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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED)
NOTICE OF DIRECT PLANNING APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA IN RESPECT OF A STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT, COUNTY CLARE

In accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), FuturEnergy Knockshanvo Designated Activity Company gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for permission for a development in the townlands of Lakyle, Knockdonagh, Castlebank, Cloghera, Roo West, Drumsillagh or Sallybank (Merritt), Glenlon South, Trough, Drumsillagh or Sallybank (Parker) and Ballykeelau, Co. Clare.

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

I. The provision of underground electrical cabling (110kV) from the proposed Knockshanvo Wind Farm development to the existing Ardnacrusha 110kV electrical substation to facilitate the connection to the national grid;

II. Provision of 14 joint bays, communication chambers and earth sheath links along the proposed underground electrical cabling route;

III. Permanent and temporary Site Drainage;

IV. Ancillary forestry felling to facilitate construction and operation of the proposed development;

V. Reinstatement of land, road and track surface above the proposed cabling trench;

VI. All related site works and ancillary development considered necessary to facilitate the proposed development.

The development subject of this application will facilitate the connection of the proposed 9 no. wind turbine Knockshanvo Wind Farm to the national electricity grid. A planning application for the Knockshanvo Wind Farm development 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 12th September 2024 at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1.
- The Offices of Clare County Council, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2.
- The Office of Limerick City and County Council, Dooradoyle Road, Dooradoyle, Co. Limerick, V94 W78.

The application may also be viewed/downloaded on the following website:
www.knockshanvoplaning.ie

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:

(i) The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and

(ii) The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and

(iii) 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 31st October 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:

(a) approve the proposed development,

(b) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in the approval and approve the proposed development as so modified,

(c) approve, in part only, the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind), or

(d) 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.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED)
NOTICE OF DIRECT PLANNING APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA IN RESPECT OF A STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN COUNTY CLARE AND COUNTY LIMERICK.

In accordance with Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), FuturEnergy Knockshanvo Designated Activity Company 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 Snaty (Massy), Hurdleston, Oatfield, Drumsillagh or Sallybank (Parker), Gortacullin, Ahanaghbeg, Knockshanvo, Cloontra, Cloghoolia, Ballycullen, Cloontra West, Formoyle More, Kilmore, Mountrice, Ballyvorgal South, Crag, Kyleglass, Glenwood, Snaty (Cooper), Ballykelly, Muingboy, Drumsillagh or Sallybank (Merritt), Kyle, Belvoir, Snaty (Wilson) and Cloontra East, Co Clare and in the townland of Court, Co. Limerick.

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

I. Construction of 9 no. wind turbines with a blade tip height range from 179.5m to 185m inclusive, a hub height range from 102.5m to 110.5m inclusive and a rotor diameter range from 149m to 163m inclusive with associated foundations, hard-standing and assembly areas;

II. Construction of 1 no. permanent 110 kV electrical substation including 2 no. control buildings, lightning protection, welfare facilities, car parking, and all associated electrical plant and apparatus, security fencing, external lighting, underground cabling, wastewater holding tank and all associated infrastructure, apparatus and landscaping;

III. Underground electrical cabling (33kV) and communications cabling connecting the wind turbines to the proposed on-site 110kV electrical substation and associated ancillary works;

IV. Erection of 1 no. Meteorological Mast of 105 metres above existing ground level for the measuring of meteorological conditions, including a lightning rod which will extend above the mast;

V. Construction of new permanent access roads and upgrade of existing roads to provide access within the site and to connect the wind turbines and associated infrastructure;

VI. Construction of 1 no. new permanent access to the site off the R465 regional road to serve as the sole entrance to the wind farm during its operational phase and to facilitate the delivery of the construction materials and turbine components to site during the construction, operational and decommissioning phases;

VII. Construction of 2 no. new permanent access points off the L-3042 and L-30144-0 local roads to facilitate traffic movement across the site during construction, operation and decommissioning phases. Both accesses will be gated and opened when required during the operational phase;

VIII. Development of 5 no. borrow pits;

IX. Construction of 3 no. temporary construction compounds and associated ancillary infrastructure including temporary site offices, staff facilities and car-parking areas, all to be removed at end of construction phase;

X. Temporary works at 3 no. locations along the R465 regional road associated with the facilitation of turbine component and abnormal load delivery to site. These works will primarily include the trimming of vegetation and strengthening of road verges;

XI. Installation of a temporary transition compound to facilitate turbine blade delivery during the construction phase, within the townland of Court, Co. Limerick. The works will include installation of a temporary stone hard standing area and associated entrance and egress to and from the N69 national road and will be removed at the end of the construction phase;

XII. Permanent amenity works comprising the construction of 1 no. new marked trail, the development of 2 no. new viewing areas and upgrade to 1 no. existing viewing area, including the installation of associated signage and seating;

XIII. Permanent and temporary Site Drainage;

XIV. Operational Stage Site Signage;

XV. Ancillary forestry felling to facilitate construction and operation of the proposed development;

XVI. Biodiversity enhancement measures including the permanent clear-felling of land, and;

XVII. All related site works and ancillary development including landscaping considered necessary to facilitate the proposed development.

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 planning application for underground electrical cabling (110kV) which will connect the wind farm to the existing Ardnacrusha 110kV electrical substation is also being lodged to An Bord Pleanála.

A design flexibility opinion issued by An Bord Pleanála (Case Reference ABP-319151-24) on 21st May 2024 accompanies this application. The details unconfirmed in this application are the turbine tip height, rotor diameter and hub height. The range of parameters under which the turbine dimensions will fall are specified on this notice and in the design flexibility opinion that accompanies this application.

The proposed development is partly located within the demesne of a Protected Structure (Court country house - RPS Reg. No. 291).

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 12th September 2024 at the following locations:

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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:

(i) The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and

(ii) The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and

(iii) 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 31st October 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 decide to –

(a)(i) grant the permission, or (ii) 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

(iii) grant permission/approval 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

(b) Refuse to grant 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.