

Mark Ranalow

Gortglass

Cranny

Kilrush

Co Clare

22/11/25

ACP case Reference number: 323783 - 25

Re: Planning permission to develop a windfarm located within the townlands of Glenconaun More, Craghera and Cloonkett, Co. Clare.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to lodge a formal objection to the proposed Clonkett Wind Farm in County Clare. While I support responsible renewable energy development, this particular proposal raises significant concerns in relation to wildlife protection, landscape impact, and proximity to existing communities.

1. Serious Impact on Local Wildlife and Habitat

The proposed development site contains an exceptionally rich and diverse ecosystem that functions as a de-facto wildlife sanctuary. The area supports a wide range of species, many of which rely on undisturbed habitats for breeding, feeding, and migration.

Large-scale wind turbines of the size proposed have well-documented impacts on birds, bats, and ground-dwelling species through habitat fragmentation, displacement, noise, and collision risk. The scale and density of turbines being suggested would result in unacceptable ecological disturbance and long-term degradation of this sensitive landscape.

The regular presence of barn owl, hen harrier, kestrel, white-tailed eagle and several bat species provides clear ecological evidence that the site functions as a high-value foraging area. These species depend on abundant prey and suitable hunting conditions. Their use of the site confirms that it supports significant ecological processes which would be disrupted by turbine construction and operation

2. Excessive Turbine Height and Visual/Landscape Impact

The proposed turbines, at approximately 150 metres, are wholly disproportionate to the scale and character of the County Clare landscape. These very large turbine models typically belong to larger, more industrialised open terrains such as in parts of Germany or the United States.

In the Clare context, their height would introduce an overwhelming and visually intrusive industrial element into a rural landscape that is valued for its natural beauty and cultural heritage.

3. Proximity to Existing Communities

My home is within 650 meters of the nearest turbine and the siting of these turbines is in very close proximity to many homeowners and many landowners are within 500 meters from a turbine. This raises serious concerns regarding noise, shadow flicker, and general loss of amenity. The scale of the proposed structures is inappropriate for locations so close to homes and will adversely affect the health, wellbeing, and quality of life of local residents.

Conclusion

For the reasons outlined above—including significant risks to wildlife, disproportionate scale, adverse landscape impact, and inappropriate proximity to communities—I respectfully request that this application be refused. I find the size of these turbines in such a sensitive location so close to peoples homes very concerning as the legislation for these developments goes back to 2006 when the turbine size was considerably smaller, wind turbines are becoming considerably taller and are being installed closer to where people live.

Yours faithfully,

Mark Ranalow