

Board Direction BD-013291-23 ABP-317326-23

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a meeting held on 17/08/2023.

The Board decided to alter the original decision in accordance with Section 146B(3)(a), generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations.

In making its decision, the Board had regard to those matters to which, by virtue of the Planning and Development Acts and Regulations made thereunder, it was required to have regard.

REQUEST received by An Bord Pleanála on the 13th day of June 2023 from Castlelost FlexGen Limited under section 146B of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, ("the Act") to alter the terms of a strategic infrastructure development comprising a proposed 220kV GIS substation and associated electrical transmission infrastructure in the townlands of Kiltotan and Collinstown and Oldtown, Rochfortbridge, Co. Westmeath, which was the subject of an approval under An Bord Pleanála reference number ABP-312783-22.

WHEREAS the Board made a decision to approve, subject to conditions, the above-mentioned development by order dated the 9th day of September 2022.

AND WHEREAS the Board has received a request to alter the terms of the development, the subject of the approval,

AND WHEREAS the proposed alteration is described as follows:

 Retention in place of an existing electricity pylon (identified as tower 152)
whose removal had previously been approved as part of the development approved under An Bord Pleanála reference number ABP-312783-22).

AND WHEREAS the Board decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(b) of the Act, not to invite submissions or observations from the public in relation to whether the proposed alteration would constitute the making of a material alteration to the terms of the development concerned,

AND WHEREAS the Board decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(a) of the Act, that the proposed alteration would not result in a material alteration to the terms of the development, the subject of the approval,

AND WHEREAS having considered all of the documents on file and the Inspector's report, the Board considered that the making of the proposed alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment or on any European Site,

NOW THEREFORE in accordance with section 146B(3)(a) of the Act, the Board hereby alters the abovementioned decision so that the approved development shall be altered in accordance with the plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 13th day of June 2023 for the reasons and considerations set out below.

MATTERS CONSIDERED

In making its decision, the Board had regard to those matters to which, by virtue of the Planning and Development Acts and Regulations made thereunder, it was required to have regard.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Having regard to:

- (i) the nature and scale of the development approved by An Bord Pleanála under Reference Number ABP-312783-22,
- (ii) the examination of the environmental impacts, including in relation to European Sites, carried out in the course of that application,
- (iii) the limited nature and scale of the proposed alteration when considered in relation to the overall approved development,

- (iv) the absence of any new or additional environmental concerns of a material nature (including in relation to European Sites) arising as a result of the proposed alteration, and
- (v) the report of the Board's Inspector, which is adopted,

It is considered that the proposed alteration would not be material. In accordance with section 146B(3)(a) of the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended, the Board hereby makes the said alteration.

Board Member

Chris McGarry

Date: 17/08/2023

