

To: Seamus Foley Senior Executive Engineer

From: Catriona Bambrick Executive Planner

Proposal: 177 AE Application proposal — Proposed N24 Carrick Road Improvement Scheme located near Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny

Re: Environmental Impact Assessment – Screening for Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

Planning Legislation:

Planning and Development Regulations 2001-as amended, Schedule 5, Part 1 and 2
European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018
Article 75 which amends Article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-as amended
Planning and Development Act 2000 – as amended

Characteristics of Project

Under this 177AE proposal, Kilkenny County Council are proposing to N24 Carrick Road Improvement Scheme located near Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny.

The proposed scheme is c. 2.2km in length and includes for

- Surface water drainage.
- Provision of 2no. attenuation pond, with 2m high palisade fencing, one on the western side of the scheme and other on the eastern side of the scheme.
- Provision of a construction compound at the location of the proposed eastern attenuation pond.
- Proposed realignment of the Skelpstown 16 stream which flows through the site (and associated Box Culvert).
- Provision of new combined road underbridge and cattle underpass at the location of the local road L7416, with track for cattle to gain access to underpass.
- Provision of 1.5m footpath as part of the underbridge at the location of the local road L7416.
- Provision of a timber post and tension mesh fences along much of the scheme length, as well as 2.5m wide shared surface/ footpath either side of the carriageway.
- Provision of agricultural access tracks and adjacent field access tracks.

Location

The proposed N24 Carrick Road Improvement Scheme is located near Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny. The proposed scheme is c. 2.2km in length. The purpose of the proposed scheme is to improve journey times and mainline speeds on the N24 Carrick Road. The provision of improved mainline speeds will maintain the existing collision rankings at below or twice below the national average rate. The scheme aims to improve safety, capacity and efficiency of the N24 by providing a suitable road alignment to meet current and future needs.

The scheme will provide for improved road based public transport journey time and complement wider government policy related to improved accessibility. It will also improve facilities for vulnerable road users and separation distances from vehicular traffic on the national road network. The scheme will also contribute to improved access and alleviate congestion and delays caused by the layout of the existing carriageway. The provision of cattle underpass will prevent significant queuing of the national road traffic. This will also maintain or reduce existing carbon dioxide and particulate emissions through a reduction in fuel consumption.

A screening report for EIAR was also submitted by the with this application and concluded based on the finding of EIA screening Assessment the proposed development does not require a mandatory EIAR and does not meet the criteria where a sub threshold EIA would be warranted.

Type and characteristics of potential impact

From assessing the documentation associated it is considered that the proposed development works are below sub threshold Part 2 activities and having regard to the environmental sensitivities of this area and the potential impacts based on the following environmental factors;

- Population and human health
- Biodiversity, with particular attention to special and habitats protected under the Birds and Habitats Directives
- Land, soil, water, air and the landscape
- Climate
- Interaction between above
- Expected effects from relevant major accidents and / or disasters

it is determined that there is no potential for likely significant effects on the environment. Accordingly, the project can be screened out and **no** Environmental Impact Assessment Report is required.

Conclusion

It is determined that based on the above preliminary examination, there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development works and therefore it is recommended that an Environmental Impact Assessment Report is not required for this 177AE proposal.

C. Bambrick 9/05/2022

**Catriona Bambrick,
Executive Planner,**

I agree with the above



12/05/'22

N. Louw

Senior Executive Planner