



Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2017

Planning Authority: Donegal County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 17/50543

Appeal by Cufgaze Limited care McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan of Block 1, G.F.S.C., Moneenageisha Road, Galway against the decision made on the 2nd day of June, 2017 by Donegal County Council to refuse permission.

Proposed Development: (1) A 110 kV electricity substation which includes two number control buildings, associated electrical plant and equipment, underground electricity cabling, fencing and ancillary works in the townland of Cark to replace two substations previously permitted as part of the Drumnahough wind farm (planning register reference number 08/50687 and extended under planning register reference number 13/51609) and the Lenalea wind farm (planning register reference number 09/50116); (2) 33 kV underground electricity cabling and ancillary works from the permitted Lenalea wind farm to the proposed substation in the townland of Cark; (3) 110 kV underground electricity cabling and ancillary works from the proposed substation at Cark through the townlands of Culliagh, Meenbog (ED Cloghan), Lettershanbo, Corlacky, Kinnaderry, Welchtown, Aghaveagh, Meenagrauv, Altnapaste, Ballykergan, Carrickmahon, Magheracloigh, Loughsallagh, Cashelnavean, Croaghonagh, Tawnawully Mountains, Keadew Upper, Friarbush, Ardinawark, Keadew Lower, to the existing Clogher substation in the townland of Cullionboy, County Donegal; (4) demolition of an existing shed and its replacement

with a new shed, both in the townland of Cullionboy, relocated to facilitate the proposed underground cabling works.

Decision

REFUSE permission for the above proposed development in accordance with 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

1. The Board had regard to the following;
 - Substantial excavation proposed for the substation was not accompanied by an adequate peat stability assessment.
 - Over reliance on general design methodologies, in particular, on extensive local service roads and in areas of peat soils.

The Board agreed with the screening assessment and conclusion carried out in the Inspector's report that the River Finn Special Area of Conservation (Site Code number 002301) and Lough Eske and Ardnamona Wood Special Area of Conservation (Site Code number 000163) are the European sites for which there is a likelihood of significant effects.

