

Alison Hickey
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Bambridge
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BT32 3HS
7th August 2026

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

FORMAL OBJECTION LETTER

Dear Sir/Madam

I, Alison Hickey, formally object to the proposed planning located within the townlands of Muingmore (An Mhoing Mhór), Doolough (Dumha Locha), Tristia (Troiste), Moneynierin (Moing an Iarainn) and Bangor (Baingear) County Mayo, planning reference PAX16.324387 for a development consisting of 13 wind turbines, a 110kV substation, battery energy storage system (BESS) and all associated infrastructure & infrastructure (both temporary & permanent) by RWE.

Lack of consultation

There has been no meaningful, honest engagement with my family or the community over the proposed development. We feel completely ignored & disrespected. It does not give the community any confidence in how RWE will manage the construction if the project is to go ahead.

Effects on local communities

I was brought up in the immediate area of the proposed development, still visit family there regularly & as such I am very concerned about the effect it would have on our community.

It is a lovely, thriving area, with many people having moved back home since 2020. People enjoy the area because of its tranquillity, scenic views, nature & wildlife. Walking the country roads is often an opportunity for people to catch-up with each other & relax.

I am extremely concerned about the prospect of potential delays for the emergency services accessing the area.

Health

There is ever growing research to suggest that living within at least 10kms of wind turbines can have detrimental effects on physical & mental health. Enough is not known about flicker, infrasound & ground vibration generated by these machines. Noise & light pollution are other negative factors.

Tourism

The area relies heavily on tourism, which in turn provides jobs, if there were no tourists, there would be no jobs.

If the views & peacefulness of our area are destroyed, there will be no reason for these tourists to visit. These people visit the area because of its uniqueness, stunning coastal landscapes, walks & trails. For bird-watching & otter spotting. They come for peace & quiet, to immerse themselves in the heritage & culture of the area. They do not come to be stuck in traffic jams & view noisy, industrial windfarms which scar the landscapes. The area under consideration for this development is totally unsuitable.

Environmental Impacts

Noise pollution - from the turbines & the BESS facility.

Light pollution - from the BESS compound & aviation lighting on the turbines.

Visual impact - not only from the residential properties but from the beauty/tourist spots such as Shra Beach, Doolough beach & Claggan Island. And further afield from Blacksod, Wild Nephin National Park & Achill amongst many areas.

Birds – the migratory birds which overwinter within the catchment area of the development site at Blacksod Bay would be put at risk. As will be the birds of prey, bats, swans & housemartins.

Peat extraction – this will be devastating for the wildlife, flora & fauna. Given the area is upland it is also a huge concern it could cause flood risk to local properties & road network. Landslide is another concern following the industrial scale of peat extraction required.

Streams -- small streams run throughout the proposed site & feed into the Blacksod Bay area of the Atlantic Ocean.

The Maerl beds, protected under the EU habitats directive & the international OSPAR Convention.

Blacksod Bay – is an area of significant importance, designated as an SAC & an SPA

Contamination – given the heavy machinery that will be required to complete the works there is an alarmingly high risk of contamination from oil, diesel, chemicals etc, which would impact the peatland, streams, Blacksod Bay & wildlife.

Why should the tax-payer have to foot the bill for the grants for foreign companies to build windfarms in Ireland, the constraint payments when the national grid cannot accept the power generated by existing windfarms.

I respectfully submit that the Muingmore Windfarm project is not appropriate for this location due to the significant negative impact on the landscape, ecology, local residents & amenities, infrastructure. I respectfully ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to please preserve our beautiful area & the whole of Erris by refusing permission to RWE for the planning of this windfarm (reference PAX16.324387).

Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours faithfully

Alison Hickey.