

Re. Planning application VA16.324429

Dear An Coimisiún Pleanála,

I grew up in Knockaunakill and I wish to object to the proposed Cunlaghfadda Green Energy Ltd 110kV onsite electrical substation on the following grounds:

- Why is this substation and its cabling, needed to connect Cunlaghfadda Green Energy windfarm (PL16.501853) to the national grid, being assessed separately? What is this substation for if the windfarm does not exist?
- I am concerned that the proposed windfarm+substation development would have significant impacts on the Mayo Abbey area, which is recognised as one of the most important historic and archaeological landscapes in Co. Mayo. The wider Mayo Abbey landscape, with which I am deeply familiar, contains numerous archaeological sites and heritage features, and I do not believe that the cultural and environmental impacts of the development have been adequately addressed.
- I am concerned about the cumulative impact of the proposed windfarm+substation development. There are already five windfarms within c 10 km of the site, and I believe that the addition of even more large-scale wind energy infrastructure to the landscape, and its impact on the environment and local community, requires careful consideration.
- In addition, I have serious concerns regarding flooding and drainage within this landscape. Residents have witnessed flooding events within the wider area in recent years, including family members in Knockaunakill, and I am not satisfied that the potential effects of extensive excavation, drainage works, peat disturbance and large concrete foundations have been fully assessed.
- Finally, I note that Mayo County Council's Renewable Energy Strategy (2026) emphasises the need to balance renewable energy development with the ecological, archaeological and cultural importance of Mayo's landscape and the safeguarding of residential amenities. The Strategy also notes that Co. Mayo has already exceeded renewable energy generation targets established under the County Development Plan. I therefore question whether this development is appropriate at all.

For the reasons outlined above, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse planning permission for the proposed Cunlaghfadda Green Energy Ltd 110kV onsite electrical substation.

Yours faithfully,

Patricia Reid

Newtown

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Co. Mayo

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