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18 March 2025

Our Ref: WHI001SS

Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Shankill and Ballygorteen, County Kilkenny; and Moanmore, Lackan and Baunreagh, County Carlow.

Re: (i) A 110 kilovolt (kV) 'loop-in/loop-out' Air-Insulated Switchgear (AIS) electricity substation, including 2 no. single-storey control buildings (with a total gross floor area of 622 square metres [m²]); transformers, busbars, insulators, circuit breakers, and lightning poles, within a secure compound (with a total footprint of approximately 10,600m²); (ii) 2 no. lattice-type interface masts, each of which will be 16m in height, and approximately 320m of underground electricity line between the electricity substation and the interface masts to facilitate connection of the electricity substation to the existing Kellis-Kilkenny 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; (iii) A new site entrance from the L66732 and approximately 1.1km of access track to facilitate access to the electricity substation and interface masts; (iv) The demolition of an existing agricultural shed (with a total gross floor area of 210m²) to accommodate the access track leading to the electricity substation; (v) The widening of the carriageway of the L66732 by approximately 1.5m over a distance of approximately 130m; (vi) An electrical control unit with a total gross floor area of 42m² located at the permitted White Hill Wind Farm (An Bord Pleanála Reference ABP-315365-22); (vii) A new site entrance from the L7117 and approximately 250m of access track to facilitate access to the electrical control unit; (viii) Approximately 8.8km of underground electricity line between the electricity substation and the electrical control unit to be installed within private lands and the carriageways of the L6673, L6738, L7117 and L71172 public roads; and, (ix) All associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works; including a temporary construction compound and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany this planning application.

1.0 Introduction

On behalf of our client, White Hill Wind Limited ('the Applicant'), please find enclosed details relating to a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) planning application for the abovementioned proposed development in accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) ('the Act').

2.0 Pre-Application Consultation

The Applicant entered into pre-application consultations with An Bord Pleanála ([Reference ABP-319391-24](#)) pursuant to Section 182E of the Act. On 29 October 2024, An Bord Pleanála served notice of its determination that the proposed development constitutes a SID and that a planning application for same must be made directly to it.

3.0 Description of the Proposed Development

The planning application seeks a 10-year planning permission for a proposed development generally described as follows:-

- i. A 110 kilovolt (kV) 'loop-in/loop-out' Air-Insulated Switchgear (AIS) electricity substation, including 2 no. single-storey control buildings (with a total gross floor area of 622 square metres [m²]); transformers, busbars, insulators, circuit breakers, and lightning poles, within a secure compound (with a total footprint of approximately 10,600m²);
- ii. 2 no. lattice-type interface masts, each of which will be 16m in height, and approximately 320m of underground electricity line between the electricity substation and the interface masts to facilitate connection of the electricity substation to the existing Kellis-Kilkenny 110kV overhead electricity transmission line;
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- ix. All associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works; including a temporary construction compound and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

4.0 Environmental Impact Assessment

A full Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been submitted with this planning application to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out by An Bord Pleanála.

The EIAR is presented as 2 no. volumes, which should be read in conjunction with each other, as follows:-

- **Volume I** comprises the main EIAR text and follows a 'grouped format' structure where each environmental factor is assessed and presented as a separate chapter. The EIA Directive prescribes the range of environmental factors which should be used to organise descriptions of the environment and likely environmental effects. These have been supplemented with additional environmental factors owing to the characteristics of the proposed development/project under assessment, as follows:-
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- **Volume II** comprises a range of annexes, including technical data and reports, which informed the impact assessment provided in **Volume I** so as to ensure the EIAR is transparently supported by evidence. All environmental mitigation measures, as prescribed within the EIAR, have also been compiled into a standalone document and submitted at **Volume II**.

A Non-Technical Summary of the EIAR is also provided as a separate standalone volume in order to facilitate the wider public concerned in their involvement in the statutory consultation during the planning application determination stage.

5.0 Appropriate Assessment

Following the completion of a Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening Assessment, a full Natura Impact Statement (NIS) (Stage 2) has been prepared and submitted with this planning application. The NIS is presented as a separate, standalone document and submitted to inform a Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment to be carried out by An Bord Pleanála pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC and Bird Directive 2009/147/EC. The NIS addresses the entirety of the proposed development, including relevant cumulative, off-site, and secondary developments.

The NIS concludes that the proposed development will not, beyond reasonable scientific doubt, undermine the conservation objectives of any European site or adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 site either directly or indirectly.

6.0 Planning Application Documentation

This planning application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of Section 182A the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Bord Pleanála has instructed the Applicant to notify An Taisce, as a prescribed body, of the lodgement of the planning application and to furnish you with a copy (or copies) of the planning application documentation.

All planning application and associated documentation is available to view at the

dedicated website www.whitehillwindfarmsubstation.ie, which includes:-

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You are advised that An Bord Pleanála may, in respect of an application for permission, decide to:-

- (a)
 - (i) grant the permission/approval; or
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 - (iii) grant permission/approval in respect of part of the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions; or
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Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1; or via the An Bord Pleanála website www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/observations; relating to:-

- (i) The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development;
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Any submissions or observations from An Taisce must be received by An Bord Pleanála no later than 5.30p.m. on 9 May 2025.

8.0 Conclusion

This planning application is being lodged with An Bord Pleanála following a determination that the proposed development constitutes a SID.

Government policy recognises that onshore wind energy will continue to be the major contributor to Ireland's renewable electricity generation to 2030. As the purpose of the proposed development is to facilitate the connection of the permitted Seven Hills Wind Farm to the national electricity network, it will, in combination with the Seven Hills Wind Farm, make a substantial contribution to the achievement of Ireland's binding renewable energy generation and greenhouse gas abatement targets.

The EIAR and NIS submitted with this planning application provide a comprehensive assessment of the likelihood of significant adverse environmental effects arising as a result of the proposed development individually and in combination with other

existing, permitted and proposed developments. Overall, it is assessed that any likely adverse environmental effects resulting from the proposed development can be managed and mitigated and that there are lasting social and environmental benefits as a result of the proposed development.

We trust that the documentation provided is in order and is sufficient for your consideration of this proposed development. Should you have any queries in relation to any of the information enclosed, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

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Mr. Coilín O'Reilly
Chief Executive
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County Buildings
Athy Road
Carlow
R93 E7R7

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provisions of Section 182A the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Bord Pleanála has instructed the Applicant to notify Carlow County Council, as a prescribed body, of the lodgement of the planning application and to furnish you with a copy (or copies) of the planning application documentation. As requested, 2 no. hard copies and 1 no. digital/soft copy of the planning application documents have been provided.

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In accordance with the terms of the public notices, Carlow County Council shall make available a copy or copies of the planning application and accompanying documentation for inspection or purchase by the public for the duration of the currency of the planning application.

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Yours sincerely,

Galetech Energy Services

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Galetech Energy Services
Cavan: Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
Cork: Unit 2 Airport East Business Park, Farmers Cross,
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Commission for Regulation of Utilities
One Dockland Central
Guild Street
Dublin
D01 E4X0

18 March 2025

Our Ref: WHI001SS
Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Shankill and Ballygorreen, County Kilkenny; and Moanmore, Lackan and Baunreagh, County Carlow.

Re: (i) A 110 kilovolt (kV) 'loop-in/loop-out' Air-Insulated Switchgear (AIS) electricity substation, including 2 no. single-storey control buildings (with a total gross floor area of 622 square metres [m²]); transformers, busbars, insulators, circuit breakers, and lightning poles, within a secure compound (with a total footprint of approximately 10,600m²); (ii) 2 no. lattice-type interface masts, each of which will be 16m in height, and approximately 320m of underground electricity line between the electricity substation and the interface masts to facilitate connection of the electricity substation to the existing Kellis-Kilkenny 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; (iii) A new site entrance from the L66732 and approximately 1.1km of access track to facilitate access to the electricity substation and interface masts; (iv) The demolition of an existing agricultural shed (with a total gross floor area of 210m²) to accommodate the access track leading to the electricity substation; (v) The widening of the carriageway of the L66732 by approximately 1.5m over a distance of approximately 130m; (vi) An electrical control unit with a total gross floor area of 42m² located at the permitted White Hill Wind Farm (An Bord Pleanála Reference ABP-315365-22); (vii) A new site entrance from the L7117 and approximately 250m of access track to facilitate access to the electrical control unit; (viii) Approximately 8.8km of underground electricity line between the electricity substation and the electrical control unit to be installed within private lands and the carriageways of the L6673, L6738, L7117 and L71172 public roads; and, (ix) All associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works; including a temporary construction compound and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany this planning application.

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EirGrid
The Oval
160 Shelbourne Road
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D04 FW28

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Yours sincerely,

Galetech Energy Services

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Fáilte Ireland
88 - 95 Amiens Street
Dublin 1
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Galetech Energy Services
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w: www.galetechenergyservices.com

18 March 2025

Our Ref: WHI001SS
Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Shankill and Ballygorteen, County Kilkenny; and Moanmore, Lackan and Baunreagh, County Carlow.

