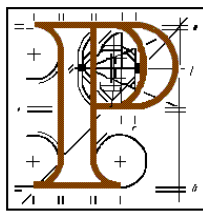


An Bord Pleanála



Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2015

Clare County Council

An Bord Pleanála Reference Number: 03.JN0013

APPLICATION by Clare County Council requesting An Bord Pleanála to exercise its power under article 250(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, to prepare a Natura impact statement in respect of the proposed N85/N67 Blakes Corner – Ennistimon Inner Relief Road, County Clare.

DECISION

DIRECT the local authority not to prepare a Natura impact statement in respect of the said proposed development based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

MATTERS CONSIDERED

In making its decision, the Board had regard to those matters to which, by virtue of the Planning and Development Acts and Regulations made thereunder, it was required to have regard.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Having regard to:

- (i) the nature, modest scale and town centre location of the proposed development,

- (ii) the separation distance between the subject development site and a European site, namely Inagh River Estuary Special Area of Conservation (site code 000036) and the coastal nature of the qualifying interests in the Inagh River Special Area of Conservation (site code 000036),
- (iii) the clear span design of the bridge which avoids the need for construction works in the main river channel,
- (iv) the proposed construction management approach, including the measures to ensure that surface water run-off and construction materials are not discharged to the River Inagh during either the construction or operational phases of the scheme,
- (v) the low potential for in-combination effects arising from other proposed and permitted development in the vicinity,
- (vi) the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report submitted to An Bord Pleanála by the local authority, and
- (vii) the report and recommendation of the Inspector,

it is considered reasonable to conclude that, on the basis of the information available, which is considered adequate to issue a screening determination, the proposed development, individually and in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European sites, in particular the Inagh River Estuary Special Area of Conservation (site code 000036), in view of the sites' conservation objectives and, therefore, the submission of a Natura impact statement for the proposed development is not required.

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

Dated this day of 2016.