

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

CASE REFERENCE 324387

Re: Proposed development of Muingmore Wind Farm — 13 wind turbines, 110kV substation, battery energy storage system (BESS) and associated infrastructure at the 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). [pleanala](#)

1. My details

Full Name: Mary Ruddy

Address: Muingmore, Bunnahowen, F26 ARX4

2. Subject matter and observation

This submission relates to:

- the implications of the proposed development for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, and
- the likely effects on the environment and on European protected sites arising from the proposed development.

I am extremely sensitive to noise, to the point that I cannot tolerate something as small as a clock ticking in the background. The continuous and intermittent noise from 13 industrial-scale wind turbines and associated infrastructure would severely affect my daily life, my sleep and my mental health.

Our grandson, who has sensory issues, comes to stay with us for respite several times a year, often for weeks at a time. Our home is one of the few places where he can truly unwind, away from overwhelming sensory input, and this quiet environment is an important part of his therapy and his mental wellbeing. Introducing constant turbine noise and other disturbances into this environment would directly undermine his respite and his health.

I live directly beside the proposed turbine site. The shadow flicker from these large structures will intrude into my home and garden and will have a serious impact on my mental health and that of my family. The idea of living with moving shadows crossing our windows and outdoor spaces on a regular basis fills me with dread and anxiety.

I am also deeply concerned about the impact on the value of our home. I have been advised by auctioneers and by people in similar situations that properties close to such developments can lose a very significant proportion of their value, in some cases up to 40%, even before an application is decided. This house is the result of a lifetime of work; the prospect of such a loss feels both unfair and frightening.

I understand that Mayo County Council's own Renewable Energy Strategy identifies peatland sites such as this as unsuitable for wind energy development, precisely because construction on deep peat can damage carbon storage, water quality and the wider environment. If the council's own strategy says that this type of peatland is the wrong place for turbines, I cannot understand how this project can be considered appropriate here.

I want to be very clear: I am not opposed to renewable energy. I strongly support Ireland moving away from fossil fuels and playing our part in tackling climate change. However, this particular development is the wrong project in the wrong place. It is being proposed on a vulnerable peatland landscape and within a small rural community that cannot absorb something on this scale without suffering long-term environmental damage and serious harm to residents' quality of life.

My connection to this area

I was born in Belmullet and chose to make my home here in Muingmore for its peace and tranquillity. I have invested years of hard work, care and personal savings into creating a home and a way of life in this quiet rural setting. I did so in the expectation that this would remain a place where I could live in calm surroundings, close to the landscape and community I know and love.

What worries me most about this proposal is that it will permanently change the character of this area from a peaceful rural community into an industrial wind farm landscape. I fear the constant noise, the moving shadows, the visual dominance of the turbines on the skyline, the potential impacts on water and wildlife, and the significant reduction in our property value. Above all, I fear losing the peace and security of my home, for myself, my family and my grandchildren.

3. Conclusion

For all of the reasons set out above, I respectfully but firmly request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm development.

Mise le meas / Yours sincerely,

Mary Ruddy

18th July 2026