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To:

The Secretary
An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Formal Planning Objection

Case reference	ACP-324370-26
Development	Proposed Littleton Wind Farm, County Tipperary
Applicant	Littleton Wind Farm Designated Activity Company (DAC)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make a formal submission objecting to the proposed Littleton Wind Farm. I am a resident of Clonamondra, Gortnahoe, Thurles Co. Tipperary and my home and daily living environment are directly connected to the landscape in which this large-scale development would be experienced.

I recognise the importance of renewable energy and the need to reduce carbon emissions. My objection is not to renewable energy in principle. It is to the scale, siting and cumulative effects of this particular proposal, and to whether the information submitted demonstrates that nearby residents and the local environment will be adequately protected.

The application is for 11 wind turbines with an overall blade-tip height of 200 metres, together with a 110 kV substation, a permanent meteorological mast, new and upgraded internal roads, access points, construction compounds and associated works. The scale of the proposal means that its effects cannot be considered solely within the site boundary.

1. Inadequate direct notification and community engagement

I was not personally informed about this project and did not receive an invitation to attend the public information evenings or open-night events. I only became aware of the proposal by other means. This is particularly concerning because I live in the Gortnahoe/Ballysloe area, can already see the project noise-survey meteorological mast, and expect the proposed turbines to be clearly visible from my home and locality.

The applicant states that extensive consultation took place. However, my experience as a potentially affected resident was that I was not reached by that process. Website notices, mailing-list sign-up arrangements and general advertising are not an adequate substitute for direct, accessible engagement with residents who may experience material visual and noise effects. I ask the Commission to attach limited weight to claims of comprehensive community engagement where nearby residents such as me were not directly notified or given a meaningful opportunity to participate before the layout was finalised.

2. Noise and the protection of residential amenity

Noise is one of my principal concerns. I can already hear the privately owned turbine on the hill near my home, close to Ballysloe. This is a real, location-specific experience of how turbine sound carries in this area. Under prevailing wind conditions, the sound is perceptible at my property. In my view, this demonstrates why a desktop or modelled assessment must be tested carefully against the actual local topography, wind direction, seasonal conditions and background sound environment.

The proposed turbines are substantially larger and form an array of 11 machines. I am concerned about cumulative operational noise from the proposed development in combination with the existing private turbine and any other existing, permitted or proposed turbines in the wider Gortnahoe area. The assessment should address not only average sound levels, but also evening and night-time conditions, low background-noise periods, tonal features, amplitude modulation and the potential for sound to be carried towards homes by prevailing winds.

I request that the Commission verify that my dwelling is identified as a sensitive residential receptor and that the baseline monitoring locations and modelling assumptions are genuinely representative of Clonamondra and the eastern/north-eastern side of the development. If permission is contemplated, enforceable conditions should require independent baseline verification, post-commissioning monitoring at affected homes, clear lower night-time limits, assessment of cumulative noise, and an effective complaint, investigation and curtailment procedure funded by the operator.

3. Severe visual impact and cumulative landscape change

At 200 metres to blade tip, the turbines would be exceptionally prominent structures in a rural landscape. The existing meteorological mast is already visible from my location. The turbines would be much larger, broader and continuously moving features. Their visual influence would extend well beyond the immediate bog area and would affect views from homes, local roads and the wider Gortnahoe countryside.

I already see Lisheen Wind Farm. I also understand that further wind-energy development is proposed in the Gortnahoe area. The relevant planning question is therefore not simply whether Littleton Wind Farm can be viewed in isolation, but whether residents will be surrounded by or repeatedly exposed to wind-energy infrastructure in several directions. The combined effect may create visual clutter, loss of rural character and an excessive concentration of turbines within the wider landscape.

The applicant acknowledges a high-medium magnitude of operational landscape impact within the central study area and a medium magnitude cumulative impact under the current cumulative scenario, while concluding that the cumulative effect is not significant. I ask the Commission to examine that conclusion critically from the viewpoint of actual homes in Clonamondra. The assessment should include all existing, permitted and reasonably foreseeable proposals, including smaller private turbines, and should not rely mainly on distant or selected public viewpoints.

4. Cumulative effects must be assessed as a whole

The Tipperary wind-energy policy cited in the application requires consideration of cumulative impact and the effect on neighbouring residential properties. In this locality, the relevant cumulative picture includes:

- the existing Lisheen wind turbines that are already visible from my area;
- the private turbine near Ballysloe that is already audible at my home;
- the 11 proposed Littleton turbines and associated substation, mast, roads and grid infrastructure; and
- other wind-energy proposals understood to be planned in the Gortnahoe area.

These projects may be at different stages, but the combined effects on landscape, noise, shadow flicker, ecology, traffic and residential amenity must be assessed using a consistent and precautionary approach. Project-by-

project assessment risks understating the lived experience of residents who will see and hear the combined infrastructure.

