

Clive Flannelly

Tuile & Tra

Rathlacken

Ballina

F26W8FC

cliveflannelly@gmail.com

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The Secretary
An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Objection to the Proposed Tirawley Wind Farm Strategic Infrastructure

Development Objection Submission to An Coimisiún Pleanála

Re: Planning permission for the construction of Tirawley Windfarm consisting of 16 no. wind turbines, a permanent 110kV substation, 110kV underground cable and grid connection, and ancillary development in the townlands of Ballymurphy, Ballynaleck, Barnhill Lower & Upper, Barroe, Billoos, Carn, Carrickanass, Carrowmore, Castlelacken Demesne, and other townlands in County Mayo.

Case Number: PAX16.324258

Introduction

I was born and raised in Lacken and this has been home to me all my life. Lacken is very special to me and I have tailored my life choices so that I could live here. My lifelong plan was to build a house and raise a family in Lacken. I have been lucky enough to do this. However, it has been challenging as I had difficulty obtaining planning permission for my Bungalow even though there was an existing old house on site. My friend and class mate also had a similar issue and was refused planning permission REF: PL16.248123 as it “would detract from the rural character and scenic amenities of the area”.

I ask myself how can a bungalow dwelling be denied permission due to it affecting rural character and scenic amenities but yet a propose wind farm with 16 x 135M turbines on the most elevated point in Lacken could even be considered. I was relieved to see that Mayo Co.Co who know the unique attributes of Lacken in their submission stated that

Lacken is not suitable for the proposed wind farm. In fact in the last few weeks the Government have recently launched Wild Mayo which is a five-year Wild Mayo Destination and Experience Development Plan (DEDP) unveiled in partnership with Fáilte Ireland. This is a proud moment for Lacken and the surrounding area along the Wild Atlantic Way where this special place get National and International recognition as an area of outstanding beauty.

I am and have been involved in community groups over the years in Lacken (Chairman and Assistance Secretary of Lacken GAA, Lacken Parish Council, Lacken Strand Races) to promote and sustain this community. It is a special and rewarding place to live in. I was captain of Lacken Gaa for a number of years and took great pride in representing my parish.

Lacken is located in an elevated area on the Atlantic coast and has a peaceful and tranquil environment, unspoiled scenery, clean, fresh air along with rich Culture and Heritage. This is an idyllic place to live and raise children and I am so glad I made that choice. I work in IT and have the privilege to work from home. When my work colleagues visit they are amazed by the beauty and have often stated they are envious of the sandy beaches and natural beauty of Lacken. Along with the beauty and tranquillity Lacken offer it is also a place of significant historic importance with undeniable links to Céide Fields UNESCO Tentative World Heritage site, Historical events (St Patrick, French landing, 1798 rebellion, St Cummin 7th Century) Court tombs, Lacken Gazebo, prehistoric monuments, Castles, Ring forts to mention a few.

This proposed development of 16 x Wind Turbines, BESS , Compound, Met Mast, Substation and Grid connection is wholly unsuitable for Lacken. The proposed site is elevated and Turbines scaling 135M situated on top this ground is an unnatural and eerie sight. I would ask if you can review the pictures below, it is much more impactful in person. This area is perched above the Atlantic, Lacken has a blend of natural beauty, culture, tranquillity, and breathtaking coastal views. I believe the area will be inspected as part of the planning process. This will give a true indication to the inspector of the Lacken area as it has been poorly represented in the Planning application. In fact Lacken has not been mentioned in the application as the location for the proposed Tirawley Wind Farm. This is very disrespectful and in my opinion not an oversight but an intentional omission to depict an area where no community exist. This could not be further from the truth. The proposed development will have a catastrophic effect on residence and landscape.



Picture taken in Rathlacken 14/06/26



Picture taken in Rathlacken 14/06/26



Picture taken in Castletown 19/06/26

Observations: The government is working off 2006 guidelines which are outdated and only relevant to turbines of that era. Why are we not using and applying more recent guidelines. Why has this been delay on numerous occasions when other less significant laws have been passed and rubber stamped into law.

