



Planning Department,  
Galway County Council,  
Prospect Hill,  
Galway,  
H91 H6KX.

Our Ref: 210603  
Your Ref:

20<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Re: Planning application for a peat restoration project at Derryclare and Cloonnacartan, Co. Galway**

Dear Sir/Madam,

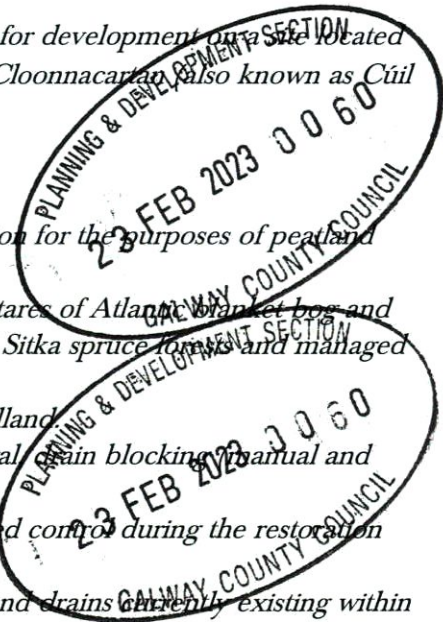
We are instructed by our client, Coillte Teoranta, to submit a planning application to Galway County Council. Please find enclosed 10 no. printed copies of the application documentation for your information.

The development description, as per the public notices, is as follows:

*'Coillte Teoranta (the applicant) seek a ten-year planning permission for development on a site located in the townlands of Derryclare (also known as Doire an Chláir) and Cloonnacartan (also known as Cúil na Ceártan), Co. Galway.*

*The proposed development will consist of the following:*

- i. *The felling/removal of some 343 hectares of conifer plantation for the purposes of peatland restoration and the establishment of native woodland.*
- ii. *Measures to restore and rehabilitate approximately 281 hectares of Atlantic blanket bog and heathland that is currently planted with lodgepole pine and Sitka spruce forests and managed for commercial forestry.*
- iii. *Conversion of 62 hectares of conifer forestry to native woodland.*
- iv. *Main peatland restoration measures will include tree removal (main blocking, manual and mechanical) and ground reprofiling.*
- v. *The control of existing invasive species on site and continued control during the restoration works to prevent their spread.*
- vi. *Drain-blocking all existing artificial drainage and artificial land drains currently existing within the peatland restoration areas in order to restore the high water table which is necessary for blanket bog growth*
- vii. *Provision of silt traps at outflows to block the pathway to the Twelve Bens/Garraun Complex Special Area of Conservation.*
- viii. *Deer fencing to protect 62 hectares of proposed native woodland*
- ix. *Provision of a Harvest Management Phasing Plan for the proposed project.*
- x. *Provision of new internal access road extending to 1.58 km*
- xi. *Across the site there will be 4 no. temporary water-crossings constructed in order to facilitate the harvesting of the timber at the site.*



MKO, Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland. H91 VW84

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- xii. *Provision of informational signage.*
- xiii. *Resurfacing of up to 8.23 km of existing forestry roads.*
- xiv. *Resurfacing of existing car park to facilitate public access.*
- xv. *Installation of water monitoring stations for real time water monitoring during operations.*
- xvi. *Cutting of roadside trees to improved sightline visibility at site entrance.*
- xvii. *The application is supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS).'*

## **Document Schedule**

### **Planning Application Documentation (MKO)**

1. Cover Letter
2. Confirmation of Payment of the Planning Fee via EFT (included in Appendix 1)
3. Completed Galway County Council Application Form signed and dated 17/02/2023
4. Statutory Notices:
  - a) Newspaper Notice published in the Connacht Tribune dated 17/02/2023
  - b) Site Notice as erected on site dated 16/02/2023

Statutory Notices have been provided as both English and Irish versions in light of the townland of Cloonnacartan being located in the Galway Gaeltacht Area.
5. EIA Portal Confirmation ID (included in Appendix 2)
6. Letter of Support from Interface
7. Planning Report prepared by MKO including the following appendices:
  - Appendix 1 - Wild Western Peatlands Stakeholder Information Document
  - Appendix 2 - Stakeholder Consultation Feedback
  - Appendix 3 - Stakeholder Update November 2022

### **Technical Reports**

1. Environmental Impact Assessment Report including the following chapters:
  - Chapter 1: Introduction (MKO)
  - Chapter 2: Background to the Proposed Development (MKO)
  - Chapter 3: Consideration of Reasonable Alternatives (MKO)
  - Chapter 4: Description of Proposed Development (MKO)
  - Chapter 5: Population and Human Health (MKO)
  - Chapter 6: Biodiversity (MKO)
  - Chapter 7: Land, Soils and Geology (Hydro-Environmental Services (HES))
  - Chapter 8: Hydrology and Hydrogeology (Hydro-Environmental Services (HES))
  - Chapter 9: Air and Climate (MKO)
  - Chapter 10: Noise and Vibration (MKO)
  - Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage (Tobar Archaeological Services)
  - Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual (MKO)
  - Chapter 13: Material Assets including Traffic and Transport (Alan Lipscombe traffic Consultants)
  - Chapter 14: Vulnerability to Major Accidents and Natural Disasters (MKO)
  - Chapter 15: Interaction of the Foregoing (MKO)
  - Chapter 16: Schedule of Mitigation (MKO)



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2. Natura Impact Statement prepared by MKO
3. Construction & Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) prepared by MKO.
4. Peat Stability Assessment prepared by Fehily Timoney and Company.

