



An Roinn
Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta
Department of
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Planning Ref: 15/6966

(Please quote in all related correspondence)

02 February 2016

Director of Services - Planning
Cork County Council
County Hall
Carrigrohane Road
Cork

Re: Notification to the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht under Article 28 (Part 4) or Article 82 (Part 8) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended.

Proposed Development: Planning Application 156966 by Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd. for a proposed windfarm at Cloontycarthy, Cleanrath North, Cleanrath South, D, Rathgaskig, Derragh, Augeris, Gorteenakilla, Carri, Co. Cork.

A Chara,

On behalf of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, I refer to correspondence received in relation to the above.

Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations of the Department under the stated heading(s).

Nature Conservation

Most of the proposed wind-farm is within the catchment of the Toon River (see Fig. 7.2, EIS), which is part of the Gearagh candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC) (108), designated for, amongst others, the habitat type 'Alluvial forest with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (91E0)', referred to here as 'alluvial woodland' (this is a priority habitat under the Habitats Directive (Council Directive Directive 92/43/EEC (as amended))). A site synopsis and conservation objectives for this site are available at <http://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000108>

The remainder of the proposed wind-farm is within the catchment of Lough Allua proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA) (1065), upstream of the River Lee catchment of the above-mentioned the Gearagh cSAC. Lough Allua pNHA is listed in Cork County Development Plan (Table 3.4) and is the subject of Objective HE 2-1.

The strictly protected species Kerry slug (listed in Annex IV of the EU Habitats Directive) occurs within the area of the proposed development (Appendix 5-5 of the EIS). It is protected under Article 12 of the EU Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC (as amended)) and Regulation 51 of the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I No. 477 of 2011). A derogation licence is necessary if the breeding site or resting place of this species is to be damaged or destroyed, and it is recommended that this licence, if granted, is obtained before the decision to grant planning permission is made.

The proposed turbine haulage and cable routes are within the range of the otter, also a strictly protected species, as above. Where any road improvements are required at river crossings, a survey for breeding sites and resting places of this species is recommended within 50m of the river

crossing. A derogation licence is necessary if the breeding site or resting place of these species is to be damaged or destroyed.

Conservation Issues requiring further information.

The following are considered to be ecological conservation issues which require further information for a definitive assessment (details given below):

- In-combination downstream erosion effects on the Gearagh cSAC.
- Clarification of difference in calculated runoff rates between Derragh wind-farm EIS (Table 9.6 of Chapter 9 of the EIS) (Planning reference PL04.245082).
- Mitigation and derogation licence for Kerry slug.
- Survey of river crossings for otters, and a derogation licence if necessary.
- Clarification as to why merlin was excluded from collision risk assessment.

In-combination effects on the Gearagh cSAC.

Increased efficiency of drainage of upland areas, due to the combination of many drainage works for farms, forests and roads, can, at least initially, result in accelerated runoff, with greater storm hydrographic peaks where more water flows through the river system in a shorter time period (e.g. Holden *et al.*, 2006¹). This can exacerbate flood levels in rivers due to the increasing magnitude of rain events, likely to be due to climate change, where exceptional falls of rain occur in more intense and more frequent periods (e.g. Fowler *et al.*, 2007²). Any one unmitigated drainage project, such as the estimated 3 km of new trackway in this case³, can apparently have minor effects (0.09% increase in runoff in the Toon catchment in this case⁴), but taken together with several hundred others in a catchment, the in-combination effect can be significant.

In a recent petition to the European Parliament (1056/2013⁵) and complaint to the European Commission, Mr Kevin Corcoran (West Cork Ecology Centre) raised this issue in relation to developments in the River Toon catchment affecting the Gearagh cSAC, especially drainage associated with wind-farms.

