



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Direction
CD-021602-25
ABP-310980-21

The submissions on file and the inspector's report were considered at a Commission meeting held on 18/12/2025.

The Commission noted that the applicant wrote to the Commission by date 3rd December 2025, formally seeking closure of the pre-application consultation.

The Commission determined that the prospective applicant should be notified that the consultation process is closed. Based on the foregoing assessment, the Commission concluded that the proposed development would exceed the threshold set out in the Seventh Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and therefore satisfies Section 37A(1) of the Act. It can also be concluded that the development is of strategic importance and meets the requirements of Section 37A(2)(a) and Section 37A(2)(b) of the Act.

The prospective applicant should be notified, pursuant to Section 37(B)(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that the Commission is of the opinion that the proposed development constitutes a strategic infrastructure development within the meaning of Section 37A of the Act for the reasons and considerations set out below.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Having regard to the size of the proposed Waste Water Treatment Plant and associated development, with a capacity greater than a population equivalent of 10,000 and to the policy context, it is considered that the proposed development constitutes development that falls within the definition of environmental 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) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. An application for permission for the proposed development must therefore be made directly to An Coimisiún Pleanála under section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

The following is a list of prescribed bodies considered relevant for the purposes of Section 37E (3) (c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

- Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage (Development Applications Unit)
- Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications
- Minister for Transport
- Carlow County Council
- Laois County Council
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland
- An Chomhairle Ealaíon
- Fáilte Ireland
- An Taisce – the National Trust for Ireland
- Southern & Midland Regional Assembly
- Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly
- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- Córas Iompair Éireann

- Environmental Protection Agency
- The Heritage Council
- Health Service Executive
- Commission for Energy Regulation
- Uisce Éireann

Further notifications should also be made, where deemed appropriate.

Planning

Commissioner:

Date: 18/12/2025

Chris McGarry