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The EIAR and NIS submitted with this planning application provide a comprehensive assessment of the likelihood of significant adverse environmental effects arising as a result of the proposed development individually and in combination with other existing, permitted and proposed developments. Overall, it is assessed that any likely adverse environmental effects resulting from the proposed development can be

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Yours sincerely,

Galetech Energy Services

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Galetech Energy Services
Cavan: Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
Cork: Unit 2 Airport East Business Park, Farmers Cross,
Kinsale Road, Cork, Ireland

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w: www.galetechenergyservices.com

Mr. Lar Power
Chief Executive
Kilkenny County Council
County Hall
John Street
Kilkenny
R95 A39T

18 March 2025

Our Ref: WHI001SS
Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Shankill and Ballygorteen, County Kilkenny; and Moanmore, Lackan and Baunreagh, County Carlow.

Re: (i) A 110 kilovolt (kV) 'loop-in/loop-out' Air-Insulated Switchgear (AIS) electricity substation, including 2 no. single-storey control buildings (with a total gross floor area of 622 square metres [m²]); transformers, busbars, insulators, circuit breakers, and lightning poles, within a secure compound (with a total footprint of approximately 10,600m²); (ii) 2 no. lattice-type interface masts, each of which will be 16m in height, and approximately 320m of underground electricity line between the electricity substation and the interface masts to facilitate connection of the electricity substation to the existing Kellis-Kilkenny 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; (iii) A new site entrance from the L66732 and approximately 1.1km of access track to facilitate access to the electricity substation and interface masts; (iv) The demolition of an existing agricultural shed (with a total gross floor area of 210m²) to accommodate the access track leading to the electricity substation; (v) The widening of the carriageway of the L66732 by approximately 1.5m over a distance of approximately 130m; (vi) An electrical control unit with a total gross floor area of 42m² located at the permitted White Hill Wind Farm (An Bord Pleanála Reference ABP-315365-22); (vii) A new site entrance from the L7117 and approximately 250m of access track to facilitate access to the electrical control unit; (viii) Approximately 8.8km of underground electricity line between the electricity substation and the electrical control unit to be installed within private lands and the carriageways of the L6673, L6738, L7117 and L71172 public roads; and, (ix) All associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works; including a temporary construction compound and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany this planning application.

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On behalf of our client, White Hill Wind Limited ('the Applicant'), please find enclosed a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) planning application for the abovementioned proposed development in accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) ('the Act').

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The planning application seeks a 10-year planning permission for a proposed development generally described as follows:-

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4.0 Environmental Impact Assessment

A full Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been submitted with this planning application to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out by An Bord Pleanála.

The EIAR is presented as 2 no. volumes, which should be read in conjunction with each other, as follows:-

- **Volume I** comprises the main EIAR text and follows a 'grouped format' structure where each environmental factor is assessed and presented as a separate chapter. The EIA Directive prescribes the range of environmental factors which should be used to organise descriptions of the environment and likely environmental effects. These have been supplemented with additional environmental factors owing to the characteristics of the proposed development/project under assessment, as follows:-
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The NIS concludes that the proposed development will not, beyond reasonable scientific doubt, undermine the conservation objectives of any European site or adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 site either directly or indirectly.

6.0 Planning Application Documentation

This planning application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála under the

provisions of Section 182A the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Bord Pleanála has instructed the Applicant to notify Kilkenny County Council, as a prescribed body, of the lodgement of the planning application and to furnish you with a copy (or copies) of the planning application documentation. As requested, 2 no. hard copies and 1 no. digital/soft copy of the planning application documents have been provided.

In addition, all planning application and associated documentation is available to view at the dedicated website www.whitehillwindfarmsubstation.ie, which includes:-

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In accordance with the terms of the public notices, Kilkenny County Council shall make available a copy or copies of the planning application and accompanying documentation for inspection or purchase by the public for the duration of the currency of the planning application.

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Minister for the Environment, Climate & Communications
Tom Johnson House
Haddington Road
Dublin
D04 K7X4

18 March 2025

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Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage
c/o Development Applications Unit
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Newtown Road
Wexford
Y35 AP90

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Any submissions or observations from the Minister must be received by An Bord Pleanála no later than 5.30p.m. on 9 May 2025.

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This planning application is being lodged with An Bord Pleanála following a determination that the proposed development constitutes a SID.

Government policy recognises that onshore wind energy will continue to be the major contributor to Ireland's renewable electricity generation to 2030. As the purpose of the proposed development is to facilitate the connection of the permitted Seven Hills Wind Farm to the national electricity network, it will, in combination with the Seven Hills Wind Farm, make a substantial contribution to the achievement of Ireland's binding renewable energy generation and greenhouse gas abatement targets.

The EIAR and NIS submitted with this planning application provide a comprehensive assessment of the likelihood of significant adverse environmental effects arising as a result of the proposed development individually and in combination with other

existing, permitted and proposed developments. Overall, it is assessed that any likely adverse environmental effects resulting from the proposed development can be managed and mitigated and that there are lasting social and environmental benefits as a result of the proposed development.

