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Ref: CO/23391

16th January 2025

National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), 90 King Street North Dublin 7 D07 N7CV

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are engaged by Brittas Wind Farm Ltd. (applicant) for the preparation of the design, planning and EIAR for a proposed Wind Energy Project in the townlands of Brittas, Rossestown, Clobanna, Brownstown, Killeenleigh, Kilkillahara, Brittasroad, Coolgarrane, Athnid More, Cassestown, Laghtagalla, Farranreigh, Furze, Loughlahan, Ballygammane, Co. Tipperary.

The project has been the subject of a Pre-application Stage consultation for Strategic Infrastructure with An Bord Pleanála (Ref: ABP-315655-23). 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 21 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.

The following sets out the description of the proposed development:

- 10 No. Wind Turbines with a blade tip height of 180m, hub height range from 102.5 to 105.5m and a rotor diameter range from 149m to 155m;
- 10 No. Wind Turbine foundations and Hardstand areas and associated drainage infrastructure;
- 1 No. Permanent Lidar unit and associated foundation, hardstand area and compound for Meteorological Monitoring;
- 1 No. 110kV Electrical Substation including 2 No. control buildings, electrical plant and equipment, welfare facilities, carparking, water and wastewater holding tanks, security fencing, lightening protection and telecommunications masts, security cameras, external lighting and, all associated infrastructure:

Directors Peter Fay BSc CEng MIEI MIStructE FConsEI | Peter O'Donnell BE CEng MICE FIEI | Paul Collins BE CEng MIEI MIStructE | John Lee BE HDipSHWW CEng FIEI | Brian Sayers BE MSc CEng MIEI | Ian Brosnan BE CEng MIEI MICE MIStructE Associate Directors Ken Fitzgerald BSc Surv Dip CEcon PG Dip Planning EIA CZM | David Aherne BE CEng MIEI MCIBSE | Tim Hurley BEng MEngSc CEng MIEI | Micheál Fenton BE CEng MIEI | Olivia Holmes BSc MSc CEng MIEI MCIWEM

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- Installation of medium voltage underground electrical and communication cabling connecting the wind turbines to the proposed onsite substation and associated ancillary works;
- Installation of approximately 7km of underground electricity and communication cabling between the proposed onsite substation and the nearby existing Thurles 110kV substation in the townland of Ballygammane, Co. Tipperary. The cabling will be laid primarily within the public road and will connect the proposed wind farm to the national grid;
- 4 No. Site Entrances from the public road and associated fencing and signage;
- Construction of new permanent site access tracks, turning heads and associated drainage infrastructure;
- The upgrading of existing access tracks and associated drainage infrastructure;
- 2 No. Temporary construction site compounds and mobile welfare facilities;
- 1 No. Borrow pit and associated drainage infrastructure to be used as a source of stone material during construction;
- Spoil deposition areas;
- Associated surface water management systems;
- Tee felling and hedgerow removal to accommodate wind farm infrastructure;
- Temporary accommodation works at 2 no. locations adjacent to the public road to facilitate delivery of turbine components to site within the townlands of Brittas and Brittasroad, Co. Tipperary. The works primarily relate to trimming and clearing of vegetation, temporary removal of street furniture and fencing, and installation of temporary stone hard standing; and
- All related site works and ancillary development;

The applicant is seeking a ten-year permission and an operational period of no less than 35 years from the date of commissioning of the entire 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. An opinion on unconfirmed details also accompanies the planning 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 Pleanala, 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 **14th of February 2025**. A hard copy of the application can be made available if required.

The full application is available for viewing and download on the dedicated SID project website at the following address: <u>www.brittaswindfarmplanning.ie</u>

Should you have any queries in relation to the enclosed please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Caoimhe O'Connor for MWP