

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

Sean Gaughan

Home / Correspondence Address

Muingmore,

Bunnahowen

Belmullet,

Co Mayo

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 area and my home is located approximately 1,300 metres from the nearest proposed turbine, with a direct line of sight to the development. My family and I returned from the UK in 1996 to live in the family home in Muingmore and to work locally. This is therefore not an abstract issue for me; it directly affects my home, my family, and my daily life in the area.

I have significant concerns about the proposed development, including noise pollution, shadow flicker, the proximity of the turbines to my home, potential health impacts, and the risk of pollution to local watercourses, streams, boglands and the wider bay environment.

Our grandchildren are also growing up in the area, and we are particularly concerned about the possible effects of shadow flicker and sound transmission on young children, including disturbance to sleep patterns. These concerns are especially important in a quiet rural setting where existing background noise levels are low.

These are not minor matters for residents who will live beside the turbines, travel past them regularly, and spend their daily lives in the area. Shadow flicker can be highly disturbing, and turbine noise has the potential to affect health, peace, enjoyment of my home, and overall quality of life. Given that the proposed turbines would remain in place for many years, the visual impact of large turbines, moving blades, mechanical noise and possible night-time lighting would fundamentally alter the character of this quiet rural area and of my property.

The locality contains an extensive network of streams and rivers that support a variety of fish species and contribute to the wider aquatic environment. Given the scale of construction proposed and the likely interface with watercourses and bogland areas, I am concerned that inadequate sediment control or construction-related run-off could lead to pollution of this existing water network.

I also have significant concerns about the suitability of the local road network serving the proposed wind farm, including the L1206 and the Muingmore Road, also known locally as the Grassmeal Road.

These roads are built on bog and, historically, were supported using tree branches as part of their construction make-up. The proposed volume of construction traffic is significant, and the Muingmore Road in particular is a single-lane road that is not designed to accommodate repeated movements of 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.

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.

For these reasons, I believe the proposed development would have a detrimental impact on local residents, the 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,

Sean Gaughan

Signature / Print Full Name

Date 04-07-2026