

Edward Noel Coyle
Geesala
Ballina
Co. Mayo
F26 P5X4
hpcogle@gmail.com

23 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 Edward Noel Coyle. My family has been in Geesala for generations, my parents and my parents' parents were born here, and I am one of nine siblings raised in this place. I am writing in the strongest possible terms to object to the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm, which I look directly over from my own property.

This objection is not an abstract one for me or for my family. I have six children, all grown now, who between them own property in and around the Muingmore site. I have five grandchildren, and I have set aside land for them so that they too can build their own homes here one day, as my family has done for generations before them. This development would sit over land that is not just mine, but is the future home of my grandchildren.

I want to raise something directly with the Board. In the early 2000s, this community, through the Erris Action group, fought a proposal by Glancra Teoranta to process sewage sludge at a plant in Geesala. That fight went to the High Court, and the community was proven right: the operation was found to be unauthorised. What we lived through was appalling, a foul smell hanging over the area and black soot damaging the local environment, and two of the biggest reasons that project was stopped were the environmental damage and the increase in heavy traffic on roads never built for it. I raise this because it shows this community will pursue a wrong development through every proper channel, including the courts, and I ask the Board to take that history seriously.

The concerns I have about this wind farm are, in many ways, just as serious. The noise from turbines of this height, in the strong Atlantic wind we get here, will be a constant presence in the lives of everyone living close by. The visual impact will be permanent and impossible to ignore, since I and many others look directly over this site every day. Property values for my family and neighbours will suffer, at exactly the time my own grandchildren are hoping to build their futures here. And Blacksod Bay, which this community has always depended on and protected, is put at real risk by construction of this scale on peatland that drains towards it.

This is also a significant tourism area, and I do not believe the impact on that industry, or on the wildlife that depends on this landscape, has been properly weighed against the harm this project would cause. There are alternative sites elsewhere in this country that would not carry the same risks to a community, a bay and a way of life that has been built here over generations.

I understand that Mayo County Council's own Renewable Energy Strategy, adopted only last week, has identified peatland of this kind as unsuitable for wind energy development, because of the damage that construction on deep, waterlogged bog can do to carbon storage, water quality and the surrounding environment. That is the council's own considered judgement, reached independently of this application, and I find it very difficult to see how this development can be reconciled with it.

I want to be clear that I am not against renewable energy, and I understand its importance for the country. But this site, over which my family has lived for generations and where my grandchildren hope to build their own homes, is not the right place for a project of this scale.

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

Mise le meas / Yours sincerely,

Edward Noel Coyle
23 July 2026