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The Secretary
An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01V902

**RE: Objection to the Proposed Tirawley Strategic Infrastructure
Development Case Number: PAX16.324258**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing as a resident with a home in close proximity to the proposed Tirawley Wind Farm project to formally lodge my objection to this Strategic Infrastructure Development application.

While I recognise the importance of renewable energy and the need to transition towards more sustainable sources of power, I do not believe that this development is appropriate for this location. The scale of the proposed project raises significant concerns regarding health and wellbeing, residential amenity, landscape impact and quality of life for those living nearby.

I have read the submission prepared by the Lacken Ballycastle Community Landscape Protection Group and I fully support many of the concerns they have raised. In particular, I share their concerns regarding the cumulative impact of wind farm development in North Mayo and the potential effects on the landscape, local environment, tourism, and the character of the area, especially being located along the Wild Atlantic Way. Rather than repeating those points in full, I respectfully ask that their submission be considered alongside my own.

Health and Wellbeing - Epilepsy and Shadow Flicker

My primary concern relates to the potential health and wellbeing impacts of the proposed development.

A direct family member suffers from epilepsy, and flickering light is a recognised trigger for seizures in individuals with neurological conditions. The shadow flicker that can be created by large wind turbines is therefore a matter of serious concern for my family. Given the scale and height of the proposed turbines, I do not believe the application provides sufficient reassurance that vulnerable residents will be adequately protected from potential exposure to shadow flicker.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report does not appear to provide robust

and enforceable mitigation measures for households where residents may be medically vulnerable. There is also insufficient information regarding how cumulative shadow flicker impacts from multiple turbines would affect nearby homes throughout the year. The precautionary principle should apply where there is potential for avoidable risks to human health and wellbeing.

Sleep Disturbance and Residential Amenity

I am also concerned about the potential for sleep disturbance arising from turbine noise. The ability to enjoy peaceful and uninterrupted sleep is fundamental to physical and mental wellbeing. The prospect of living near turbines operating continuously, both day and night, raises concerns about the long term effects on residents' comfort, quality of life, and overall wellbeing.

Disability, Daily Living and Mental Wellbeing

In addition, a direct family member lives with a disability, and the peaceful rural environment in which we live plays an important role in daily life and wellbeing. Access to quiet outdoor spaces and the ability to enjoy the surrounding countryside are particularly valuable. The proposed development would significantly alter the character of the area and reduce the sense of tranquillity that currently exists.

I personally enjoy walking in the local area and rely on it as part of my routine for both physical and mental wellbeing. The surrounding landscape is one of the greatest assets of our community. The scenic beauty, peace, and natural environment contribute greatly to my quality of life. The introduction of large industrial scale turbines into this landscape would fundamentally change my experience of the area and diminish my enjoyment of the beautiful picturesque place, that I am blessed to call home.

The impact on mental wellbeing should not be underestimated. For many rural residents, the surrounding landscape is not simply scenery, but an important part of daily life, recreation, and emotional wellbeing. Concerns regarding shadow flicker, turbine noise, visual intrusion, construction disruption, and the industrialisation of a previously peaceful landscape are all factors that can contribute to stress and anxiety.

Elderly Relatives and Vulnerable Residents

I am also concerned about the impact on elderly relatives and the ageing population living in the area. Many have spent their lives in this community and value its quiet rural character. Older residents often spend more time in their homes and immediate surroundings and may be particularly affected by changes to their living environment. The potential impacts of noise, visual disturbance, and prolonged construction activity should therefore be given careful consideration.

Environment, Landscape and Rural Character

I also wish to highlight concerns regarding the environmental and landscape impacts on the proposed development. This is a rural coastal area with a strong character, including beaches, cliffs, sea stacks, and surrounding countryside that support a wide range of native wildlife and habitats. The area is also closely connected to local fishing activity, rural livelihoods, and the natural environment plays an important role in both community identity and daily life.

I am concerned that the introduction of large scale industrial turbines into this landscape would significantly alter its visual character and detract from the natural beauty of the area. There is also concern that the development, including construction activity, access roads, and associated infrastructure, could disturb local habitats and wildlife that rely on this relatively undisturbed rural and coastal environment.

For many residents and visitors, the appeal of this area lies in its unspoilt natural setting, and I am deeply worried that this development would have a lasting negative impact on that.

Conclusion

Taken together, these concerns raise serious questions regarding the suitability of this development in such close proximity to established homes and communities. I do not believe that the application has adequately demonstrated that the health, wellbeing, residential amenity, and environmental character of the area will be protected.

For these reasons, and having regard to the wider concerns raised by the Lacken Ballycastle Community Landscape Protection Group, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the proposed Tirawley Wind Farm in the interests of proper planning, sustainable development, and the protection of local residents and communities.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Kind Regards,
Kori Anna Murphy