

An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-012107-23
ABP-315213-22

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 development consisting of an Open Cycle Gas Turbine plant and ancillary buildings as set out in the plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 22nd of November 2022, and augmented in the updated location and layout details received 23rd January 2023 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 that the proposed development to be of strategic importance by reference to the requirements of Sections 37A(2)(a) and (b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended in that the proposed development will be of strategic economic and social importance to the state, as it will enhance the security of the national electricity supply, and furthermore it will substantially contribute to the objectives of the NPF and RSES for the area in terms of the climate change and low-carbon transition objectives of these documents. 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 recommended the application documents should be forwarded the list of Prescribed Bodies below for their consultation and consideration for the purposes of Section 37E (3) (c) of the Act:

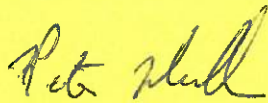
- Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage (Development Applications Unit)
- Minister for Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

- 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
- Office of Public Works
- Galway 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.

Board Member



Date: 08/05/2023

Peter Mullan