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8th July 2026

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA	
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An Coimisiún Pleanála 64 Marlborough Street Dublin 1 D01V902

July 3rd 2026

Ref Application Details; Case Reference PAX12.324290

FuturEnergy Ireland, Development; Proposed Dough Mountain (Lissinagroagh Wind Farm)
Location: Boleyboy, Cashelaveela, Cherrybrook, Killea, Coolodonnell, Faughary, Lissinagroagh, Lisdarush, Lugasnaghta, Raheelin, Shasmore, Tawnyfeacle and Tullyskeherny, Co. Leitrim

Dear Secretary,

We wish to make an observation/objection on the above proposed development. From the outset, we want to make it clear that we do not oppose windfarms or solar development per se. We support renewable energy as part of the transition to a greener and more sustainable society. However, we respectfully request that An Bord Pleanála carefully consider the potential impacts of this particular development before making a final decision.

We live in Amorset, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim. Among other issues, we are principally concerned that turbines of up to 185 metres in height would fundamentally alter the character of Dough Mountain and the surrounding uplands in contravention of the Leitrim County Development Plan which recognises the location as being a high visual amenity area. The proposed development is approximately 4kms, as the crow flies, from our home.

The proposed turbines would significantly alter the natural character and scenic beauty of the Lissinagroagh area. We did not oppose the current windfarm that sits in this location owned and operated by CGN that consists of 3 x E82 E4 3MW Enercon wind turbines. The proposed development proposes turbines twice this size and will dwarf the landscape dramatically. We do believe similar turbines on the correct topography can fit into a landscape like flat terrain more suitable to the midlands but not in a mountainous area 3KM from the largest town in north Leitrim. There are numerous mountain ranges located in north Leitrim but none as close to a large town like the proposed Lissinagroagh development.

Wildlife and Nature

FuturEnergy Ireland's own surveys identify important bird and wildlife activity within and around the site, and especially the effect such a large scale development will have on hen harriers – a species strictly protected by the EU Birds Directive and the Irish Wildlife Act. In our opinion because of the extensive ground works involved in this development it will be impossible to guarantee that the breeding grounds of such a protected species will not be adversely affected. Furthermore, in Ireland there are estimated to be ninety mating pairs of hen harriers and one of those mating pairs is situated in Lissinagroagh. If nothing else, apart from satisfying our legal obligations, our generation has a moral responsibility to protect such areas for the people who will come after us from the inevitable acknowledged disruption (by the developers) and consequent destruction that the proposed development would result in.

Along the route of the proposed development, there is a substantial native **Common Bluebell** (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) habitat. The uprooting of these endangered plants will decimate this natural habitat.

Noise and Residential Amenity Disruption

The operation of large wind turbines has the potential to generate noise and shadow flicker that will negatively affect nearby homes. In recent years turbine sizes have increased dramatically - up to three times in size to turbines already installed in Ireland. Other countries in Europe now adopt stricter guidelines and rather than basing their studies on dB(A) measurements they now track low frequency noise (LFN) as turbines with larger generators are now causing disruptive problems than were hitherto not appreciated. The shadow interference or flicker is another major cause for concern as given the size of these turbines homes will be affected despite shadow software installation. As there are many houses surrounding the windfarm and with Manorhamilton situated 3KM away, there will be a total amount of minutes of shadow flicker permitted if granted as is the case with all planning conditions.

Tourism/Ecotourism

According to Fáilte Ireland's research document (tourismireland.com/research-and-insights/visitor-facts-and-figures) people come to visit this part of our country to be surrounded by nature because of its tranquil environment and the absence of intrusive structures. I believe that the construction of such demonstrably visually impactful massive turbines will alter that environment for ever. The impact on this locally important tourism sector will have an irreversible detrimental effect.

Location

Developing a massive wind farm on an upland bog area – recognised as valuable carbon sink areas - such as Lissinagroagh – is like robbing Peter to pay Paul. We are all in favour of developing sustainable green energy projects but in the proper locations and without having an adverse effect on the environment itself. We frequently walk Dough mountain and over time have observed naturally occurring (minor) landslides. The scale of the proposed development will undoubtedly result in an inestimable structural alteration to this bogland area no matter what precautions the developer promises to undertake.

The photo montages from the ring fort on O Donnell's Rock submitted by the developer are disingenuous. It should be appreciated that this location is approximately 252 metres above ground level and cannot therefore be a true reflection of the visual impact the turbines will have on the overall landscape.

General observation

It has often been said that no-one owns the land – we are the custodians for the generations to come. It is grossly unfair that it is left to small communities, with none of the financial resources available to developers who have a commercially driven agenda, to ensure that we leave the land in as pristine state as possible. As I stated elsewhere, we do not oppose windfarms or solar development per se. we support renewable energy as part of the transition to a greener and more sustainable society. However, we respectfully suggest that with all things considered, this commercially driven development runs counter to that goal.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Mary Phair
James Molloy