



## Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

### **CP1172 Site Investigations on existing 110 kV Crane-Wexford overhead line [Exempted Development] (County Wexford).**

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 Site Investigations on existing 110 kV Crane-Wexford overhead line [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 development consists of:

- Drone survey/climbing patrol (would require outage) for tower to be retained to assess steel condition;
- Intrusive Foundation Investigations at 1 no. location (EM1) to see if it can be retained (Type 39 tower); and,
- Dynamic probing at 2 no. locations (EM1, EM117).

The proposed development is not located within or near any European site; the closest such site is the Slaney River Valley Special Area of Conservation located c. 40 m from the proposed development (SAC; site code 781<sup>1</sup>). 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 written above a horizontal line.

Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

21 July 2021

<sup>1</sup> NPWS (2011) Conservation Objectives: Slaney River Valley SAC 000781. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht..