



## **EirGrid commences new round of public consultation on Grid West project**

- ***Five open days from 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> July across counties Mayo, Roscommon & Leitrim***
- ***Feedback from the public to form part of analysis of both underground and overhead route options to be reviewed by Independent Expert Panel before the project progresses***

**30<sup>TH</sup> June 2014.** The Grid West project is EirGrid's plan to develop a new high capacity power connection, linking north Mayo to a strong point on the national grid. In January 2014, EirGrid announced that it would undertake a comprehensive analysis of an underground route for the Grid West project. This analysis will be route specific and will be completed to the same level of detail as the overhead line option.

EirGrid's analysis of the underground and overhead options will be reviewed by the Independent Expert Panel appointed by the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources to provide reassurance to the public that all options are being looked at in a fair, objective and comparable way. Work on both options is being advanced in line with the terms of reference set by the Panel.

On Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2014 EirGrid announced details of an emerging preferred underground option (underground option) for the Grid West project from north Mayo to Flagford, Co. Roscommon. The underground option runs mainly along local and regional roads and was developed in consultation with local authorities in Mayo, Roscommon and Galway, as well as the National Roads Authority and other relevant agencies.

The Grid West Project Manager, Sean Meagher said *"Since the launch of the project in May 2012, we have welcomed and listened to feedback from the general public and all interested parties. We have now announced details of our work in developing an underground option for the Grid West project.*

*"At the upcoming open days the project team will present the work done to date and be available to answer any questions people may have. We will also be consulting on proposed localised changes to the overhead route corridor at both ends, which arise from feedback received in our last round of consultation.*

*"We would ask people to attend the open days early in the day where possible. We anticipate significant interest in this round of open days and wish to accommodate as many as possible who want to find out information about this important stage in the project."*

Further information, including a detailed map of the underground option is available on <http://www.eirgridprojects.com/projects/gridwest/projectactivity/>

## ENDS

### Notes to editor

#### How to participate in the Grid West public consultation process

The open days will take place at the following locations between 1pm and 8pm:

- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July - Moygownagh Community Hall, Moygownagh, Co. Mayo
- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July - BMW Assembly, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July – the Landmark Hotel, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim
- Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July – the Gateway Hotel, Swinford, Co. Mayo
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July - the Mayfly Hotel, Foxford, Co. Mayo

You can contact the project team or provide feedback through the following channels:

- **Telephone:** Lo-call 1890 94 08 02
- **Email:** [gridwest@eirgrid.com](mailto:gridwest@eirgrid.com)
- **Website:** [www.eirgridprojects.com/projects/gridwest](http://www.eirgridprojects.com/projects/gridwest)
- **Letter:** Grid West project office, EirGrid, PO Box 12226, Dublin 4
- **Visit a Grid West Information Centre in:**

**Ballina**, Bury Central, Bury Street, Ballina, Co. Mayo (open Monday and Tuesday – 10 am to 6pm – except bank holidays).

**Ballaghaderreen**, The Square, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon (open Wednesday and Thursday – 10 am to 6pm).

**Castlebar**, Lincenhall Street, Castlebar Co. Mayo (by appointment – call 1890 940 802).

#### For further information:

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