

Ref: COC/22156
26th January 2024

Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media,
23 Kildare Street,
Dublin 2,
D02 TD30

**Re: Planning Application for Strategic Infrastructure Development under Section 37E of
the Planning and development Act (As Amended)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are engaged by Ballycar Green Energy Ltd. (applicant) for the preparation of the design, planning and EIAR for a proposed Wind Energy Project in the townlands of Cappateemore East, Ballycannan West, Ballycannan East, Ballycar South, Ballycar North and Glennagross (orse Glenagross, Glennacross) in County Clare.

The project has been the subject of a Pre-application Stage consultation for Strategic Infrastructure with An Bord Pleanála (Ref: ABP-312193-21). An Bord Pleanála has determined that this proposed project falls within the Strategic Infrastructure Development consent process under Section 37A(2)(a),(b) and (c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. In confirming that this project is a Strategic Infrastructure Development project it has identified 19 prescribed bodies that have to be notified in relation to this planning application. Accordingly, we are notifying you that the application has been lodged with ABP on the 26th January, 2024.

The following sets out the description of the proposed development:

- 12 No. Wind Turbines (blade tip height up to 158m). Eleven of the turbines will have a hub height of 90m and a blade length of 68m and one turbine (T10) will have a hub height of 82m and a blade length of 68m.
- 12 No. Wind Turbine foundations and hardstand areas.
- 1 No. Permanent Meteorological Mast (90m height) and foundation and associated hardstand areas.
- 1 No. Electrical Substation (110kV) including associated ancillary buildings, security fencing and all associated works.
- 2 No. Developed Site Entrances, one temporary entrance to facilitate construction traffic and one permanent entrance.

- New and upgraded internal site access tracks.
- Provision of an on-site Visitor cabin and parking.
- All associated underground electrical and communications cabling connecting the proposed turbines to the proposed onsite substation.
- Laying of approximately 1.5km of underground electricity cabling to facilitate the connection to the national grid from the proposed onsite substation to connect to an existing 110kV overhead line.
- Temporary works on sections of the public road network along the turbine delivery route (including hedge or tree cutting, relocation of powerlines/poles, lampposts, signage, and local road widening).
- 1 No. Temporary construction site compound and additional mobile welfare unit.
- 1 No. Borrow pit to be used as a source of stone material during construction.
- 3 No. spoil deposition areas (one at borrow pit location).
- Associated surface water management systems.
- Tree felling for wind farm infrastructure.

The applicant is seeking a ten-year permission and an operational period of no less than 35 years from the date of commissioning the Wind Farm

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

You are advised that 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 decisions and grant permission in respect of the proposed development as so modified, or (iii) grant permission in respect of the proposed development (with or without specified modification of it of the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions,

or

- (a) refuse to grant the permission

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to:

- i. the implications of the proposed development for the proposer planning and sustainable development, and
- ii. the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
- iii. the likely significant effects or adverse effect on any European site, if the development is carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be received by the Board not later than the 22nd of March 2024.

The full application is available for viewing and download on the dedicated SID project website at the following address: Ballycargreenenergyplanning.ie

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caoimhe O'Connor', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Caoimhe O'Connor
for MWP