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**Re: Tirawley Wind Farm Ref No. 324258 (Strategic Infrastructure Development)**

To whom it concerns,

I wish to submit an objection to the above development in Co. Mayo for a number of reasons, which I set forth below.

1. The general Lacken area is totally unsuitable for a large, industrial scale windfarm. It is an area of outstanding natural beauty and noted for its coastal views and golden strands. Lacken is an important stop on the Wild Atlantic Way and lies close to Downpatrick Head, from which the turbines would be clearly visible.
2. There is a serious risk of health impacts from mechanical noise, infrasound and shadow flicker. Three wind farms were shut down in Wexford this year due to noise pollution, demonstrating that this is a real and documented problem.
3. The developer has provided no meaningful consultation and did not provide adequate notice of the public meeting, leaving the community excluded from the process.
4. The turbines would be clearly visible across west Sligo, from Easkey to Enniscrone and from the Moy Estuary Road to Ballina, with negative consequences for tourism throughout the region.

5. Future generations would grow up in a landscape dominated by enormous turbines. These risks damaging the social fabric of a community that is already experiencing significant depopulation.
6. Palmerstown Bridge is a protected and fragile structure, unsuitable for sustained heavy traffic loads. Any road-widening or haulage-related land-take in its vicinity would seriously affect both the bridge itself and its historic setting.
7. Part of the proposed site falls on land restricted by the Department of Agriculture under GAEC 2, which prohibits digging new drains, deepening existing drains and ploughing deeper than 12 inches. In light of these restrictions, it is unclear how the developer could lawfully excavate large foundations for multiple wind turbines.
8. The planning notice refers to 16 wind turbines, whereas the supporting reports within the application refer to 18. This inconsistency is confusing and suggests a lack of care, attention and due diligence by the applicant, which is particularly troubling given the scale of the potential impact on local residents.
9. We are deeply concerned about the potential harm to local wildlife and habitats, particularly through the removal of hedgerows, forestry plantations and bogland, which are vital ecological resources.

It is for all of these reasons that I fully object to the proposed development of this wind farm. The project, as currently designed, poses unacceptable risks to human health, protected wildlife and habitats, and to the unique landscape and heritage of Lacken, Kilcummin Head and the surrounding townlands.

The inconsistency and errors within the planning documentation, the apparent disregard for existing agricultural and environmental restrictions, and the lack of meaningful community consultation further undermine confidence in the proposal and in the developer's ability to manage such a sensitive project responsibly.

In addition, the likely visual intrusion across a wide coastal area, the potential damage to tourism along the Wild Atlantic Way, the threat to important archaeological sites, and the severe disruption from construction traffic on already fragile local roads collectively represent an intolerable impact on the community's quality of life and on a landscape that should be protected for future generations rather than industrialised.

Yours Sincerely,

*Martin Kelly*

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