

Ballinlee
Bruff
Co. Limerick
V35DR76

The Secretary
An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01V902
Case Ref: PAX91.323780

17/11/2025

Re: 10-year planning permission for Ballinlee Wind Farm consisting of 17 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, Ballyreeside, Camas North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to lodge a formal objection to the proposed development above, involving the construction of 17 very large wind turbines within very close proximity (less than one kilometre) of our family's home. We are highly worried and stressed about the immense and irreversible changes that this development would cause for our area, and we consider it wholly unsuitable for this location for numerous reasons. I must also note that the manner in which the company responsible have gone about consulting the local community has been severely poor and does not inspire confidence in their will to do right by residents unfortunate enough to end up having infrastructure of theirs set up nearby to their homes. Please see my reasoning for my objection below.

1. Impact on residents and our homes

The Spire in Dublin stands at 121 metres tall, a monumental landmark that was specifically designed and built to be an imposing focal point that is visible throughout the heart of the city. At 160 metres, the proposed wind turbines would tower over even The Spire. Such tall, visually dominating structures being built in such an area would severely impact not only current residents and our homes, but any of our future family members who would wish to buy land and build homes in the area. It is a very quiet, peaceful area with lots of families. I note that I have spoken with someone who works with a manufacturer of similarly sized wind turbines who advised that they do make an audible noise and turbulence up to over 2 kilometres. My family enjoy spending time outside as much as possible enjoying the peaceful sounds of the nature and animals we're lucky to be surrounded by, so this will jeopardise that for us and our extended family and neighbours' families.

2. Environmental and Wildlife Impacts

As touched on above, we are lucky to live in an area still lively with natural habitats even though there are a lot of homes and people living in the surrounding areas. We regularly see all kinds of wildlife in our gardens, including foxes, bats and a variety of birds. Each year we get to enjoy the migration of swallows to our area. Large wind turbines pose a direct risk to these beautiful animals; just recently, [three white tailed eagles were killed by wind turbines in South Donegal](#). We already face issues with farmers who destroy hedgerows and impact the environment for animals like foxes, so the major construction works this development would entail would lead to even worse conditions.

3. Traffic and Infrastructure impacts:

The road of Ballinlee is a narrow cul-de-sac. As it stands, even regular trucks cause issues for the area and erosion of the edges of the road outside people's homes. The construction of these turbines would involve an enormous and constant volume of large, heavy trucks travelling up and down the road. As part of the construction, the foundations would require several hundred cubic metres of concrete, possibly thousands of cubic metres; a standard cement truck carries between 6 to 10 cubic metres. The road is simply not capable of sustaining such a volume of trucks, and that's just for the foundation alone. Most families enjoy walking on the road, especially with dogs, or cycling with their children on the road so the traffic would be disruptive, but the damage to the road and dirt that would be tracked all over the road would also make it really unpleasant for residents.

4. Property Value and Intergenerational Community Impact

As outlined in [this NUIG study](#), there is a significant reduction in property value of -14.7% within 1km of a turbine. This study is consistent with existing European studies, and enforces the recommendation that turbines should be constructed in highly remote areas to minimise impacts on residents. Ballinlee, Bruff and the surrounding areas are not a highly remote area. Many families in this area have lived here for generations and invested a lot into their homes. They do not deserve to have their time and work impacted negatively, nor have their children's possibility of building homes and continuing further generations in the area be jeopardised. The construction works also stand to risk the private water wells in operation in the area; we are lucky to enjoy access to good quality water, but a large turbine development risks damaging the surrounding soil, groundwater systems and local watercourses, potentially contaminating our main sources.

5. Poor Community Consultation and Community Benefits

The local community wished to have an open discussion with the company involved in all of this, yet we were dismissed. The proposed community benefits just feel like a fairly meagre attempt to soften the blow. There has been no meaningful engagement with the families located in very close proximity to these sites, such as those of us living in Ballinlee North & South.

6. Alternative Renewable Options

The general consensus amongst people in the area is that renewable energy is indeed important, and reducing our national reliance on non-renewable energy is imperative for our climate. As such, solar farms would be more welcomed and appropriate for areas that aren't quite remote and rural enough for wind turbines. Large wind turbines should be implemented in select areas. Offshore wind farms are very common and successful in other European countries, so I do not understand the lack of urgency in rolling more of these out around the country. Furthermore, we could be doing a lot more in terms of pushing for multinationals to implement changes to offset their energy needs which are driving much of the increased demand for energy. All businesses should be required to have solar panels on their buildings as much as possible. In some countries,

carparks are covered with solar panels to utilise space that would otherwise remain unproductive. We should really be exhausting all options on this issue as a nation before considering such developments.

I sincerely request that this development be rejected for the above reasons.

Thank you for your time and attention with this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Dominic Ryan and Giannel D'Andrea