

OBSERVATION/SUBMISSION TO PLANNING APPLICATION

Case Reference: 323761

Vivienne Mannion

Dangan

Tuam

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 am deeply distressed and strongly opposed to the proposed wind farm development planned approximately 950 metres from my home. My personal, professional, and community life is deeply rooted in Killererin, and the impact of this development on my day-to-day life, on my family, and on the wider community is of serious concern to me.

I am a trainee teacher working within the local area, and I will be teaching in Brierfield National School. Importantly, Brierfield National School has an ASD unit that supports many neurodiverse children, some of whom are highly sensitive to noise, vibration, environmental change, and visual disturbance. The potential noise pollution, shadow flicker, and general industrial presence from large turbines in close proximity to the school environment raises serious concerns about the wellbeing, comfort, and learning conditions of these vulnerable students. Even small changes in sensory input can cause significant distress, anxiety, and disruption to their ability to learn and feel safe. This aspect of the proposal deeply troubles me, both as a teacher and as someone who cares about the students' welfare.

One of my most serious concerns is that the turbines are proposed to be built within the Source Protection Area of our local Water source, the Barnaderg–Gortbeg Group Water Scheme. This is an extremely sensitive and vital water source for the community, and any development of this scale within a protected zone poses

unacceptable risks to water quality, public health, and long-term environmental security.

I am actively involved in local community activities. I play football with the local ladies' club, and I regularly walk and run on the roads surrounding the planned wind farm site. These same roads will be heavily used during the construction phase, and I am very concerned about the disruption, safety risks, and limitations this will place on my daily routines and wellbeing.

I currently live with my ageing parents on our family farm, land which has been in our family for generations. I have long-term plans to build my own home nearby so that I can remain close to them and continue contributing to our community. The presence of large industrial turbines less than a kilometre away presents serious worries about future planning permission, property value, and the long-term suitability of the area for residential living. These concerns directly affect my future and my ability to stay in the parish I have always called home.

My involvement in this community has always been meaningful. For years, I taught dance classes in Killiererin and have taken part in many parish Community Games events. Killiererin has always been a close-knit, supportive place and something I have been proud to be part of. Unfortunately, this proposed development has already caused division and distress among neighbours and friends, something I have never witnessed here before. The sense of community that has always defined this parish is being damaged.

From an environmental and quality-of-life perspective, I have significant concerns. The proposed turbines will have a major visual impact on what is currently a peaceful, rural, unspoiled landscape. The long-term effects of shadow flicker, noise pollution, and the constant visual presence of industrial structures will permanently alter the character of the area. I am deeply worried about the impact on wildlife and the natural environment that we are fortunate to have around us.

The construction phase alone which is expected to involve years of heavy machinery, road use, noise, and disruption, will severely affect the daily lives of residents. This prolonged disturbance is incompatible with the quiet rural setting that defines our community. My family and I have already experienced significant stress and upset due to the uncertainty surrounding this proposal, and I fear for the further mental strain it will place on us if it proceeds.

For all these reasons- personal, environmental, community-based, and long-term - I am firmly and unequivocally opposed to the proposed development. It poses unacceptable risks to my future, my family's wellbeing, and the integrity of our community. I respectfully ask that my objection be fully considered.

Yours Sincerely,

Vivienne Mannion

Name: Vivienne Mannion
Date: 15 November 2025