

An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-014079-23
ABP-314662-22

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's reports were considered at Board meetings held on 19/04/2023 and 10/10/2023.

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

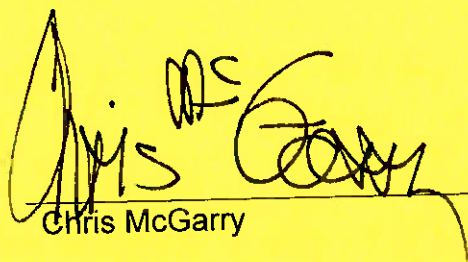
Reasons and Considerations

The proposed wind turbine is located on a site designated in an area where wind energy development is not normally permissible as defined in Map 8.2.1 of the County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024 (as varied). The proposed development would therefore materially contravene the provisions of the development plan and would be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Note: the Board noted the totality of the documentation on file, including the two inspector reports. Specifically, the Board noted the commentary of the applicant in the appeal submission received by An Bord Pleanála dated 20/09/2022 that, *'it is acknowledged that the wind turbine is in an area designated as not normally permissible....'* The adopted Variation No. 2 of the Donegal County Development Plan reaffirms this net point in terms of the subject site being in an area where windfarm development is not normally permissible and it is considered that the substance of this locational based policy issue was fully ventilated by all parties at the appeal stage. The Board considered the full grounds and reasons as set out in the first party appeal document and determined nevertheless that the overarching

policy context in terms of location was a key determinant at the time of the decision of the planning authority and remained so at the time of the Board's decision.

Board Member


Chris McGarry

Date: 11/10/2023