

Ms. Dearbháil MacMahon,

Gaoith Na Mara,

Ballinoe,

Miltown Malbay,

Co. Clare.

**Re: Slieveacurry Wind farm application Objection to Planning Application
PAX03.324270– Proposed “Locally Owned Turbine”, Illaunbaun / Slievenalicka /
Tooreen / Lackamore / Drumbaun, Miltown Malbay, Co. Clare**

The developer’s own Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) confirms that this turbine forms part of a number of wind-turbine Illaunbaun Wind Farm, assessed as a single project. Submitting separate applications constitutes project-splitting, contrary to the Planning and Development Regulations and the EIA Directive, preventing proper cumulative assessment.

I wish to strongly object to the above planning on the following grounds ;

1. Preliminary and determinative matter - This development has already been refused on multiple, interlocking grounds. A similar proposal development has already been refused permission following detailed assessment under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) That refusal was not based on a single issue, but on suite of serious, interrelated defects spanning landscapes, residential amenity, biodiversity, Natura 2000 compliance, environmental assessment, peat stability, traffic safety and public infrastructure. Those findings remain fully

applicable and have not been remedied. They go to the core acceptability of the development not to matters that can be addressed by condition or postconsent management plans.

2. Project Splitting / Misrepresentation – The EIAR confirms the “Locally Owned Turbine” and commercial turbines form one six-turbine scheme. Presenting them as separate projects is misleading and obstructs transparent assessment.
3. Unsuitable Location / Cumulative Overdevelopment – This area is already heavily impacted by the Slieve Callan wind farm. Adding more turbines would cause skyline proliferation, inconsistent with sustainable planning and national landscape policy. A related project at Slieveacurry, sharing townlands with this proposal, was refused by Clare County Council and upheld by An Bord Pleanála on similar environmental and visual grounds. The Inspector’s Report for ABP-311044-21 noted that additional turbines in such a setting would “give rise to an excessive proliferation of turbines,” which directly applies to this case.
4. Environmental and Habitat Impact – The site borders the Carrowmore Point to Spanish Point and Islands SAC (Site Code: 001021) and supports protected species. The cumulative six-turbine impact would significantly harm biodiversity.
5. Water Safety and Peat Stability – The area’s peatland terrain poses a risk of slippage and pollution of Rockmount Lake, a public water source for Miltown Malbay and Moy.
6. Residential Amenity / Health – Turbines up to 150 m will cause noise, shadow flicker, and visual intrusion, impacting quality of life, wellbeing, and property values.
7. Cultural and Archaeological Heritage – The site includes famine roads, forts, and burial grounds; industrial structures would irreversibly alter this historic landscape.

8. Tourism and Local Economy – The development would harm scenic views central to local tourism and the Wild Atlantic Way experience, undermining rural employment.
9. Planning Policy and Democratic Integrity – Clare County Council voted to suspend new onshore wind projects pending updated national guidelines; proceeding now disregards that democratic decision.
10. Application Integrity / Previous Findings – Prior assessments by An Bord Pleanála found this wider area unsuitable for turbines due to environmental, hydrological, and amenity impacts. Those findings remain valid.
11. Others who live close to Wind Turbines have reported an interference to their internet and satellite connection. Many in the neighbourhood are dependent on internet connection for work or attending education remotely, especially now during the current pandemic.
12. Wind Turbine Syndrome- There has been extensive research conducted on the effect Wind Turbines have on health. The core symptoms of Wind Turbine Syndrome are sleep disturbance, headache, tinnitus, other ear and hearing sensations, balance and equilibrium disturbances, anxiety, nausea, irritability, energy loss, motivation loss, memory and concentration disturbances, and visceral vibratory vestibular disturbance. The author conducting this study advises a minimum distance for wind farms from properties, recommending at least 2km between wind turbines and residences on normal terrain and 3.2km in mountainous terrain.
13. Children and vulnerable young adults in the area- The constant noise produced by wind turbines can have detrimental effects on all children, but especially children with Special Needs. Children on the Spectrum particularly vulnerable to the negative effects of intrusive noise. Children and adults who live with these disorders have difficulty processing auditory sensory input; they often do not possess the ability to filter noises. The noise created from wind turbines would produce a noise that can cause continuous auditory sensory overload. This would result in severe interruptions in the person's ability to concentrate and focus. Due to my line of work, I have worked closely with young adults on the spectrum

who have non-verbal communication. During my time working with these young adults, I spent time bringing them to many locations for recreational hobbies. I noted that while driving pass or going for walks in area with Wind Turbines present the young adult would refuse to leave the vehicle and become quite distressed. This is due to the noise emitted from the Turbines and the effect it has on their hyposensitivity. I feel it my duty to advocate on behalf of those who may not be able to communicate their concerns. I also find it very concerning that there are national school within proximity to the proposed Turbines which have children on the spectrum or with learning disorders in attendance.

14. Mental Health – Many people living in radius of the Mount Callan Turbines have reported that they cannot sleep in their own houses due to the noise omitting from the turbines. This can create sleep disorder which have an adverse effect on a person's mental and physical health.
15. My family have been breeding horses during these years and we continue to breed quality foals with strong breeding backgrounds. That are considered a rare breed, pure breed Irish draught horses, which are also protected and recognised by the GLAS Scheme. My other worry with this is an observation made regarding a stud farm in Lisbon stud farm, the owner has been breeding normal and physically sound horses since 2000. There were no changes in diet, exercise or any other significant alteration in management. Until in 2008, wind turbines were installed adjacent to the property and grazing paddocks. Since this date, a good number of foals and yearlings have developed deformities. As omitted in the proposal, this is a registered Equine premises is adjacent to the turbines.

I would greatly appreciate it if Clare County Council continues to take on board all the concerns and uphold decision to reject this application. There are several grounds highlighted above that make it impossible to grant permission.

This is a relentless, tiresome and extremely stressful battle against communities, families, rural Ireland and our beautiful landscapes by cruel and corrupt faceless corporations.

Yours Faithfully,

Dearbháil MacMahon

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Dearbháil MacMahon', written in a cursive style.