I have two young children aged 6 and 3. I am really concerned about the health implications Wind turbines have on human health and the effect this will have on my family. The mechanical, aerodynamic, amplitude modulation, low frequency and infrasound noise along with shadow flicker are my main concern. There has been a major development in the safe guarding of residence in regards to noise in the Netherlands. Hopefully once and for all the above noises will be recognised as detrimental to your health. REF: TU Delft report. This report has only been published recently, what other health gaps exist with Turbines , add this to outdates guidelines it is a National disaster. I live 1433M away from AT15 and I will be impacted by the noise of the turbines, it will be exacerbated by the direction of the wind.

My experience of Wind turbines is extremely harrowing and unpleasant. My uncle lives near the largest wind farm in Ireland. He is trapped in his home as he is surrounded by Wind turbines. The noise, shadow flicker and sheer size of these is difficult to comprehend. What I am about to tell you is shocking. Since the turbines have been installed beside my Uncle's house, all of his children have developed unexplainable nose bleeds. There is no family history of this and was not present in any of the children before the Wind turbines were installed. The nose bleeds started at night when they children were asleep , they woke up to find their faces , clothes ,pillows and bed clothes covered in blood. The children have had numerous operations on their noses as a result. There is still no explanation for the cause but the young, healthy children did not have these issues prior to Wind turbines being install.

My parents live 738M from proposed turbine AT15 and 836M from proposed turbine AT16. This is a huge concern for all our family. Will the same shocking nose bleeds happen to my parents, will my parents have health complication due to noise and shadow flicker, will my children have nosebleeds when they sleepover in their grandparents house. The honest answer is we don't know. My parent built their house in 1985 after getting married. Currently there is no issue with noise , shadow flicker and intrusion to their Skyline. It's a very sad state of affairs that after raising their children and spending their life in Lacken, the wish to enjoy their lives and do as they wish. It is completely unjust that a proposed development could ruin the quiet , family orientated quality of life they seek for the rest of their days. These people have done nothing wrong but yet have a potential Wind Farm forced on them. My children love spending time with their grandparents. A sleep over for the children at their grandparents is a major milestone in their young lives. It is their first taste of independence. Where else would you want them to do this only in the safety of their grandparents house. However this is not a safe place any more if permission is granted for the proposed Wind farm. I am not comfortable with my children visiting or sleeping so close to a turbine, this will prevent my children spending quality time with their Grandparents and impact their relationship and their social independence. Combined with the points above the proposed development is not suitable for Lacken and being so close to houses all across the proposed 16 turbines locations will have a detrimental effect on residence. As a father and concerned son who is looking out for his family, I urge you to deny planning permission for this proposed development.

Observation: We are the custodians of this beautiful, tranquil and historical place. The proposed wind farm will have an enormous negative effect on the quality of life people will have in Lacken. The proposed turbines will ruin our area forever. It will cause irreversible damage and if granted permission will never be removed from the landscape. Even after decommission the massive concrete base will still be in the ground. The area we live in, the onus is on us the residence to protect it. I want to create an environment where my children can thrive and grow and Lacken's character remains intact. We must carefully consider the landscape, heritage and culture of this sacred area and preserve it. I want my children to enjoy the upbringing I was so fortunate to have. My children will not have this if the proposed wind farm goes ahead. I want my children to have the choice to live here not be driven out of the area. Wind farms are not good neighbours, they are noisy, cause shadow flicker and are very imposing structures. Nobody wants to live beside a Wind farm. This will prevent people from moving home and choosing to build a life here in Lacken. This is contrary to what I want for the area which is to promote and encourage the sustainability of Lacken. The Lacken landscape and people makes a lasting impression on you and stays with you for the rest of your life. We do not want the Lacken jewel to ever change and I do not want the proposed wind

farm to proceed in any way shape or form. I urge ACP to do the right thing and to deny planning permission for the Tirawley wind farm.

