

Observation on the Proposed Dough Mountain (Lissinagroagh) Wind Farm

Applicant: FuturEnergy Ireland

Development: Proposed Dough Mountain (Lissinagroagh) Wind Farm

Case Reference: PAX12.324290

Location: Boleyboy, Cashelaveela, Cherrybrook, Killea, Coolodonnell, Faughary, Lissinagroagh, Lisdarush, Lugasnaghta, Raheelin, Shasmor e, Tawnyfeacle and Tullyskeherny, Co. Leitrim

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To: An Coimisiún Pleanála

I am a local resident of the area close to Dough Mountain. As a resident I have my concerns on the current project and wish to make an observation on the proposed Dough Mountain (Lissinagroagh) Wind Farm development. I have reviewed the application documents and would like to voice my concerns.

I moved to Leitrim in 2002. I had my first child and my partner was from the area. We decided it was better for our child to grow up near family in a safe and rural setting.

I remember that first summer, silage was being made, in the fields around and the small cottage we moved into was a delight. It really was an idyll.

I got to know the place I had made a home and found the beauty something you never get over, never take for granted always realise how fortunate you are to be living here. I met more and more people who had gravitated here, for economic reasons but also as it felt like one of the last remaining chances to live that authentic

rural experience. It was a great place to bring up children and communities seem smaller and more in touch with one another. When I go back to where I grew up, a place I adore, also a rural area. I see more and more of the places of my childhood decimated, fields gone, roads unrecognisable life at such a flying pace. I know those observations are more apparent from the joy of living here in Leitrim and especially this little pocket of North Leitrim. For when you are here it is a place you feel you can properly exhale, relax the shoulders and enjoy a certain quality of life. I haven't lived here all my life, I have lived elsewhere and seeing places carved up, changed entirely, industrialised, you want to really protect what we have here in this area. To in fact preserve where large industry has taken so much.

It feels somewhere like a Victorian novel where we are fighting to keep a life we know from an industrial monster, and monstrous these windmills will be for our little haven.

No one is foolish enough to not understand our world is in a crisis and that thought and investment is needed in working out an alternative energy form. I don't see thought here, for what is proposed, on this site and this area doesn't seem to make a great deal of sense. The blanket bog up there on the mountain seems to be doing its job, why tear this asunder and instead risk other issues on the site with subsidence and destruction of an efficient eco system. Why potentially cause more environmental disasters with the pollution of water courses, cutting through bog and habitats. These monsters of turbines will be there to loom over householders, at the sacrifice of their mental and physical health.

I have spoken to people in this area, I have done my research, they already suffer effects from the 3 turbines already in existence. Now the aim is inflict an even bigger toll.

Sleep deprivation from constant noise disturbance. Shadow flicker effects in the brain. Householders who have spent generations working their land, building futures for their families will find their assets greatly reduced financially.

We will lose our greatest asset, our rural beauty because however it is being sold, it is an industrial plant, far too big for the area which will blight the area, cause environmental issues with the bog, the water and variety of wildlife. This Windfarm will jeopardise areas of importance, still being discovered as places of heritage are uncovered.

Why when a previous project was not given the green light a few years ago, with smaller turbines, was this given the go ahead with turbines that will make a bigger impact. This does not feel like an aim for the greater good.

I attended the FuturEnergy clinic in Rossinver, in the hope of broadening my knowledge on what is being proposed. Even the gentleman who was there to talk to me finally inferred that, yes, this was going to impact people's lives in a negative manner. I attended a meeting of experts on various subjects pertaining to the impact of this project. I read up on impacts positive and negative concerning turbines both here and abroad and my conclusion has been that the negative outweighs the positive for these areas where the turbines have been erected inland.

I am fully against the proposed installation of these turbines. For the good of the area, my neighbours, the life of many as well as the environmental impact that this will have. 35 years, is what I believe the life span to be. 35 years, what amount of cost in 35 years?

It is easy to remove a weevil from a grain, but hard to reverse the damage it does.

Michael Bassey Johnson, Song of a Nature Lover

Loving what is here, what is current, what is generational and wanting to protect the land, the visage of the place and keep it looking and working as it is, doesn't make us non progressive. We have seen the damage done elsewhere, we have seen the implications of what happens.