



Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

CP1103 Proposed Transformer Bay and Associated Works in Existing 220 kV/110 kV Corduff Station (County Dublin):

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 Corduff Station Transformer Bay ('the proposed development') individually or in combination with other plans or projects would be likely to have a significant effect (s) on a European site(s).

The proposed development relates to the installation of a 110 kV transformer bay and cable sealing ends apparatus and new 110 kV Underground Cable (~300 m) at the existing Corduff 220 kV/110 kV Electrical Substation. The scope of the works shall occur wholly within the substation compound.

The proposed development is not located within or near any European site; the closest such site is the Malahide Estuary Special Area of Conservation (SAC; site code 2051), although the complex of European sites in Dublin Bay are similarly distant.

This determination has had regard for these and any other relevant European sites.

Specifically, the proposed development will require:

- Require no vegetation removal as all works are located on hardstanding within the existing Corduff substation.
- Require no instream works.
- Require localised pouring of concrete for concrete plinths for switchgear, wholly within the fenceline of the existing substation; and,
- Comprise construction works estimated to take 7 weeks.

In the context of in-combination effects, the proposed development is required to facilitate a new customer connection into the existing substation, for a new 75 MWe (megawatts electrical) of flexible thermal generation (the proposed FlexGen development) to be developed (pending planning permission) by ESB Networks on greenfield lands immediately south of the existing Corduff substation.

The Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Report for the proposed FlexGen development were reviewed in the course of preparing this AA Screening determination. The AA Screening Report identified there would be no likely significant effects on European sites from the proposed FlexGen development, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. The EIAR Screening Report concluded there would be no EIA Report required to accompany the planning application anticipated to Fingal County Council in 2020.

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

¹ NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Malahide Estuary SAC 000205. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Appropriate Assessment is not required as the project individually or in combination with other plans or projects² 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 has not taken account of measures intended to avoid or reduce significant effects on European sites.

Signed:



Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

14 May 2020