

Objection to the Proposed Tirawley Wind Farm

Submitted by Mary Finnerty

Killerduff, Ballycastle, Co. Mayo.

Planning Application Reference: 324258

My name is Mary Finnerty and I am a resident of Killerduff, Ballycastle.

I have lived in this area for most of my life and have witnessed many changes over the years. Some changes have been positive and some have not, but throughout it all one thing has remained constant – the beauty of the landscape and the peace and tranquillity that people enjoy here.

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed Tirawley Wind Farm development.

At seventy-nine years of age, I perhaps view things a little differently than younger generations. What I value most about living in this area is the quietness, the scenery and the feeling that we are living in a place that remains connected to its history and natural surroundings.

The Ballycastle and Lacken area is known throughout Ireland for its scenery, archaeology and heritage.

Visitors come here to experience places such as the Céide Fields and Downpatrick Head. Local people are fortunate to live among landscapes that have remained largely unchanged for generations.

The nearby Rathlacken Court Tomb is a reminder that people have lived in this landscape for thousands of years.

When I look towards the hills and surrounding countryside, I see more than scenery. I see a landscape that tells a story about the people who lived here before us and the generations that followed.

I worry that a development of the scale proposed (Tirawley Wind Farm) would change that landscape forever.

Concerns About Shadow Flicker and Visual Impacts

One of my main concerns relates to the potential effects of shadow flicker and the constant movement of turbine blades.

I understand that these matters are '*discussed*' in technical reports, but for residents they become everyday realities.

The thought of looking towards the hills and seeing large turbines moving continuously throughout the day is very troubling.

I am also concerned about reports of shadow flicker and glare affecting nearby homes and roads.

As somebody who spends much of her time at home and within the local area, I do not believe these concerns should be dismissed.

The Peace and Tranquillity of the Area.....

Many people choose to live in North Mayo because of its peaceful nature.

The area offers something increasingly difficult to find elsewhere.

There is a sense of calm and tranquillity that comes from the surrounding landscape.

It is something that local people value greatly.

It is also one of the reasons visitors return year after year.

I am concerned that the proposed development would alter the character of the area and reduce the sense of peace that currently exists.

Looking to the Future

I am of the **firm belief** that the proposed location is not suitable for a development of this scale.

Some landscapes are simply too valuable from a heritage, scenic and community perspective.

I believe the Ballycastle and Lacken area is one such place.

Future generations deserve the opportunity to enjoy the same landscape that previous generations have known and appreciated.

My Closing Thoughts.....

As a long standing and valued member of the locality, I hope that my concerns will be given serious consideration when this application is being assessed.

The landscape, heritage and tranquillity of North Mayo are among its greatest assets.

Once they are lost, they cannot easily be restored.....

Yours in concern

Mary Finnerty

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Ballycastle

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