

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA
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ACP-
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Time: 4.15 By: M-P 07

Jerry & Breda Garvey,
Ballygrennan,
Bruff,
Co. Limerick.
V35HR22
5/11/2025

The Secretary,
An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1.
DO1 V902.

Case Reference: PAX91 323780

Re: 10 year planning permission for Ballinlee Wind Farm consisting of 17 wind turbines, a permanent 110kv substation and ancillary development. Located in Ballinacurra, Ballingayrou, Ballinlee North and South, Ballinrea, Ballyreesode, Camas North and South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

We, Jerry and Breda Garvey, write in connection with the above listed planning at Ballinacurra, Ballingayrou, Ballinlee North and South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

We wish to object strongly to this proposal and that the board refuse planning permission.

Some of our summarised observations and concerns are as follows:

1. Mental Health and Peace of Mind:

We are both turned 80 years and worked hard and had to travel far for our work. We paid allowances, taxes as required. Jerry also had to collect VAT from his earliest days, no mean feat in overall area. We built a dwelling near Bruff over 40 years ago where we still live in our retirement. It is a lovely peaceful area, we have great neighbours and many friends and a small rural town Bruff nearby. We are really happy here. In line with current government thinking we hope to live out our lives for as long as we can at home. The sheer size of the turbine proposal will fundamentally change our outlook on this, as you can see from the following paragraphs.

2. We both share a deep love of walking and observing all the local wildlife, taking joy in watching the foxes, badgers, and the many species of birds as they move through the seasons. We pay close attention to the small wonders too, the insects that sustain the ecosystem, and we are concerned about the decline in the honey bee population. Over the years, the areas beautiful hedgerows and trees have matured into a thriving natural landscape, and we take great pleasure in watching how they evolve with each passing season. For us, these walks are more than just a pastime, they are a reminder of how precious and fragile our natural world is, and how vital it is that we protect it for generations to come.

3. From our back windows, we will be able to see at least three of the turbines, possibly as many as five, dominating our view. We have now been informed that we are also likely to be affected by both noise and shadow flicker from these structures. What was once a peaceful outlook over the landscape we cherish so much could soon be disrupted by constant movement and mechanical sound, changing not only our view, but also the very character of our surroundings.

4. We are both joined organisations in the area, such as, Tidy Towns, which has spread out from the actual town. We are interested in the history of the area and have contributed to the repair and upkeep of various historical sites, such as the redevelopment of a section of the river and park area between the two bridges. Also to the rediscovery of washerwomen stones alongside the river which is steeped in local history. We take pride in our involvement in these projects. There is now under consideration a system of public walkways in a larger area know as the Grove, a beautiful planted area, some trees are 200 years old, which will be under the influence of at least one turbine. The plans and pricing by three contractors and grant approval has been confirmed. Work on these projects is due to start in April/May 2026. We love this area and would be very disappointed if turbines upset that tranquility and visual aspect of this area.

5. We worry about the fact that the presence of huge turbines in the area will result in the devaluation of our property which we hope to pass on to members of our family. It will be harder to sell if need be in the future.

6. We are deeply concerned about the noise and shadow flicker that the turbines will create, particularly in the evenings when the sun is low. This is the time of day when we most value the peace and quiet of our home and the beautiful evening light across the landscape. We understand that shadow flicker occurs at certain times of the year and day, but even during these periods, the intermittent flashes of light and movement can be highly unsettling and intrusive. Combined with the constant low-frequency noise from the turbines, this could greatly disturb our overall quality of life. What has always been a tranquil and relaxing part of our day may instead become a source of stress and discomfort.

7. We are concerned that this wind farm development contravenes objectives of the Bruff Area Plan (as per LDP2022-2028), especially Objective BR06, Safeguard the lands along the Morning Star river.

We respectfully and strongly request that An Bord Pleanála refuse permission to this development, for all the reasons outlined above, and also the very close proximity and impact this will have on Lough Gur, an architectural and archaeological site of international importance, as well as the scale of the project and impact on the local community.

Your faithfully,

Jerry Garvey

Breda Garvey

Jerry & Breda Garvey