

Re Formal objection to Planning Application of the proposed Cloonkett Wind Farm ABP-317616-23

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to formally object to the proposed wind farm development at Cloonkett Wind Farm comprising of 14 150m turbines and associated works. I believe this wind farm is unsuitable for this location and would have very serious effects on our quality of life, environment and character of our rural area. The height of these turbines will dominate our skyline and will be seen at great distances including across the river Shannon in Glin Co Limerick, leading to a permanent visual and aesthetic degradation of our countryside.

As a land owner in Cloonsnaughta, research by Galway University (2023) shows that being close to wind turbines can result in property devaluation and long term stress for affected homeowners. There has been no community consultation with this Company as had been promised, and I fear if this gets planning permission how will this project be overseen to make sure they fulfill the conditions attached to their planning.

The National Planning Framework (2018) seeks to support sustainable development of rural areas and the revitalisation of small towns and rural settlements. A Wind Farm of 14 150m Turbines will spoil our unspoiled countryside and be detrimental to our wildlife that we encounter every day and many many species that we can't see.

Noise analysis, shadow flicker and Health

The noise, and shadow flicker effects associated with large scale turbines like these can cause significant and ongoing disturbance to nearby residents. These impacts will negatively affect our health, sleep and wellbeing, particularly for households within close proximity to the proposed Turbine locations. Please note the mapping of coloured lines which to me are curved in and out to keep houses outside the 500m and 600m zones. The proposed new guidelines state "Wind Turbines that are of a height which is greater than 30 metres shall be located not less than a distance of 7.5 times the height of the turbine away from any dwelling"

Ecological impact

The site is confirmed due to the several sightings of the Hen Harrier, the Curlew, visiting birds, swans that cross the proposed site on their way from Cloonsnaughta Lake to Knockalough Lake in Kilmihil, bog lizard, Horse shoe bats, frogs and so many flowers and bog cotton that will be destroyed and impacted by this proposed Wind Farm.

Road infrastructure

Our roads are narrow rural roads, some with grass growing in the middle of them that will be destroyed by massive traffic on them. They were never built or designed for such weight. The impact on our community going about their daily tasks will be severely disrupted.

I respectfully request that An Board Pleanala refuse planning permission for this project for the reasons outlined, which include inadequate consultation, noise and visual impact for all who live in this community and our beautiful unspoilt countryside.

Yours Sincerely

Pat Foley

Cloonsnaughta  
Cranny