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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 Fr. James Cribbin. I have lived and served as priest in this community for fifteen years, and I am writing to make an observation on the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm.

I do not write this lightly, or on my own behalf alone. Over recent months, a great many parishioners and neighbours have come to me, in the course of ordinary conversation and in quieter moments too, to share their worry about this development. As someone who has walked with this community through both its everyday life and its harder times, I feel it is part of my responsibility to bring what I have heard to the Board's attention, alongside my own view.

My own concern is chiefly for the land and the life it holds. This part of Mayo is remarkable for its wildlife and its untouched character, and it has become, in a quiet way, part of the spiritual and physical wellbeing of the people who live here. The prospect of turbines of this scale rising over the landscape troubles me, both for the creatures that depend on this ground and for the visual change it would bring to a place many hold dear. I am also mindful of what this area offers to visitors, and how much this community's wellbeing is bound up with the modest but real income that tourism brings. A development of this size risks altering the very character that draws people here in the first place.

I understand that Mayo County Council's own Renewable Energy Strategy, adopted only last week, has identified peatland such as this as unsuitable for wind energy development, given the harm that construction on deep, waterlogged bog can do to carbon storage, water quality and the wider environment. I would ask the Board to weigh that finding carefully.

I want to say plainly that I do not oppose renewable energy. I recognise our shared duty of care for creation and for the generations to come. But I do not believe this particular site, so significant to the wildlife and the character of this place, is the right one for a project of this scale.

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,

Fr. James Cribbin  
23 July 2026