

From: O'Brien, Michael [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday 13 November 2020 19:20
To: forwardplan
Subject: Development Plan Review

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make the following observations in relation to The Clare County Development Plan. In particular, I would like to comment on your wind energy policies and on one specific designated area for wind, the Ballycar/Cappanteemore/Gallows Hill area of Meelick.

I strongly urge you to review the designation of this area as a strategic area for wind for the following reasons:

- 1) This is not a remote area. The Ballycar, Cappanteemore and Gallows Hill areas of Meelick are now highly populated and built up areas. There are hundreds of houses in the above-named areas with many young families among them. This makes the area totally unsuitable for industrial wind turbines.
- 2) I believe that a windfarm currently under consideration for this area would be too close to existing houses. Under new guidelines due shortly turbines must be more than 500 m from the closest house. I don't believe this will be possible at this location.
- 3) The effects of wind turbines on people's health is still a matter very much open to debate. Noise and shadow flicker are concerns. This is a populated area, far more populated than other areas where wind farms have been constructed. I urge you to realise that just because there is wind in an area, other more important human factors may make it unsuitable.

I would like to thank you for this opportunity to submit my observations and I ask you to carefully consider my submission when developing your plan.

Yours Sincerely,

Michael O' Brien

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