



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
ABP- 300441-17

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 17/04/2018.

The Board decided to direct the road authority to prepare an environmental impact assessment report in respect of the proposed road development based on the following reasons and considerations.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:-

- (i) article 27 of the European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations, 1989 (as amended);
- (ii) EU Directive 2014/52/EU of 16th April 2014, amending Directive 2011/92/EU (the EIA Directive) on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Public and Private Projects on the Environment;
- (iii) the Roads Act, 1993 (as amended);
- (iv) the document 'EIA of Projects - Guidance on Screening' (2017) issued by the European Commission;
- (v) the document 'Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-Threshold Development' issued by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in August 2003,
- (vi) the ecological and hydrogeological sensitivity of the receiving environment, including the Annex I Priority Habitats the EU Habitats Directive, Petrifying

Springs (Code: 7220) and Alkaline Fens (Code:7230), and the Crockauns / Keelogyboy Bogs NHA (Site Code: 002435);

- (vii) the nature, scale and characteristics of the proposed road development, including significant engineering embankment and cut works;
- (viii) the characteristics of the potential environmental impacts on ecology, protected habitats, the fabric and settings of features of cultural heritage and the visual impact within a sensitive rural landscape and along a scenic route;
- (ix) the information provided by the developer to An Bord Pleanála;
- (x) the report and recommendation of the Board's Inspector.

The Board concluded that, given the description of the development and the nature of the receiving environment, the proposal is likely to have significant effects on the environment and the preparation of an environmental impact assessment report is required.

Board Member:

Date: 18/04/2018

Eugene Nixon