



An Bord Pleanála,
Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID)
Section,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Our ref: 180740
Your ref:

Date: 2nd July 2024

Re: Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended – Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála for a proposed development in the townlands of Cloonarkan, Clonbern and Laughil, Co. Galway

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of our client Clonberne Windfarm Limited, please find enclosed a planning application relating to a proposed substation which will comprise of a 220kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) building, an Independent Power Producer (IPP) compound, a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) compound, underground grid connection and associated cabling to connect the proposed Clonberne Wind Farm to the national grid via the existing Flagford to Cashla 220kV overhead line in the townlands of Cloonarkan, Clonbern and Laughil, Co. Galway.

This application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála as ‘Strategic Infrastructure Development’ (SID) under the provisions of Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. This position was confirmed by An Bord Pleanála in correspondence dated the 2nd January 2024 following pre-application consultations with the Board (case reference ABP- 314729-22). A copy of that correspondence is included in the application pack as Appendix 4 to the application forms.

The proposed development as set out in the public notices is as follows:

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

- I. Construction of a permanent substation which will comprise of a 220kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) building; an Independent Power Producer (IPP) compound, a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) compound, including 4 no. 18-metre high Lightning Monopoles, welfare facilities, car parking; wastewater holding tank, 36-metre-high Telecommunications Mast, 2.6-metre high palisade fencing, external lighting, underground cabling; and all associated infrastructure and apparatus;*
- II. All works associated with the connection of the proposed Clonberne Wind Farm to the national electricity grid, including the provision of underground electrical cabling (220kV) to the existing Flagford to Cashla 220kV overhead line, in the townland of Laughil;*

- III. *The provision of 2 no. loop-in towers, 2 no. gantries within 2 no. cable compounds to facilitate the connection of the proposed substation to the existing Flagford to Cashla 220kV overhead line;*
- IV. *Construction of 2 no. gated permanent site entrances off the L6501 Local Road to facilitate access to the proposed development and the proposed Clonberne Wind Farm;*
- V. *Provision of 4 no. joint bays, communication chambers and earth sheath links along the underground electrical cabling route and temporary accommodation areas to facilitate underground cabling works;*
- VI. *Provision of a cable access track to facilitate the installation and maintenance of cabling and provide access to the proposed substation;*
- VII. *Reinstatement of the road or track surface above the proposed cabling trench along existing roads and tracks;*
- VIII. *Operational access road to the proposed development and the proposed Clonberne Wind Farm;*
- IX. *Site Drainage;*
- X. *Tree felling and hedgerow removal to facilitate construction and operation of the proposed development;*
- XI. *Operational stage site signage; and*
- XII. *All ancillary works and apparatus.*

The application is seeking a ten-year planning permission. The development subject of this application will facilitate the connection of the proposed 11 no. wind turbine Clonberne Wind Farm to the national electricity grid. A concurrent application in relation to the proposed Clonberne Wind Farm is also being lodged to An Bord Pleanála.

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

Contents of Application

As outlined in detail in the accompanying documentation, all elements of the Proposed Project, i.e. the Proposed Wind Farm (subject of a separate Section 37E application) and the Proposed Grid Connection (subject of this 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 2024114 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 on behalf of relevant landowners –appended to the planning application form;
 - Copies of cover letters issued to Prescribed Bodies
 - Site Notice (copy, as erected on site on the 2nd July 2024)
 - Newspaper Notices – Local Publication: *The Connacht Tribune*, and National Publication: *The Irish Independent* (both publications dated 28th June 2024);
 - EIA Portal Confirmation (ID: 2024114) - included with the planning application form;

- Planning Application Drawings (Drawing Schedule included with the planning application form);
- Planning Report
- 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 including confidential Appendices
- Natura Impact Statement (NIS)

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. Galway County Council have received 2 no. paper copies and an electronic copy of the application pack. All prescribed bodies as set out in the Board's letter, dated the 2nd January 2024 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: <http://www.clonbernegrid.com>

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

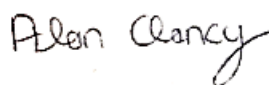
The planning application fee of €100,000 has been paid via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) on the 13/06/2024 under Payment Reference No. 208686634.

Proof of payment is included as **Appendix 1** of this cover letter.

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 sincerely,



Alan Clancy BA, MPlan

Project Planner, MKO

Tel: 091 735611

ENCL –

Appendix 1 – Proof of Payment

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Payment Details

Payment Reference No. 208686634

Printed On
Thursday, June 13, 2024
11:17:44 AM

Pay From >

CURRENT ACCOUNTS , SALTHILL GALWAY , 83750682

Pay To >

AN BORD PLEANALA , IBANIE70AIBK93105500316067

Payment Details >

€200,000.00 on 13/06/2024, SEPA Payment

Status >

Payment Processed