Part of the proposed wind farm (the trackway and hardstanding of eight turbines) is within the catchment of the River Toon, which flows into the Gearagh cSAC downstream of Toon Bridge. Here the river enters one of the best of the very few examples of an anastomosing⁶ lowland forested river in north-west Europe. The remainder (three turbines and associated trackways) are within the catchment of the River Lee, which begins to contribute to the anastomosing system from the south, approximately 0.4km below Toon Bridge. The issue here is whether increased spate loads (increased hydrographic peaks), especially on the Toon River, are creating a canalisation of the Toon River within the alluvial forest, to the detriment of the anastomosing system, and whether this will lead to (a) erosion and loss of islands in the Toon part of the system, and (b) isolation and drying of secondary water diversion channels. Apparently, a critical feature of anastomosis is the occurrence of erosion resistant banks and stable channels (unlike braided rivers), and the question is whether these are being eroded by increased surface drainage in the Toon River catchment upstream, and whether future surface drainage for wind-farms, such as the proposed development, will contribute to this, in-combination with existing drainage.

¹ Holden, J., Evans, M.G., Burt, T.P. and Horton, M. (2006) Impact of land drainage on peatland hydrology. *Journal of Environmental Quality* **35**: 1764-1778.

² Fowler, H., Ekström, M., Blenkinsop, S. and Smith, A.P. (2007) Estimating change in extreme European precipitation using a multi-model ensemble. *Journal of Geophysical Research* **112** D18104, doi:10.1029/2007JD008619.

³ Estimated from Fig. 3 (Peat depth contour plan).

⁴ P. 7-15 of the EIS.

⁵ file:///C:/Users/good_j/Desktop/Documents/2015%20cases/Planning%20Applications/Derragh%20wind%20farm/Eur%20Parl%20petition.pdf

⁶ 'Anastomosing' rivers have multiple, interconnected, coexisting channel belts on alluvial plains (Makaske, B. (2001) Anastomosing rivers: a review of their classification, origin and sedimentary products. *Earth-Science Reviews* **53**: 149-196). The river and the woodland habitat must be taken together as a coherent biogeomorphological system (Brown, A.G. (1997) Biogeomorphology and diversity in multiple-channel systems. *Global Ecology and Biogeography Letters* **6**: 179-185).

Increased erosion is now a characteristic of many spate rivers in high rainfall areas in the western counties of Ireland. It is technically difficult to disassociate the effects of climate change (increased magnitude rain events) from increased surface runoff due to better land drainage, and the extent of the latter can also depend on soil properties. Separating the effects of near-receptor site lowland drainage from drainage further up the catchment is also difficult. However, both demonstrably effective mitigation measures to attenuate surface runoff speed from wind-farm road drains, and a clear and precise assessment of their likely success, in-combination with existing drainage, is required.

The Natura Impact Statement (NIS) addressed potential effects on the Gearagh cSAC alluvial forest habitat of changes in hydrological functioning (p. 28). However, it does not appear to have fully assessed in-combination effects of increased rates of runoff and consequent greater hydrographic peak on the Gearagh cSAC, as it refers to Section 8 (should be Section 7, p. 35-36) of the NIS which, in turn refers to Chapter 7 of the EIS. In Chapter 7 of the EIS (p. 7-15), it is calculated that there will be a potential increase of 0.09% in average runoff from the study area due to the proposed development. This is considered to be a negligible impact (p. 7-30) on the Gearagh cSAC, but in-combination effects (with forestry, agriculture, roads, etc., as well as wind farms) have not been assessed. Section 7.4.7 refers to cumulative impacts, but the Toon River catchment is not assessed.

It is important to distinguish between cumulative effects (as used in EIA) which are the accumulation of similar developments (e.g. other wind-farms, as listed in Table 7.12), and in-combination effects (as used in Habitats Directive assessment) which are the development effects in-combination with all other developments affecting the target habitat. This requires a baseline knowledge of the erosion state of the habitat within the cSAC, which is missing from the NIS. If damage is already occurring due to the drainage efficiency of the catchment, it may be necessary to demonstrate how *any* net increase in hydrographic peaks will be avoided.

A reasoned quantitative calculation of the expected change in surface runoff from the development site, after the proposed mitigation measures are put in place, and taking into account climate change, should be requested by way of further information. The quantitative basis for negligible *in-combination* effects of surface run-off should be clearly and definitively established. There are welcome mitigation measures proposed (e.g. for flush flow maintenance near turbine T9 and T4 (p. 7-36 of the EIS), but these need to be quantified relative to the likely total extent of road cutting capture to surface of smaller subsoil groundwater flows.

Run-off rates from Derragh wind-farm.

