

Direction CD-021182-25 ABP-320900-24

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a meeting held on 05/11/2025.

The Commission decided, as set out in the following Order as set out below:

Planning

Commissioner:

Date: 06/11/2025

DRAFT WORDING FOR ORDER

The Commission decided that the proposed development **would** exceed the threshold set out in the Seventh Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and therefore satisfies Section 37A(1) of the Act. It can also be concluded that the development **is** of strategic importance by reference to the requirements of Section 37A(2)(a) and Section 37A(2)(b) of the Act. I recommend that the Commission serve a notice on the prospective applicant, pursuant to Section 37(B)(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, stating that it is of the opinion that the proposed development **constitutes**

a strategic infrastructure development within the meaning of Section 37A of the Act for the reasons and considerations set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the size, scale and location of the proposed wind farm and related development, and to the policy context, it is considered that the proposed development comprising the development of a wind farm of 10 wind turbines with MEC (Maximum Export Capacity) of approx. 72MW including on-site 110kV electrical substation on a site in the townlands of Ballinlammy, Ballyfasy Upper, Ballymartin, Ballynoony East, Ballyquin, Ballywairy, Bishopsmountain, Darbystown and Knockbrack, County Kilkenny, constitutes development that 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.

The proposed development is also considered to be of strategic importance by reference to the requirements of Section 37A(2)(a), and 37A(2)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

An application for permission for the proposed development must therefore be made directly to An Coimisiun Pleanála under Section 37E of the Act.

The Commission recommend the application documents should be forwarded the list of **Prescribed Bodies** below for their consultation and consideration

- Department of Housing and Local Government and Heritage
- · Minister of Climate, Energy and the Environment
- Kilkenny County Council
- Southern Regional Assembly
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland/ National Transport Authority
- An Chomhairle Ealaion (Arts Council)
- The Heritage Council

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- Failte Ireland
- An Taisce
- Irish Water
- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- Irish Aviation Authority
- Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine
- HSE, National Environmental Health Service
- The Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU)
- ESB
- EirGrid

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