

Mary Egan
Rockyhill, Straduff, Ballinahowen, Co. Offaly

Date: 12 May 2026

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902

Re: Objection to Proposed Lemanaghan Wind Farm — Case Reference PAX19.324161

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to lodge my formal objection to the proposed Lemanaghan Wind Farm development. As a local resident of the Lemanaghan area, I am deeply concerned by the scale, location and irreversible consequences of this project for our community, our heritage and our environment. My grounds of objection are as follows:

Desecration of Sacred Monastic Ground: Lemanaghan is a site of immense monastic, archaeological and spiritual significance, associated with St. Manchán. Erecting industrial-scale turbines and a 220kV substation on this sacred cultural landscape would cause permanent visual and physical scarring of heritage protected under the National Monuments Acts (1930–2014).

Failure of Proper Public Consultation: The consultation has been wholly inadequate and exclusionary. Many residents learned of the proposal from local newspapers and radio rather than directly from Bord na Móna. The process has failed to meet the Aarhus Convention obligations on access to information and meaningful public participation in environmental decision-making.

Peat Stability: The site contains deep, unstable peat. Construction traffic, turbine foundations and access roads carry a serious risk of peat slippage. Ireland's history of catastrophic peat failures (Derrybrien, 2003; ECJ C-215/06) demands robust, site-specific geotechnical analysis. The applicant's assessment is superficial and inadequate.

Biodiversity: The bog supports protected and red-listed species including eight red-listed birds, bats, badgers, Irish hare, and the Curlew (fewer than 100 breeding pairs left in Ireland). Industrial development here is incompatible with the EU Birds and Habitats Directives and the Nature Restoration Law.

Traffic and Road Safety: Construction will bring abnormal loads and heavy vehicles onto narrow, winding rural roads unsuitable for such volumes. The Traffic Impact Assessment fails to address risk to residents, schoolchildren, cyclists, farm machinery and emergency access.

Noise and Vibration: The noise modelling ignores low-frequency noise that travels further over flat bogland, omits night-time impacts on nearby homes and disregards vibration on unstable peat — contrary to the Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC) and S.I. 140/2006.

Climate Impact: Disturbing peat releases vast quantities of stored carbon. The application fails to quantify emissions from drainage, excavation and construction. Damaging a carbon-rich peatland to build "green" infrastructure is self-defeating and contrary to the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2021 and EU Regulation 2021/1119.

Human Health: The WHO links prolonged turbine exposure to sleep disturbance, headaches, stress and cardiovascular effects. Construction dust and particulate matter pose particular risk to children, older residents and those with respiratory conditions. The applicant has not demonstrated compliance with health-protection requirements.

Shadow Flicker: Rotating blades will cast moving shadows over nearby homes, triggering headaches, migraines and aggravation of neurological conditions. The applicant's shadow-flicker assessment fails to account for reflected flicker from wet peat and water surfaces, contrary to the Wind Energy Development Guidelines.

Property Devaluation: Noise, visual intrusion, traffic and flicker will materially reduce local property values. The applicant provides no assessment of property-value impacts, despite the requirement under the Planning and Development Act 2000 to consider effects on residential amenity and economic wellbeing.

Construction Impacts: The construction phase will last several years and involve continuous heavy traffic, peat excavation, vibration and dust on rural roads not built for industrial use. No credible Construction Traffic Management Plan has been provided.

Community Wellbeing: The cumulative impact — health risk, stress, noise, visual scarring, loss of amenity, devaluation, traffic and the desecration of a sacred landscape — will fundamentally damage the wellbeing and identity of a small rural community whose heritage, ecology and quality of life are inseparable from this bog.

For all of the above reasons, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse this application. The environmental, cultural and human costs are unacceptable and the assessments provided are legally and technically deficient.

Yours faithfully,

Mary Egan

Enc: Cheque/Postal Order for €50 payable to "An Coimisiún Pleanála"

Mary Egan

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA	
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