

Frank Ranalow
Gortglass Lake
Cranny
Kilrush
Co Clare

22/11/25

Case number: 323783 – 25

Ref: Planning permission to develop windfarm located with the townlands of Glenconnaun More, Craghera and Cloonkett, Co Clare.

Dear Sirs

I have lived in the beautiful area of Gortglass for 54 years, my property is located between Gortglass Lake and the bog which is the proposed site for the wind farm. I am a keen bird watcher and there is constant traffic of Birds between the lake and the bog. I've seen sightings all of the Species mentioned in the report and over the past 54 years, with only Plover numbers and corncrake decreasing in this time.

The proximity of the site to the tidal areas of Clonderlaw Bay and the Fergus estuary has to be a consideration, there is very little mention of the link between the lakes, bogs and the estuary SAC's. The presence of many waders and migratory birds is common place.

Mute swans are in permanent residence on the lake where they breed every year. It is common sight in the winter months to hear and see whooper swans, mute swans, ducks and geese flying over my property accessing the wetlands of the bogs.

Hen Harriers have regularly being seen by me over the 54 years that I have lived here. On two occasions I have seen the spectacular sky dance performed by the male during courtship in spring. This indicates that the area is a habitat suitable for nesting. Barn owls and kestrels are present as shown in The Cloonkett Submission. Short eared owls have also been seen in the area.

Otters are regular visitors during the year. The Cloon River and River from Kildysart Creek have headwaters in this area. Two lakes, Cloonsnachta and Gortglass are connectors and this stream system is like a highway between Clonderlaw Bay & The Fergus Estuary.

Over the past few years I have noticed a rise in the population of the protected March Fritillary Butterfly, through local led initiatives to protect Devils Bit Scabious and the identification and protection of the larval web I have seen the numbers of this rare and beautiful butterfly on my lands and the lands within the development site.

My property between Gortglass Lake and the proposed wind farm is 450 meters from turbine 10. I am East and south of the wind farm so with prevailing southwest winds I'm also concerned about noise. There is very little mention of local wells in the area, I have a well on my land that's only 586 meters from the nearest turbine (T10) and not mentioned in their report. There is also a well that many members of the local community uses that's also unmentioned in the EIAR and is 687 meters from T10. Some of my land lies within the 500 meter buffer but no ecological walkover survey took place on my property as I am aware as no permission was consented.

Finally I would like to report on the lack of communication between Clonkett Green Energy and the residents. I had one visit by two representatives of the company back in 2023. They were vague about details. They wrote to my Neighbour in October 2023 to say they were in the community engagement phase and there would be a public exhibition in Kildysart Community Centre to share further details. this meeting never happened. Afterwards I heard that they were available on a particular date in the West County Hotel in Ennis. None of the residents knew about this and only heard about it after the event.

The proposal to construct 14 giant wind turbines in this scenic picturesque environment and the destruction of such a vital habitat that is home to such an array of wonderful species is of grave concern to me.

This project is already causing great upset in our community of neighbours and I hope the outcome will be favourable to both wildlife and residents.

Yours faithfully
Frank Ranalow