

19th June 2026

Carrowtrasna,
Carrowmore-Lacken,
Ballina,
Co. Mayo. F26 NW25

Ph: 087 9485286

An Coimisiuin Pleanala,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1. D01 V902.

Re Tyrawley Wind Farm 324258

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I wish to object very strongly to the planning application PAX 16 324258, which has been submitted to An Bord Pleanala by Constant Energy Limited for Tirawley Windfarm to erect 16 large wind turbines in Lacken.

I am 61 years old and I have lived in Lacken all of my life. If planning permission is given for the construction of 16 large turbines at Tirawley Windfarm, which I hope will never be allowed, I will have the best view of those turbines in the village of Carrowtrasna in the parish of Lacken.

No person from Constant Energy has called to me or, to my knowledge, any person in Lacken, and no meeting by the company has ever been arranged in the Lacken area. to give information about this development. There has been no public consultation whatsoever by the developer. The public who are going to be affected have not been allowed to have any say in the proposed development.

This is very unusual for a major construction project of this size and scale which will cause a lot of disruption to the 'road network' in the area. Palmerstown Bridge is a protected structure and will never be able to take that volume of traffic as it is too narrow as it was designed and constructed in a different era over 200 years ago when there nothing comparable to today's traffic levels.

This area is not suitable for wind turbines as it is the most scenic, with breath taking views of the landscape in north Mayo, and this includes Lacken Strand and the Back Strand beside the sea near Kilcummin backed up by golden sand dunes. The tourists and visitors to Lacken love the beach and coastal areas and the whole area is a very popular and growing attraction. The scenic coastal landscape could be destroyed by the proposed development.

There is also Downpatrick Head on the Wild Atlantic Way and the Ceide Fields both of which attracts thousands of tourists and visitors and is the perfect place in north Mayo for tourism. Failte Ireland and Mayo County Council are spending a lot of money on

developing tourism in the area, but this will come to naught if the area is covered with towering wind turbines. There are many popular looped walks in Lacken which are very popular. The Rathlacken looped walk goes through the proposed wind farm site presenting a real danger during construction.

Tirawley Windfarm with 16 large turbines will totally destroy the tourism industry potential of Lacken, which is a most beautiful place to live and visit. Many people make their livelihood from tourism, and they will be seriously impacted.

Property and houses will be very seriously devalued, and many people will decide to leave and live in other parts of Mayo and Ireland. In every person's life 'health' is very important. This windfarm is going to have an adverse and very serious effect on people's health in Lacken. This includes noise pollution, which will seriously affect sleep, shadow flicker which impacts on people's lives and properties and will cause major concern and anxiety. There are several hundred houses located within a short distance of the proposed windfarm who will be badly affected.

I also heard about nose bleeds and other medical problems in a house near a windfarm in North Mayo after it was constructed. There is a serious risk to human health and wellbeing from noise, infrasound, shadow flicker and other disturbances.

It is going to be very difficult for people to build houses in the area due to the proximity to the turbines. It will also be very difficult to get planning permission due to this development. There is going to be a very serious impact on the environment, plant and animal life, archaeological sites, Holy wells and water. There is going to be very serious pollution to the water and the environment because very deep excavation works will have to be carried out. The Lacken Saltmarsh and Lacken Strand are just 1km from the windfarm site and there is a high risk that the fragile ecosystem in these places will be affected.

The construction phase alone will be very disruptive to traffic with an estimated 11,000 plus loads. The narrow roads already in a poor structural state will not be able to handle these loads. In Lacken there are a considerable amount of wildlife, insects (including rare butterflies) and birds and if this development goes ahead some of these will become extinct. There is now very serious concern about three rare bird species, the Hen Harrier, Corncrake and the Curlew. There is a serious risk of their extinction in Lacken if the project goes ahead. Most of the studies and surveys carried out by the developer are well out of date and cannot be relied on.

In 2012, a local farming family applied for permission for 4 very small wind turbines in the same area as the proposed Tirawley windfarm. It was rejected by An Bord Pleanála on the grounds of its potential damage to the visual amenity on an elevated site overlooking Lacken Bay. How much more damaging will 16 very large turbines be? There are some places that are just not suitable for wind farms of this size and Lacken is one of these areas.

The Lacken area is very important for archaeology and there are a large number of very significant monuments in the vicinity of the proposed windfarm site. For example, the

Rathfran Court Tomb. It is well known that the Ceide Fields system of stone walls extends into the Lacken area. Many studies have confirmed this.

Planning permission for this project has already been rejected as being incomplete for the first application last year. Mayo County Council is totally against this development. I appeal to An Coimisiun Pleanala to “reject” this second application for planning permission, as this is the wrong location for the Tirawley windfarm.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

NOEL DUFFY