

Re: Objection to Proposed Dough Mountain (Lissinagroagh) Wind Farm – Case Reference PAX12.324290

To Whom It May Concern,

I wish to formally object to the proposed Dough Mountain (Lissinagroagh) Wind Farm, Case Reference PAX12.324290.

My family home is located in Mullanyduffy townland, within approximately 2 km of the existing wind turbines. We are already directly affected by the current development. From our home, three of the existing turbines dominate the landscape and are clearly visible. They are an intrusive and permanent feature in what was once a beautiful natural setting. In addition to the visual impact, we can hear the turbines from our home, demonstrating that the effects extend beyond what is seen and significantly diminish our enjoyment of our property.

The proposed development would introduce even larger turbines, approximately 185 metres in height and among the tallest in Ireland. This would dramatically increase the industrialisation of the landscape surrounding Dough Mountain, an area renowned for its scenic beauty. I cannot understand how a development of this scale can be considered appropriate beside an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Our family has always valued the rich wildlife in this area. We regularly observe protected Hen Harriers, Buzzards and many other bird species. We also enjoy watching the local deer and the diverse wildlife that thrives on and around our land. These species are an important part of what makes this area special, and I am deeply concerned about the impact that the construction and operation of these turbines will have on their habitat and behaviour. The cumulative impact of the existing turbines together with this proposed development must be carefully considered.

My family and I make extensive use of our outdoor spaces every day. We have four young children who spend most of their free time outdoors tending our sheep, donkeys, chickens and ducks, walking our dogs, birdwatching, tracking the deer on our land and camping in our fields. This is the lifestyle we have chosen, and it is central to our family's wellbeing. The proximity of these turbines will affect our enjoyment of our home, our outdoor spaces and our quality of life. We are also concerned about the impact on our sleep, wellbeing and our ability to continue enjoying our property as we do today.

I also wish to highlight what I believe is an inconsistency in the planning process. My family recently sought planning permission to extend our existing family home. Our house is not a new dwelling—it appears on the first Ordnance Survey maps of Ireland dating from 1842—yet we were required to provide extensive evidence to justify our application. We had to prove the existence and history of our home, justify the design of our extension, and commission ecological reports relating to water and wildlife before our application could proceed.

As ordinary homeowners, we accepted these requirements because we understood that protecting the environment and the landscape was important. It is therefore extremely difficult to reconcile those stringent standards with a proposal to construct fourteen industrial wind turbines of approximately 185 metres in height across this landscape. It feels deeply unfair that individual homeowners are subjected to such rigorous scrutiny for modest improvements to an existing home, while a development of this scale is proposed in such a sensitive and scenic area.

I also believe Dough Mountain possesses significant cultural, historical and community value that deserves greater recognition and protection. It is not simply a location for development but a landscape

that has shaped the lives, traditions and identity of local families for generations. Its natural beauty, heritage and tranquillity should be preserved for future generations.

The proposal also has the potential to damage tourism in North Leitrim. Visitors come to this area because of its unspoilt landscapes, mountains, walking routes, wildlife and peaceful surroundings. Replacing these views with towering turbines and associated infrastructure risks undermining one of the region's greatest assets and the livelihoods that depend upon it.

I am also disappointed by the lack of meaningful public consultation throughout this process. For the past three years, local residents were repeatedly told that public meetings could not be held due to reasons including COVID-19 restrictions, waiting for consultants' reports, and difficulties organising a venue. Despite these assurances, no open public meeting was ever held in Manorhamilton, Rossinver or Kiltyclogher. Instead, residents were offered an appointment-only information day at Rossinver Community Centre. This did not provide a genuine opportunity for open discussion, questions or community engagement. For a development of this scale, affecting so many people across County Leitrim, the level of public consultation has been wholly inadequate.

The existing turbines have already changed the character of our area. This proposal would significantly intensify those impacts through increased visual intrusion, additional noise, disruption to wildlife and further industrialisation of one of Ireland's most scenic landscapes.

For all of these reasons, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse planning permission for the proposed Dough Mountain (Lissinagroagh) Wind Farm.

Thank you for considering my objection.

Yours faithfully,

Mairéad Byrne
Mullanyduffy Townland
County Leitrim