

Application Form for Permission / Approval in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development

Please specify the statutory provision under which your application is being made:

Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000

2. Applicant:

Name of Applicant:	Mill Farm Solar Project Ltd.
Address:	Building 3400, Avenue 3000, Cork Airport Business Park, Cork,Ireland T12 AE76
Telephone No:	(021) 242 7786
Email Address (if any):	

3. Where Applicant is a company (registered under the Companies Acts):

Name(s) of company director(s):	Alan Goggin Kevin O'Donovan Donal O'Sullivan
Registered Address (of company)	Building 3400, Avenue 3000, Cork Airport Business Park, Cork,Ireland T12 AE76
Company Registration No.	714703
Telephone No.	(021) 242 7786
Email Address (if any)	

4. Person / Agent acting on behalf of the Applicant (if any):

Name:	Caoimhe O'Connor (MWP)
Address:	Malachy Walsh and Partners, Reen point, Blennerville, Tralee, Co. Kerry V92 X2TK
Telephone No.	066-7135710
Mobile No. (if any)	
Email address (if any)	Caoimhe.o'connor@mwp.ie

appropriate box)		
(Please note that if the answer is "No", all correspondence will be sent to the Applicant's address)		
Yes: [✓] No:[]		

Should all correspondence be cent to the above address? (Please tick

Contact Name and Contact Details (Phone number) for arranging entry on site if required / appropriate:

Andrew Byrne 087-9478192

5. Person responsible for preparation of Drawings and Plans:

Name:	Paddy Curran
Firm / Company:	Malachy Walsh and Partners
Address:	Reen Point, Blennerville, Tralee, Co. Kerry
Telephone No:	+353 (0)61 480 164
Mobile No:	n/a
Email Address (if any):	paddy.curran@mwp.ie

Details all plans / drawings submitted - title of drawings / plans, scale and no. of copies submitted. This can be submitted as a separate schedule with the application form.

6. Site:

Site Address / Location of the Proposed Development (as may best identify the land or structure in question) Ordnance Survey Map Ref No. (and the Grid Reference where available)	Sheets no	vnland of Ricetown, Co. Months	
where available, please provide the application site boundary, as shown in the submitted plans / drawings, as an ESRI shapefile in the Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM IRENET95) co-ordinate reference system. Alternatively, a CAD file in .dwg format, with all geometry referenced to ITM, may be provided.			
Area of site to which the application relates in hectares 3.6I		3.6ha	
Site zoning in current Development Plan for the area:		Rural Area, not zoned.	
Existing use of the site & proposed use of the site:		Existing use- Agriculture Proposed used- Electric Infrastructure	
Name of the Planning Authority(s) in whose functional area the site is situated:		Meath County Council	

7. Legal Interest of Applicant in respect of the site the subject of the application:

Please tick appropriate box to show applicant's legal interest in the land or structure:	Owner	Occupier
	Other ✓	
Where legal interest is "Other" places expand further an your interest in the		

Where legal interest is "Other", please expand further on your interest in the land or structure.

The applicant is entering into a legal agreement with the landowner for a lease of the land. A landowner consent letter is submitted with this application.

If you are not the legal owner, please state the name and address of the owner and supply a letter from the owner of consent to make the application as listed in the accompanying documentation.

Seamus Meegan, Ricetown, Castletown, Co. Meath

Does the applicant own or have a beneficial interest in adjoining, abutting or adjacent lands? If so, identify the lands and state the interest.

Yes. Applicant has permission for a Solar Energy development on adjoining and adjacent lands. (Planning Ref- 22/1044- Meath Co Co)

8. Site History:

Details regarding site history (if known):		
Has the site in question ever, to your knowledge, been flooded?		
Yes: [] No: [✓]		
If yes, please give details e.g. year, extent:		
Are you aware of previous uses of the site e.g. dumping or quarrying?		
Yes: [] No:[✓]		
If yes, please give details:		

