

Re: Planning Reference ACP-324165-26
Maughanaclea Wind Farm / Enerco's Application to Construct 14 Industrial Wind
Turbines on Maughanaclea

14 May 2026

Pete Dilley
The Granexe
Ards More
Bantry, Cork
P75Y895

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1, D01 V902

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to object to the proposed Maughanaclea Wind Farm, Ref: ACP-324165-26.

I have lived in the Mealagh Valley for many years with my children & grandchildren. I deeply value the peace, natural beauty, and quiet rural environment that this area provides. While I support renewable energy initiatives, I do not believe that Maughanaclea is an appropriate location for a wind development of this scale.

I am particularly concerned about the impact this proposal would have on the landscape, tranquillity, and residential amenity of the valley. The proposed turbines are extremely large structures which would permanently alter the character of this quiet upland area.

I also have concerns regarding the adequacy of the noise assessment. Only one Noise Monitoring Location (NML4) was placed within the Mealagh Valley¹ despite the complex terrain and quiet night-time conditions that exist here. I am not satisfied that the assessment adequately reflects how turbine noise may be experienced by residents

¹ EIAR Chapter 12 Noise & Vibration - only one Noise Monitoring Location (NML4) was placed within the Mealagh Valley.

living within the valley. Sound carries differently through the bowls and hollows of the valley and the developers clearly have not accounted for complex terrain.²

The construction phase also raises concerns regarding prolonged disruption, heavy traffic, and road safety. At our stage of life, peace, safety, and reliable access to services and medical care are especially important and I worry about how this might affect ambulance routes.

I am also concerned by the cumulative impact of multiple wind developments across the wider West Cork landscape. I understand that the Cork County Development Plan explicitly requires that cumulative impact be considered.³ Taken together, these large-scale industrial wind developments risk permanently changing the character of the area and eroding the sense of place that makes this community special.

Finally, I do not believe that local residents have been adequately consulted throughout the planning process.

While I support renewable energy, I believe sensitive landscapes, biodiversity, dark skies, and rural communities must also be protected.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the proposed development.

Yours sincerely,

Pete Dilley

² Van Renterghem, T. et al. (2014) "Wind Turbine Noise Propagation Over Complex Terrain and Wind Conditions" Acoustical Society of America

³ Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028, Section 13.6.3 – requirement to consider cumulative impacts of existing and proposed wind energy developments.