

An Bord Pleanála Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) Section 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1

14<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Our Ref:** 220310

**ABP Ref:** ABP-315851-23

Re:

Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended - Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála for development in the townlands of Borrisbeg, Eastwood, Ballycahill, Knockanroe, Clonmore, Graffin and Skehanagh, County Tipperary.

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of our client, Buirios Limited, please find enclosed planning application relating to a proposed renewable energy development which will comprise 9 no. wind turbines and associated infrastructure at Borrisbeg and adjacent townlands, near Templemore town in County Tipperary.

This application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála as Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) under the provisions of Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. This position was confirmed by An Bord Pleanála to the applicant in correspondence dated the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023 following pre-application consultations with the Board (Ref. ABP-315851-23). A copy of that correspondence is included in the application pack as an addendum to the application forms.

The Development Description as set out in the public notices is as follows,

The proposed development will consist of the provision of the following:

- I. 9 no. wind turbines with an overall turbine tip height of 185 metres; a rotor blade diameter of 163 metres; and hub height of 103.5 metres, and associated foundations and hard-standing areas;
- II. A thirty-year operational life of the wind farm from the date of full commissioning of the wind farm and subsequent decommissioning;
- III. Underground electrical cabling (33kV) and communications cabling;
- IV. A temporary construction compound;
- V. A temporary security cabin;
- VI. A meteorological mast with a height of 30 metres and associated foundation and hard-standing area;
- VII. A new gated site entrance on the L3248;
- VIII. Junction accommodation works and a new temporary access road off the L3248, to facilitate turbine delivery to the site;
- IX. Upgrade of existing site tracks/ roads and provision of new site access roads, junctions and hardstand areas.
- X. Upgrade of the existing L7039/L70391 junction for secondary site access off the L70391;



- XI. A borrow pit;
- XII. Spoil Management;
- XIII. Tree felling;
- XIV. Site Drainage;
- XV. Biodiversity Enhancement Plan (including restoration of a segment of the Eastwood River, and planting of natural woodland and hedgerow);
- XVI. Operational Stage site signage; and
- XVII. All ancillary works and apparatus.

A ten-year planning permission is sought.

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

As outlined in detail in the accompanying documentation, all elements of the Proposed Project, i.e. the Proposed Wind Farm (subject of this Section 37E application) and the Proposed Grid Connection (subject of a separate Section 182A application), have been assessed as part of the EIAR and NIS lodged.

As the project requires an EIAR the application has been notified to the EIA Portal. The EIA Portal ID is 2023195 and 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;
  - Letter of consent from relevant landowners included with the planning application form;
  - Copies of cover letters issued to Prescribed Bodies
  - Site Notice (copy, as erected on site on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023);
  - Newspaper Notices Local Publication: *Tipperary Star* and National Publication: *The Irish Examiner* (both publications dated 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023);
  - EIA Portal Confirmation (ID: 2023195) included with the planning application form;
  - Planning Application Drawings (Drawing Schedule included with the planning application form);
- Red Line Boundary in DWG format;
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR);
  - Volume 1 Non-Technical Summary (NTS) and Main Report
  - Volume 2 Photomontage Booklet
  - Volume 3 EIAR Appendices (Appendices 6.5 and 7.5 are confidential)
- Natura Impact Statement (NIS)
- Planning Report

8 no. electronic copies of the planning application pack and 2 no. paper copies as outlined above are enclosed with this letter, as agreed with An Bord Pleanála. Tipperary County Council have received a paper and electronic copy of the application pack. All prescribed bodies as set out in the Board's letter, dated the  $10^{th}$  October 2023, have received a copy of the application pack.

All documentation associated with the application (aside from confidential material of the EIAR) as lodged can also be found at the dedicated project website: <a href="https://borrisbegplanning.com">https://borrisbegplanning.com</a>.



All planning drawings are provided at scales which have previously been agreed with An Bord Pleanála.

Payment of the required fee of  $\[ \in \]$  100,000 has been paid to An Bord Pleanála on the  $\[ \otimes \]$  100 December 2023 with the following details:

- > Senders name Ghrian Energy
- > Senders Reference ABP Borrisbeg Appl
- > Payment Reference 0KQN1RQ668RPMDFS

I trust that the enclosed information is sufficient for your requirements.

If you have any queries or require to discuss any matter in detail, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Alan Clancy BA, MPlan, Project Planner, MKO Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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