



An  
Bord  
Pleanála

# Application Form for Permission / Approval in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development

1.

Please specify the statutory provision under which your application is being made:	Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)
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2. Applicant:

Name of Applicant:	White Hill Wind Limited
Address:	White Hill Wind Limited Greahgcrotta, Tullyco, Cootehill, County Cavan
Telephone No:	c/o Agent
Email Address (if any):	c/o Agent

**3. Where Applicant is a company (registered under the Companies Acts):**

Name(s) of company director(s):	Herman Busschots Darren Sherry Jan Caerts
Registered Address (of company)	White Hill Wind Limited Greaghcrotta, Tullyco, Cootehill, County Cavan
Company Registration No.	483857
Telephone No.	c/o Agent
Email Address (if any)	c/o Agent

**4. Person / Agent acting on behalf of the Applicant (if any):**

Name:	Galetech Energy Services
Address:	Clondargan Stradone Co. Cavan
Telephone No.	049 555 5050
Mobile No. (if any)	N/A
Email address (if any)	<a href="mailto:info@galetechenergy.com">info@galetechenergy.com</a>

**Should all correspondence be sent to the above address? (Please tick appropriate box)**

(Please note that if the answer is "No", all correspondence will be sent to the Applicant's address)

Yes: [] No:[  ]

Contact Name and Contact Details (Phone number) for arranging entry on site if required / appropriate:

James Carville  
White Hill Wind Limited  
Greaghcrotta,  
Tullyco,  
Cootehill,  
County Cavan  
Phone Number: 049 555 5050

**5. Person responsible for preparation of Drawings and Plans:**

Name:	Cormac McPhillips
Firm / Company:	Galetech Energy Services
Address:	Clondargan Stradone Co. Cavan
Telephone No:	049 555 5050
Mobile No:	N/A
Email Address (if any):	<a href="mailto:info@galetechenergy.com">info@galetechenergy.com</a>
Details all plans / drawings submitted – title of drawings / plans, scale and no. of copies submitted.  Please refer to Annex 1 of this Application Form	

**6. Site:**

<p>Site Address / Location of the Proposed Development (as may best identify the land or structure in question)</p>	<p>Ridge, Knocknabranagh and Knockbaun, Baunreagh, and Agharue, Co. Carlow; and Coolcullen, Cloneen, and Coan East, Co. Kilkenny.</p>	
<p>Ordnance Survey Map Ref No. (and the Grid Reference where available)</p>	<p>OS Sheet Numbers 4470, 4528, 4529, 4588, 4589, 4353-A, &amp; 4353-C.</p>	
<p>Where available, please provide the application site boundary, as shown in the submitted plans / drawings, as an ESRI shapefile in the Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM IRENET95) co-ordinate reference system. Alternatively, a CAD file in .dwg format, with all geometry referenced to ITM, may be provided.</p>		
<p>Area of site to which the application relates in hectares</p>	<p>290 ha</p>	
<p>Site zoning in current Development Plan for the area:</p>	<p>The part of the proposed development site located within County Carlow is not specifically designated for wind energy development in the <i>Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028</i>. The relevant part of the proposed development site located within County Kilkenny is designated as 'Acceptable in Principle' for wind energy development in the <i>Kilkenny City &amp; County Development Plan 2021-2027</i>.</p>	
<p>Existing use of the site &amp; proposed use of the site:</p>	<p>The existing use of the proposed development site is agricultural pasture and commercial forestry. The proposed development provides for the construction, operation and decommissioning of a wind farm and associated infrastructure.</p>	
<p>Name of the Planning Authority(s) in whose functional area the site is situated:</p>	<p>Carlow County Council and Kilkenny County Council</p>	

