

Board Order ABP-318764-23

Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Donegal County Council

(Associated application reference number: ABP-308806-20)

REQUEST received by An Bord Pleanála on the 21st day of December 2023 from Drumnahough Wind Farm DAC care of Jacobs Engineering, Artolo House, 91-95 Victoria House, Belfast, Northern Ireland, under section 146B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, to alter the terms of the Drumnahough Wind Farm, a strategic infrastructure development the subject of a permission under An Bord Pleanála Reference Number ABP-308806-20.

WHEREAS the Board made a decision to grant permission, subject to conditions, for the above-mentioned development by Order dated 29th day of August 2022,

AND WHEREAS the Board has received a request to alter the terms of the development, the subject of the permission,

AND WHEREAS the proposed alteration is described as follows:

 amend the hub height, rotor blade diameter and rotor blade length of the turbines while remaining within the previously permitted tip height of 167.5 metres.

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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 alteration would not result in a material alteration to the terms of the development, the subject of the permission.

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 abovementioned decision so that the permitted development shall be altered in accordance with the plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 21st December, 2023 for the reasons and considerations set out below.

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REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Having regard to:

- (i) the nature and scale of the wind farm development permitted under An Bord Pleanála Reference Number ABP-308806-20 for this site, which includes 12 turbines with an overall tip height of 167.5 metres,
- (ii) the examination of the environmental impact, including in relation to European Sites, carried out in the course of that application,
- (iii) the limited nature and scale of the alterations when considered in relation to the overall permitted tip height of 167.5 metres,
- (iv) the absence of any significant new or additional environmental concerns (including in relation to European Sites) arising as a result of the proposed alterations, and
- (v) the 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.

Patricia Calleary

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

Dated this 23 day of April 2024