



Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2020

Planning Authority: Wicklow County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 18/1288

APPEAL by Paul Doyle of Whitehills, Grange Con, County Wicklow and by An Taisce care of O'Connell Clarke and Solicitors, Suite 142, The Capel Building, Mary's Abbey, Capel Street, Dublin against the decision made on the 30th day of August, 2019 by Wicklow County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Roadfill Aggregates Limited care of SLR Consulting Limited, 7 Dundrum Business Park, Windy Arbour, Dublin.

Proposed Development: The development will consist of an application area of 14.8 hectares; extraction of sand and gravel (dry working) over an area of 11.5 hectares with processing that includes crushing, washing (closed water recycling system with associated silt storage lagoon) and screening and all ancillary works and structures; site facilities consisting of prefabricated office, canteen facility, WC, septic tank and percolation area, bunded and covered fuel tanks, hydrocarbon interceptor, weighbridge and office, aggregate quality testing lab, wheelwash and perimeter screening berms and fencing; access to the site will be via a new splayed entrance priority junction onto the R747 regional road with relocation of the existing percolation area granted under planning register reference number 14/1370; progressive restoration of the site to an agricultural after use; the proposed extraction operational period is for 13 years plus 2 year to complete restoration (total duration sought 15

years), an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been prepared, all at a site at Ballycore Townland, Grangecon, County Wicklow.

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. On the basis of the information provided with the application and appeal and in the absence of a Natura Impact Statement, the Board cannot be satisfied that the proposed development individually, or in combination with other plans or projects would not be likely to have a significant effect on River Barrow and River Nore Special Area of Conservation (European Site Code: 002162), in view of the site's Conservation Objectives by way of an impact on the water quality and freshwater habitats of the catchment of the Barrow/Nore. In such circumstances the Board is precluded from granting permission.

2. Having regard to the extent of recorded archaeological monuments in proximity to the site, and in the absence of a comprehensive advance archaeological assessment, the Board could not be certain that the proposed development would not have a significant negative impact on archaeology and cultural heritage. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

John Connolly

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

Dated this day of 2020