

*Mr Martin Munnelly
Mrs Ann Marie Munnelly
Tristia,
Mount Jubilee,
Bangor Erris,
Ballina,
Co Mayo
F26V006*

Re: Planning Observation on Proposed Muingmore Wind Farm Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála Case Reference: **PAX16.324387**

Dear sir/madam

I wish to object to the Muingmore Wind Farm (Case Reference: PAX16.324387) on behalf of myself, Ann Marie Munnelly (nee Ruddy, Muingmore), and my husband, Martin Munnelly, Mount Jubilee, Bangor Erris, Ballina, Co. Mayo.

Our House is identified at House 32 in the application documentation, and we are approximately 1.5 kilometers from the nearest proposed wind turbine and then 2.7km kilometers from the proposed Battery Energy Storage System. Our home is situated on a rise beside Mount Jubilee hill, and overlooks the site of the proposed development, from our Home we have extensive Views of Blacksod Bay and the villages on the Erris peninsula , along with Geesala, Dooyork, Meadoran, Doolough , Sraigh and Muingmore to name a few, At Night we often look out and can see all the lights of these villages along with the Lighthouse in Blacksod,

We have been settled in Mount Jubilee (Tristia) for close to forty years. My husband was born here and his family have long connections to the village. I myself am from the village of Muingmore, and have lived in the area all of my life. We extensively renovated my husband's childhood home to raise our family of four children, and we feel a deep sense of connection to our homeplace and community. Our eldest son and his wife will soon complete their home nearby in Muingmore..

We are by no means opposed to the growth of renewable energy or the need to adjust in order to protect the environment and climate. We take the responsibility of our lands and the varied wildlife which populate it very seriously. My husband pays attention to the yearly comings and goings of birds and other creatures and their numbers. We preserve a large area of wetlands in our fields to ensure that aggressive farming does not disturb habitats, and we allow long grass and wildflowers to grow wherever possible to encourage biodiversity.

However, the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm threatens all that we hold dear about this area and community. There are a number of reasons for this; some are personal, but most are based on our legitimate concerns regarding the practicality of the proposal.

The scale of this proposal is vast. It proposes 13 turbines with a height of 180 metres, a 110kv substation and battery energy storage system. In addition to this is the infrastructure required to build and maintain such a large development. The scale of the project would devour the locality, with wind turbines towering over the landscape and forever altering the peaceful untouched character which residents and visitors alike enjoy. Tourism, which is essential to the local economy, would also be negatively impacted by the altering of the natural landscape.

The proposed BESS compound—spanning approximately 156m by 153m by 99m with a 2.6m high palisade fence—includes 120 battery containers and 15 inverter/power conversion containers. This raises the concerns regarding the safety of such a potentially dangerous development in regards to fire and emergency response.

The impact of the development on the habitats of many species, as well as the waterways which sustain them is likely to be disastrous. The report acknowledges the presence of many bird species in and around the site, but the impact on flight paths and collision risk, feeding/breeding habitat loss and displacement requires comprehensive assessment. Mammals such as bats and otters are also present, and these face similar threats to their numbers and survival.

The area has a rich historical and cultural heritage, with many sites dating to neolithic and megalithic times. The remains of a Crannóg (RMP MA025-004) are located within the proposed site. On our lands there is a recorded and surveyed Megalithic Court Tomb (MA026-002001) which was likely constructed to align with the view which the windfarm would occupy. The area in which the wind farm is proposed is rich in local folklore. The impact which the development could have on unrecorded or undiscovered archaeological sites would be irreversible as blanket bog is known to preserve materials buried beneath it, and the weight of the turbines and aggressive excavation of the site necessary would destroy potential finds.

The proposed development will have immediate consequences for the community. Narrow local roads are not suitable for the volume of heavy vehicles which would travel them. These could cause dangerous obstructions and accidents involving locals, who use them responsibly to travel to work and school everyday. The impact that a windfarm of this scale would have on local residents is undeniable. The operation of the turbines will cause noise and shadow flicker, and disrupt daily life and rest. The aviation lights necessary will also mark the night skies. Day and night, the landscape will be dominated.

It must be noted that this proposal is in conflict with Mayo County Council's County Development Plan 2022-2028, Variation No. 2 (Renewable Energy Strategy) adopted on 13 July 2026. In Chapter 10 of the applicant's EIAR the site is acknowledged to be 'unsuitable' for wind energy development. This is a clear contravention of the current

and operative development plan. Under Section 37(2)(b) of the Planning and Development Act, An Coimisiún Pleanála should not approve a plan which does not establish extraordinary justification for its contravention - The applicant has failed to do this.

As Previously mentioned Our Home is Identified as House 32 in the Flicker report, this is a direct concern to us as our home is on a rise, We would need to know how this would affect us in our own home, it is a big worry to us what we may endure should this project take place.

It is clear that the application, when viewed objectively, has many issues, vagaries and oversights, which is truly worrying considering the scale of the development proposed.

Taking all of these points into careful consideration, we respectfully ask that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for Case PAX16.324387.

Sincerely,

Martin Munnelly

Ann Marie Munnelly