Observation: I hope one day to take over the running of the family farm. As mentioned above there are two proposed turbines close by AT15 is 738 metres away and AT16 is 836 metres away. My plan is to live in my parents' house someday. This will mean that the potential noise I would hear from my own house will be exacerbated when I move up to my parents' house. This is a frightening reality if the proposed development goes ahead. I genuinely think I could not live in that house if the proposed turbines proceed. Having two children this is a major concern for me, I want to provide for them, secure their future and a proposed wind farm will have a huge effect on our family in relation to succession and where we will live.

Observation: In the years ahead I will bequeath a site to both of my children. If the proposed wind farm obtains permission this won't be possible as the field I own is in Carabad More near the BESS and AT01. This field is suitable for sites and had successfully obtained planning permission from Mayo Co.Co in the past REF:081696. Will my children be able to build a house there? I don't think so I would not be comfortable with my children or any one living beside a BESS and surrounded by turbines.

Observation: I ride and show jump horses and ponies in my leisure time. I ride in the arena, on the road, on the beach and the various Lacken trails which we are so lucky to have here in Lacken. The arena is located at the back of my father's house in Castletown. The arena is located even closer to AT15 than his house at 720M. This will be a major structure towering over the stables and arena. There will be noise and shadow flicker and a turbine at 135M in the skyline which will be totally out of character with the area. Horses by their nature are sensitive animals especially when they are young and developing they have a tendency to spook easily at noise and objects. The turbine will pose a risk to my father and I when working and exercising horses in the arena and handling at the stables. I am also in the process of teaching my 6yr old son to ride in that very arena and will also teach my 3yr daughter in due course. The arena is a safe, secure training facility but not when Turbines are generating noise and rotating very close by. This poses a huge risk to the safety of my family and indeed any rider who is in the arena. I have friends visiting regularly with their horses, we show jump in the arena and we go for pleasure rides. This takes us from the highest point in Lacken beside the Gazebo right down to the strand at water level. I am so lucky to have these facilities on my door step. The turbines will pose real risk to horses and riders and

jeopardises our safety. The proposed Turbine AT15 and AT16 are close to two different routes/ trails we ride and will be a really intimidating object for a novice horse to comprehend. Horses are unpredictable and every one of them have their own personality. They will interpret their vista differently so it is impossible to predict how any horse will behave when presented with a noisy, moving 135M object. It is the most enjoyable experience being on horseback in Lacken as one enjoys the amazing scenery, tranquillity and amenities of the area. The introduction of the proposed turbines will significantly retract this and will pose a real and serious threat to human and animal safety.

Observation: I own lands in Carbad more and walk the horses by road to the neighbouring fields. The proximity of the turbines will pose a safety risk when doing this activity as it is mainly foals and young stock graze in this are, who will startle easily especially when presented with a 135M structure.

Observation: The proposed wind farm site is situated on an elevated plateau overlooking the Parish of Lacken, Killala bay, and surrounding townlands. When you combine the elevated ground and the 135M turbine the result will be 16 huge industrial structures towering at 235M-265M above sea level. This is absolutely out of character for this vulnerable, coastal and scenic area. If something looks and feels wrong, it is wrong. Introducing Wind Turbines in Lacken is absolutely wrong and the area is not suited to any Wind industrialisation.



Observation: One of my biggest concerns is that the proposed development will always be there, it will never be concealed or improve over time. In fact the longer a turbine is in a landscape the more issues it brings. Shedding of microplastic, increased wear in mechanics and the turbine will get auditable louder as it ages. I see no mitigation measure against noise creep in any chapter only a generic reference to “maintenance”.

