



Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

CP1121 Great Island Lodgewood & Arklow Lodgewood Tower Painting & Miscellaneous works (Counties Wicklow and Wexford)[Exempted Development]

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 Great Island Lodgewood & Arklow Lodgewood Tower Painting & Miscellaneous works ('the 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 development¹ consists of:

- Maintenance works to the Great Island-Lodgewood 220 kV overhead line (Counties Wicklow and Wexford), and;
- Maintenance works to the Arklow to Lodgewood 220 kV overhead line (County Wicklow).
- Refurbishment works entirely within the Arklow and Lodgewood 220 kV Stations

The Arklow to Lodgewood 220 kV overhead line oversails the Slaney River Valley Special Area of Conservation (SAC; site code 000781²) at a single location. However the nearest structure to this SAC (or any or other European site) at which intrusive works is required, separated from the European site boundary by c. 0.1 km.

The Great Island-Lodgewood 220 kV overhead line also oversails the Slaney River Valley SAC, at two locations. The nearest structure to this SAC (or any or other European site), at which intrusive works is required, is separated from the European site boundary by a minimum of 0.025 km (25 m).

There will be no works within European sites required as part of the development.

There are no other European sites crossed by, or near to the development. This determination has had regard for these and any other relevant European sites.

The development will be estimated to take 12 weeks. There will be no instream works required for the development. There will no new polesets, or poleset replacements. Localized concrete pouring (only) will be required for capping and raising of existing shearblocks.

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 development, including temporary works, and has not taken account of measures intended to avoid or reduce significant effects on European sites.

Signed:

¹ As set out in documentation including Arklow – Lodgewood 220 kV Line Line Condition Assessment (ESBN, 2018) and Great Island – Lodgewood 220 kV Line Line Condition Assessment (ESBN, 2018)

² NPWS (2011) Conservation Objectives: Slaney River Valley SAC 000781. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

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