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Michael Leahy B.Arch., M.R.U.P., Dip Plng. & Env. Law, F.R.I.A.I., M.I.P.I., A.OU.

The Secretary
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough St.
Dublin 1.

AN15th RD PLEANALA
LDG- 59 November 2022

ABPFee: € 270 November 2022

Type: Cheque

Referral under section 5 of the planning actime:

Matter of referral: whether the construction of an agricultural shed for which an appropriate assessment screening report has been carried out at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway is development and is exempted development.

Details of declaration by planning authority (Galway County council): reference number ED22/58, dated 24th of October 2022, declared that the development in question is not exempted development. (Copy declaration enclosed- Appendix 1).

Name and address of person taking the referral: Mr Tom Termini of 12 Eastwood, Finglas, Dublin 11.

Name and address of agents acting on behalf of the person taking the referral: Leahy Planning Ltd., Mill Road House, Mill Road, Ennis Address to which correspondence is to be sent: Leahy Planning Ltd., Mill Road House, Mill Road, Ennis

Fee included with referral: €220. (Type R1, fees and charges guide issued by an Bord Pleanála).

Final date for making referral: 20th November 2022 (date of declaration: 24th October 2022).

Dear Sir/Madame,

On behalf of our client **Mr Tom Termini**, we wish to refer the above declaration of the planning authority to the Board for determination in accordance with section 5 of the Planning Act. Details as required under section 127 of the Planning Act are indicated above.

We believe that the works in question should be considered as Exempted Development and the main grounds for making this referral are as follows;

- The proposed development comes within the remit of the Class 9 exemption under schedule 2 of part 3 of the Regulations.
- 2. The proposed development is not de-exempted by virtue of any requirement to carry out an Appropriate Assessment.
- 3. There are no other reasons within the planning Act why the proposal could be considered to be de-exempted, and the reasons given in the planning authority's documentation are not valid.

We would also point out that the proposed development is supported by the provisions of the Galway development plan and is suitable to its area which is primarily agricultural.

1. Description.

The development is an agricultural shed of 93 m². It is proposed to be used in Mr Termini's beekeeping and honey production operation. Its total height is 7.9m. Drawings illustrating the proposal are attached as are photographs, given that the building has already been commenced (Appendix 2).

2. History.

Having carefully checked the exempted development regulations, Mr Termini satisfied himself that he was entitled to build the shed without planning permission and proceeded to do so. During the course of construction, he was contacted by Galway County council planning department who considered that the building may not be exempted development, and he subsequently sought a declaration under Section 5 on the matter from Galway County Council.

This referral was taken under ref No. ED 21/54 of Galway County council. A declaration issued by Galway County Council (copy attached-Appendix 3) which declared that the development was not exempted development. The planners' report on which this declaration was based gave as the sole reason for considering the proposal as not being exempted development that an Appropriate Assessment was required.

We would point out that this conclusion was reached by the planning authority without any evidence of its having carried out a stage 1 assessment or screening report.

In proposing to resolve the matter with a view to lodging an application for retention and completion Mr Termini engaged the services of Messrs Delichon Ecology to prepare an Appropriate Assessment. They carried out a screening report and concluded that Appropriate Assessment is not required. Mr Termini then found himself in a somewhat strange position of being required to apply for planning permission for something on the basis of its having required Appropriate Assessment after he had just established that in fact no such Appropriate Assessment was required.

For that reason, this firm advised him to lodge a second referral to the planning authority, this time specifically referring to the fact that a screening report had been carried out.

This second referral and declaration is now the subject of this referral to an Bord Pleanála.

3. Basis for considering the proposal as being development which is exempted development:

It is clear from section 2 of the planning Act that the proposal constitutes works and constitutes development.

Under article 6 of the Planning and Development Regulations as amended, certain works set out Schedule 2 of the regulations are deemed to be exempted development. The class 9 exemption, schedule 2 part 3, provides for a barn or store or other structure not having a gross floorspace exceeding 300 square metres, which is the case in this instance. Such structure is to be used for purposes of agriculture, which is the case in the present building, it shall not in aggregate provide for storage units in excess of 900 m² of gross floorspace within a single farm holding, which is the case, it shall not be situated within 10 m of a public road which is the case, it shall not be situated within 100 m of any house, which is the case, and it is not proposed to use painted metal sheeting for external finishes which is also the case. It shall be under 8m in height (which it is) if closer than 100 m to the public road.

Therefore, the development is exempted development unless it is deexempted under other provisions of the Act or Regulations.

3.1. Not De-Exempted by virtue of need to provide Appropriate Assessment.

The proposal is not located within an SAC or other European site. Further, as a storage shed, it does not produce any effluent or other deleterious run-off.

It is however in proximity to a number of SACs and to that end Mr Termini had a screening report prepared.

An essential part of determining whether an Appropriate Assessment is required is of course the carrying out of an Appropriate Assessment screening report or stage 1 assessment. This is made very clear under the methodological guidance issued by the European Commission concerning Article 6.3 of the Habitats Directive (see below).

The attached screening report, prepared by Messrs Delichon Ecology, satisfactorily establishes that Appropriate Assessment is not required for this proposal as it is not likely to have significant effects on a Natura Site (See **Appendix 4**).

4. Examination of the reasons given by the planning authority for their declaration that the proposal is not exempted development.

4.1. The declaration itself does not give satisfactory reasons for its conclusion other than stating that the planning authority has reached its conclusion. In this regard we would point out the section 5(2)(a) of the Act requires the planning authority in issuing its declaration to give "the main reasons and considerations on which its decision is based".

Other than simply referring to the sections of the Act to which it had regard, the planning authority gave no account of its reasons or considerations, and we therefore believe that this declaration is not valid and should not be further considered by the Board in determining this referral.

However, lest the Board does not agree with this position, we refer to the planner's report which seems to have formed the basis of the declaration, and that seems to provide two reasons why the planning authority concluded that the development was not exempted development.

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The first is that as the screening report had been carried out, that the de-exemption provided for under article 9(1)(a)(viiB) would apply. This sub- article states:

(viiB) comprise development in relation to which a planning authority or An Bord Pleanala is the competent authority in relation to appropriate assessment and the development would require an appropriate assessment because it would be likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of a European site,

The planning authority seems to have concluded that as a screening report was carried out, and as this is defined as a stage 1 of the process of Appropriate Assessment, that the above de-exemption shall apply. We would suggest this is a completely illogical position to take having regard to the wording outlined above.

Firstly, it takes no account of the word "require" in the above wording. There is clearly no established requirement to carry out an Appropriate Assessment in this instance. The fact that my client carried out, under his own initiative, a screening report does not establish a requirement. Further, the only way to determine definitively whether there is a requirement to carry out a full Appropriate Assessment is to conduct a screening report. The council's position that in determining whether or not an Appropriate Assessment is required, one has automatically engaged in the process of carrying out an Appropriate Assessment, is Kafkaesque in its illogicality.

Further, an Appropriate Assessment is only completed once all the stages have been carried out. This is not the case in this instance and the council's position that conducting of a stage 1 Appropriate

Assessment process constitutes an Appropriate Assessment is clearly not in accordance with the council directive.

Secondly, the above wording indicates that the de-exemption shall only apply once an appropriate assessment is required for a development because "it would be likely to have a significant effect on a European site". The screening report in fact concluded the direct opposite and indicated that the proposal would not be likely to have a significant effect on a European site and that it would therefore not be necessary to conduct a full appropriate assessment.

The European Commission has given methodological guidance on the AA process (EC, 2002) and this has been adopted in the 2009 document *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland - Guidance for Planning Authorities,* issued by the Department of the Environment, which gives guidance to planning authorities on the process of appropriate assessment for projects and plans. This document clearly states that stage 1 assessment is a "screening for AA" (See Paragraph 3.1). The document also makes clear that an AA cannot be carried out without the production of a Natura Impact Statement. Further to the completion of the screening report in this case, it was determined that the production of such a statement or proceeding to stage II was not necessary as no serious impacts were considered likely on a European site.

4.2. The second reason for de-exemption given in the planners' report suggested that the proposal is de-exempted by virtue of article 9(1)(a)(vi) of the Regulations, which states as follows:

> "(vi) interfere with the character of a landscape, or a view or prospect of special amenity value or special interest, the preservation of which is an objective of a development plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of

a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan......"

Again, we would suggest that the council's conclusion derives from an incorrect reading of the above text. It is clear from the text that in order for any de-exemption to apply there has to be a specific objective in regard preservation of a view or prospect, or a specific objective in regard to the protection of a particular character of landscape. The Planners' report indicates that the landscape in question is a Class 3 designated rural landscape with the sensitivity rating of "special". This however does not constitute a specific objective as is clearly required under the above sub-article of the regulations. In the above quotation from the regulations the term "character of the landscape" is clearly qualified by the phrase "the preservation of which is an objective of the development plan". Unless the planning authority can point to a specific objective of the development plan which seeks the preservation of all such landscapes free of development then it cannot claim that the above quoted de-exemption applies in this case. If it were to do so, it would be a simple matter for any planning authority to prohibit any exempted development purely on the basis that it interfered with a landscape, and this would clearly frustrate the legislative purpose of allowing certain developments to be exempted development.

4.2.1.We would also point out that there many examples within the local area, and within the indicated landscape, of sheds of a similar size and nature to that proposed which have been constructed, generally for agricultural or for storage purposes. We attach as **Appendix 5** a variety of photographs of such sheds which have been taken by Mr Termini on 12th of November 2022.

All of these were taken within 2.2 km of the location of the proposed development.

It is difficult to see therefore how the planning authority can argue that any small shed of the type proposed by Mr Termini is a material breach of the development plan or that it can "interfere with the character of the landscape...... the preservation of which is an objective of the development plan".

5. General support for the proposal under the development plan.

The proposal is an agricultural shed in an agricultural area. The Galway County Council development plan clearly states its support for agriculture. The proposal is located in Cleggan, and under Section 7(a) of the plan the area of Cleggan is listed. Section 7(a) affirms as follows;

"The open countryside provides for rural economies and rural communities, based on agriculture, forestry, tourism and rural enterprise."

It is clear therefore that the provision of shed for agricultural purposes (beekeeping) is entirely consonant with the development plan.

6. Conclusion.

We have established in the foregoing that the proposal is exempt under Article 6, class 9 of the Regulations. The planning authority's position in regard to appropriate assessment is clearly not a logical position to take and is clearly not the intent either of the habitats directive or the legislation enabling it.

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Nor is the planning Authority's position consonant with article 9 of the regulations. As there is no specific objective in the development plan for the preservation of this area of land it cannot be argued that the proposal is de-exempted under 9(1)(a)(vi).

We do not find any other grounds within either the Act or the Regulations which would suggest that the proposal is not exempted.

We therefore urge an Bord Pleanála to confirm that the proposal is development which is exempted development.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Leaby

For Leahy Planning Ltd. on behalf of Mr Tom Termini

Encl:

Cheque for €220

Appendixes

Appendixes

- Appendix 1: Copy of declaration the basis of current referral and Planner's Report
- **Appendix 2:** Drawings showing location and nature of development together with photographs and application form for declaration
- **Appendix 3:** Copy of declaration issued on 23rd June 2021 together with Planners Report
- Appendix 4: Report of screening for Appropriate Assessment by Messers Delichon Ecology
- Appendix 5: Photographs of sheds taken by Mr Termini in the immediate locality (within 2.2km radius) on 12th of November 2022

Appendix 1

Copy of declaration the basis of current referral and Planner's Report



Bosca Poist Uimhir 27, Aras an Chontae, Cnoc na Radharc, Gaillimh

Telephone Email Web

planning@galwaycoco.ie

www.galway.ie

Tom Termini C/o Leahy Planning Ltd, Mill Road House, Mill Road, Ennis, Co. Clare

24th October, 2022

RE: Declaration of Exempted Development under section 5 of the Planning & Development Act 2000

ED22/58— For the erection of a shed at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway.

DECISION - NOT EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT

A Chara,

I refer to the above application which was received by this office on the 27th September, 2022

The Planning Authority, in considering this Section 5 application, had regard particularly to

- (a) The definition of "works" set out in Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).
- (b) The definition of "development" set out in Section 3 of said Planning and Development Act.
- (c) Section (3) of said Planning and Development Act.
- (d) Section 4 (1) (h) & (4) of said Planning and Development Acts.
- (e) Article 6(1) of said Planning and Development Regulations.
- (f) Article 9(1)(a) subsections (i), (vii), (viiB) & (viiC) of said Planning and Development Regulations.
- (g) 'Class 9' of Schedule 2 Part 3 of the 2001 Planning and Development Regulations.
- (h) Documents submitted from the referrer in this Section 5 application.

The Planning Authority, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5 of the 2000 Planning Act (as amended), hereby decides that:

The proposed construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (92m²) at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway is development and is **not exempted development** under Article 9(1) (a) (vi) & (viiB) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Please note that you may appeal this decision to An Bord Pleanala within four weeks of the issue of this declaration on payment of the prescribed fee.

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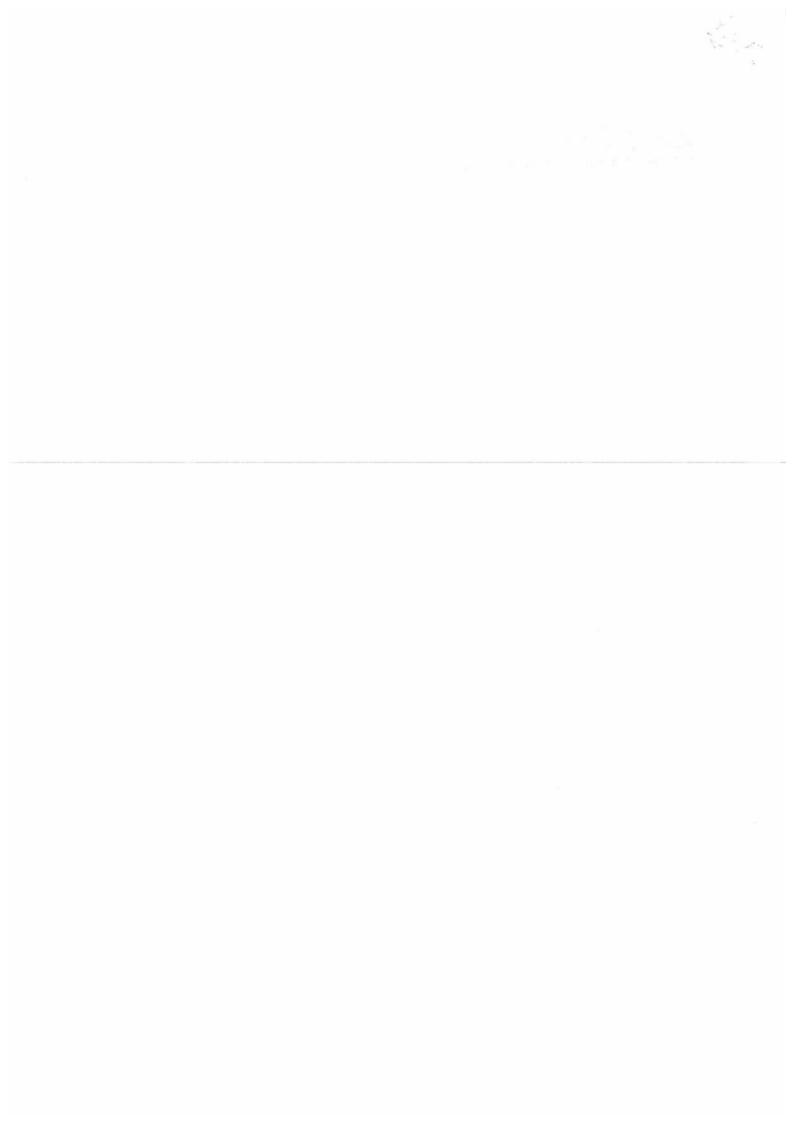
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Our Ref: ED 22/58

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Robert Lydon Planning & Sustainable Development Unit



PLANNER'S REPORT

File Ref: ED 22/58

Applicant: Tom Termini.

