

Board Direction BD-012743-23 ABP-315916-23

The submissions on file and the inspector's report were considered at a Board Meeting held on the 04/07/2023.

The Board decided having regard to the anticipated energy output of the proposed thermal power station it is considered that the proposed development constitutes development that falls within the relevant definition of energy infrastructure in the Seventh Schedule of the Planning & 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), (b), and (c) of the Planning & 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 & 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 the Environment, Climate and Communications
- Offaly County Council
- Westmeath County Council
- Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly
- EirGrid
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland
- Inland Fisheries Ireland

- Irish Water
- Commission for Regulation of Utilities
- An Taisce
- An Chomhairle Ealaoin
- Fáilte Ireland
- The Heritage Council

Further notifications should also be made, where deemed appropriate.

Board Member

Date: 04/07/2023

Peter Mullan