

Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

Proposed Flagford - Louth 220 kV Line Refurbishment: Counties Louth, Meath, Monaghan, Cavan, Longford, Leitrim, Roscommon.

In accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended ('The Regulations'), EirGrid has undertaken Appropriate Assessment screening to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of relevant European sites, if the proposed Flagford - Louth 220 kV Line Refurbishment project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects would be likely to have a significant effect (s) on a European Site(s). In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Sites listed below:

- Annaghmore Lough (Roscommon) SAC (site code 1626);
- Lough Forbes Complex SAC (site code 1818);
- Cloneen Bog SAC (site code 2348);
- Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC (site code 7);
- River Boyne and Blackwater SAC (site code 2299);
- Kilconny Bog (Cloghbally) SAC (site code 6);
- Dundalk Bay SAC (site code 455);
- Carlingford Mountain SAC (site code 453);
- Ballykenny-Fisherstown SPA (site code 4101);
- Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA (site code 4016);
- Lough Sheelin SPA (site code 4065);
- Lough Oughter Complex SPA (site code 40409);
- River Boyne and Blackwater SPA (site code 4232);
- Stabannan-Braganstown SPA (site code 4091); and,
- Dundalk Bay SPA (site code 4026).

In accordance with Regulation 42(7) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 SI 477 as amended, EirGrid has made a determination following screening that an Appropriate Assessment is not required as the proposed development individually or in combination with other plans or projects is not likely to have a significant effect on any European sites. The risk of likely significant effects on European sites can be excluded on the basis of objective evidence.

This determination is based on the location, scale, extent and duration of the proposed development, including temporary works, and this determination has not taken account of measures intended to avoid or reduce significant effects on European sites.

Signed:

3 December 2019

Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Senior Ecologist