

OBSERVATION/SUBMISSION TO PLANNING APPLICATION

Case Reference: 323761

Tommy Whyte

Trasternagh

Moylough

Galway

To: An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

Date: 15 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 wish to lodge my formal objection to the proposed Cooloo Windfarm and all associated works.

I am a life long resident of Trasternagh, Moylough, where I live with my wife and four children. We live on the family farm and I am deeply worried about how this development of nine industrial wind turbines of a height above 180 metres and rotor diameter up to 162 meters will produce continuous low frequency noise, visual movement and shadow flicker.

Since pre famine generations of my family have farmed the lands surrounding this proposed development. My family roots in the area run deep. My great grandfather survived the famine. My family name continued after the famine. It is awful to think that this development would end generations of Whytes in the area and ruin so much local history.

Impact on Wildlife and Habitat:

I have created a large habitat over the past 40 years working with the Department of Agriculture in various schemes, ranging from 20 acres of forestry, 25 acres of natural habitat, and including bog.

I have planted over 1000 metres of hedgerow and native trees which have attracted all species of wildlife such as pine-martin, red squirrel, fox, hare, deer, hedgehog, mink, barn-owl, insects, bats, butterflies, such as

the marsh fritillary (which is protected), and all our native birds, such as hen harrier, buzzards, hawks etc. Also our migrating birds such as cuckoo, curlew, lap-wing, hopper swans and wild geese.

My habitat and farm is a continuation of Cooloo bog which is a very large habitat and the Clare River which runs through both.

I feel Cooloo bog is as important as the 'Book of Kells' for its archeological value and we should protect it for future generations. The bog is 10 metres deep which makes it over 10,000 years old. It has all the attributes of Carrownagappul bog which is only 6km away as the crow flies. Therefore making it a living bog with all its flowers and fauna.

As over half this proposed windfarm is in bogland, and turbine 9 is 600 metres from my property and woodland, this poses a huge fire risk to the entire habitat. A wind turbine was on fire on the Makenny Road in county Fermanagh on October 10th 2025. I feel Neoen Renewables has not addressed the fire risk of this development properly, and as a result this planning permission should be refused outright.

Right to Property:

Article 43.1.2 of Bunreacht na hÉireann provides that "the State accordingly guarantees to pass no law attempting to abolish the right of private ownership or the general right to transfer, bequeath, and inherit property.". Granting permission for this windfarm development would effectively undermine this constitutional protection.

This proposed windfarm is denying my children the right to build their houses and raise their children in a safe environment free from noise, shadow flicker and danger that the wind turbines and battery station poses on them.

Granting permission to this development would guarantee that my children would not build locally and that our family farm will not stay in the family after four generations.

An Coimisiún Pleanála must refuse this development planning outright. Should this not be possible I would like to invite members from An Coimisiún Pleanála to visit this site before making any decision as it affects hundreds of people in the surrounding area of the proposed Cooloo Windfarm.

Yours Sincerely,

Tommy Whyte.

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Tommy Whyte

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