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The Secretary
An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough St, Dublin 1, D01 V902

9th July 2026

Application Details:

Applicant: FuturEnergy Ireland
Development: Proposed Dough Mountain (Lissinagroagh) Wind Farm
Case Ref: PAX12.324290
Location: Boleyboy, Cashelaveela, Cherrybrook, Killea, Coolodonnell, Faughary, Lissinagroagh, Lisdarush, Lugasnaghta, Raheelin, Shasmore, Tawnyfeacle, Tullyshehery Co. Leitrim.

Observation being submitted by:-

- Marie Corcoran Tindill,
- Nchedo Obi-Igweilo
- Helena Corcoran
- Martina Dunne

Online Submission to <https://www.pleanala.ie>

Who we are

We are four people who live in this area of the north west for the past 20 years and wish to submit our Observation on the proposed Dough (Lissinagroagh) Wind Farm development. We are pro renewable energy and have, over the years, been part of the community-led organisation 'Love Leitrim' campaigning against fracking our island, contributing to our communities and nurturing the land to which we feel we inextricably belong.

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 commits Ireland to pursue and achieve a '*transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable*' economy <https://www.seai.ie/about/irelands-energy-targets>. We believe we have an obligation to protect our biodiversity rich environment as part of a just transition through climate change alongside meeting the energy needs of Ireland's population. In this context, we outline our concerns below.

Our observation

We feel that the proposed development being undertaken with Government's best intentions assumes that the communities and the landscape can be sacrificed for the purposes of placing industrial size windfarms that will also destroy heritage, culture and a way of life. It places a lesser value on the protection of the landscape (for both present and future generations) of this *biodiversity rich area*, and on our communities and livelihoods, than on the singular necessity for windfarms on a scale not seen before in Ireland.

Our key concern - blanket bog as a carbon sink

Dough Mountain is an area of blanket bog which is a natural carbon sink. It has, is and will for aeons ahead be contributing to climate mitigation. *"What makes Ireland's bogs valuable is not only their ecological value but also their capacity to store carbon. Although they cover only about 20% of the land area, Ireland's bogs hold an estimated 53-62% of the country's soil organic carbon. Protecting and restoring them has become a national priority - not only to preserve biodiversity but also as a key strategy in tackling climate change."*

<https://www.rte.ie/brainstorm/2026/02/12/1557853-ireland-bogs-ecology-nature-climate-peat-weather/>

To propose an industrial size development of 14 wind turbines, approximately 180-185m high, on this area of blanket bog does not make sense. In our view, the planning application does not address the loss of bog as a carbon sink. It also does not properly account for the release of carbon when removed, and assumes that all that is temporarily removed will be fully restored to its original condition. This can be in the 100s of thousands of tonnes of equivalent carbon emissions. The proposal appears to account only for carbon emissions in terms of manufacture of turbines, concrete, steel, delivery, building of access roads, drainage conduits etc. which they give as 13,500 equivalent tonnes of carbon emissions.

Dough mountain is the wrong place for such a development. The impact on the bog would not just be for the period of building the roads, or laying the concrete platforms for the turbines (that will entail cutting down through the bog to the rock beneath), or just for the approximately 30-year lifespan of the wind turbine project. *"...During wind farm construction, vegetation that helps to trap the carbon is removed to create turbine bases and vehicle access tracks. These tracks create artificial streams that drain the peat and reshape the terrain.* <https://theconversation.com/wind-farms-built-on-carbon-rich-peat-bogs-lose-their-ability-to-fight-climate-change-143551> (published 2020). Once the bog has nothing to hold it together it will wash down the mountain when heavy rain falls, taking with it fields and forests alike releasing dangerous carbon into the atmosphere, damaging rivers, lakes and causing water contamination. As the research above further states, *"This release can be so significant that the climate benefit of generating clean energy is likely to be neutralised."* Even more devastatingly, the bog as a natural carbon sink is gone forever. Dough Mountain is a high-risk area for landslides - see GSI landslide susceptibility map - https://gsi.geodata.gov.ie/downloads/Geoheritage/Reports/Leitrim_Audit.pdf

Local livelihoods and Tourism

Dough is recognised within Leitrim's County Development Plan as an area of high visual amenity with tourism value and as a place that contributes to our quality of life. ([Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 - Leitrim County Council](#) – Vol.1, pages 283,287,288). This proposal will affect our county's tourism development, and damage a vital source of income for our local businesses that place value on the natural beauty of our area.

Wellbeing

We each chose this area for family and quality of life reasons, and for the care that Leitrim, as a county, places on our environment. We benefit from being part of a worldview in our community life that values our earth and sees us as part of nature. Our lives are richer because of our natural landscape and being able to walk in the hills and along many of our lakeshores.

Dough Mountain is a place of quiet and stillness that we love. The scale of this windfarm plan will turn it into an industrial zone destroying a landscape that contributes to our wellbeing and even more importantly destroying its long-term work as a natural carbon sink that safeguards our environment.

In conclusion, and for the above reasons, we ask our Government through An Coimisiún Pleanála (as a statutory body operating under national and EU planning legislation) to draw on its widest possible vision of what is right for our island in assessing the proposed Lissinagroagh Wind Farm and to refuse planning permission for this development.



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