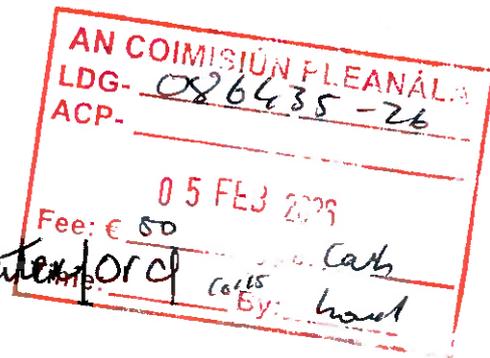


Name: Stephen + Debbie Jennell

Address: Ballycrooney Glenmone via Waterford

Application Name: Ballyfasy Wind Farm

Case Reference: PAX10.323957



FORMAL OBJECTION TO PROPOSED BALLYFASY WINDFARM

Dear Secretary,

I am writing as a resident of Ballycrooney to formally object to the proposed industrial wind farm at Ballyfasy, Co. Kilkenny. Our home is located less than 1km from the nearest turbine and is the cornerstone of our family's life, not merely a "receptor" on a developer's map. The scale of this proposal, featuring 10 turbines up to 180m in height, is entirely incompatible with our settled rural environment.

My objection is based on the following fundamental grounds:

1. Dismissive Approach to Noise and Health (AM and LF Noise)

In their submission, the developers significantly downplay the impacts of Low-Frequency Noise (LFN) and Amplitude Modulation (AM), treating these rhythmic "thumping" or "beating" sounds as imperceptible. This dismissive stance is deeply concerning to our household. Planning permission is not a defence against private nuisance, as established in the landmark High Court decision *Webster v Meenacloghspar*.

Recent rulings like *Byrne & Moorhead v. ABO Energy* have acknowledged that wind turbine noise can cause profound sleep disturbance, anxiety and heart palpitations and this is a genuine concern for our household.

2. Visual Domination and Inadequate Setbacks

At a tip height of 180m, these turbines will exert a total spatial dominance over our landscape. Even following the 2019 Draft Guideline of four times the tip height, these turbines will be as close as 720m to many of our homes. Turbines placed this close represent an overbearing intrusion into our private living space. Furthermore, the developer's promise of "zero shadow flicker" relies on automated software that we believe must be mandated as a strict, independently monitored condition of any permission. These turbines are simply too big and too close to our homes.

3. Impacts to our private well

As private well owners we are understandably concerned about the prospect of ten 180m wind turbines being located so close to our home, given the potential risks to our water supply. These large turbines require deep excavations and substantial concrete foundations, which can interfere with local hydrogeology by altering groundwater flow paths, increasing turbidity or

introducing contaminants during construction. For households reliant on private wells, even minor changes in groundwater quality or yield can have serious consequences as there is no alternative mains supply to fall back on.

4. Impact on the Local National School and Child Welfare

The concentration of this industrial development around our local school is unprecedented. Four industrial-scale turbines are proposed within 2km of the school and all ten turbines are within a 3km radius. This creates an intensive industrial environment for our children's primary place of education.

We are gravely concerned about the shadow flicker and distracting noise that will enter classrooms (both during construction and operational phases), potentially disrupting concentration and the daily learning environment, especially for kids that have additional learning needs. The developer has failed to provide a specific assessment of how this concentration of large-scale machinery will impact the long-term well-being and safety of the youngest members of our community.

5. Road Safety and School Traffic Disruption

The construction period (18–24 months) will introduce intense HGV traffic to narrow "L" roads used daily by school buses and families. Ballyfasy NS is located on L7505 and we feel that the volume of heavy machinery poses an unacceptable safety hazard for children and elderly residents. Our local roads lack the foundations for these industrial loads and we have received no adequate reassurance that our daily commutes or school runs will not be dangerously compromised.

6. Devaluation and Community Sustainability

This development puts our family's single largest asset, our home, at financial risk. Local evidence suggests such developments can lead to property devaluations of 15% to 40%. This project effectively "sterilises" the land for future generations, making it nearly impossible for our children to build homes here. We fear this will lead to a decline in school enrolments, local GAA clubs and the eventual "slow death" of our local community life.

Conclusion: While we understand and are supportive of the national climate goals, we feel that the developer, Manogate, has treated this community with a "box-ticking" approach to engagement, ignoring the unique sensitivities of our local school and vulnerable residents. I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the Ballyfasy Wind Farm.

Yours faithfully,

Debbie + Stephen Fennell