

Address

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The Secretary,
An Coimisiún Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1,
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Case reference: PAX91.323780

Date: _____

Re: 10 year planning permission for Ballinlee Wind Farm consisting of 17 no. wind turbines, a permanent 110kV substation and ancillary development. Located in Ballincurra, Ballingayrou, Ballinlee North & South, Ballinrea, Ballyreesode, Camas North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

To Whom It May Concern,

We Aidan and Michelle Lynch, write in connection with the above listed planning application at Ballincurra, Ballingayrou, Ballinlee North & South, Ballinrea, Ballyreesode, Camas North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

We wish to object strongly to this proposal and ask that the Board refuse planning permission.

Some of our summarised observations and concerns are as follows:

One of our children has Autism and Sensory Processing Disorder, we are fearful for her health and the distress that will be caused to her. Our home is her sanctuary from the chaos she finds in everyday life be it going to school, shopping, even visiting family and friends, she knows that once she is home she can regulate and be herself.

We are fearful of the shadow flicker and how it will affect our child. The developer had promised to eliminate all shadow flicker but we see in the application that he talks about reducing the flicker to 30 hours per year. Why is this allowed when the promise was to eliminate shadow flicker altogether. We have heard first hand from people who have to live beside Wind Turbines of the stress and ill health that has been inflicted on them when they had none of these issues before the Turbines came into operation.

Our view of the vale will be destroyed by these giant structures and given that there is very little wind here we had a right to expect that the view would not be taken from us.

We have learned that the windmill emits infrasound that can travel for kilometres and we are concerned that particularly at night we will be disturbed by this as well as audible noise.

One of us has a life limiting heart condition and has been strongly advised by our medical team that we urgently need uninterrupted rest and a stress free environment to avoid a rapid decline in quality and duration of life, if sleep patterns are disturbed it may have catastrophic consequences. Since learning of this proposed development in June of this year it has caused a large amount of stress in our family and is already having an ill effect on our health.

We have spoken to our neighbours, all of whom are frightened for their homes and lives and who all object to this development.

The developer has used digital communication and refused to participate in public meetings and as a result many of our neighbours who are older and not familiar with digital communication techniques have never been able to have questions answered by the developer.

We have learned that there are many instances of derelict homes in wind parks where the owners simply gave up. What are we to do if we cannot live with these machines and have to leave our home? We are getting close to retirement age, our home will be worthless, and how will we be able to buy another home? Do we become another number on the Homeless list?

This development is located in a poor wind resource and its location in this townland is in direct contradiction to the strategy and objectives of the Limerick Development Plan 2022 2028

We were not contacted by the developer, no word at all, and this house is always attended. The community outreach is inadequate and a sham. We only became aware of this proposed development through concerned members of our community which leaves us in no doubt that the developers wanted as little awareness of the project as possible, so that the community could gather as little information as possible and therefore be ill prepared to lodge objections to the development, which has been planned for many years without the knowledge of the majority of the community.

We would like to invite members of An Coimisium Pleanala to our house site and see for themselves the view and the disingenuity of the developers skewed montages.

We are deeply concerned for the wild life in the area, their habit will be destroyed during the construction stage. We are always amazed at the amount of birds we can see from our home, Kestrels, Hawks and Owls are some of the less plentiful species and in the summer and autumn months while sitting outside at twilight we can see bats flying around in pursuit of insects. The size of these purposed Turbines and the Blade span, noise and shadow flicker can only have a detrimental effect on these beautiful creatures.

We strongly urge that this development be rejected for the reasons outlined above.

We request that for an Oral Hearing in relation to this wind farm application, for the reasons outlined above. In particular the proximity and impact this will have on Lough Gur, an architectural and archaeological site of international importance, and the impact on our Golden Vale's High Value Landscape. Furthermore the scale of the project and the pattern of population distribution which will have widespread impact on our local community.

Kind Regards,

Name: Aidan and Michelle Lynch