

Observation / Objection to the Proposed Crumhach Wind Farm

Dunbeakin
Templeboy
Co. Sligo
F91HFH1

29th September 2026

To: An Coimisiún Pleanála, Strategic Infrastructure Development, 64 Marlborough St,
Dublin 1. D01V902

Re: Proposed Crumhach Wind Farm, Co. Sligo

Case Reference: PAX21.324561

Dear Sir/Madam,

We wish to make a formal objection to the proposed Crumhach Wind Farm development in County Sligo.

As residents of **F91 HFH1**, we have significant concerns regarding the scale of the proposed development, its impact on residential amenity, road safety, associated infrastructure requirements and the cumulative effects on the local community. Having reviewed the application documentation, we believe that the proposed development would result in unacceptable impacts on local residents and the surrounding area.

1. Excessive Scale of Development

The proposed development involves the removal of the existing turbines and their replacement with 17 turbines having a tip height of between **176.6 metres and 180 metres**, with rotor diameters of up to **150 metres**. The development will increase installed capacity from approximately **36.1 MW to 102 MW**.

While wind energy generation has existed at this location for many years, the proposed development is fundamentally different in scale from the existing wind farms. The original turbines had a maximum tip height of approximately **75 metres**, whereas the proposed turbines will be more than twice that height.

This proposal should therefore be assessed as a significantly larger and materially different development rather than a continuation of the existing wind farm.

2. Impact on Residential Amenity

The applicant states that the turbine layout has been designed using a **720-metre sensitive receptor buffer** and a setback equivalent to four times turbine tip height.

However, compliance with a minimum setback distance does not automatically ensure protection of residential amenity. Given the exceptional height and scale of the proposed turbines, we are concerned that the development will have a significant visual impact on our home and nearby residents, this will fundamentally alter the rural character of the area.

The presence of turbines up to 180 metres in height near established rural dwellings will result in visual dominance within the landscape and an unacceptable loss of residential amenity.

3. Noise and Quality of Life

We are concerned regarding the potential impact of operational noise arising from turbines of this scale.

Although the applicant states that compliance with applicable noise guidelines can be achieved, the proposed turbines are significantly larger than those currently operating on the site. Continuous turbine noise, amplitude modulation and associated operational effects can materially affect quality of life, particularly during evening and night-time periods when background noise levels are low.

The Board should carefully assess whether the proposed mitigation measures are sufficient to protect nearby residents over the proposed 35-year operational life of the development.

4. Construction Traffic and Road Safety

We have serious concerns regarding the impact of construction traffic on local roads and communities.

The application confirms that extensive accommodation works are required on the **N59, L2702** and **L6309** to facilitate turbine deliveries and abnormal loads. The development will require substantial movements of heavy goods vehicles, construction plant and contractor traffic over an extended period.

Particular concern arises in relation to our local road the **L6308** and surrounding road network serving homes, farms and local residents. These roads are regularly used by children, pedestrians, cyclists and agricultural vehicles and are not designed to accommodate sustained levels of heavy industrial traffic.

The resulting increase in traffic volumes will adversely impact road safety, residential amenity and the daily lives of those living along these routes.

5. Grid Infrastructure, Dispatch Down and Network Efficiency

The proposed development must also be considered in the context of existing electricity network constraints in the west and north-west of Ireland.

According to EirGrid, **13.2% of available wind generation in Ireland was dispatched down during the first half of 2026** due to system and network limitations. This means that a significant proportion of renewable energy available for generation could not be accommodated by the electricity system.

The proposed development seeks to increase generation capacity to 102 MW and will rely on a substantial associated grid connection from the site to Srananagh 220kV Substation in Ballysumaghan, Co. Sligo. The application documentation confirms that the proposed grid

connection route will comprise underground 110kV cabling along sections of the N59, R284, R290 and local roads.

Given the scale of the proposed development and the documented level of renewable energy dispatch down, the Board should be satisfied that sufficient network capacity exists to efficiently utilise the energy generated and that the public benefits relied upon by the applicant can be fully realised.

Where local communities are expected to absorb significant visual, environmental and amenity impacts arising from a development of this scale, it is reasonable that the energy infrastructure serving the project is capable of fully utilising the electricity generated.

6. Associated Infrastructure and Cumulative Impacts

The development should not be assessed solely based on the turbines themselves.

The wider project includes a substantial underground grid connection to Srananagh 220kV Substation, extensive road accommodation works, site infrastructure, construction compounds, borrow pits and associated construction activities.

The cumulative impact of these works, combined with the visual, noise and traffic impacts of the wind farm itself, will place a significant burden on the local area and should be fully considered in the Board's assessment.

7. Public Safety

The proposed turbines will be among the largest onshore turbines currently proposed in Ireland, reaching heights of up to 180 metres.

The Board should carefully consider the findings of the project's risk assessment and ensure that adequate regard has been given to public safety, emergency response arrangements, turbine fire scenarios, structural failure risks and the proximity of residential properties to the development. The precautionary principle should be applied where uncertainty exists.

Conclusion

While we recognise the importance of renewable energy and support Ireland's transition to a low-carbon economy, renewable energy developments must be appropriately located and proportionate in scale.

In this case, the combination of:

- Turbines up to 180 metres in height,
- Significant impacts on residential amenity,
- Potential noise impacts,
- Increased construction traffic on local roads,
- Extensive associated infrastructure requirements,
- Existing renewable energy dispatch-down constraints, and

- The cumulative impact of the wider development,

raises serious concerns regarding the suitability of this location for a project of this scale.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that planning permission for the proposed Crumhach Wind Farm be refused.

A fee of €50 has being paid on submission of this observation online.

Yours faithfully,

Eoighan & Vanessa Coggins

Vanessa Coggins

Eoighan Coggins