Are you aware of any valid planning applications previously made in		
respect of this land / structure?		
Yes: [✓] No: []		
If yes, please and details of	state planning register reference num fapplications	iber(s) of same if known
Reg. Ref. No:	Nature of Proposed Development	Nature of Final Decision of Application Grant of Refusal by Planning Authority / An Bord Pleanála
SA20181	a sand and gravel pit with associated processing on 5.29 ha of which approximately 4 ha will be excavated and a concrete batching processing plant with associated works on .64 ha separated by an internal haul road, with the application including screening and washing, mobile crushing of raw materials, silt ponds, topsoil and overburden storage area, screening mound, internal haul road linking the pit and concrete batching plant site, restoration to agricultral lands, concrete batching plant and access via laneway to Lobinstown Road	Granted with Conditions by Meath County Council on 24/04/2003
sa60691	Two pig finishing slatted units (total floor area of approximately 1850m2) with the capacity for 1950 no. pig places, reduced level excavations, septic tank and percolation area, two feed storage silos, vehicular entrance, hard surfaces for service vehicles, sinking of a well and construction of a pumphouse and all associated site works	Refused by Meath County Council on 22/02/2007

	The development will consist of	Granted with conditions
22/1044	permission for a period of 10 years	by Meath County
	to construct and complete a Solar	Council on
	PV development with a total site	14/02/2023
	area of circa 97.05 hectares, to	
	include solar panels mounted on	
	steel support on steel support	
	structures, associated cabling and	
	ducting, 12 No. Transformers, 1 No.	
	Temporary Construction Compound, 1 No. Storage	
	Container, maintenance tracks,	
	perimeter fencing and gates, 61 No.	
	CCTV, 4 No. Weather Stations, 3 No.	
	Bunds associated landscaping and	
	ancillary works, with an operational	
	life of 40 years	
If a valid plan	ning application has been made in res	spect of this land or
	ne 6 months prior to the submission of	• •
,	site notice must be on a yellow backgr	
` '	of the Planning and Development regu	ılations 2001 as
amended.		
	the proposal subject to a current a	ppeal to An Bord
	respect of a similar development?	
Yes: [] No	·[*]	

An Bord Pleanála Reference No.:

9. Description of the Proposed Development:

Brief description of nature and extent of development	The proposed development for which permission under Section 182A is being sought will include the following: • A 110 kilovolt (kV) Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) loop-in substation with associated compound, including control and operational buildings, electrical plant, equipment, cabling, lighting, CCTV, lightening masts, drainage infrastructure, security palisade fencing, and all associated and ancillary works necessary to facilitate the development. • Erection of 2 no. overhead line end masts (c. 20m high) and 2 no. lattice gantries (c. 16m high) and associated overhead cabling to enable a loop-in/loop-out grid connection to National grid via the existing the Meath Hill-Gorman 110kV overhead powerlines located above the site. This application is seeking a ten-year permission for the purposes of construction of the proposed development as outlined above. A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been
	A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared in respect of the proposed development.

10. In the case of mixed development (e.g. residential, commercial, industrial, etc), please provide breakdown of the different classes of development and a breakdown of the gross floor area of each class of development: NOT APPLICABLE

Class of Development:	Gross Floor Area in m ²

11. Where the application relates to a building or buildings:

Gross floor space of any existing	N/A
buildings(s) in m ²	
Gross floor space of proposed	EirGrid Building 440.2m2
works in m ²	IPP Building 160.2m2
Gross floor space of work to be	N/A
retained in m ² (if appropriate)	
Gross floor space of any	N/A
demolition in m ² (if appropriate)	

12. In the case of residential development please provide breakdown of residential mix: NOT APPLICABLE

Number of	Studio	1 Be	ed	2 Bed		3 Bed	4 Bed	4 + Bed	Total
Houses									
Apartments									
Number of ca spaces to be			Exis	ting:	Pr	oposed:		Total:	

13. Social Housing:

Please tick appropriate box:	Yes	No
Is the application an application for permission		\checkmark
for development to which Part V of the		
Planning and Development Act 2000 applies?		

If the answer to the above question is "yes" and the development is not exempt (see below), you must provide, as part of your application, details as to how you propose to comply with section 96 of Part V of the Act.

If the answer to the above question is "yes" but you consider the development to be exempt by virtue of section 97 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, a copy of the Certificate of Exemption under section 97 must be submitted (or, where an application for a certificate of exemption has been made but has not yet been decided, a copy of the application should be submitted).

If the answer to the above question is "no" by virtue of section 96 (13) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, details indicating the basis on which section 96 (13) is considered to apply to the development should be submitted.

use.
Existing use (or previous use where retention permission is sought)
N/A
Proposed use (or use it is proposed to retain)
N/A
Nature and extent of any such proposed use (or use it is proposed to retain).
N/A

Where the application refers to a material change of use of any land or structure or the retention of such a material change of

14.

