



## Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

### **CP1130 Alteration to the Transformer Bay, underground cables and associated electrical infrastructure at Derrycarney 110 kV Station (County Offaly):**

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 alterations of the transformer bay, underground cables and associated electrical infrastructure at Derrycarney 110 kV Station ('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 is located within, and adjacent to the existing 110 kV Derrycarney substation, Co. Offaly.

The proposed development is not located within or near any European site; the closest such sites are the Middle Shannon Callows Special Protection Area<sup>1</sup> (SPA; site code 4096) and River Shannon Callows Special Area of Conservation<sup>2</sup> (SAC; site code 216), both located c. 10.5 km to the west of the proposed development site. This determination has had regard for these and any other relevant European sites.

The proposed development is estimated to take 26 weeks, and is located on existing hardstanding, primarily within the fenceline of the existing 110 kV Derrycarney substation.

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:

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

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Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

8 December 2020

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<sup>1</sup>NPWS (2020) Conservation objectives for Middle Shannon Callows SPA [004096]. Generic Version 7.0. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

<sup>2</sup>NPWS (2020) Conservation objectives for River Shannon Callows SAC [000216]. Generic Version 7.0. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.