

Board Direction BD-014093-23 ABP-316229-23

The submissions on file and the inspector's report were considered at a Board Meeting held on the 12/10/2023.

The Board decided having regard to the size, scale and location of the proposed development consisting of a 350MW Open Cycle Gas Turbine (OCGT) comprising of a single gas turbine and a single alternating current (AC) generator which may be external or may be housed within an acoustic enclosure with appropriate ventilation; an exhaust stack, approximately 55m in height, fitted with a continuous emissions monitoring system; a containerised control module housing the turbine controls and a containerised electrical module supplying power to the turbine and associated auxiliary systems; a step-up transformer; a skid adjacent to the turbine to provide final conditioning of the fuel before entering the gas turbine; forced air cooling radiators to manage waste heat from lubrication oil and other systems; and ancillary systems in containers and enclosures, 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.

Having regard to the above considerations, the Board was satisfied that the proposed development falls within the class of environmental infrastructure relating to energy infrastructure as set out in the Seventh Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. Furthermore, the Board was satisfied that the proposed development would satisfy the conditions contained in section 37A (2) (a) and (b) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended. Therefore concluded that the proposed development constitutes a strategic infrastructure development for the purposes of the Planning and Development Act.

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:

An Chomhairle Ealaíon

An Taisce

Commission for Regulation of Utilities

Cork County Council

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Environmental Protection Agency

Fáilte Ireland

Health Service Executive

Irish Water

Kerry County Council

Southern Regional Assembly

Transport Infrastructure Ireland

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: 12/10/2023

Peter Mullan

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