

Board Direction BD-012104-23 ABP-313375-22

The submissions on file and the inspector's report were considered at a Board Meeting held on the 8th May 2023

The Board decided having regard to the size, scale and location of the proposed windfarm and related development, and to the policy context, 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 Board also considered the proposed development to be of strategic importance by reference to the requirements of Sections 37A(2)(a), (b) and (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.

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 for the purposes of Section 37E (3) (c) of the Act:

- Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage (Development Applications Unit)
- Minister for Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
- Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
- National Parks & Wildlife Service
- Minister for Transport
- Irish Water

- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland
- Environmental Protection Agency
- The Heritage Council
- An Taisce
- An Chomhairle Ealaíon
- Fáilte Ireland
- Irish Aviation Authority
- Office of Public Works
- Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly
- Kllkenny County Council
- Laois County Council

Further notifications should also be made, where deemed appropriate.

Note 1: The prospective applicant should be advised to submit a standalone document (which may form part of the EIAR) with the planning application, which outlines the mitigation measures, in the interest of convenience and ease of reference.

Note 2: In addition to setting out the overall height of the turbines, the prospective applicant is advised to submit drawings and documents, including turbine dimensions, sufficient to describe the nature and extent of the development.

Board Member

Date: 08/05/2023

Peter Mullan

Board Member

Date: 08/05/2023

Peter Mullan