**7. Legal Interest of Applicant in respect of the site the subject of the application:**

Please tick appropriate box to show applicant's legal interest in the land or structure:	Owner	Occupier
	Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Where legal interest is "Other", please expand further on your interest in the land or structure.		
The Applicant has an agreement in place with all relevant landowners.		
<b>If you are not the legal owner</b> , please state the name and address of the owner and supply a letter from the owner of consent to make the application as listed in the accompanying documentation.		
Desmond Booth, Gurteen Hill, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny Victor Rigley, The Ridge, Old Leighlin, Co. Carlow Dereck Butler & Carol O'Keefe, The Ridge, Old Leighlin, Co. Carlow Hugh Carpenter, Raheen, Old Leighlin, Co. Carlow Bruce Ashmore, Bramleigh, 29 St. Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin Nathaniel Smyth & Robert Smyth, The Ridge, Old Leighlin, Co. Carlow Coillte, Dublin Road, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow Martin Hayden, Hill Crest, Baunreagh, Old Leighlin, Co. Carlow Gerard O'Keefe, 52 Dukesmeadows Avenue, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny Thomas Comerford (William Comerford), Coolcullen, Co. Kilkenny John Comerford, Coolcullen, Co. Kilkenny Kathleen, Thomas & Bernard Comerford, Purcellsinch, Carlow Road, Co. Kilkenny John Nolan, Coolcullen, Co. Kilkenny James Watchorn, Beech House, Cruttencrough, Crettyard, Co Carlow Seamus O'Keefe, Coolcullen, Co. Kilkenny James Nolan (Sean Nolan), Coolcullen, Co. Kilkenny		
Does the applicant own or have a beneficial interest in adjoining, abutting or adjacent lands? If so, identify the lands and state the interest.		
No. Applicant has an agreement in place related to the lands the subject of this proposed development.		

**8. Site History:**

**Details regarding site history (if known):**

Has the site in question ever, to your knowledge, been flooded?

Yes: [  ] No: []

If yes, please give details e.g. year, extent:

Are you aware of previous uses of the site e.g. dumping or quarrying?

Yes: [] No:[  ]

If yes, please give details:

Agricultural pasture and commercial forestry plantation.

Are you aware of any valid planning applications previously made in respect of this land / structure?		
Yes: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ]		
If yes, please state planning register reference number(s) of same if known and details of applications		
Reg. Ref. No:	Nature of Proposed Development	Nature of Final Decision of Application Grant or Refusal by Planning Authority / An Bord Pleanála
Carlow County Council 14/36	The erection of 21 no. wind turbines each with a hub height of up to 99m and rotor diameter of up to 82m, maximum tip height of 140m and all associated site development works including 1 no. temporary site compound, turbine foundations, crane hard-standing area, site access roads, underground cabling, upgrading of 4 no. site entrances, creation of 7 no. site entrances, 2 no. road upgrades, 99m anemometer mast, 110kv substation consisting of; substation building with a floor area of 221.37m <sup>2</sup> and substation compound with all associated equipment and permanent compound area enclosed by a 2.4m palisade fence to be known as Valleyview Wind Farm. The application is accompanied by an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a Natura Impact Assessment (NIS).	Planning permission was refused by An Bord Pleanála (PL01.243364)
Carlow County Council 21/316	(i) the retention of the existing 80 metre meteorological mast, which was erected as exempted development in accordance with Class 20A, Schedule 2, of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), and all ancillary infrastructure and associated site development and reinstatement works; and (ii) the increase in height of the existing meteorological mast from 80 metres to a height of 100 metres. The operational lifetime of the proposed development will be up to five years.	Planning permission was granted by Carlow County Council (21/316)
If a valid planning application has been made in respect of this land or structure in the 6 months prior to the submission of this application, then any required site notice must be on a yellow background in accordance with Article 19(4) of the Planning and Development regulations 2001 as amended.		

<b>Is the site of the proposal subject to a current appeal to An Bord Pleanála in respect of a similar development?</b>
Yes: [ ] No:[ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ]
If yes please specify
An Bord Pleanála Reference No.: <u>N/A</u>

## 9. Description of the Proposed Development:

Brief description of nature and extent of development	<p>The proposed development will comprise a 10-year permission for the following:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 7 no. wind turbines with hub height of 104 metres, a rotor diameter of 162 metres and an overall tip height of 185 metres;</li> <li>ii. All associated turbine foundations and crane hardstanding areas;</li> <li>iii. All associated underground electrical and communications cabling;</li> <li>iv. Construction of internal wind farm access tracks;</li> <li>v. Construction of a site entrance from the L3037 local road and upgrades to 2 no. existing agricultural entrances from the L7122 local road;</li> <li>vi. 1 no. guy-wired meteorological mast with an overall height of 30 metres;</li> <li>vii. 1 no. temporary construction compound;</li> <li>viii. 3 no. borrow pits which, when exhausted, will be utilised to permanently store excess excavated material;</li> <li>ix. The storage, as required, of excavated material at 2 no. further dedicated spoil deposition areas;</li> <li>x. Change of use of existing residential dwelling to wind farm site office;</li> <li>xi. Felling of 15 hectares of commercial forestry plantation to facilitate the construction of wind farm infrastructure;</li> <li>xii. The construction of a temporary access track (150m in length) between the N78 national road and L1834 local road;</li> <li>xiii. Carriageway strengthening works at 'Black Bridge' on the L1835 and L3037;</li> <li>xiv. All associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, temporary works to public roads along the turbine component haul route, the provision of site drainage infrastructure and environmental mitigation measures; and,</li> <li>xv. A 35-year operational life from the date of commissioning of the entire proposed development.</li> </ol> <p>An Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany this planning application.</p>
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10. In the case of mixed development (e.g. residential, commercial, industrial, etc), please provide breakdown of the different classes of development and a breakdown of the gross floor area of each class of development:

