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An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

Re: Observation on Proposed Muingmore Wind Farm Development (Case Ref: PAX16.324387)

A Chara,

I am writing to formally object to the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm. I was born in Lakefield and have lived here my entire life — it is where I raised my seven children. Our home overlooks the proposed site. Lakefield is a place of peace, beauty, and strong community spirit, and it has given my family a safe and quiet environment that I cannot imagine seeing changed so dramatically.

One of my greatest concerns is the visual impact of turbines of up to 180 metres to blade tip. The beautiful, unspoilt views around our home have been enjoyed by my family for generations, and structures of this scale would dominate the landscape and permanently alter that natural beauty. I am just as concerned about the constant noise from the turbines and the effects of shadow flicker — everyone has the right to peace and quiet in their own home, particularly in a rural setting like Lakefield, and I fear these impacts would seriously reduce the quality of life I have always had here.

The construction phase raises further concerns for me, including increased heavy traffic on local roads and disruption to residents. I am also worried about the impact on wildlife and habitats, including Blacksod Bay, which supports internationally significant wildlife, and about what this would mean for the tourism and property values this community depends on.

Having spent my entire life in Lakefield, I feel a deep responsibility to protect this area for future generations. It is heartbreaking to think that the place where I raised my family could be changed forever. Once the landscape and tranquillity of our community are lost, they cannot be restored.

I would also note that Mayo County Council adopted its Renewable Energy Strategy only the week before this letter, and in it the Council identifies peatland sites like this one as unsuitable for wind energy development, given the risks that construction on deep, waterlogged bog poses to carbon storage, water quality, and the surrounding environment. That is the Council's own considered judgement, reached independently of this application, and it is hard to understand how this development can go ahead here in light of it.

I want to be clear that I support renewable energy in principle. My objection is not to wind energy itself, but to this development being sited here, in the community where I have spent my whole life.

For the reasons set out above, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm development.

Mise le meas / Yours sincerely,

Ann Ruddy

6 August 2026