

Commission Order ABP-322413-25

Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended

Planning Authority: Longford County Council.

Planning Register Reference Number: DC25/10

WHEREAS a question has arisen as to whether a 20kV grid connection route consisting of 0.577 kilometres of overhead line and 3.636 kilometres of underground cable between the customer substation (X628, 378 Y 772,961) granted planning under reference: 23/60010 and the 38/20kV ESB substation (X 625, 508, Y 772, 744) in Lissanore, Lios an Oir, County Longford is or is not development or is or is not exempted development:

AND WHEREAS Natural Forces Renewable Energy Limited requested a declaration on this question from Longford County Council

AND WHEREAS Longford County Council did not make a declaration and the said question was referred to An Coimisiún Pleanála by Longford County Council on the 28th day of April 2025:



AND WHEREAS An Coimisiún Pleanála, in considering this referral, had regard particularly to -

- (a) Sections 2(1), 3(1), 4(2)(a)(i), 4(4) and 57 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended,
- (b) Article 6(1) and Article 9(1)(a) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended,
- (c) Part 1 Class 26 and Class 27 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended,
- (d) the planning history of the site, in particular appeal reference ABP-317459-23

AND WHEREAS An Coimisiún Pleanála has concluded that -

- (a) the provision of the overhead and underground electricity grid connection and associated works involves the carrying out of works and, therefore, constitutes development, under sections 2 and 3 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended,
- (b) the overhead and underground electricity grid connection involves works carried out by an electricity undertaker, and, having regard to the nature of those works, would come within the scope of Class 26 and Class 27 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, and would, therefore, constitute exempted development,
- (c) none of the restrictions on exempted development provided for under section 4 (4) or section 57 (1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, apply in this case, and,
- (d) restrictions on exempted development provided for under Article 9(1)
 (a)(vii) and 9(1)(a)(viiA) of the Planning and Development Regulations,
 2001, as amended, apply in this case, and,

- (e) none of the other restrictions on exempted development provided for under Article 9(1)(a) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, apply in this case, and,
- (f) there are no other restrictions on exemption set out in the Planning and Development Act, 2000 and/or the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 that would apply in this instance.

NOW THEREFORE An Coimisiún Pleanála, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 5(4) of the 2000 Act, and having regard to the restrictions on exempted development provided for under Article 9(1) (a)(vii) and 9(1)(a)(viiA) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, hereby decides that the proposed 20kV grid connection route consisting of 0.577 kilometres of overhead line and 3.636 kilometres of underground cable between the customer substation (X628, 378 Y 772,961) granted planning under reference: 23/60010 and the 38/20kV ESB substation (X 625, 508, Y 772, 744) in Lissanore, Lios an Oir, County Longford is development and is not exempted development.

Emer Maughan

Planning Commissioner of An Coimisiún Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate the seal of the Commission.

CANALN

Dated this 22 day of September 2025.