

Board Order PL 07.249156

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2017

Planning Authority: Galway County

Planning Register Reference Number: 16/1632

Appeal by Vincent Cannon and Company Limited care of Williams Planning and Environmental of Saint Roch, Windmill Hill, Rathcoole, County Dublin against the decision made on the 4th day of August, 2017 by Galway County Council to refuse permission.

Proposed Development: Development consisting of a lateral extension to an existing quarry and continuation of quarry operations including blasting, processing and use of existing access road and all existing buildings plant and machinery. Existing structures and buildings include crushing and screening plant, aggregate stores, office, weighbridge and workshop. The application provides for the installation and operation within the quarry of a ready-mixed concrete plant. The maximum height of any structure is circa 12.8 metres but all structures are below surrounding ground level. The proposed extraction within the extension area covers an area of approximately 12.7 hectares within a total application area of approximately 24.8 hectares. The application is accompanied by an Environmental Impact Statement and Natura Impact Statement, development all at Knockshangarry and Knockadikeen, Loughrea, County Galway.

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. Having regard to the flooding history in the vicinity of the site, the Board is not satisfied that the proposed quarry extension will not give rise to increased levels of groundwater and surface water egress into the quarry. It is considered that the increase in water discharge rates arising from the development has the potential to exacerbate flood risk within an area which is at risk of flooding, particularly in the absence of the implementation of the proposed flood alleviation scheme for the wider area. Furthermore, the Board considered the proposed extension to be premature pending the granting of a licence to discharge to surface waters and would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

2. Having regard to the planning history of the subject quarry, and in particular the grant of substitute consent by An Bord Pleanála, under appeal Reference Number 07.SU.0047 on the 15th day of December, 2014, and the conditions of this substitute consent, it is considered that any further development of this quarry would be premature until evidence has been submitted that condition numbers 3, 4, 5 and 6 have been complied with to the satisfaction of the planning authority.

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

Dated this day of 2018

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