

Board Direction BD-017331-24 ABP-315076-22

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 28/08/2024.

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

Reasons and Considerations

On the basis of the submissions made in connection with the planning application and appeal, and in having regard to the information on file, including the report of the Water Services Section of Meath County Council (dated 13th January 2023), and in the absence of a current submission from Uisce Éireann regarding the current proposal, and in the absence of a response from the applicant to the Section 132 and Section 131 requests from the Board, the Board cannot be satisfied that effluent generated by the development can be properly disposed of, or that the public foul water network has adequate capacity to ensure the development would not be prejudicial to public health.

In addition, having regard to the potential impacts on water quality that may arise from the proposed wastewater arrangements and the potential impacts of fencing along the access track, the Board considered it could not conclude that the development as proposed would not adversely affect the integrity of the Boyne Coast and Estuary Special Area of Conservation and the Boyne Estuary Special Protection Area.

Board Member Kanon James Kelly Date: 29/08/2024

Eamonn James Kelly

Note.

The Board noted the NIS submitted did not address the issues raised by the appellant concerning the potential for effluent generated by the development to enter the Mornington Stream and European Sites and did not provide clarity regarding the potential impacts of fencing along the access track. The applicant did not respond to the Board's request under S 132 and S131 to provide further clarity. With these lacunae remaining, the Board saw no transparent and reasoned basis to conclude an assessment at this time that the proposed development would not adversely affect the integrity of the adjacent Boyne Coast and Estuary Special Area of Conservation and the Boyne Estuary Special Protection Area.