

**From:** Robert Ahern  
**Sent:** Friday 13 November 2020 09:40  
**To:** forwardplan  
**Subject:** Development Pan 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 energypolicies and on one particular designated area for wind, the Ballycar/ Cappantymore/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, Cappantymore 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 huge 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 submission and I ask you to carefully consider my submission when developing your plan.

Yours Sincerely,  
Robert Ahern

