



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-003019-19
ABP-300998-18

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 13/05/2019.

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

Reasons and Considerations

1. Having regard to:

- (a) The location of the appeal site in proximity to Lough Beagh SPA and Slieve Beagh-Mullaghfad-Lisnaskea SPA and within the foraging range of Hen Harrier, which is the bird species of special conservation interest for the SPA's,
- (b) The potential for suitable foraging habitats on the site for Hen Harrier and use of the site by Curlew,
- (c) the absence of up to date survey data regarding the use of the appeal site by these species,
- (d) the limited information on the proposed route of the connection of the wind farm to the national grid and the potential for in-combination effects, and

on the basis of the information provided with the application and appeal, including the Natura Impact Statement, the Board cannot be satisfied that the

proposed development will not impact adversely on the designated sites, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, in view of the sites' conservation objectives. In such circumstances the Board is precluded from granting permission.

2. Having regard to:

(a) The absence of assessment of the likely visual and landscape effects of the proposed changes to finished floor levels,

(b) Policies and objectives of the Monaghan County Development Plan 2013 to 2019, in respect of European sites, biodiversity and landscape protection,

the Board cannot be satisfied, on the basis of the submissions made in connection with the planning application and the appeal, that the proposed development will not detract from the visual and landscape amenity of the area. It is considered that the proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the policies of the Monaghan County Development Plan 2013 to 2019, and to proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Board Member

Date: 13/05/2019

Stephen Bohan