

# Inspector's Report 07.PC0227 ADDENDUM

| Type of Application  | Sid Pre-application – whether project<br>is or is not strategic infrastructure<br>development. |
|----------------------|--|
| Proposed Development | Wind farm development and associated works.  |
| Location             | Ardderroo, near Rosscahil, Co.<br>Galway.  |
| Applicant            | Ardderroo Wind Farm Ltd.   |
| Planning Authority   | Galway County Council  |
| Inspector            | Sarah Moran  |

NOTE: There is another current pre-application consultation relating to this site, ref. PL.07.VC0100.

## Contents

| 1.0 | Background       | 3 |
|-----|------------------|---|
| 2.0 | Applicant's Case | 3 |
| 3.0 | Legal Provisions | 3 |
| 4.0 | Conclusion       | 3 |
| 5.0 | Recommendation   | 4 |

#### 1.0 Background

1.1. This report should be read in conjunction with my previous report on file dated 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Subsequent to that report, the Board requested a second meeting with the applicant in order to further discuss such matters as ecological surveying, ornithological surveying and Appropriate Assessment. A meeting between representatives of the applicant and An Bord Pleanála was held at the Board's offices on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Records of the meeting are on file.

### 2.0 Applicant's Case

- 2.1. The key elements of the prospective applicant's submission in support of the case being designated as strategic infrastructure are summarised in my previous report on file. The following points are noted from the record of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017:
  - The applicant has continued to carry out additional data gathering at the site in advance of lodging another application.
  - The applicant held a meeting with representatives of the National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS) on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017, at which ongoing survey works at the site were discussed.

#### 3.0 Legal Provisions

3.1. See section 3.0 of my previous report on file.

#### 4.0 **Conclusion**

4.1. On the basis of the above, it is my opinion that the proposed development would exceed the threshold set out in the Seventh Schedule of the Strategic Infrastructure Act, 2006, as amended by the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act, 2010 as, with the development of 29 no. turbines with individual power outputs in the range indicated (70-90 MW) it would have a power output in excess of the 50MW specified. It is also my opinion that the development falls within the parameters of

sections 37A(2)(a) and (b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended by the SI Act, 2006.

#### 5.0 **Recommendation**

5.1. In view of the above, it is therefore recommended that the Board determine that the development in question constitutes strategic infrastructure development as defined by section 2(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended by section 6 of the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 and that the prospective applicant be informed accordingly.

Sarah Moran Senior Planning Inspector 29<sup>th</sup> March 2017

#### PRESCRIBED BODIES

The following is a schedule of prescribed bodies considered relevant for the purposes of section 37E(3)(c) of the Principal Act:

- The Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government.
- Galway County Council
- The Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs
- Údarás na Gaeltachta
- The Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland
- An Comhairle Ealaíon
- Fáilte Ireland
- An Taisce
- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- The Irish Aviation Authority
- The Heritage Council
- The Health Service Executive
- The Commission for Energy Regulation
- The Minister of Transport, Tourism and Sport
- The Environmental Protection Agency
- The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- Irish Water