

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021

Planning Authority: Offaly County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: PL2/21/306

APPEAL by Natural Forces Renewable Energy Limited (NFRE) care of Rowan Engineering Consultants Limited of Unit 14 Scurlockstown Business Park, Trim, County Meath against the decision made on the 9th day of July, 2021 by Offaly County Council to refuse permission for the proposed development.

Proposed Development: The construction of one 4.2MW wind turbine with an overall tip height of up to 150 metres; the construction of the wind turbine foundation, hardstanding and assembly area; provision of a site entrance and an access track within the site; construction of an on-site 20kV substation and underground electrical cable and all associated site development and ancillary works at Rin, County Offaly.

Decision

REFUSE permission for the above proposed development in accordance with the reasons and considerations set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

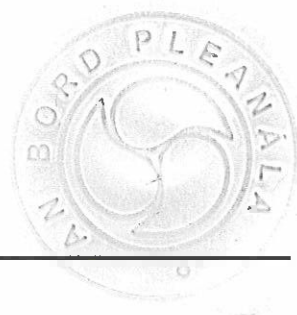
Objective CAEO-03 of the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027 states that it is an objective of the Council to achieve a reasonable balance between responding to government policy on renewable energy and in enabling the wind energy resources of the county to be harnessed in an environmentally sustainable manner. Policy CAEP-38(b) states that the Council shall have regard to 'Areas Open for Consideration for Wind Energy Developments' in the Wind Energy Strategy Designations Map from the County Wind Energy Strategy, and Objective CAEO-05(2) states that, in all other areas, wind energy developments shall not normally be permitted - except as provided for under relevant exemption provisions in the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended. 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 CAEP-38 and Objective CAEO-05 of the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027 and would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.



Michelle Fagan

Member of An Bord Pleanála

**duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.**



Dated this

9th

day of

May

2022.