

William and Laura Meade
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Athlacca
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V35Y544

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

Case reference: PAX91.323780

Date: 11/ 11/ 2025

Re: 10-year planning permission for Ballinlee Wind Farm consisting of 17 no. 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, Ballyreesode, Camas North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

To Whom It May Concern,

I, William Meade write in connection with the above listed planning application at Ballincurra, Ballingayrou, Ballinlee North & South, Ballinrea, Camas North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, and other townlands in County Limerick.

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

I first wish to outline that I am fully supportive to Ireland's transition to renewable energy and our need to meet our climate action goals of 80% renewable energy by 2030. However this goal and rush to meet our targets cannot come at the cost of rural communities and the health and wellbeing of people.

Some of my summarised observations and concerns are as follows:

The application fails to demonstrate that it will avoid or satisfactorily mitigate significant adverse impacts to:

1. Residential Amenity - noise, low frequency noise , Infrasound

The proposed development conflicts with national and regional planning policy. It would have significant adverse effects the enjoyment of my home and the health and wellbeing of my family and I. This project is a large industrial development being put into a quiet countryside area, without proving that the area is suitable or that local people and their surroundings will be properly protected. It would harm the local environment, our community, and our wellbeing, which goes against national planning policies (NPO 27, 60, and 62).

It would take over the local views, break up the natural countryside impacting our Golden Vale and would have a severe visual and cultural impact on the character of this historical area. It will also impact on views of the Galtee Mountains and the views from Ballyhoura will be hugely dominated by not only this wind farm, but also the Garrane Green Energy WindFarm that is proposed for just 8 kilometres south-west of Ballinlee Wind Farm.

Low-Frequency sound is now known to travel up to and beyond 10 kilometres and is proven to impact health negatively. People exposed to infrasound from Wind Farms often report pressure sensations, anxiety, migraines, dizziness, sleep deprivation, and chronic fatigue. (Mattsson, K. (2025, October 8). Separating myth from fact on wind turbine noise. Copenhagen, Denmark: Uppsala University.)

2. Outdated Wind Energy Guidelines

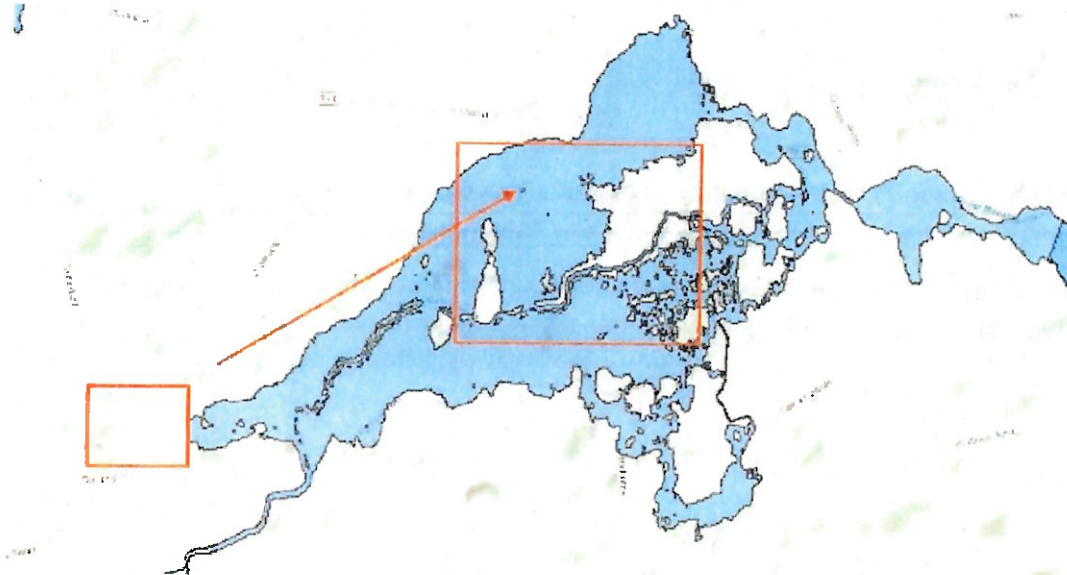
The guidelines are dated 2006. There appears to be a promise from Government to update these guidelines that has been ongoing since 2013 !. In 2006 Wind Turbines were approx. 50m tall. The ones being proposed here at 160m. There has been numerous High Court Cases of late where people, residents, have been forced to take Wind Farms to court, at their own expense as they cannot live and enjoy their homes. This is wrong, why haven't the new guidelines been updated. It puts 100's, if not 1000's of people at risk. My friends of mine live within 1km of a proposed turbine and will be subjected to shadow flicker and noise. I don't believe that 20-year-old guidelines are acceptable to protect our community when there is clear evidence and research that shows wind turbines position too close to homes cause negative health impacts. Ireland's 2006 limits are higher and less protective than WHO's 2018 health-based advice.

3. Local Wildlife and Habitats

There will be an unavoidable loss of wildlife , native hedgerows and trees if this development is permitted. Disruption of habitats, the whooper swan which visits the Corcass from October and resides here over the winter. 5 turbines are proposed in the Northern Cluster, directly in the centre of

where the Whooper Swan forages, and this area is a mapped floodplain and Wetland area as per attached.

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=bb2201e5a7c84b8c9daaf5418d8c0be8>



4. Impact on Our Golden Vale

This development is located across 250+ hectares of prime high value agricultural land, known as Golden Vale land.

Have alternatives really been considered, other to place this Industrial Sized Visually Intrusive wind farm into a populated area, on prime use farming? This is a low-lying area with little wind. This is not a suitable area and certainly there is good reason why no wind-farms have been built in this location up until now

5. Lack of Meaningful Engagement

There was a fundamental lack of public engagement. I see the developer states in the Community Engagement Report that they their engagement was “meaningful and transparent”.

There was no public meeting despite the entire community asking for one. I would have little to nothing about this windfarm as I fall outside their exclusionary 1km zone , without the local community group sharing information on same. At 3km away, I am still very close.

I also request for an **Oral Hearing in** relation to this wind farm application, for the reasons outlined within. The proximity and impact this will have on Lough Gur, an architectural and archaeological site of international importance, and the impact on our Golden Vale’s high value landscape. The scale of the project and the pattern of population distribution makes makes this development totally incompatible with this location. This development, if given approval, will have a widespread profoundly negative impact on our local community and way of life.

The proposal would transform a peaceful, productive rural environment into an industrial energy zone, eroding both the landscape character and livelihoods that define this community. I strongly urge that this development be rejected for the reasons outlined above.

Kind Regards,

William and Laura