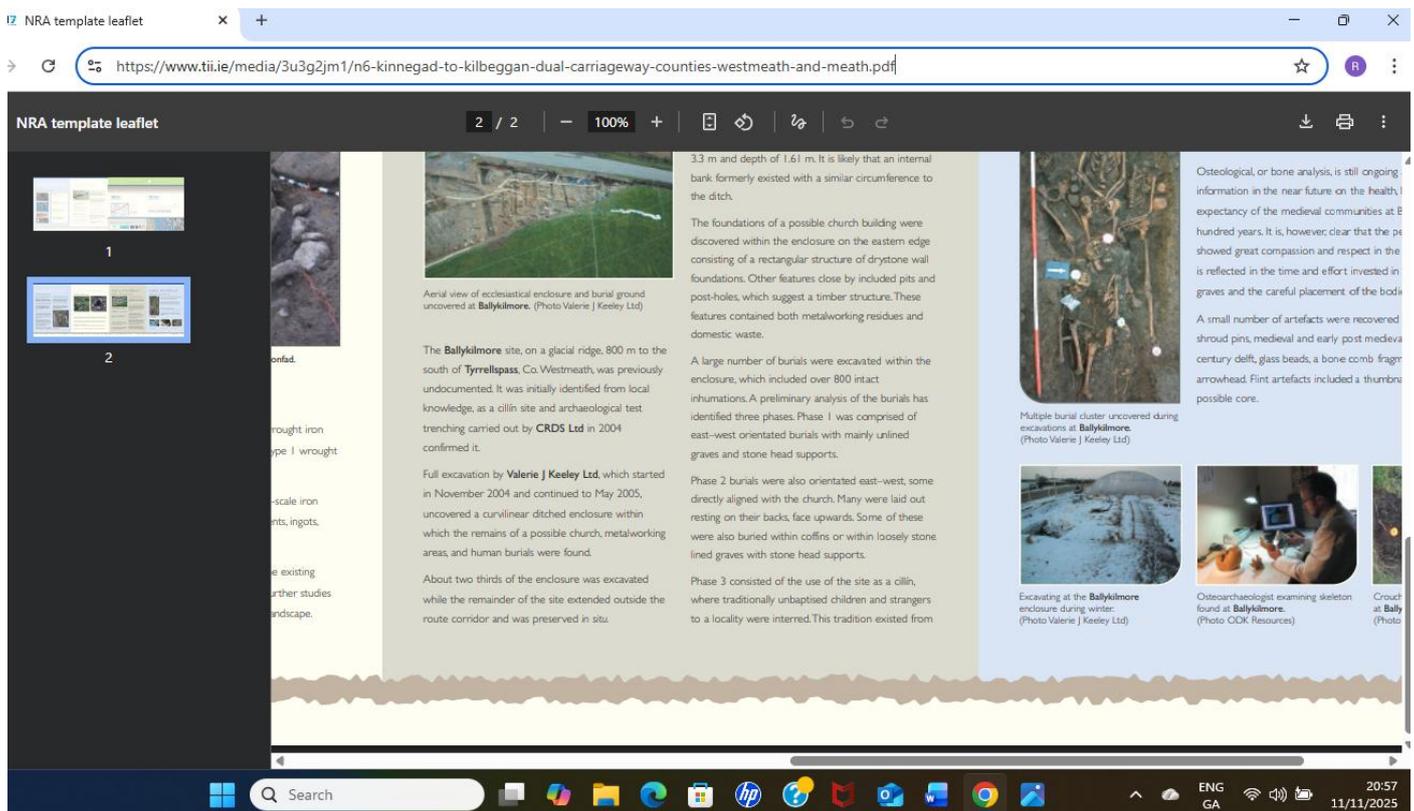
There is also the possibility of loss of employment due to poor health directly caused by the turbines from any of the health reasons mentioned in 05. I don't believe any of this is recognised in the EIAR.

The presence of industrial size turbines would impact the next generation of the area negatively. The option to inherit a valuable asset would be diminished, the option to build on family land would not be as financially advantageous for the above reasons.