Location: Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway.

Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

If any question arises as to what, in any particular case, is or is not development or is or is not exempted development within the meaning of the Act, any person may, on payment of the prescribed fee, request in writing from the relevant planning authority a declaration on that question, and that person shall provide to the planning authority any information necessary to enable the authority to make its decision on the matter.

Proposed – Application

Whether the construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (92m²) at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway is or is not development or, is or is not exempted development within the meaning of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 (as amended) and Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (S.I. No. 600 of 2001) (as amended).

Site Location

The site is in the townland of Rossadillisk, off the Local Road L-11038-0, 2km west of Cleggan village.

Relevant Legislation

The following excerpts from current planning legislation are relevant to the assessment of this referral.

2000 Planning and Development Act Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 defines the terms used within the act and states that

"Works" includes any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension or alteration, repair or renewal and, in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes...

and

"structure" means any building, structure, excavation, or other thing constructed or made on, in or under any land, or any part of a structure so defined,

Section 3(1) states:

"in this act 'development' means except where the context otherwise requires, the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in the use of any structures or other land."

Section 4 sets out the types of works that while considered 'development', can be

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considered 'exempted development' for the purposes of the Act. (The 2001 Planning Regulations as amended derive from this section and designate further works as being exempted development for the purposes of the act)

2001 Planning and Development Regulations (as amended)
Article 6 deems the development set out in Schedule 2 to be exempted development. Column 1 describes the development which can be considered exempted development, while Column 2 describes the conditions and limitations applicable to such exemption. Part 3 sets out exemptions for rural areas.

'Class 9' and its conditions/limitations are as follows:

Works consisting of the provision of any store, barn, shed, glass-house or other structure, not being a type specified in class 6, 7 or 8 of this Part of the Schedule, and having a gross floor space not exceeding 300 square metres.

 No such structure shall be used for any purpose other than the purpose of agriculture of forestry but excluding the housing of animals or the storing of effluent.

The gross floor space of such structures together with any other such structures situated within the same farmyard complex or complex of such structures or within 100 metres of that complex shall not exceed 900 square metres gross floor space in aggregate.

3. No such structure shall be situated within 10 metres of any public road.

 No such structure within 100 metres of any public road shall exceed 8 metres in height.

- 5. No such structure shall be situated within 100 metres of any house (other than the house of the person providing the structure) or other residential building or school, hospital, church or building used for public assembly, save with the consent in writing of the owner, and, as may be appropriate, the occupier or person in charge thereof.
- No unpainted metal sheeting shall be used for roofing or on the external finish of the structure.

Article 9 (1) (a) sets out general restrictions on exemption, stating that "Development to which article 6 relates shall not be exempted development for the purposes of the Act if the carrying out of such development would..." before going on to list a number of applicable circumstances.

Planning Assessment:

The applicant is seeking written opinion from the Planning Authority under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), as to whether the proposed construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (92m²) at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway is or is not development or, is or is not exempted development within the meaning of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 (as amended) and Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (S.I. No. 600 of 2001) (as amended).

Planning History:

No planning history.

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Galway County Development Plan, 2022-2028:

Landscape:

The site is located within a Class 3 designated rural landscape, which has a landscape sensitivity rating of 'Special'.



Appropriate Assessment:

The application site is located on a site outside any Natura 2000 site; however, it is situated within 15km of the following Natura 2000 sites (18):

SAC:Connemara Bog Complex SAC

SAC:Tully Lough SAC

SAC:Tully Mountain SAC

SAC: The Twelve Bens/Garraun Complex SAC

SAC:Rusheenduff Lough SAC

SAC:West Connacht Coast SAC

SAC:Kingstown Bay SAC

SAC:Slyne Head Peninsula SAC

SAC:Inishbofin And Inishshark SAC

SAC:Slyne Head Islands SAC

SAC:Aughrusbeg Machair And Lake SAC

SAC:Omey Island Machair SAC

SAC:Barnahallia Lough SAC

SPA:Illaunnanoon SPA

SPA: High Island, Inishshark and Davillaun SPA

SPA:Cruagh Island SPA

SPA:Connemara Bog Complex SPA

SPA:Inishbofin, Omey Island and Turbot Island SPA

The site is located circa 90m south of West Connacht Coast SAC (site code: 002998) which is a designated European sites for rare and threatened flora and fauna (i.e. Natura 2000 network) protected under the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) & EU Birds Directive (79/409/EEC, as amended by Directive 2009/147/EC) and the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997, as amended by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and part XAB of the Planning and Development, 2000 as amended.

The Local Authority notes the inclusion of the 'Screening for Appropriate Assessment', the Local Authority considers this an equivalent document to an 'Appropriate Assessment: Stage 1 Screening' under the EU directive, and so the proposed would not satisfy Article 9 (1) (a) subsection (viiB):

"comprise development in relation to which a planning authority or An Bord Pleanála is the competent authority in relation to appropriate assessment and the development would require an appropriate assessment because it would be likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of a European site,"

Proposed Works:

The proposed works include the construction of a Agricultural Storage Building (92m2).

Nature of the Development:

The construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (92m²) falls within the scope of 'works' as defined by the 2000 Act. As such, the construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (92m²) is 'development' for the purposes of the legislation.

In the first instance, it is consistent with 'Class 9' of Schedule 2 Part 3 of the 2001 Planning and Development Regulations, as amended, and is also consistent with the conditions/limitations of that class, as set out in the schedule, in that:

- No such structure shall be used for any purpose other than the purpose of agriculture or forestry but excluding the housing of animals or the storing of effluent.
- The gross floor space of such structures together with any other such structures situated within the same farmyard complex or complex of such structures or within 100 metres of that complex shall not exceed 900 square meters gross floor space in aggregate.
- No such structure shall be situated within 10 metres of any public road.
- No such structure within 100 metres of any public road shall exceed 8 metres in height.
- No such structure shall be situated within 100 metres of any house (other than the house of the person providing the structure) or other residential building or school, hospital, church or building used for public assembly, save with the consent in writing of the owner, and, as may be appropriate, the occupier or person in charge thereof.
- No unpainted metal sheeting shall be used for roofing or on the external finish
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Opinion:

Having regard to the above, in particular the nature of the proposed works in conjunction with the Sections 2, 3, 4(1)(h) & 4(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Articles 9(1) (a) (vi),(vii), (viiB) & (viiC) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), it is considered that the development would constitute development under Section 3 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Having considered the works proposed the planning authority is of the opinion that the construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (92m²) would fall within 'Class 9' of Schedule 2 Part 3 of the 2001 Planning and Development Regulations.

However, the location of the works proposed, beside the West Connacht Coast SAC, would not satisfy Article 9 (1) (a) subsection (viiB):

"comprise development in relation to which a planning authority or An Bord Pleanála is the competent authority in relation to appropriate assessment and the development would require an appropriate assessment because it would be likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of a European site,'

Secondly, as stated above, the Local Authority considers the 'Screening for Appropriate Assessment' an equivalent document to a 'Appropriate Assessment: Stage 1 Screening', under the EU directive, and so the proposed would not satisfy Article 9 (1) (a) subsection (viiB) for a second reason.

Thirdly, a visual inspection of the works to date, makes it clear the proposed would not satisfy Article 9 (1) (a) subsection (vi).

'interfere with the character of a landscape, or a view or prospect of special amenity value or special interest, the preservation of which is an objective of a development plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,'

the works as proposed are therefore considered to be not exempted development as per the criteria set out in Article 9(1) (a) (vi) & (viiB) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)

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Recommendation:

Decided By:

The Planning Authority, in considering this Section 5 application, had regard particularly to

- (a) The definition of "works" set out in Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).
- (b) The definition of "development" set out in Section 3 of said Planning and Development Act.
- (c) Section (3) of said Planning and Development Act.
- (d) Section 4 (1) (h) & (4) of said Planning and Development Acts.
- (e) Article 6(1) of said Planning and Development Regulations.
- (f) Article 9(1)(a) subsections (i), (vi), (vii), (viiB) & (viiC) of said Planning and Development Regulations.
- (g) 'Class 9' of Schedule 2 Part 3 of the 2001 Planning and Development Regulations.
- (h) Documents submitted from the referrer in this Section 5 application.

The Planning Authority, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5 of the 2000 Planning Act (as amended), hereby decides that:

The proposed construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (92m²) at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway is development and is **not exempted development** under Article 9(1) (a) (vi) & (viiB) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Prepared By: Robert Lydon, Technician Gr 2, Planning

Counter-signed By: Alan O' Connell, Senior Executive Planner

Director's\Manager's Recommendation

Michael Owens, Director of Services

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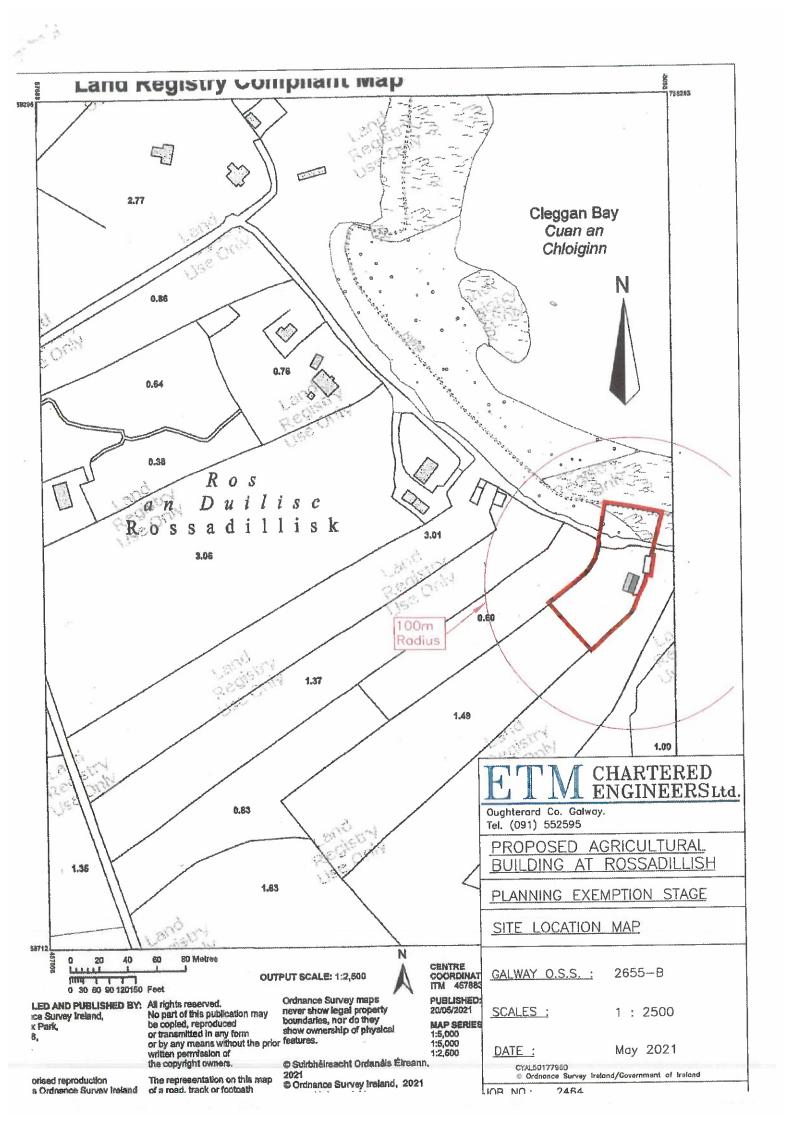
Appendix 2

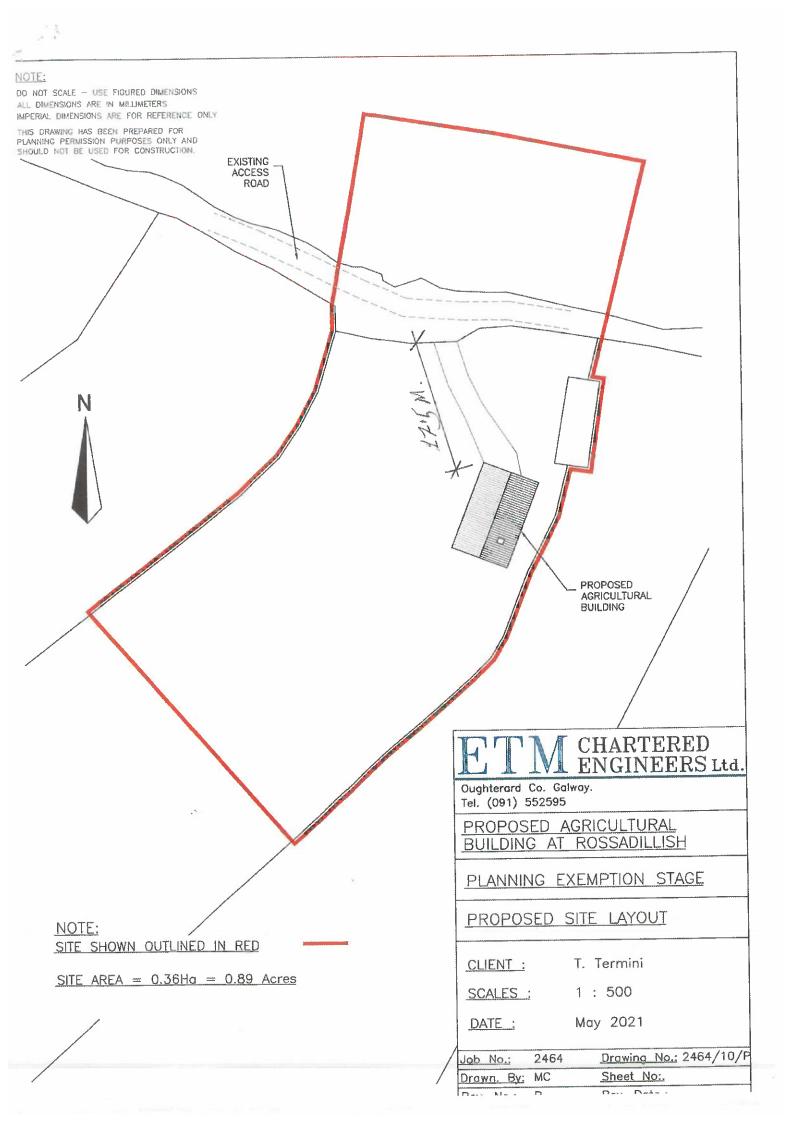
Drawings showing location and nature of development together with photographs and application form for declaration

