

An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin1

Date:24/7/2026

RE: Formal Planning Objection/Observation

-Planning Reference: PAX16.324387

-Proposed Development:13 wind turbines (180-metre tip height each), 110kv substation, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure at Muingmore, Doolough and Tristia townlands Co. Mayo.

-Developer: RWE Renewables Ireland Limited

-Objector: Nuala Bryan, Rathdrum, Ballynoe, Mallow, Co. Cork

I am writing to formally object to the above planning application for the erection of 13 wind turbines at Grassmeal Road. I have holidayed in this area regularly, most recently at Easter this year, and know the landscape well. I set out my grounds for objection below.

1. Visual and Landscape Impact

- The turbine, at a height of 180m, would be a dominant and incongruous feature in a landscape valued for rural character and coastal views.
- The Wild Atlantic Way beaches are untouched in the area and would be spoiled by these turbines.

2. Noise

- Wind turbines generate both mechanical and aerodynamic noise, including low-frequency noise and amplitude modulation, which can be intrusive to nearby residents and visitors, particularly at night.

3. Wildlife and Environmental Impact

- The site and surrounding area support birds and wildlife which may be at risk from collision or habitat disturbance during construction and operation.
- I request that a full ecological survey, including bird and bat activity, be completed and made publicly available, and that appropriate mitigation be secured by condition if the application is approved.
- The development may also affect watercourses, hedgerows, ancient woodland and other local habitat features which should be protected.

4. Impact on Tourism and Local Economy

- This area relies significantly on tourism, and the visual and noise impact of the turbine risks deterring visitors, with knock-on effects for local businesses and holiday accommodation providers.

Planning Policy & Procedural Concerns

Mayo County Development Plan & Variation No. 2

I note that Mayo County Council formally adopted the Renewable Energy Strategy for County Mayo as Variation No. 2 to the County Development Plan 2022–2028 on 13 July 2026, during the observation period for this application. The applicant's own

EIAR (Chapter 10) admits that the site is located within an area deemed 'Unsuitable' for wind energy development under this strategy. This development is therefore in material contravention of the current operative County Development Plan. Under Section 37(2)(b) of the Planning and Development Act, An Coimisiún Pleanála cannot grant permission for development in material contravention of a development plan without specific justification. No such Justification has been provided. The placement of 180-metre-high turbines within 800 metres of an established family home fundamentally conflicts with the protective spirit of this newly enacted variation which seeks to prevent the over industrialisation of sensitive rural and residential areas.

For the reasons set out above, I respectfully urge the planning authority to refuse this application. I would welcome the opportunity to be kept informed of the progress of this application and any committee hearing date.

Yours Faithfully

Nuala Bryan