

Phyllis Moran
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My name is Phyllis Moran and I have a home in Geesala, County Mayo. I am deeply concerned about the proposed Muingmore Windfarm ref PAX16.324387. The concerns outlined below need to be addressed before any decision is made regarding this proposal.

I am writing as someone who has lived in this area all my life and who cares deeply about its future. I appreciate the importance of renewable energy and understand that Ireland needs to increase its use of clean electricity. However, I believe this particular development is in the wrong location, and I respectfully ask that planning permission be refused.

My main concern is the visual impact of the proposed turbines. At almost 180 metres high, they would become the dominant feature of the landscape and permanently change the character of this part of Erris. One of the greatest strengths of our area is its unspoilt scenery, open bogland and Atlantic views. These are not just important to local people—they are also a major reason why visitors come here. As part of the Wild Atlantic Way, this area has built its reputation on its natural beauty and sense of remoteness. I believe a large industrial-scale wind farm would damage that appeal and could have a lasting impact on local tourism and the businesses that depend on it. Similar planning decisions elsewhere in Ireland have recognised that the visual impact of large wind farms on scenic landscapes and Wild Atlantic Way routes can be a legitimate planning concern.

I am also very concerned about the proposed Battery Energy Storage System. This is not a small addition to the project but a substantial industrial installation alongside the turbines. While I understand that battery storage has an important role in supporting renewable energy, I have concerns about the potential risks if something were to go wrong. In particular, I would like reassurance about fire safety, the ability of local emergency services to deal with any incident, and the possible environmental effects if contaminated firefighting water or pollutants were to enter nearby streams or bogland. These concerns deserve careful examination before any decision is made.

I am also concerned about the impact the noise, shadow flicker and light will have on our community. The combined effects of noise, shadow flicker and artificial light could interfere with sleep and relaxation, increase annoyance or anxiety, and diminish residents' sense of peace and control over their surroundings. Children, older people, shift workers and individuals who are particularly sensitive to noise, light or disrupted sleep may experience greater effects. Livestock, pets and wildlife could also be disturbed by unfamiliar noise, moving

shadows and nighttime lighting, potentially affecting resting, feeding or movement patterns. Even where individual effects remain below formal limits, their **combined and recurring impact** could materially reduce residential amenity, rural tranquillity and quality of life.

Finally, I worry that granting permission for this project could make it much easier for further expansion in the future. Even if this proposal is considered acceptable on its own, it may create a precedent for additional turbines or associated infrastructure over time. The cumulative impact of developments can be much greater than the impact of any single project, and this is something planning authorities are expected to consider. I fear that what is now being presented as one development could gradually lead to the industrialisation of a much larger area, changing the landscape beyond recognition.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for the proposed development. I believe that protecting the unique landscape, the tourism potential and the long-term character of this area is in the best interests of both the local community and future generations.