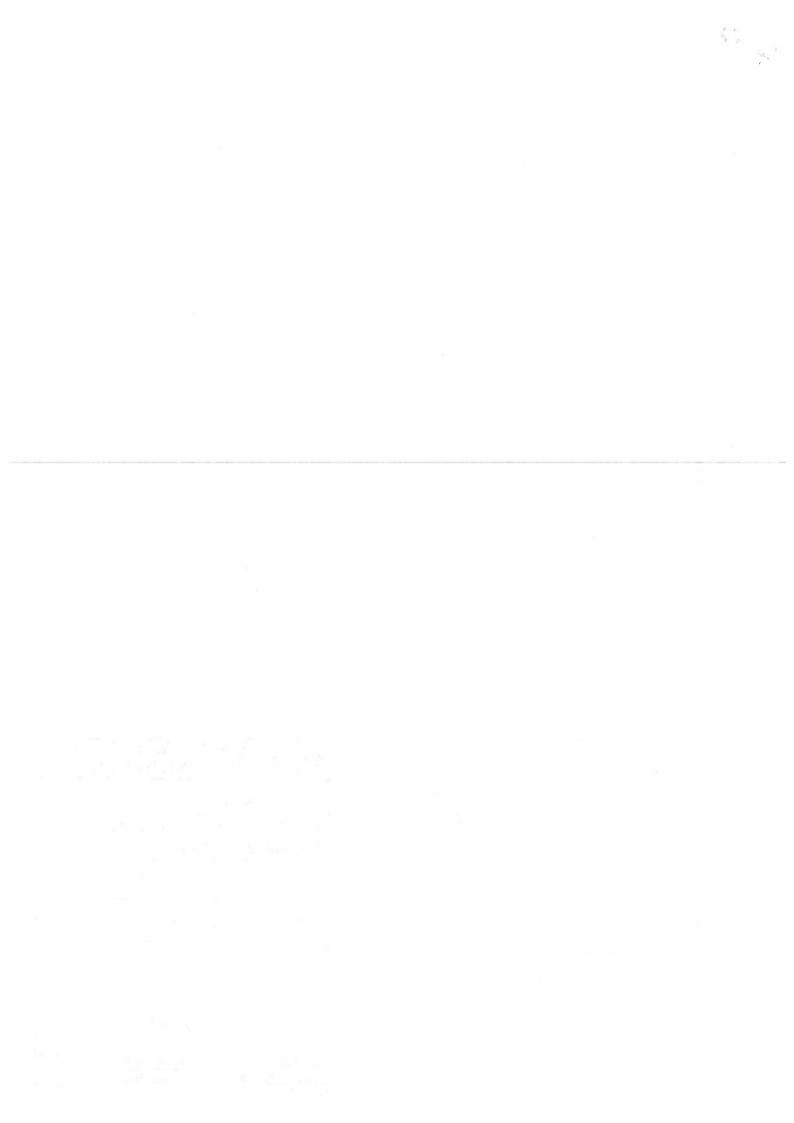
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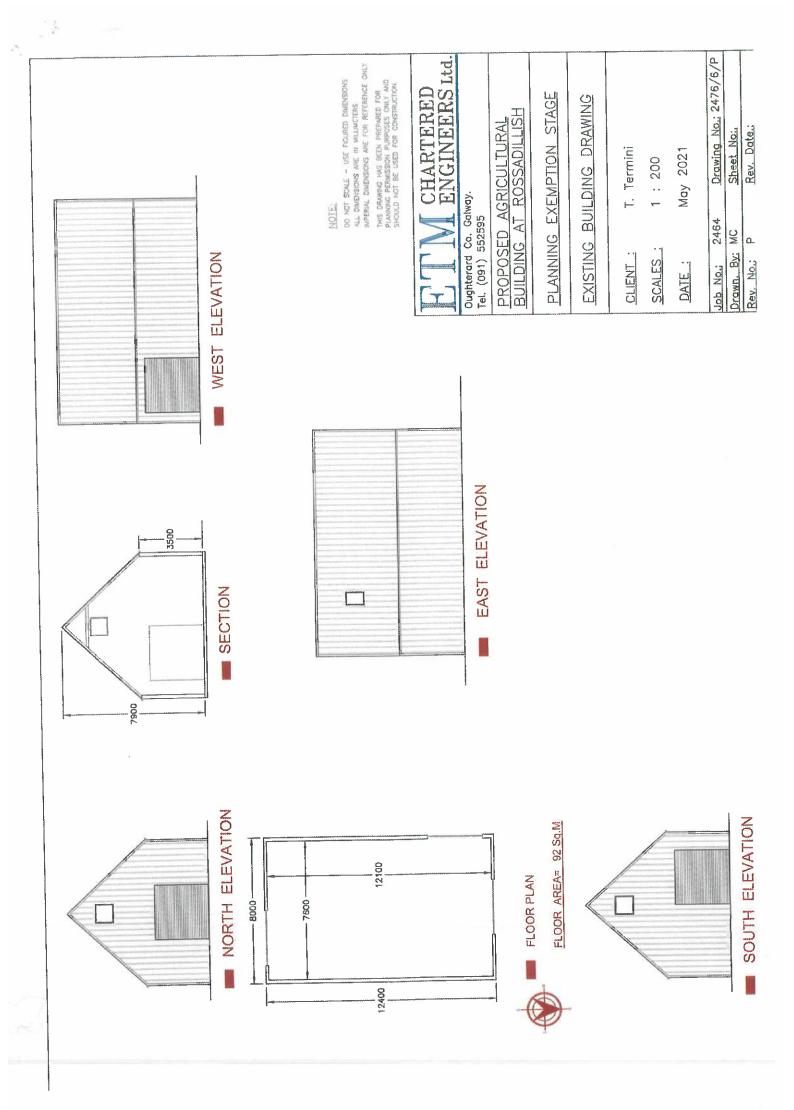
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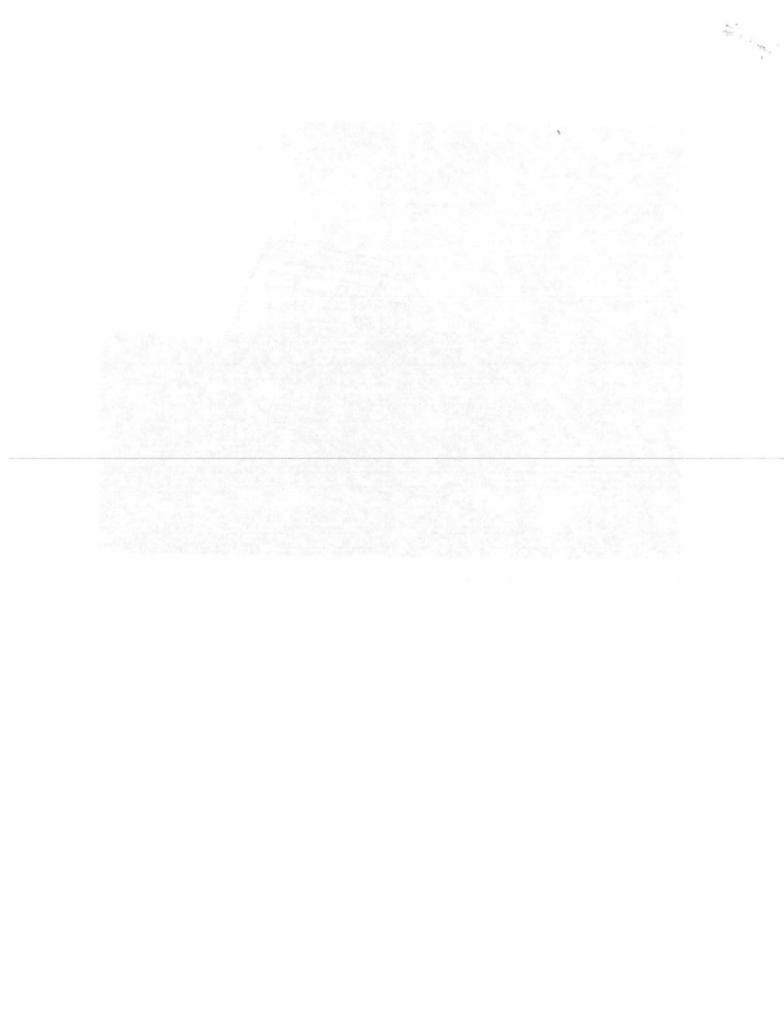








Photograph of property as exists on site.



Iarratas ar dhearbhú maidir le forbairt dhíolmhaithe faoi Alt 5 den Acht um Pleanáil agus Forbairt 2000



Application for Declaration of Exempted Development under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000

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Tá	an fhoirm seo	le fáil i	gcló mór	chomh	maith

This form is also available in large print

Tá míle fáilte an fhoirm seo a líonadh i nGaeilge

1. Mionsonraí faoin iarrat	asóir		1. Applicant details			
Ainm	Name		Tom Termini			
Seoladh Address			12 Eastwood			
			Fing	ylas		
			Du	blin		
Cód Poist	Postcode		D11YY6X			
Teileafón	Telephone		08304	30968		
Ríomhphost	Email		termini@b	luedog.net		
2. Mionsonraí faoin bhfo	rbairt bheartaithe		2. Proposed development details			
Tuairisc iomlán	Full description		Provision of agricultural storage building 92sqm			
			(already commenced)			
Más méadú ar theach có	naithe atá i gceist, c	uir isteach	If an extension to a dwell	inghouse, p	lease include	
achair urláir			floor areas			
(i) méadú beartaithe (i) Pro		(i) Propose	ed extension		mcr/sqm	
(ii) struchtúir reatha	*****	(ii) Existing	structure		mcr/sqm	
(iii) spás oscailte príobhá	ildeach ar gcúl	(iii) Rear pr	ivate open space		mcr/sqm	
<u></u>						
Más forbairt í a bhaineann le Garáiste/Bothán/Stóras			If for the erection of Garage/Shed/Store etc.,			
				1 1 41		
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etc a chur in airde, lua (i) garáiste/bothán/stór (ii) struchtúir reatha	thoil: as etc beartaithe áideach ar gcúi	(i) Propos (ii) Existing (iii) Rear po	folic ed garage/shed/store etc g structure	92	mcr/sqm mcr/sqm	

I gcás aon foirgneamh /fho láithreán, nó i gcás athrait	irgnimh atá le coimeád ar an he ar úsáid na maoine	For any building(s) to be retained on site, or for a change of use of the property		
Léirigh an úsáid reatha	Please indicate the existing use	Agricultural storage building		

Doiciméid atá le cur in éineacht leis an bhfoirm iarratais	Documents to be included with this application	
seo (cuir isteach tic (✓) le do thoil)	form (please tick√)	
Léarscáil de shuíomh an láithreáin	Site location map Scale	
Scála 1:1000 nó 1:2500	1:1000 or 1:2500	
Léarscáil de leagan amach an láithreáin	Site layout map	
Scála 1:200 nó 1:500	Scale 1:200 or 1:500	M
Pleananna urláir & ingearchlónna	Floor plans & elevations	
Táille (€80)	Fee (€80)	V

Dearbhaím leis seo go bhfuil an fhaisnéis a thugtar ar an			I hereby declare that the information given on this			
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Síniú (iarratasóir/gníomhaire)	Signature (applicant/ag	ent)	May	flet	the	
Dáta	Date	1	20 50	n/ x	1023	

Tel. (091) 509308 Return to: Seol an fhoirm ar ais chuig: Fax (091) 509199 Planning & Sustainable An tAonad Pleanála & Forbartha planning@galwaycoco.ie **Development Unit** Inmharthana www.gaillimh.ie **Galway County Council** Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe www.galway.ie Áras an Chontae Áras an Chontae Prospect Hill Cnoc na Radharc Galway Gaillimh.

Carlo.

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Appendix 3

Copy of declaration issued on 23rd June 2021 together with Planners Report

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Áras an Chontae. Cnoc na Radhare, Gaitlimh. H91 H6KX.

Aras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX.

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Mótarcháin

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Pobal & Fiontar Community & Enterprise 2 (091) 509 521 ⊠community@galwaycoco.le

Planning @ (091) 509 308 Mplanning@galwaycoco.ie

Leabharlann Library 1091) 562 471 Minfo@galwayfibrary.ie Our Ref: ED 21/54

Tom Termini.

Oughterard.

Co. Galway



23rd June, 2021

RE: Declaration of Exempted Development under section 5 of the Planning & Development Act 2000

ED21/54 - proposed construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (100m²)

DECISION - NOT EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT

A Chara.

I refer to the above application which was received by this office on the 21st May 2021

The Planning Authority, in considering this Section 5 application, had regard particularly to:

(a) The definition of "works" set out in Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

(b) The definition of "development" set out in Section 3 of said Planning and Development Act.

(c) Section (3) of said Planning and Development Act.

(d) Section 4 (1) (h) & (4) of said Planning and Development Acts.

(e) Article 6(1) of said Planning and Development Regulations.

(f) Article 9(1)(a) subsections (i), (vi), (vii), (viiB) & (viiC) of said Planning and Development Regulations.

(g) 'Class 9' of Schedule 2 Part 3 of the 2001 Planning and Development Regulations.

(h) Documents submitted from the referrer in this Section 5 application.

