

Reference number : MA436 & MA443 I am concerned and saddened to hear of proposed plans to build a wind farm on Leamonaghan bog. This land at Leamonaghan should be protected not destroyed. It is recognised as an area of great historical and cultural importance with its strong links to Clonmacnoise and presence of The Pilgrim Way etc. Who knows what artefacts and links to Offaly's rich historical past could be lost forever by the inevitable destruction caused by the construction of large wind turbines. From an ecological standpoint, the bog and wetland area would serve wildlife and the local community so much better as a reclaimed and protected nature reserve for flora and fauna rather than being turned into a practical wasteland and eyesore for countless decades to come. There are viable alternatives for generating renewable energy that are far less destructive to the ecosystem, landscape and community than the plans that are proposed for Leamonaghan. Green technology is constantly improving and becoming cheaper - please do not cause senseless and irrevocable damage to the ancient boglands of Leamonaghan in the name of short-sighted and misguided "progress & development". It is for these reasons that I urge members of Offaly County Council to halt all plans for wind farm development on Leamonaghan bog. I urge you to do your duty as our representatives to protect our county's rich historical past, to preserve Offaly's unique wetland ecosystems and to honour the values and concerns raised by members of the local and surrounding communities.

Yours sincerely, Lisa Cantwell