

Daniel McManus
47 Westbourne Appts,
5 Central Avenue,
London,
SW6 2GP
daniel.mc-manus@hotmail.com

24th June 2026

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

Case reference: PAX16.324258

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.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally object to the proposed Tirawley Wind Farm Strategic Infrastructure Development application submitted by Constant Energy Limited.

I wish to formally object to the proposed wind farm development due to its likely impact on my family, the surrounding community and the unique landscape of this elevated coastal area of County Mayo

Although I currently live in England, I have a strong connection to Lacken and North Mayo. My sister lives in Lacken with her family, and I regularly visit the area to spend time with them and my young nephew. My sister and her family live in extremely close proximity to the proposed wind turbines at just 554, 601m and 676m from their home. I have serious concerns about the effect of such a large-scale industrial development will have on their quality of life. The potential impacts from noise, shadow flicker, visual dominance and the constant presence of turbines at such close proximity should not be underestimated.

Through these visits I have come to appreciate the unique character of North Mayo. The landscape is exceptional. It is an elevated coastal setting with outstanding panoramic views, natural beauty, and a strong sense of openness and tranquillity. its spectacular scenery, rich archaeological heritage and strong sense of place. The area is valued not only by local residents but also by family members living abroad who return regularly and maintain close connections with the community.

I am concerned that the proposed Tirawley Wind Farm would have a significant impact on the landscape character of the area. North Mayo is renowned for its unspoilt scenery, open coastal views and important heritage sites. Locations such as Downpatrick Head, the Céide

Fields and the wider Wild Atlantic Way attract visitors from Ireland and abroad because of their natural beauty and distinctive landscape.

The proposed development would introduce sixteen large turbines into this landscape and would be visible across a wide area. I am concerned that this would alter the character of the area and diminish the qualities that make North Mayo such a special place to visit and experience.

I am also concerned about the cumulative impact of this development when considered alongside other existing, approved and proposed wind energy developments in the region. The combined effect risks changing the character of the landscape and reducing the sense of openness, remoteness and natural beauty that attracts visitors and contributes to local identity.

I recognise the importance of renewable energy and the need to address climate change. However, I believe that renewable energy development should be located in areas where significant impacts on sensitive landscapes, heritage assets and local communities can be avoided.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that An Bord Pleanála carefully consider the potential impacts of the proposed development on the landscape, heritage and character of North Mayo and refuse permission for the proposed development.

Landscape Character Appraisal

According to the *Landscape Character Appraisal for County Mayo*, the proposed development is located within Landscape Protection Policy Areas 1 and 4. These areas are identified as having **high** and **medium** sensitivity respectively to wind energy development. Within high-sensitivity areas, there is a significant potential for adverse landscape impacts, and it is generally considered unlikely that such impacts can be mitigated to an acceptable level. In medium-sensitivity areas, wind farm developments are likely to be visually discernible and distinctive within the landscape and, although careful siting and design may reduce their significance, adverse effects on landscape character may still occur.

The proposed development is situated within a highly sensitive and visually important landscape containing numerous vulnerable receptors and valued heritage and tourism assets. These include the North Mayo coastline, designated scenic routes, protected and highly protected views, the Wild Atlantic Way, and the unique coastal landscape associated with the Céide Fields. Other significant features that may be affected include Downpatrick Head, Lacken Strand, Rathfran Priory, Killala, and Moyne Abbey. Given the prominence and sensitivity of these landscapes, there is concern that the scale and visibility of the proposed wind farm would result in substantial and potentially irreversible impacts on the character, scenic quality, and visitor experience of the area.

Mayo Renewable Energy Strategy

Under the current 2011 strategy out of 16 turbines only 3 are located within a preferred area i.e. Tier 1 Preferred Large Wind Farms.

8 turbines are located within an area identified as 'Tier 2 Open for Consideration', 5 turbines are located in the open countryside, an area that is unclassified as per the Mayo Renewable Energy Strategy 2011.

Only a small portion of the proposal is considered acceptable in principle i.e.

turbines located within Tier 1 Preferred lands.

In relation to Tier 2 lands - The Mayo RES 2011 states that lands within the Tier 2 - Open for Consideration classification may be considered for wind farms or small clusters of wind turbines but the visual impact on sensitive or vulnerable landscapes, listed highly scenic routes, scenic routes, scenic viewing points and scenic routes

The Draft Mayo Renewable Energy Strategy identifies the area proposed for the Tirawley Wind Farm as "**Unsuitable**" for commercial wind energy development and outside the lands designated as "**Open for Consideration**" on Map 6.14 (Wind Strategy Map). The Strategy states that areas outside those designated lands are unsuitable due to their sensitivity in terms of landscape, ecology, recreation, and cultural and built heritage.

This assessment reflects Mayo County Council's most recent strategic evaluation of suitable locations for wind energy development and is consistent with the Council's earlier position during pre-planning consultations, where it expressed opposition to the project due to the area's visual sensitivity, coastal landscape character, tourism importance, and cultural heritage value.

Accordingly, significant weight should be given to the Draft Renewable Energy Strategy's findings, which indicate that the proposed Tirawley Wind Farm is not an appropriate development for this location.

Yours faithfully,