

Board Order ABP-314778-21

Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2021

Planning Authority: Fingal County Council

Application by the Minister for the Environment, Climate & Communications, 29-31 Adelaide Road, Dublin, requesting An Bord Pleanála to exercise its powers under Section 181(2T)(a)(i) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, whether the state authority should be directed to prepare a Natura Impact Statement in respect of the proposed development of temporary emergency electricity generation power plant at Huntstown Power Station, Johnstown, County Dublin.

Decision

NOT TO DIRECT the state authority to prepare a Natura Impact Statement in respect of the proposed development, based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

P.C.

Reasons and Considerations

The proposed development was considered in light of the requirements of section 177U of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. The Board noted that the proposed development is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European Site. In completing the screening for Appropriate Assessment, the Board accepted and adopted the screening assessment and conclusion in the Inspector's report in respect of the identification of the European Sites which could potentially be affected, and the identification and assessment of potential significant effects of the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, on these European Sites in view of the sites' conservation objectives. The Board was satisfied that the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on Malahide Estuary Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 000205), Malahide Estuary Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004025) or any other European Site, in view of the sites' conservation objectives.

The screening determination is based on:

- (a) the nature and limited scale of the proposed development,
- (b) the separation distance between the proposed development and the European Sites, the intervening land uses, dilution factors of both the freshwater and marine environments and the lack of ecological connections to those sites,
- (c) the submissions made to the Board including the initial request made on behalf of the Minister and the appropriate assessment screening report received by the Board,
- (d) the submissions received from the Environmental Protection Agency and the landowners.

- (e) the lack of any identified plans or consented projects which have the potential to act in-combination with the proposed development during all phases, and,
- (f) the report and recommendation of the Inspector,

Patricia Calleary
Member of An Bord Pleanála
duly authorised to authenticate

the seal of the Board.

Dated this 5th day of December 2022