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18 July 2026

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

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

A Chara,

My name is Anna Gallagher and I am writing to make an observation on the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm. I grew up in this area and have lived in Erris my whole life. I lived in Doolough until 2016, and now live in Belmullet, in a house that looks out over the site where this development is planned.

I want to speak plainly, as someone from this community, about what this project would mean for the people who actually live here. The turbines proposed for Muingmore are enormous, up to 180 metres to blade tip, far taller than anything in this landscape. Homes are as close as around 720 metres from the nearest turbine. I am genuinely afraid of what the noise from turbines of this size will be like in the strong winds we get here on the coast, and of what living with that noise, day and night, for 35 years, will do to people's health, sleep and quality of life.

I have two children, and I worry about the future I am leaving them. Property values in the shadow of a wind farm this size will suffer, and I don't believe anyone would choose to buy or build a home under turbines like these. That is not a small thing for a family's future or for the wider community's ability to hold onto young people here.

I have spent my whole life walking the shore of Blacksod Bay. It is a rare and precious place, home to protected birds, otters, seals and rich marine life that people here have grown up alongside and depend on. I am seriously concerned that construction on the bogland above the bay, all of which drains down towards the water, will send silt and pollution into the bay during the build, harming species that cannot simply move somewhere else.

I understand that Mayo County Council's own Renewable Energy Strategy, adopted only last week, identifies peatland sites such as this as unsuitable for wind energy development, precisely because of the damage that construction on deep peat can cause to carbon storage, water quality and the surrounding environment. If the council's own strategy says this land is the wrong place for turbines, I don't understand how this project can go ahead here.

I am not against renewable energy. I want to see Ireland move away from fossil fuels as much as anyone. But this is the wrong project in the wrong place, on a landscape and a community that cannot simply absorb something on this scale without lasting harm.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm development.

Go raibh maith agaibh as éisteacht liom.

Mise le meas / Yours sincerely,

Anna Gallagher
18 July 2026