



## Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

### **CP1227 Cashla and Connected Stations Protection Upgrade [Exempted Development] (Counties Galway, Clare).**

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 Cashla and Connected Stations Protection Upgrade [Exempted Development] ('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).

The scope of the works shall occur wholly within the compounds of the Cashla, Prospect and Ennis substations. The development will consist of works for the purpose of renewing and altering protection equipment on the Cashla - Prospect 220 kV Circuit and Cashla - Ennis 110 kV Circuit

The development is not located within or adjacent any European sites. The nearest European sites to the development are the Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (site code 2165)<sup>1</sup> and the River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries Special Protection Area (SPA) (site code 4077)<sup>2</sup>, both located c. 0.8 km from Prospect station. This determination has had regard for the conservation objectives of 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 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.

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Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

07 March 2022

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<sup>1</sup> NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives: Lower River Shannon SAC 002165. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

<sup>2</sup> NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives: River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA 004077. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.