The calculated runoff rates for the nearby Derragh wind-farm (planning reference PL04.245082) EIS are given as a 0.25% increase for the Toon catchment (Table 9.6 of Chapter 9 of the Derragh wind farm EIS). The equivalent rate for this application is 0.09%. While the difference between these may be due to site-specific factors, nevertheless, given that 0.09% is smaller, it is worthwhile clarifying the difference between the two values.

Effects on strictly protected species - Kerry slug.

It is stated, in Subsection 10.1 of Appendix 5-5 of the EIS, that it is proposed to recreate habitat of this species which will be lost due to the proposed development, but that: "The final detail on how habitats will be replaced will be carried out in consultation with the NPWS." This appears to be leaving matters for further assessment over after the decision to grant planning permission. The derogation licence, if granted, should (a) be required as further information, and the EIS should (b) assess the efficacy of the options for recreating habitat in sufficient detail so that the conclusion of no adverse effects on the species and its habitat can be justified. Also, (c) the procedure for removing specimens of this species from areas where they are likely to be killed or disturbed due to works for the proposed development should be assessed in the EIS.

Effects on strictly protected species – Otter.

A survey for breeding sites and resting places of otters at river crossings (where significant road or bridge works are likely to be carried out on the haulage route or cable route), following best-

practice guidance, should be carried out, and any necessary derogation licence, if granted, made available to the planning authority.

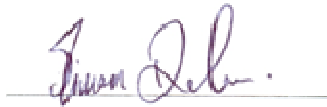
Effects on protected species – Merlin.

Merlin is a species listed in Annex I of the EU Birds Directive (Council Directive 2009/147/EC), and there is an obligation to strive to avoid deterioration of its habitat outside Special Protection Areas under the Directive. Merlins were observed on site (Table 5.11 of the EIS), and can fly upwards rapidly during hunting chases so could fly into the rotor swept zone of the turbine blades. Greater clarification is needed as to why they were excluded from the collision risk modelling (Subsection 5.6.4.2.1 of the EIS).

You are requested to send further communications to this Department's Development Applications Unit (DAU) via **eReferral**, where used, or to manager.dau@ahq.gov.ie; if emailing is not possible, correspondence may alternatively be sent to:

The Manager
Development Applications Unit (DAU)
Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Newtown Road
Wexford

Is mise, le meas



Name
Development Applications Unit
Tel: 053-911

Eoin McCarthy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sharon Casey** <Sharon.Casey@corkcoco.ie>

Date: 8 December 2015 at 13:54

Subject: RE: Cleanrath windfarm

To: Tom Gittings <tgittings@gmail.com>

Cc: Melissa Walsh <Melissa.Walsh@corkcoco.ie>, Carol Stack <Carol.Stack@corkcoco.ie>

Hi Tom,

Thanks for email and apologies for delay in replying, things are a bit hectic here. I have also received a formal preplanning letter from McCarthy, Keville re this proposal, I propose not to reply to that, but to let this response be my formal response on the issue if that is OK. As you are aware, this application was previously assessed by ourselves and you may have seen from my reports on file that I had concerns with the previous application in relation to some of the turbines which I felt were located on habitats of high ecological value. I don't know whether you are proposing to maintain turbines in previously permitted locations, but if not, I would advise that in identifying site layout that bog and heath habitats would be avoided when establishing layout for turbines, borrow pits, hardstands, gridline and roads in so far as possible.

Re AA issues, most of the this site is located within the catchment of the Gearagh and therefore consideration of potential for impacts on both the SAC and the SPA will need to be included in your screening report or NIS. The primary issue of concern in relation to the SAC will be management of surface water to prevent excess run-off from the site and/or risk of pollution. Anything which could affect hydrological conditions downstream would be a concern. You may also want to examine whether the site is of any importance for ex situ populations of any of the species for which the SPA is designated?

In relation to birds, I would recommend that scoping would be completed to determine what surveys are required and that any surveys identified to be needed would be completed having regard to SNH Guidelines – Recommended bird survey methods to inform impact assessment of onshore windfarms (May 2014).

I am not aware that there are any other species of concern which need to be considered, but certainly potential for impacts on bat species would need to be addressed in the EIS, although maybe the site is at too high an altitude for it to be likely that there could be impacts on bat populations?

Potential for impacts on freshwater habitats and species would be the other primary issue which I would think that would need to be addressed in the EIS.

