



An  
Bord  
Pleanála

## Record of Meeting ABP-321948-25 (PO)

<b>Case Reference / Description</b>	Proposed 77MW Wind Farm of up to 11 No. Turbines, Grid Connection, Turbine Delivery Route and 110kV Electricity Substation with Battery Energy Storage, County Mayo.		
<b>Case Type</b>	Design Flexibility Opinion Consultation		
<b>1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting		
<b>Date</b>	09/04/2025	<b>Start Time</b>	11:40am
<b>Location</b>	MS Teams	<b>End Time</b>	12:10pm

<b>Representing An Bord Pleanála</b>
Una Crosse, Assistant Planning Director
Alaine Clarke, Senior Planning Inspector
Fiona Patterson, Senior Ecologist
Lauren Murphy, Executive Officer
Sinead White, Executive Officer

<b>Representing the Prospective Applicant</b>
Sean Galvin, RWE
Michael James, RWE
Cliona O'Sullivan, RWE
Gareth Hughes, SLR Consulting

Donna Ryan, SLR Consulting
Aislinn O'Brien, SLR Consulting

## **Introduction**

The Board referred to the letter received from the prospective applicant on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025, requesting pre-application consultations under section 37CC of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and advised the prospective applicant that the instant meeting essentially constituted an information-gathering exercise for the Board; it also invited the prospective applicant to outline the nature of the proposed development and to highlight any matters that it wished to receive advice on from the Board. The Board's representatives mentioned the following general procedures in relation to the pre-application consultation process:

- The Board will keep a record of this meeting. This record will form part of the file which will be made available publicly at the conclusion of the process. The record of the meeting will not be amended by the Board once finalised, but the prospective applicant may submit comments on the record which will form part of the case file.
- The holding of consultations does not prejudice the Board in any way and cannot be relied upon in the formal planning process or in any legal proceedings.

### **Presentation made by the prospective applicant:**

The prospective applicant began the presentation by discussing the unconfirmed details of the proposed development, which includes the turbine tip height, the rotor diameter and hub height.

Following on the prospective applicant outlined the need for design flexibility for this proposed development.

The prospective applicant concluded the presentation by reiterating that they will be assessing two or more proposed wind turbine types as part of the planning application.

**Discussion:**

- The Board's representatives began the discussion by noting that the prospective applicant presented four different turbine options with varying tip height, hub height and rotor diameter. The Board's representatives advised that once the board provide their design opinion this will allow the prospective applicant to have flexibility with these details and to note that they will not be restricted to the dimensions relating to these details as set out in this request. The opinion relates to the request for flexibility on the tip height, hub height and rotor diameter. The details of the dimensions of the different turbine options is required at application stage.
- Following a query raised by the prospective applicant the board's representatives advised that each proposed wind turbine considered will need to be individually assessed within the planning application documentation.
- The prospective applicant is reminded that in relation to the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, all proposed wind turbine options will need to be assessed rather than the assessment of a range. The prospective applicant was pointed to previous determinations by the Board for similar applications.
- The Board's representatives advised the prospective applicant that any decision to grant permission would include a condition requiring the turbine dimensions/ type are agreed with the competent authority prior to commencement of development.

- The prospective applicant advised that they may limit the number of proposed wind turbine types at the planning application stage due to the requirement of assessing each wind turbine type in detail.
- The Board's representatives advised the prospective applicant that some chapters in the Environmental Impact Assessment report may not need to be specific to each turbine type, but clear reasoning for this must be provided.
- Following a query raised by the prospective applicant, the board's representatives advised that the Inspector will prepare a draft opinion for the Board's consideration and outlined the process in respect of same.

The Meeting concluded at 12:10



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**Una Crosse**

**Assistant Director of Planning**