

Objection to Proposed Wind Turbine Development in Ballinee, Bruff, Co. Limerick

To Whom It May Concern,

I wish to lodge a formal objection to the proposed development of multiple 160-metre wind turbines in the Ballinee, Bruff area. This proposal presents significant and unacceptable risks to the local environment, community wellbeing, and broader planning objectives. The grounds for objection are set out below.

1. Visual and Landscape Impact

The proposed turbines, at a height of approximately 160 metres, would fundamentally alter the rural character of the Ballinee and Bruff landscape. The region is defined by low-lying agricultural land, dispersed housing, and scenic rural vistas. Turbines of this scale would introduce industrial structures completely out of proportion with the existing environment, causing severe and irreversible visual intrusion.

2. Residential Amenity Impact

Numerous homes lie within close proximity of the proposed turbine sites. The scale and operation of these turbines create risks of:

Shadow flicker affecting daily living conditions.

Noise impact, including low-frequency noise and amplitude modulation, which is well-documented to affect sleep and long-term wellbeing.

A reduction in overall residential amenity due to industrialisation of a rural setting.

3. Environmental and Wildlife Concerns

The area supports diverse wildlife, including birds, bats, and protected species. Large turbine developments create collision risks, habitat disturbance, and displacement of wildlife. The cumulative impact on local biodiversity has not been adequately addressed.

4. Impact on Water, Ground, and Soil Conditions

Wind turbine foundations require extensive excavation, concrete installation, and heavy construction traffic. These works present risks to soil stability, groundwater systems, and local watercourses, especially in rural areas with agricultural reliance. The potential for contamination or long-term hydrological disruption must not be overlooked.

5. Traffic and Infrastructure Impact

Construction of 160-metre turbines requires oversized haulage vehicles, significant road modifications, and ongoing heavy-vehicle traffic. The local road network is narrow, rural, and unsuitable for such movements. This raises safety concerns, potential damage to public roads, and disruption to the community.

6. Property Devaluation

Well-established evidence indicates that proximity to large-scale wind turbines can negatively affect property values. With many homes located in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development, the risk of financial loss to residents is substantial and unacceptable.

7. Scale and Over-Development

The number and height of the proposed turbines represent an excessive industrialisation of a small rural area. The proposal does not reflect proportionate development and appears incompatible with sustainable planning standards for rural zones.

8. Insufficient Community Consultation

Local residents have expressed substantial concerns, and many feel that the consultation process to date has been inadequate. A development of this magnitude requires meaningful engagement with the affected community, which has not occurred.

9. Cumulative Impact

When considering wind developments already approved or operational elsewhere in County Limerick, the cumulative impact on the landscape and community is significant. This proposal would exacerbate existing regional pressures.

For the reasons outlined above, the proposed development is unsuitable for the Ballinee/Bruff area. I strongly urge the planning authority to reject this application in order to protect the rural environment, local community, and long-term sustainability of the region.

Yours Sincerely,

John Joe Ryan
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11 November 2025
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