

OBSERVATION/SUBMISSION TO PLANNING APPLICATION

Case Reference: 323761

Thomas Meehan

Ballinastack

Moylough

Ballinasloe

Galway

To: An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

Date: 16 November 2025

Re: Observation/Submission to proposed wind energy development at Cooloo Wind Farm

Location: Cloondahamper, Cloonascragh, Elmhill, Cooloo, Lecarrow, Dangan Eighter, Lissavally, Slievegorm
- Co. Galway

Applicant: Neoen Renewables Ireland Limited

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally object to the proposed wind turbine development at Cooloo/Barnaderg as I a local resident living at Ballinastack, Moylough which is a 10 minutes cycle from Cooloo bog.

I know it is 10 minutes as I take in exchange students from other European countries and we cycle to the bog on a regular basis. Once they visit Cooloo bog they are in love with it, they even bring their families over to see it when they visit Ireland. Describing it as a unique, tranquil an escape from the hustle and bustle of city life, and one student described it as a landscape unlike any he had ever seen before.

One father of a student states when I informed him about the proposed windfarm "why would a state be so stupid to destroy something so beautiful that has been here thousands of years"
So in my opinion the proposed windfarm will permanently alter the natural landscape and reduce the scenic views that are an asset to our Community and tourism. In my case the exchange students and their families that comes here to experience real irish country side and our culture.

I am for protecting the environment, as a number of years ago I encouraged my mother to give up her bog in Carnagopple, Mountbellew to the state for the creating of a living bog which I think the cooloo bog as even

more to offer as a living bog as it has a lake and more virgin bog. So if planning for this windfarm goes ahead and tonnes of concrete is poured into Cooloo bog and the bog is destroyed, is this not a contradiction to my mother and for myself for advising her to give her bog away in Carnagopple.

My last issue is if the government is serious about climate change, why isn't there more funding to get solar panels on every house in Ireland, solar panels fitted on the roof don't bother anybody and produces clean electricity. I ask who are the main beneficiary of these large wind turbines, I know it will not be the local people or community. I believe the cons of this windfarm construction and operation far outweigh the benefits to the local community health and wellbeing as well as to the local wildlife and environment.

In conclusion, the significant environmental damage, irreversible visual damage on our landscape, the environmental damage from construction and operation, the impact on local heritage and biodiversity and long term negative effects on the community far outweighs the proposed benefits. Therefore I urge you to reject this proposal on environmental grounds and long term negative visual and landscape impacts.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission

Conclusion

In light of the serious concerns outlined above I respectfully urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for this development. The proposal is not compatible with the principles of proper planning or sustainable development and would have lasting negative effects on local residents, farmers, and the wider community. I therefore strongly object to this proposal and ask that it be refused in full.

If permission is not refused outright, I request that an oral hearing be held so that local residents, farmers, and the wider community can have our say on the impacts of this development.

Yours Sincerely,

Thomas Meehan

Name: Thomas Meehan
Date: 16 November 2025