This is not sufficient and noise levels need to be adhered so that residence health and sanity is preserved. The proposed turbine models in my opinion is cheap, old technology and of poor quality. This and indeed all Turbines will deteriorate over time especially beside the Atlantic Ocean and all of the above issues are a real health risk.

Observation: Mayo has already reached its Wind energy target so why are so many wind farm being proposed for this area. The answer is profit, we have the highest electricity prices in Europe, yet have been installing Solar and Wind farms aggressively. The system is being abused by speculative developers who see large financial rewards and don't consider communities , landscape, heritage and culture of an area. These companies know how to extract what they can from the system which in my opinion is swayed to the developer and currently not solving the energy problem. Developers getting paid curtailment which is only driving up the cost of electricity as the tax payer has to foot the bill

Observation: Residence in Lacken and surrounding area are paying the price for poor Government planning when permission is sought for proposed Wind Farms. Electricity sources were removed/decommissioned in the past and no replacement was ready and able to fill the gap. The realisation that wind energy was not able to fill the gap and not financially viable for private companies meant that Government had to incentivise. These included giving grants to speculatively apply for Wind farms, Curtailment to mention a few. Huge money has been spent in Shannon bridge to introduce Jet Engines as backup for power costing 1 Billion euro over the last 4 year which has the capacity to burn copious amounts of fossil fuel. The number of litres of Fuel required is in the Millions when these are in use however they have never been used. The introduction of Wind Farms are being sold to the public that they are clean renewable but this needs to be assesses as part of the whole energy strategy and one will see the contradictions.

Observation: In the proposed development 5 of 16 turbines (AT01, AT05-AT07, AT12) are now located outside both Tier 1 and Tier 2 designated wind energy lands, an increase from 3 in the previous iteration. This shows a disregard for the planning process. As part of the Proposed Draft Variation No. 2 of the Mayo County Development Plan 2022–2028. Lacken is now marked as unsuitable for Wind farm developments. This is warmly welcome and proves that Mayo Co.Co recognise Lacken as a location that is completely unsuitable for any Wind farm developments. A significant point to note, if one reviews the previous leadership and decision makers in Mayo Co.Co involved in senior planning, who were responsible for zoning Lacken as “open for consideration” you will find some of these individuals are now operating in a Consulting capacity for Constant Energy. I am not indicating any wrong doing but it gives a broader understanding of the working behind this application and make you question the whole process.

Observation: When examining the planning process and developers approach it seems developers have an advantage over the residence where these industrial development are proposed. Constant energy previous application was rejected due to a litany of errors, the most obvious one was relating to the number of proposed turbines. The developer can make a number of attempts to seek permission for a Wind farm depending on ACP decision, each time the concerned residences, business and general public in that area are asked to review their application. The developer learns from all the submission and by default their application is improved by the publics efforts to oppose the development. Is this fair? Why do individual have to do the work of a developer and a qualified consultants. ACP has rejected the initial application, I urge you to judge the application as it is presented to ACP and to deny planning permission for the proposed Tirawely wind farm.

Observation: AT15 and AT16 are located on Lacken Hill, this is close to the two graveyards in Lacken Hill. This will have a negative effect on Funerals, Masses, Blessing, Prayers and people paying their respects. When a person is laid to rest you would expect them to rest in peace in this case the proposed Turbines they would be overlooking both graveyards as it sits 135M high on the most elevated site in that area towering over you.

Observation: In Chapter 17 - 3.8.2 Turbine Component Delivery to Site. The above indicates an incomplete assessment of the TDR and shows the developer cutting corners. It calls into question the whole application if Constant Energy either are not willing to or consciously avoided doing a full and comprehensive analysis of the TDR. This is a major oversight and indicates an amateur approach to a major project. I see no proof that Constant Energy have consent from land owners for road widening or any blade lifting. This again is another major omission. In addition to the observation above Constant Energy stated that only minor additional accommodation works will be required to accommodate the proposed turbines. This is a false statement as a colossal amount of road widening ,upgrading, strengthening, tree felling, Soil, spoil and hedge removal, power cables, traffic signage work is required. The developer does not understand the works required or is playing down the significant impact this will have not just on Lacken but on North Mayo's community and environment.