Regards for now,

Sharon

Sharon Casey, Planning Department, Cork County Council Ph: 021 428 5869

[Biodiversity and the Planning Process](#)

www.corkcoco.ie/heritage

From: Tom Gittings [mailto:tgittings@gmail.com]

Sent: 03 December 2015 10:54

To: Sharon Casey
Subject: Cleanrath windfarm

Dear Sharon,

I am writing in connection with a proposed windfarm development at Cleanrath, Co. Cork. Planning permission was previously granted for a windfarm development on this site under planning ref 11/5245, and upheld on appeal (appeal ref PL 04.240801). The applicant now intends to apply for revised planning permission. I have been commissioned by McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. to prepare the EIS Ecology chapter, and the NIS, for the revised application.

The site location is shown on the attached study area map. The windfarm will include 11 turbines. The revised application will also include the grid connection. The study area map includes the cable route and transport routes, which will be along the road network (the cables will be underground).

I would welcome any comments you may wish to make about this matter, particularly in relation to any specific issues that need to be addressed in the EIS/NIS, and any relevant baseline data that may be available that would assist the assessment.

Please let me know if you need any further information.

Thanks and regards,

Tom

--

Tom Gittings BSc PhD MCIEEM

Ecological Consultant

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Roinn Cumarsáide,
Fuinnimh & Acmhainní Nádurtha
Department of Communications,
Energy & Natural Resources



Eoin McCarthy
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan
Block 1, G.F.S.C.
Moneenageisha Road
Galway

11 January 2016

RE: EIA Scoping Document for Proposed Wind Energy Development at Cleanrath North, Cleanrath South and Derrineanig, Macroom, Co. Cork

Project Number: 110721-c

GSI Ref: 15/232

Dear Eoin,

I would like to acknowledge receipt of your email and attachment of the 3rd December 2015 concerning the above.

1. GUIDELINES

The *Ground Conditions/Geology Section (5.3)* of the DOEHLG Wind and Energy Development Guidelines (2006) emphasises the importance of carrying out “geological and geotechnical assessment of the bedrock with regard to slope stability”.

The following guidelines may also be of assistance:

- Irish Wind Energy Association (IWEA), 2012. Best Practice Guidelines for the Irish Wind Energy Industry.
- Institute of Geologists of Ireland (IGI), 2013. Guidelines for the Preparation of the Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology Chapters of Geology in Environmental Impact Statements.

2. DATASETS AND VIEWERS

To assist you with the compilation of the “Soils & Geology” and “Water” chapters of the Environmental Impact Assessment, and also future ones, maps and datasets are currently available for viewing and/or download on GSI website under “Online Mapping”- direct link: www.gsi.ie/mapping.htm with the new “GSI Spatial Resources Viewer” (2016): <http://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/?appid=a30af518e87a4c0ab2fbde2aaac3c228>

Datasets can be downloaded from:

<http://www.dcenr.gov.ie/natural-resources/en-ie/Geological-Survey-of-Ireland/Pages/Data-Downloads.aspx>



2.1.Landslides data

Landslide and slope stability risk assessment for the site is recommended, as per above mentioned guidelines. For landslide records dedicated viewer, see www.gsi.ie/mapping or direct link: <http://spatial.dcenr.gov.ie/GeologicalSurvey/LandslidesViewer/index.html> .

The GSI is compiling a National Landslide Susceptibility Map with associated viewer. The data is currently available for east Leinster and the greater Cork region. For updates on this mapping programme, visit: <http://www.gsi.ie/Programmes/Quaternary+Geotechnical/Landslides/National+Landslide+Susceptibility+Mapping.htm>.

Should you have any query in relation to the landslide database, please contact Charise McKeon, Landslide Susceptibility Mapping Project, at charise.mckeon@gsi.ie , 01-678 2752.

2.2.Geological Heritage data

Geological Heritage should be covered under the “Soils and Geology” chapter.

Geological Heritage data can now be viewed online on the “GSI Spatial Resources Viewer” at the above mentioned link or through its dedicated viewer: <http://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b245c2bd11a64162a1632ad6bccf8e34&scale=0>

There are two map layers under ‘GSI - Irish Geological Heritage Sites’:

1. ‘Heritage Sites Audited Boundaries’: a national dataset (one shapefile with boundary polygons) showing the County Geological Sites that have been audited to date (16 counties available in 2016).

