

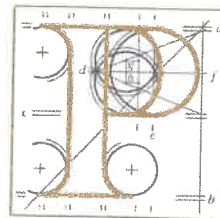
CORRESPONDENCE

**MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
ADARE-RATHKEALE**

SEPTEMBER, 2020

- Letters received on 27th July, 2020 and the 6th August, 2020 from the Executive Officer, An Bord Pleanála in relation to Foynes to Limerick Road (including the Adare Bypass) including all ancillary and consequential works. Shanagolden, Craggs, Askeaton West, Lismakeery, Nantian, Riddlestown, Rathkeale Rural, Rathkeale Urban, Dromard, Croagh, Adare North, Adare South, Clarina and Patrickswell Co. Limerick.

Our Case Number: ABP-306146-19



An
Bord
Pleanála

Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District of Limerick City and County Council
Áras Seán Finn
New Lane
Rathkeale
Co. Limerick



Date: 17th July 2020

Re: Foynes to Limerick Road (including the Adare Bypass) including all ancillary and consequential works.

Shanagolden, Craggs, Askeaton West, Lismakeery, Nantian, Riddlestown, Rathkeale Rural, Rathkeale Urban, Dromard, Croagh, Adare North, Adare South, Clarina and Patrickswell, Co. Limerick.

Dear Sir / Madam,

I have been asked by An Bord Pleanála to refer to the above-mentioned case.

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter which was issued to the Applicant by the Bord requesting further information, this letter is being forwarded to you for information purposes only.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter, please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Kieran Somers
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-873 7250

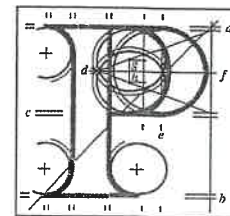
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Tim Fitzgerald
Limerick City and County Council
Corporate Headquarters
Merchants Quay
Limerick



Date: 15th July 2020

Re: Foynes to Limerick Road (including the Adare Bypass) including all ancillary and consequential works.

Shanagolden, Craggs, Askeaton West, Lismakeery, Nantian, Riddlestown, Rathkeale Rural, Rathkeale Urban, Dromard, Croagh, Adare North, Adare South, Clarina and Patrickswell, Co. Limerick.

Dear Sir,

I refer further to the above mentioned proposed road development.

Please be advised that the Board, in accordance with section 51(4) of the Roads Act 1993, as amended, hereby requires you to furnish the following additional information in relation to the likely effects on the environment of the proposed road development:

1. In section 8.2.4 of Chapter 8 (Soils and Geology) of the EIAR, the applicant makes reference to having carried out several site inspections along the length of the proposed road development in order to assist in the identification and assessment of the environmental impact on the geological environment. However, no records of these inspections could be found in the information received by the Board. In this regard, the applicant is requested to provide a **summary account** of the site inspection records undertaken in **key areas** that informed the environmental component of the ground/site investigations.
2. It is stated in section 8.3 of the EIAR that bedrock was generally encountered at depths varying between 0.3m and 6.5m. This is at variance with section 9.3.2 of the EIAR addressing 'Hydrogeology', which states that in Sections A to C, intrusive site investigations encountered moderately weak to strong Limestone and Mudstone at depths ranging between 0 – 17.1m below ground level. The applicant is requested to clarify and confirm the depths of bedrock encountered during the site investigations at representative locations along the proposed road development.

