



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 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended – Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála for a Proposed Wind Farm Development in the townlands of Killavoher, Gortagarraun, Cloonarkan, Lomaunaghroe, Clonbern, Ballagh West, Carrownryla and Lissybroder, Co. Galway.

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of our client Clonberne Windfarm Limited, please find enclosed a planning application relating to the proposed construction of a Wind Farm which will comprise of 11 no. wind turbines and associated infrastructure in the townlands of Killavoher, Gortagarraun, Cloonarkan, Lomaunaghroe, Clonbern, Ballagh West, Carrownryla and Lissybroder, Co. Galway.

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 in correspondence dated the 9th November 2020 following pre-application consultations with the Board (Case Reference ABP-307058-20) 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. 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;*
- II. Underground electrical cabling (33kV) and communications cabling;*
- III. 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;*
- IV. Upgrade of existing tracks/roads and provision of new site access roads, junctions and hardstand areas;*
- V. 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;*

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- VI. *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;*
- VII. *Development of 1 no. borrow pit;*
- VIII. *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;*
- IX. *Peat and spoil management including the provision of 4 no. peat repository areas and 1 no. spoil repository area;*
- X. *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;*
- XI. *Site Drainage;*
- XII. *Peatland Enhancement Area;*
- XIII. *Biodiversity Enhancement Measures (including the planting of woodland, linear habitat, grassland management and invasive species removal);*
- XIV. *Tree felling and hedgerow removal to facilitate construction and operation of the proposed development;*
- XV. *Operational stage site signage; and*
- XVI. *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.

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 2024113 and the project details have been uploaded to the EIA Portal.

Contents of Application

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: 2024113) - included with the planning application form;
- Planning Application Drawings (Drawing Schedule included with the planning application form);
- Planning Report
- 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 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 9th November 2020 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.clonbernewfplanning.com>

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

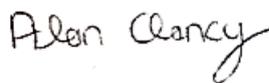
The planning application fee of €100,000 has been paid via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) on the 13/06/2024 under Payment Reference No. 208686634.

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