

Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

CP0096 Proposed Line Alteration (Raffeen-Trabeg No. 2 110 kV) (County Cork).

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 Raffeen-Trabeg No. 2 110 kV 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:

- Installation of 1 No. Suspension Poleset No. 7 (Relocate and increase the height of Poleset No. 7).
- Retirement of existing Poleset No. 7 (Strain Poleset); and,
- Installation of duplicate suspension insulators on Polesets No.7, No. 18 and 19 to satisfy policy

This will eliminate the conflict and ensure the continued safe operation of the 110 kV OHL Infrastructure and satisfy ESB's relevant 110 kV electrical safety clearances.

The proposed development is not located within or near any European site; the closest such site is the Cork Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA; site code 4030)¹. This determination has had regard for these and any other relevant European sites.

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:

Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

26 May 2021

¹ NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives: Cork Harbour SPA 004030. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.