



Minister for Housing, Local Government and  
Heritage  
Department of Housing, Planning and Local  
Government  
Custom House  
Dublin 1

**Our Ref:** 191137  
**Your Ref:**

5<sup>th</sup> of April 2023

**Re: Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended - Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála for a Wind Energy Development and Associated Works at the Ballivor Bog Group, County Meath and County Westmeath.**

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of our client, Bord na Móna Powergen Limited (the Applicant), please find enclosed a copy of a planning application for a renewable energy development in County Meath and County Westmeath. The Proposed Development consists of:

- i. The construction of 26 No. wind turbines and all associated hard-standing areas with the following parameters:
  - a. A total blade tip height of 200m,
  - b. Hub height of 115m, and
  - c. Rotor diameter of 170m.
- ii. 2 No. permanent Meteorological Anemometry Masts with a height of 115 metres and associated hardstanding area and removal of existing meteorological mast.
- iii. 4 No. temporary construction compounds with temporary site offices and staff facilities, in the townlands of Bracklin and Grange More.
- iv. 5 No. temporary security cabins at the main construction site entrances and access points around the site, in the townland of Killagh, Grange More and Coolronan.
- v. 2 No. borrow pits located in the townlands of Grange More and Craddanstown and all works associated with the opening, gravel and spoil extraction, and decommissioning of the borrow pits.
- vi. 1 No. permanent 110 kV electrical substation, which will be constructed in the townland of Grange More. The electrical substation will have 2 No. single storey control buildings, a 36 metre high telecom tower, associated electrical plant and equipment, a groundwater well and a wastewater holding tank.
- vii. All associated underground electrical and communications cabling connecting the turbines and masts to the proposed electrical substation, including road crossings at R156 and a local road between Lisclogher and Bracklin Bogs, and all works associated with the connection of the proposed wind farm to the national electricity grid, which will comprise connecting into the existing Mullingar – Corduff 110 kV overhead line that traverses the site.



- viii. Provision of new internal site access tracks with passing bays measuring a total length of c. 28km and provision/upgrade of existing/new pathways for amenity uses measuring a total length of c. 3.3km and associated drainage.
- ix. Temporary accommodating works to existing public road infrastructure to facilitate delivery of abnormal loads at locations on the R156 and R161 in the townlands of Doolystown and Moyfeagher;
- x. Accommodating works to widen existing site entrances off the R156 into Ballivor and Carranstown Bogs and reopen entrances at Lislogher and Bracklin Bogs for use as construction site entrances and to facilitate delivery and movement of turbine components and construction materials; Entrances will be used for maintenance and amenity access during the operational period;
- xi. Permanent vertical realignment of the R156 in the vicinity of the site entrance to achieve required sight lines.
- xii. Construction of permanent site entrances off a local road into Lislogher and Bracklin Bogs to facilitate a crossing point for turbine components, construction materials and operation/amenity access;
- xiii. Provision of amenity access and amenity pathways using existing entrances off the R156 and local roads in the townlands of Bracklin, Coolronan, Clondalee More and Craddanstown;
- xiv. 3 No. permanent amenity carparks in Ballivor Bog (50 no. car parking spaces), Carranstown (15 no. car parking spaces) and Bracklin Bog (15 no. car parking spaces) and the provision of bicycle rack facilities at each location.
- xv. All associated site works and ancillary development including access roads, drainage and signage.
- xvi. A 10-year planning permission and 30-year operational life of the wind farm from the date of commissioning of the entire wind farm.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in relation to the project and accompany the planning application.

As the project requires an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) the application has been notified to the EIA Portal. The EIA Portal ID is 2023049 and that the project details have been uploaded to the EIA Portal.

The following documents are included in the application pack:

- Planning Application Documentation
  - Planning Application Form
  - Site Notice
  - Newspaper Notices - The Irish Independent, The Westmeath Examiner and The Meath Chronicle
  - EIA Portal Confirmation (ID: 2023049)
- Planning Application Drawings (Drawing Schedule included with Application Form)
- An Bord Pleanála Opinion
- Red Line Boundary in ESRI Shapefile format
- Letters of Consent
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)
  - Volume 1 – Non-Technical Summary (NTS) and Main Report
  - Volume 2 – EIAR Appendices
- Natura Impact Statement (NIS)



## ➤ Appropriate Assessment Screening Report

See enclosed 1 No. electronic copy of each document listed above. Meath County Council and Westmeath County Council have received 2 no. hard copies and 1 no. soft copy of the application pack. The application will be available for inspection at the offices of both Meath and Westmeath County Council for a period of seven weeks commencing on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2023.

All documentation associated with the application as lodged can also be found at the dedicated project website: [www.ballivorwindfarmplanning.ie](http://www.ballivorwindfarmplanning.ie)

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála (the Board) in writing or online at [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie), 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 during the above-mentioned period of seven weeks relating to:

- i. The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and
- ii. The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
- iii. The likely effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received by the Board not later than 5.30 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2023.

Such submissions/observations must also include the following information:

- 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,
- The subject matter of the submission or observation, and
- The reasons, consideration and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full (Article 217 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, refers).

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Board.

The Board may at its absolute discretion hold an oral hearing on the application (refer to 'A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development' at [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)). The Board may in respect of an application for permission decide to:

- (a) (i) grant the permission, or
- (ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its decision 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 of the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or



(b) Refuse to grant the permission.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Development Section of An Bord Pleanála (Tel. 01-8588100).

A 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 on the Boards website ([www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)) under the following heading: Legal Notices – Judicial Review Notice. This information is also available on the Citizens Information Service website [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie)

Yours sincerely,



**John Willoughby, BA, MSc, MIPI**  
**Project Planner**

**MKO**

