



## Board Direction

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**Ref: 26.246928**

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup>, January 2017.

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

### **Reasons and Considerations**

Having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development and their locations within an existing wind farm development it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not seriously injure the visual amenities of the area and would be satisfactory in terms of environmental impact. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

#### *Appropriate Assessment*

In conducting an Appropriate Assessment screening exercise the Board concurred the Planning Inspector's analysis and adopted her conclusions. In this regard, having regard to the limited scale of the proposed works and to the nature and scale of the proposed development together with the separation distance between the sites for the meteorological masts and the nearest European site (Slaney River Valley SAC – Site No. 000781) and the lack of hydrological connection between same the Board concluded that the proposed development, individually or in combination with the existing wind farm, would not be likely to have a significant effect on Slaney River Valley SAC (Site No. 000781) or any other European site in view of the site's conservation objectives.

#### *Environmental Impact Assessment*

The Board noted that the planning authority had screened the proposed development in relation to Environmental Impact Assessment and concluded that an Environmental Impact Statement was not required. The Board noted and adopted the Inspector's

screening which also concluded that an Environmental Impact Statement was not required as the development proposed, is not of a class specified in Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended. Having regard to criteria for determining whether a development would or would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment (Schedule 7 of the Regulations refers), the Board concurred with the Planning Inspector that the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment.

### **Conditions**

1. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the Planning Authority except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions. Where such conditions require points of detail to be agreed with the planning authority, these matters shall be the subject of written agreement and shall be implemented in accordance with the agreed particulars.

**Reason:** In the interest of clarity.

2. (a) This Permission shall expire on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2032. At the end of this period and unless a further planning permission has been granted for the proposed development, the masts and ancillary equipment shall be removed from the site and the entire site shall be reinstated to its previous undisturbed condition to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority.  
  
(b) In the event of the meteorological masts becoming obsolete and being decommissioned the developers shall, at their own expense, remove the masts and ancillary equipment from the site and the entire site shall be reinstated to its previous undisturbed condition to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority

**Reason:** To safeguard the amenities of the area.

3. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer shall lodge with the planning authority a cash deposit, a bond of an insurance company, or other security to secure the satisfactory reinstatement of the site, coupled with an agreement empowering the planning authority to apply such security or part thereof to the satisfactory completion of the reinstatement, including all necessary demolition and removal. The form and amount of the security shall be agreed between the planning authority and the developer or, in default of agreement, shall be referred to the Board for determination.

**Reason:** To ensure the satisfactory reinstatement of the site

Board Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 13<sup>th</sup>, January 2017  
Paddy Keogh