



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-017408-24
ABP-315059-22

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 05/09/2024.

The Board decided to refuse permission for the following reasons and considerations.

Reasons and Considerations

The Board had regard to the totality of the file including the applicant's response received on the 11th day of June 2024 to the Section 132 request.

In considering the applicant's response, the Board noted that the proposed grid connection is "an intrinsic part" of the Dereenacrinnig West Wind Farm, a separately permitted wind farm the permission for which has now lapsed. The Board concluded that the applicant had not demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Board the requirement for the grid connection in the absence of a permission being in place for the wind farm. Therefore, the proposed development in this rural setting is considered not to accord with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

In addition, the Board was not satisfied that the applicant had sufficiently demonstrated that a normal Section 34 planning application with an accompanying Environmental Impact Assessment Report is the appropriate procedure for regularising the partially-built grid connection works of 9.5 kilometres when its purpose is to connect a seven-turbine wind farm.

In deciding not to accept the Inspector's recommendation to grant permission, the Board considered it had not been sufficiently demonstrated that a distinct Section 34 planning application was the most appropriate way forward to complete the regulatory process for the grid connection as set out in the Inspector's planning assessment. In light of the additional information provided to the Board through the Section 132 request after the Inspector had prepared their report, the Board also considered the proposed development could no longer be considered in the context of a required connection to a consented windfarm.

Board Member

Eamonn James Kelly
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Date: 05/09/2024