

**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**

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**Full Name**

John and Mary Lindsay

**Home / Correspondence Address**

Mount Jubilee,

Bangor Erris,

Ballina,

Co Mayo

F26 C2R3

## 2. SUBJECT MATTER AND OBSERVATION

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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.

We are residents and live in the Muingmore/Mount Jubilee area within direct sight of the proposed Windfarm development. I have significant concerns in relation to its construction so close to our home and its location in general considering there is no infrastructure of this type in the locality with the main windfarm and all the necessary utility connections already in place in Bellacorrick.

My concerns include the construction phase, which would significantly increase heavy construction traffic on the L1206 and Muingmore roads. These roads were not built to withstand sustained heavy loads. The Muingmore Road, in particular, is a single-lane road built on bogland and was historically supported with tree branches as part of its construction. The proposed traffic volume is substantial, including repeated movements of concrete lorries, fully laden stone lorries and other heavy vehicles over a 24-month period. In my view, this level of traffic could seriously damage the local road network and increase the risk of road traffic accidents.

The Muingmore Road is also used by local residents for walking and by children for cycling and learning about the area's plants and wildlife. The proposed increase in heavy traffic would make the road much less safe and accessible for local people, particularly children, and would further increase the risk of road traffic accidents.

As we live very close to the proposed turbines, we also have serious concerns about noise and shadow flicker. Our home is in a quiet rural area, surrounded by nature, where there is very little night-time noise. During the 24-month construction period, we are concerned that constant construction traffic passing our home, together with irregular early start times for concrete pours, would seriously disrupt our sleep patterns and affect our wellbeing. Our grandchildren also stay with us, and we are particularly concerned about the potential impact of turbine noise and shadow flicker on their sleep and daily lives, especially given the low existing background noise levels in this area. Due to our proximity to the proposed turbines, we are also concerned that shadow flicker could cause adverse effects such as headaches or, in sensitive individuals, seizures.

The locality contains an extensive network of streams and rivers that support a variety of fish species and form part of the wider aquatic environment. Given the scale of the proposed construction and its likely interaction with watercourses and bogland areas, I am concerned that inadequate sediment control or construction-related run-off could pollute the local water network.

I am also quite concerned about the level of engagement the community has received from RWE. My understanding is that residents were to be kept informed and updated on the survey and construction process. However, it appears that RWE has given little regard to this village and has sought to progress the proposal without meaningful engagement with local people. Information leaflets were generally delivered through postboxes, and public information meetings were limited. Where engagement did take place, individuals present were often unable to answer meaningful queries from residents.

I understand that RWE is a large commercial organisation and that a small rural community may not be high on its list of priorities. However, families have lived in this community for generations, with family homes passed down to sons and daughters. It is deeply concerning that a company could seek to proceed with a development of this scale on the basis of reports that local residents consider inadequate and with limited interaction with the community. If this is the level of engagement at the planning stage, I am concerned about how the construction phase would be managed, particularly given the number of sensitive receptors in the surrounding area.

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.

These are not minor matters for residents who will live near the turbines, travel past them regularly and spend their daily lives in the area. For these reasons, I believe the proposed development would have a detrimental impact on us, on local residents, on the wider community, on the road network, on the landscape and on the surrounding environment.

### **3. CONCLUSION**

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

**Mise le meas / Yours sincerely,**

John and Mary Lindsay

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**Signature / Print Full Name**

**Date 04-08-2026**