

An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Commission Order ACP-323449-25

Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended

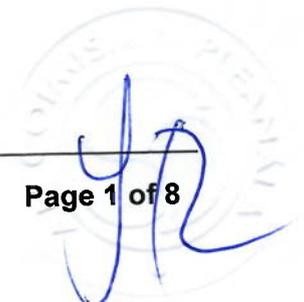
Planning Authority: Roscommon County Council

(Associated application reference number: ABP-313750-22)

REQUEST received by An Coimisiún Pleanála on the 19th day of August, 2025 from Energia Renewables ROI Limited care of Galetch Energy Services of Clondargan, Stradone, County Cavan under section 146B of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, to alter the terms of a strategic infrastructure development, granted under An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number ABP-313750-22 for the development of a windfarm comprising 20 number wind turbines (17 number permitted) and all associated works located in Turrock, Cronin, Gortaphuill, Glenrevagh, Tullyneeny, Bredagh, Cuilleenirwan, Cuilleenoolagh, Curry, Miltown, Tobermacloughin, Skeavally, Boleyduff, Clooncaltry, Feacle, Cam, Tawnagh and other townlands in County Roscommon.

WHEREAS the Commission made a decision to grant permission, subject to conditions, for the above-mentioned development by Order dated the 23rd day of November, 2023.

AND WHEREAS the Commission has received a request for alterations to the development, the subject of the permission,



AND WHEREAS the proposed alteration is described as follows:

- The alteration of the permitted hub height from 99 metres to between 98 metres and 101 metres,
- The alteration of the permitted rotor diameter from 162 metres to between 158 metres and 163 metres,
- The alteration of the permitted overall tip height from 180 metres to between 179 metres and 180 metres,
- The applicant is proposing to install any wind turbine model whose configuration falls within the ranges specified above,
- The electrical capacity of the project is dependent on the wind turbine model installed and may alter the permitted output from 102 megawatts to between 94.5 megawatts and 122.4 megawatts.

AND WHEREAS having regard to the issues involved, the Commission decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, to invite submissions by such person or class of person the Commission considers appropriate in relation to the matter,

AND WHEREAS the Commission 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 the making of 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 Commission considered that the making of the proposed alterations would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment or on any European Site,

AND WHEREAS the Commission decided, to amend Condition number 7(a) so that it shall read as follows:

The wind turbines shall have a hub height ranging from 98 metres to 101 metres, a rotor blade diameter ranging from 158 metres to 163 metres and blades that result in an overall tip height ranging from 179 metres to 180 metres, in accordance with the range of turbine options assessed in the application documentation. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer shall submit to the planning authority a drawing of the final turbine design to be kept on file as part of the public record.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity, clarity and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

NOW THEREFORE in accordance with section 146B(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the Commission hereby alters the above-mentioned decision so that the approved development shall be altered in accordance with the plans and particulars received by An Coimisiún Pleanála on the 19th day of August 2025, for the reasons and considerations set out below.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

In coming to its decision, the Commission had regard to the following:

- (a) The nature of the proposed alteration;
- (b) The documentation on file;
- (c) The submissions on file; and
- (d) The report of the Inspector.

Having regard to:

- the nature and scale of the windfarm development permitted under An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number ABP-313750-22,

- The examination of the environmental impact, including in relation to European Sites, carried out in the course of that application;
- The limited nature and scale of the alterations when considered in relation to the overall permitted development;
- The location of the proposed alterations, within the footprint of the permitted Seven Hills Windfarm site;
- The absence of any significant new or additional environmental impacts arising as a result of the proposed alterations; and
- The report of the Commission's Inspector, which is adopted,

The Commission was satisfied that the information before it was adequate to undertake a Stage 1 screening for appropriate assessment and a screening for environmental impact assessment in respect of the proposed alteration.

