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V35 CC85

The Secretary,
An Coimisiun Pleanala,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1,
DO1V902.

Case Reference Number: PAX91.323780

Date: 15/11/2025

RE: 10-year planning permission for Ballinlee Wind Farm consisting of 17 wind turbines, a permanent 110kV substation, and ancillary development. Located in Ballincurra, Ballingarour, Ballinlee North & South, Ballinrea, Ballyreesode, Camass North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in Co. Limerick.

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed planning application for the Ballinlee Wind Farm. I urge the board to deny this application based on the following concerns:

- **Impact on My Brother:** I have a brother who is 19 years old and has severe Autism and ADHD. He cannot cope with loud or sudden noises, and the closest turbine will be located just 980 meters from our home, with additional turbines placed within a 2.5 km radius. The anticipated noise and shadow flicker from these turbines would create a distressing environment for him.
- **Noise Sensitivity:** My brother's sensitivity to noise is profound; even everyday sounds can cause him distress. The low-frequency sounds generated by the turbines, along with the rhythmic noise patterns caused by wind, could severely disrupt his daily life and routine. He spends most of his time in our garden, which we have designed specifically for his needs, and I fear that this proposed development will force us to consider moving, which would be incredibly disruptive to him.
- **Visual Disruption and Anxiety:** The visual impact of the turbines, particularly the shadow flicker, would likely lead to overstimulation and increased anxiety for my brother. The unique sensory needs of autistic individuals are not adequately addressed in the current planning guidelines.
- **Lack of Community Engagement:** I have observed a lack of adequate community engagement regarding this proposal. Many residents, including my immediate neighbours, were not informed properly about the potential developments because they live just outside the 1 km notification radius. This has raised concerns about transparency and thorough communication with local residents.

- **Road Conditions and Environmental Concerns:** The R516, where I live, is already a narrow and frequently resurfaced road due to subsidence and flooding. The introduction of construction vehicles and heavy machinery during the installation of the turbines poses risks to the road's integrity and could exacerbate existing drainage issues.
- **Property Value Concerns:** I am worried about the impact this wind farm will have on property values. Numerous studies indicate that homes near wind farms often see a decrease in value. The claim that my property value would increase is not only unrealistic but also dismissive of the genuine concerns surrounding this development. As a 25 year old, I understand the very real property crisis that is present in this country, and this matter will only amplify this crisis.
- **Disruption to Daily Life:** The construction phase will likely disrupt daily access to essential services for my brother and our family, affecting our ability to commute to work, school, and medical appointments. This level of disruption is unacceptable and would substantially impact our quality of life.
- **Wildlife Impact:** Our community is home to diverse wildlife, including the Whooper Swan, which migrates through this area. The proposed turbines could pose a threat to these birds and disrupt their natural habitat. I find it hard to believe that simply removing a couple of turbines would sufficiently mitigate the risks to local wildlife.

In conclusion, I respectfully request that you reject this planning application. The tranquillity that attracted us to this area in the first place is at stake, and our community, which includes many families and elderly residents, deserves to remain undisturbed by such a large-scale industrial development. While I understand the need for clean energy, I believe that alternative sites exist that would not infringe upon the well-being of residents and wildlife alike.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Kind regards,

Craig Ryan