

An Coimisiún Pleanála
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| AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA | |
| LDG- <u>087887 - 26</u> | |
| ACP- _____ | |
| 15 MAY 2026 | |
| Fee: € <u>50</u> | Type: <u>Chg</u> |
| Time: <u>9:15</u> | By: <u>Post</u> |

Re: Planning Application Reference ACP-324165-26

Applicant: Maughanaclea Ltd / Enerco

Development: Maughanaclea Wind Farm (14 turbines and associated infrastructure)

Location: Maughanaclea, County Cork

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to formally object to the proposed Maughanaclea Wind Farm development.

We are long-term residents in the area and are very concerned about the significant and lasting impacts this development would have on our home, environment, and quality of life.

Our primary and most serious concern relates to our water supply. Our property relies entirely on a natural stream for fresh water, which originates at the top of the hill in close proximity to the proposed turbine locations. Any construction activity, excavation, or ground disturbance in this sensitive upland area has the potential to disrupt, contaminate, or permanently alter this water source. This represents a direct and unacceptable risk to our only supply of fresh water. We have not been contacted by any authority in relation to this risk.

We are also concerned about the wider hydrological impacts of the development. Upland construction, peat disturbance, and drainage changes could result in sediment and pollutants entering watercourses, increasing the risk of contamination and flooding.

In addition, we strongly object on the following grounds:

The scale and visual impact of the proposed turbines, at approximately 169 metres in height, would be completely out of character with the surrounding rural landscape. Their elevated positioning would make them highly visible over a wide area, including from the R585 scenic route, fundamentally altering the natural beauty of the area.

The development would have a negative impact on residential amenity. The size, movement, and proximity of the turbines would create an overbearing presence. Issues such as noise, low-frequency sound, and shadow flicker would significantly affect the peace and tranquillity of our home and surrounding area.

We are particularly concerned about noise impacts in a quiet rural setting, where even relatively low levels of turbine noise can be intrusive, especially at night. Low-frequency

noise and amplitude modulation are known to travel further and can be especially disturbing.

There are also serious concerns regarding traffic and road safety during construction. The proposed works would involve prolonged use of heavy and abnormal vehicles on narrow rural roads, including the R585, which are not designed for such traffic. This poses risks to road users and could cause lasting damage to infrastructure.

The development would also negatively impact local wildlife and habitats. The area is home to protected species such as red squirrels, and disruption caused by construction, deforestation, and turbine operation could significantly damage their habitat. There are also risks to birds and bats, particularly given the ridgeline siting of the turbines.

We are concerned about the potential impact on property values, as well as the broader impact on tourism and the local economy, which rely heavily on the unspoilt natural landscape.

Furthermore, we believe that current planning guidelines do not adequately account for turbines of this scale, and therefore do not provide sufficient protection for residents or the environment.

Finally, we are concerned about the cumulative impact of this development when considered alongside existing and proposed wind farms in the wider area. The result would be an unacceptable level of landscape and environmental degradation.

In conclusion, we believe the proposed development would cause significant harm to our water supply, environment, home, and community. For these reasons, we respectfully request that planning permission be refused.

Yours faithfully,

V.M. Proudfoot (MRS VIVIEN MARY PROUDFOOT)
~~R. Proudfoot~~ (MR ROGER H. PROUDFOOT)

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