



Observation on a Strategic Infrastructure Development Application

Observer's details

1. Observer's details (person making the observation)

If you are making the observation, write your full name and address.

If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

(a) Observer's
name

Deirdre Fraher,

(b) Observer's
postal address

Coolnakilla, Fermoy, Co. Cork. P61NH90

Agent's details

2. Agent's details (if applicable)

If you are an agent and are acting for someone else on this observation, please also write your details below.

If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

N/A

(b) Agent's postal
address

N/A

Postal address for letters

3. During the process to decide the application, we will post information and items to you or to your agent. For this **current application**, who should we write to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

You (the observer) at the postal address in Part 1

The agent at the postal address in Part 2

Details about the proposed development

4. Please provide details about the **current application** you wish to make an observation.

- (a) **An Coimisiún Pleanála case number for the current application (if available)**

(for example: 300000)

323780

- (b) **Name or description of proposed development**

Ballinlee Wind Farm

- (c) **Location of proposed development**

(for example: 1 Main Street, Baile Fearainn, Co Abhaile)

Ballinlee, Bruff, co. Limerick

Observation details

5. Grounds

Please describe the grounds of your observation (planning reasons and arguments). You can type or write them in the space below. There is **no word limit** as the box expands to fit what you write.

You can also insert photographs or images in this box. (See part 6 – Supporting materials for more information).

An Coimisiún Pleanála

Case Reference Number: PAX91.323780

Landowner's objection and observation of Deirdre Fraher, Coolnakilla, Fermoy, Co. Cork P61 NH90 against Ballinlee Wind Farm.

I, Deirdre Fraher, own the land to the centre of Road No. L8011 and my folio No. LK 26728 includes this area. Furthermore, I own the land to the centre of the so called Ballybane road and folio numbers LK17020F and LK16010 includes these areas. Finally, I own the land to the centre of Road No. L1412 and our folio No. LK 14943 includes this area.

I object to any company or person laying services on our property without consultation with me and without my permission. The application for the proposed Wind Farm Development has no interest in my lands but indicates that he/she intends to lay cables on my property without my permission. This is being proposed without consultation with me, the landowner, and without my consent and therefore constitutes unauthorised access and trespass.

I am writing to lodge my formal objection to the proposed Ballinlee Wind Farm. I wish to object to this development in the strongest possible terms. I totally oppose this project because these giant wind turbines would negatively impact landowners, residents, wildlife, and the natural environment.

The development of a wind farm and the installation of associated works such as underground and overhead transmission cables have a measurable negative impact on land value and potential future uses of my land. The presence of a wind farm near my property would alter the visual character of the landscape, introduce noise and create constraints on how the land could be used which would deter prospective buyers and reduce marketability were I ever to sale my property. In addition, the legal easements and physical restrictions required for cable corridors would limit potential construction, agricultural practices and others forms of land development. This would diminish my flexibility and long-term planning options. These factors would lower overall property values and impose enduring limitations on how the land may be used in the future.

I am opposed to the industrialisation of the countryside by Ballinlee Wind Farm- the installation of large concrete foundations and service roads would inevitably destroy and reduce wildlife habitat. This damage will be irreversible. This area is rich in birdlife and

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other wildlife. Wildlife in general and birds and bats in particular will be killed in substantial numbers in both the construction phase and by the turbines in the operational phase. Token mitigation measures will not change this fact.

The proposed turbines are visually intrusive on the landscape due to their enormous size and number. It is difficult to even comprehend the immensity of their scale. This scale would represent an intolerable intrusion on the natural rural landscape. The wind turbines would interfere with residents' enjoyment of their gardens and farmland. Moreover during the construction local roads would need to be widened to allow the passage of the enormous transporters to carry the wind turbines to their destination, causing unacceptable noise, pollution and disruption to the local community for an extended period, interfering in residents enjoyment of their property.

Furthermore, the installation of underground and overground cables can have significant negative impacts on traditional stone walls and hedgerows. These features are important historical and ecological assets and add to our rural landscape. They provide habit connectivity for wildlife, acting as natural barriers and contribute to the rural character of our countryside. Excavation of for laying cables, the movement of heavy machinery and the creation of access routes can lead to the displacement, destabilisation, or destruction of stone walls. Hedgerows may be removed or irreversibly damaged through cutting, root disturbance or soil compaction. Such impacts not only diminish the visual and heritage value of our landscape but also reduce biodiversity and disrupt local ecosystems. Once the construction phase is complete the operation of the turbines would pose unacceptable risks to wellbeing and health of locals living in the area. There are increasing reports from residents living near wind farms that wind turbine noise causes sleep deprivation that in turn leads to fatigue, irritability, stress and depression.

