

Board Order ABP-312607-22

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021

Planning Authority: Wicklow County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 21/1338

APPEAL by Vantage Towers Limited of Mountainview, Leopardstown, Dublin against the decision made on the 5th day of January, 2022 by Wicklow County Council to refuse permission.

Proposed Development: To erect a 27 metre high lattice telecommunications support structure together with antennae, dishes and associated telecommunications equipment, all enclosed in security fencing with a proposed access track at Kilmacanogue North (Td), Kilmacanogue, County Wicklow.

Decision

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

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the design, scale and height of the proposed structure in an area of outstanding natural beauty – the Northern Hills, the absence of a landscape visual impact assessment and to the inadequate justification for the structure at this location, it is considered that the proposed structure would negatively impact on the visual amenity of the area, would not be consistent with the relevant policies and standards of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2016-2022 and would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

In deciding not to accept the Inspector's recommendation to grant permission, the Board considered that, due to the lack of a landscape visual impact assessment in an area of special scenic value and the limited information provided with the application and appeal to justify locating the telecommunications mast on this site and evidence of how it would improve mobile phone coverage, the justification for such a development would not satisfactorily be in accordance with the relevant objectives and standards of the County Development Plan, and would, therefore, not be consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Dave Walsh

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

Dated this 17th day of May 2022