

An
Bord
Pleanála

An Bord Pleanála Opinion on Flexibility

2) Request for meeting	
Request under section 37CC of the Act:	Request for Design Flexibility in relation to a proposed windfarm comprising 11 number turbines.
Request reference Number:	ABP-321495-24
Name of the requestor/ prospective applicant:	RWE Renewables Ireland Limited
Location, townland or postal address of the land or structure to which the application relates (as may be appropriate):	Beagh More, Cloonbar, Cloonnaglasha, Cloonsheen, Cloonteen, Corillaun , Derrymore, Shancloon, Toberroe, and Tonacooleen in county Galway, near the Mayo border.
Nature and extent of the proposed development:	Proposed 11 number wind turbines with an electrical output of between 61.6 megawatts and 72.6 megawatts, 110 kilovolt substation, a loop-in 110 kilovolt underground cable connection, 33 kilovolt underground electrical and communication cabling underground between the proposed turbines and the proposed on-site substation and associated Control Building, one number meteorological mast, three number 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.
Date of receipt of the request:	16 December 2024
Opinion Reference Number:	ABP-321495-24
Date of Opinion Meeting:	12 th March 2025

3) 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.

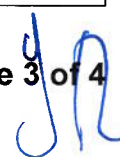
Information	Enclosed with Request		
(a) A site location map sufficient to identify the land on which the proposed development would be situated.	Yes: [X]	No: []	
(b) A brief description of the nature and purpose of the proposed development and of its possible effects on the environment.	Yes: [X]	No: []	
(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 -	Yes: [X]	No: []	

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).			
(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: []	No: []	N/A: [X]

At a meeting held on 27th day of May 2025, the Board considered the report of the Inspector, the documents submitted as part of the pre-application consultation under section 37CC of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended on design flexibility.

In this regard an opinion on design flexibility shall issue to the prospective applicant as set out below:

4) 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.	
Information	Details/ Circumstances
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



<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To facilitate the procurement process; ii. To avail of up-to-date technology; iii. To ensure flexibility given long lead times from planning to construction to operation.
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For each detail, or groups of details, referred to in paragraph 4(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.



Tom Rabbette

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

Dated this 13th day of June 2025