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3. It is stated in section 8.4.1.1 of the EIAR that the total volume of cut material would amount to approximately 3 million cubic metres, of which 1.9 million cubic metres would be rock. In light of the possible discrepancy regarding depth to rock (set out in item 2 of this request above) the applicant is requested to clarify and confirm the volumes of rock and various soil types that are estimated to be excavated and to address any additional resultant environmental effects, as necessary.
4. It is stated in section 8.3 of the EIAR that no karst surface depressions were observed within 2km of the proposed road development. This is at variance with the information provided in section 9.3.6 of the EIAR which lists a number of karst features encountered (including karst surface depressions associated with turloughs). The applicant is requested to clarify and confirm the extent of existing karst features within 2km of the proposed road development and to address any additional resultant environmental effects, as necessary.
5. It is stated in Section 8.3 of the EIAR that the geophysical surveys carried out revealed possible karst anomalies and that these anomalies were followed up by additional rotary boreholes. The applicant is requested to clearly identify the areas of karst anomalies on a standalone drawing.
6. The extent of dewatering required for the construction phase of the proposed road development is unclear. The applicant is requested to identify the locations where dewatering would occur, to confirm the extent of dewatering required and to address any environmental effects, as necessary. Impacts that could potentially arise as a result of dewatering on the Craggs- Barrigone and Croagh-Farrandonnelly group water schemes as key receptors should be identified and addressed.
7. It is noted that in section 8.4.1.7 of the EIAR, reference is made to soft ground which appears to focus on river alluvium and lake sediments in Blossomhill but their specific location (chainage) is not set out. Wet silts, fen peat and lake marl are also referenced throughout Chapter 9 (Hydrogeology) of the EIAR. The applicant is requested to confirm the location and extent of soft ground and to address any additional resultant environmental effects, as necessary.
8. It is stated in section 8.4.1.8 of the EIAR that it is unlikely that contaminated soils or waste deposits would be encountered within the footprint of the proposed road development and that the risk of encountering unforeseen contaminated materials is small. This is at variance with information contained in section 9.3.2 of Chapter 9 which refers to an area of potential contamination along the route of the proposed road development identified in the townland of Craggs, located 4km to the east of Foynes and of the possibility of also encountering made ground in urban areas. The applicant is requested to clarify and confirm whether or not contaminated and/or made ground is expected to be encountered including the nature and extent of such ground and to address any resultant environmental effects, as necessary.
9. Section 8.4.1.9 of the EIAR refers to the possibility of using borrow pits to partially offset the net import of material required. It is also stated that these borrow pits could be used for the deposition of unsuitable material. While it is acknowledged that the hydrology impacts associated with the borrow pits has been addressed in Chapter 10 (Hydrology) of the EIAR, the applicant is requested to identify the location of the proposed borrow pits and to address geological and hydrogeological impacts associated with use of borrow pits for deposition of unsuitable material.
10. Drawings associated with Chapter 10 of the EIAR show proposals for the use of cohesive non-permeable material to ensure that the road formation does not drain the wetland fen area. This aspect of the proposed road development is not discussed in the chapter. Similarly, drainage blankets are shown on drawings, but not discussed or described in Chapter 10. The applicant is requested to clarify and confirm where these materials are intended to be used on the proposed road development and to address the resultant environmental effects, as necessary.

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11. Notwithstanding the information provided in Chapter 13 (Air and Climate) of the EIAR, the applicant is required to provide further details on climate, specifically addressing the following:
- a) Provide an assessment of the **effects on the climate of greenhouse gas emissions** arising from the proposed road development during the design, construction and operation of the proposed road development over its lifetime. Key parameters used and outputs from the TII Carbon Assessment Tool referenced in Section 13.3.1.2 of the EIAR should be provided if this tool is being used as part of the assessment.
 - b) Provide an assessment of **the resilience of the development to climate change**, including how the proposed road development can be adapted to take account of the projected impacts of climate change on the design, construction and operation of the proposed road development over its lifetime.
12. The applicant is requested to demonstrate how the proposed road development would be compatible with the Climate Action Plan 2019, specifically the element of transport targets set out in 10.2 of the plan which seeks to 'reduce CO₂ eq. emissions from the transport sector by 45 – 50% relative to 2030 pre-NDP projections'.
13. In their submission, Inland Fisheries Ireland have confirmed records of Sea Lamprey in the River Maigue in the vicinity of Adare Manor. In order for the Board to have access to the best scientific information for the purpose of carrying out and completing an Appropriate Assessment the applicant is requested to provide a detailed assessment of the effects of the proposed road development and any mitigation measures designed to prevent adverse effects on Sea Lamprey in view of the species conservation objectives within the Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation (Site Code 002165) in view of the site's conservation objectives, including those relating to Sea Lamprey.
14. The applicant is requested to address the Inland Fisheries Ireland recommendation that the pre-construction works water sampling period should be extended to cover 12 months to capture seasonal variations in parameters.
15. In their submission, Irish Water notes that elements of the proposed road development, including the proposed crossing of the River Deel together with works in minor water courses discharging to the River Deel, have the potential to impact on Irish Water's drinking water source at the Foynes/ Shannon estuary public water supply abstraction point, which is located approximately 2.3km downstream of this proposed river crossing. Noting the requirement of the Water Framework Directive that waters used for the abstraction of drinking waters need to be protected so as to avoid deterioration in quality, the applicant is requested to provide details of measures which are proposed to protect Irish waters drinking water source during the construction and operation phases of the proposed road development.

Should the Board consider that additional information furnished in accordance with this request contains significant additional data in relation to the effects on the environment of the proposed road development it will, in accordance with section 51(4A) of the Roads Act 1993, as amended, require you to:

- (a) publish in one or more newspapers circulating in the area in which the proposed road development would take place a notice stating that significant additional information in relation to the said effects has been furnished to the Board, that the additional information will be available, for inspection or for purchase (on payment of a specified fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy), at a specified place and at specified times during a specified period, and that submissions or observations in relation to the additional information may be made in writing to the Board before a specified date, and

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(b) send notice of the furnishing to the Board of significant additional information, and a copy of the additional information, to the bodies and persons and the authority (where appropriate) referred to in section 51(3)(b) and (c) of the Roads Act 1993, as amended, and to indicate to such bodies and persons and the authority (where appropriate) that submissions or observations in relation to the additional information may be made in writing to the Board before a specified date.

Your response to this letter should be received **not later than 5.30 p.m. on the Wednesday 26th August 2020.**

In this regard, please submit 3 hard copies and one electronic copy of the above information.

If you have any queries in relation to this matter, please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully



Kieran Somers
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-873 7250

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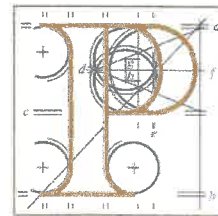
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Our Case Number: ABP-306146-19



An
Bord
Pleanála

Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District of Limerick City and County Council
Áras Seán Finn
New Lane
Rathkeale
Co. Limerick

Date: 4th August 2020

Re: Foynes to Limerick Road (including the Adare Bypass) including all ancillary and consequential works.

Shanagolden, Craggs, Askeaton West, Lismakeery, Nantian, Riddlestown, Rathkeale Rural, Rathkeale Urban, Dromard, Croagh, Adare North, Adare South, Clarina and Patrickswell, Co. Limerick.

Dear Sir / Madam,

I have been asked by An Bord Pleanála to refer to the above-mentioned case.

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter sent in relation to an extension of time for further information to the applicant. This letter is being forwarded to you for **information purposes only**.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

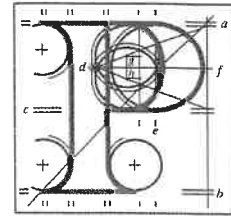
Jennifer Sherry
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737266



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Our Case Number: ABP-306146-19



An
Bord
Pleanála

Mr. Tim Fitzgerald, Senior Engineer
Limerick City and County Council
Corporate Headquarters
Merchants Quay
Limerick

Date: 4th August 2020

Re: Foynes to Limerick Road (including the Adare Bypass) including all ancillary and consequential works.

Shanagolden, Craggs, Askeaton West, Lismakeery, Nantian, Riddlestown, Rathkeale Rural, Rathkeale Urban, Dromard, Croagh, Adare North, Adare South, Clarina and Patrickswell, Co. Limerick.

Dear Sir,

I have been asked by An Bord Pleanála to refer further to the above mentioned proposed development and to your letter dated 28th July, 2020.

Please be advised that the Board can agree to an extension of the time period as requested by you in your letter.

Therefore, the further information requested in the Board's letter dated 15th July, 2020 should be received by the Board no later than 5.30 p.m. on the **30th September, 2020**.

In this regard, please submit 3 hard copies and one electronic copy of the information.


If you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

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Yours faithfully,


Jennifer Sherry
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737266

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