

Board Order ABP-320072-24

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Tipperary County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 24/60280

Appeal by Wild Ireland Defense CLG care of Peter Sweetman, PO Box 13611, Bantry, County Cork against the decision made on the 5th day of June, 2024 by Tipperary County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Gromane Limited care of Jennings O'Donovan and Partners Limited of Finisklin Business Park, Sligo in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: Amendments to the on-site substation at the previously consented Farranrory Wind Farm, planning register reference number 20/972, and amendment application for planning register reference number 23/60803 for an increase to the footprint of the substation compound of 381.6 square metres, an increase to the footprint of the substation building of 51.5 square metres, amendments to the layout of the offices and welfare facilities within the substation building, addition of two number containers sized six metres by 2.43 metres by 2.59 metres in height for storage of parts and equipment during the operational phase, addition of two number parking spaces and an extension of the access road, associated relocation of the permitted fence, amendments to the drainage design to accommodate changes to the layout, minor amendments to the red line of the permitted development to accommodate the above and addition of a new joint bay, all at Coolnashinnagh, Ballingarry, Thurles, County Tipperary.

Decision

GRANT permission for the above proposed development in accordance with the said plans and particulars based on the reasons and considerations under and subject to the conditions set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

- (a) EU legislation, including in particular: the provisions of Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive) and Directive 79/409/EEC, as amended by 2009/147/EC (Birds Directives) which sets out the requirements for Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora throughout the European Union, and the EU Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC which aims to promote the use of renewable energy and associated infrastructure,
- (b) the National Planning Framework published in February 2018,
- (c) the Government Policy Statement on the Strategic Importance of Transmission and Other Energy Infrastructure, July 2012,
- (d) the provisions of the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028,
- (e) the nature, scale and design of the proposed development, as set out in the planning application, existing permissions in the area, and the pattern of development in the vicinity,
- (f) other relevant guidance documents,
- (g) the likely consequences for the environment and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which it is proposed to carry out the proposed development, and,
- (h) the submissions and observations made in connection with the planning application and the appeal,

it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would be in accordance with European, national, regional and local planning policy, would be acceptable in respect of its likely effects on the environment and for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, would not have significant negative effects on the environment or the community in the vicinity, would not give rise to a risk of pollution, would not be detrimental to the visual or landscape amenities of the area, would not seriously injure the amenities of property in the vicinity, would not adversely impact on the cultural, archaeological and built heritage of the area, would not constitute a traffic hazard, and would not interfere with the existing land uses in the area. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Conditions

The proposed development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions. Where such conditions require details to be agreed with the planning authority, the developer shall agree such details in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development and the proposed development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

 The proposed development shall comply with the terms and conditions of planning register reference number 20/972, including the expiry date of same, which governs the overall development of the lands in which the site forms part.

Reason: In the interest of orderly development.

Declan Moore

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

Dated this 11th day of November 2024.