



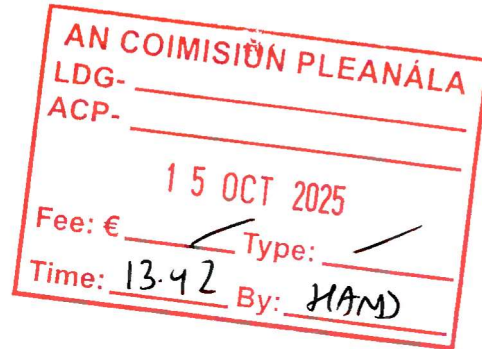
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Innealtóireacht agus Mórhionscadail,
Aon Lárcheantar Aerfort Bhaile Átha Cliath,
Clochrán, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath, K67 XF72, Éire
Fón +353 1 703 8000

Engineering and Major Projects,
One Dublin Airport Central, Dublin Airport,
Cloghran, Co. Dublin, K67 XF72, Ireland
Phone +353 1 703 8000

**An Coimisiún Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1,
D01 V902.**



15th October 2025

**Re: ACP Case Number: 323018-25
Response to Submission from Galway County Council**

Dear Sir/Madam,

1. Introduction

On behalf of Gort Windfarms Ltd., I refer to the above case number and in particular to correspondence received from An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP) dated 26th September 2025, inviting a response to the copy of a submission received from Galway County Council (GCC) on the aforementioned application for development pursuant to Section 37L of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). The specific submission is responded to below.

2. Response to GCC Submission

The submission from the planning authority sets out GCC's response in relation to the relevant planning application in accordance with Section 37L(12)(a) and 34(2) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

Key points from the submission are summarised as follows:

- The Planning Authority note the planning history of the site, in addition to the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) judgements (Case C-261/18 and Case C-215/06) in relation to the development.
- The Planning Authority note the purpose of the application to regularise the planning status of the development and decommission the unauthorised development, following the issuing of an enforcement notice (EN23/235) by GCC.



- The Planning Authority note the concurrent application submitted to ACP pursuant to Section 177E of the Act.
- The Planning Authority request that ACP have regard to the local policy objectives in the Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028.
- It is noted that an EIAR and NIS was submitted with the planning application, and that ACP are the Competent Authority for this purpose.
- The Planning Authority request the attachment of a condition for a bond to be placed on the satisfactory reinstatement of the public road, notably the upgrades to roads, temporary compounds and hardstanding to facilitate the decommissioning, dismantling and removal of the windfarm.
- The Planning Authority request that a Special Contribution is attached against the potential impact upon public infrastructure in the wider area due to traffic and transport movements associated with the development.

GCC state that, should ACP be minded to grant permission for the development, that 9 no. conditions should be considered:

- **Condition 1:** Gort Windfarms Ltd has no objection to this condition.
- **Condition 2:** Gort Windfarms Ltd has no objection to this condition.
- **Condition 3:** Gort Windfarms Ltd has no objection to this condition. However, in relation to 3(d) we wish to clarify that there are no proposals in relation to public information and communication within the NIS or EIAR as submitted with the application.
- **Condition 4:** Gort Windfarms Ltd has no objection to this condition. It is anticipated that details of Drainage/Surface Water Management would be included as part of the CEMP and issued to GCC for their agreement.
- **Condition 5:** Gort Windfarms Ltd has no objection to this condition and would suggest that in any case, details for same will form part of the CEMP and/or the TMP.
- **Condition 6:** Gort Windfarms Ltd has no objection to this condition.
- **Condition 7:** Gort Windfarms Ltd has no objection to this condition.
- **Condition 8:** Gort Windfarms Ltd has no objection to this condition.



- **Condition 9:** GCC have requested the payment of a financial contribution. Gort Windfarms Ltd consider this condition to be unnecessary in the context of the decommissioning of an existing windfarm.

In their submission, GCC outlined that a Special Contribution should be attached against the potential impact upon public infrastructure in the wider area due to traffic and transport movements associated with the development. A bond of insurance in respect to public road reinstatement (*refer to proposed Condition 8*) has been requested and should satisfy the concerns of the Planning Authority in relation to any potential impact on public infrastructure and the local road networks as a result of the proposed development. In this regard, Gort Windfarms Ltd. would suggest that ACP do not attach a condition requiring a special development financial contribution, in addition to a bond of insurance, in relation to roads/traffic movement associated with the proposed works.

3. Conclusion

In accepting the attachment of conditions as per the submission, Gort Windfarms Ltd. is presuming that ACP will attach standardised conditions that are typically issued by ACP for projects of this nature.

I trust that you have all the required information to progress the assessment of the application. If you have any queries, please contact the undersigned at heather.mcmeel@esb.ie or on 086 176 7511.

Yours sincerely,

Heather McMeel

Heather McMeel,

Senior Planner ESB Engineering and Major Projects

