



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-011087-22
ABP-311536-21

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 09/08/2022.

The Board decided to refuse permission, generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations.

Reasons and Considerations

1. It is considered that the submitted Natura Impact Statement is not based on best available scientific information. In the absence of adequate baseline information, including the limited extent and the nature of the field surveys undertaken, the conclusions presented in the Natura Impact Statement cannot be relied upon with scientific certainty and the information available to the Board is not adequate to allow for a complete assessment of any adverse effects of the development on the conservation objectives of the relevant European sites. Specifically, it is considered that significant effects on European sites River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA (Site Code 004158) and Boyne Estuary SPA (Site Code 004080), River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC (002299) and Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC (Site Code 001957) in view of the Conservation Objectives of these sites arising from the project individually or in combination with other plans or projects cannot be excluded.
2. HER POL 52 of the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027 sets out policy to protect and enhance the quality, character, and distinctiveness of the landscapes of the county in accordance with the national policy and guidelines and the recommendations of the Landscape Character

Assessment to ensure that new development meets high standards of siting and design. As set out in the applicable Landscape Character Assessment for County Meath (Appendix 5 of the current Meath County Development plan 2021-2027) and associated maps, the proposed development would be partly sited in Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) 08 Nanny Valley, a landscape of very high value, high landscape sensitivity and of regional landscape importance and with a recommendation to retain the current mix of land uses in this LCA. Based on the information submitted with the application and appeal, it is considered that by reason of its nature, scale and location the Board is not satisfied that the proposed development would be appropriately sited so as to protect and enhance the quality, character, and distinctiveness of this very high value landscape. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the development plan objectives and would not be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Board Member

Patricia Calleary

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Date: 09/08/2022