The Planning Authority, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5 of the 2000 Planning Act (as amended), hereby decides that:

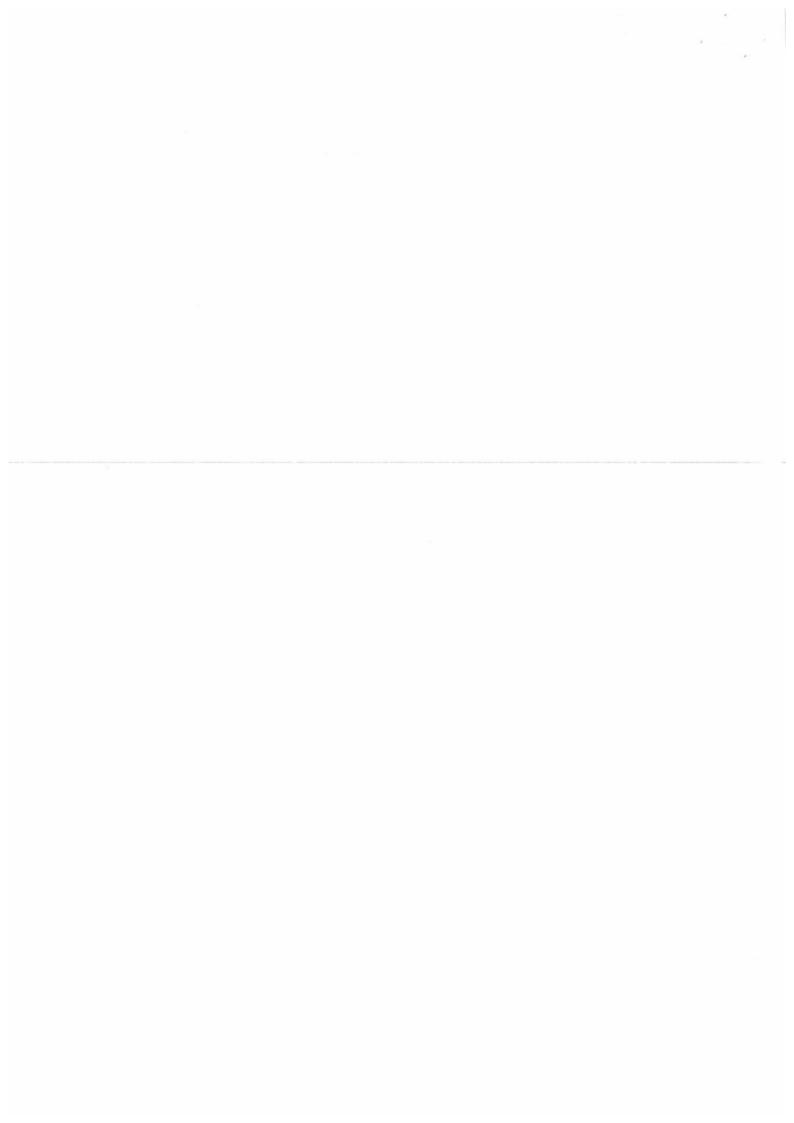
The proposed construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (100m²) at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway is development and is not exempted development under Article 9(1) (a) (viiB) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Mise le meas

Robert Lydon

Planning & Sustainable Development Unit





PLANNER'S REPORT

File Ref: ED 21/54

Applicant: Tom Termini.

Location: Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway.

Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

If any question arises as to what, in any particular case, is or is not development or is or is not exempted development within the meaning of the Act, any person may, on payment of the prescribed fee, request in writing from the relevant planning authority a declaration on that question, and that person shall provide to the planning authority any information necessary to enable the authority to make its decision on the matter.

Proposed – Application

Whether the construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (100m²) at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway is or is not development or, is or is not exempted development within the meaning of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 (as amended) and Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (S.I. No. 600 of 2001) (as amended).

Site Location

The site is in the townland of Rossadillisk, off the Local Road L-11038-0, 2km west of Cleggan village.

Relevant Legislation

The following excerpts from current planning legislation are relevant to the assessment of this referral.

2000 Planning and Development Act Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 defines the terms used within the act and states that

"Works" includes any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension or alteration, repair or renewal and, in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes...

and

"structure" means any building, structure, excavation, or other thing constructed or made on, in or under any land, or any part of a structure so defined,

Section 3(1) states:

"in this act 'development' means except where the context otherwise requires, the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in the use of any structures or other land."

Section 4 sets out the types of works that while considered 'development', can be

considered 'exempted development' for the purposes of the Act. (The 2001 Planning Regulations as amended derive from this section and designate further works as being exempted development for the purposes of the act)

2001 Planning and Development Regulations (as amended)
Article 6 deems the development set out in Schedule 2 to be exempted development. Column 1 describes the development which can be considered exempted development, while Column 2 describes the conditions and limitations applicable to such exemption. Part 3 sets out exemptions for rural areas.

'Class 9' and its conditions/limitations are as follows:

Works consisting of the provision of any store, barn, shed, glass-house or other structure, not being a type specified in class 6, 7 or 8 of this Part of the Schedule, and having a gross floor space not exceeding 300 square metres.

- 1. No such structure shall be used for any purpose other than the purpose of agriculture of forestry but excluding the housing of animals or the storing of effluent.
- 2. The gross floor space of such structures together with any other such structures situated within the same farmyard complex or complex of such structures or within 100 metres of that complex shall not exceed 900 square metres gross floor space in aggregate.
- 3. No such structure shall be situated within 10 metres of any public road.
- 4. No such structure within 100 metres of any public road shall exceed 8 metres in height.
- 5. No such structure shall be situated within 100 metres of any house (other than the house of the person providing the structure) or other residential building or school, hospital, church or building used for public assembly, save with the consent in writing of the owner, and, as may be appropriate, the occupier or person in charge thereof.
- 6. No unpainted metal sheeting shall be used for roofing or on the external finish of the structure.

Article 9 (1) (a) sets out general restrictions on exemption, stating that "Development to which article 6 relates shall not be exempted development for the purposes of the Act if the carrying out of such development would..." before going on to list a number of applicable circumstances.

Planning Assessment:

The applicant is seeking written opinion from the Planning Authority under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), as to whether the proposed construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (100m²) at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway is or is not development or, is or is not exempted development within the meaning of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 (as amended) and Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (S.I. No. 600 of 2001) (as amended).

Planning History:

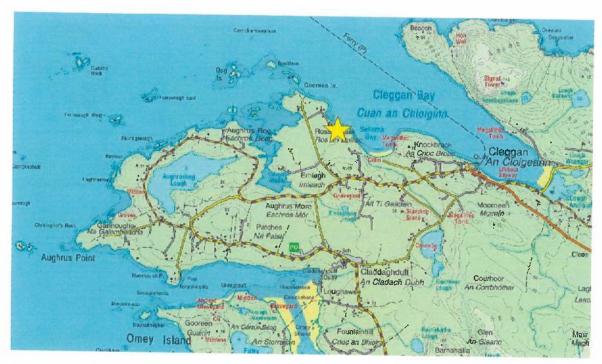
No planning history.

ego <u>Lew</u>

Galway County Development Plan, 2015-2021:

Landscape:

The site is located within a Class 4 designated rural landscape, which has a landscape sensitivity rating of 'Special'.



Appropriate Assessment:

The application site is located on a site outside any Natura 2000 site; however, it is situated within 15km of the following Natura 2000 sites (18):

SAC:Connemara Bog Complex SAC

SAC:Tully Lough SAC

SAC:Tully Mountain SAC

SAC: The Twelve Bens/Garraun Complex SAC

SAC:Rusheenduff Lough SAC

SAC:West Connacht Coast SAC

SAC: Kingstown Bay SAC

SAC:Slyne Head Peninsula SAC

SAC:Inishbofin And Inishshark SAC SAC:Slyne Head Islands SAC

SAC:Aughrusbeg Machair And Lake SAC

SAC:Omey Island Machair SAC

SAC:Barnahallia Lough SAC

SPA:Illaunnanoon SPA

SPA:High Island, Inishshark and Davillaun SPA

SPA:Cruagh Island SPA

SPA:Connemara Bog Complex SPA

SPA:Inishbofin, Omey Island and Turbot Island SPA

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The site is located circa 90m south of West Connacht Coast SAC (site code: 002998) which is a designated European sites for rare and threatened flora and fauna (i.e. Natura 2000 network) protected under the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) & EU Birds Directive (79/409/EEC, as amended by Directive 2009/147/EC) and the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997, as amended by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and part XAB of the Planning and Development, 2000 as amended.

Proposed Works:

The proposed works include the construction of a Agricultural Storage Building (100m2).

Nature of the Development:

The construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (100m²) falls within the scope of 'works' as defined by the 2000 Act. As such, the construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (100m²) is 'development' for the purposes of the legislation.

In the first instance, it is consistent with 'Class 9' of Schedule 2 Part 3 of the 2001 Planning and Development Regulations, as amended, and is also consistent with the conditions/limitations of that class, as set out in the schedule, in that:

- No such structure shall be used for any purpose other than the purpose of agriculture or forestry but excluding the housing of animals or the storing of effluent.
- The gross floor space of such structures together with any other such structures situated within the same farmyard complex or complex of such structures or within 100 metres of that complex shall not exceed 900 square meters gross floor space in aggregate.
- No such structure shall be situated within 10 metres of any public road.
- No such structure within 100 metres of any public road shall exceed 8 metres in height.
- No such structure shall be situated within 100 metres of any house (other than the house of the person providing the structure) or other residential building or school, hospital, church or building used for public assembly, save with the consent in writing of the owner, and, as may be appropriate, the occupier or person in charge thereof.
- No unpainted metal sheeting shall be used for roofing or on the external finish of the structure.

Opinion:

Having regard to the above, in particular the nature of the proposed works in conjunction with the Sections 2, 3, 4(1)(h) & 4(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Articles 9(1) (a) (vi),(vii), (viiB) & (viiC) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), it is considered that the development would constitute development under Section 3 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Having considered the works proposed the planning authority is of the opinion that the construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (100m²) would fall within 'Class 9' of Schedule 2 Part 3 of the 2001 Planning and Development Regulations.

However, the location of the works proposed, beside the West Connacht Coast SAC and inside a 'Sensitivity Class: 4-Special' landscape, would not satisfy Article 9 (1) (a) subsection (viiB):

"comprise development in relation to which a planning authority or An Bord Pleanála is the competent authority in relation to appropriate assessment and the development would require an appropriate assessment because it would be likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of a European site,"

the works as proposed are therefore considered to be not exempted development as per the criteria set out in Article 9(1) (a) (viiB) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)

Recommendation:

Prepared By

The Planning Authority, in considering this Section 5 application, had regard particularly to

- (a) The definition of "works" set out in Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).
- (b) The definition of "development" set out in Section 3 of said Planning and Development Act.
- (c) Section (3) of said Planning and Development Act.
- (d) Section 4 (1) (h) & (4) of said Planning and Development Acts.
- (e) Article 6(1) of said Planning and Development Regulations.
- (f) Article 9(1)(a) subsections (i), (vi), (vii), (viiB) & (viiC) of said Planning and Development Regulations.
- (g) 'Class 9' of Schedule 2 Part 3 of the 2001 Planning and Development Regulations.
- (h) Documents submitted from the referrer in this Section 5 application.

The Planning Authority, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5 of the 2000 Planning Act (as amended), hereby decides that:

The proposed construction of an Agricultural Storage Building (100m²) at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway is development and is not exempted development under Article 9(1) (a) (viiB) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Prepared By:	Robert Lydon, Technician Gr 2, Planning
Counter-signed By:	Alan O' Connell, Senior Executive Planner
Director's\Manager'	s Recommendation
Decided By:	Michael Owens, Director of Services

April 1985

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Appendix 4

Report of screening for Appropriate Assessment by Messers Delichon Ecology



Proposed Agricultural Building and associated groundworks Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway



Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Prepared By:



Delichon Ecology

Prepared For:

Tom Termini / Bluedog CSL



Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Revision	Document Number	Description	Prepared by	Checked by	Date
Draft	10_2021	Screening for Appropriate Assessment	ED	ED	26/04/2021
Final	10_2021	Screening for Appropriate Assessment	ED	ED	29/04/2021



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1. INTRODUCTION

Delichon Ecology have been commissioned by Tom Termini to carry out a Screening for Appropriate Assessment of groundworks in preparation for siting of an agricultural building at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway. The location of the agricultural building is presented in Figure 1-1.

This Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) has been prepared to provide the competent authority, Galway County Council, with the relevant scientific information to conduct the Appropriate Assessment (AA). This information will allow Galway County Council to determine, in view of best scientific knowledge, if the proposed project, individually or in combination with other plans and projects is likely to have a significant effect on a European site and, where necessary, to ascertain whether or not the proposed project would adversely affect the integrity of a European site.

1.1 Legislative Context for Appropriate Assessment

The Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, better known as "The Habitats Directive", provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. Articles 3 to 9 provide the legislative means to protect habitats and species of Community interest through the establishment and conservation of an EU-wide network of sites known as Natura 2000.

Natura 2000 sites are defined under the Habitats Directive (Article 3) as a coherent European ecological network of special areas of conservation, composed of sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, shall enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. In Ireland, these sites are designated as European Sites and include Special Protection Areas (SPAs), established under the EU Birds Directive (79/409/EEC, as codified by 2009/147/EC) for birds and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), established under the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC for habitats and species.

The Habitats Directive has been transposed into Irish law by Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 - 2015 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (SI 477/2011) as amended.

Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to adversely affect the integrity of European Sites (Annex 1.1).

Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for Appropriate Assessment (AA):

Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [Natura 2000] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subjected to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.





Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, transposed into Irish Law relevant to this project includes Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act, 2000-2019 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended).

Natura 2000 sites in Ireland (herein referred to as European sites) that form part of the Natura 2000 network of protected sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated due to their significant ecological importance for species and habitats protected under Annexes I and II respectively of the Habitats Directive, and Special Protected Areas (SPAs), designated for the protection of populations and habitats of bird species protected under the EU Birds Directive (Council Directive 2009/409/EEC). Features for which SACs and SPAs are designated are termed Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests respectively. Collectively, Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests are herein referred to as Qualifying Features.

As the proposed project is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European Site, Galway County Council as the competent authority, is obliged to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on European Sites.

The staged assessment process undertaken to meet Article 6(3) obligations is described in **Section 2** below.

Tom Termini / Bluedog CSL Screening for Appropriate Assessment

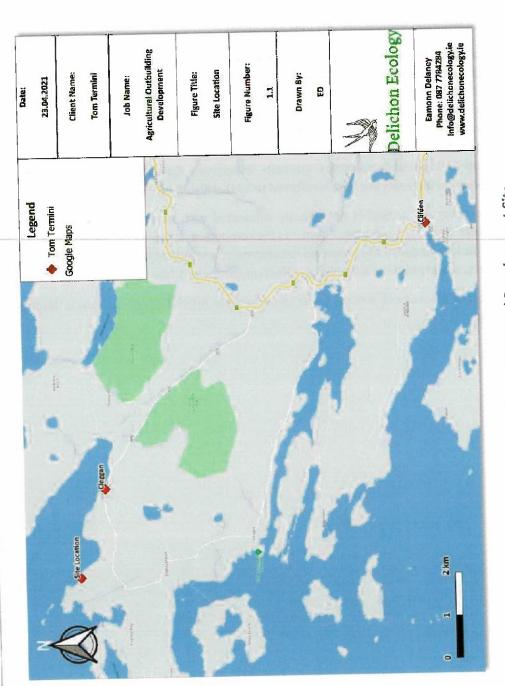


Figure 1-1: Location of Proposed Development Site





2 METHODOLOGY

2.1.1 Stage 1 – Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Screening is the process that addresses and records the reasoning and conclusions in relation to the first two tests of Article 6(3):

Whether a plan or project is directly connected to or necessary for the management of the site, and whether a plan or project, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, is likely to have significant effects on a European site in view of its conservation objectives.

