



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-003545-19
ABP-303598-19

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on July 15th 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 the size of the site upon which development is proposed, to the thresholds set down in Classes 11b of Part 2 of Schedule 5 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, to the criteria set out in Schedule 7 to those Regulations, it is considered that the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment and should be subject to an environmental impact assessment within the meaning of Part X of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended. The Board has therefore determined that the proposed development would require an Environmental Impact Assessment. In these circumstances, it is considered that the Board is precluded granting permission for the proposed development.
2. On the basis of the information provided with the application and appeal, and in the absence of a Natura Impact Statement, the Board cannot be satisfied that the proposed development individually, or in combination with other plans or projects would not be likely to have a significant effect on The

Murrrough Wetlands, Special Area of Conservation (site code 002249), in view of the site's Conservation Objectives, having regard to the linkage of the proposed development site via the Knockfadda Stream to this European site. In such circumstances the Board is precluded from granting permission for the proposed development.

3. Having regard to the evidence of the presence on the site of a species listed under Annex II of the Habitats Directive, the Marsh Fritillary, it is considered that, in the absence of detailed information on the importance of the local habitat to this species and of an adequate management plan for the works, the proposed development would materially contravene policies NH1 and NH8 of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2016-2022, which seek to protect non-designated habitat sites from inappropriate development.
4. The proposed development would generate a significant volume of traffic, including a high number of movements by heavy goods vehicles, which the road network in the vicinity of the site is not capable of accommodating safely due to the restricted width and capacity of the minor country road in the vicinity of the site. The proposed development would, therefore, endanger public safety by reason of traffic hazard and obstruction of road users, and would be contrary to the proper planning and development of the area.

Board Member

Date: 15th July 2019

Philip Jones