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5th July 2026

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Subject: Submission/Observation on Planning Application

Case Reference No.: PA12.324290

Proposed Development: Renewable Energy Development of a Wind Farm

Location: Lissinagroagh, Co. Leitrim

To whom it may concern,

I wish to make a submission/observation in relation to the above proposed development. I am a local resident residing in Lisross/Lisdarush, located approximately 1 km from the nearest proposed wind turbine of the proposed site.

I respectfully object to the proposed development on the following grounds:

- a) I was raised in Lisdarush and left when I was 18 to go to university in Dublin (like many young people). From here I qualified as a nurse and as a result of most acute healthcare services being located in Dublin, this is where I worked. I always knew that I wanted to live back home in Leitrim but knew if I wanted to progress in my career and gain experience looking after the most acutely unwell adults and children in Ireland, I would need to stay in Dublin for as long as I could. I moved back to Leitrim in 2022 and chose to build a life and family here with my husband. This move meant we both had to sacrifice progressing in the careers and jobs we loved, as like I mentioned above acute healthcare services are focused out of our main cities like Dublin, Galway and Cork. We made this sacrifice because we loved the life that Leitrim could offer; being close to my family, the peace and quiet, the beautiful scenery, the endless walks and hikes, the freedom that comes with living in our beautiful Leitrim countryside. All of these will be impacted by a wind farm of this size with wind turbines of this size. Given that there is a current campaign by Leitrim County Council, The Definitely Leitrim! Campaign, it seems hypocritical that this planning permission is even considered when the proposed windfarm will do the exact opposite.
- b) I am also concerned about the risk of landslides and flooding when the peat/bog is disturbed on the mountain. When we built our house a significant amount of

drainage was needed to redirect the water coming from natural springs that are on the mountain. When the mountain is dug up and disturbed, I fear that the risk of flooding here will increase. Similar to the flooding that now occurs in the nearby Marble Arch caves following the blanket bog in Culcaigh mountain being disturbed and losing its sponge like quality meaning that it was no longer able to hold the water and release it slowly into the system.

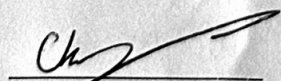
- c) As a nurse, I also have concerns around the risks of damage to public health. I acknowledge that on their website Future Energy state there is a lack of “credible studies that provide evidence of any direct adverse effects on the general health of residents in the vicinity of wind farms”, however the experiences of those that live near windfarms cannot be ignored! The constant noise inside peoples homes causes annoyance and stress, never mind its impact on those that suffer from headaches or migraines. It is a constant noise that intensifies depending on the weather conditions. We also cannot ignore the experience of those with neurodiversity, whom sensory processing is often intensified when compared to those who are not neuro diverse. Can you imagine a child having to wear noise defenders in their own home to find relief from the noise from the wind turbines? The comparisons that Future Energy make to this noise on their website is laughable and shows exactly how little they care for the residents near their wind turbines. The shadow flicker and its risk also cannot be ignored. For those with epilepsy (especially children) this can be a seizure trigger.
- d) I also have concerns with the apparent lack of due diligence by the applicant, Future Energy, and the lack of care for the area. The word mitigation is noted over and over again in their application. How can you give planning permission for something with so many mitigation needs? Mitigation is the last resort, and efforts should first be focused on avoiding harm. This is obviously not possible with this application, the applicant just wants to do the damage to our mountain and area and put mitigation measures in place in an attempt to make up for the amount of harm caused by their proposed wind farm but their suggested measures are simply not enough to make up for the damage that they will cause. There has also been a lack of community engagement by the applicant and this has made it apparent to the community that this group does not care for our concerns or our county. Future Energy held two consultation clinics on midweek dates which were conducted on an individual, appointment only basis rather than in an open public forum where members of the community could hear the same information, ask questions collectively and benefit from a transparent exchange of views. While one to one meetings have their place, they do not provide the same level of openness or opportunity for public discussion as a conventional public meeting. For these reasons, I do not believe the consultation process provided a fair or meaningful opportunity for all those likely to be affected by this development to participate. In my view, the level of community

engagement undertaken did not reflect the scale of this development or the breadth of the communities that stand to be affected.

- e) I also have concerns around the impact that this windfarm would have on property value if it were to go ahead. On their website, Future Energy states that "No independent national property study has been undertaken in Ireland that can answer this question definitively". Can you honestly consider that it would not have an impact on the value of our homes? Wind turbines of this size towering over our homes causing constant noise and shadow flicker, who is going to pay the same amount of money to live with this than to live in the peace and tranquillity that our community currently has to offer?
- f) Planning for wind turbines has already been refused for this mountain before. In 2009, Leitrim County Council refused planning permission submitted by an energy company by the name of An Dough Windfarm Limited. This planning permission was to erect a wind farm across 140 hectares close to the summit of Dough Mountain. That proposed development was to consist of eight turbines, eighty metres in height, a transformer compound, an electrical control building, inter turbine service roadways, eight hard stand areas and ancillary works such as underground electrical ducting (Planning application 09260 Leitrim County Council). Leitrim County Council refused planning permission due to the adverse visual and landscape effects it would have on the surrounding region and nearby landmarks. What has changed? Lissinagroagh windfarm development is significantly larger in scale than the development that was previously refused planning permission. If anything, the Lissinagroagh windfarm development raises more concerns in relation to the impact on the landscape, local infrastructure, biodiversity and nearby residents. It seems that all that has changed is that Ireland has commitments to renewable energy provision and climate action, but at what cost do we meet these commitments? How can permission be granted now for something much larger in scale when it was refused before for this exact place?

I would like to make it very clear that I am not opposed to wind energy or renewable energy, and I am fully aware of the part it plays in combatting climate change. This location is simply not appropriate for a development of this scale and size, and the extent of its potential impacts. For the reasons outlined above, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála **refuse permission** for this proposed development.

Kind Regards


Catherine Kilkenny
Local Resident