

To whom it may concern,

I wish to formally object to the proposed Lemanaghan Wind Farm development (Case Reference: PAX19.324161

As a concerned member of the public, I believe this development would have significant and irreversible negative impacts on Lemanaghan Bog, its surrounding environment, local heritage, biodiversity, landscape character, and nearby communities.

### 1. Impact on a Unique Raised Bog Environment

Lemanaghan Bog is one of Ireland's most important raised bog landscapes. Raised bogs are rare habitats that support unique wildlife, store significant amounts of carbon, regulate water quality, and form an important part of Ireland's natural heritage.

The proposed development includes:

- 15 wind turbines with a tip height of approximately 220 metres.
- Extensive foundations and hard-standing areas.
- Over 20 kilometres of new and upgraded roads and tracks.
- Underground cabling and associated infrastructure.
- A new 220kV substation and overhead transmission line.

The scale of these works would industrialise a sensitive bog environment and risk permanent damage to peatland habitats that cannot be restored once disturbed.

### 2. Loss of Habitat

The proposal would result in:

- Habitat loss
- Disturbance to protected and vulnerable species.
- Increased noise, lighting and traffic in a currently rural landscape.

The cumulative effect of roads, turbine bases, cable routes and ancillary infrastructure would significantly alter the ecological integrity of the area with suggested mitigation not protecting the biodiversity in any way.

### 3. Carbon and Climate Concerns

While renewable energy is important in addressing climate change, developments such as this negate the climate objectives by damaging peatlands which are already a carbon sink. Creating this development will create more emissions than is projected to be conserved during operation eg construction, cement pouring, transport, peatland destruction just to name a few processes.

Raised bogs act as long-term carbon stores. Disturbance of peat soils can release stored carbon into the atmosphere, reducing or offsetting some of the climate benefits claimed for the project.

This is a manufactured commodity which if not constructed would be more efficient for carbon goals, biodiversity, hydrology and public health.

#### 4. Water Quality and Hydrology

The drainage and excavation works associated with turbine construction, road building and cable installation will greatly alter the hydrology of the bog.

This will lead to:

- Damage bog habitats.
- Affect surrounding wetlands.
- Impact local watercourses.
- Reduce the ecological functioning of the peatland.

The long-term consequences of such hydrological changes are irreversible and cannot be mitigated for.

#### 5. Impact on Landscape Character and Visual Amenity

The proposed turbines, at approximately 220 metres in height, would dominate the landscape and fundamentally alter the character of the Lemanaghan area.

The development would introduce large-scale industrial structures into a landscape valued for its natural beauty and cultural significance. The visual impact would extend far beyond the immediate site and would affect residents, visitors and future generations.

There is also the cumulative effect to be examined as there is a vast amount of windfarms built and planned for Co Offaly and the Midlands as a whole with Battery Storage and no sufficient Emergency Services Plans. This puts a vast area at risk and leaves the development responsible for catastrophic destruction and potential loss of life.

#### 6. Cultural and Historical Heritage

Lemanaghan is an area of considerable historical, archaeological and cultural importance. The bog and its surrounding landscape form part of a heritage resource that is of great importance to Irish history and culture.

The industrialisation of this landscape risks diminishing the cultural value of the area and undermining its historical significance.

#### 7. Traffic, Construction and Community Impact

The proposal includes substantial construction activity, temporary compounds, borrow pits and heavy vehicle movements.

These works would:

- Increase traffic on local roads.
- Create noise and disruption for residents.
- Affect road safety.
- Reduce the quality of life of people living in the area during the construction period.

#### 8. Lack of updated guidelines

The current guidelines are twenty years old with no update from past and present governments. WHO Guidelines regarding human health and the effects of wind turbines need to be adhered to in conjunction with the HSE.

Infrasound and shadowflicker have documented detrimental effects to human life and the lack of consideration of this leaves this development and similar, open to litigation in the future.

#### Conclusion

For the reasons outlined above, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse planning permission for the proposed Lemanaghan Wind Farm.

Lemanaghan Bog is an irreplaceable part of Ireland's natural and cultural heritage and should be protected for future generations.

Yours faithfully,

Margaret Galvin,  
Clonderig,  
Ballinahown,  
Athlone,  
Co Westmeath