

*List of Prescribed Bodies Notified of Ballynalacken Windfarm Project Application*

An Chomhairle Ealaíon

An Taisce

Commission for Regulation of Utilities

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Failte Ireland

Health Service Executive

Heritage Council

Inland Fisheries Ireland

Irish Aviation Authority

Laois County Council

Office of Public Works

Southern Regional Assembly

Transport Infrastructure Ireland

Sample Letter (over)

An Chomhairle Ealaíon  
70 Merrion Square  
Dublin 2  
D02 NY52

12<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**Re: Direct application to An Bord Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development – Ballynalacken Windfarm Project, County Kilkenny.**

A chara,

Please be advised that Ecopower Developments Limited on behalf of Rowanmere Limited, intends to apply to An Bord Pleanála for a 10-year permission for the construction a twelve-turbine windfarm on the Castlecomer Plateau, between the towns of Ballyragget and Castlecomer in north Kilkenny and just south of the County Laois border at Ballinakill. A 110kV Windfarm Substation is proposed for a location circa 4km to the west of the windfarm site at a lower elevation. It is proposed to connect the Substation to the National Grid at Eirgrid Ballyragget Substation. The grid connection electrical cabling will be undergrounded.

The proposed twelve wind turbines have a rotor diameter of 117m. Regarding hub heights, two hub heights are proposed – 84m for one of the turbines and 96.5m for all other eleven turbines, thus giving an uppermost tip height of 142.5m for one turbine and 155m for all other turbines. There will also be wind turbine associated works including foundations and hardstanding areas, windfarm roads and underground cabling within the site. Ancillary works to facilitate the development will include a windfarm control building, a 30m meteorological mast, an 18m telecoms relay pole, felling of circa 21 hectares of commercial forestry plantation, site drainage network and sediment control systems. A viewing/picnic area will be created at an existing viewpoint looking west just off the road at one of the site entrances, which will be provided with cultural and natural heritage and windfarm information boards.

The Planning Application, Environmental Impact Assessment Report and the Natura Impact Statement (Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment) may be inspected, free of charge, or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which fee shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such copy) **during public opening hours for a period of seven weeks commencing on 21st March 2025** at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Bord Pleanála 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 D01 V902;
- The Offices of Kilkenny County Council, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny R95 A39T.



The Planning Application, Environmental Impact Assessment Report and the Natura Impact Statement (Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment) may also be viewed/downloaded on the following website:

[www.ballynalackenwindfarmplanning.ie](http://www.ballynalackenwindfarmplanning.ie)

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála ('the Board') 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 D01 V902, in writing or online at [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie) during the above-mentioned period of seven weeks, relating to;

- The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development;
- The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development;
- The likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received by the Board not later than **5.30pm. on the 9th May 2025.**

The Board may in respect of an application for permission/approval, decide to:-

- Grant permission with or without conditions, or
- Grant permission with specified modifications, with or without conditions, or
- Grant permission in part, with or without conditions, or
- Refuse permission.

**A copy of the application documents is enclosed in CD format.** Please contact the undersigned at [pk@ecopower.ie](mailto:pk@ecopower.ie) if you need information on the layout of the CD.

Yours sincerely

Philomena Kenealy, Director Rowanmere Limited  
Ballynalacken Windfarm Project Manager Ecopower Developments Limited