Class of Development:	Gross Floor Area in m <sup>2</sup>
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A

11. Where the application relates to a building or buildings:

Gross floor space of any existing buildings(s) in m <sup>2</sup>	190m <sup>2</sup> (Change of Use of Residential Dwelling to Site Office)
Gross floor space of proposed works in m <sup>2</sup>	190m <sup>2</sup> (Change of Use of Residential Dwelling to Site Office)
Gross floor space of work to be retained in m <sup>2</sup> (if appropriate)	N/A
Gross floor space of any demolition in m <sup>2</sup> (if appropriate)	N/A

12. In the case of residential development please provide breakdown of residential mix:

Number of	Studio	1 Bed	2 Bed	3 Bed	4 Bed	4 + Bed	Total
Houses	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Apartments	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of car-parking spaces to be provided		Existing: N/A	Proposed: N/A		Total: N/A		

13. Social Housing:

Please tick appropriate box:	Yes	No
<i>Is the application an application for permission for development to which Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 applies?</i>		✓

If the answer to the above question is “yes” and the development is not exempt (see below), you must provide, as part of your application, details as to how you propose to comply with section 96 of Part V of the Act.

If the answer to the above question is “yes” but you consider the development to be exempt by virtue of section 97 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, a copy of the Certificate of Exemption under section 97 must be submitted (or, where an application for a certificate of exemption has been made but has not yet been decided, a copy of the application should be submitted).

If the answer to the above question is “no” by virtue of section 96 (13) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, details indicating the basis on which section 96 (13) is considered to apply to the development should be submitted.

**14. Where the application refers to a material change of use of any land or structure or the retention of such a material change of use:**

Existing use (or previous use where retention permission is sought)
The existing use of the proposed development site is agricultural pasture, arable crops and commercial forestry plantation.
Proposed use (or use it is proposed to retain)
The proposed development involves the development of a wind farm and associated works. Also proposed to change the use of an existing residential dwelling to a site office.
Nature and extent of any such proposed use (or use it is proposed to retain).
The proposed development involves the development of a wind farm and associated works. Also proposed to change the use of an existing residential dwelling to a site office.

**15. Development Details:**

Please tick appropriate box:	If answer is yes please give details	YES	NO
Does the proposed development involve the demolition of a Protected Structure(s), in whole or in part?			✓
Does the proposed development consist of work to a protected structure and / or its curtilage or proposed protected structure and / or its curtilage?			✓
Does the proposed development consist of work to the exterior of a structure which is located within an architectural conservation area (ACA)?			✓
Does the application relate to development which affects or is close to a monument or place recorded under section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994.			✓
Does the application relate to work within or close to a European Site or a Natural Heritage Area?			✓
Does the development require the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement?		✓	
Does the proposed development require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report?		✓	
Do you consider that the proposed development is likely to have significant effects on the environment in a transboundary state?			✓
Does the application relate to a development which comprises or is for the purpose of an activity requiring an integrated pollution prevention and control license			✓
Does the application relate to a development which comprises or is for the purpose of an activity requiring a waste license?			✓
Do the Major Accident Regulations apply to the proposed development?			✓
Does the application relate to a development in a Strategic Development Zone?			✓
Does the proposed development involve the demolition of any habitable house?			✓

## 16. Services:

### Proposed Source of Water Supply:

Existing connection:  New Connection:

Public Mains:  Group Water Scheme:  Private Well:

Other (please specify):

During construction and decommissioning, potable water (for drinking, food preparation, and hand washing etc.) will be supplied by water dispensers and this will also be sourced and maintained by a licensed supplier.

During operations, the proposed site office (currently a residential dwelling) will be served by an existing well

Name of Group Water Scheme (where applicable):

N/A

### Proposed Wastewater Management / Treatment:

Existing:  New:

Public Sewer:  Conventional septic tank system:

Other on site treatment system:  Please Specify:

During construction and decommissioning, temporary portaloo chemical toilets will be provided which will be serviced and maintained by a local supplier. Wastewater will be removed from site by a licensed waste collector to a wastewater treatment plant.

