



Re: Observations: Planning Ref: UA16324429 Curraghfadda Wind Farm Sub-Station

We wish to make the following observations in relation to the above planning application further to public meeting held in Mayo Abbey recently. We now put forward the concerns of the community who oppose this application.

- 1) This application is within 2 miles from the historic village of Mayo Abbey where our County of Mayo got its name. It has 1500 years of history.
- 2) The proposed erection of 4 Acres Sub-Station to service to erect Wind Turbines at Knocknakill, Culnafadda, Knockroe, Cloonbaul villages in this historic area beggars belief.
- 3) We attended a public meeting in Mayo Abbey, and the local residents are irate at the prospect of their local, historic, farming and scenic are being destroyed for ever by such a proposal.
- 4) The overall development will be detrimental to the future tourist development of Mayo Abbey as a future world and national attraction.
- 5) The issue of large infrastructure is of particular impact on some local residents who have spent heavily on their homes.
- 6) There is much concern locally as to the impact on the local ecology and protected species.
- 7) The issue of ground water and disturbance of local lands is of major importance to the local farming community.
- 8) It is also estimated that the groundwater and private water sources will be significantly impacted.
- 9) We have listened to the genuine concerns of the local community, and we agree that their concerns are most relevant in this area.
- 10) There is a serious issue with knotweed scattered all over the proposed application area and further disturbance of this will infest the local area further.
- 11) This historic area is totally unsuitable for such a development due to its proximity to the family homes of local residents and local business interests including farming.

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Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council



- 12) The rural unspoilt character of the area will be forever impacted by 160 metres turbines which will be visible for 10-20 miles.
- 13) This area is no place for industrial scale wind energy development and would be more in keeping with Solar Farm development.
- 14) As two Local Co. Councillors we fully appreciate the concerns of the local community and local organisations, and we suggest that this area should not be spoilt for generations to come.
- 15) The proposal for a C.4-acre grid connection unit is the type of development that this area cannot sustain in this unique area.
- 16) We request the protection of this unique local landscape for future tourism and history.
- 17) We believe that such a development will change the face of the landscape forever.
- 18) The Mayo Abbey community have invested heavily in the village over the years with the help of Mayo Co. Council. Leader, etc and the proposed future plans for the village will be negatively impacted by the proposed Wind Farm.
- 19) The road infrastructure in this rural community is not capable of sustaining such a large development.
- 20) The proposed community allocation yearly by the company to local organisations is nothing short of pittance taking into account the return for the promoters over 25-30 years.
- 21) Historical areas like Mayo abbey deserve special attention and consideration in all future strategy we respectfully submit the legitimate concerns of the community.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr. Richard Finn
Mayo Co. Council
Claremorris Municipal Area

Cllr. Patsy O'Brien
Mayo Co. Council
Claremorris Municipal Area