07. ARCHAEOLOGY AND TOURISM

I was reminded of the archaeological excavations that were undertaken in advance of the construction of the N6 2004-2005, and how many previously un documented and un discovered archaeological finds were uncovered. Such as the Rathally excavation where a new ringfort plus stone lined drying kiln were discovered, neither were documented before. Previous OS map just showed a red circle for another ringfort. <https://websitescms.tii.ie/media/4h4jrd1n/mon-5-ch-3-mullins.pdf>

Below shows a leaflet with other finds <https://www.tii.ie/media/3u3g2jm1/n6-kinnegad-to-kilbeggan-dual-carriageway-counties-westmeath-and-meath.pdf> from a different area along the route. They state “The Ballykilmore site, on a glacial ridge, 800 m to the south of Tyrrellspass, Co. Westmeath, was previously undocumented. It was initially identified from **local knowledge**.” They went on to find many interesting remains here and state the analysis is still ongoing.



My point here is this area has largely not been investigated archaeologically to my knowledge. Local knowledge has not been utilised. When I first moved here approx. 30 years ago I was told about various sites in this area..cilini, turloughs, Holy wells, forts etc even a Chapel.

Even the ring fort that is marked on the OS map very close to Turbine 3 has not been properly excavated or examined. As with the Rahally excavation there are possible other remains that are undocumented.

I'm not sure the EIAR even addressed the possible damage of all the digging and back filling, piling, change to drainage, drying out and shrinking of peatland due to foundations, roads etc leading to subsidence or lateral movement, change to water table, vibration levels, ph levels would have on any archaeological sites.

Looking over a gate or doing a desktop assessment is not enough information gathering in my opinion. I do note that they say they will provide targeted archaeological test trenching; but then they also state “areas of uneven and overgrown ground conditions within the Site may not be suitable for pre-construction site investigations” which seems like that would conveniently for RWE

be the case. As with most of this EIAR I think there has been minimal investigation wherever and whenever possible. I personally feel that they have adopted a box ticking minimalist approach and want to push these turbines through whatever is found or put in front of them.

I would not trust RWE to conduct proper investigations as I feel they have already put in get out clause of **'uneven or overgrown ground'** conditions which they would use if no one questioned this to get out of doing thorough, genuine investigations. They also haven't even mentioned the importance of local knowledge. Most of our natural area could be described as uneven or overgrown so are they trying to get out of doing anything?

Re tourism. I don't have time to go into this in great detail so hopefully other people will; but an area of natural beauty, wildlife, dark skies, clean air, archaeological sites, castles, local heritage, buildings, lakes, turloughs, quiet lanes, etc will always attract people. When I moved here 1st I explored the whole area and found it so interesting and wonderful. When I have visitors over I am never short of places to take them to walk and cycle. We may not have visitors' centres or gift shops; but we do have visitors and plenty to interest them. The areas with thriving ecosystems seem more important to European guidelines than our Irish ones which is sad! Keeping this rich natural and local heritage is vitally important for us and for future generations to enjoy and learn from.



Galway County Council
<https://consult.galway.ie/node>

Development of Castlegrove woods in Kilconly as a tourist ...

30 Jul 2021 — Castlegrove woods is based in the community of Kilconly and has been a much-used recreational facility by local community but at the same time a hidden gem.

08. SAFETY, SIZE, SCALE AND SITE SUITABILITY

I think this is very inadequately addressed and underplayed in RWE's application. I would argue that there are very real safety concerns for people, animals, wildlife and environment if this development was to go ahead. Water, rivers, streams, springs, wells, drinking water and ground contamination from construction phase and continuing risk with turbines in place from the concrete, from the turbines if damage occurs.

Risk from contamination from the many vehicles fuels, oils, hydraulic oils, and battery fluids, fiberglass, carbon fibre, epoxy resins, rare earth metals like Neodymium and Dysprosium in the magnets as we don't know what turbine will be used it is not possible to research the exact mix of dangerous elements so this is a more general listing. Breaking structure risk. Death due to blades rotating. Sharp blades.

