

Board Order ABP-318676-23

Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Wexford County Council

(Associated application reference number: ABP-305803-19)

REQUEST received by An Bord Pleanála on the 8th day of December, 2023, from Tullabeg Solar Farm Limited care of HW Planning, 5 Joyce House, Barrack Square, Ballincollig, County Cork under section 146B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, to alter the terms of a strategic infrastructure development described as a 110kV 4-bay C-type electricity substation and associated works, subject of approval under An Bord Pleanála reference number ABP-305803-19 and also the subject of a previous alteration under reference number ABP 314870-22.

WHEREAS the Board made a decision to approve the proposed development, subject to conditions, for the above-mentioned development by Order dated the 23rd day of September 2020,

AND WHEREAS the Board decided that alterations to the above-mentioned decision, that were requested on the 18th day of October 2022, would not result in material alterations to the terms of the development and so made the alterations to the development the subject of approval under An Bord Pleanála reference number ABP-305803-19,

AND WHEREAS the proposed alteration is described as follows:

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Addition of second 33/110kV transformer bay, to the substation in order to accommodate the increased capacity arising from the solar farms,

AND WHEREAS the Board decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, not to invite submissions or observations from the public in relation to whether the proposed alteration would constitute the making of a material alteration to the terms of the development concerned,

AND WHEREAS the Board decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that the proposed alterations would not result in a material alteration to the terms of the development, the subject of the approval,

AND WHEREAS having considered all of the documents on file and the Inspector's report, the Board considered that the making of the proposed alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment or on any European Site,

NOW THEREFORE in accordance with section 146B(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Board hereby alters the above-mentioned decision so that the approved development shall be altered in accordance with the plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 8th day of December 2023, for the reasons and considerations set out below.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Having regard to:

 the nature and scale of the 110kV 4-bay C-type electricity substation development permitted under An Bord Pleanála reference number ABP-305803-19 for this site, which includes two control buildings, 110kV underground grid connection comprising loop-in infrastructure to tie into the existing 110kV overhead power line, access track and associated works,

- the alteration made to the above permitted development under An Bord
 Pleanála reference number ABP-314870-22 increasing the length of the
 Independent Power Producer (IPP) control room building within the substation
 compound by 3 metres from 11.0101 metres, as approved, to 14.0101
 metres,
- the limited nature and scale of the alterations when considered in relation to the overall permitted development,
- the absence of any significant new or additional environmental concerns arising as a result of the proposed alterations, and
- report of the Board's Inspector, which is adopted,

It is considered that the proposed alterations would not be material. In accordance with section 146B(3)(a) of the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended, the Board hereby makes the said alterations.

Chris McGarry

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

Dated this

2024