

An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála

### An Coimisiún 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 at Cooloo and adjacent townlands in County Galway.
<b>Request reference Number:</b>	ABP-322632-25
<b>Name of the requestor/ prospective applicant:</b>	Neoen Renewables Ireland Limited
<b>Location, townland or postal address of the land or structure to which the application relates (as may be appropriate):</b>	Cooloo and adjacent townlands in County Galway.
<b>Nature and extent of the proposed development:</b>	9 number wind turbines with an estimated energy generating capacity of between 54 and 64.8 MW underground electrical (33kV) and communications cabling, 1 number meteorological mast, 1 number temporary construction compound, access roads both new and upgrade of existing and all ancillary works.
<b>Date of receipt of the request:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025
<b>Opinion Reference Number:</b>	ABP-322632-25
<b>Date of Opinion:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> September, 2025

**(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.**

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 -  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,	Yes: [X]	No: [ ]	

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: [ ]	No: [ ]	Elevations and plan drawing
(h) The appropriate fee.	Yes: [ ]	No: [ ]	N/A: [X]

**At a meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2025, the Commission 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.**

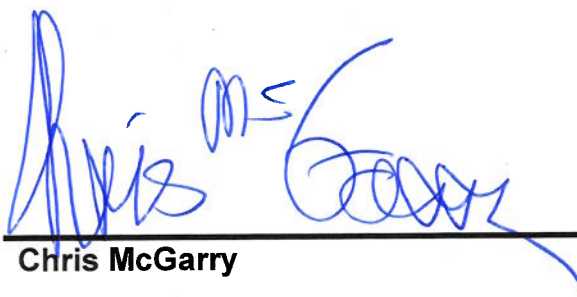
**In this regard an opinion on design flexibility shall issue to the prospective applicant as set out below:**

<b>(3) Opinion of the Commission 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) Rotor Diameter b) 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.	i. To allow the perspective applicant to take advantage of new technologies which may become available during consenting process. ii. To facilitate the procurement process

	iii. To ensure against the potential for obsolescence of existing technology.
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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.



**Chris McGarry**

**Planning Commissioner of An Coimisiún  
Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate  
the seal of the Commission.**

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025