If the effects are deemed to be significant, potentially significant, or uncertain, or if the screening process becomes overly complicated, then the process must proceed to Stage 2 (AA). Screening should be undertaken without the inclusion of mitigation, unless potential impacts clearly can be avoided through the modification or redesign of the plan or project, in which case the screening process is repeated on the altered plan. The greatest level of evidence and justification will be needed in circumstances when the process ends at screening stage on grounds of no impact.

2.1.2 Stage 2 - Appropriate Assessment (Natura Impact Statement)

The aim of Stage 2 of the AA process is to identify any adverse impacts that the plan or project might have on the integrity of relevant European sites. As part of the assessment, a key consideration is 'in combination' effects with other plans or projects. Where adverse impacts are identified, mitigation measures can be proposed that would avoid, reduce or remedy any such negative impacts and the plan or project should then be amended accordingly, thereby avoiding the need to progress to Step 3.

This stage considers whether the plan or project, alone or in combination with other projects or plans, will have adverse effects on the integrity of a European site, and includes any mitigation measures necessary to avoid, reduce or offset negative effects. The proponent of the plan or project will be required to submit a Natura Impact Statement, i.e. the report of a targeted professional scientific examination of the plan or project and the relevant European sites, to identify and characterise any possible implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives, taking account of incombination effects. This should provide information to enable the public authority to carry out the AA.

The information required in a Natura Impact Statement, is outlined in Regulation 42(5) (a) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477/2011) as amended, as follows:

A Natura Impact Statement shall, in addition to addressing the issues referred to in the interpretation contained in Regulation 2(1), include such information or data as the public authority considers necessary, and specifies in a notice given under paragraph (3), to enable it to ascertain if the plan or project will affect the integrity of the site.

Where appropriate, a Natura Impact Statement shall include, in addition—

 the alternative solutions that have been considered and the reasons why they have not been adopted,



- ii. the imperative reasons of overriding public interest that are being relied upon to indicate that the plan or project should proceed notwithstanding that it may adversely affect the integrity of a European site,
- iii. the compensatory measures that are being proposed.

If the assessment is negative, i.e. adverse effects on the integrity of a site cannot be excluded, then the process must proceed to Stage 3, or the plan or project should be abandoned. The competent authority must make a determination to that effect before proceeding to the next stage.

2.1.3 Guidance

This Screening for AA and NIS report has been prepared with regard to the relevant provisions of the EU Council Directive 92/43/EEC and Ireland's EU (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended).

The methodology followed for this assessment has had regard to the following guidance and legislation:

- DoEHLG (2009, rev. 2010) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland Guidance for Planning Authorities. Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government;
- European Commission (EC) (2018), Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article
 6 of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission;
- EC (2002) Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission;
- EC (2007a) Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC –
 Clarification of the concepts of: alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding
 public interest, compensatory measures, overall coherence, opinion of the commission.
 European Commission;
- EC, (2007b), Guidance document on the strict protection of animal species of Community interest under the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. European Commission;
- EC (2013) Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. Version EUR 28. European Commission;
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) Version 1.1 (September 2019), Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland;
- NPWS (2013a), The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat
 Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.0. Unpublished Report, National Parks and Wildlife
 Services. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin, Ireland;
- NPWS (2013b), The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species
 Assessments Volume 3, Version 1.0. Unpublished Report, National Parks and Wildlife
 Services. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin, Ireland;
- Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR) (2021) Practice Note PN01 Appropriate
 Assessment Screening for Development Management.



- The European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended;
- The Planning and Development Act 2000-2021;
- The Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2021; and
- Recent Irish and European case law on the Habitats Directive.

2.1.4 Information Consulted for this Report

This assessment has been informed by the following sources of data:

- Information on the location, nature and design of the proposed project as provided by the client;
- Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG) online land-use mapping (www.myplan.ie/en/index.html);
- Office of Public Works (OPW) National Flood Hazard Mapping website (www.floodmaps.ie)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) geoportal mapping tool (https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/);
- National Parks and Wildlife Service protected site and species information and data (https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites);
- National Biodiversity Data Centre (www.biodiversityireland.ie); and
- Ordnance Survey of Ireland mapping and aerial photography (<u>www.osi.ie</u>).



3 STAGE 1 – SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

This section provides the information required for the competent authority (Galway County Council) to undertake a Screening for AA and determine in view of best scientific knowledge, whether the proposed works, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, is likely to have a significant effect on the European site. Specifically, it aims to:

- Provide information on, and assess the potential for the proposed works to significantly impact on European sites; and
- Determine whether the activities proposed, alone or in combination with other projects, are likely to have significant effects on European sites in view of their Conservation Objectives.

This screening assessment provides information to address the following elements:

- 1. Description of the plan or project, and local site or plan area characteristics. The description covers the full scope of the proposed plan or project (i.e. deconstruction phase and operational phase).
- 2. Description of the receiving environment setting of the proposed plan or project and its surrounds.
- 3. Identification of relevant European sites within the projects the potential Zone of Influence (Zol). A preliminary assessment to determine connectivity between the proposed works and receptors (i.e. European sites and/ or features for which the sites are designated). Where connectivity exists, the receptors in question are brought forward in the screening assessment process.
- 4. For receptors that exhibit potential connectivity to the proposed work a screening assessment is undertaken to establish whether the plan or project is likely to have a direct, indirect or cumulative effect on receptors based on a consideration of likely impacts (i.e. an assessment of significance of effect).
- 5. Screening statement with conclusions on whether or not an AA is necessary for the relevant a Qualifying Feature.

3.1 Project Description

The following sequence of events charts the works completed at Tom Termini's site to date.

- Groundworks at the site commenced and were completed in November 2020.
- Initial works included securing and upgrading the access track serving the proposed outbuilding site. This comprised sourcing 3" to 4" cut stone from a local quarry and laying this material on top of the in-situ access track / pathway in the area which comprised outcropping bedrock and trampled grassland habitat. The access track upgrade incorporated the positioning of a High Density Polyethelene (HDPE) pipe to allow unimpeded flow from a channel located south of the access track.
- Once the access track had been secured, the grass / turve material adjoining the outbuilding footprint was removed and secured along the site margins. This material has since secured



- and re-established. There was no stockpiling or removal of topsoil during the proposed works and there is currently no exposed topsoil within the site.
- Following turve redistribution, the outbuilding footprint was infilled with 3"to 4" cut stone, identical to that used for the access road. This served as a working platform foundation / footprint for the proposed outbuilding structure. This area is sited atop the previous structures bottom plate (perimeter foundation), consisting of a minimal footprint located on top of the original farm building.
- Once the foundation was in place, shuttering materials were secured to facilitate the
 construction of a central concrete column and eight concrete pier structures, each 1 meter
 square. The central column and piers will serve as a foundation for the proposed prefabricated
 portable outbuilding structure.
- These structures were secured using shuttering, pouring cement into the shutter, thereby avoiding the release of concrete to the nearby and surrounding environment.
- No other works were completed on this property to date.
- It is proposed to secure a prefabricated outbuilding structure onto this foundation. The structure, a prefabricated steel shed, is required to support works associated with the construction and maintenance of wooden apiaries, which will be located south of the proposed prefabricated structure. The building will serve as temporary storage of raw product (honey, wax, propolis), a managed environment for processing of the consumables, and a secure facility for equipment, tools, and a warm and dry changing area for the beekeepers. There will be no wastewater or emissions from the agricultural building during its construction or operational phases.

This development will be located upon pastoral land at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway. The prefabricated design structure is presented in **Appendix A**.

3.2 European Sites within the Project Zone of Influence

This stage of the screening for AA process describes European Sites within the Zone of Influence (ZoI) of the proposed project. A 15km buffer zone of influence (ZoI) has been chosen as a precautionary measure, to ensure that all potentially affected European Sites are included in the screening process, which is in line with Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities (DoEHLG, 2009, rev. 2010).

The integrity of a European Site (referred to in Article 6.3 of the EU Habitats Directive) is determined based on the Conservation Status of the features (habitats and/ or species) for which SACs and SPAs are designated. The Qualifying Interests (QI) and Special Conservation Interests (SCIs) for protected sites have been obtained through a review of the Conservation Objectives documents available from the NPWS website www.npws.ie.

There are seventeen European sites located within 15km of the proposed works (See Figure 3.1), these are as follows:

- West Connacht Coast SAC (002998);
- Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC (001228);
- Barnhallia Lough SAC (002118);



- Kingstown Bay SAC (002265);
- Omey Island Machair SAC (001309);
- Slyne Head Peninsula SAC (002074);
- Slyne Head Islands SAC (000328);
- Connemara Bog Complex SAC (002034);
- Twelve Bens / Garraun Complex SAC (002031);
- Tully Lough SAC (002130);
- Tully Mountain SAC (000330);
- Rusheenduff Lough SAC (001311);
- Inishbofin and Inishshark SAC (000278);
- Inishbofin, Omey and Turbot Island SPA (004231);
- Cruagh Island SPA (004170);
- High Island, Inishshark and Davillan SPA (004144); and
- Connemara Bog Complex SPA (004181).

The assessment of connectivity between the European Sites and the proposed works follows the potential source-pathway-receptor model, which identifies the source of likely significant impacts, if any, the pathway (land, air, hydrological, hydrogeological pathways, etc) along which those impacts may be transferred from the source to the receiving environmental receptors (i.e. European Sites and/ or features for which the sites are designated).

Where it is evident that there is no connectivity between the proposed work and receptors (i.e. European Sites and/ or features for which, the sites are designated), the receptors are excluded from the AA process. Similarly, where connectivity exists between the proposed work and receptors but is deemed not to result in likely significant effects to the receptor, the receptor can be screened out (i.e. likely significant effects to receptors excluded; receptor not considered further in AA process).

In contrast to the above, where it is not possible to exclude likely significant effects on the basis of best scientific knowledge, a more detailed scientific assessment of the proposed works is required which focuses on the European Sites likely to be affected and the relevant designated feature in question.

Date: Legend 23,04.2021 SAC SAC Development Boundary Client Name: Site Boundary Access Road Tom Termini Bing Maps Job Name: West Connacht Coast SAC Agricultural Outbuilding Development Figure Title: **Proximal European Sites** Figure Number: 3.2 Aughrusbeg Machair/And Lake SAC Drawn By: ED Delichon Ecology Earnonn Delaney 200m Phone: 087 7784284 info@delichonecology.le

Figure 3-1 shows the European sites within 15km of the proposed agricultural building while

Figure 3-2 displays the European sites in closer proximity to the agricultural building site. **Table 3-1** provides details on the distance and connectivity of European Sites within 15km of the agricultural building site.

www.delichonecology.le

Tom Termini / Bluedog CSL Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Table 3-1: European Sites within the proposed development's Zone of Influence

Qualitying reatures / Species Conservation Interest Species Tursiops truncatus 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix

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No potential for connectivity due to distance and the absence No potential for connectivity due to distance and the absence No potential for connectivity due to distance and the No potential for connectivity due to distance and the Connectivity absence of viable ecological vectors. absence of viable ecological vectors. of viable ecological vectors. of viable ecological vectors. Distance from proposed development footprint 3.1km south-east 9.5km south 4.6km south 2.2km south Juncetalia maritimi) 1833 Slender Naiad standing waters with vegetation of the with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters 1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 1395 Petalwort Petalophyllum ralfsii 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-1395 Petalwort Petalophyllum ralfsii Conservation Interest Species 1410 Mediterranean salt meadows Qualifying Features / Special 1160 Large shallow inlets and bays 1160 Large shallow inlets and bays 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic 1833 Slender Naiad Najas flexilis 2110 Embryonic shifting dunes 21A0 Machairs (* in Ireland) Puccinellietalia maritimae) 1150 Coastal lagoons Nanojuncetea Vajas flexilis 1170 Reefs banks Island SAC Head SAC Barnhallia Lough Bay Site Name and SAC (002118) SAC (002265) Code Kingstown Peninsula (002074) (001309)Machair Omey Slyne

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No potential for connectivity due to distance and the absence Connectivity of viable ecological vectors. Distance from proposed development footprint 12.10km south 6510 Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus 5130 Juniperus communis formations on peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion 2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters 3110 Oligotrophic waters containing geniculatus, Sanguisorba officinalis) Conservation Interest Species 1364 Grey Seal Halichoerus grypus Qualifying Features / Special substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* very few minerals of sandy plains heaths or calcareous grasslands scrubland facies on calcareous 21A0 Machairs (* in Ireland) 4030 European dry heaths (Littorelletalia uniflorae) important orchid sites) 7230 Alkaline fens **1170 Reefs** caeruleae) SAC Site Name and Code (000328)Islands

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Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Tom Termini / Bluedog CSL

No potential for connectivity due to distance and the Connectivity absence of viable ecological vectors. Distance from proposed development footprint 12.3km south-east 1065 Marsh Fritillary Euphydryas aurinia 3160 Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds 3260 Water courses of plain to montane peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs standing waters with vegetation of the 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation 3110 Oligotrophic waters containing Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Conservation Interest Species Qualifying Features / Special 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic 7130 Blanket bogs (* if active bog) very few minerals of sandy plains 1833 Slender Naiad Najas flexilis 4030 European dry heaths 1106 Salmon Salmo salar Littorelletalia uniflorae) 1355 Otter Lutra lutra 1150 Coastal lagoons Nanojuncetea Erica tetralix 1170 Reefs caeruleae) Bog SAC Site Name and Code Connemara Complex (002034)

Tom Termini Agricultural Building Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Tom Termini / Bluedog CSL

No potential for connectivity due to distance and the Connectivity absence of viable ecological vectors. Distance from proposed development footprint 11.5km south-east the Rhynchosporion 8110 Siliceous scree chasmophytic vegetation 8220 Siliceous 7150 Depressions on peat substrates of 7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion 7230 Alkaline fens standing waters with vegetation of the 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-3110 Oligotrophic waters containing Conservation Interest Species Qualifying Features / Special 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with 7130 Blanket bogs (* if active bog) 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic very few minerals of sandy plains Margaritifera margaritifera 1106 1833 Slender Naiad Najas flexilis and Blechnum in the British Isles rocky slopes with chasmophytic 4060 Alpine and Boreal heaths of the montane to snow levels 1029 Freshwater Pearl Mussel Androsacetalia alpinae and (Littorelletalia uniflorae) 1355 Otter Lutra lutra Galeopsietalia ladani) Salmon Salmo salar Nanojuncetea Garraun Complex Twelve Bens , Site Name and SAC (002031) Code



Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Tom Termini / Bluedog CSL

No potential for connectivity due to distance and the No potential for connectivity due to distance and the No potential for connectivity due to distance and the No potential for connectivity due to distance and the No potential for connectivity due to distance and the Connectivity absence of viable ecological vectors. Distance from proposed development footprint 6.3km north/north-west 10.3km north-east 8.1km north-east 10km north-east 5.4km north 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with vegetation 91A0 Old sessile oak woods standing waters with vegetation of the standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoetowith Ilex and Blechnum in the British 3110 Oligotrophic waters containing **Conservation Interest Species** Qualifying Features / Special 1364 Grey Seal Halichoerus grypus 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic very few minerals of sandy plains 1833 Slender Naiad Najas flexilis 1833 Slender Nalad Najas flexilis 4060 Alpine and Boreal heaths 4030 European dry heaths 4030 European dry heaths A122 Corncrake Crex crex (Littorelletalia uniflorae) 1150 Coastal lagoons Vanojuncetea Nanojuncetea Erica tetralix SAC SAC Tully Lough SAC Mountain and Turbot Island Inishbofin, Omey Site Name and SAC (000330) SPA (004231) Rusheenduff Code nishbofin nishshark (000278) (002130)(001311)Tully

Tom Termini Agricultural Building Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Tom Termini / Bluedog CSL

No potential for connectivity due to distance and the No potential for connectivity due to distance and the No potential for connectivity due to distance and the Connectivity absence of viable ecological vectors. absence of viable ecological vectors. absence of viable ecological vectors. Distance from proposed development footprint 13.9km south-east 5.5km south-west 8.0km north-west A013 Manx Shearwater Puffinus puffinus A045 Barnacle Goose Branta leucopsis A045 Barnacle Goose Branta leucopsis A140 Golden Plover Pluvialis apricaria A017 Cormorant Phalacrocorax carbo Conservation Interest Species A194 Arctic Tern Sterna paradisaea Qualifying Features / Special A182 Common Gull Larus canus A009 Fulmar Fulmarus glacialis A098 Merlin Falco columbarius Cruagh Island SPA SPA Bog SPA and Island, Site Name and Code Connemara Inishshark (004181)(004144)Complex Davillan (004170)High





3.2.1 Summary of Connectivity Analysis

The completed groundworks and proposed agricultural building do not support direct connectivity to European Sites via ecological or environmental vectors. The site is located 65 metres south of the West Connacht Coast SAC and 410m north-east of Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC.

