



Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

CP0823 Maynooth-Turlough Hill 220 kV Line Refurbishment [Exempted Development] (Counties Kidare and Wicklow).

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 Maynooth-Turlough Hill [Exempted Development ('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 refurbishment development consists of:

- Foundation strengthening at six no. locations; and,
- Remedial works to shearblocks throughout.

There are no new towers or tower replacements required. There are no works within or adjacent to European sites. The nearest European sites are the Poulaphouca Reservoir Special Protection Area (SPA; site code 4063;)¹, and The Wicklow Mountains Special Area of Conservation (site code 2122)². 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:

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

Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

27 May 2021

¹NPWS (2020) Conservation objectives for Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA [004063]. Generic Version 7.0. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

² NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives: Wicklow Mountains SAC 002122. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs