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V35FX96

The Secretary,  
An Coimisiún Pleanála,  
64 Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1,  
D01 V902  
**Case reference: PAX91.323780**

**Date:** 17<sup>TH</sup> November 2025

**Re: 10-year planning permission for Ballinlee Wind Farm consisting of 17 no. wind turbines, a permanent 110kV substation, underground electric cabling systems between the wind farm site and connection point at existing Killonan 220/110kV 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 Cian Mulqueen 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. My home address is 650m from the nearest turbine (T5) and all 17 industrial sized wind turbines listed as part of this development are within a radius of 2 kilometers from my home.

I recognise the importance of wind energy in meeting Ireland's National renewable energy targets and addressing climate change. However, this development is unsuitable for this location and fails to take proper account of the environmental, social, and cultural impacts on the local area.

This wind farm would permanently alter the rural character of the area and expose nearby residents to health and amenity risks, devalue local properties, and threaten the long-term sustainability of our community. For these reasons, I ask that the Board refuse planning permission.

Some of my summarised individual observations and concerns are as follows:

I believe that the engagement with the community with regards to this development was nonexistent and as highly disrespectful to the community that this development will affect. I am heavily involved in several community-based organizations in the area between Bruff heritage group, Bruff Rugby Club and Bruff GAA club. These community groups engage in the development and good of our local rural community and very valuable groups. The fact that this development is being proposed without consultation with these groups or its members in an open and transparent manner show the total disregard for the local communities and their beliefs.

Additionally, this developments decision to not consult with local heritage groups shows disregard towards our local areas rich heritage and culture. The Bruff area has a deep rooted since of tradition and heritage and a strong sense of community from the times of the DeLacy family in the 13<sup>th</sup> century to its connections to the Fitzgerald Kennedy family, our local area is rich in history and culture. Our rich local countryside and natural beauty add to our cultural identity, blending our strong link to folklore and local culture. Bruff was the hometown of the late great folklorist Dáithí Ó hÓgáin and this proposed development will scar the natural beauty we enjoy in addition to one that served as a rich source for Daithí's timeless works.

This proposed development will also stem the development of this community by reducing the number of successful planning permission applications granted to young people from the locality intending to settle and build a house on the land of their parents and grandparents. I am one such young person who intends to achieve this someday, but the threat of this wind farm development makes this extremely doubtful. Is this rural local community full of rich heritage, history and culture to become just a part of that, a piece of history. Starved of development by these monstrosities which appear to be planned with minimal engagement or consideration for the communities and the areas in which they will interrupt.

In addition, we were informed that a survey was conducted door to door of our area. This survey was conducted under false pretenses in which the community was surveyed without knowledge of being surveyed or sufficient knowledge on the topic they were being questioned on. The blatant bias, gerrymandering and rigging of this survey in both its parameters and its execution are extremely unethical, particularly by a group that claims to be basing its purpose on scientific evidence. Being a member of the scientific community myself, this conduct is disgusting and undermines the principles that the scientific community fights so strongly to uphold and preserve.

The construction of these structures will alter the local environment with the need for additional roads and access routes as well as secondary infrastructure, all of which will negatively impact the local environment and surrounding areas. The peace and tranquility enjoyed by those who have lived here all our lives is to be destroyed and all for a greater purpose so they tell us. This purpose seems so great that they feel we are incapable of being included in the discussion despite this affective our lives, our health and peace of minds.

There is significant body of evidence that the health impacts of areas near these large wind turbines are significant with sleep deprivation and anxiety proving to be main concerns as a result of shadow flicker and the emission of continuous low frequency noise. This being a cumulative result from these large structures altogether in close proximity. I fear for the fragility of the mental health of my family and I as a result of the erection of these structures. We are lead to believe that mental health is a national priority however this development serves to tell us otherwise. The location of my house is also within the intersection of the two clusters of turbines resulting in no reprieve from the infrasound and shadow flicker emitted from these structures. The site access connecting these two clusters will also be positioned just over 100m from my dwelling which with a predicted 170 large scale industrial vehicles and lorries over a period of 18-24 months will result in extreme disturbance to my family and I. In addition a large number of these wind farm structures tend to arrive during the night which as a result will mean disturbances both day and night to my family and I.

In addition, the shadow flicker from these structures has not been accounted for on my family property. It has only been accounted for within the confines of the family house. The disturbance of the property impeaches on an area my family and I would have considered a safe zone, an area of rest and relaxation. Our continued commitment to country life was due to the added benefits of having our own outdoor area and garden a place for recreation and rest. This is all to be impacted by the construction of these industrial structures in my area.

One of the most easily available ways to calm anxiety, stress and other mental health disorders is to undertake walks particularly those in nature. This too is being deprived of our community as a result of this development. The natural beauty and the homes of our local wildlife are to be irreparable damaged as a result of this development. The homes of the local whooper swans, red squirrels and herring gull and other local wildlife will be scarred and disrupted ensuring that we will never see these beloved species of wildlife in our locality again. The Whooper swan management plan itself dictate that the structures T1 to T5 are in the direct flight path of the whooper swans and does not show any concern towards these species in the natural habitat.

The recent flooding of the corcass area of Carrigeen and Camas will only become further worsened by the erection of such a large wind farm structure in the area. In addition the waste from the pouring of such large quantities of concrete in addition to the large quantity of oil needed in the construction and continuous lubrication of these large wind turbines will only lead to large scale pollution of our local waterways in particular our beloved local river the Morning Star. This river serves as a major tributary of the river Maigue a river that is already battling against pollution and declining aquatic life. The development of industrial turbines will only serve to further extinguish our local natural beauty, natural wildlife and aquatic life leaving us in a barren area devoid of natural beauty or possible future development.

It is for these reasons above that I feel that this development should not proceed and I humbly thank you for taking the time to review this submission and address its concerns.

Yours respectfully,

Cian Mulqueen