Surface water drainage for the groundworks and the proposed agricultural building are likely to migrate to the coastline north of the site via overland flow, which is designated as part of West Connacht Coast SAC ca. 65m north of the high water (tide) mark. The coastal waterbody comprising the West Connacht Coast SAC in turn provides indirect and remote connectivity to Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC, 750m north-west of the site.

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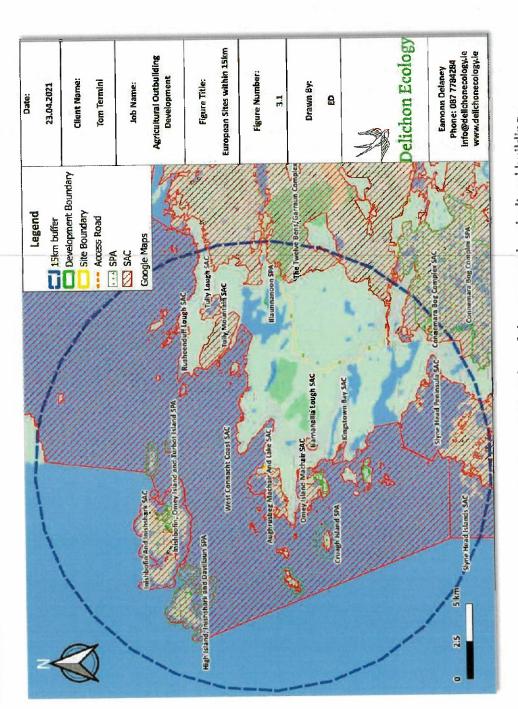


Figure 3-1: European Sites within 15km of the proposed agricultural building

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Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Tom Termini / Bluedog CSL

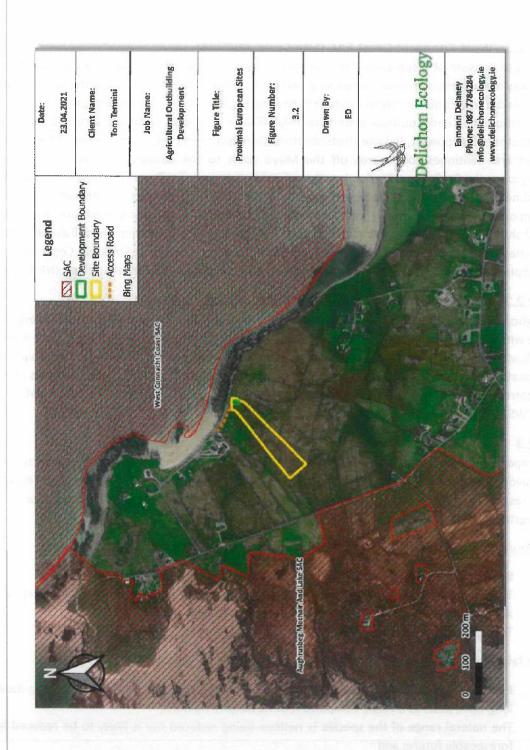


Figure 3-2: European Sites within proximity of the proposed agricultural building

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3.2.2 European Site Descriptions

Site descriptions for European Sites within the project Zol are presented below.

3.2.2.1 West Connacht Coast SAC (Site Code: 002998)

This site consists of a substantial area of marine waters lying off the coasts of Counties Mayo and Galway in the west of Ireland. Comprising two parts, in its northern component the site extends from the coastal waters off Erris Head westwards beyond Eagle Island and the Mullet Peninsula in Co. Mayo. From there it extends southwards immediately off the coast as far as the entrance to Blacksod Bay. In its southern component, the site stretches from Clare Island and the outer reaches of Clew Bay at Old Head and continues southwards off the Mayo coast to the Connemara coast near Clifden and Ballyconneely, Co Galway. Predominantly coastal in nature, the site extends westwards into Atlantic continental shelf waters up to approximately 7-11 km from the mainland, although in its southern component it remains mostly inshore of the main islands: Clare Island, Inishturk, Inishbofin and Inishshark. Its area contains subtidal waters fringing these and other islands, as well as islets and rocky skerries off the Co. Mayo and Co. Galway coasts. The waters of the West Connacht Coast represent an exceptional area of key conservation importance for Bottle-nosed Dolphin in Ireland (NPWS, 2014).

3.2.2.2 Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC (Site Code: 001228)

Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake is located about 2 km west of Cleggan, Co. Galway. It is a large coastal site with a diversity of habitats, including machair and a nutrient poor lake. Omey granite is the main bedrock in the area. For its relatively small area, Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake has a high level of habitat diversity and is of significant conservation value, in particular for its good examples of lowland oligotrophic lake and wet heath, both habitats which are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive (NPWS, 2013).

3.2.3 Conservation Objectives of European Sites

European and national legislation places a collective obligation on Ireland and its citizens to maintain at favourable conservation status areas designated as SAC and SPA. The Government and its agencies are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of regulations that will ensure the ecological integrity of these sites.

Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when:

- Its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing; and
- The specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; and
- The conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when:

- Population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats;
- The natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future; and
- There is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.



The integrity of a European site (referred to in Article 6.3 of the EU Habitats Directive) is determined based on the conservation objectives and of the site. The Qualifying Interests (QI) and Special Conservation Interests (SCI) are obtained through a review of the most recently published (webpublished or otherwise) Conservation Objective supporting documents and Site Specific Conservation Objectives documents (where available) for the European site.

3.2.3.1 Conservation Objectives of proximal European Sites

The Qualifying habitats and species for those European Sites within the project ZoI are listed in **Table 3-1**. Further details on Conservation Objectives for these European Sites are provided below.

West Connacht Coast SAC

The Site Specific Conservation Objectives for West Connacht Coast SAC are provided in the Conservation Objectives document available on the NPWS website, as follows; https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/conservation-objectives/CO002998.pdf.

The Conservation Objectives West Connacht Coast SAC have been drafted to protect Common Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) the species of Qualifying Interest associated within this SAC. The species specific attribute and measures are reproduced from the Conservation Objectives supporting document for West Connacht Coast SAC and are reproduced below.

Attribute	Measure	Target
Access to suitable habitat	Number of artificial barriers	Species range within the site should not be restricted by artificial barriers to site use.
Disturbance	Level of impact	Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the bottlenose dolphin population at the site

Citation: NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: West Connacht Coast SAC 002998. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC

The generic conservation objectives for Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC are provided in the Conservation Objectives document available on the NPWS website, as follows; https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/conservation-objectives/CO001228.pdf.

Citation: NPWS (2021) Conservation objectives for Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC [001228]. Generic Version 8.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.



4 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

4.1 Site Description

A site walkover survey was completed at the proposed agricultural building site on the morning of April 10th, 2021 to inform this Screening for Appropriate Assessment.

The groundworks and proposed agricultural building footprint are located upon wet grassland (GS4)¹ comprising common rush (Juncus effusus), yellow iris (Iris pseudacrous), creeping bent (Agrostis stolonifera), meadow buttercup (Ranunculus acris) and common sorrel (Rumex acetosa). Lands within the ownership boundary located to the south / south-west of the development footprint support rushy wet grassland and poor flush (PF2) on peat substrate. In addition to common rush (Juncus effusus), species include purple moor grass (Molinia caerulea), water horsetail (Equisetum fluviatile), purple loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria), devil's bit scabious (Succisa pratensis), creeping thistle (Cirsium arvense), lesser spearwort (Ranunculus flammula), angelica (Angelica sylvestris) and creeping buttercup (Ranunculus repens). Topography within the site bounds and the overall land holding is predominantly low-lying and flat.

A narrow, sinuous and seasonal channel supporting very low flows is located to the south of the development and follows a north-west to north direction through the site before entering Cleggan Bay north of the site's north-western boundary. The channel margins support water mint (*Mentha aquatica*), yellow iris, creeping buttercup, water horsetail and angelica. Two giant rhubarb (*Gunnera tinctoria*) plants are located on the western margins of this watercourse, near the site's north-western boundary. These plants are located outside of the development footprint and will not be disturbed as part of the ongoing operation of the agricultural building.

The access track serving the site is made up of a routinely used right of way / access track that supports coastal calcareous grassland (GS1) comprising red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), bare soil (ED2) and outcropping rock (ER1). The access track is adjoined by a dry stone wall to the south. The nearby coastal fringes of Cleggan Bay correspond with the sheltered rocky shore (LR3) habitat classification and include bedrock, boulders and accumulations of mixed cobbles.

Photographs of the site and its immediate surrounds are presented below.

¹ Habitat codes follow the Alphanumeric habitat classification as described in Fossitt, J. (2000) A Guide to Habitats in Ireland. Heritage Council, Kilkenny.

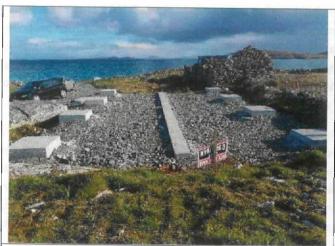


Image 4-1: Foundation footprint of the proposed agricultural building



Image 4-2: Access track serving the proposed agricultural building site



Image 4-3: Wet grassland and poor flush located south of the site, outside of the proposed site boundary



Image 4-4: Nearby areas of Cleggan Bay

4.2 Flooding

A search of the Office of Public Works (OPW) National Flood Hazard Mapping website (www.floodmaps.ie) was performed to obtain information on the flood history in the vicinity of the study area. There were no flood events within the footprint or the immediate vicinity of the proposed agricultural building.

The Flood Info database (www.floodinfo.ie) was also consulted to identify Predictive Flood Risk Areas (PFRA) mapped as part of the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme for the study area. Interrogation of the mapping database confirms that the study site is not located within an area currently mapped as a PFRA.





4.3 Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology

The Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) online database² was consulted for available edaphic, geological and hydrological information of the site and its environs. The underlying bedrock of the proposed agricultural building is part of the Lakes Marble Formation which comprises Marbles, metavolcanics, schists, grits. The groundwater vulnerability of the site is classified as "Extreme" and "X – rock at or near the surface". There GSI online mapviewer and Geographical Information System datasets do not identify karst features within the proposed agricultural building or its immediate surrounds.

The study site is located within the 'Letterfrack Marbles' GroundWater Body (GWB) (IE_WE_G_0015). This is a poorly productive aquifer composed primarily of low transmissivity rocks. Most of the groundwater flux is likely to be in the uppermost part of the aquifer. This GroundWater Body was classified as Good Status in 2018³. Groundwater and surfacewater interactions of this GroundWater Body is described as follows 'Flow paths are likely to be up to 150 m with groundwater discharging rapidly to the streams crossing the aquifer, and to small springs and seeps. Overall, the flow directions are expected to be to the west. "4".

The site is fringed to the north by the Cleggan Bay coastal waterbody. Cleggan Bay is part of the Western Atlantic Seaboard (HAs 32;33;34) (IE_WE_250_0000) coastal waterbody classified on the Environmental Protection Agency mapviewer⁵ as being not at risk from water borne pollution.

² GSI Online database: https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx

³ Ground Waterbody WFD Status 2013-2018 https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/

^{*}Source: https://secure.dccae.gov.ie/GSI_DOWNLOAD/Groundwater/Reports/GWB/LetterfrackMarblesGWB.pdf

⁵ https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/



5 SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

Table 5-1 presents Screening Assessment Criteria considering the proposed development.