During operations, wastewater from the site office will be discharged to an existing septic tank system. The septic tank system will be regularly inspected, maintained and de-sludged by a licensed waste collector, with waste material being removed to a licensed wastewater treatment plant.

### Proposed Surface Water Disposal:

Public Sewer / Drain:  Soakpit:

Watercourse:  Other:  Please specify:

Proposed surface water drainage system will discharge to existing on-site agricultural drains. All surface water will be fully treated to ensure no deleterious matter is discharged to local surface water features.

## 17. Notices:

Details of public newspaper notice – paper(s) and date of publication
Irish Independent: Publication Date 14 December 2022 Carlow Nationalist: Publication Date 13 December 2022 Kilkenny People: Publication Date 16 December 2022  Copy of page(s) of relevant newspaper enclosed Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Details of site notice, if any, - location and date of erection
The location of the site notices are illustrated in the accompanying planning application drawings.  Date of Erection of Site Notice: 19 December 2022  Copy of site notice enclosed Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Details of other forms of public notification, if appropriate e.g. website
All planning application and associated documentation is available to view and the dedicated project website:-  <a href="http://www.whitehillwindfarmplanning.ie">www.whitehillwindfarmplanning.ie</a>

## 18. Pre-application Consultation:

<b>Date(s) of statutory pre-application consultations with An Bord Pleanála</b>
<b>Schedule of any other pre application consultations –name of person / body and date of consultation to be provided as appropriate and also details of any general public consultations i.e. methods, dates, venues etc. This can be submitted as a separate schedule with the application form.</b>  Enclosed:  Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> Please refer to Annex 2 of this Application Form  Schedule of prescribed bodies to whom notification of the making of the application has been sent and a sample copy of such notification.  Enclosed:  Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> Please refer to Annex 3 to this Application Form

## 19. Confirmation Notice:

**Copy of Confirmation Notice**

Please find enclosed a copy of the relevant EIA Portal Confirmation Notice – Portal ID Number 2022237

**20. Application Fee:**

Fee Payable	€100,000
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**I hereby declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information given in this form is correct and accurate and that the application documents being deposited at the planning authority offices, and any other location specified by the Board in pre application consultations, including a website (if any) will be identical to the application documents being deposited with the Board.**

Signed: (Applicant or Agent as appropriate)	<i>Galetech Energy Services</i>
Date:	19/12/2022

**General Guidance Note:**

The range and format of material required to be compiled / submitted with any application in respect of a proposed strategic infrastructure development shall generally accord with the requirements for a planning application as set out in the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 to 2018 and those Regulations should therefore be consulted prior to submission of any application.

September 2018

## Annex 1 – Schedule of Planning Application Drawings

Drawing Number	Drawing Title	Scale	Sheet Size
WTH_PAS_LOC_001	Figure 1: Overall Site Location	1:50,000	A3
WTH_PAS_LOC_002	Figure 2: Overall Site Location	1:10,000	A1
WTH_PAS_LOC_003	Figure 3: Site Layout Drawing Key Plan	1:10,000	A1
WTH_PAS_LAY_001	Figure 4.1: Site Layout Map (Map 1 of 9)	1:2,500	A1
WTH_PAS_LAY_002	Figure 4.2: Site Layout Map (Map 2 of 9)	1:2,500	A1
WTH_PAS_LAY_003	Figure 4.3: Site Layout Map (Map 3 of 9)	1:2,500	A1
WTH_PAS_LAY_004	Figure 4.4: Site Layout Map (Map 4 of 9)	1:2,500	A1
WTH_PAS_LAY_005	Figure 4.5: Site Layout Map (Map 5 of 9)	1:2,500	A1
WTH_PAS_LAY_006	Figure 4.6: Site Layout Map (Map 6 of 9)	1:2,500	A1
WTH_PAS_LAY_007	Figure 4.7: Site Layout Map (Map 7 of 9)	1:2,500	A1
WTH_PAS_LAY_008	Figure 4.8: Site Layout Map (Map 8 of 9)	1:2,500	A1
WTH_PAS_LAY_009	Figure 4.9: Site Layout Map (Map 9 of 9)	1:2,500	A1
WTH_PAS_GA_001	Figure 5: Typical Turbine Foundation Design	1:100	A2
WTH_PAS_GA_002	Figure 6: Typical Arrangement of Underground Wind Farm Cabling	1:10, 1:20	A3
WTH_PAS_GA_003	Figure 7: Typical Site Road Specification	1:50	A3
WTH_PAS_GA_004	Figure 8: Typical Hardstand Specification	1:750	A3
WTH_PAS_ELV_001	Figure 9: Typical Meteorological Mast Elevations	1:150, 1:25	A1
WTH_PAS_ELV_002	Figure 10: Typical Turbine Elevations	1:200	A0
WTH_PAS_ELV_003	Figure 11; Proposed Change of Use from Residential Dwelling to Office Use associated with the wind farm (Elevation & Floor Plans)	1:100	A1
WTH_PAS_ELV_004	Figure 12: Bridge Upgrade Detail	1:100, 1:25	A1
WTH_PAS_GA_005	Figure 13: Site Entrance on N78 and L1834	1:600	A1

