



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-007449-21
ABP-307695-20

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 01/02/2021.

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 provisions of the Donegal County Development Plan 2018-2024, including the location of the site in an area identified as being of especially high scenic amenity, it is considered that the proposed development would fail to comply with policy TC-P-3 of the Donegal County Development Plan 2018-2024, which outlines that new telecommunications masts within areas of especially high scenic amenity are not normally favoured, and policy TC-P-6 which does not permit new telecommunications masts within areas of EHSA. Furthermore, based on the guidance contained within the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (1996), it has not been sufficiently demonstrated that special conditions apply to permit a new telecommunication mast at this location. The proposed development would therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Note:

Having regard to the provisions of the Donegal County Development Plan 2018-2024, the existing pattern of development in the area, including the rotational nature of the surrounding commercial forestry, and the nature and scale of the proposed development on an elevated site, the Board considered that the proposed telecommunications mast by virtue of its appearance scale and height on a visually prominent site within a landscape of especially high scenic amenity, would have an unacceptable impact and would adversely affect the visual amenities of the area. However, the Board decided not to include this as an additional reason having regard to the substantial reason for refusal above.

Board Member

Date: 01/02/2021

Stephen Bohan

[Please issue a copy of this Direction with the Board Order to the parties.]