



West Galway 110/38 kV Electricity Substation Project

GRID25
DELIVERING IRELAND'S ELECTRICITY FUTURE

Stage 1
Project Briefing Document



West Galway 110/38 kV Electricity Substation Project

What is the West Galway 110 / 38 kV Substation Project?

The West Galway 110kV Project is part of the Grid25 strategy, which is a programme to upgrade Ireland's electricity transmission grid. The project calls for a new 110/38 kV electricity substation to allow renewable generation to connect to the electricity transmission grid.

Why is this needed?

There is a significant amount of renewable generation seeking connection in West Galway. The current transmission network configuration is not capable of accommodating the connection of this amount of renewable generation.

The development of the renewable energy sector in Ireland is an important element in driving future national job creation and is a key platform for economic recovery.

The project will increase security of energy supply to the region and enable Galway to be a net exporter of renewable energy.

What is required?

The project calls for a new 110/38 kV electrical substation. This substation will connect into the permitted¹ 110 kV distribution line which will run from Salthill to Screeb, Co. Galway.

Timelines

It is expected that a the planning application will be submitted to the Strategic Infrastructure Board of An Bord Pleanála under the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 in early Autumn 2012. This act was introduced to provide a means for applying directly to An Bord Pleanála when projects are deemed to be of strategic importance to the State.

¹ Planning Permission Granted December 2009





Kylemore Abbey, Co. Galway

Your views are important to us we welcome all suggestions and queries

Please study the maps on this document and tell us your views. All correspondence will be dealt with confidentially. Several key criteria & inputs were taken into account by specialist consultants to assess the study area and proposed site locations:

CRITERIA

Visual Impact: A detailed assessment of the visual impact of the proposed project on the environment was carried out in order to minimise the impact.

Community: An assessment of local villages and communities was undertaken to reduce the proximity of the new 110 kV station and ensure minimal impact.

Ecology: A detailed review of conservation designated areas, including Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Area (SPAs) and Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) was completed.

Cultural Heritage: Architectural and archaeological heritage sites, including recorded archaeological monuments and places, protected structures, and national monuments, were assessed in detail to minimise any impact.

Landscape: A detailed assessment of the local landscape was undertaken in order to record scenic views, scenic routes and vulnerable landscapes in the area

Geology: An appropriate analysis of Soil, subsoil and bedrock will be carried out to determine

significant types and potential impact on the project.

Water: The surface water features were reviewed and considered when planning for the project.

INPUTS

Public Consultation: The identification of the study area and the consultants preferred site location will include consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees and the general public.

