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24th June 2026

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing as a resident of the area within proximity to the proposed Tirawley Wind Farm project, submitted by Constant Energy Limited, to formally lodge my objection to this Strategic Infrastructure Development application.

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 Ceide 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.

I do however, have further concerns with regards to the effects of wind turbines on cattle and farm animals.

As this is a farming area and I myself am a farmer, the potential impacts on livestock must be fully assessed. Research and farmer reports from Ireland, the UK, France, and the US indicate several concerns:

- **Noise and vibration:** Low-frequency noise and ground vibration from turbines and underground cabling have been associated with stress behaviours in cattle, reduced milk yield, and changes in feeding patterns on some farms.
- **Shadow flicker:** Sudden moving shadows can startle animals, particularly during winter months when the sun is low.
- **Disturbance during construction:** Heavy machinery, blasting, and roadworks can disrupt grazing routines and cause stress.
- **Potential reproductive impacts:** Some farmers have reported increased stillbirths or reduced fertility near turbines, though scientific evidence is still emerging and inconsistent. The lack of certainty requires precaution.
- **Herd avoidance behaviour:** Cattle may avoid areas near turbines, reducing the usable grazing area of a farm.

Given that the EIAR does not meaningfully assess these risks, and considering the scale of farming in the area, this is a serious omission. The precautionary principle should apply until independent, long-term studies confirm safety for livestock.

As someone who cycles these narrow country roads on a regular basis, I am particularly worried about the increased dangers this development will create for cyclists. Our local roads are already tight, winding, and without hard shoulders, meaning that even normal traffic requires constant vigilance. The introduction of heavy construction vehicles, abnormal loads, and intensified daily traffic will make these routes significantly more hazardous. When cycling, there is often nowhere to pull in safely, and the turbulence from large vehicles passing at close proximity can be genuinely frightening. The EIAR acknowledges increased construction traffic, yet it fails to assess how this will affect vulnerable road users like cyclists who depend on these roads for commuting, exercise, and daily life. No mitigation measures—such as temporary traffic controls, alternative safe routes, or cyclist-specific protections—have been proposed. There is also the increased traffic for operation and maintenance. This omission is unacceptable and demonstrates a lack of understanding of how dangerous these conditions will become for those of us who rely on bicycles as a primary mode of transport.

For the reasons outlined above—environmental harm, landscape damage, risks to protected species, disruption to farming and livestock, traffic impacts, and inadequate cumulative assessment—I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the Tirawley Wind Farm.

This development is not suitable for this location and does not represent proper planning or sustainable development.

Yours faithfully,

Martin Francis Murphy