

An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

CASE REFERENCE: PAX16. 324387

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

1. MY DETAILS

Full Name

Ronan & Helen Cuffe

Home / Correspondence Address

Mount Jubilee,

Bangor Erris,

Ballina,

Co Mayo

F26 V2V3

2. SUBJECT MATTER AND OBSERVATION

This submission relates to: (i) the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development of the area, and (ii) the likely effects on the environment and on European protected sites arising from the proposed development.

I am a resident of the Muingmore/Mount Jubilee area and will live close to the proposed wind farm development, with direct views of the turbines. I have significant concerns about a development of this scale being located so close to my home and my parents' home, particularly as there is currently no wind farm in our immediate locality. The nearest wind farm is at Bellacorrick, where the necessary infrastructure is already in place.

My main concerns include the construction phase, Wildlife, effects on the existing water courses and nearby receptors, noise and flicker from the turbines and also the general deterioration of the road network and the increase in traffic during the construction period.

The local roads are built on bogland and were historically supported using tree branches as part of their construction make-up. The proposed volume of construction traffic is significant, and Muingmore Road in particular is a single-lane road that is not designed to accommodate repeated movements by concrete lorries, fully laden stone lorries and other heavy vehicles over a 24-month construction period. In my view, this level of traffic could cause serious deterioration of the road network and increase the risk of road traffic accidents. I also have significant concerns about the suitability of the L1206 and Muingmore Road, known locally as the Grassmeal Road, to serve the proposed wind farm during the construction period.

The locality contains an extensive network of streams and rivers that support a variety of fish species and form part of the wider aquatic environment. Given the scale of the proposed construction works and their likely interaction with watercourses and bogland areas, I am concerned that inadequate sediment control or construction-related run-off could result in pollution of the local water network.

I also use the Muingmore Road for walking and running including local residents and the neighbouring children for cycling and learning about the area's plants and wildlife. Once construction commences, I will not be able to use this road as it will become too dangerous and would lead to a road traffic accident. The amount of traffic on this road will also deter everyone from using it. This

hasn't been taken into consideration by anyone and there is no alternative route in this village for people to walk or run in the evenings to get a release from the working environment. Also this my/our main road for getting to the town of Belmullet.

My child is also growing up in the area, and I am particularly concerned about the possible effects of shadow flicker and sound transmission on him and the wider children in the area. Side effects have been noted on other Windfarms which include disturbance to sleep patterns. These concerns are especially important in a quiet rural setting where existing background noise levels are low.

A recent valuation of my property has also indicated that its value would be considerably reduced if the proposed wind farm proceeds. I am further concerned that the proximity of the development could affect the prospects of obtaining planning permission for future generations who may wish to live on or near the family property.

In addition to the construction-related concerns, I am concerned that the proposed development would materially alter the character of this rural area and the way local residents use and experience it. The issues raised below are therefore not only technical planning matters, but also matters affecting day-to-day residential amenity, safety and quality of life.

These are not minor matters for residents who will live near the turbines, travel past them regularly and spend their daily lives in the area. For these reasons, I believe the proposed development would have a detrimental impact on me, my family, local residents, the wider community, the road network, the landscape and the surrounding environment.

3. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the proposed Muingmore Wind Farm development.

Mise le meas / Yours sincerely,

Ronan & Helen Cuffe

Signature / Print Full Name

Date 05-08-2026