County Geological Sites audit data are also available for download as individual county shapefiles and site report pdfs at: <http://www.gsi.ie/Programmes/Heritage+and+Planning/County+Geological+Sites+Audits/>

2. ‘Heritage Sites Unaudited Boundaries’: a national dataset (one shapefile with buffer polygons) covering all the other counties not yet audited, indicating the provisional location/extent of sites. These sites have buffers appropriate to their type (or theme), ranging between 200m, 500m and 1000m (for the largest landscape/glacial features). These are not ‘mitigation’ buffers, but an attempt to encompass the extent of the particular type of site. These are not yet available to download. The ‘No Boundaries’ data is provisional data only. As each county’s geological heritage is audited, the ‘No Boundaries’ data will be replaced with the audited ‘Boundaries’ data, so please re-visit the viewer regularly for updates. There can also be *ad hoc* updates of individual site data at any time.

Please note that all the above sites are of, at least, County Geological Site (CGS) status (some are also recommended for designation as Natural Heritage Areas) and are included in the relevant County Development Plan with associated protection objective/s or policy.

Should you identify a Geological Heritage Site with buffer within your study area in the future, please contact Sarah Gatley, Geological Heritage and Planning Programme, at sarah.gatley@gsi.ie, 01-678 2837 for further information and possible mitigation measures if applicable.



2.3. Aggregate Potential Mapping

In order to document the “Geological Resource Importance” chapter, please note that GSI Minerals Programme has compiled an “Aggregate Potential Mapping” (APM) project (for crushed rocks and sand and gravel pits) with an online viewer accessible either from GSI website: www.gsi.ie/mapping or direct link: <http://spatial.dcenr.gov.ie/GeologicalSurvey/APM/>. Only half of the country data have been published online so far, but data have been compiled for the entire country. Should you have any query on the APM project, or require the data that are not yet available online, please contact Gerry Stanley, Minerals Programme, at gerry.stanley@gsi.ie, 01-678 2863.

3. EIA SCOPING DOCUMENT, COMMENTS FOR THE PROPOSED TABLE OF CONTENTS (4.2.5.) **CHAPTERS 6 “GEOLOGY & SOILS” AND 7 “HYDROLOGY & HYDROGEOLOGY”**

6.3.2. Soils and Subsoils

Most of the proposed windfarm area is exposed bedrock, with a bit of peat and some till derived from Devonian Sandstone. There is a record of peat slide at about 7 km North West of the proposed windfarm. The landslide database is far from exhaustive. I would refer to the above paragraphs “Guidelines” and “Landslides data”.

6.3.3. Bedrock geology

Two faults along with Geological Formations boundaries have been identified within the perimeter of the proposed windfarm. These represent faster entry pathways for contaminants to groundwater.

6.3.4. Geological Resource Importance

The APM indicates that the Southern half and the North Eastern parts of the proposed windfarm yield a high potential for crushed aggregates.

6.3.5. Geological Heritage

There are no sites of geological heritage interest within the perimeter of the proposed windfarm. The closest identified geological heritage sites lie between 3 to 10 km from the proposed windfarm and are unlikely to be affected by the development, therefore no impact is anticipated on geological heritage.

6.4.2. Impacts during construction phase

Soils are already limited within the proposed windfarm area. Any soil removal will have implication for groundwater vulnerability as loss of filtering layers allows contaminants to enter groundwater faster. Also careful consideration should be given for the disposal of soil removed, especially in peat area, to avoid triggering any landslide.

7.4.2. Impacts during construction phase

Groundwater vulnerability is classified as extreme for the proposed windfarm area due to mainly exposed bedrock. Any removal of remaining soils/subsoils will increase groundwater vulnerability. Therefore measures for waste water disposal, cement discharge and fuel leakages/spillages linked to the construction phase mainly, should be addressed in the EIA along with an emergency plan in place before works start to prevent pollution and contamination of groundwater

Other comments

At a later stage, GSI would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. The data would be added to GSI’s national database of site investigation boreholes,



implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to Beatriz Mozo, Land Mapping Unit, at beatriz.mozo@gsi.ie, 01-678 2795.

