

Board Order ABP-320948-24

Roads Acts, 1993 to 2015

Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Donegal County Council

Application received by An Bord Pleanála from Donegal County Council requesting it to exercise its powers under section 50(1)(b) of the Roads Act, 1993, as amended, seeking a direction from An Bord Pleanála as to whether or not the proposed N56 Doonwell to Drumbrick Road Improvement Scheme, County Donegal requires the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

Decision

NOT TO DIRECT the road authority to prepare an environmental impact assessment report in respect of the above proposed road development based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

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Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the following:

- (a) the criteria set out in Section 50(1)(a) of the Roads Act 1993, as amended and Article 8 of the Roads Regulations 1994 and the information provided in Annex III of European Directive 2014/52/EU of 16th day of April 2014, amending Directive 2011/92/EU (the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive) on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment,
- (b) the criteria set out and the information provided in Schedule 5 and Schedule 7A of the of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (c) the documents 'Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects Guidance on Screening' (2017) issued by the European Commission and 'Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-Threshold Development' issued by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in August 2003,
- (d) the limited nature and scale of the proposed development which seeks to improve a limited section of an existing road and does not meet any of the relevant thresholds for Environmental Impact Assessment,
- (e) the location of the site on lands adjacent to the existing road, the existing pattern of development adjacent to the existing road,
- (f) the limited potential for significant impacts arising from the proposed development due to the absence of any significant environment receptors,
- (g) the submission made by the applicant requesting a determination, which included an Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report and the report and the recommendation of the Inspector,

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it is considered that the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and, accordingly, an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required.

Patricia Calleary

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

Dated this 28 day of November 2024

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