

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED)

Notice of Direct Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála in Respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development, County Galway

In accordance with Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Clonberne Windfarm Limited gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for permission for a period of 10 years for the following proposed development in the townlands of Killavoher, Gortagarraun, Cloonarkan, Lomaunaghroe, Clonbern, Ballagh West, Carrowntryla and Lissybroder, Co. Galway.

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

- 11 no. wind turbines with an overall turbine tip height of 180 metres; a rotor blade diameter of 162 metres; and hub height of 99 metres, and associated foundations, hard-standing and assembly areas;
- Underground electrical cabling (33kV) and communications cabling;
- Provision for the undergrounding of a section of 38kV overhead electrical cabling (as proposed under GCC Ref No. 24/60230), including the provision of 2 no. 38kV Line to Cable Interface End Masts up to a height of 16.2 metres and associated cable ducting to facilitate the undergrounding of the proposed 38kV cabling;
- Upgrade of existing tracks/ roads and provision of new site access roads, junctions and hardstand areas;
- Construction of 1 no. new gated site entrance off the R328 Regional Road to facilitate the delivery of the construction materials and turbine components to site;
- Construction of 2 no. temporary construction compounds and associated ancillary infrastructure including temporary site offices, staff facilities and car-parking areas for staff and visitors, all to be removed at end of construction phase;
- Development of 1 no. borrow pit;
- Provision of 3 no. passing bays adjacent to the L22321 Local Road and an existing access track to facilitate the transport of stone material to the site;
- Peat and spoil management including the provision of 4 no. peat repository areas and 1 no. spoil repository area;
- Junction accommodation works including temporary accommodation areas adjacent to the N83 National Secondary Road, R328 Regional Road and L6466 Local Road to facilitate the delivery of turbine components to site;
- Site Drainage;
- Peatland Enhancement Area;
- Biodiversity Enhancement Measures (including the planting of woodland, linear habitat, grassland management and invasive species removal);
- Tree felling and hedgerow removal to facilitate construction and operation of the proposed development;
- Operational stage site signage; and
- All ancillary works and apparatus.

A thirty five-year operational life from the date of full commissioning of the entire wind farm is being sought and the subsequent decommissioning.

The application is seeking a ten-year planning permission. A concurrent planning application in relation 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 townland of Laughil 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. The planning application, Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such a copy) during public opening hours for a period of seven weeks commencing on the 9th July 2024 at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902.
- The Offices of Galway County Council, Aras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX.

The application may also be viewed/downloaded on the following website: <http://www.clonbernewfplanning.com> Submissions or Observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála ("the Board") in writing or online at www.pleanala.ie, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 during the above-mentioned period of seven weeks relating to:

- The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and
- The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
- 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 27th August 2024.

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 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). The Board may in respect of an application for permission/approval decide to –

- grant the permission, or
- 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
- 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
- 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 Rule 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) under the following heading: Legal Notices - Judicial Review Notice. This information is also available on the Citizens Information Service website www.citizensinformation.ie.

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In accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Clonberne Windfarm Limited gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for permission for a period of 10 years for the following proposed development in the townlands of Cloonarkan, Clonbern and Laughil, Co. Galway.

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

- 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;
- 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;
- 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;
- 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;
- 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;
- Provision of a cable access track to facilitate the installation and maintenance of cabling and provide access to the proposed substation;
- Reinstatement of the road or track surface above the proposed cabling trench along existing roads and tracks;
- Operational access road to the proposed development and the proposed Clonberne Wind Farm;
- Site Drainage;
- Tree felling and hedgerow removal to facilitate construction and operation of the proposed development;
- Operational stage site signage; and
- 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

The planning application, Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such a copy) during public opening hours for a period of seven weeks commencing on the 9th July 2024 at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902.
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The application may also be viewed/downloaded on the following website: <http://www.clonbernegrid.com> Submissions or Observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála ("the Board") in writing or online at www.pleanala.ie, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 during the above-mentioned period of seven weeks relating to:

- The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and
- The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
- 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 27th August 2024. 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 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). The Board shall, in respect of an application under section 182A for approval of the proposed development, make its decision within a reasonable period of time and may, in respect of such application:

- approve the proposed development,
- make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in the approval and approve the proposed development as so modified,
- approve, in part only, the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind), or
- refuse to approve the proposed development.

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 Rule 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) under the following heading: Legal Notices - Judicial Review Notice. This information is also available on the Citizens Information Service website www.citizensinformation.ie.