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if the GSI can be of any further help, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Sophie Préteseille, Geologist
Information Management Programme
E. sophie.preteseille@gsi.ie
T. 01-678 2897



Email: info@mccarthykos.ie

8 January, 2016

TII15-93761

Re: EIS Scoping for a proposed Wind Farm Development at Cleanrath North, Cleanrath South and Derrineanig, Macroom, Co. Cork

Dear Mr. McCarthy,

TII wishes to advise that it is not in a position to engage directly with planning applicants in respect to proposed developments. TII will endeavour to consider and respond to planning applications referred to it given its status and duties as a statutory consultee under the Planning Acts. The approach to be adopted by TII in making such submissions or comments will seek to uphold official policy and guidelines as outlined in the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DoECLG, 2012). Regard should also be had to other relevant guidance and circulars available at www.tii.ie.

The issuing of this correspondence is provided as best practice guidance only and does not prejudice TII's statutory right to make any observations, requests for further information, objections or appeals following the examination of any valid planning application referred.

With respect to EIS scoping issues, the recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of EIS, which may affect the National Roads Network.

The developer should have regard, *inter alia*, to the following;

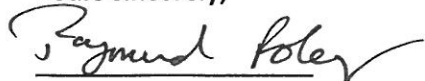
- Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office with regard to locations of existing and future national road schemes; N22 Ballyvourney – Macroom – Ballincollig Road Improvement Scheme,
- TII would be specifically concerned as to potential significant impacts the development would have on the national road network (and junctions with national roads) in the proximity of the proposed development; N22,
- The developer should assess visual impacts from existing national roads,
- The developer should have regard to any Environmental Impact Statement and all conditions and/or modifications imposed by An Bord Pleanála regarding road schemes in the area. The developer should in particular have regard to any potential cumulative impacts,
- The developer, in conducting Environmental Impact Assessment, should have regard to the NRA DMRB and the NRA Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works,
- The developer, in conducting Environmental Impact Assessment, should have regard to the NRA's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, including the *Guidelines for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes* (National Roads Authority, 2006),

- The EIS should consider the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 (SI 140 of 2006) and, in particular, how the development will affect future action plans by the relevant competent authority. The developer may need to consider the incorporation of noise barriers to reduce noise impacts (see *Guidelines for the Treatment of Noise and Vibration in National Road Schemes* (1st Rev., National Roads Authority, 2004)),
- It would be important that, where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment be carried out in accordance with relevant guidelines, noting traffic volumes attending the site and traffic routes to/from the site with reference to impacts on the national road network and junctions of lower category roads with national roads. The Authority's Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the national road network. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of the NRA/TII TTA Guidelines which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA. It is noted that the methodology outlined in Section 4.2.4.6 of the EIS Scoping document does not fully reflect the requirements of the NRA/TII TTA Guidelines (2014),
- The designers are asked to consult the National Roads Authority's DMRB *Road Safety Audit* (NRA HD 19) to determine whether a Road Safety Audit is required,
- In the interests of maintaining the safety and standard of the national road network, the EIS should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network,
- In relation to haul route identification, the applicant/developer should clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. Separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route and all structures on the haul route should be checked by the applicant/developer to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal load proposed,
- In relation to cabling and potential connection routing, the scheme promoter should note locations of existing and future national road schemes and develop proposals to safeguard proposed road schemes and in the context of existing national roads, should be aware that separate approvals may be required for works traversing the national road network. The Authority requests referral of any agreements between the local authority and the scheme promoter in that regard.

Notwithstanding, any of the above, the developer should be aware that this list is non-exhaustive, thus site and development specific issues should be addressed in accordance with best practise.

I hope that the above comments are of use in your scoping process.

Yours sincerely,



Raymond Foley,
Regulatory & Administration Unit.

Eoin McCarthy

From: McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd.
Sent: Monday, December 07, 2015 9:58 AM
To: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: FW: EIA Scoping Document for Proposed Wind Energy Development at Cleanrath North, Cleanrath South and Derrineanig, Macroom, County Cork
Attachments: RESENT - EIA Scoping Document for Proposed Wind Energy Development at Cleanrath North, Cleanrath South and Derrineanig, Macroom, County Cork; 110721c - EIS SD - 2015.12.02 - F.PDF

Aoife Quinn
Administrator

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd.
Planning & Environmental Consultants

Block 1, G.F.S.C. Moneenageisha Road, Galway.

