



## Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

### CP1132 Proposed Cow Cross New 110 kV Transformer Bay (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 Cow Cross New 110 kV Transformer Bay ('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 a new 110 kV transformer bay, bus zone protection scheme, and installation of overhead transformer connections.

The proposed development is not located within or near any European site; the closest such sites are the Great Island Channel Special Area of Conservation (SAC; site code 1058<sup>1</sup>) and Cork Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA; site code 4030<sup>2</sup>); both are located c. 1.8 km from the proposed development. This determination has had regard for these and any other relevant European sites.

There will be no instream works required for the proposed development. All works will be contained within the boundary of the existing Cow Cross 110 kV 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:

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Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

28 August 2020

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<sup>1</sup> NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives: Great Island Channel SAC 001058. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

<sup>2</sup> NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives: Cork Harbour SPA 004030. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.