

PROTEST:
Edel Grace
objected to
proposed
Tipperary
wind farm



farm had gone ahead it would have meant that there were 16 killing machines of hen harriers in a bird sanctuary.

'That would have been terrible. The fact that the county council had said No to Keeper Hill turbines, the Department of Heritage said No, An Bord Pleanála's own inspectors said No to Keeper Hill and even an ordinary person like me, who makes teddy bears, knew this wasn't the right decision.

'So for An Bord Pleanála to have granted planning permission is mind boggling.'

The ESB's proposed wind farm was to have been located in a section of a 20,935 hectare woodland and bog designated as a specially protected area for hen harriers.

Up to 41.7 hectares of trees would have been cut down to make room for the 16 wind turbines and up to nine hectares currently used by hen harriers for foraging would have been permanently destroyed.

The Supreme Court referred the case to the European Court of

Justice because it had a question about whether specially protected environmental areas must be protected in their entirety.

This weekend, the ESB said it would need to study the judgment before deciding the ultimate fate of

'An Bord Pleanála's decision mind-boggling'

the proposed wind farm, which was to have been run by Coillte.

In a statement issued to the Irish Mail on Sunday, a spokesman said: 'ESB Wind Development Limited and Coillte note the decision of the Court of Justice of the European Union in relation to the planning process for the proposed Bunkmalta wind farm.

'We will study the judgment carefully and assess the implications for the project.'

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