Observation: Cumulative effect – North mayo is saturated with wind farms. The windfarms when combine will have a negative effect on the area. There are more in the pipeline also. I really fear that North Mayo scenic and natural beauty will be destroyed due to Wind farm industrialisation of this area,

Observations: All road users on this Ballycastle scenic route will pass by AT11-AT17 on L5187-47 but will also clearly see all other proposed turbines. This will detract from the visual amenity of the area and have a negative effect on the landscape of the Ballycastle scenic route.



Observation: The scales of this project is staggering, road widening and strengthen, hedge removal and trimming, road and bridge crossings, thousands of loads of concrete, hard fill, tree felling. A comprehensive study of this was covered in the Lacken Ballycastle Protection group submission Chapter 17. Our vulnerable, coastal, scenic

parish of Lacken cannot cope with such a proposed industrial scale development. Our rich heritage, culture, monuments and all our fore fathers efforts will be decimated if the proposed industrial scale development is granted permission. We need to preserve, and nurture Lacken and leave the striking, tranquil place as God left it.

Observation: The length and scales of the proposed wind farm is also difficult to comprehend. It covering 267 acres of land across 18 townland. This is an industrial size development in a vulnerable, rural, coastal , scenic, historically rich landscape and is completely unsuitable for the Lacken area.

Observation: One of Lacken's most identifiable land mark is the Gazebo. It is located at the highest point of Lacken and breaks the skyline. It can be seen from miles. It was built in the 18th century. The proposed development has placed a Turbine AT16 just 300 from this historic monument. The turbine will be located on the highest point in Lacken and is 135M tall itself. It would be the most unnatural site you could ever see. It is baffling to me how anyone could possible consider this site a location for a Wind farm. To compound this there is another turbine AT15 in an adjoining field 501 metres away. This turbine also breaks the skyline and will have a detrimental effect on the landscape. Is it fair that an 18 Century historical structure that has survived to this point will be dwarfed by the two surrounding proposed turbines. The proposed construction may have a serious impact on structural integrity of the monument. One can see the cracks on the arch at the moment. It states that it is in good condition, this is not correct and does not show any close up pictures of the monument. See attached pictures.



Picture taken on the 09/05/26 from Lacken Back strand I have identified in Red is the Gazebo. This illustrates the elevated site of the proposed wind. The Gazebo is 6 Metres tall and you can see the impact that has on the skyline. What will 16 x Turbines at 135M have , they will destroy the skyline. The Gazebo is 300M from the proposed Turbine AT16



Drone view of Lacken Gazebo on the 09/05/26



Picture taken at the Lacken Gazebo showing structural issues on the 26/05/26. Less than 300M from AT16 and 501M from the proposed Turbine AT15



Picture taken at the Lacken Gazebo showing structural issue on the 26/05/26. Less than 300M from AT16 and 501M from the proposed Turbine AT15



Picture taken at the Gazebo on the 26/05/26. Less than 300M from AT16 and 501M from the proposed Turbine AT15



Picture taken at the Gazebo on the 26/05/26. Less than 300M from AT16 and 501M from the proposed Turbine AT15



View from Lacken Gazebo on the 26/05/26– Less than 300M from AT16 and 501M from the proposed Turbine AT15



