

Our Ref: CO/23882

Date: 3rd September 2025

Offaly County Council

Áras an Chontae,
Charleville Road,
Tullamore,
Co. Offaly
R35 F893

Re: Planning Application for Strategic Infrastructure Development under Section 37E of the Planning and development Act (As Amended)

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are engaged by Ballinla Wind Farm Ltd. (applicant) for the preparation of the design, planning and EIAR for a proposed Wind Energy Project within the townlands of Leitrim, Ballyfore Big, Ballyleakin, and Ballina (Geashill By), Co. Offaly.

The project has been the subject of a Pre-application Stage consultation for Strategic Infrastructure with An Coimisiún Pleanála (Ref: ABP-318203-23). An Coimisiún Pleanála (the Commission) has determined that this proposed project falls within the Strategic Infrastructure Development consent process under Section 37A(2)(a) and (b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. In confirming that this project is a Strategic Infrastructure Development project it has identified 18 prescribed bodies that have to be notified of the application for the proposed development. Accordingly, we are notifying you that the application has been lodged with An Coimisiún Pleanála.

The following sets out the description of the proposed development:

- Seven Wind Turbine Generators (blade tip height 185m).
- Seven Wind Turbine foundations and hardstand areas.
- One electrical substation (110kV) including independent power producer (IPP) substation and wind farm operations compound with associated ancillary buildings, security fencing and all associated works.
- One LiDAR station based on the ground.
- Two new site entrances from the L5010.
- New and upgraded internal site access tracks.
- All associated underground electrical and communications cabling connecting the proposed turbines to the proposed onsite substation.
- The TDR including temporary works on sections of the public road network and private lands along the turbine delivery route on the L-5006 and the junction of the R-402 and R-420.
- One temporary construction site compound and additional mobile welfare unit.
- One spoil deposition area.
- Landscaping.
- Associated surface water management systems.

The applicant is seeking a ten-year permission and an operational period of no less than 35 years from the date of commissioning of the entire Wind Farm. The substation and associated infrastructure is permanent.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and an Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompanies this application. The EIAR and NIS were completed with the added element of a proposed 8km grid connection to the Philipstown 110kV Substation, to be submitted into planning separately and in the future. The proposed grid connection will be within the townlands of Leitrim, Lumville, Ballinla, Clarkeville, Ballyfore Big, Ballyfore Little, Ballyeakin and Ballykilleen, in (Coolestown By) Co. Offaly.

Please find enclosed 3 No. hard copies and 1 No. soft copies of the application (as per your request). The application may be viewed/downloaded on the following dedicated SID project website ballinlawindfarmsid.ie commencing on the 5th September 2025.

As required by An Coimisiún Pleanála, you are requested to keep this planning application available for public inspection/purchase from the 5th September 2025 in accordance with the terms of the public notice.

Any submissions/observations must be received by the Commission not later than 5.30pm on the 24th October 2025.

The application includes the following:

- 1) Completed Application Form
- 2) Landowner consent letters
- 3) Schedule of planning application drawings
- 4) Planning application drawings
- 5) Newspaper Notices
- 6) Copy of site Notice
- 7) Copy of ACP Meeting Minutes and Schedule of Public Consultation
- 8) Copy of ACP SID Determination
- 9) Schedule of Prescribed bodies to whom notification of the application has been sent
- 10) Copy of the notification to the prescribed bodies
- 11) Copy of the confirmation notice to the EIA Portal
- 12) Confirmation of Drawing Scales
- 13) Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)
- 14) Natura Impact Statment
- 15) Planning Report
- 16) 1nr Memory sticks with a copy of all application documents

Should you have any queries in relation to the enclosed please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,



Graeme Thornton
for MWP