



Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

Proposed Distributed Series Reactors, Flagford-Sliabh Bawn 110 kV line (Co. 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 (AA) screening to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of relevant European sites, if the proposed project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects would be likely to have a significant effect (s) on a European Site(s).

The project does not overlap or adjoin any European sites. This AA Screening determination had regard for more distant European sites of potential relevance including the Annaghmore Lough (Roscommon) Special Area of Conservation (Site code 1626)¹ located c. 8 km to the west of the proposed project.

This project comprises installation of 150 no. Distributed Series Reactor (DSR) units on 26 no. existing 110 kV structures on the existing Flagford to Sliabh Bawn 110 kV line (6 no. per tower or 3 no. per poleset). DSRs are small devices (c.100 kg weight) attached to the conductors of existing lines by Mobile Elevated Working platforms, either side of transmission line structures. There are no earthworks required for the installation. The result is more optimal use of existing transmission assets (e.g. by effectively diverting power flow onto under-utilised lines).

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. The determination has not taken account of measures intended to avoid or reduce significant effects on European sites.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "RF", is positioned above a horizontal line.

31 January 2020

Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Senior Ecologist

¹ NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives: Annaghmore Lough (Roscommon) SAC 001626. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.