15. Development Details:

Please tick appropriate box:	If answer is yes please give details	YES	NO
Does the proposed developm of a Protected Structure(s), in		✓	
Does the proposed development protected structure and / or it protected structure and / or it		✓	
Does the proposed development exterior of a structure which is architectural conservation are		✓	
Does the application relate to affects or is close to a monur under section 12 of the Natio (Amendment) Act, 1994.	ment or place recorded		✓
Does the application relate to European Site or a Natural H		√	
Does the development requir Natura Impact Statement?	✓		
Does the proposed developm of an Environmental Impact A		✓	
Do you consider that the prop to have significant effects on transboundary state?		✓	
Does the application relate to comprises or is for the purpor an integrated pollution preven	se of an activity requiring		✓
Does the application relate to comprises or is for the purpowaste license?	-		✓
Do the Major Accident Regul proposed development?		✓	
Does the application relate to Strategic Development Zone		✓	
Does the proposed developm of any habitable house?	nent involve the demolition		✓

16. Services:

Proposed Source of Water Supply:				
Existing connection: [] New Connection: []				
Public Mains: [] Group Water Scheme: [] Private Well:[]				
Other (please specify):				
Rainwater harvesting system and bottled water				
Name of Group Water Scheme (where applicable):				
Proposed Wastewater Management / Treatment:				
Existing: [] New:[]				
Public Sewer: [] Conventional septic tank system: []				
Other on site treatment system: [X] Please Specify:				
Wastewater holding tank to be emptied by licensed waste contractor and taken to an authorized waste facility				
Proposed Surface Water Disposal:				
Public Sewer / Drain:[] Soakpit:[]				
Watercourse: [] Other: [X] Please specify:				
Collected stormwater will pass through an oil/petrol interceptor prior to draining into an on-site attenuation system and then overflow at a controlled rate equal to the existing greenfield runoff rate to an existing vegetated land drain on the southern side of the compound				

17. Notices:

Details of public newspaper notice – paper(s) and date of publication
Copy of page(s) of relevant newspaper enclosed Yes: [✓] No:[]
Meath Chronicle dated 04/05/24 Irish Daily Star dated 04/05/24
Details of site notice, if any, - location and date of erection
Copy of site notice enclosed Yes: [✓] No:[]
Please refer to drawings 23991-MWP-00-00-DR-C-5101 and 23991-MWP-00-00-DR-C-5102
Details of other forms of public notification, if appropriate e.g. website
MillfarmsubstationSID.ie

18. Pre-application Consultation:

Date(s) of statutory pre-application consultations with An Bord Pleanála

Schedule of any other pre application consultations –name of person / body and date of consultation to be provided as appropriate and also details of any general public consultations i.e. methods, dates, venues etc. This can be submitted as a separate schedule with the application form.

ABP SID Pre-app meeting held on the 31st November 2023

Enclosed: See Appendix 3

Yes: [✓] No:[]

Schedule of prescribed bodies to whom notification of the making of the application has been sent and a sample copy of such notification.

Enclosed: See Appendix 4

Yes: [✓] No:[]		

19. Confirmation Notice:

Copy of Confirmation Notice
N/A

20. Application Fee:

Fee Payable	€100,000 (See Appendix 5)

I hereby declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information given in this form is correct and accurate and that the application documents being deposited at the planning authority offices, and any other location specified by the Board in pre application consultations, including a website (if any) will be identical to the application documents being deposited with the Board.

Signed: (Applicant or Agent as appropriate)	Connot
Date:	7 th May 2024

General Guidance Note:

The range and format of material required to be compiled / submitted with any application in respect of a proposed strategic infrastructure development shall generally accord with the requirements for a planning application as set out in the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 to 2018 and those Regulations should therefore be consulted prior to submission of any application.

September 2018

Appendix 1. Schedule of planning drawings



MWP Project No.	WP Project No. Project Title. Current Drawing List					
23991	MILL F	ARM		Discipline C Civil Engineering	FALSE	
MWP Drawing or D	oc. No.	Client's Drawing Number	Latest Rev	Drawing or Document Title	Notes	
23991-MWP-SS-ZZ-DR-S-	0301		P01	TYPICAL 110KV OVERHEAD LINE INTERFACE TOWER		
23991-MWP-SS-ZZ-DR-C-	0400		P02	PALISADE FENCE DETAILS		
23991-MWP-00-00-DR-C	0401		P01	CONCRETE POST & RAIL FENCE DETAILS (PROPERTY FENCE)		
23991-MWP-SS-ZZ-DR-C-	0402		P01	COMPOUND ENTRANCE GATE DETAILS		
23991-MWP-SS-00-DR-C-	1001		P02	SITE SECTIONS (SHEET 1 OF 4)		
23991-MWP-SS-00-DR-C-	1002		P02	SITE SECTIONS (SHEET 2 OF 4)		
23991-MWP-SS-00-DR-C-	1003		P02	SITE SECTIONS (SHEET 3 OF 4)		
23991-MWP-SS-00-DR-C-	1004		P02	SITE SECTIONS (SHEET 4 OF 4)		
23991-MWP-SS-ZZ-DR-C-	2400		P01	TYPICAL FOUL HOLDING TANK DETAILS		
23991-MWP-00-00-DR-C	-5101		P02	SITE CONTEXT MAP		
23991-MWP-00-00-DR-C	-5102		P02	SITE LOCATION MAP - OVERALL AREA		
23991-MWP-00-00-DR-C	-5103		P02	SITE LAYOUT - SHEET 1		
23991-MWP-00-00-DR-C	-5104		P02	SITE LAYOUT - SHEET 2		
23991-MWP-00-00-DR-S-	5401		P02	IPP BUILDING PLAN, ELEVATION AND SECTION		
23991-MWP-00-00-DR-S-	5402		P02	EIRGRID BUILDING PLAN, ELEVATIONS AND SECTION		
23991-MWP-00-00-DR-C	-5403		P02	COMPOUND ELEVATIONS & SECTIONS - SHEET 1		
23991-MWP-00-00-DR-C	-5404		P02	COMPOUND ELEVATIONS & SECTIONS - SHEET 2		

Appendix 2.

Landowner Consent Letter

An Bord Pleanala,

SID Applications Department,

64 Marlborough Street,

Dublin 1,

D01 V902

RE: Proposed development at Ricetown County Meath for 110kV Substation and Loop-in Connection associated with the approved Mill Farm Solar PV Development

To whom it may concern,

As registered owner of the land parcel folio MH18403F and MH55460F I, Seamus Meegan, hereby consent to a planning application being submitted to An Bord Pleanala on this property by or on behalf of Mill Farm Solar Project Ltd. (or its associated companies), for the development of a new 110kV Substation and Loop-in connection associated with the approved Mill Farm Solar PV Development.

The proposed project will comprise of the construction a 110 kilovolt (kV) Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) loop-in substation with associated compound, including control and operational buildings, electrical plant, equipment, cabling, lighting, CCTV, lightening masts, drainage infrastructure, security palisade fencing, and all associated and ancillary works necessary to facilitate the development.

Erection of 2 no. overhead line end masts (c. 20m high) and 2 no. lattice gantries (c. 16m high) and associated overhead cabling to enable a loop-in/loop-out grid connection to National grid via the existing the Meath Hill-Gorman 110kV overhead powerlines located above the site.

Neegon

Yours Sincerely,

Seamus Meegan,

21 Seatown Place,

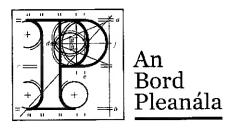
Dundalk,

Co. Louth

18-04-2024

Appendix 3.

Minutes of ABP SID Pre-application meetings



Record of Meeting ABP-317988-23

	110kV Substation and Loop-in connection associated with an		
Case Reference /	approved Solar PV Development located at Stokesquater,		
Description	Painestown, Killary, Ricetown, Castletown K.P., Navan, Co		
	Meath.		
Case Type	Pre-application consultation		
1 st / 2 nd / 3 rd / 4 th Meeting	1 st Meeting		
Date	30/11/2023	Start Time	11:00am
Location	MS Teams	End Time	11:35am

<u> </u>

Representing the Prospective Applicant		
Alexander Brem, Statkraft	. <u>.</u>	
Jane O' Connor, Statkraft		
Caoimhe O'Connor, MWP		
Aine Ryan, MWP		
Ian Bronson, MWP		

