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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 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,

As long-term visitors to the area designated for the proposed Tirawley Wind Farm, submitted by Constant Energy Limited, we are writing to formally lodge our objection to this Strategic Infrastructure Development application.

With close family connections to the Ballycastle and Lacken area, we have been regular visitors to this beautiful region for many decades. We fully acknowledge the requirement for the Irish government to meet its legally binding targets on net zero greenhouse gas emissions, and its commitment as signatory of the European Wind Charter, but nevertheless, we have been saddened to witness the spread of windfarms in this scenic, culturally significant and environmentally sensitive location over recent years. We urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to reject this application for another windfarm in this geographical area on the following grounds:

1. **The cumulative impact of windfarms on the landscape character and scenic appeal of North Mayo.** The Tirawley request for planning permission must be considered in the context of several other windfarms which have already been approved. These include Glenora Wind Farm (22 turbines) located 7km southwest of Ballycastle which, together with the Sheskin South windfarm (18 turbines) located 6.7km north of Bangor cuts across the remote and beautiful Western Way walking trail. The approved Keerglen windfarm (8 turbines) is also adjacent to the area, as is the proposed Clydagh windfarm (22 turbines). This represents a high concentration of wind turbines in an area of high scenic beauty and environmental value.

2. **Negative impact of the proposed Tirawley development on tourism.** Windfarms in this location will blight the visual appearance of the outstanding coastal landscape stretching from Lacken Bay (a designated Special Area of Conservation) to Downpatrick Head and the globally significant Ceide Fields archaeological site and visitor attraction. This area is one of the highlights of the Wild Atlantic Way and the introduction of more wind turbines will degrade the value and appeal of this internationally recognised scenic route. The proposal directly contradicts the new Wild Mayo Failte Ireland tourism plan for north Mayo which aims to significantly enhance and sustainably develop the tourism market in the area. The proliferation of wind turbines undermines the area's claim to be 'wild Mayo' and a 'vast area of wilderness' (source: [Failte Ireland - Wild Mayo Destination and Experience Development Plan | The Wild Atlantic Way](#)). Work has already started on a 15km coastal trail which will link up to the Western Way and help to put North Mayo on the map as a worldclass destination for hiking and cycling. Allowing more wind turbines is in direct conflict with the plans for tourism which align with national tourism policy and are supported by Mayo County Council.
3. **Environmental and Ecological Concerns**
The Lacken area includes sensitive habitats such as blanket bogs and areas with ecological significance under the Habitats Directive. The disturbance to these habitats could have long-term detrimental effects on biodiversity and peatland restoration efforts. (Reference: Appendix 1.6 Community Engagement Report, Pages 13-14; Planning Statement, Pages 69-71). The development will result in hedgerow removal, loss of blanket bog habitat, forestry felling and the construction of extensive site roads and infrastructure. While mitigation is proposed, it isn't clear to us whether replacement habitats can adequately replicate the ecological value of the habitats being lost, particularly in the short to medium term.
4. **Traffic and Infrastructure Impact**
The construction phase will bring disruption to the local road network due to the delivery of abnormal loads and turbine components. The existing roads will require widening and modifications that will impact local traffic flow and road safety. (Reference: EIAR Chapter 17 - Traffic and Transport, Pages 6-10; Appendix 1.6 Community Engagement Report, Pages 11-12)

In conclusion, we respectfully submit that the proposed Tirawley Wind Farm project is not appropriate for this location due to the significant and cumulative negative impacts on local scenic quality, landscape, ecology, infrastructure, and the tourism sector. We urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for this development.

Thank you for considering our submission.

Yours faithfully,
Michael and Moya Irwin