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**Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2020**

**Planning Authority: Offaly County Council**

**Planning Register Reference Number: PL2/20/70**

**APPEAL** by Columb Kane care of Galetech Energy Services of Clondargan, Stradone, County Cavan against the decision made on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2020 by Offaly County Council to refuse permission.

**Proposed Development:** A ten year permission for the erection of two number wind turbines, each with a maximum height of up to 160 metres and all associated site development, access and reinstatement works; including turbine foundations, hardstanding areas, site access tracks, one number site entrance, electrical switchroom and underground electrical cabling. The combined electrical output of the wind turbines shall not exceed 4.98 megawatts. The proposed development will have a 30-year operational life from the date of commissioning of the wind turbines at Ballicknahee, County Offaly.

**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**

Objective EO-01 of the Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020 (as amended) states that it is an objective of the Council to achieve a reasonable balance between responding to government policy on renewable energy and in enabling the wind energy resources of the County to be harnessed in an environmentally sustainable manner which will be implemented having regard to the Council's Wind Energy Strategy. Policy EP-05 and Objective EO-01 of the Plan state that applications for wind energy development outside of the identified wind energy development areas will not normally be permitted. The site is not located in an area identified for wind energy development in the Development Plan. It is considered that the proposed development would materially contravene Policy EP-05 and Objective EO-01 of the Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020 (as amended) and would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

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

**Dated this                      day of                      2021**