Introduction

The Board referred to the letter received from the prospective applicant on the 7th September 2023, requesting pre-application consultations under section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and advised the prospective applicant that the instant meeting essentially constituted an information-gathering exercise for the Board; it also invited the prospective applicant to outline the nature of the proposed development and to highlight any matters that it wished to receive advice on from the Board. The Board's representatives mentioned the following general procedures in relation to the pre-application consultation process:

- The Board will keep a record of this meeting and any other meetings, if held. Such records will form part of the file which will be made available publicly at the conclusion of the process. The record of the meeting will not be amended by the Board once finalised, but the prospective applicant may submit comments on the record which will form part of the case file.
- The Board will serve notice at the conclusion of the process as to the strategic infrastructure status of the proposed development. It may form a preliminary view at an early stage in the process on the matter.
- A further meeting or meetings may be held in respect of the proposed development.
- Further information may be requested by the Board and public consultations may also be directed by the Board.
- The Board may hold consultations in respect of the proposed development with other bodies.
- The holding of consultations does not prejudice the Board in any way and cannot be relied upon in the formal planning process or in any legal proceedings.

Presentation made by the prospective applicant:

The prospective applicant gave a brief introduction to the project team and a brief overview of the meeting agenda.

The prospective applicant provided a brief description of the proposed site location. The proposed site will be situated in Ricetown, County Meath. This site is situated 12km south of Navan, 12km Northeast of Ardee, 14.5km Southwest from Kells and 22.5km southeast from Drogheda. The nearest villages to the proposed site are Lobinstown and Castletown, County Meath.

The prospective stated that the proposed development will comprise a 110kV substation and a loop in connection to serve the approved Solar PV development in County Meath. This solar farm development will have the energy capacity to power approximately 20,000 homes. The proposed 110kV substation will be connected to the National grid by looping into Meath Hill-Gorman overhead powerlines above the proposed site via grid connection cabling.

The prospective applicant presented a drawing of the proposed site layout, indicating the location of two masts where the proposed development will loop into the overhead cables.

The prospective applicant gave an update on the progress to date with the proposed application. They stated the Engineering Design has been complete, along with the Environmental Impact Assessment Screening which is almost completed. The prospective applicant stated that they have concluded that they will not need to submit an EIAR (Environmental Impact Assessment Report) as part of this application. They also stated that the proposed development site is of low ecological value (comprising agricultural land). The prospective applicant stated the landscape photomontages of the proposed development are in preparation. They have identified a flood zone risk on the proposed development site, where sustainable urban drainage design measures will be introduced to prevent flooding.

The prospective applicant presented a habitat mapping drawing. This drawing showed the location of the proposed development and ecological factors which surround the site such as, a drainage ditch, arable crops, and wet willow woodland.

The prospective applicant presented a noise contouring map of the proposed development site and surrounding areas. The studies show that during the operational phase of the development noise at 14 noise monitoring locations would be between 22-30dB. They have also carried out a study of the noise impact during construction phase of the proposed development, and this study predicted maximum noise levels at the identified receptors to be 52dB during construction.

The prospective applicant provided an update on where they stand in relation to consultations. They have appointed a Community Liaison Officer, who will be able to provide updates and answer queries which may arise from members of the local community. The prospective applicant has already informed Meath County Council of the proposed development and are currently awaiting feedback.

The prospective applicant gave their opinion that they believe the proposed development of the 110kV substation falls under Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

The prospective applicant gave a brief overview of the next steps they intend to take which include finalising all reports, site notices and newspaper notices. They hope to lodge an application to the Board on receipt of determination regarding this pre application consultation.

Discussion:

- The Boards representatives asked the prospective applicant if they specified
 a location for the proposed substation in their solar farm application to Meath
 County Council. The prospective applicant stated they left out a portion of
 the red line boundary in this application to Meath County Council but did
 include in the application that a substation would be required.
- The Boards representatives asked the prospective applicant to clarify if the
 red line boundary presented is the solar farm boundary. The prospective
 applicant clarified that this red boundary line is outside of the solar farm
 boundary.

