

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. Notice of Direct Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála Strategic Infrastructure Development County Kilkenny

In accordance with Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, we, Springfield Renewables Ltd, give notice of our intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for permission for a period of 10 years, for development comprising the construction of a wind farm and related works within the townlands of Castlecrocker, Derrynahinch, Kiltoran, Coolroe Beg, Baunnskeha, Castlebanny, Kilmnoge, Cappagh, Coolnahy, Ballytarsna, Mullennakill, Glenrippe, Ballymartin, Ballyvatheen, Ballynooy West, Derrylackey, Garrandarragh, Ballygegan and Ballywool, Co. Kilkenny.

The development will consist of: The construction of 21 no. wind turbines and ancillary works. The turbines will have a maximum blade tip height of up to 185m above the top of the foundation level and will be accessible from internal access routes within the site. Springfield Renewables Ltd intends to apply for a ten-year planning permission for the following: • Erection of 21 no. wind turbines with an overall blade tip height of up to 185m and all associated foundations in respect of each turbine. • Improvement of existing site entrance with access onto the R704 regional road. • Physical realignment of the R704 in proximity to the L451, in order to facilitate the L451 to form a bypass of the R704. • Temporary construction compounds with associated temporary site offices, parking areas and security fencing. • Installation of 1 no. permanent meteorological mast up to a height of 100m. • 3 no. borrow pits. • Construction of new internal site access roads and upgrade of existing site roads, to include passing bays and all associated drainage. • Construction of drainage and sediment control systems. • Construction of 1 no. permanent 110kV electrical substation including: 0 2 no. control buildings containing worker welfare facilities and equipment store; All electrical plant and infrastructure and grid ancillary services equipment; Parking; Security Fencing; Wastewater holding tank; Rainwater harvesting equipment; All associated infrastructure and services including site works and signage. • All associated underground electrical and communications cabling and connecting the wind turbines to the proposed wind farm substation. • All works associated with the connection of the proposed wind farm to the national electricity grid, which will be via a loop-in 110 kV underground cable connection approximately 4km in length to the existing overhead 110 kV line in the townland of Ballywool, Co. Kilkenny, with two new 10m high steel lattice loop-in/out masts at the connection point. • All related site works and ancillary development including berms, landscaping, and soil excavation. • Ancillary forestry felling to facilitate construction and operation of the proposed development and any on-site forestry replanting. • Development of a permanent public car park with seating/picnic tables at the end of the construction phase of the development on the footprint of the southern temporary construction compound, and permanent recreational facilities including marked walking and cycling trails along the site access roads, and associated recreation and amenity signage and outdoor fitness equipment. • A 10-year planning permission and 35-year operational life from the date of commissioning of the entire wind farm is being sought. The area of site to which the application relates is 271.2ha.

This application is accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA) and a Natural Impact Statement (NIS).

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The Planning Application, and the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natural Impact Statement may be inspected, free of charge or purchased for a specified fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, during public opening hours for a period of 7 weeks commencing on 5th February 2021 at the following locations: • The offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01V902. • The offices of Kilkenny County Council, County Hall, John Street, Co Kilkenny, R95A39T. The application may also be viewed at/downloaded from the following website: [www.castlebannyp planning.ie](http://www.castlebannyp planning.ie)

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála (The Board), at 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01V902 during the aforementioned period of 7 weeks relating to: (i) the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development of the area concerned; (ii) the likely significant effects on the environment if carried out; (iii) the likely effects of the proposed development on a European Site, if carried out. Any submissions or observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received by the Board not later than 5.30pm on the 26th March 2021 and must include the following information: (i) 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; (ii) The subject matter of the submission or observation, and the reasons, considerations and additional observations based thereon. Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the board. The Board may in respect of an application for permission decide to - (a) grant the permission, or (ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its permission 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 or (iv) of the foregoing kind and may be subject to or without conditions, or (b) refuse to grant permission. The decision to hold an oral hearing on this planning application is at the absolute discretion of An Bord Pleanála. Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Section of the Board (telephone no. 01-8588100). Any person may question the validity of any such decision of the board 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 under the heading "Judicial review of planning decisions" under the section titled "Information on cases/Weekly lists" on the Board's website [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie) or on the Citizens Information Service website [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie).

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