Table 5-1: Screening Assessment Criteria

Screening Assessment Criteria Screening Questions	Impacts
Paerinj	The proposed works do not support direct connectivity to European sites, therefore there will be no impacts to European Sites in this regard.
	Given the proximity, there is the remote potential for indirect connectivity and consequent impacts to the nearb Cleggan Bay via overland flow. Cleggan Bay supports the West Connacht Coast SAC and Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC.
Describe the individual elements of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) likely to give rise to impacts on the European Sites.	The nature and scale of the proposed works are minor and involve the use of inert locally sourced stone to provide site access and a platform for the agricultural building. The groundworks completed to date were retained to the development footprint. Foundation works to install a central concrete column and marginal piers were shuttered, ensuring controlled works with concrete and no run-off to the surrounding environment. Minimal, localised run-off of aggregates may have occurred during the groundworks completed. Any such run-off is likely to have been minimal and localised, due to the scale of the works and the works practices implemented. Any potential run-off would have been assimilated into receiving environment and the nearby areas of Cleggan Bay, a large coastal waterbody. The agricultural building will comprise a prefabricated unit that will be lifted into place onto the in-situ foundation. This shed
Y 11	will act as a holding facility. There will be no outputs or emissions from this building once operational.
copping and major grants was the	Given the nature of the proposed works and the dilutional capacity of the Cleggan Bay coastal waterbody (which provides connectivity to the West Connacht Coast SAC and
egrunos ani batarpara cana mos a crossvana cha camposco seco con act or benissa neod seco	Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC) there will be no impact and consequent effect to European Sites as a result of the completed groundworks and proposed agricultural building.
the car se erozan to the complete was less to the complete was a man't to form as a man't men one erocay and the complete complet	Furthermore, West Connacht Coast SAC is designated for common bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>), an aquatic marine species. Site specific conservation objectives have been published for this European Site and its



creening Assessment Criteria	Impacts
creening Questions	component species of Qualifying Interest (See Section 3.2.3.1). These relate to providing common bottlenose dolphin access to suitable habitat and the avoidance of disturbance impacts. The proposed works will not deter access to suitable habitat for common bottlenose dolphin, nor will it result in disturbance (direct or indirect) for this species of Qualifying Interest.
ikely direct, indirect or secondary in	npacts of the project on the European Sites:
• Size and Scale	compared with the surrounding environment and the size of
• Land Take	The proposed development will not result in land-take to European Sites.
 Distance from European Sites or Key Features of the Site 	The proposed development will not result in land-take to European Sites. Cleggan Bay is located north of the proposed agricultural building and supports the West Connacht Coast SAC which in turn provides indirect and remote connectivity to Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC, 750m north-west of the site. Given the nature of the proposed works and the dilutional capacity of the Cleggan Bay coastal waterbody (which provides connectivity to the West Connacht Coast SAC and by extension Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC) there will be no impact and consequent effect to European Sites as a result of the completed groundworks and proposed agricultural building
Resource Requirements	The proposed agricultural building will require use of standard construction methods. The use of these material will not contribute to significant negative effects to European Sites within the project Zol.
• Emissions	Dust emissions during the groundworks are unlikely as thes were completed in November 2020, when precipitation an air moisture would have reduced the generation an dispersal of dust. There will be no wastewater or productio emissions from the agricultural building during in operational phase.
Excavation Requirements	Localised and very minor excavations within the propose agricultural building have been completed. The findings of the site walkover survey confirmed that excavations are excavation materials have been retained to the projet footprint, with no run-off or erosion to the receiving environment, including Cleggan Bay. There was a significant effects to European Sites as a result excavations undertaken. No further excavations a required.

Tom Termini / Bluedog CSL Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Screening Assessment Criteria Screening Questions	Impacts
Transport Requirements	Transport requirements for the proposed groundworks and agricultural building are minor, intermittent and small scale This included delivery of cut stone material and construction materials and machinery to prepare the access road and development foundation. The prefabricated agricultura building will be delivered on flat bed vehicle and lifted into place. Transport during the proposed operational phase will be intermittent comprising single visits by a car or small van.
 Duration of construction, operation and decommissioning 	Duration of construction was short term; i.e. 1 month (November 2020). Subsequent works to secure the agricultural building will be short term and intermittent and will not exceed 2 months. The project's operational phase will be medium to long term; i.e. >20 years.
 Cumulative impact with other plans and projects in the area 	As part of the Appropriate Assessment, in addition to the proposed development, other relevant projects and plans in the area must also be considered at this stage. These plans and projects are considered further in this respect in Table 5-2 below.

Screening for Appropriate Assessment

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-combination Effects

Table 5-2: In-combination Effects associated with the proposed development

	- 18.3	Potential for In-
Programmes, Plans	Key Policies/Issues/Objectives Directly Related to the Conservation of the	
and Projects		
		A number of strategies,
	Protect European sites that form part of the Natura 2000 lietwork (increasing protect European sites that form part of Conservation) in accordance with	set out in the Galway
	Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Community (92/43/EEC), EU Birds Directive the requirements in the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), 2007 and	counties natural herita
	(2009/147/EC), the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010, une	
	European Communication (2007) and any subsequent amendments or updated legislation) and	A number of policies
	having due regard to the guidance in the Appropriate Assessment Guidelines	the protection of the i
	2010 (and any updated or subsequent guidance). A plan or project (e.g.	under European and
	proposed development) within the plan area will only be authorised after the	ecological works. The
Californ County	competent authority (Galway County Council) has ascertained, based on	(NHB-1) highlights the
Galway County	scientific evidence, Screening for Appropriate Assessment, and/or a Habitats	the protection, conser
2015-2021	Directive Assessment where necessary, that:	natural heritage and
777-777		protection of the integ
	a) The plan or project will not give rise to significant adverse direct, indirect or	<u>:</u>
	secondary effects on the integrity of any European site (either linuvidually of	The adherence and II
	in combination with other plans or projects); or	within the Developme
		European Sites ar
	b) The plan or project will have significant adverse effects on the integrity of	Appropriate Assessm
	any European site (that does not host a priority natural habitat type/and or a	plans, projects or p
	priority species) but there are no alternative solutions, and the plan or project	potential for significal
	must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public	
	interest, including those of a social or economic nature. In this case, it will be	
	a requirement to follow procedures set out in legislation and agree and	

programmes that have the nent Plan area will ensure that ment is undertaken for all implementation of this plan are protected, and that ervation and enhancement of d biodiversity, including the ant effects to European Sites. e Natural Heritage objective e council's policy to support integrity of sites designated s and objectives provide for nd National legislation and es, policies and objectives are y County Development Plan aim of protection of the egrity of European sites. rage and biodiversity.



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Screening for Appropriate Assessment Potential for In-combination Effects undertake all compensatory measures necessary to ensure the protection of c) The plan or project will have a significant adverse effect on the integrity of nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons for overriding public any European site (that hosts a natural habitat type and/or a priority species) but there are no alternative solutions and the plan or project must opinion from the Commission, to other imperative reasons of overriding public interest, restricted to reasons of human health or public safety, to beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment or, further to an interest. In this case, it will be a requirement to follow procedures set out in egislation and agree and undertake all compensatory measures necessary to Key Policies/Issues/Objectives Directly Related to the Conservation of the It is the policy of Galway County Council to support the protection, conservation and enhancement of natural heritage and biodiversity, including the protection of the integrity of European sites, that form part of the Natura Heritage Areas Ramsar Sites, Nature Reserves, Wild Fowl Sanctuaries and Conamara National Park (and other designated sites including any future 2000 network, the protection of Natural Heritage Areas, proposed Natural designations) and the promotion of the development of a green/ ecological network within the plan area, in order to support ecological functioning and ensure the protection of the overall coherence of Natura 2000 sites. Natura 2000 Network Policy NHB 1 – Natural Heritage and Biodiversity the overall coherence of Natura 2000; or Natural Heritage Policies Programmes, Plans and Projects

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connectivity, create opportunities in suitable locations for active and passive

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nservation of the Potential for In-combination Effects f from the built	urface water and develand habitats or vetect and vetect and ways by controlling ways.	he prevention and it dissemination of ion of codes of Authority activities, if the use of native Aing of invasive/non		e Annexes to and/or nded) and the Birds ory birds and their
Key Policies/Issues/Objectives Directly Related to the Conservation of the Natura 2000 Network recreation and to structure and provide visual relief from the buil environment.	Policy NHB 4 – Water Resources Protect, conserve and enhance the water resources of the County, including, rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, springs, turloughs, surface water and groundwater quality, as well as surface waters, aquatic and wetland habitats and freshwater and water dependant species and seek to protect and conserve the quality, character and features of inland waterways by controlling developments close to navigable and non-navigable waterways.	Policy NHB 7 – Invasive Species It is a policy of the Council to support measures for the prevention and eradication of invasive species. This will include the dissemination of information to raise public awareness, the adoption of codes of practices/standard biosecurity measures in normal Local Authority activities, consultation with relevant stakeholders, the promotion of the use of native species in amenity planting and landscaping and the recording of invasive/non native species as the need arises and resources permit.	Natural Heritage Objectives	Objective NHB 1 – Protected Habitats and Species Support the protection of habitats and species listed in the Annexes to and/or covered by the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) (as amended) and the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC), and regularly occurring-migratory birds and their
Programmes, Plans and Projects				

Delichon E

The implementation of the RBMP seeks compliance with the environmental objectives set under the plan, which will be documented for Screening for Appropriate Assessment each water body. This includes compliance with Regulations S.I. No. 272 of 2009 (as amended). The implementation of the RBMP and the European Communities (Surface Waters) achievement or maintenance of environmental objectives which will be set for the receiving water bodies will have a positive impact on water Potential for In-combination Effects Tom Termini / Bluedog CSL habitats and species protected under the Wildlife Acts 1976-2000 and the Flora Seek to protect bats and their roosts, their feeding areas, flight paths and commuting routes. Ensure that development proposals in areas which are potentially important for bats, including areas of woodland, linear features such as hedgerows, stonewalls, watercourses and associated riparian vegetation which may provide migratory/foraging uses shall be subject to suitable assessment for potential impacts on bats. This will include an assessment of the cumulative loss of habitat or the impact on bat populations and activity in the area and may include a specific bat survey. Any assessment shall be carried out by a suitably qualified professional and where development is likely to result in significant adverse effects on bat populations Key Policies/Issues/Objectives Directly Related to the Conservation of the Public Consultation on the River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) for Ireland (2018-2021), began in February 2017, and the final plan was published on 17th April 2018. The document (Chapter 4) sets out the condition of Irish waters does not reflect a significant number of improvements and dis-improvements or activity in the area, development will be prohibited or require mitigation and a summary of status for all monitored waters in the 2013 – 2015 period, including a description of the changes since 2007 – 2009. Nationally, both monitored river water bodies and lakes at high or good ecological status, appear to have declined by 3% since 2007 - 2009; nevertheless, this figure across these waters since 2009. Provisional figures from the EPA suggest that approximately 900 river water bodies and lakes have either improved or dis-Objective NHB 6 - Protection of Bats and Bats Habitats Natura 2000 Network and/or compensatory measures, as appropriate. Protection Order. Delichon Ecology Programmes, Plans and Projects Management Plan for Ireland 2018 -River Basin

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Programmes, Plans	Key Policies/Issues/Objectives Directly Related to the Conservation of the	Potential for In-combination Effects
and Projects	improved. In addition, the previously observed long term trend of decline in the number of high-status river sites has continued. Chapter 5 of the RBMP presents results of the catchment characterisation process, which identifies the significant pressures on each water body that is process, which identifies a review of trends over time to see if conditions were the assessment includes a review of trends over time to see if conditions were likely to remain stable, improve or deteriorate by 2021. This work was likely to remain stable, improve or deteriorate by 2021. This work was presented in the RBMP for water bodies nationally, which had been characterised. 1,460 water bodies were classed <i>At Risk</i> out of a total of 4,829, or 30%. An assessment of significant environmental pressures found that or 30%. An assessment waste water, hydromorphology and forestry bodies that are <i>At Risk</i> . Urban waste water, hydromorphology and forestry	dependent habitats and species within European sites.
Inland Fisheries Ireland Corporate Plan 2016 -2020 The Inland Fisheries Act 2010.	 To ensure that Ireland's fish populations are managed and protected to ensure their conservation status remains favourable. That they provide a basis for a sustainable world class recreational angling product, and that pristine aquatic habitats are also enjoyed for other recreational uses. To develop and improve fish habitats and ensure that the conditions required for fish populations to thrive are sustained and protected. 	The implementation and compliance with key environmental issues and objectives of this corporate plan will result in positive incombination effects to European sites. The implementation of this corporate plan will have a positive impact for biodiversity of inland fisheries and ecosystems. It will not contribute to incombination or cumulative impacts with the proposed development.

Delichon Ecology

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Adherence to the policies and objectives of the Galway County Development Plan 2015-2021 ensure that local planning applications and subsequent grant of planning comply with the core strategy of proper planning and sustainability and with the requirements of relevant EU Directives and environmental considerations, there is no potential for adverse in-combination Potential for In-combination Effects effects on European Sites. A search of Galway County Council's online planning enquiry database was EU (Quality of Salmonid Waters) Regulations 1988. All works during undertaken to identify other projects and plans consented within the past five development and operation of the project must aim to conserve fish and other species of fauna and flora habitat; biodiversity of inland fisheries and key stakeholders are being met in a sustainable conservation focused years that are proximal or within the proposed development area. A small number of applications for dwellings, dwelling extensions and associated structures with granted planning permission were noted. These small-scale projects are not likely to cause effects to European sites when considered in combination with the current proposal under examination, either during the Key Policies/Issues/Objectives Directly Related to the Conservation of the construction or operational phase. There is therefore no potential for significant in-combination effects of these developments with proposed To grow the number of anglers and ensure the needs of IFI's other ecosystems and protect spawning salmon and trout. Natura 2000 Network manner. development. Programmes, Plans and Projects Local Planning Applications

http://gccapps.galway.ie/gis/cocomaps/

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5.1.1 Conclusion of Cumulative Impact Assessment

Provided adherence to the overarching policies and objectives of the plans and programmes and best practice and mitigation measures are implemented for individual projects, there is no potential for the mentioned plans and projects to have a cumulative impact to European sites, in combination with the proposed development.

Screening Assessment Criteria is further assessed in Table 5-3 below.

Table 5-3: Screening Assessment Criteria

creening Questions Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a	result of the following
Reduction of Habitat	reduction of habitat associated with European Sites within the project Zone of Influence.
Disturbance to Key Species	The proposed development will not result in the disturbance of key species associated with European Sites within the project Zone of Influence.
Habitat or Species Fragmentation	The proposed agricultural building will not result in habitat or species fragmentation to European Sites within the project Zone of Influence.
Reduction in Species Diversity	The proposed agricultural building will not result in the reduction in species diversity to European Sites within the project Zone of Influence.
Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value	The proposed development will not contribute to changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value to European Sites within the project Zone of Influence.
Climate Change	The proposed agricultural building will not result in significant negative effects contributing to climate change that could in turn affect the conservation objectives of those European Sites within the project Zol.
Describe any likely impacts on the European Sites as a whole in terms of Interference with key relationships that define the structure and function of the site;	The nature and scale of the proposed works are minor and involve the use of inert locally sourced stone to provide site access and platform for the agricultural building. The groundworks completed to date were retained to the development footprint. Foundation work to install a central concrete column and marginal piers were shuttered, ensuring controlled work with concrete and no run-off to the surrounding environment. The agricultural building we comprise a prefabricated unit that will be lifted into place onto the in-situ foundation. This she will act as a holding facility. There will be re-



Screening Assessment Criteria	
Screening Questions	
	outputs or emissions from this building once operational.
	Given the nature of the proposed works and the dilutional capacity of the Cleggan Bay coasta waterbody (which provides connectivity to the West Connacht Coast SAC and Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC) there will be no impact and consequent effect to European Sites as a result of the completed groundworks and proposed agricultural building.
Provide Indicators of Significance as a resu of;	ult of the identification of effects set out above in terms
Loss	There will be no direct or indirect loss of habitats or species of European Sites within the project footprint of its Zol.
Fragmentation	There will be no direct or indirect loss of habitats or species of European Sites within the project Zol.
Disruption	There will be no direct or indirect disruption or disturbance of habitats or species of European Sites within the project Zol.
	The nature and scale of the proposed works are minor and involve the use of inert locally sourced stone to provide site access and a platform for the agricultural building. The groundworks completed to date were retained
Disturbance	to the development footprint. Foundation works to install a central concrete column and marginal piers were shuttered, ensuring controlled works with concrete and no run-off to the surrounding environment. The agricultural building will comprise a prefabricated unit that will be lifted into place onto the in-situ foundation. This shed will act as a holding facility. There will be no
tar invite your a	outputs or emissions from this building once operational.
Changes to Key Elements of the Site	The proposed agricultural building will not contribute to Changes to Key Elements of European Sites within the project Zone of Influence.
serviting) the transmission of	The nature and scale of the proposed works are minor and involve the use of inert locally



Screening Assessment Criteria Screening Questions	
The most anglesum to	platform for the agricultural building. The groundworks completed to date were retained to the development footprint. Foundation works to install a central concrete column and marginal piers were shuttered, ensuring controlled works with concrete and no run-off to the surrounding environment. Run-off during the groundworks are likely to have been associated with particulate matter such as sediments and fine aggregates. Any such run-off is likely to have been minimal and localised, due to the scale of the works and the works practices implemented. Any potential run-off would have been
	assimilated into receiving environment and the nearby areas of Cleggan Bay, a large coastal waterbody. The agricultural building will comprise a prefabricated unit that will be lifted

operational.

