



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-012090-23
ABP-310528-21

At a meeting held on the 8th May 2023, the Board considered the report of the Inspector, and the documents and submissions on file generally in respect of the proposed development of:

- 22 No. wind turbines within the following range:
 - Blade tip height of 180m.
 - Hub heights of 99m.
 - Rotor diameter of 162m.
 - Generating capacity of 154 - 198MW.
- 3 No. borrow pits.
- Peat placement areas around turbine bases.
- 5 No. temporary construction compounds.
- Overnight Turbine Component Storage Area.
- Temporary widening of existing local road to facilitate delivery of turbine components (c. 1.4km).
- Upgrade of existing forestry tracks (c. 15.7km in total) including c. 4.7km of existing private road from the existing local road to the proposed wind farm site.
- Provision of new internal access tracks (c. 12.5km).
- Security cabin at the entrance to the wind farm site.
- Site drainage infrastructure.

- Associated cabling and works.

The Board having regard to the size, scale and location of the proposed wind farm and related development, and to the policy context, it is considered that the proposed development constitutes development that falls within the definition of energy infrastructure in the Seventh Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, thereby satisfying the requirements set out in section 37A(1) of the Act.

The proposed development is also considered to be of strategic importance by reference to the requirements of sections 37A(2)(a) and (b) but not (c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. An application for permission for the proposed development must therefore be made directly to An Bord Pleanála under section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

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The Board agreed with the list of Prescribed Bodies, as recommended by the Inspector, to whom the application documents should be forwarded for their consultation and consideration:

- Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (Development Applications Unit).
- Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
- Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications.
- Mayo County Council.
- North and West Regional Assembly.
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland.
- An Taisce
- An Chomhairle Ealaíon
- Fáilte Ireland
- The Heritage Council
- National Parks & Wildlife Service.
- Inland Fisheries Ireland.