- The Boards representatives questioned the distance of the noise receptors located south of the proposed development site. The prospective applicant stated they are unsure of the exact distance but that the separation was approximately 500-600 metres.
- The Boards representatives gave their preliminary view that this application would fall under Strategic Infrastructure Developments, however, the final decision lies with the Board.
- The Board's representatives asked if the prospective applicant plans to use the same construction roads that were used for the development of the solar farm. The prospective applicant confirmed that they intend to utilize the same access roads for the construction and operational phases of the proposed development.
- The Board representatives asked the prospective applicant if they had considered all the issues that were raised in the original application for the solar farm submitted to Meath County Council. In response, the prospective applicant stated that they have addressed the issues that emerged during the application including in their Appropriate Assessment screening process. Regarding flooding, the prospective applicant stated that the site is located in Flood Zone C.
- Regarding appropriate assessment, the Board's representatives noted that
 in the event that the drainage of the site relied on the drainage infrastructure
 for the permitted solar farm then it might trigger the requirement for Stage 2
 Appropriate Assessment.
- The Boards representative recommended that the prospective applicant should indicate the substation development and the solar farm development in their photomontages submitted as part of the application for the purpose of cumulative impact assessment.
- The prospective applicant stated that their original timeline to submit the application to the Board was in quarter four of 2023. The Boards representatives assured the prospective applicant that once they receive a

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copy of this meeting record, they can request a formal closure of the pre application consultation.

The Boards representatives queried if they have been in contact with Inland
Fisheries Ireland in relation to the proposed development. The prospective
applicant stated that Inland Fisheries Ireland are not relevant to this
proposed development as there is no drainage to direct water sources.

The Meeting concluded at 11:35am

Stephen Kay

Assistant Director of Planning

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Appendix 4.

ABP SID Determination Letter, Schedule of Prescribed Bodies and notification letters

Our Case Number: ABP-317988-23

Your Reference: Mill Farm Solar Project



Malachy Walsh & Company Park House Bessboro Road Blackrock Co. Cork T12 X251

Date: 02 February 2024

Re: 110kV Substation and Loop-in connection associated with an approved Solar PV Development.

Stokesquater, Painestown, Killary, Ricetown, Castletown K.P., Navan, Co Meath.

Dear Sir / Madam,

Please be advised that following consultations under section 182E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Board hereby serves notice that it is of the opinion that the proposed development falls within the scope of section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. Accordingly, the Board has decided that the proposed development would be strategic infrastructure within the meaning of section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. Any application for approval for the proposed development must therefore be made directly to An Bord Pleanála under section 182A(1) of the Act.

Please also be informed that the Board considers that the pre-application consultation process in respect of this proposed development is now closed.

The following is a list of prescribed bodies to be notified of the application for the proposed development.

- Department of Planning and Local Government and Heritage.
- Minister of Environment and Climate & Communications.
- Meath County Council.
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland/ National Transport Authority.
- An Chomhairle Ealaion (Arts Council).
- The Heritage Council.
- · Failte Ireland.
- An Taisce.
- Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly.
- Uisce Eireann.
- Inland Fisheries.
- Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine.

- Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media.
- · Health and Safety Authority.
- The Commission for Energy Regulation.
- · Office of Public Works.
- · ESB.
- EirGrid.

Further notifications should also be made where deemed appropriate.

In accordance with section 146(5) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Board will make available for inspection and purchase at its offices the documents relating to the decision within 3 working days following its decision. This information is normally made available on the list of decided cases on the website on the Wednesday following the week in which the decision is made.

In accordance with the fees payable to the Board and where not more than one pre-application meeting is held in the determination of a case, a refund of €3,500 is payable to the person who submitted the pre-application consultation fee. As only one meeting was required in this case, a refund of 3,500 will be sent to you in due course.

The following contains information in relation to challenges to the validity of a decision of An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

Judicial review of An Bord Pleanála decisions under the provisions of the Planning and Development Acts (as amended).

A person wishing to challenge the validity of a Board decision may do so by way of judicial review only. Sections 50, 50A and 50B of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as substituted by section 13 of the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006, as amended/substituted by sections 32 and 33 of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010 and as amended by sections 20 and 21 of the Environment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2011) contain provisions in relation to challenges to the validity of a decision of the Board.

The validity of a decision taken by the Board may only be questioned by making an application for judicial review under Order 84 of The Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986). Sub-section 50(7) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 requires that subject to any extension to the time period which may be allowed by the High Court in accordance with subsection 50(8), any application for judicial review must be made within 8 weeks of the decision of the Board. It should be noted that any challenge taken under section 50 may question only the validity of the decision and the Courts do not adjudicate on the merits of the development from the perspectives of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area and/or effects on the environment. Section 50A states that leave for judicial review shall not be granted unless the Court is satisfied that there are substantial grounds for contending that the decision is invalid or ought to be quashed and that the applicant has a sufficient interest in the matter which is the subject of the application or in cases involving environmental impact assessment is a body complying with specified criteria.

