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18 July 2026

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
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Re: Observation on Proposed Muingmore Wind Farm Development (Case Ref: PAX16.324387)

A Chara,

My name is Edward Shevlin. I was born in Belmullet and moved to Doolough, Geesala, in 2016, and I am writing to make an observation on the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm. My home overlooks the site, and the Doolough Stream runs along the edge of my property before it makes its way down to the bay.

I am writing not as an expert, but as someone who will be living with this development at closer range than almost anyone else. My house sits just off the road above Doolough, and from what I can see of the turbine layout, I fall within the shadow flicker zone. I understand shadow flicker is not just an inconvenience but something that can genuinely affect a person's health and quality of life over months and years, especially at the scale and closeness proposed here, and I am asking the Board to look very carefully at what that will mean for a house sitting where mine does.

Turbines of the height proposed for Muingmore, up to 180 metres to blade tip, are simply not something this landscape or this community has ever had to live alongside before. Doolough gets strong, unbroken Atlantic wind for most of the year, and I am seriously worried about the noise these turbines will generate in those conditions, day and night, for decades to come. This is not a passing inconvenience. It is something people will have to live inside of, in their own homes, for the rest of their lives here.

I have spent many years walking the shores below Doolough, and I know this stream and this bay well. The Doolough Stream runs directly from this development down towards Blacksod Bay, a place that holds rare and protected wildlife, birds, otters and marine life that depend on clean, undisturbed water. I am genuinely afraid that construction on the bog above will send silt and runoff straight down that same stream and into the bay, and that species which have survived here for generations will pay the price for a decision made far from where they live.

I understand that Mayo County Council's own Renewable Energy Strategy, adopted only last week, identifies peatland such as this as unsuitable ground for wind energy development, because of the damage that construction on deep, waterlogged peat can do to carbon storage, to water quality, and to the surrounding environment. I find it very hard to understand how a development can go ahead on ground that the council's own strategy has just said should be excluded.

I want to be clear that I have nothing against renewable energy, and I think most people in this area feel the same. But this particular site, this close to homes, this close to a protected bay, on peat this deep, is the wrong place for a project of this size.

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,

Edward Shevlin
18 July 2026