

Formal Objection to the Proposed Cloonkett Wind Farm (SID)

To:

The Secretary

An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1, D01 V902

Date: [26 November 2025]

Subject

Objection under Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) – Cloonkett Wind Farm, County Clare (14 turbines, 150 m tip height)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to submit a formal observation/objection regarding the proposed wind turbine development referenced above. My residence is located at [Shessiv], approximately 760 metres from the nearest proposed turbine (T03).

I strongly object to the granting of permission for this development based on the following grounds:

1. Procedural Failure: Lack of Consultation

Despite the close proximity of my home to the development site, I have received no engagement from the developer. There has been no notification, no information pack, and no invitation to consultation events. This lack of communication is a failure to adhere to the "Code of Practice for Wind Energy Development Guidelines," which emphasizes meaningful engagement with the local community. This undermines the transparency of the application.

2. Residential Amenity and Visual Impact

My home is situated just 760m from turbine T03. A structure of this industrial scale at such a short distance will have a profound overbearing impact on my property. I have serious concerns regarding:

Shadow Flicker: The likelihood of shadow flicker affecting my home given the orientation and proximity.

Noise Nuisance: The potential for aerodynamic noise and amplitude modulation to disturb the quiet enjoyment of my home.

Visual Dominance: The introduction of 14 industrial turbines into a rural landscape will be visually obtrusive and out of character with the area.

3. Ecological Impact: Native Woodland and Protected Species

A substantial area of Native Irish Woodland lies between my home and the proposed site. This woodland is a habitat for the Red Squirrel, a species protected under the Wildlife Act 1976 as well as various other species (foxes, rabbits, owls etc). The construction phase involves heavy machinery, vibration, and noise which poses a threat of displacement to this sensitive species. The fragmentation of wildlife corridors here is unacceptable.

4. Hydrological Risks

There is a drinking water lake (Gortglass) in close proximity to the site which provides drinking water to my premises. The excavation required for turbine foundations and access roads creates a significant risk of sedimentation, silt runoff, and potential contamination from fuel spills. Given the critical nature of local water supplies, the precautionary principle should be applied, and permission refused to prevent risk to public health.

5. Conclusion

This development is ill-suited to the proposed location due to its proximity to residences, the risks to protected wildlife, and the threat to water quality.

I respectfully request that An Bord Pleanála refuse this application.

Yours sincerely,

Cathal Brooks

Shessiv cranny

Kilrush

Clare

353861507558