



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Order ABP-315656-23

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Cork County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 20/00350

Appeal by Wingleaf Limited care of MKO Planning and Environmental Consultants of Tuam Road, Galway and by Tadhg O'Duinnín and others care of Noonan Linehan Carroll Coffey Solicitors of 54 North Main Street, Cork against the decision made on the 26th day of August, 2020 by Cork County Council to refuse permission.

Proposed Development: Ten-year planning permission for a renewable energy development with a 30-year operational life (from the date of commissioning) and will consist of the following: up to seven number wind turbines with an overall blade tip height of up to 178.5 metres and all associated foundations and hard-standing areas, two number borrow pits, one number permanent meteorological mast with a maximum height of up to 112 metres, upgrade of existing and provision of new site access roads, upgrade to existing access junction, a 38kV electricity substation, including four number battery storage containers, one number control building with welfare facilities, associated electrical plant and equipment, security fencing, and wastewater holding tank, forestry felling, a temporary construction compound, site drainage, all associated internal underground cabling, including underground grid connection cabling to the existing overhead line and all associated site development and ancillary works, all at Derreendonee, Curraglassand, Cappaboy Beg, County Cork.

Decision

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

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Reasons and Considerations

The site of the proposed development is located within an area designated as 'Open to Consideration' for wind farm development in the Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028 where policy objective ET13-7 provides that commercial wind energy development proposals are open for consideration in areas where proposals can avoid adverse impacts on factors such as the visual quality of the landscape and the degree to which impacts are highly visible over wider areas. Having regard to the existing natural character of the receiving environment, it is considered that the combined effect of the height, scale and disposition of the proposed turbines would lead to excessively dominant features and a visually obtrusive form of development within the local landscape, would detract from the existing natural character of the area and would contribute to the erosion of the visual and environmental amenity of the area. The development, as proposed, would, therefore, not be readily assimilated into the landscape and would affect the specific visual quality of the area. The development, as proposed, would fail to satisfactorily comply with policy objective ET13-7 of the Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028, specifically by reference to its adverse impact on the visual quality of the landscape at this location and the degree to which this adverse impact would be visible over the wider area. The proposed development would seriously injure the visual amenity of the area, would detract from the character of the area, would be contrary to the relevant provisions of the development plan and would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.



Una Crosse

Member of An Bord Pleanála

duly authorised to authenticate

the seal of the Board.

Dated this 13th day of May 2024.