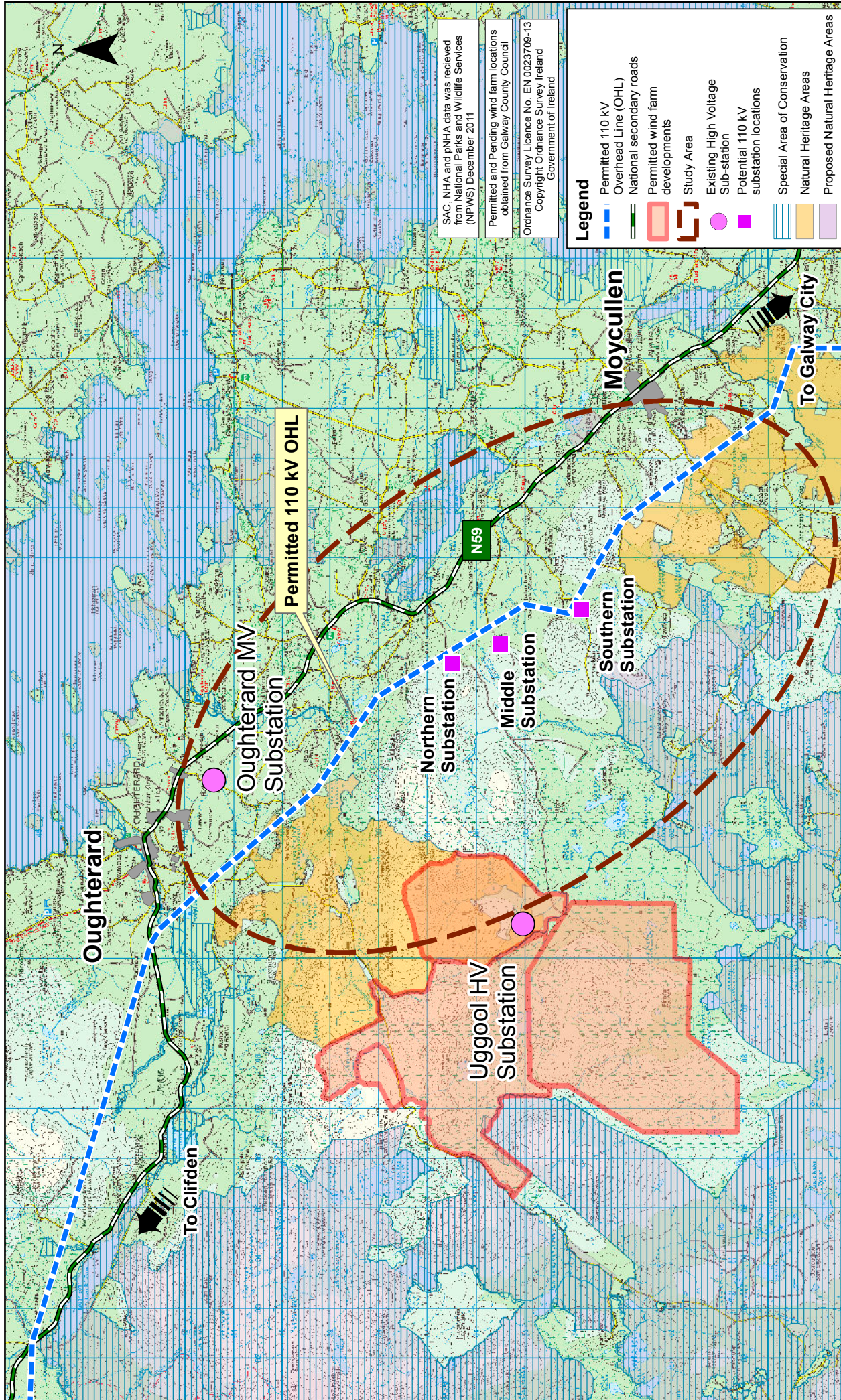
OSI Mapping: OSI Mapping under licence was obtained to identify possible constraints.

Local History: Every effort has been made to identify and grant due recognition and protection to any sites discovered.

Site visit: Frequent site visits were made by the project team to get a full appreciation of all identified constraints and the general appreciation of the topography/landscape of the study area.

Environmental Assessment: An Environmental assessment has been carried out as part of the consultants Stage One report.

West Galway 110/38 kV Substation Project Study Area



SAC, NHA and pNHA data was received from National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS) December 2011

Permitted and Pending wind farm locations obtained from Galway County Council

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- Legend**
- Permitted 110 kV Overhead Line (OHL)
 - National secondary roads
 - Permitted wind farm developments
 - Study Area
 - Existing High Voltage Sub-station
 - Potential 110 kV substation locations
 - Special Area of Conservation
 - Natural Heritage Areas
 - Proposed Natural Heritage Areas

APPROVED BY	B.A	23/02/2012
VERIFIED BY	B.A	
PRODUCED BY	C.F	NO. OF SHEETS
DRAWN BY	C.F	SHEET SIZE
CLIENT REF.		SCALE
MAP REFERENCE		1:70,000

Figure 5.1

Client	EIRGRID
Project	110 kV Substation
Title	LOCATIONS MAP
Production Unit	Spatial Planning

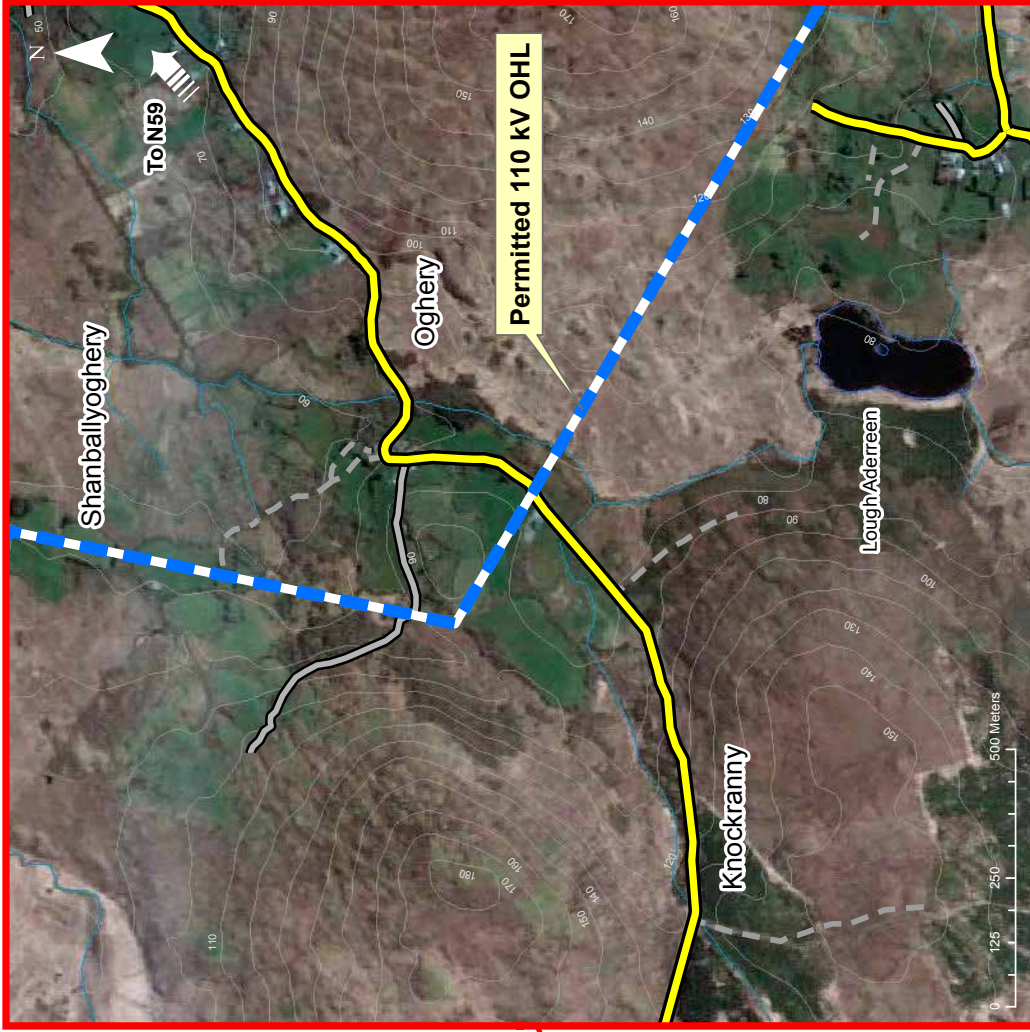
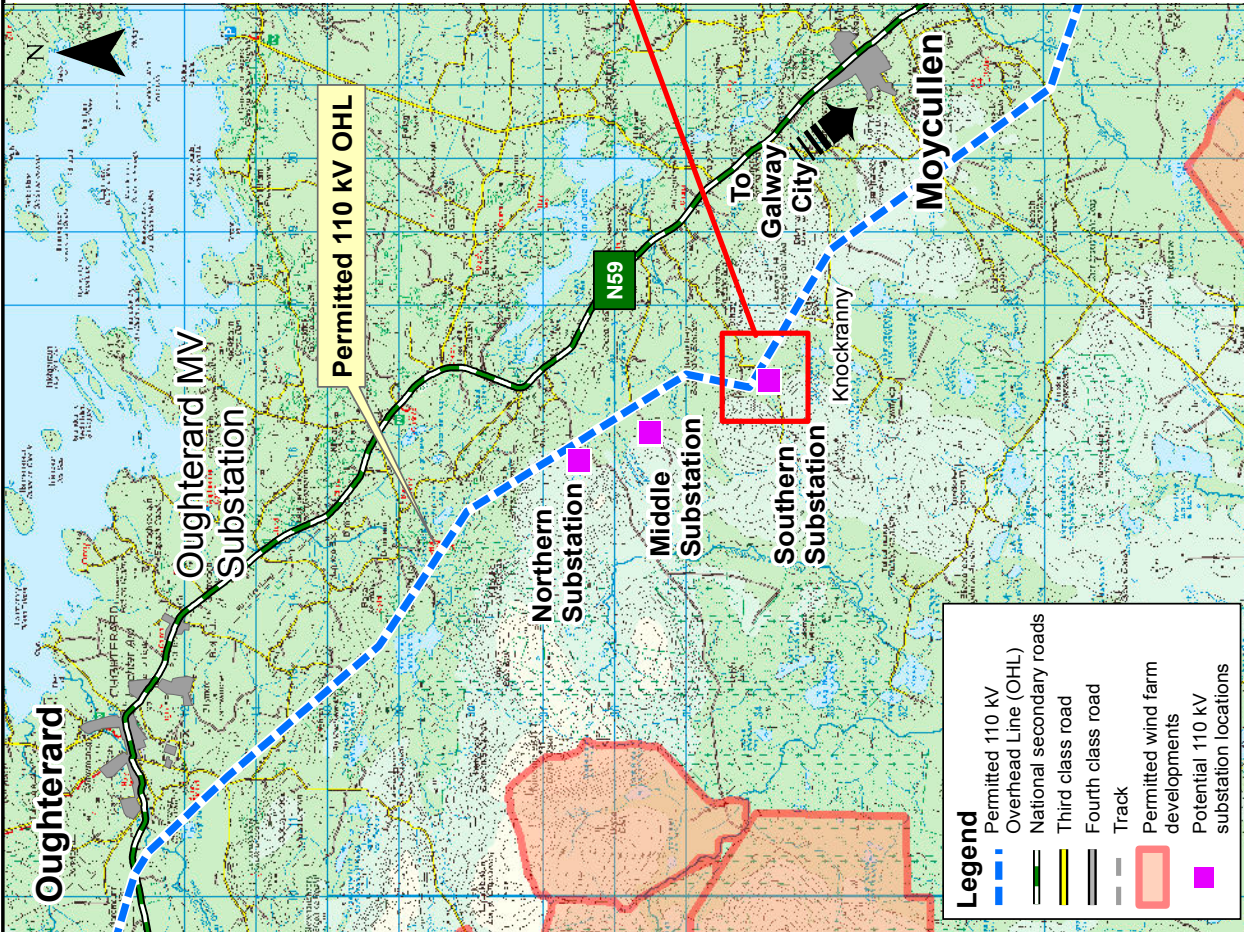
Client	EIRGRID
Project	110 kV Substation

