

An
Bord
Pleanála

**Board Direction
ABP-313557-22**

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 12/09/2023.

The Board decided, as set out in the following Order, that

WHEREAS a question has arisen as to whether works consisting of a proposed underground 10kV grid connection to connect a permitted onsite solar farm substation to the existing 38kV Castlerea substation is or is not development and is or is not exempted development.

AND WHEREAS Elgin Energy Services Ltd requested a declaration on this question from Roscommon Council and the Council issued a declaration on the 14th day of April, 2023 stating that the matter was development and was not exempted development:

AND WHEREAS the applicant referred this declaration for review to An Bord Pleanála on the 11th day of May, 2022:

AND WHEREAS An Bord Pleanála, in considering this referral, had regard particularly to –

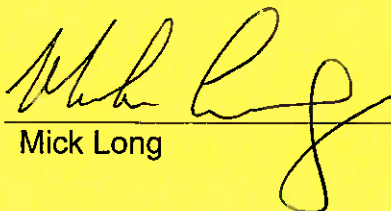
- Section 2(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended,
- Section 3(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000,

- Article 6(1) and Article 9(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 - 2023
- Class 26 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 - 2023, and
- The planning history of the site.

AND WHEREAS An Bord Pleanála has concluded that works consisting of a proposed underground 10kV grid connection to connect a permitted onsite solar farm substation to the existing 38kV Castlerea substation constitute 'development', as defined under Section 3(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended and would come generally within the scope of the exempted development provision provided at Class 26 of Part 1, Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2023.

NOW THEREFORE An Bord Pleanála, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 5(3)(a) of the 2000 Act, hereby decides that works consisting of a proposed underground 10kV grid connection to connect a permitted onsite solar farm substation to the existing 38kV Castlerea substation is development and is exempted development.

Board Member:


Mick Long

Date: 19/09/2023