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From: John Bagnall [mailto:John.Bagnall@mosaicnet.ie]
Sent: 03 December 2015 14:31
To: McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. <info@mccarthykos.ie>
Subject: RE: EIA Scoping Document for Proposed Wind Energy Development at Cleanrath North, Cleanrath South and Derrineanig, Macroom, County Cork

Eoin,

We have no microwave link or sites in the vicinity of Proposed Wind Energy Development at Cleanrath North, Cleanrath South and Derrineanig, Macroom, County Cork our closest one is 1km away, the proposed plot is ok to proceed.

If the plot is redesigned within the area please send to the new locations.

Please be advised that my checks are for the Meteor network only.

Regards,

John Bagnall | Mosaic

Transmission Design & Engineering

3rd Floor, 5 Harbourmaster Place,

IFSC, Dublin 1.

M +353 (0)85 1053746 | E john.bagnall@mosaicnet.ie

From: McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. [<mailto:info@mccarthykos.ie>]

Sent: 03 December 2015 11:45

To: WindFarmsDG

Subject: FW: EIA Scoping Document for Proposed Wind Energy Development at Cleanrath North, Cleanrath South and Derrineanig, Macroom, County Cork

To whom it may concern,

I refer to the attached application for an extension of the effective period of Pl. Ref. 05/3042. The development description for the permitted application is as follows:

"Town Centre mixed use development to include (a) 48 no. bed nursing home, (b) 10 no. 2 bed sheltered homes, (c) 31. No. Townhouses, comprising of 1 no. one bed, 24 no. 2 bed and 6 no. three bed, (d) medical centre, (e) retail/commercial (f) offices all in 7 no. blocks varying from 1, 2, 3 and 4 storey with ancillary basement and surface car parking, stores, plant and bin stores and associated external works including flood protection quay wall"

A split decision issued under Pl. Ref. 05/3042 which granted permission for the mixed use development but omitted Block A due to concerns in relation to the design of that element and its ability to assimilate into the streetscape. This extension of duration therefore relates to the permitted elements i.e. blocks B (Commercial Residential), C (Offices), D (Medical Centre, Office and Residential), E (Nursing Home), F (Sheltered Housing) and G (Sheltered Housing) In this regard please find attached the completed application form for the extension of Planning Permission and a cheque for the required fee of €62.

Our clients, Gerry, Eilisha, Gearoid and Fergal Lydon are the original proposers of the permitted scheme, however, development has not been carried out on this site for commercial and economic reasons that were beyond the control of the applicants. The Planning and Development Acts 2000 – 2010 allows for the extension of the appropriate period (not exceeding five years) of a planning permission provided certain criteria have been met. This application for extension of the appropriate period is being lodged under the provisions of section 42 (1)(a)(ii) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended by section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2010. In order to secure an extension of duration of a planning application under this section the following criteria are applicable.

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and planning permission application on behalf of Cleanrath Wind Farm Ltd. for the proposed redesign of a permitted windfarm at Cleanrath North, Cleanrath South and Derrineanig, Co. Cork. The proposed development site is located approximately 12 kilometres southwest of the town of Macroom.

The proposed wind energy project will not materially alter the footprint of the existing permitted infrastructure which includes 11 no. wind turbines and ancillary infrastructure, including access roads, substation and borrow pits. Planning permission will be sought for the redesign of the previously permitted wind farm by increasing the total height of the turbines from a maximum of 126 metres as currently permitted, to a maximum of 150 metres when measured from ground level. The proposed increase in the turbine size envelope is to allow for the maximum use of the wind resource at this site to help ensure Ireland meets its renewable energy targets.

The design of the proposed development is being constraints-led, thereby avoiding the most environmentally sensitive parts of the site. The design and layout of the proposed development will be informed by constraints studies and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, and will have regard to the 'Wind Energy Development Guidelines' (Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2006) and the 'Best Practice Guidelines for the Irish Wind Energy Industry' (Irish Wind Energy Association, 2008).

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed development. In order to facilitate this, a scoping pack providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter. I would appreciate if you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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