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Our Ref: 11303

19th December 2024

Your Ref: 319601 (SID Determination)
319602 (Design Flexibility Opinion)

The Secretary
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1

RE: Scartmountain Wind Farm – Strategic Infrastructure Development.
Proposed Development of Scartmountain Wind Farm at Scartmountain, Co. Waterford.

Dear Sir/Madam

On behalf of our client Futureenergy Scart Mountain Designated Activity Company (hereafter referred to as the Applicant), please find enclosed a planning application for a 10-year permission for the proposed construction of a wind energy development (and all associated infrastructure) at a site located approximately 4 km northeast of Cappoquin and approximately 13 km northwest of Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.

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 to the applicant on 22nd August 2024 following pre-applications consultations with the Board (Case Number – ABP-315601-24), a copy of the noted correspondence is enclosed with this application form.

An opinion on certain unconfirmed details was also sought from An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of Section 37CC of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended. This opinion was issued to the applicant on 22nd August 2024 following pre-applications consultations with the Board (Case Number – ABP-315602-24), a copy of the noted correspondence is enclosed with this application form.

A detailed description of the proposed development is set out in the enclosed public notices and a complete description is set out in the application documents. The application includes an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and a Natura Impact Assessment (NIS). The application may also be viewed at a dedicated website: www.scartmountainplanning.ie

The proposed wind farm and related works are located within the townlands of Coolagortboy, Crinnaghtaun West, Feddaun, Glennafallia, Knockboy, Knocknafrehane, Knocknanask, Knocknasheega, Lackenrea, Moneygorm, Moneygorm East, Scartmountain, Toor, and Tooranaraheen, Co. Waterford.

Directors: M. Shelly (Chairman) C. McGovern (Managing Director) E. Connaughton (Company Secretary)
B. Downes D. Grehan M. McDonnell J. McGrath
B. Carroll S. Tinnelly J. O'Flaherty

Technical Directors: B. Gallagher B. Heaney C. Kelly T. Mackey D. Meade O. Fitzpatrick P. Cloonan P. Cunningham

Associate Directors: M. Casey E. Fenton L. Kennedy P. O'Connor B. Rudden M. Geraghty S. Ryan R. Murtagh K. Gallagher

Certain details of the proposed development are unconfirmed in this planning application and an opinion on unconfirmed details from the Board (Case Reference: ABP-319602-24) pursuant to section 287B of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) accompanies this planning 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 site notice and in the design flexibility opinion that accompanies this application

The proposed development will comprise:

- Erection of 15 no. wind turbines with an overall blade tip height range from 179.5 m to 185 m inclusive, a rotor diameter range from 149 m to 163 m inclusive, a hub height range from 102.5 m to 110.5 m inclusive, and all associated foundations and hard-standing areas in respect of each turbine;
- Permanent upgrade to the existing forest entrance onto the L5055 local road in the townland of Lackenrea to be used as a construction entrance. It will also be used for operational phase access for HGVs only;
- Construction of 6 no. permanent site entrances to form 3 no. local road crossing points to enable site access during construction (on the L5054, L5055 and L1026 in the townlands of Moneygorm, Knocknasheega and Tooranaraheen respectively). The entrance associated with the crossing point on the L5054 will also function as an operational phase access for light vehicles only;
- Temporary improvements and modifications to 1 no. location at the junction of the N72 and the L1027 (known as Boheravaghera Cross or Affane Cross) to facilitate delivery of oversized loads and turbine delivery, in the townland of Crinnaghtaun West, Co. Waterford;
- Construction of 2 no. temporary construction compounds located within the northern and southern ends of the site, with associated temporary site offices, parking areas and security fencing;
- Erection of 1 no. Meteorological Mast of 100 metres above existing ground level for the measuring of meteorological conditions, with a lightning finial extending above the mast;
- 2 no. temporary borrow pits;
- Permanent construction of 11.9 km new internal site access roads and upgrade of 7.2 km existing internal site roads, to include passing bays and all associated drainage, all within the wind farm site;
- Construction of temporary and permanent drainage and sediment control systems;
- Construction of 1 no. permanent 110kV electrical substation including:
 - 1 no. EirGrid control building containing worker welfare facilities and equipment store;
 - 1 no. Independent Power Producer control building containing high voltage switch room, site offices, kitchen facilities, storeroom and toilet amenities.
 - All electrical plant and infrastructure and grid ancillary services equipment;
 - Parking;
 - Lighting;
 - Security Fencing;
 - Wastewater holding tank;
 - Rainwater harvesting equipment;
 - All associated infrastructure and services including site works and signage;
- All related site works and ancillary development including signage, berms, landscaping, and soil excavation;
- Forestry felling (both permanent and temporary) to facilitate construction and operation including biodiversity enhancement measures, of the proposed project and any onsite forestry replanting; and
- All associated underground electrical and communications cabling connecting the wind turbines to the proposed wind farm substation.

This application is accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS).

A separate application to obtain permission for the development of associated transmission infrastructure which consists of a 110kV grid connection to facilitate the export of power from the Wind Farm will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála.

A 10-year planning permission and 35-year operational life from the date of commissioning of the entire wind farm is being sought. Given the recent advances in turbine technology, and the anticipated lifespan of wind turbines, this is considered to be the optimal operational life for the proposed development. The duration of this operational life allows the proposed turbines to be used to generate clean renewable energy until they have reached the end of their life, rather than being removed prematurely.



As the project requires an EIAR the application documentation includes a copy of the EIA Portal Notice.

The following documents are included in the application pack:

- Planning Application Documentation
 - Planning Application Form
 - Addendum 1: Schedule of Drawings
 - Addendum 2: Landowner Letters of Consent
 - Addendum 3: Details of consultations with An bord Pleanála including SID Determination and Opinion on Unconfirmed Details
 - Addendum 4: List of prescribed bodies notified and a copy of letters sent
 - Addendum 5: EIA Portal Confirmation
 - Addendum 6: Confirmation of payment of SID Planning Application Fee of €100,000.00
 - Site Notice
 - Newspaper Notice
 - Planning Cover Letter to Waterford City and County Council
- Planning Application Drawings
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)
 - Volume 1- EIAR Non-Technical Summary (NTS)
 - Volume 2- EIAR Main Body
 - Volume 3- EIAR Appendices
 - Volume 4- Photomontages
- Natura Impact Statement (NIS)
- Mitigation Measures Document
- Planning Statement

All elements of the proposed development, including the proposed grid connection route (which will form part of a separate planning application) to the existing Dungarvan 110kV substation in the townland of Kiladangan, Co. Waterford which form part of the overall project but are not part of the current planning application such as works required on public roads, have been considered and are assessed as part of the EIAR and NIS.

Please find 2 no. hard copies and 8 no. electronic copies (USBs) of the planning application pack enclosed with this letter. Waterford City and County Council has also received 2 no. hard copies and 1 no. electronic copy (USB).

All prescribed bodies as identified are being provided with application documentation in a digital format via the website link and cover letter. Additionally, Uisce Éireann and Inland Fisheries Ireland were provided with a hard copy of the letter as well as 1 no. electronic copy (USB) each.

I trust that you have all the information you require to progress the application. If, however, you have any queries or require to discuss any matter in detail, please do not hesitate to contact me.

We look forward to your decision in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. John Staunton BSc. PhD.

Senior Project Manager & Environmental Scientist

For and on behalf of TOBIN Consulting Engineers

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