



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

11th July 2022

Mr. Michael Murnane
Planree Ltd.,
Lissarda Industrial Park,
Lissardagh,
Co. Cork
P14 YN56

Ref. No. 22/48A

Re: Meenbog Wind Farm – Notices under Section 12 of the WPA

Dear Mr. Murnane,

Further to your letter of 16th May 2022, in relation to the above, I write to advise you of the Council's response, taking into account the findings of the most recent site visit, on Friday 8th instant, which can be summarised as follows:

1. The restoration works physically completed in mid-May, including the seeding of exposed peat, have now reached the stage where the desired vegetation cover has become established in most areas. The planting of saplings in open areas along the banks of the stream has also been successful, although there are a few areas where additional planting may be recommended.
2. The area below Wall 1, the first area to be seeded, remains in good condition and has taken on the appearance of a natural, undisturbed habitat.
3. The area immediately above Wall 1 featuring a small pond, has shown an improvement in vegetation cover since the previous inspection.
4. Between Wall 1 and Wall 2, there are extensive areas which had been sown in mid-May and there are encouraging signs of growth along the banks of the stream which is clearly defined, with clean gravel evident in its bed.
5. The area between this section and the right turn up to the scar area and Wall 3 was restored in mid-May and grass is now growing through the coir matting in most areas.
6. The small stream coming down the hill from wall 3 has been joined to the main channel at an acute angle, which minimizes the risk of bank erosion, and there are signs of vegetation cover becoming established.
7. The section leading uphill to Wall 3 was reseeded late last year but any growth emerging at that time has since died away, requiring further reseeding to be done. The trees planted in this area have survived.

I believe Donegal Co. Council is now in a position to close out all of the Section 12 notices issued, as all of the seeded areas have shown encouraging signs of growth and establishment, (which reduces the likelihood of any significant sediment release), and the monitoring data obtained for the Shruhangeve and Mournebeg has been satisfactory.

We would like to commend your company and the staff involved in the restoration work, which has been very well designed and executed, and for their courtesy and co-operation since the incident began. We would also encourage you to maintain your commitment and place a strong emphasis and vigilance on the current surface water quality monitoring programmes, as the project moves into the next phases.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joe Ferry", written in dark ink on a white background.

Joe Ferry, (Dr)
A/Senior Executive Scientist



Photo 1- area where Wall 2 was located, showing new vegetation growth, 8/7/22



Photo 2 - area upstream of Wall 2 was located, showing grass growth in coir matting, 8/7/22



Photo 3 – sapling growing in area where wall 2 was located, 8/7/22



Photo 4- confluence of stream from Wall 3 & Sruhengarve stream, 8/7/22



Photo 5 - Sruhengarve stream, looking up towards Wall 3, 8/7/22



31st May 2022

Mr. Michael Murnane
Planree Ltd.,
Lissarda Industrial Park,
Lissardagh,
Co. Cork
P14 YN56

Ref. No. 22/14A

Re: Meenbog Wind Farm – Notices under Section 12 of the WPA

Dear Mr. Murnane,

Further to your letter of 16th May 2022, in relation to the above, I write to advise you of the Council's response, taking into account the findings of the recent site visit on Friday 20th instant which can be summarised as follows:

1. While the restoration works may have been physically completed, including the seeding of exposed peat, much of this work has been recent and as yet it is not possible to conclude that the desired vegetation cover will become established.
2. The area below Wall 1 was the first area to be seeded, with the stream pathway reinforced by coir matting prior to Christmas 2020, and this has returned to what looks like its former condition.
3. The area above Wall 1 features a small pond, which wasn't there previously and there are areas of exposed peat which are not yet covered in vegetation.
4. Between Wall 1 and Wall 2, (the latter which doesn't exist as a barrier anymore), there are extensive areas which have been sown but in which there are no signs of growth as yet, but the stream is clearly defined.
5. The area between this section and the right turn up to the scar area and Wall 3 has only recently been restored and coir matting is visible, with no new growth as yet.
6. The section leading up hill to Wall 3 was reseeded late last year but any growth emerging at that time has since died away, requiring further reseeding to be done. The trees planted in this area have survived.

In looking at the conditions in the last of the 3 notices, Ref No: 21/14, I would draw your attention to the following, in light of the above observations:

Schedule A

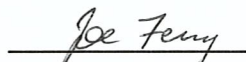
1. *The Holder shall carry out restoration works in order to eliminate or limit the release of polluting matter (peat or sediment) from the areas of the peat slide, and down gradient of it, where material has been deposited and mitigate against the further dispersal of peat and sediment, deposited along the banks of the Shruhangerve stream, by the water-course through and beyond the confines of the Meenbog Wind Farm site.*

Cuir freagra chuig: Ionad Seirbhísí Pobail, Bóthar Neil T. Uí Bhléine, Leitir Ceanainn, Contae Dhún na nGall F92 TNY3
Please reply to: Public Service Centre, Neil T. Blaney Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal F92 TNY3

I believe it would be premature for us to close out this notice until the recently seeded areas show some signs of growth and establishment, in order to reduce the likelihood of significant sediment release. If the weather and growing conditions are suitable over the coming weeks and months, we can organise a further site visit and would have no difficulty in closing out the notices if there has been improvement in that regard.

I would like to commend your company and the staff involved in the restoration work, which has been very well designed and executed so far, and for their courtesy and co-operation since the incident began. The past month hasn't been very favourable in this part of the country for growth, which has set back final approval, but hopefully we'll see some heat to remedy that shortly.

Yours sincerely



Joe Ferry, (Dr)
A/Senior Executive Scientist

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