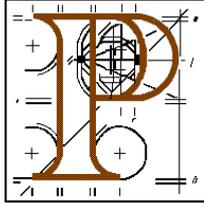


An Bord Pleanála



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 TO 2015

Waterford City and County

Planning Register Reference Number: 15/51

An Bord Pleanála Reference Number: PL 93.245211

APPEAL by Giancarla Alen-Buckley care of Reid Associates of 2 Connaught Place, Crofton Road, Dun Laoghaire, County Dublin and by Comeragh Community Wind Farm Awareness Group care of Reid Associates of 2 Connaught Place, Crofton Road, Dun Laoghaire, County Dublin and by Ecopower Developments Limited of Sion Road, Kilkenny against the decision made on the 21st day of July, 2015 by Waterford City and County Council to refuse permission to the said Ecopower Developments Limited.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Development consisting the erection of eight number wind turbines, overall height of up to 127 metres, crane hardstands, one number meteorological mast up to 80 metres in height with wind measuring equipment attached, access roads, electrical cabling, electrical substation compound, substation equipment and control building, visitor car park, borrow pits, ancillary drainage system and ancillary site works at Bawnfune/ Sillaheens/ Curraheenavoher/ Russellstown/ Boolabrien Upper/ Russellstown New Ballymacarbry, County Waterford, as revised by the further public notice received by the planning authority on the 29th day of May, 2015.

DECISION

REFUSE permission for the above proposed development based on 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. Such matters included any submissions and observations received by it in accordance with statutory provisions.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Notwithstanding the location of the site within a preferred area for wind energy in the Waterford County Development Plan 2011 – 2017, it is considered that the proposed development, by reason of its height and extent, would constitute a visually dominant feature in a vulnerable scenic landscape, as outlined in policy 6.2 of this Plan, and would interfere with the character of the landscape which it is considered necessary to preserve.

In deciding not to accept the Inspector's recommendation to grant permission, the Board noted the inherent conflicts between the wind energy policies and the policies relating to landscape and scenic routes, as set out in this County Development Plan, and considered that, in this particular location, the proposed development would, if permitted, become a dominant feature and impact detrimentally on the environmental quality and scenic landscape of the area.

**Member of An Bord Pleanála
duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.**

Dated this day of 2016.