WTH_PAS_GA_006	Figure 14: Site Entrance on L3307	1:400	A1
WTH_PAS_GA_007	Figure 15: Site Entrance on L7122	1:250	A1





## Annex 2 – Schedule of Pre-Application Consultations

### An Bord Pleanála

The proposed development was the subject of mandatory pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála. As prescribed by legislation, the purpose of the pre-application consultations was twofold. Firstly, to determine whether the proposed development constituted SID; and if so, secondly, to give advice to the Applicant on the procedures involved in making such an application and what considerations, related to proper planning and sustainable development or the likely significant environmental effects, in the opinion of An Bord Pleanála, may have a bearing decision in relation to any subsequent SID planning application.

A meeting was held between the Applicant and An Bord Pleanála on 13 April 2022. During this meeting, the evolution of the project was described in detail; including the site selection process, environmental scoping and constraints analysis, and details of stakeholder consultation; while advice was given to the Applicant on key factors which would be relevant as part of the EIAR for any subsequent SID planning application including:-

- Landscape & visual effects;
- Assessment of project alternatives;
- Connection to the national electricity grid;
- Ecological impacts, including potential effects on designated sites;
- Residential amenities;
- Ground conditions and the presence of rock and/or peat; and
- Cumulative effects with other developments, including wind farms.

In issuing its determination that the proposed development constitutes SID, An Bord Pleanála advised the Applicant in relation to the planning application procedures and also provided a list of prescribed bodies which were considered relevant and to be consulted with in relation to the proposed development. Each of these prescribed bodies have been notified by the Applicant in relation to the planning application for the proposed development.

### Carlow County Council

A scoping request was issued to Carlow County Council on 23 April 2021 and included the 'Preliminary Scoping Report'. A response was received, dated 10 June 2021, and referred to matters including cumulative impacts, statutory planning policy, natural & built heritage, residential amenity, noise & vibration, dust, water, and transport & access.

Project updates, as they arose, were relayed to Carlow County Council.

### Kilkenny County Council

A scoping request was issued to Kilkenny County Council on 23 April 2021 and included the 'Preliminary Scoping Report'. A response was received on 23 November 2021 advising that the Applicant engage directly with a number of bodies; that the Applicant engage in pre-planning consultation with the Planning Authority; and referred to matters including cultural heritage, transport & access, statutory planning policy, land & soil, residential amenity, noise & vibration, shadow flicker, and biodiversity.

A consultation meeting was held (online); dated 29 March 2022. During the meeting, the project was described in detail together with the relevant environmental factors;

including, *inter alia*, population & human health (proximity to residential dwellings), biodiversity, transport, flooding, and landscape and visual amenity; to be addressed in the EIAR. Other matters discussed during the meeting included the provisions of the *Kilkenny City & County Development Plan 2021-2027*, the project's connection to the national electricity grid, and community consultation.

Project updates, as they arose, were relayed to Kilkenny County Council.

### **Annex 3 – Schedule of Prescribed Bodies**

Each of the following prescribed bodies have been notified of the planning application for the proposed development and have been furnished with a copy (or copies as may be appropriate) of all planning application documentation.

- An Chomhairle Ealaíon (The Arts Council)
- An Taisce;
- Carlow County Council;
- Commission for Regulation of Utilities;
- Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine;
- Department of Environment, Climate & Communications;
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage;
- Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media;
- Fáilte Ireland;
- Health Service Executive;
- Heritage Council;
- Inland Fisheries Ireland;
- Irish Aviation Authority;
- Kilkenny County Council;
- Office of Public Works;
- Southern Regional Assembly; and
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

A copy of each notification letter is provided within the planning application pack.