

Board Direction BD-018538-24 ABP-316594-23

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 20/12/2024.

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

Reasons and Considerations

- 1. Having regard to the soil conditions and the existence of bedrock near the surface within the appeal site and the high water table, the Board is not satisfied, on the totality of information provided with the planning application and the appeal, that effluent from the development can be satisfactorily treated and/or disposed of on site, notwithstanding the proposed use of a proprietary wastewater treatment system. The proposed development would, therefore, be prejudicial to public health and contrary to policy objective NHB 3 of the Galway County Development Plan 2022-28, regarding the protection of European sites.
- 2. On the basis of the information submitted with the application and appeal, with particular regard to a potential deterioration in groundwater quality as a result of the wastewater treatment proposals and the existence of bedrock within the site at or near the surface, as well as potential disturbance to habitats and species as a result of the potential groundwater connectivity, and in the absence of a Natura Impact Statement, the Board cannot be satisfied that the proposed development individually, or in combination with other plans or projects would not be likely to have a significant effect on the Connemara Bogs Complex SAC (site code 002034) in view of the site's conservation

objectives. In such circumstances, the Board is precluded from granting permission.

Board Member

Mick Long

Date: 20/12/2024