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Objection to the proposed Ballincor Wind Farm (11 Turbines and Associated Infrastructure) Ref: ACP SID PAX. 92.324279

I live in the UK but was reared and worked on my family's farm up until marriage and moving away.

The family farm is approx. 1.5km from the proposed Wind Farm site. The farm runs from the farmhouse to the River Brosna and alongside it - Callow Land, which is 1.609km. This stretch is where the applicant - Proposed Ballincor Wind Farm- is planning as the boundary for the development.

I write as a family member who has spent the best part of forty years growing up and working on the farm. I returned at least twice yearly from the UK to visit and introduce my young daughters to my childhood home and farm and to introduce them to the abundance of nature that lived there. We spent many happy hours watching the swans on the river, seeing otters for the first time and the awe and amazement on their little faces was a joy to behold. They were never going to see anything remotely like this growing up in London. As adults, they still try to return once a year. Wellies are always stashed in the cottage in Rathbeg ready for long walks and rambling by the Brosna River.

In the late 1980s my family, together with one other, were instrumental in having Sharavogue Raised Bog protected as a Special Area of Conservation. It was designated as one of the best examples of Raised Bog in Ireland. This was hard won using their own funds and no Government help. We believed at that time that that the SAC designation would save the bog and its flora and fauna from any further developments, of any kind.

Now, we find ourselves back to square one. Was it all for nothing forty years ago, the ruling of then to be so easily set aside?

What will happen to all the resident wildlife – the Swans, the Otters, the Pine Martins and the severely endangered Red Squirrel. In the EU Ireland is the last bastion of the Red Squirrel. Only last March I sat in our cottage in Rathbeg and watched a pair of Red Squirrels forage for pine nuts. Will I still see them if this Wind Farm goes ahead?

Our cottage, which is a refurbished Railway Cottage, is directly adjacent to the bog and our concern will be flooding, if the annual movement of the water in the bog is interfered with. Infrastructure proposed by the applicant,

ie. Roadway into the site which will be higher than the bog and will interfere with the water table.

There are many reasons why this development should not go ahead:

- The River Brosna is an active Bird Flight Path
- Multiple Turbines are proposed in areas identified as Flood Zones
- A risk of silt and sediment run off into local watercourses and ultimately into the Brosna River
- How will it affect the fish in the river, salmon, trout, eels etc.
- The Marsh Fritillary Butterfly habitat will be lost and so The Marsh Fritillary will be lost. This butterfly is protected by EU law.

It is hard to understand why this site was chosen by the applicant as it is low-lying and a flood plain beside a river and adjacent to Sharavogue Raises Bog SAC.

It is waterlogged, peat based and unstable. Access roads are narrow with high traffic volume and VERY poor visibility in places.

Already I can see Knockshegowna turbines as we drive down to our cottage in Rathbeg, the cumulative effect of these proposed closer, bigger noisier turbines will be appalling. The visual Dominance will be horrendous.

I object in the strongest terms to the stated application for this Wind Farm.

I ask that it be refused.

Marian Harvey
17-6-2026