Appropriate Assessment: Stage 1:

In conducting a screening exercise for appropriate assessment, the Commission considered the nature, scale and context of the proposed alterations, the documentation on file including the Addendum Natura Impact Statement submitted with the application and the assessment of the Inspector in relation to the potential effects on European Sites. In undertaking the screening exercise, the Commission accepted the analysis and conclusions of the Inspector.

The Commission concluded that, both by itself, and in combination with other development in the vicinity, the proposed alterations would not be likely to have significant effects on four number European Sites in view of their conservation objectives.

The Commission considered that the Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 002339), the Killeglan Grassland Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 002214), the Four Roads Turlough Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 001637) and the River Shannon Callows Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 000216) could be screened out from further assessment and that the Four Roads Turlough Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004140), the Lough Croan Turlough Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004139), the River Suck

Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004097), the Lough Ree Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004064) and the Middle Shannon Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004096) required further investigation.

In reaching this conclusion, the Commission took no account of mitigation measures intending to avoid or reduce the potentially harmful effects of the development on any European Site.

Appropriate Assessment: Stage 2:

The Commission considered the Addendum Natura Impact Statement and all other relevant documentation on file and carried out an appropriate assessment of the implications of the proposed alterations for the Four Roads Turlough Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004140), the Lough Croan Turlough Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004139), the River Suck Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004097), the Lough Ree Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004064) and the Middle Shannon Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004096).

The Commission considered that the information before it was adequate to allow the carrying out of an appropriate assessment, as well as the report of the Inspector.

In completing the assessment, the Commission considered the likely direct and indirect impacts arising from the proposed development, both individually and in combination with other plans or projects, the mitigation measures which are included as part of the approved Seven Hills Wind Farm granted under An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number ABP-313750-22, and the conservation objectives for the European Sites.

In completing the Appropriate Assessment, the Commission accepted and adopted the Appropriate Assessment carried out in the Inspector's report in respect of the potential effects of the proposed development on the aforementioned European Sites, having regard to the sites' conservation objectives.

In overall conclusions, the Commission was satisfied that the proposed development would not adversely affect the integrity of the Four Roads Turlough Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004140), the Lough Croan Turlough Special Protection

Area (Site Code: 004139), the River Suck Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004097), the Lough Ree Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004064) and the Middle Shannon Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004096) in view of the sites' conservation objectives.

Environmental Impact Assessment Screening

The Commission considered the potential environmental impacts that might arise due to the proposed alteration, both by itself and in combination with other development in the vicinity. Having regard to the characteristics of the receiving environment, the characteristics of the proposed alteration, and the submissions on file, the Commission is satisfied that the proposed alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment. The Commission concurred with the analysis and conclusions of the Inspector in this matter. The Commission, therefore, concluded that the preparation of an environmental impact assessment report is not required, either by means of any mandatory requirement or following sub-threshold analysis.

Having regard to:

- the parent permission granted under An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number ABP-313750-22 and the conditions to which it is subject,
- the minor nature and scale of the proposed alterations which can be constructed in accordance with the permitted construction works, methodologies and related activities,
- the location of the proposed alterations within the footprint of the permitted development site and the absence of change to the permitted development layout,
- the pattern of development in the surrounding area,
- the criteria set out in Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended,

- the location of the development outside of any sensitive location specified in Article 109(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, and
- the Guidance set out in the 'Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-threshold Development' issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2003),

It is considered that, following the Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Determination, the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and that the preparation and submission of an environmental impact assessment report would not, therefore, be required.

Proper Planning and Sustainable Development

Having regard to:

- the nature, scale and details of the wind farm development permitted under An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number ABP-313750-22,
- the examination of the environmental impact, including in relation to European Sites, carried out in the course of that application,
- the limited nature and scale of the alterations when considered in relation to the overall permitted development,
- the location of the proposed alterations, within the footprint of the permitted development site,
- the absence of any significant new or additional environmental impacts arising as a result of the proposed alterations, and
- the report of the Commission'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 Commission hereby makes the said alterations.



Tom Rabbette

Planning Commissioner of An Coimisiún

**Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Commission.**

Dated this ^{20th} 20 day of *FEB*, 2026