

Board Order ABP-312748-22

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021

Planning Authority: Roscommon County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: PD/21/221

APPEAL by Natural Forces Renewable Energy Limited care of Rowan Engineering Consultants Limited of Unit 14 Scurlockstown Business Park, Trim, County Meath against the decision made on the 20th day of January, 2022 by Roscommon County Council to refuse permission for the proposed development.

Proposed Development: The development will consist of the construction of one 4.2 Mega Watts wind turbine with overall tip height of up to 150 metres; the construction of the wind turbine foundation, hard standing 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 Kilcash, County Roscommon. Further public notices were received by the planning authority on the 17th day of November, 2021 which included a Natura Impact Statement.

Decision

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

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Reasons and Considerations

The Board is not satisfied, on the basis of the submissions made in connection with the planning application and the appeal, that adequate information has been provided on the impact of the proposed wind turbine development on the special conservation interest species for which Lough Ree Special Protection Area (Site Code 004064), River Suck Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code 004097), Lough Croan Turlough Special Protection Area (Site Code 004139) and the Four Roads Turlough Special Protection Area (Site Code 004140) have been selected. It is, therefore, considered that the Board is unable to ascertain, as required by Regulation 27(3) of the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997, that the proposed development will not adversely affect the integrity of a European Site. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to 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 30th day of Spreader 2022.