

Kippaunagh,

Clonberne,

Ballinasloe

Co Galway,

7/8/26

Case Reference Number: PAX16.324387,

To whom it may concern,

RWE Renewables Ireland is seeking to develop a windfarm consisting of 13 wind turbines with a capacity of up to 86MW in an area located approximately 11km west of Bangor Erris and approximately 4km north of Geesala. The study area for the proposed Muingmore project comprises lands at Muingmore and Doolough measuring approximately 455 hectares. The development seeks a 35-year operational life.

I object to the proposed development for the following reasons:

Firstly, the landscape of North Mayo is recognised globally for its geological, environmental, cultural and tourism significance. Bangor Erris is located in the broader regional area of the Wild Atlantic way and Wild Nephin National Park. No tourist wants to visit a landscape filled with industrial wind turbines. The wind turbines for the Muingmore project will impact every person and business in the Erris region. Given that one in ten people in Ireland work in tourism the proposed development will have a negative impact on jobs and the economy of North Mayo.

Secondly, the new iteration of Our Rural Future 2026-2031 is currently being finalised by our government. based on four Core Pillars as follows:

Pillar One: Thriving Rural Places

Support rural towns, villages and communities to become more vibrant, well connected, and inclusive places, with quality infrastructure, housing and services that support economic and social development and a high quality of life.

Pillar Two: A Strong and Diverse Rural Economy

Foster a strong and diverse rural economy that provides employment, supports enterprise and innovation, and harnesses the unique strengths of rural Ireland across traditional and emerging sectors.

Pillar Three: Resilient Rural Communities

Build resilient rural communities that are inclusive, connected and empowered – with strong local organisations, safe and welcoming places, and opportunities for all to participate in community life, nurture traditions, and celebrate language, culture and heritage.

Pillar Four: A Greener Rural Future

Support rural communities to lead in climate adaptation and sustainability, ensuring a fair transition to a climate-neutral future while building resilience to climate impacts, protecting livelihoods, enhancing biodiversity and creating new opportunities for growth.

The proposed development is contrary to all the above pillars.

Thirdly, the proposed development is contrary to the CLIMATE ACTION AND LOW CARBON DEVELOPMENT ACT 2015 REVISED which states

2. F4[Nothing in this Act, a climate action plan, a national long term climate action strategy, a national adaptation framework, a sectoral adaptation plan, a carbon budget, a sectoral emissions ceiling or a local authority climate action plan] shall operate to affect—

(a) existing or future obligations of the State under the law of the European Union, including—

(i) Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of

the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment,

(ii) Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora,

(iii) Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 establishing a scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Community and amending Council Directive 96/61/EC, and

(iv) Decision No. 406/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the effort of Member States to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to meet the Community's greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments up to 2020,

(b) existing or future obligations of the State under any international agreement,

The landscape of North Mayo comprises blanket bog and mountainous terrain and covers a vast uninhabited and unspoilt wilderness dominated by the Nephin Beg Mountains. Active blanket bog is designated as a priority natural habitat type under the Habitats Directive. The proposed development would have a permanent, negative, irreversible effect on this beautiful rugged landscape.

As referred to at Art. 6(3) of the Habitats Directive.

The effect relates not to every aspect of a particular site, but to the effect that would be had on the site's coherence with the Natura 2000 network.

The integrity of a site is defined in the Managing Natura 2000 sites guidance as:

“the coherence of the site’s ecological structure and function, across its whole area, or the habitats, complex of habitats and/or populations of species for which the site is or will be classified”

Integrity is to be considered over the short, medium and long term.

I wish to reiterate my objection to the proposed windfarm.

Patricia McGann