

Rathcannon House
Rathcannon,
Athlacca,
Co. Limerick,
V35 YD62

The Secretary,
An Coimisiún Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1,
D01 V902

Case reference: PAX91.323780

Date: 16th November 2025

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,

I Casey Nyhan, 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.

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

Some of my summarised observations and concerns are as follows:

Concerns Regarding Mental Health and Wellbeing

My primary concern relates to the potential impact on mental health, particularly for children. We now live in a society that is finally beginning to understand and recognise neurological differences across the population. With this growing awareness comes a responsibility to acknowledge that large-scale, constantly moving structures (such as turbines of the height proposed) may have a heightened and very real impact on sensitive individuals within the community.

While some people may adapt, others, especially children with sensory sensitivities, autism-spectrum conditions, ADHD, or anxiety, may experience significant and persistent distress from the continuous motion and dominating presence of these turbines in the skyline. This is not speculative; the visual stimulus from large moving objects is well understood to affect concentration, emotional regulation, and feelings of safety in certain individuals.

Writing this objection has made me more aware of the complex and multi-dimensional role that planners must play. I urge you to use your full expertise and judgement to consider impacts that fall outside narrow technical guidelines and to address the gaps left by insufficient legislation. The wellbeing of the next generation must carry real weight in your decision.

Impact on Rural Life, Community Stability, and Future Development

I am also deeply concerned about the broader consequences for rural life and community continuity. Sustainable rural communities require periodic, modest residential development: homes for the next generation, families to keep schools open, volunteers for local clubs, and people to maintain the social fabric of the area.

If the presence of turbines (either constructed or even just proposed) leads to restrictions on planning for future homes, the long-term viability of the community is at risk.

An additional practical concern is the growing reluctance of banks and mortgage providers to lend on properties near wind turbines. Ireland already has a limited number of mortgage providers. If lending becomes constrained in areas surrounding wind farms, properties can quickly become devalued, effectively unsellable. The fear of being left with a house that cannot be mortgaged or sold is enough to destabilise entire rural communities.

This risk is exacerbated by the lack of legislative guidance in Ireland regarding minimum distances, turbine height limits, cumulative effects, and residential protections. In the absence of robust laws, the responsibility once again falls on planners to protect rural communities from unintended long-term economic and social harm.

Local Biodiversity and Environmental Sensitivity

The surrounding area supports a rich and diverse natural environment, interwoven with productive farmland and long-established wildlife habitats. On my own property, a historic rookery has existed for generations and is well known within the local community. We also regularly observe a strong and active bat population, which roosts in our traditional farm buildings and forages across the landscape on summer evenings.

These species are highly sensitive to habitat disturbance, vibration, artificial light, noise, and the movement of large turbine blades. The sheer scale and siting of the proposed turbines present a real and significant risk of permanent disruption to local wildlife—disruption that cannot be undone once construction commences.

Having learned more about the size and scale of the required excavation, the extensive concrete foundations, the heavy construction traffic, and the long-term alteration of the

landscape, it is difficult to see how the environmental case for turbines of this magnitude can be justified. The ecological damage associated with construction and operation appears to negate the very environmental argument used to support this project—particularly given that wind is an intermittent and unreliable energy source that cannot meet demand consistently.

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

I request that for an Oral Hearing in relation to this wind farm application, for the reasons outlined above. In particular, the scale of the project and the pattern of population distribution mean it will have a widespread and disproportionate impact on our local community.

Kind Regards,

Casey Nyhan