5. Shadow flicker and rotating-blade effects

Given the height and rotor diameter of the proposed turbines, I am concerned about shadow flicker and the wider visual disturbance caused by moving blades, particularly when the sun is low. I ask the Commission to confirm whether my home has been individually assessed, rather than relying only on broad modelling assumptions.

Any permission should require zero shadow flicker inside occupied dwellings, automatic turbine shutdown where necessary, verification after commissioning, and a binding response procedure where residents report effects not predicted by the model. The burden should not be placed on residents to prove a recurring problem after construction.

6. Construction traffic, road safety and disruption

The development includes extensive new and upgraded internal roads, multiple site accesses, construction compounds and the movement of abnormal turbine loads and heavy goods vehicles. This will generate a prolonged period of traffic, noise, dust and disruption on rural roads used by residents, agricultural traffic, school transport, walkers and cyclists.

I ask the Commission to require a detailed and enforceable traffic management plan that addresses delivery routes, road capacity, bridge and junction constraints, hours of operation, convoy management, road cleaning, dust suppression, repair of damage and advance notice to communities. Cumulative construction traffic from other developments in the area should also be considered. Any route affecting the area should be assessed for local safety and amenity impacts, not merely network capacity.

7. Peatland, hydrology, drainage and biodiversity

The project site extends across a large former peatland area and includes turbine foundations, a borrow pit, drainage works, culverts and approximately 15.45 km of new internal access tracks. Works of this scale have the potential to alter drainage pathways, mobilise sediment, affect water quality and disturb habitats that have developed following rehabilitation.

I ask the Commission to apply the precautionary principle and to scrutinise whether the proposed mitigation is sufficiently specific, enforceable and independently monitored. Particular attention should be given to peat stability, flood risk, downstream water receptors, construction-phase pollution, habitat fragmentation, bird and bat impacts, and the interaction between the wind farm, grid connection and other projects. Reliance on future management plans should not replace clear evidence at the decision stage.

8. Personal use of Lough Derryvella, bogland amenity and nature

I regularly use the Lough Derryvella area for peaceful walks and to experience the nature and open character of the surrounding bogland. This is an important local amenity for me. Its value lies not only in the views, but also in the quiet, the sense of space and the opportunity to enjoy wildlife in a relatively undisturbed setting.

During these walks I observe birdlife and dragonflies, and I often hear the cuckoo. These ordinary but meaningful experiences are part of the area's distinctive natural character and contribute directly to my wellbeing and enjoyment of the countryside. The introduction of 200-metre turbines, rotating blades, aviation lighting where required, operational sound, access infrastructure and increased activity would materially change the tranquillity and natural experience of this landscape.

I ask the Commission to assess the effect of the development on recreational users of Lough Derryvella and the surrounding bogland, including effects on tranquillity, visual amenity, bird and insect habitats, and the cumulative

industrialisation of the wider landscape. The assessment should reflect how the area is actually used and valued by local people, rather than considering it only as a development site or from a limited number of selected viewpoints.

9. Duration, decommissioning and enforceability

A development of this scale will affect the area for decades. If permission is considered, the Commission should require robust financial security for decommissioning and reinstatement, clear responsibility for turbine blades and other waste, removal of foundations and infrastructure where environmentally appropriate, and restoration of affected land. Monitoring results, complaints and compliance reports should be publicly accessible throughout the operational life of the project.

10. Requested decision

For the reasons set out above, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission. I do not believe the application has demonstrated that the proposed scale and siting can be accommodated without unacceptable effects on residential amenity, landscape character and the wider environment, particularly when existing and proposed wind-energy development is considered cumulatively.

If the Commission is not minded to refuse permission, I request that it seek further information and require, at a minimum:

- property-specific visual and shadow-flicker assessment for Clonamondra;
- independent verification of baseline and cumulative noise modelling, including the existing private turbine near Ballysloe and relevant wind developments;
- strict, enforceable operational noise limits, independent monitoring and automatic curtailment where limits or special sound characteristics occur;
- zero shadow flicker within occupied dwellings, supported by automatic shutdown controls;
- a comprehensive cumulative landscape assessment incorporating Lisheen and all permitted or reasonably foreseeable proposals;
- binding construction traffic, pollution prevention, hydrology, ecology and community liaison measures; and
- a fully funded decommissioning bond and long-term compliance monitoring.

I ask that this submission be taken into account in full and that I be notified of the Commission's decision.

Yours faithfully,

Ina Webster
Clonamondra, Gortnahoe, Thurles, Co. Tipperary, E41 T0C1

Application details reviewed in preparing this submission

- Littleton Wind Farm project website: <https://www.littletonwindfarm.ie/>
- Planning application portal: <https://www.littletonwindfarmplanning.ie/>
- An Coimisiún Pleanála case reference: ACP-324370-26
- Renewable Energy Planning Statement, June 2026.