

Board Order ABP-318595-23

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Meath County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 23243

APPEAL by Shannon Valley Plant Hire Limited care of WSP Ireland Consulting Limited of Floor 2, Town Centre House, Naas, County Kildare against the decision made on the 7th day of November 2023 by Meath County Council to refuse permission.

Proposed Development: The importation, recovery and recycling of soil, stone, concrete and brick materials by sorting, crushing and screening for dispatch/re-use in construction and engineering projects. The annual tonnage proposed for acceptance at the Site shall not exceed 25,000 tonnes per annum, at Ballynamona, Summerhill, County Meath.

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 nature and location of the proposed development in 1. an area which is at risk of flooding, the location of infrastructure and activities on site in an area identified as Flood Zone A in the Flood Risk Assessment Report received by the planning authority on 11th day of October 2023, and the absence of a justification test as required by Policy INF Pol 18 of the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027 and the Planning System and Flood Risk Management: Guidelines for Planning Authorities, 2009, it is considered that on the basis of the information on file, it has not been demonstrated that the proposed development would not give rise to a heightened risk of flooding either on the proposed development site itself, or on other lands, and would not give rise to a risk of environmental pollution of the River Dangan which bounds the site to the south as a result of flooding. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

2. On the basis of the information provided with the application and appeal, including the Natura Impact Statement, and the lack of consideration in the Natura Impact Statement of the Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment, it is considered that it has not been adequately demonstrated that the proposed development either individually, or in combination with other plans or projects would not adversely affect the integrity of the River Boyne and River Blackwater Special Area of Conservation (002299) and the River Boyne and River Blackwater Special Protection Area (004232) respectively, in view of these sites' conservation objectives. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Mary Gurrie

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

Dated this 10 day of February 2025.