

Niall & Cathal McCarthy
Ballintaw
Banogue
Croom
Co Limerick
V35 VC58

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

Case reference: PAX91.323780

Date: 17th November 2025

Re: 10 year planning permission for Ballinlee Wind Farm consisting of 17 no. wind turbines, a permanent 110kV substation and ancillary development. Located in Ballincurra, Ballingayrou, Ballinlee North & South, Ballinrea, Ballyreesode, Camas North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

To Whom It May Concern,

We, Niall and Cathal McCarty write in connection with the above listed planning application at Ballincurra, Ballingayrou, Ballinlee North & South, Ballinrea, Ballyreesode, Camas North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

I wish to object strongly to this proposal and ask that the Board refuse planning permission.

Some of my summarised observations and concerns are as follows:

There had been no communication from the developers with residents on the construction route prior to the site notices going up at Tullovin Bridge. To propose an industrial size development of this type without communication at local level totally contravenes the Aarhus Convention

The Aarhus Convention, to which Ireland is a signatory, underscores the importance of public participation in environmental decision-making. Article 7 of this convention grants us the right to be informed, to participate in decision-making processes, and to have access to justice in environmental matters. These rights are not to be taken lightly; they are fundamental to the democratic principles upon which our society is built.

We are both young people growing up and living in the countryside. Running and cycling on the R516 form a key part of our training for martial arts and other sports. If this planning application is approved, our training routines—and our safety—would be significantly affected.

One of us is a young apprentice and the other a senior secondary school student. We are constantly reminded by politicians that supporting apprenticeships and encouraging young people to remain in Ireland is vital for the economy. However, if permission is granted for a development of this industrial scale, it will become increasingly difficult for young people like us to buy or secure planning permission for homes in the countryside, as has recently been highlighted. Our choices become limited as our countryside becomes industrialised.

During the construction phase, our travel to and from work or college would be seriously disrupted, as we rely on the R516 every day.

The sheer scale of these turbines would also have a profound impact on the natural beauty and scenic views that define life in our countryside. A major part of the joy we get from running and cycling comes from experiencing the peace and beauty of nature. Beyond this, the project poses genuine risks to local wildlife and bird habitats. This includes light pollution from the reflection off the turbine blades that can cause disruption to animal sleep schedules.

This industrial-scale development shows little regard for the government's stated aim of encouraging young people to build their futures in Ireland, or for the needs of local communities and those who choose to make their homes in the countryside. It feels as though our countryside is being destroyed before our eyes, with no consideration for the wellbeing of the people who live here.

The potential health risks associated with turbines must also be taken seriously, along with the impact they may have on the mental wellbeing of both young and old throughout our communities

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

Kind Regards,

Niall & Cathal McCarthy