

Board Direction BD-019209-25 ABP-319890-24

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 14/03/2025.

The Board decided to make the proposed alterations generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, as indicated hereunder.

REQUEST received by An Bord Pleanála on the 10th day of June, 2024 from Shronowen Wind Farm Limited care of MWP of The Elm Suite, Loughmore Centre, Raheen Business Park, Limerick, under section 146B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, to alter the terms of a strategic infrastructure development described as the Shronowen Wind Farm comprising 10 number turbines and all associated works, all at Ballyline West, Coolkeragh, Dromalivaun and Tullamore, County Kerry, the subject of a permission under An Bord Pleanála Reference Number ABP-309156-21.

WHEREAS the Board made a decision to grant permission subject to conditions for the above-mentioned development by Order dated the 27th day of September, 2022,

AND WHEREAS the Board has received a request to alter the terms of the development, the subject of the permission,

AND WHEREAS the proposed alterations are described as follows:

(a) The permitted Shronowen Wind Farm grid connection (ABP-309156-21) consists of a double circuit 110kV underground cable (UGC), 225 metres in

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length, to an existing 110kV overhead line (OHL). The proposed alteration is to extend the UGC by approximately 30 metres and relocate the permitted two pylons by the same 30 metres to an alternative OHL. The permitted unpaved access track that runs on top of the permitted UGC will also be extended 30 metres as part of the alteration.

(b) The permitted substation includes an independent power producer (IPP) substation and a 110kV substation. The proposed alteration is to almost mirror image the internal layout of the permitted substation. The buildings will move from one side of the substation to the other. The requirement for the alteration is to have the latest electrical layout required for a windfarm substation. The proposed alteration of the substation will reduce the overall permitted footprint of the substation by approximately 3,000 square metres. A permanent operations compound is also proposed, adjacent to the permitted IPP substation. The proposed operations compound will consist of three 20 feet steel containers. The containers will be situated at the end of the permitted access track to the IPP substation. There will be no increase in compound area due to the proposed permanent operations compound as it will be situated on the permitted track.

AND WHEREAS the Board decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, not to invite submissions or observations in relation to whether the proposed alterations would constitute the making of a material alteration to the terms of the development concerned,

AND WHEREAS the Board decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that the proposed alterations would not result in a material alteration of the terms of the development, the subject of the permission,

AND WHEREAS having considered all of the documents on file and the Inspector's report, the Board considered that the making of the proposed alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment or on any European Site,

NOW THEREFORE in accordance with section 146B(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Board herby alters the above-mentioned decision so that the permitted development shall be altered in accordance with the plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 6th day of June, 2024, for the reasons and considerations set out below.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Having regard to:

- (i) the nature and scale of the wind farm development permitted under An Bord Pleanála Reference Number ABP-309156-21 for the Shronowen Windfarm development, which includes ten number turbines and all associated infrastructure and works;
- (ii) the examination of the environmental impact, including in relation to European Sites, carried out in the course of that application;
- (iii) the nature and location of the alterations now proposed;
- (iv) the nature and limited scale of the alterations when considered in relation to the overall scale of the windfarm development granted under ABP-309156-21;
- (v) the absence of any significant new or additional environmental concerns (including in relation to European Sites) arising as a result of the proposed alterations, and
- (vi) the report of the Board's Inspector, which is adopted,

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it is considered that the proposed alterations would not be material. In accordance with section 146B(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Board hereby makes the said alterations.

Board Member

Tom Rabbette

Date: 14/03/2025