

Board Order ABP-300603-18

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2018 Planning Authority: Galway County Council Planning Register Reference Number: 17/792

**APPEAL** by Engie Developments Ireland Limited care of McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Limited of Block 1, G. F. S. C., Moneenageisha Road, Galway against the decision made on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2018 by Galway County Council to refuse permission to the said Engie Developments Ireland Limited.

**Proposed Development:** Development of a solar PV farm to export electricity to the national grid. The development will consist of 27,602 square metres of solar panels on ground mounted frames, one number electrical control building, two number inverter cabins, a temporary construction area and ancillary facilities, boundary security fence, use of a current site entrance and creation of an additional entrance access track, CCTV security system and all associated works, all at Cahernamona, 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**

The proposed development is located in proximity to an elevated section of the national secondary road N65, at a location where particular vigilance is required, and glint and glare from the proposed development would endanger public safety by reason of traffic hazard and distraction of drivers and would interfere with the safety and free flow of traffic on the road. Furthermore, the proposed development would adversely affect the capacity, safety and operational efficiency of the national road network in the vicinity of the site which would be contrary to national policy to protect the capacity of national routes. The proposed development would, therefore, adversely affect the use of a national road by traffic and be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

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

Dated this day of 2019.