

Board Direction BD-017446-24 ABP-318306-23

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 11/09/2024.

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

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:

- the provisions of national and regional policy objectives in relation to renewable energy,
- the provisions of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028,
- the planning history and existing permitted development on the site.
- the nature and scale of the proposed development,

the Board considered that subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposal would support national and regional renewable energy policy objectives, would support the provisions of the Carlow County Development Plan particularly in relation to renewable energy and solar energy, would not seriously injure the residential amenities of property in the vicinity, would not have significant adverse impacts on the environment and would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

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Conditions

- 1. a) This permission shall be for a period of 40 years from the date of commissioning of the solar farm permitted herein. The solar farm, including solar panels and related infrastructure and ancillary structures, shall be then removed from the site unless, prior to the end of the 40 years, planning permission shall have been granted for their retention for a further period.
 - b) Prior to the commencement of development, a detailed restoration plan, including a timescale for its implementation, providing for the removal of the solar farm, including solar panels and all related infrastructure and ancillary structures, shall be submitted for the written agreement of the Planning Authority.
 - c) On full or partial decommissioning of the solar farm, or if the development ceases operation for a period of more than one year, the solar farm, including solar panels and all related infrastructure and ancillary structures, shall be dismantled and permanently removed from the site. The site shall be restored in accordance with the restoration plan required under part (b) of this Condition, and all decommissioned structures shall be removed within three months of decommissioning.

Reason: To enable the planning authority to consider the impact of the development over the stated time period, having regard to the circumstances then prevailing and in the interest of orderly development.

2. Apart from any departures specifically authorised by this permission, the development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the permission granted on 11/04/2023 under Planning Register Reference Number 22/118 and any agreements entered into thereunder.

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Reason: In the interest of clarity and to ensure that the overall development is carried out in accordance with the previous permission.

Board Member

Joe Boland,

Date: 12/09/2024

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