



Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

CP1229: Lislea 110kV Station - Drumlin Wind Farm [Exempted Development]] (Counties Cavan and Monaghan)

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 Lislea 110kV Station - Drumlin Wind Farm [Exempted Development]] (Counties Cavan and Monaghan) ('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).

Development Description

The development consists of:

- Works at Shankill 110 kV station including replacement of a circuit breaker and protection relays
- the wrapping of conductor from structures 1-195 on the Shankill – Lisdrum 110 kV OHL;
- the replacement of structures 1-49 only on the Shankill – Lisdrum 110 kV OHL;

Analysis of Pathways to European sites

The nearest European site to the proposed works is the Lough Oughter and associated loughs Special Area of Conservation located 8.8 km at its nearest point.

The nearest intrusive works to any European site (i.e. requiring removal of vegetation; namely replacement of poleset 106) is located 25 km distant, from the Killoosky Lough Clusters SAC (site code 1786)¹.

All works within the existing 110 kV Shankill station is on made ground entirely within the existing fenceline, requiring no vegetation removal, located c. 9.5km from the nearest European site (Lough Oughter and associated loughs SAC; (site code 0007)²).

The AA Screening assessment has reviewed the nature and scale of the works against hydrological connectivity and excluded the risk of downstream surface water impacts. The development is not located within the catchment of any Freshwater Pearl Mussels *Margaritifera margaritifera*, which are the Qualifying Interests of any European sites.

The risk of ex-situ impacts to the Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests roosting, foraging, or nesting away from European sites has also been excluded, following analysis of known and potential habitats for mobile bird and other animal populations. There is no increase to bird strike risk from the development, given no change to alignment, or shield wiring on the existing overhead line.

AA Screening Statement

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

¹ NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives: Killoosky Lough Cluster SAC 001786. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

² NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives: Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC 000007. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

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:



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12 July 2022