

Planning Objection to Proposed Ballinlee Windfarm

Application By: Ballinlee Green Energy Ltd

Case Reference: PAX91.323780

Submitted to: An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1. D01V902

Submitted By: Paul Leonard Dromin, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick

Date: 10/11/2025

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to object to the planning application for the construction of 17 industrial-scale wind turbines and associated infrastructure in the parishes of Balincurra, Ballingayroure, Ballinlee North & South, Ballinrea, Ballyreesode, Camass North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane, and other townlands in Co. Limerick.

These turbines will have a direct impact on myself and my family and point out the reasons for my objection below

**Visual and Heritage Impact:**

The proposed turbines, at approximately 165 metres in height, will dominate the landscape and are entirely out of character with the local setting. The area is renowned for its historic thatched cottages, ancient castles, and the nationally significant heritage sites including Bruff, Dromin, and Rathcannon. Developing a large-scale industrial wind farm in this setting would irreparably damage the visual integrity and sense of place, undermining both local and national heritage value. This is completely contrary to the protection of designated heritage areas.

**Wildlife and Ecology:**

The location is of critical importance for indigenous wildlife, notably woodcock, snipe, duck, and the protected swan colony at Lough Gur. The development will destroy habitats, disturb migratory and breeding grounds, and have significant negative impacts on local biodiversity, especially on birds and wetland ecology that are already under threat. Also the damage it will do to the vast bloodstock business in the immediate surrounding area

**Lack of Community Communication:**

There has been a clear lack of adequate engagement and consultation from Ballinlee Green Energy with myself and the wider community. Attempts to communicate were met with insufficient and poorly timed responses, indicating a disregard for affected residents' right to be properly informed and consulted about such a major development affecting their livelihoods and environment.

While I support the transition to renewable energy these projects need to be in the right place and not at the expense of residents, wildlife, heritage and the beautiful surrounding countryside. Furthermore these projects should also be carried out by people who engage with us locals and in conjunction with us ,Not by a faceless organisation who does not seem to care less

#### Property Valuation:

Evidence from multiple studies suggests that proximity to large-scale wind farms leads to a measurable reduction in property values. Research indicates property values can decrease by approximately 10-15% within one kilometer of turbines, a significant financial loss to homeowners like myself who have invested heavily in our homes within this rural community.

#### Concerns on Technology:

Modern wind turbine technology remains both large-scale and intrusive, and critics argue it is becoming increasingly outdated given advances in energy efficiency and alternative renewable technologies. Offshore wind, solar power, microgeneration, and battery storage technologies offer less invasive options with lower environmental and social impacts. Large onshore turbines continue to draw local opposition globally due to their landscape impact and noise, suggesting a need for more sustainable and community-friendly energy solutions.

In summary, the proposed Ballinlee Windfarm is incompatible with the preservation of the local landscape and heritage, is likely to cause unacceptable harm to biodiversity, diminishes property values, and reflects an outdated approach to renewable energy development. The proposal has caused noticeable tension and division within the local community, particularly between some neighbours and farmers involved in the project. This discord adds to the disruption and stress faced by residents and is clearly not the right thing to do in any modern day community

I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for this application.

Yours faithfully,  
Paul Leonard