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Yours sincerely,

Galetech Energy Services

Galetech Energy Services





Galetech Energy Services
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Transport Infrastructure Ireland
Parkgate Business Centre
Parkgate Street
Dublin 8
D08 DK10

18 March 2025

Our Ref: WHI001SS
Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Shankill and Ballygorteen, County Kilkenny; and Moanmore, Lackan and Baunreagh, County Carlow.

Re: (i) A 110 kilovolt (kV) 'loop-in/loop-out' Air-Insulated Switchgear (AIS) electricity substation, including 2 no. single-storey control buildings (with a total gross floor area of 622 square metres [m²]); transformers, busbars, insulators, circuit breakers, and lightning poles, within a secure compound (with a total footprint of approximately 10,600m²); (ii) 2 no. lattice-type interface masts, each of which will be 16m in height, and approximately 320m of underground electricity line between the electricity substation and the interface masts to facilitate connection of the electricity substation to the existing Kellis-Kilkenny 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; (iii) A new site entrance from the L66732 and approximately 1.1km of access track to facilitate access to the electricity substation and interface masts; (iv) The demolition of an existing agricultural shed (with a total gross floor area of 210m²) to accommodate the access track leading to the electricity substation; (v) The widening of the carriageway of the L66732 by approximately 1.5m over a distance of approximately 130m; (vi) An electrical control unit with a total gross floor area of 42m² located at the permitted White Hill Wind Farm (An Bord Pleanála Reference ABP-315365-22); (vii) A new site entrance from the L7117 and approximately 250m of access track to facilitate access to the electrical control unit; (viii) Approximately 8.8km of underground electricity line between the electricity substation and the electrical control unit to be installed within private lands and the carriageways of the L6673, L6738, L7117 and L71172 public roads; and, (ix) All associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works; including a temporary construction compound and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany this planning application.

1.0 Introduction

On behalf of our client, White Hill Wind Limited ('the Applicant'), please find enclosed details relating to a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) planning application for the abovementioned proposed development in accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) ('the Act').

2.0 Pre-Application Consultation

The Applicant entered into pre-application consultations with An Bord Pleanála ([Reference ABP-319391-24](#)) pursuant to Section 182E of the Act. On 29 October 2024, An Bord Pleanála served notice of its determination that the proposed development constitutes a SID and that a planning application for same must be made directly to it.

3.0 Description of the Proposed Development

The planning application seeks a 10-year planning permission for a proposed development generally described as follows:-

- i. A 110 kilovolt (kV) 'loop-in/loop-out' Air-Insulated Switchgear (AIS) electricity substation, including 2 no. single-storey control buildings (with a total gross floor area of 622 square metres [m²]); transformers, busbars, insulators, circuit breakers, and lightning poles, within a secure compound (with a total footprint of approximately 10,600m²);
- ii. 2 no. lattice-type interface masts, each of which will be 16m in height, and approximately 320m of underground electricity line between the electricity substation and the interface masts to facilitate connection of the electricity substation to the existing Kellis-Kilkenny 110kV overhead electricity transmission line;
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- ix. All associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works; including a temporary construction compound and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

4.0 Environmental Impact Assessment

A full Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been submitted with this planning application to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out by An Bord Pleanála.

The EIAR is presented as 2 no. volumes, which should be read in conjunction with each other, as follows:-

- **Volume I** comprises the main EIAR text and follows a 'grouped format' structure where each environmental factor is assessed and presented as a separate chapter. The EIA Directive prescribes the range of environmental factors which should be used to organise descriptions of the environment and likely environmental effects. These have been supplemented with additional environmental factors owing to the characteristics of the proposed development/project under assessment, as follows:-
 - Chapter 1: Introduction;
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5.0 Appropriate Assessment

Following the completion of a Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening Assessment, a full Natura Impact Statement (NIS) (Stage 2) has been prepared and submitted with this planning application. The NIS is presented as a separate, standalone document and submitted to inform a Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment to be carried out by An Bord Pleanála pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC and Bird Directive 2009/147/EC. The NIS addresses the entirety of the proposed development, including relevant cumulative, off-site, and secondary developments.

The NIS concludes that the proposed development will not, beyond reasonable scientific doubt, undermine the conservation objectives of any European site or adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 site either directly or indirectly.

6.0 Planning Application Documentation

This planning application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of Section 182A the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Bord Pleanála has instructed the Applicant to notify Transport Infrastructure Ireland, as a prescribed body, of the lodgement of the planning application and to furnish you with a copy (or copies) of the planning application documentation.

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You are advised that An Bord Pleanála may, in respect of an application for permission, decide to:-

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