

An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

CASE REFERENCE: PAX16. 324387

Re: Proposed development of Muingmore Wind Farm — 13 wind turbines, 110kV substation, battery energy storage system (BESS) and associated infrastructure, townlands of Muingmore, Doolough, Tristia, Moneynierin and Bangor, County Mayo. Applicant: RWE Renewables Ireland Limited.

A Chara,

I wish to submit the following observation in respect of the above-named planning application, in accordance with Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Article 217 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

1. MY DETAILS

Full Name

Gerry and Elaine Monaghan

Home / Correspondence Address

Mount Jubilee,

Bangor Erris,

Ballina,

Co Mayo

F26 N5R2

2. SUBJECT MATTER AND OBSERVATION

This submission relates to: (i) the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development of the area, and (ii) the likely effects on the environment and on European protected sites arising from the proposed development.

I am a resident and live in the Muingmore/Mount Jubilee area with my family within direct sight of the proposed Windfarm development. I have significant concerns in relation to its construction so close to mine and my parent's home, the visual impact on the area, the devaluation of my property of my property, the increase in traffic volume due to the construction period, the increase in noise considering we are living in a quiet scenic area with little of no back-ground noise.

The proposed turbines would be approximately 180 metres high to blade tip. These are extremely large structures, and there is currently nothing in the surrounding area that compares with their scale, height or visual dominance. In my view, it is difficult to understand how structures of this magnitude could be considered appropriate in such a scenic rural landscape. Their introduction would fundamentally alter the character of the Muingmore area and would have a serious and lasting adverse impact on local views, residential amenity and the wider landscape setting.

A recent valuation of my property has also indicated that its value would be considerably reduced if the proposed wind farm proceeds. I am further concerned that the proximity of the development could affect the prospects of obtaining planning permission for family members who may wish to live on or near the family property in the future.

I also regularly use Muingmore Road for walking and running, as do other local residents. Children in the area also use this road for cycling and for learning about the local plants, wildlife and natural environment. Once construction begins, I am concerned that the road will no longer be safe for these everyday community uses. The increased volume of construction traffic, including large vehicles, would create a serious road safety risk and could significantly increase the likelihood of a road traffic accident. I use this road regularly this construction would deter me and others residents, families and children from using the road at all. This does not appear to have been properly taken into account, particularly as there is no suitable alternative route in the village for people to walk, run or cycle in the evenings as a means of exercise, recreation and relief from the pressures of daily working life.

The local area contains an extensive network of streams, rivers and other watercourses, which support fish species and form an important part of the wider aquatic environment. Given the scale of the proposed construction works, and the likely interaction with watercourses, peatland and bogland areas, I am concerned about the potential for sediment release, construction-related run-off and other pollutants to enter the local water network. In my view, any failure to implement effective sediment control and water protection measures could have serious consequences for local water quality, fish habitats and the surrounding environment.

As I live very close to the proposed turbines, I have serious concerns about the potential impact of turbine noise and shadow flicker on my home and daily life. I live in a quiet rural area, surrounded by nature, where existing background noise levels are very low, particularly at night. I am concerned that the introduction of large turbines so close to my home could significantly alter this quiet environment and affect our quality of life and sleep considering I have young family.

I am also concerned about the disruption that would arise during the proposed 24-month construction period. Constant construction traffic passing my home, together with irregular early start times for activities such as concrete pours, could seriously disturb our sleep patterns and have a negative impact on our wellbeing.

The application also includes a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), which raises additional safety concerns in my view. There is a significant fire risk due to the battery storage area and I would be very concerned the local fire authority would not be equipped to deal with a fire or explosion of this nature. Also, from reading the applicants documents, the EIAR does not appear to include thermal runaway modelling, an explosion consequence assessment, an emergency access and response time analysis, or a site-specific major accident and disaster risk assessment dealing with potential battery fire scenarios. Given the scale of the proposed BESS, its remote rural location, and the distance from emergency services, I believe the absence of these assessments is a significant deficiency in the application.

A further concern is that the construction of 13 large turbines appears unlikely to deliver any meaningful direct benefit to the local community, as the energy generated would be exported to the national grid. While this may be presented as a wider renewable energy project, the local area would be left to bear the visual, environmental, traffic and amenity impacts of the development. I am also concerned that this proposal could set a precedent for further wind energy developments in the area,

which would cumulatively and fundamentally alter the character of Muingmore area for future generations.

These are not minor matters for those of us who live near the proposed turbines, travel past the site regularly and spend our daily lives in this area. The impacts would be directly experienced by local residents and the wider community, including effects on residential amenity, road safety, the local landscape and the surrounding natural environment. For these reasons, I believe the proposed development would have a serious and detrimental impact on my family, neighbouring residents, the local road network and the character of the Muingmore area.

3. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm development.

Mise le meas / Yours sincerely,

Gerry and Elaine Monaghan

Signature / Print Full Name

Date 04-08-2026