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MACCABE DURNEY BARNES

PLANNING | ENVIRONMENT | ECONOMICS

Our Ref: 2306-Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase I Decommissioning

Ms Emer O’Gorman
Chief Executive
Wicklow County Council
County Buildings
Whitegates
Wicklow Town
A67 FW96

Wednesday 9th September

Re: Notice of making an application to An Coimisiún Pleanála under section 291 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, for the decommissioning of Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase I

Dear Ms O’Gorman,

We, MacCabe Durney Barnes, wish to notify you that our client, Arklow Energy Limited (AEL), 25 North Wall Quay, Dublin 1, D01 H104, intends to apply to An Coimisiún Pleanála (“the Commission”) for permission under Section 291 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended (the “Act”), for the decommissioning of Arklow Bank Wind Park (ABWP) Phase I.

A description of the proposed development is set out below:

The decommissioning of the Arklow Bank Wind Park (ABWP) Phase I, an offshore wind farm (OWF), consisting of a generating station with wind turbine generators (WTGs) located in the maritime area, in the Irish Sea, approximately 10 km off the County Wicklow Coast. The onshore substation is located on North Quay in the Arklow Harbour, Arklow, Co. Wicklow. The Proposed Works Offshore will consist of the decommissioning of the generating station, the met mast and the Proposed Works Onshore will consist of the decommissioning of the onshore transmission infrastructure.

The Proposed Works Offshore will consist of:

- The dismantling and removal of the 7 no. WTGs components including full de-energising of the WTGs, permanent removal of the rotors and blades, removal of the nacelles and of the towers.
- The dismantling and removal of the Met Mast , specifically of the top section that includes the meteorological sensors and of the triangular platform.
- The cutting out of the transition pieces, connecting the WTGs and met mast to their foundations.
- The cutting of the monopiles in water depths ranging from -6.59m mLAT (WTG 2) to -10.55 mLAT (met mast) and associated dredging to facilitate removal.
- The removal of residual scour protection.

- The unburial, cutting and removal of all inter-array cables which are approximately 7.4 km in length with a diameter of 100 mm.
- The unburial, cutting and removal of the offshore export cable which is approximately 15.6 km in length to the landfall point with a diameter of 127mm.

The Proposed Works Onshore will consist of:

- The dismantling and removal of the substation building and all internal equipment.
- The removal of cooling oil from transformer and transport to a licensed waste facility.
- The removal of grey water from submerged oil interceptor tanks.
- The excavation and removal of concrete bund.
- The permanent removal of onshore cable between the landfall point and the onshore substation.
- The clearance, levelling and reinstatement of the site.

Planning permission is sought up to **the 19th June 2033** to align with the duration of the Foreshore Sub Lease.

The proposed development is not likely to have significant effects on the environment of the United Kingdom and Isle of Man, state party to the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has not identified any significant transboundary effects.

The application relates to a development which comprises an activity requiring a Dumping at Sea permit.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development.

A schedule of the documentation provided as part of this planning application can be viewed under **Appendix 1** of the **Planning Application Form Appendices**. Two hard copies and two digital copies of the full application are enclosed for your information. The application may also be inspected online at the project website set up by the applicant: <http://www.arklowbank1decomm-planning.ie/>

We have also included a shapefile of the planning application boundary in the digital copies only.

Please note that Wicklow County Council as the Coastal Planning Authority is required to make this planning application available for public inspection / purchase as stated in the public notices (Appendix 3 of the **Planning Application Form Appendices**). The application documentation shall remain available for public inspection during the entire determination period.

Pursuant to Section 291(4) of the Act, Wicklow County Council, in its capacity as a Coastal Planning Authority, may prepare and submit a report to the Board within 10 weeks of the making of the Section 291 application (or within such other period as may be specified by the Board). The report should set out the Council's views on the proposed development, having particular regard to the matters that a Coastal Planning Authority is required to consider under Section 34(2) and Section 282(2) of the Act in relation to an application referred to in Section 281(3).

In addition to the report referred to above, the Commission may require Wicklow County Council to furnish such further information as it may specify in relation to:

- i. The implication of the proposed development for maritime spatial planning;
- ii. The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development in the functional area concerned; and
- iii. The likely effects on the environment or any European site.

Please note that the Commission, following its consideration of the application, can decide to:

- a) (i) grant the permission / approval, or
(ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its decision and grant permission/approval in respect of the proposed development as so modified, or
(iii) grant permission/approval in respect of part of the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind),

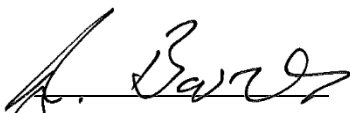
and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions,

or

- b) refuse to grant the permission/approval.

Any enquiries relating to the application should be directed to An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1.

Yours sincerely



Jerry Barnes
Director
MACCABE DURNEY BARNES