

Board Order ABP-320816-24

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022 Planning Authority: Wicklow County Council Planning Register Reference Number: 24/60382

APPEAL by Cignal Infrastructure Limited care of Indigo, 4Site House, Raheen Business Park, Limerick against the decision made on the 20th day of August, 2024 by Wicklow County Council to refuse permission.

Proposed Development: Installation of a 30 metre multi-user lattice type telecommunications support structure with headframe, carrying antenna and dishes enclosed within a 2.4 metre high palisade fenced compound together with associated ground equipment cabinets and associated site works, including extension to an existing forest access track within Coillte forestry at Ballybrew, Enniskerry, County Wicklow.

Decision

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

An Bord Pleanála

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the siting, design and overall height of the proposed development, on a hilltop location, where forestry is in the process of being removed, in the Mountain and Lakeshore Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty for the North Eastern Valley/ Glencree area in Wicklow, and in the absence of sufficient justification that due to the technical or coverage requirements the site selected is required due to exceptional circumstances, it is considered that the proposed telecommunications structure would constitute an obtrusive feature on an elevated site in an area with wide reaching scenic views and would seriously injure the visual amenities of the area. Therefore, the proposed development, if permitted would conflict with objectives CPO 17.35 and 17.38 in the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 and Policy Objective GIB6 in the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022–2028.

The Board considered that the development is a project for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive. However, the Board concluded that the proposed development does not fall within a class of development set out in Part 1 or Part 2 of Schedule 5 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, and therefore no preliminary examination, screening for environmental impact assessment, or environmental impact assessment is required.

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

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Dated this 30 day of April

2025

An Bord Pleanála

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