Structural issues on Gazebo picture taken 25/06/26

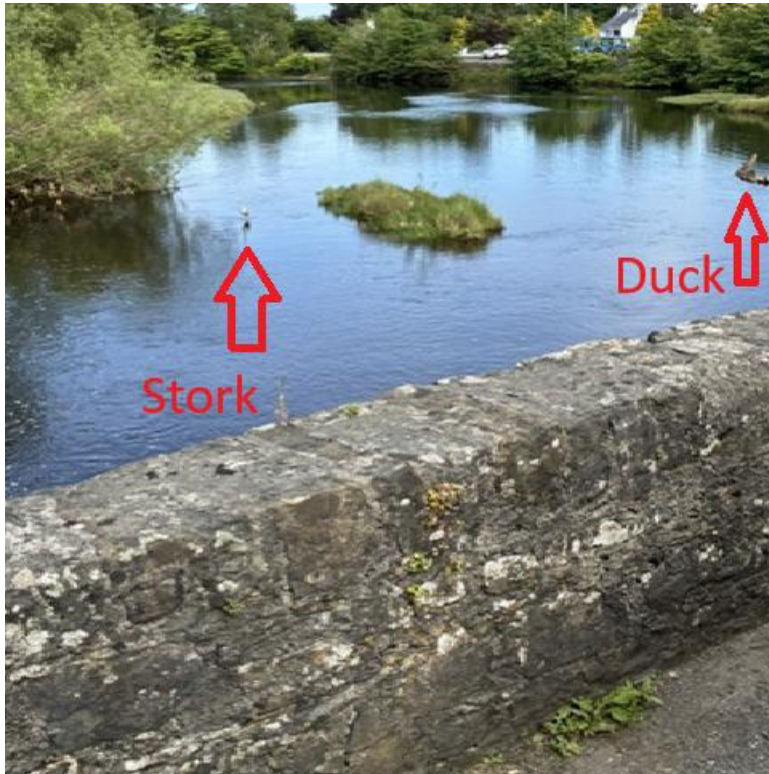
Observation: Lacken has a vibrant habitat, landscape for our wildlife to thrive. We have hen harriers, Golden plover, Gannets, Corn crake, Geese, bats and migration birds to mention a few. This proposed development would have a negative effect on these creatures and change their habits. We need to protect these precious and indeed endangered species and a development of this scale will drive nature out of the Lacken area. See picture below of a flock of geese taken last winter:



Picture taken in Castletown 15/11/25

Observation: Located on an small island of land in the middle at Palmerstown Bridge lives Storks and ducks see picture below. Will the proposed increase in traffic comprise their habitat. The proposed Construction haul route and Grid connection route will be coming over Palmerstown bridge. What impact will this have on habitat, fish in the river and structural integrity of the bridge. I reviewed the report conducted on Palmerstown bridge and it is poor. The bridge was not inspected fully due to high water levels. The water would decrease with tidal conditions so doing a survey is entirely possible if the desire was so. This is a list structure so not assessing this show a lack of respect to the

historical and infrastructural significance of Palmerstown Bridge. It is also more concerning that from a safety perspective a full assessment was not conducted. Along with this the developer did not rule out abnormal load being brought across the bridge. Will the bridge hold up to this enormous burden of thousands of lorries of concrete, stone, foundation metal and the possibility of abnormal loads. The answer is we don't know.



Stork and duck pictured at Palmerstown bridge on 11/06/26



Stork pictured at Palmerstown bridge on 11/06/26



Duck pictured at Palmerstown bridge on 11/06/26

Observation: The Lacken Salt Marsh SAC and Lacken Strand are areas of outstanding beauty. Tens of kilometres of golden sandy beaches, and crystal clear water. All of the waters drain into Lacken Salt Marsh from the proposed wind farm and surrounding areas. I have huge concerns that if planning is granted for the proposed development these clean , unpolluted , natural areas will be ruin. There is a high risk of contamination from the proposed development due to the elevated site. Lacken needs to be preserved not threatened with manmade disaster.



