

David Hayes  
Craghera,  
Cranny,  
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CO. Clare.

To: The Secretary  
An Bord Pleanála  
4 Docks St., Lower,  
Dublin 1  
Republic of Ireland

Re: Objection to Application PAX03.323783 — Cloonkett Wind Farm, County Clare

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to lodge a formal objection to the above referenced planning application by Cloonkett Green Energy for the proposed wind-farm development in the townlands of Carrowreagh E&W, Cloondrinagh, Cloonkett, Burrenfadda, Shessive, Craghera, Glenconauun More, and Ballyduneen in Co. Clare.

### **1. Excessive Height of the Turbines**

The proposed turbine heights are disproportionate to the rural setting and would dominate the landscape. Their scale would result in permanent visual intrusion and negatively affect the character of the area.

### **2. Environmental Impact**

The development poses substantial risks to local wildlife, habitats, and natural features. In particular, there is a serious risk to existing watercourses, which may be affected by soil disturbance, construction runoff, and potential contamination during both the building and operational phases of the project.

Additionally, the area is known to provide habitat for the protected Hen Harrier. The construction and operation of large turbines may disturb feeding and nesting patterns, resulting in detrimental impacts on a vulnerable species that is already under significant pressure.

Noise pollution, shadow flicker, and general ecological disruption have not been adequately addressed or mitigated in the plans.

### **3. Negative Impact on Property Values**

The proximity of large industrial turbines to residential areas is likely to negatively affect property values due to their visual dominance, noise, and associated environmental concerns.

### **4. Inadequate Access Routes and Poor Road Conditions**

The existing road network surrounding the proposed site is unsuitable for the heavy

construction traffic required to deliver and install turbine components. Local roads are narrow, winding, and already in poor condition. Increased HGV traffic poses safety risks to residents, farmers, and cyclists, and may cause further deterioration and long-term damage to local infrastructure. The proposal does not present a realistic or sustainable strategy to address these issues.

### **Conclusion and Requested Outcome**

For all the reasons set out above, I respectfully request that An Bord Pleanála refuse planning permission for the application as submitted. If the Board is nevertheless minded to grant permission, I request that the following stringent conditions be applied:

- Reduction in the number of turbines, their height and rotor diameter to ensure they are less visually dominant and less intrusive in proximity to dwellings.
- Increased minimum setback distances from all dwellings
- Comprehensive condition on peat/soil management, hydrology monitoring, and restoration of bog/peatland, including carbon-release risk mitigation.
- A full cumulative impact assessment of the proposed development, considering existing and planned nearby wind farms, and the combined effects on landscape, ecology, noise, shadow-flicker, and residential amenity.
- Strict enforcements of working hours including but not limited to no noisy works before 8am, after 5pm, no weekend works , noise monitors installed to measure noise omitted from works ensuring it does not surpass expected decibel levels.
- Installation of noise and shadow-flicker monitoring at my property once the turbines are operational, with results to ensure compliance with expected limits.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of my objection.

Yours faithfully,

David Hayes