

An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-008521-21
ABP-306863-20

The submissions on this file were considered at a Board meeting held on 14/06/2021.

The Board grant leave to apply for substitute consent, based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

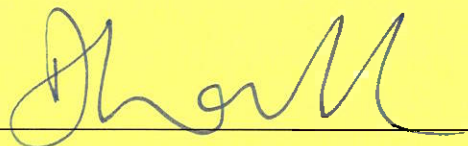
Having regard to the size and scale of the peat harvesting area which was carried out subsequent to 20th September 2012 and to the location of the Coole and Clonbeale Mor peatland site relative to the Middle Shannon Callows Special Protection Area (site code: 004096), the River Little Brosna Callows Special Protection Area (site code: 004086), the Dovegrove Callows Special Protection Area (site code: 004137), All Saints Bog Special Protection Area (site code: 004103) and Slieve Bloom Mountains Special Protection Area (site code: 004160), and to section 177D of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as inserted by section 57 of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010, the Board is satisfied that:

- (a) an environmental impact assessment and an appropriate assessment were required in respect of the development concerned, and
- (b) exceptional circumstances exist such that the Board considers it appropriate to permit the opportunity for regularisation of the development by permitting an application for substitute consent.

In this regard, the Board considered that –

- the regularisation of the development concerned would not circumvent the purpose and objectives of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive or the Habitats Directive;
- the applicant had or could reasonably have had a belief that the development was authorised;
- the ability to carry out an assessment of the environmental impacts of the development for the purpose of an environmental impact assessment or an appropriate assessment, and to provide for public participation in such an assessment, has not been substantially impaired;
- the actual or likely significant effects on the environment or adverse effects on the integrity of a European site, if any, resulting from the carrying out of the development, could likely be substantially remediated; and
- applicant has not otherwise carried out any unauthorised development.

Board Member:



Dave Walsh

Date: 14/06/2021