



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

**Board Direction  
BD-019793-25  
ABP-321495-24**

The submissions on file and the inspector's report were considered at a Board Meeting held on the 27/05/2025.

The Board decided to notify the prospective applicant of its Opinion in respect of flexibility under section 37CD of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, as indicated hereunder.

### **An Bord Pleanála Opinion on Flexibility**

<b>(1) Request for meeting</b>	
<b>Request under section 37CC of the Act:</b>	Request for Design Flexibility in relation to a proposed windfarm comprising 11 turbines.
<b>Request reference Number:</b>	ABP-321495-24
<b>Name of the requestor/ prospective applicant:</b>	i. RWE Renewables Ireland Ltd
<b>Location, townland or postal address of the land or structure to which the application</b>	Beagh More, Cloonbar, Cloonnaglasha, Cloonsheen, Cloonteen, Corillaun , Derrymore, Shancloon, Toberroe, and Tonacooleen in county Galway, near the Mayo border.

<b>relates (as may be appropriate):</b>	
<b>Nature and extent of the proposed development:</b>	11 no. wind turbines with an electrical output of between 61.6MW and 72.6MW, 110kV substation, a loop-in 110 kV underground cable connection, 33 kV underground electrical and communication cabling underground between the proposed turbines and the proposed on-site substation and associated Control Building, 1 no. meteorological mast, 3 no. temporary construction compounds, access roads both new and upgrade of existing, new watercourse crossings, turbine delivery accommodation works to existing road network, and all ancillary works.
<b>Date of receipt of the request:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> December 2024
<b>Opinion Reference Number:</b>	ABP-321495-24
<b>Date of Opinion:</b>	12.03.25

**(2) Was the following Information included where relevant, with the Flexibility Meeting Request under section 37CC of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.**

<b>Information</b>	<b>Enclosed with Request</b>		
(a) A site location map sufficient to identify the maritime area/land on which the proposed development would be situated.	Yes: [ x ]	No: [   ]	

(b) A brief description of the nature and purpose of the proposed development and of its possible effects on the environment.	Yes: [ x ]	No: [ ]	
(c) A draft layout plan of the proposed development.	Yes: [ x ]	No: [ ]	
(d) A description of the details, or groups of details, of the proposed development that, owing to the circumstances set out in (e) below, are unlikely to be confirmed at the time of the proposed application.	Yes: [ x ]	No: [ ]	
(e) A description of the circumstances relating to the proposed development that indicate that it is appropriate that the proposed application be made and decided, before the prospective applicant has confirmed the details referred to in (d) above.	Yes: [ x ]	No: [ ]	
(f) An undertaking to provide with the proposed application, either -  i. two or more options, in respect of each detail or group of details referred to in (d) above containing information on the basis of which the proposed application may be made and decided,  ii. parameters within which each detail referred to in paragraph (d) above will fall and on the basis of which the proposed application may be made and decided, or  iii. a combination of (i) and (ii).	Yes: [ x ]	No: [ ]	
(g) Such other information, drawings or representations as the prospective applicant may wish to provide or make available.	Yes: [ x ]	No: [ ]	N/A: [ ]



(h) The appropriate fee.	Yes: [ x ]	No: [   ]	
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<b>(3) Opinion of the Board under section 37CD of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.</b>	
<b>Information</b>	<b>Details/ Circumstances</b>
a) The details, or groups of details, of the proposed development that may be confirmed after the proposed application has been made and decided.	1. Turbine Dimensions: a) Turbine Tip Height b) Rotor Diameter c) Hub height
b) The circumstances relating to the proposed development that indicate that it is appropriate that the proposed application be made and decided before the prospective applicant has confirmed the details referred to in paragraph (a) above.	ii. To facilitate the procurement process; iii. To avail of up-to-date technology; iv. To ensure flexibility given long lead in times from planning to construction to operation.

**For each detail, or groups of details, referred to in paragraph 3(a) above, the proposed application shall, in addition to any other requirement imposed by or under the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, be accompanied by the information referred to in the undertaking submitted with the flexibility**

meeting request under section, 37CC(2)(f) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

The proposed application must be consistent with the opinion provided in accordance with section 37CD of the Act.

Board Member

  
Tom Rabbette

Date: 28/05/2025

