

Board Direction BD-016218-24 ABP-315655-23

The submissions on file and the inspector's report were considered at a Board Meeting held on the 02/05/2024.

The Board decided having regard to the size, scale and location of the proposed windfarm and related development, and to the policy context, it is considered that the proposed development as described above, constitutes development that 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 proposed development is also considered 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. 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
- Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications
- Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
- Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- Minister for Transport
- Tipperary County Council
- National Parks & Wildlife Service

- Commission for Regulation of Utilities, Water and Energy
- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland
- Irish Water
- The Heritage Council
- An Taisce
- An Chomhairle Ealaíon
- Failte Ireland
- GSI
- Irish Aviation Authority
- Office of Public Works
- Southern Regional Assembly
- Kilkenny County Council
- Laois County Council

Further notifications should also be made where deemed appropriate.

Note 2: 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: 03/05/2024