It is important to note that the Irish courts have recognised the adverse impacts of wind farms on nearby residents. The High Court ordered the shutdown of three turbines in the Gibbet Hill Windfarm in Bunclody in 2025 due to "noise nuisance" experienced by a couple that "destroyed" their quality of life. The plaintiffs had argued that noise, vibration, and shadow flicker had caused sleep disturbance, stress and a severely diminished quality of life. Again in 2025 the High Court ruled that Ballyduff Windfarm in Enniscorthy had unreasonably interfered in the enjoyment of two couples' properties with specific reference to sleep disturbance. These rulings demonstrate that the negative impacts have been legally acknowledged as grounds for objection. An Coimisiún Pleanála should pay due regard to these legal precedents when considering the application.

The planning authority should also pay due attention to the disproportionate impact on residents who are hearing aid users. Wind turbine noise, in particular low frequency and fluctuating sounds, is amplified by hearing aids. This can lead to considerable discomfort, sleep disruption and interference in enjoyment of one's home. Many elderly people wear hearing aids and spend most of their time at home – this vulnerable group would be hugely impacted by the wind turbine noise. This cannot be addressed by mitigation measures and must be given due weight when contemplating the application.

The proposed wind farm has the potential to interfere with local communications infrastructure. Large turbines can obstruct or scatter radio waves, caused degraded television reception, reduced mobile phone coverage and disruption to internet connectivity. These are essential for remote working and online learning- both part of everyday life. The applicant has not demonstrated that adequate mitigation measures will be taken to prevent or mitigate this inference. An Coimisiún Pleanála should consider the

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risk of disruption to communication as TV, mobile phone and internet services are vital for safety, business and daily life nowadays.

My family has lived in this townland for four generations. I am both saddened and angry to think that my future descendants and extended family could be forced to live near a wind farm, their "ordinary enjoyment" of their homes, gardens and farmland interfered with while being exposed to unacceptable impacts like noise and shadow flicker. They I object to the excessive size and number of turbines. Seventeen wind turbines at 160 m tall would lead to a cumulative effect that will only magnify all the above-mentioned negative effects of the wind farm.

I respectfully request the planning authority to not be swayed by lengthy reports commissioned by the applicant in support of the development and tokenistic mitigating measures that do little to address the many, long- term, detrimental impacts on the local environment and community. Instead, due respect should be given to the legal precedents set in this country and the right of residents to enjoy their homes and land when considering the application.

For the above-mentioned reasons, I urge the Comisiún Pleanála to reject this planning application.

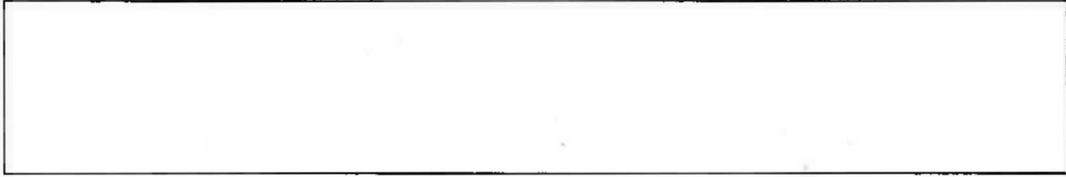
Thank you for taking the time to read by objection.

Is mise le meas,

Signed: *Deirdre Fraher*
Deirdre Fraher
Date: 15/11/25

Witness: *Sean Cotter*
Sean Cotter
Date: 15/11/25

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Supporting materials

6. If you wish, you can include supporting materials with your observation.

Supporting materials include:

- photographs,
- plans,
- surveys,
- drawings,
- digital videos or DVDs,
- technical guidance, or
- other supporting materials.

You can insert photographs and similar items in your observation details: grounds (part 5 of this form).

If your supporting materials are physical objects, you must send them together with your observation by post or deliver it in person to our office. You cannot use the online uploader facility.

Fee

7. You **must** make sure that the correct fee is included with your observation.

Observers (except prescribed bodies)

- strategic infrastructure observation is €50.
- there is no fee for an oral hearing request

Oral hearing request

8. If you wish to request the Coimisiún to hold an oral hearing, please tick the “Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing” box below.

You can find information on how to make this request on [our website](#) or by contacting us.

If you do not wish to request an oral hearing, please tick the “No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing” box.

Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing

No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing

Final steps before you send us your observations

9. If you are sending us your observation using **the online uploader facility**, remember to save this document as a Microsoft word or PDF and title it with:

- the case number and your name, or
- the name and location of the development and your name.

This also applies to prescribed bodies sending an observation by email.

If you are sending your observation to us by post or delivering in person, remember to print off all the pages of this document and send it to us.

For Office Use Only

FEM – Received		SIDS – Processed	
Initials		Initials	
Date		Date	

Notes