

**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

**Board Order  
ABP-310546-21**

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**Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2020**

**Planning Authority: Westmeath County Council**

**Planning Register Reference Number: S5-8-21**

**WHEREAS** a question has arisen as to whether the industrial extraction of peat at Baltrasna Bog, Mullingar, County Westmeath is or is not development or is or is not exempted development:

**AND WHEREAS** the question was referred to An Bord Pleanála by Westmeath County Council on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021:

**AND WHEREAS** An Bord Pleanála, in considering this referral, had regard particularly to -

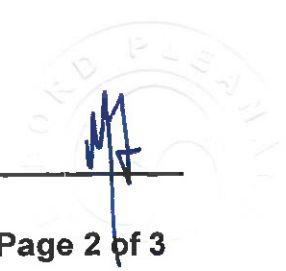
- (a) Sections 2, 3 and 4 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended,
- (b) articles 6(1) and 9(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended,

- (c) Schedules 2, 5 and 7 to those Regulations,
- (d) the planning history of the site, and
- (e) the pattern of development in the area:

**AND WHEREAS** An Bord Pleanála has concluded that -

- (a) the industrial extraction of peat is development, being both works and material change of use of land, and
- (b) the industrial extraction of peat is not exempted development, because of the location, nature and scale of the works which require both Environmental Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment:

**NOW THEREFORE** An Bord Pleanála, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 5 (4) of the 2000 Act, hereby decides that the industrial extraction of peat at Baltrasna Bog, Mullingar, County Westmeath is development and is not exempted development.



## 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.

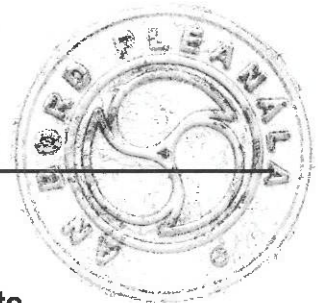


**Michelle Fagan**

**Member of An Bord Pleanála**

**duly authorised to authenticate**

**the seal of the Board.**



Dated this *20<sup>th</sup>* day of *December* 2021.