

Board Direction BD-009419-21 ABP-311495-21

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 11/11/2021.

REQUEST received by An Bord Pleanála on the 28th day of September 2021 from Highfield Solar Limited under section 146B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, to alter the terms of a strategic infrastructure development described as a proposed electrical substation and associated 110kV and MV infrastructure required to connect ground-mounted solar PV generation to the electricity transmission system, with associated ancillary site development work at Rathnaskilloge, Stradbally, County Waterford, the subject of an approval under An Bord Pleanála reference number ABP-304558-19,

WHEREAS the Board made a decision to approve, subject to conditions, the abovementioned development by order dated the 8th day of March 2021,

AND WHEREAS the Board has received a request to alter the terms of the development, the subject of the approval,

AND WHEREAS the proposed alteration is described as follows:

Increase of approved GIS building dimensions from 43m to 46.3m (length);
11m to 14.9m (width); and 11.5m to 14.5m (height),

AND WHEREAS the Board decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, not to invite submissions or observations from the public in relation to whether the proposed alteration would

constitute the making of a material alteration to the terms of the development concerned,

AND WHEREAS the Board decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that the proposed alteration would not result in a material alteration to the terms of the development, the subject of the approval,

AND WHEREAS, having considered all the documents on file and the Inspector's report, the Board considered that the making of the proposed alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment or on any European Site,

NOW THEREFORE, in accordance with section 146B(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Board hereby alters the abovementioned decision so that the approved development shall be altered in accordance with the plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 28th day of September 2021 for the reasons and considerations set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:

- (i) the nature and scale of the substation and associated development approved by An Bord Pleanála under Reference Number ABP-304558-19 for this site.
- (ii) the examination of the environmental impact, including in relation to European Sites, carried out in the course of that application,
- (iii) the limited nature and scale of the proposed alteration, when considered in relation to the overall approved development,
- (iv) the absence of any significant new or additional environmental concerns (including in relation to European Sites) arising as a result of the proposed alteration, and

(v) the report of the Board's Inspector which is adopted,

it is considered that the proposed alteration would not be material. In accordance with section 146B(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Board hereby makes the said alteration.

Board Member

Date: 11/11/2021