Section 50B contains provisions in relation to the cost of judicial review proceedings in the High Court relating to specified types of development (including proceedings relating to decisions or actions pursuant to a law of the state that gives effect to the public participation and access to justice provisions of Council Directive 85/337/EEC i.e. the EIA Directive and to the provisions of Directive 2001/12/EC i.e. Directive on the assessment of the effects on the environment of certain plans and programmes). The general provision contained in section 50B is that in such cases each party shall bear its own costs. The Court however may award costs against any party in specified circumstances. There is also provision for the Court to award the costs of proceedings or a portion of such costs to an applicant against a respondent or notice party where relief is obtained to the extent that the action or omission of the respondent or notice party contributed to the relief being obtained.

General information on judicial review procedures is contained on the following website, www.citizensinformation.ie.

Disclaimer: The above is intended for information purposes. It does not purport to be a legally binding interpretation of the relevant provisions and it would be advisable for persons contemplating legal action to seek legal advice.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please contact the undersigned officer of the Board or email sids@pleanala.ie quoting the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Niamh Hickey Executive Officer Direct Line: 01-8737145

VC11A



e: tralee@mwp.ie t: +353 (0)66 712 3404 w: mwp.ie

Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

Planning Department, Meath County Council, Buvinda House, Dublin Road, Navan,

Co. Meath

Re:

Planning Application for Strategic Infrastructure Development under Section 182A of the Planning and development Act (As Amended)

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of our client Mill Farm Solar Project Ltd. (applicant) please find enclosed a planning application for the construction of a 110kV Substation and loop-in connection within the townland of Ricetown, County Meath. The proposed development will serve a permitted Solar PV development that was approved by Meath County Council under reference no. 22/1044 on the 14th of February 2023.

The project has been the subject of a Pre-application Stage consultation for Strategic Infrastructure with An Bord Pleanála (Ref: ABP- 317988-23). An Bord Pleanála has determined that this proposed project falls within the Strategic Infrastructure Development consent process under Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. A copy of the determination is enclosed with this application.

The Applicant is therefore applying to the Board under Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) for the following:

- A 110 kilovolt (kV) Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) loop-in substation with associated compound, including control and operational buildings, electrical plant, equipment, cabling, lighting, CCTV, lightening masts, drainage infrastructure, security palisade fencing, and all associated and ancillary works necessary to facilitate the development.
- Erection of 2 no. overhead line end masts (c. 20m high) and 2 no. lattice gantries (c. 16m high) and associated overhead cabling to enable a loop-in/loop-out grid connection to National grid via the existing the Meath Hill-Gorman 110kV overhead powerlines located above the site.

Directors Peter Fay BSc CEng MIEI MIStructE FConsEI | Peter O'Donnell BE CEng MICE FIEI | Paul Collins BE CEng MIEI MIStructE |

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Tim Hurley BEng MEngSc CEng MIEI | Micheál Fenton BE CEng MIEI | Olivia Holmes BSc MSc CEng MIEI MCIWEM |
Caitríona Fox BA MSc









The applicant is seeking a ten-year permission for the purposes of construction of the proposed development as outlined above.

A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared in relation to the project and accompanies the application.

As required by An Bord Pleanála, you are requested to keep this planning application available for public inspection/purchase from the **10**th **May 2024** in accordance with the terms of the public notice.

Any submissions/observations must be received by the Board not later than 5.30pm on the **28th June 2024.**

The application includes the following:

- 1) Completed Application Form
- 2) Landowner consent letters
- 3) Schedule of planning application drawings
- 4) Planning application drawings
- 5) Newspaper notice (Irish Daily Star Dated 04/05/2024)
- 6) Newspaper notice (Meath Chronicle Dated 04/05/2024)
- 7) Copy of site Notice
- 8) Copy of pre-application Determination
- 9) Schedule of Prescribed bodies to whom notification of the application has been sent
- 10) Copy of the notification to the prescribed bodies
- 11) AA Screening Report
- 12) Natura Impact Statement (NIS)
- 13) Planning Report
- 14) Noise Impact Assessment
- 15) Flood Risk Assessment
- 16) EIA Screening
- 17) Construction Waste Management Plan
- 18) Ecological Appraisal
- 19) Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
- 20) Photomontages
- 21) 2 no. hard copies and 1 no. Memory stick with a copy of all application documents
- 22) Confirmation of payment of Application fee of €100,000

