

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my profound disappointment and deep concern regarding the RWE Renewables Ireland proposal for the Muingmore Wind Farm in Erris, County Mayo. Erris is globally recognized for its untouched natural beauty, wild landscapes, and unique ecological heritage. While I understand the national transition toward renewable energy, this specific development threatens to irreversibly destroy the very visual and natural charm that makes our region unique. At nearly 200 metres high, these 13 industrial turbines will completely overpower the delicate topography of the Wild Atlantic Way. I am particularly alarmed by the following elements of the Muingmore proposal submitted to An Bord Pleanála:

Destruction of Peatlands: The site consists heavily of healthy bogland. Pouring mass amounts of concrete into the ground to build turbine bases and internal access roads will permanently disrupt the hydrology of the peatlands. This risks blocking natural drainage, altering water catchments, and destroying a vital, active carbon sink.

Light Pollution from Storage: The inclusion of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) introduces severe industrial lighting into an otherwise pristine, dark-sky area. The constant light pollution from security and operational lighting at this facility will scar the local nightscape and disrupt native wildlife nocturnal patterns.

Economic Blow to Eco-Tourism: The community relies heavily on sustainable tourism. Industrialization of this sensitive landscape directly undermines the appeal of Erris to visitors seeking escape in our raw, untouched environment. The local community feels deeply let down that economic and corporate targets are being prioritized over local ecology, heritage, and family homes. We feel our voices have been entirely sidelined in a process that will permanently scar our home. I urgently request that your department reviews the zoning for wind energy projects in Erris and pushes for developments to be redirected to less ecologically and visually sensitive areas. Our environment is a finite resource; once destroyed by concrete and industrial infrastructure, it cannot be recovered. Thank you for your time. I look forward to your response detailing how the government plans to protect the unique landscape of Erris.

The view from my home will be greatly affect by the sight of these turbines and I will have full view of all 13 turbines that are planned to be installed and also I will see all the light pollution from these at night too.

Thank you for your time on this matter.

Jason O' Neill

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