Changes in air pressure and direction around the turbines, local disturbance in air, dust, pollutants etc from blades spinning. Changes in temperature around the turbines. Damage from noise/ infrasound etc. Collapse of ground, bogland, bridges, roads, pipes, buildings etc. There was a section where a bridge was looked at, no tests were done that I could see, I know from living here that if a big truck goes by (thankfully not very often) the ground shakes. We have had trouble with subsidence of the bog road in the past because it is a bog road! I doubt RWE consulted with people to gain local knowledge on any of this.

Damage to people and animals from flicker effect is a safety concern. The scale is totally unsuitable for a rural community ecosystem rich bogland location. Who designed them and were they designed for this type of location with this many people living and this amount of biodiversity?

This is a complex area with bogland/ peatland, meadows, underground waterways, limestone, turloughs etc it is very unsuitable for this development. It is home to many people, many family homes, many animals, birds and wildlife the negative impact on these lives makes it a very unsuitable site.

09. FALSE, MISLEADING OR IRRELEVANT INFORMATION IN APPLICANTS' APPLICATION

There are many points in the application that I disagree with such as the company proceeding with an application in an area with such rich ecosystems, bogland and knowing full well the stress and upset these applications cause people. I have highlighted points under the various headings that I find misleading.

They don't seem to acknowledge properly the damage it would cause to go ahead. For example, there is an acknowledged bat population in the area (although they do admit to their recording devices being faulty/broken on several occasions and not having access to many areas so the numbers are much higher than recorded) and it is obvious to anyone that destruction of a bat populations habitat and erecting giant wind turbines is going to have a negative (deadly) impact on the bat population. However as with many of their points the company decides to state "Notwithstanding the slight effect of the Proposed Development on bat foraging and commuting landscape" (page 95, volume 2 chapter 9) a classic dismissive and underplaying of what actual is proposed! They literally wouldn't have cared whatever had been found in my opinion and would have still wanted to continue with all destructive measures mentioned...concrete, toxins, v damaging noise, lights, air pressure changes etc! Other than money RWE, is there anything that would have actually stopped you putting in this planning permission?

In relation to the bat surveys which were conducted in very limited locations I would like to call into question/observation this map (below) which was on page 65, volume 2 chapter 9. I regularly see bats in my area around my home which I have marked in red. Bats fly and forage over distances of approx. 2km if you go along with the EIAR figures, all but 1 of the proposed turbines are within 2km of my home and therefore very close to the bat's homes. I can send you photos of many of the old buildings that bats roost in within a 2km radius of the turbines. This report and its findings were in my opinion engineered by RWE to only provide very limited data and yet despite those limitations Woodrow Sustainable Solutions Ltd were still able to find 7 species of bats in the area! All bat species are protected under both national and EU legislation, including the Wildlife Acts and the Habitats Directive.



Whenever I had time to read a chapter of the EAIR I found that there were grounds for calling it misleading in my opinion.

10. CONSTRUCTION AND UNSUITABLE ROADS

During construction phase the roads which are used every day by locals cycling, bus and driving to work would be terrible, these are small country roads.

Where widening takes place to allow for these monstrosities trees and hedgerows that have lined the road for years will be destroyed. Noise and air pollution would impact negatively on the community, environment and wildlife every day.

Construction involves vast amounts of very not environmental materials such as 1000's tons of concrete, heavy machinery, toxic materials etc these can be spoken about in more detail. Air pollution, water pollution, noise pollution, increased carbon from these and destruction of mature hedgerows, trees manufacture of turbine, transport, fossil fuels etc are all to be taken into account please.

In conclusion, I am very concerned, angry and distressed about the Seancloon RWE 'wind farm' application 323699 and all it entails. I believe the proposed development will have a **significant and irreversible** negative impact on the local environment, biodiversity and wildlife. I urge you to consider these environmental concerns seriously and refuse planning permission for this project. Please take seriously all of my points and those of other submissions you receive against this application as we would be devastated if it went ahead. Please give the time needed to assess thoroughly something that would impact so greatly on this area, our lives and the future of all the species living here. Also please think a 2nd and 3rd time of the countless species who currently call this area home; but who don't have any way of objecting on their own behalf, we are their voice. These rich ecosystems are currently teeming with life far beyond your comprehension, yet they are accessible to all of us to learn from and should remain so. I urge and request for the Bord to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Maguire.