

PLANNING, LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

Notice of Direct Planning Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála in Respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development, County Galway

In accordance with Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Neoen Renewables Ireland Ltd. gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Coimisiún Pleanála for a ten-year planning permission in relation to the following proposed development in the townlands of Cloondahamper (Blake), Cloonascragh, Elmhill, Cooloo, Lecarrow, Dangan Eighter, Lissavally and Slievegorm in Co. Galway which comprises a renewable energy development as defined by The European Union (Planning and Development) (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2025.

- The proposed development will consist of the provision of the following:
- i. 9 no. wind turbines with the following parameters:
 - Total turbine tip height of 180 metres;
 - A rotor blade diameter of 150 to 162 metres;
 - A hub height of 99 to 105 metres;
 - ii. Permanent turbine foundations, hard-standing and assembly areas;
 - iii. Underground electrical (33kV) and communications cabling;
 - iv. 1 no. temporary construction compound (including site offices and welfare facilities);
 - v. A meteorological mast with a height of 100 metres, security fencing and associated foundation and hard-standing area;
 - vi. 1 no. new site entrance on the R332 in the townland Lisavally;
 - vii. 1 no. new access and egress point off the L6056 Local Road in the townland of Dangan Eighter;
 - viii. 1 no. new access and egress point on to an existing access track in the townland of Dangan Eighter;
 - ix. 2 no. new access and egress points off the L6301 Local Road in the townland of Cooloo and Lecarrow;
 - x. Upgrade of existing site tracks/roads and provision of new site access roads, clear span crossings, junctions and hard-standing areas;
 - xi. A new temporary access road from N63 national road and to R332 Regional Road in the townland of Slievegorm to facilitate the delivery of turbine components and other abnormal sized loads;
 - xii. Demolition of an existing derelict house and adjacent outbuilding in the townland of Cooloo;
 - xiii. Peat and Spoil Management Areas;
 - xiv. Tree felling and hedgerow removal;
 - xv. Biodiversity Management and Enhancement measures;
 - xvi. Site Drainage;
 - xvii. Operational Stage site signage; and
 - xviii. All ancillary apparatus and site development works above and below ground, including soft and hard landscaping.

A 10-year planning permission and 35-year operational life of the wind farm from the date of commissioning of the entire wind farm is sought (other than temporary and permanent works specified above).

A design flexibility opinion issued by An Coimisiún Pleanála on 19th September 2025 accompanies this application. The details unconfirmed in the application are the turbine rotor diameter and hub height. The range of parameters under which the turbine dimensions will fall are specified on this notice and in the design flexibility opinion that accompanies this application.

This development is covered by the provisions of the Renewable Energy Directive III (Directive (EU) 2023/2413) and it is important to note that the planning application may be subject to section 37JA of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. When a notice issues in accordance with section 37JA(b), the provisions of article 216A of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 to 2025 shall apply.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany the planning application. The EIAR assesses the proposed development, as specified above, as well as integral elements of the wider project consisting of grid connection and battery storage infrastructure which constitutes a 110kV electrical substation and battery energy storage system in the townland of Dangan Eighter, Co. Galway and underground electrical cabling in the townlands of Lissavally, Dangan Eighter, Dangan Oughter, Polladooey, Slievegorm, Dangan Beg, Sunhill, Derreen, Moyne, Newtown, Abbey, Feagh West, Garra, Ballina, Gortbeg, Ballynastuckaun, Doonbeg, Rathmore, Ballindery, Ballykeaghra and Cloonascragh, Co. Galway. The grid connection and battery storage infrastructure will be the subject of a separate, future planning application to the relevant consenting authority.

The planning application, EIAR and NIS may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such a copy) during public opening hours for a period of seven weeks commencing on the **3rd October 2025** at the following locations:

- **The Offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902 (9:15am – 5:30pm, Monday – Friday).**
- **The Offices of Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway (9:00am- 4:00pm Monday- Friday).**

The application may also be viewed/downloaded on the following website: **www.cooloowfplanning.com**

Submissions or Observations may be made only to An Coimisiún Pleanála (“the Commission”) 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 or via the Commission’s website **www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/observations** during the above-mentioned period of seven weeks relating to:

- i. The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and
- ii. The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
- iii. The likely effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received by the Commission not later than **5:30pm on 21st November 2025**. Such submissions/observations must also include the following information:

- The name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent,
- The subject matter of the submission or observation, and
- The reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full (Article 217 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, refers).

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Commission. The Commission may at its absolute discretion hold an oral hearing on the application (refer to ‘A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development’ at **www.pleanala.ie**)

The Commission may in respect of an application for permission decide to:

- a) (i) grant the permission, or
- (ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its decision and grant permission in respect of the proposed development as so modified, or
- (iii) grant permission in respect of part of the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or
- b) Refuse to grant the permission

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Development Section of An Coimisiún Pleanála (Tel. 01-8588100).

A person may question the validity of any such decision of the Commission by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986, as amended by S.I. No. 691 of 2011), in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended.

Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed on the Commission’s website (**www.pleanala.ie**) under the following heading: Legal Notices – Judicial Review Notice. This information is also available on the Citizens Information Service website **www.citizensinformation.ie**

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