Picture taken in Rathlacken 16/06/26

Observation: A major concern for me is the BESS. The Battery Energy Storage System is made up of 20 x shipping size container of batteries. This is a huge fire risk and threat to human safety. There is a house less than 350 metres from the BESS located in a Cul de sac. If there is an fire event at the BESS the residence in this house could be trapped. A fire incident in Oranmore Co. Galway occurred last year and the fire service were not able to deal with the blaze. This is not a shortcoming of the fire brigade but rather an indication that very few if any in the country can deal with a fire event at a BESS facility. Sadly , I believe two of the Firemen involved in that event have not returned to service as a result. The BESS technology is new and little is known about it. Our own governing bodies (HSA ,EPA, Fire Officer) are unclear on what their role is when considering a BESS facility. We are currently using American regulation in the absence of EU and Irish. How is this allowed, how can something so new and unregulated be even considered for the proposed development. If a fire occurs, the people of Lacken will have to leave their homes as the southerly wind will spread the plume of toxic smoke across the parish. I have lands very close to this and AT 01. Where will the ash and air borne particles end up only in our fields, river, streams and water ways.

Observation: No meaning consultation was conducted for this proposed development with myself and the people of the Parish. This portrays the developer in a very poor light with the locals and rightly so. My view point is slightly different. The area is absolutely unsuitable for any Wind development and so engaging with a developer on any perceived comprises is of no interest whatsoever. Lacken as a community says no to Tirawley Wind farm.

Observation: It is unjust that a small group of landowners could potentially change Lackens's tranquillity, safety and identify forever. These people are my neighbours and friends, I respect them and they may have some valid personal reason for siding with the developer. However I respectfully disagree with the proposed development as it will have a detrimental health effect on my children, family and the wider Lacken area. The proposed industrial scale Wind farm is being installed on everyone's back door. It will be seen for hundreds of miles in all directions. Wind farms divide communities but unlike other area's this has not happened in Lacken. It further shows the level of community spirit, togetherness and respect in opposition to the Tirawley wind farm. This will be confirmed with the hundreds of submissions ACP will receive in objection to this development.

Observation: The proposed development will introduce health and environmental issues that do not currently exist in Lacken. This is non-negotiable and is my primary concern ,this will put my children in danger. I chose to live here for the safety , serenity, beaches, pier, walks, club, and quality of life that Lacken offers. It is a special place of huge significance on the cultural, heritage, landscape fronts. This is our home and we need to protect it.

I wish to adopt and support the detailed submission made by the Lacken Ballycastle Community Landscape Protection Group in relation to the proposed Tirawley Wind Farm development (PAX16.324258). In particular, I endorse the concerns raised regarding cumulative wind farm development across North Mayo, impacts on the Céide Fields cultural landscape, effects on tourism and recreation, biodiversity impacts, inadequacies in community consultation, and the assessment of the Battery Energy Storage System. While I do not repeat those detailed arguments in full, I request that they be considered as forming part of this submission."

Observation: Everyone has a right to a good night's sleep. If the proposed turbines are granted permission this will not be possible. The prevailing wind in Lacken is South /South West to West. Due to the proposed turbines being situated on an elevated plateau overlooking the whole parish the wind will carry the noise for kilometres. The hundreds of houses to the East and South of the proposed development will be undeniably effected. We also get ever other art of wind so no place is safe or exempt. Pressure drops at night and the impact of 16 x Turbines with even a gentle breeze will be catastrophic to the health of the people of Lacken, day and night. All the noise can and will do is travel across the Lacken area. There are no mountain, no barriers , nothing to absorb the noise. The noise will be relentless and will be long term. The cumulative effect from the noise of the 16 proposed Turbines and other wind farms in the area is of

grave concern and I shudder at the thoughts of living with the proposed wind farm. How can something like this be imposed on people against their will. This beautiful, tranquil, safe and serene place we call home will be destroyed for ever. I think about my children and what life will be like for them if the proposed windfarm goes ahead. This is heart breaking after my partners and I life's work, building a new house, having two children, all of this is under threat, with tears in my eyes I urge you to deny planning permission for the Tirawley Wind Farm.

Yours Faithfully

Clive Flannelly