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

Yours sincerely,

Caoimhe O'Connor

for and on behalf of MWP

e: caoimhe.o'connor@mwp.ie



e: tralee@mwp.ie t: +353 (0)66 712 3404 w: mwp.ie

Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

An Tasice, 5 Foster Place, Dublin 2, D02 V0P9

Re: Planning Application for Strategic Infrastructure Development under Section 182A of the Planning and development Act (As Amended)

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ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

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(a) refuse to grant the permission

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Yours sincerely,

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for and on behalf of MWP

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Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

Comhairle Ealaíon,

The Arts Council, 70 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, D02 NY52

Re: Planning Application for Strategic Infrastructure Development under Section 182A of the Planning and development Act (As Amended)

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ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

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Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

The Commission for the Regulation of Utilities (CRU),

Planning Department,
The Grain House, The Exchange,
Belgard Square North,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24

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Yours sincerely,

Caoimhe O'Connor

for and on behalf of MWP



Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Agriculture House, Kildare Street, D02 WK12

Re: Planning Application for Strategic Infrastructure Development under Section 182A of the Planning and development Act (As Amended)

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for and on behalf of MWP



Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

The Manager,

Development Applications Unit,
Dept. of Housing, Local Government and Heritage,
Newtown Road,
Wexford,
Y35 AP90

Re: Planning Application for Strategic Infrastructure Development under Section 182A of the Planning and development Act (As Amended)

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for and on behalf of MWP



Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly,

3rd Floor North,
Ballymun Civic Centre,
Main Street,
Ballymun,
Dublin 9

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Ref: Co/23991 7th May 2024

EirGrid plc

The Oval 160 Shelbourne Road Ballsbridge Dublin 4 D04 FW28

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Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

ESB Networks,

Avenue Road, Marshes Lower, Dundalk, Co Louth

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Yours sincerely,

Caoimhe O'Connor

for and on behalf of MWP



Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

Failte Ireland, 88-95 Amiens Street, Dublin 1, D01 WR86

Re: Planning Application for Strategic Infrastructure Development under Section 182A of the Planning and development Act (As Amended)

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Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

Health and Safety Authority,

The Metropolitan Building,
James Joyce Street,
Dublin 1,
D01 K0Y8

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Caoimhe O'Connor for and on behalf of MWP



Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

Inland Fisheries Ireland

3044 Lake Drive Citywest Business Campus Dublin

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Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, 29-31 Adelaide Road,
Dublin 2,
D02 X285

Re: Planning Application for Strategic Infrastructure Development under Section 182A of the Planning and development Act (As Amended)

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Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

Chairman's Office,
Office of Public Works HQ,
Jonathan Swift Street,
Trim,
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Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

The Heritage Council

Church Ln, Gardens, Kilkenny, R95 X264

Re: Planning Application for Strategic Infrastructure Development under Section 182A of the Planning and development Act (As Amended)

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Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

Transport Infrastructure Ireland,

Parkgate Business Centre, Parkgate St, Dublin 8

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Ref: CO/23991 7th May 2024

Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot St, Mountjoy, Dublin, D01 NP86

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Appendix 5.

Payment receipt for application fee



Danske Bank
ICB IE
3 Harbourmaster Place
International Financial Services
Dublin 1, D01 K8F1
Telephone 01 484 2660
BIC/SWIFT: DABAIE2D
www.danskebank.ie

Payment - Same day domestic payment

Payment type: Same day domestic payment

Payment data

Sender's account number: Mill Farm Solar EUR

IE14 DABA 9517 8340 0204 94 EUR

Beneficiary's name: An Bord Pleanala

Beneficiary's account number: IE70 AIBK 9310 5500 3160 67

Amount: 100,000.00 EUR
Transaction date: 04/30/2024
Message to beneficiary: Mill Farm Solar

Text on sender's account

statement:

ABP

Status details

Payment status: Processed

Created: 04/30/2024 by 0A4190 Authorised: 04/30/2024 by 6B7931 Authorised: 04/30/2024 by 3F7054

Technical references

Bank's archive reference no.: 3087072996

Print from District 12:15 - 04/30/2024 by 0A4190