

Address

Rathcannon

Kilmallock

EirCode: V35 TN56

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

Case reference: PAX91.323780

Date: 08 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, Ballingayroure, Ballinlee North & South, Ballinrea, Ballyreesode, Camas North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

To Whom It May Concern,

I Dermot McCarthy write in connection with the above listed planning application at Ballincurra, Ballingayroure, Ballinlee North & South, Ballinrea, Ballyreesode, Camas North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

I/ We 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/ we ask that the Board refuse planning permission.

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

Visual Amenity

I live in Rathcannon, just off the L1412 road. I am a farmer and this development will greatly impact me and my young family. We will be just over 600m from the nearest turbine T6 and we are also just 1KM from the proposed substation. I moved into my home in 2021 with my wife and we have since had a daughter who is now 21 months old. We always had visions of our family growing up in rural Ireland with rich views and a peaceful quiet area. The development of this wind farm will ruin this dream for my family and I fear that any children I have now and in the future will not want to settle near our home.

Noise Nuisance

We will have 16 turbines within our vicinity and there will no doubt be a cumulative noise nuisance from these for our family. Not only the normal sound from a spinning turbine but the infranoise that will be emitted from these is huge concern for us. As I stated above, we have a very young daughter at just 22 months old. She will grow up being exposed to this sound throughout her development years and into young adulthood. We do not believe that this is acceptable and we would urge you to reconsider the location of these in such proximity to people and especially young families.

Shadow Flicker.

As we are just 650m from a turbine and within 1.6KM of 5 other turbines, it seems logical that we will be affected by Shadow Flicker and this is a great concern for us. I cannot see a time where I will be able to be outside with my daughter enjoying what the countryside has to offer when we risk shadow flicker from these massive turbines.. This is unacceptable and under the WHO guidelines, we are too close to these turbines. The guidelines that are being followed are outdated since 2006 and the revised guidelines of 2019, which have yet to be adopted would result in us being far removed from the possibility of Shadow Flicker. I urge you to implement these updated guidelines and ensure that we are not affected by this.

Planning

As a parent, I would love nothing more than to have my kid(s) grow up and decide to settle down close to us. I fear that this option will not be afforded to my kids if this planning gets the go ahead. I have learned form other developments that anyone wishing to apply for planning permission will have their planning request denied due to the proximity to this wind farm. This will have a detrimental affect not just on rural life and families but also in the long term on local schools, sports clubs etc.

Road Travel Disruption

We travel to Limerick City frequently using the R516 to Croom and the R512 from Bruff to Limerick. We understand that these roads will be inundated with HGV's and disruptive road works for the proposed grid route. We would like to highlight our concern that these roads are key roads for commuting and more especially for emergency services. In the situation of life or death scenarios where every minute counts on the road, it is deeply concerning that such disruption over such a long period of time could have a devastating effect.

Cumulative Visual Impact

I am particularly concerned about the cumulative affect that this development along with that proposed in Garrane (Case 323635) covering and also rumoured future developments in Grange will have on our Golden Vale. Our countryside is being turned into an Industrial land where our rural way of life is being eroded. It is unthinkable that as we drive through these areas, our current rural views will be replaced by these huge turbines.

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

Thank you for considering this submission.

Kind Regards,

Dermot McCarthy