

Board Order ABP- 314078-22

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021

Planning Authority: Offaly County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: PL2/21/588

Appeal by Cellnex care of Indigo, 4Site House, Raheen Business Park, Limerick, County Limerick against the decision made on the 17th day of June 2022 by Offaly County Council to grant permission subject to conditions to Hibernian Cellular Networks Limited care of Jennings O'Donovan, Finisklin Business Park, County Sligo.

Proposed Development: Erection of a 36 metre high lattice support structure carrying antennas and dishes together with associated ground-based equipment containers all enclosed in security fencing, in the townland of Raghra, Shannonbridge, County Offaly. The proposed development was revised by further public notices received by the planning authority on the 27th day of May, 2022 including revised plans, visual impact assessment and screening for Appropriate Assessment.

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

On the basis of the information provided with the application and appeal and in the absence of a Natura Impact Statement the Board cannot be satisfied that the proposed development individually, or in combination with other plans or projects would not result in adverse effects on the integrity of European sites, the River Shannon Callows Special Area of Conservation (Site Code 000216), Middle Shannon Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code 004096) and River Suck Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code 004097), in view of the sites' Conservation Objectives, having regard to potential hydrological connectivity with the River Shannon Callows Special Area of Conservation (Site Code 000216) and the Middle Shannon Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code 004096) and having regard to the possibility that the development might pose a collision risk to qualifying interest species for the Middle Shannon Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code 004097). In such circumstances the Board is precluded from granting permission.

Chris McGarry

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

Dated this

2022