Given the nature of the proposed works and the dilutional capacity of the Cleggan Bay coastal waterbody (which provides connectivity to the West Connacht Coast SAC and Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC) there will be no impact and consequent effect to European Sites as a result of the completed groundworks and proposed agricultural building.

into place onto the in-situ foundation. This shed will act as a holding facility. There will be no outputs or emissions from this building once

Furthermore, West Connacht Coast SAC is designated for common bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), an aquatic marine species. Site specific conservation objectives have been published for this European Site and its component species of Qualifying Interest (See Section 3.2.3.1). These relate to providing common bottlenose dolphin access to suitable habitat and the avoidance of disturbance impacts. The proposed works will not deter access to suitable habitat for common bottlenose dolphin, nor will it result in disturbance for this species of Qualifying Interest.





Screening Assessment Criteria Screening Questions

Describe from the above those elements of the project or plan, or combination of elements, where the above impacts are likely to be significant or where the scale or magnitude of impacts are not known

Given the nature of the proposed works and the dilutional capacity of the Cleggan Bay coastal waterbody (which provides connectivity to the West Connacht Coast SAC and Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC) there will be no impact and consequent effect to European Sites as a result of the completed groundworks and proposed agricultural building.

5.2 Screening for AA Conclusion

This screening for AA identifies and assesses potential significant effects which are likely to occur as a result of a proposed agricultural building (and associated groundworks) at Rossadillisk, Cleggan, Co. Galway. The screening identified seventeen European sites within a 15km radius of the proposed residential development. There is the remote potential for indirect connectivity and consequent impacts to the nearby Cleggan Bay via overland flow. Cleggan Bay supports the West Connacht Coast SAC and Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC.

Through an assessment of the source-pathway-receptor model, which considered the ZoI of effects from the proposed agricultural building and the potential in-combination effects with other plans or projects, the following findings have been reached:

- The completed groundworks and proposed agricultural building are not directly connected with, or necessary to, the management of any European site;
- The nature and scale of the proposed works are minor and involve the use of inert locally sourced stone to provide site access and a platform for the agricultural building. The groundworks completed to date were retained to the development footprint. Given the nature of the proposed works and the dilutional capacity of the Cleggan Bay coastal waterbody (which provides connectivity to the West Connacht Coast SAC and Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC) there will be no impact and consequent effect to European Sites as a result of the completed groundworks and proposed agricultural building.
- West Connacht Coast SAC is designated for common bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), an aquatic marine species. Site specific conservation objectives have been published for this European Site and its component species of Qualifying Interest (See Section 3.2.3.1). These relate to providing common bottlenose dolphin access to suitable habitat and the avoidance of disturbance impacts. The proposed works will not deter access to suitable habitat for common bottlenose dolphin, nor will it result in disturbance for this species of Qualifying Interest.
- The completed groundworks and proposed agricultural building will not give rise to likely significant
 effects on the qualifying interests of any European Site, in view of best scientific knowledge and in
 view of the conservation objectives of the European Sites concerned.

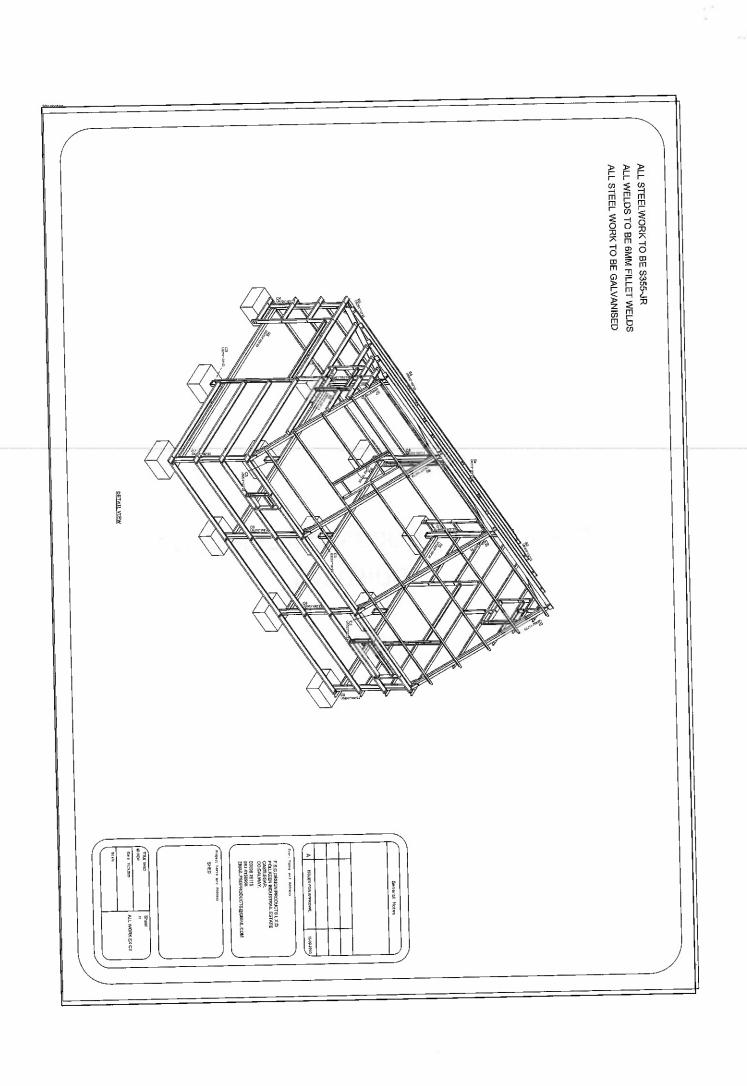


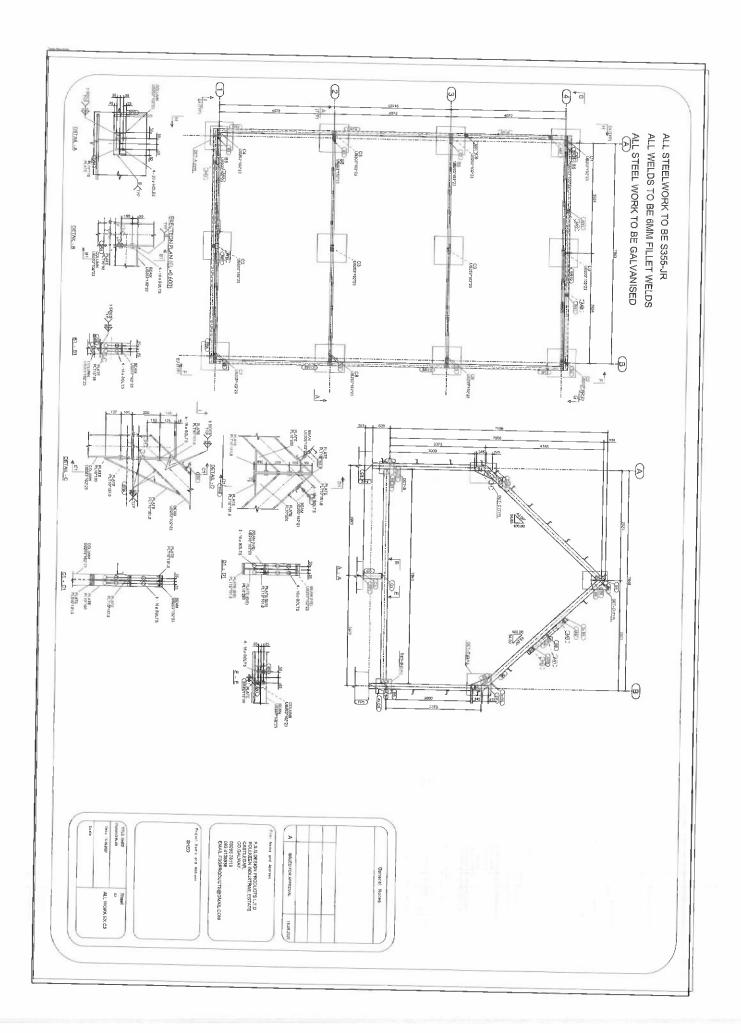


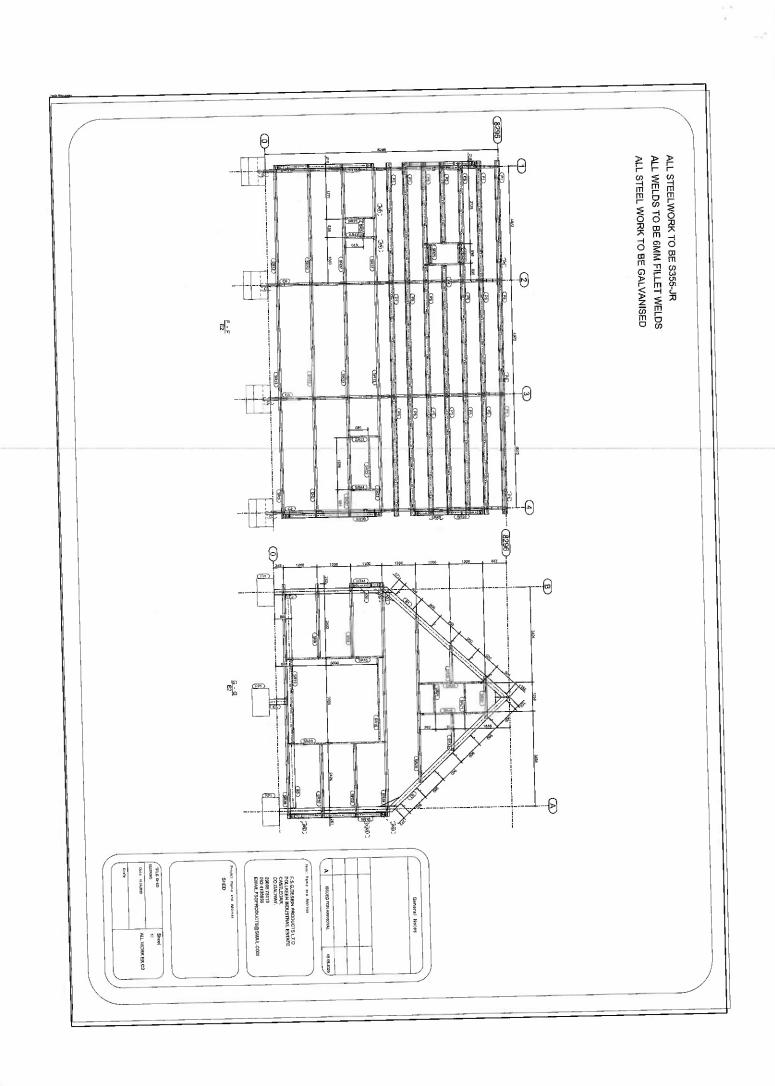
On the basis of objective scientific information, this Screening for Appropriate Assessment finds that the completed groundworks and proposed agricultural building, either individually or in combination with other projects and plans, is not likely to have a significant effect on any European Site.

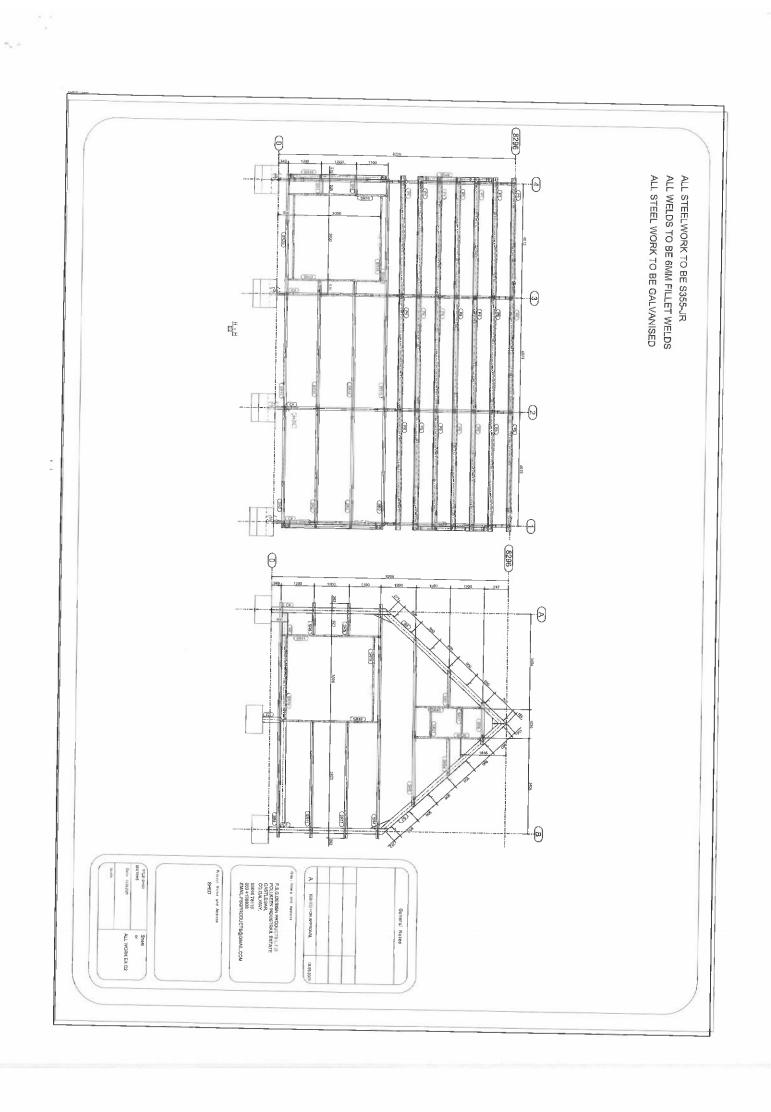


APPENDIX A – PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL BUILDING









Appendix 5

Photographs of sheds taken by Mr Termini in the immediate locality (within 2.2km radius) on 12th of November 2022

ATTENDANCE.

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