



## Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

### **LC0102 Proposed Line Alteration to facilitate construction of N51 Dunmoe Phase 2 Road Project (County Meath):**

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 Line Alteration on the existing Gorman-Platin 110 kV overhead line ('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 consists of installing 1 No. 110 kV wooden poleset (18 m height) adjacent to the existing wooden poleset No. 13 (15 m height to conductor). The existing poleset No. 13 will be removed, and the ground re-instated.

The proposed development is not located within or near any European site; the closest such site is the River Boyne and Blackwater Special Area of Conservation (SAC; site code 2299)<sup>1</sup> located c. 0.8 km from the proposed development. The River Boyne and Blackwater Special Protection Area<sup>2</sup> (SPA; site code 3232) is located c. 0.85 km from the proposed development. This determination has had regard for these and any other relevant European sites.

The proposed development will be estimated to take three days. There will be no instream works required for the proposed development. Works to remove the existing poleset and install the replacement poleset will take place on dry farmland adjacent the existing N51 between Slane and Beaufort Place.

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

Signed:

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Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

15 June 2020

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<sup>1</sup>NPWS (2020) Conservation objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC [002299]. Generic Version 7.0. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

<sup>2</sup> NPWS (2020) Conservation objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA [004232]. Generic Version 7.0. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.