International
EirGrid Energy Innovation

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West Galway 110/38 kV Possible Site Locations



Client EIRGRID

Project 110 kV Substation

International ESB Energy Innovation

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Title SOUTHERN LOCATION MAP

Production Unit Spatial Planning

DRAWN BY	C.F.	PRODUCED BY	C.F.	VERIFIED BY	B.A.	APPROVED BY	B.A.	APPROVED DATE	23/02/2012
CLIENT REF.		NO. OF SHEETS		SHEET SIZE		SCALE			1:70,000
MAP REFERENCE									

Figure 6.1

Permitted and Pending wind farm locations obtained from Galway County Council
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Planning Application Key Phases

STAGE 1

Project Development & Consultation Road Map

You are Here





Feedback

Name

Address

Telephone

Email

West Galway 110 / 38 kV Substation Project
EirGrid plc,
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160 Shelbourne Road
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4

What are your views?





About EirGrid

EirGrid is the state-owned independent electricity Transmission System Operator and Market Operator in Ireland. EirGrid's role is to operate, plan and develop the grid to provide customers throughout the country with a safe, secure, reliable, economic and efficient supply of electricity.

The national grid is an interconnected network of high voltage power lines and cables, comparable to the motorways, dual carriage ways and main roads of the national road network. It is operated at three voltage levels; 400 kV, 220 kV and 110 kV and is approximately 6,400km in overall length.

It is the backbone of Ireland's power system and is vital to ensuring that all customers; industrial, commercial and residential from both rural and urban areas to cities, have a safe secure, reliable, economic and efficient electricity supply.

What is Grid25?

Grid25 is a major initiative to put in place a safe, secure and affordable electricity supply throughout Ireland, supporting economic growth and utilising our renewable energy resource to its maximum potential.

Development of the grid is essential to provide a platform for renewed economic growth and regional development, and is vital if we are to effectively tap into our abundant renewable energy resources.

Grid25 will involve upgrading the high voltage system and an overall investment of approximately €2 billion in the period up to 2025. This new infrastructure is every bit as essential to the future growth of the country as any investments in road, rail and broadband.

Contact Details

EirGrid is committed to ensuring that all members of the public are fully aware of the project and encourage you to participate in public consultation. If you would like to discuss the project or to meet with a member of the project team, please contact our website for regular updates.

West Galway 110 kV Project

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