



Board Direction

Ref:PL05.246851

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 15th November 2016.

The Board completed a screening exercise, taking into account

- the Natura Impact screening report submitted with the application in relation to potential impacts of the site having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development and characteristics of the Lough Nillan Bog SPA (Site Code 004110),
- the Inspector's report and submissions on file,
- the consolidated Natura Impact Statement dealing with the proposed grid connection and the wind farm which it serves which was originally submitted with appeal PL05E244417,

in relation to potential impacts of the proposal having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development and characteristics of the Lough Nillan Bog SPA (Site Code 004110).

The Board also had regard to the Appropriate Assessment carried out by it under PL05E.244417 which included assessment of the proposed grid connection.

The Board concluded that No Appropriate Assessment issues arise and further concluded on the basis of the information available that the application for consent for proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects including the proposed wind farm which it will serve, would not be likely to have a significant effect on a European site and in particular specific site number 004110.

The Board also completed a screening exercise in relation to environmental impact assessment that had regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development and the thresholds and criteria set out in Schedules 5 and 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2000- 2011. The Board further had regard to the Consolidated Environmental Impact Statement submitted as part of appeal PL05E.244417 which included assessment of the grid connection the subject of the present application, and to the Environmental

Impact Assessment carried out by the Board in respect of that application. The Board concluded that the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects including the wind farm which it will serve.

The Board decided to grant permission generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations and subject to the following conditions.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development, the Board considers that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would accord with National and local policies in respect of wind energy, would not have significant environmental effects or in any way undermine the fulfilment of requirements under the EIA directive or the Habitats directive, and would not have significant effects on the European Site Lough Nillan Bog SPA, in view of that site's conservation objectives. The proposed development would therefore be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Conditions

1. The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, as amended by the appeal documentation submitted on the 4th day of July, 2016, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. The mitigation measures identified in the Consolidated Environmental Impact Statement and Consolidated Natura Impact Statement, submitted with the appeal submission on July 4th 2016 shall be implemented in full by the developer. Where the conditions below require details to be agreed with the planning authority, the developer shall agree such details in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development and the development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

3. The period during which the development hereby permitted may be carried out shall be 10 years from the date of this Order.

Reason: Having regard to the nature of the development, the Board considered it appropriate to specify a period of validity of this permission in excess of five years.

4. Apart from any departures specifically authorised by this permission, the development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the permission granted on the 19th day of February 2016 under An Bord Pleanála reference number PL05E.244417, planning register reference 14/51305, and any agreements entered into thereunder

Reason: In the interest of clarity and to ensure that the overall development is carried out in accordance with the previous permission.

5. S48 Unspec

Board Member: _____ Date: 16th November 2016
Michael Leahy