#### Drawings

- Planning Drawings prepared by MKO
- Drainage Drawings prepared by Hydro-Environmental Services (HES)

Please note that the submitted Site Location Map and Site Layout Key Plan are presented at a scale of 1:20,000 at A3, and Sheets 1 through 6 of the Site Layout Plan are presented at a scale of 1:2,500 at A1. This is as a result of the overall site area being large in size at 348 hectares. The scales as presented are considered appropriate in light of the size of the site.

#### Fee Calculation

The planning fee included with this application (€34,800) was calculated in accordance with Schedule 9, Section 2 – Scale of fees for planning applications. The planning application fee was calculated as follows:

Table 1: Fee Calculation

<b>SITE: Derryclare</b>			
<b>Planning Fee Calculation</b>			
<b>Fee Class</b>	<b>Basis of Calculation</b>	<b>No. Units/ Site Area</b>	<b>Fee Due</b>
Class 13 - Any other development	€80.00, or €10.00 for each 0.1 hectare of site area, whichever is the greater.	348 ha	€34,800.00
			<b>€34,800.00</b>

The fee for this application was confirmed by Robert Lydon, validation officer at Galway County Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 via email.

#### **Validation Note – Land Ownership**

As outlined on page 2 of the completed application form, the registered site owner, Coillte Cuideachta Ghníomhaíochta Ainmnithe, is the same entity as the applicant, Coillte Teoranta. The applicant is therefore a legal owner of the site.

#### Copies

Hard Copies:

- 10 no. hard copies of all documentation included.

USB Copies:

- 1 no. copy of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) on a USB (1 no. copy)



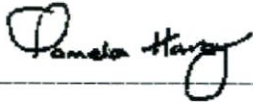
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We trust that the above application is of satisfaction to the council. We respectfully request that you issue confirmation of this letter. Should you require any further information or clarity on any of the items set out above do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,



Pamela Harty  
Project Director  
MKO

**Enclosures**

**Appendix 1:** Confirmation of Payment of Planning Fee

**Appendix 2:** EIA Portal Confirmation ID



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# Appendix 1

Confirmation of Payment of Planning Fee



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**Remittance Advice for Payment by EFT**

**Galway County Council**

County Buildings  
Prospect Hill,  
Co Galway.  
Galway

Supplier Number

**1587**

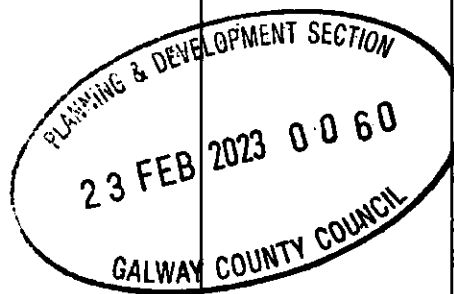
Date

**17/02/2023**

Page

**1/1**

DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT NUMBER	OUR REFERENCE	AMOUNT EUR	DISCOUNT EUR	PAYABLE EUR
13/02/2023	F1 210603 Derryclare Planning Fee	15232785	34,800.00	0.00	34,800.00
			<b>34,800.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>34,800.00</b>
					<b>34,800.00</b>



**ACCOUNT DETAILS:**

BIC

**[REDACTED]**

IBAN

**[REDACTED]**

ACCOUNT NAME

Galway County Council

# Appendix 2

EIA Portal Confirmation ID



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## Orla McCafferty

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**From:** Housing Eiaportal <EIAportal@housing.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** 14 February 2023 12:20  
**To:** Aideen Gough  
**Subject:** EIA Portal Confirmation Notice Portal ID 2023024

Dear Aideen,

An EIA Portal notification was received on 14/02/2023 in respect of this proposed application. The information provided has been uploaded to the EIA Portal on 14/02/2023 under EIA Portal ID number 2023024 and is available to view at <http://housinggovie.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d7d5a3d48f104ecbb206e7e5f84b71f1>.

**Portal ID:** 2023024

**Competent Authority:** Galway County Council

**Applicant Name:** Coillte Teoranta

**Location:** Townlands of Derryclare and Cloonnacartan, County Galway.

**Description:** Peatland restoration project. Please find the complete development description attached to this form.

**Linear Development:** No

**Date Uploaded to Portal:** 14/02/2023

Regards

Hugh Wogan,

EIA Portal team

—  
**An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta**  
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

**Teach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 W6X0**  
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—  
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