

Board Order ABP-300304-17

Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2017

Planning Authority: Wicklow County Council

APPLICATION by Wicklow County Council requesting An Bord Pleanála to consider and determine, in accordance with its powers under article 120(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, whether the local authority should be directed to prepare an environmental impact assessment in respect of the **Arklow Flood Relief Scheme, Arklow, County Wicklow**.

DECISION

DIRECT the local authority to prepare an environmental impact assessment in respect of the said proposed development based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Having regard to:

- (i) The environmental and cultural heritage sensitivities of the receiving environment in the vicinity of the proposed Arklow Flood Relief Scheme with particular reference to the potential for changes to the hydrology of Arklow Marsh proposed Natural Heritage Area, works to Arklow Bridge which is a protected structure and the potential to encounter contaminated materials as well as for cumulative impacts arising from the construction of the Arklow wastewater treatment plant.
- (ii) Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended.
- (iii) The submission of the local authority.
- (iv) The guidance contained in "Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-threshold Development" issued by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in August, 2003.

It is considered that the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment and that an Environmental Impact Assessment should be undertaken.

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

Dated this day of 2018