

GRID25

Grid25 is EirGrid's strategy for the development of Ireland's transmission grid for a sustainable and competitive future. This strategy will support economic growth and job creation, provide a reliable supply of electricity for all consumers, provide the infrastructure to enable Ireland to realise its renewable potential and achieve the challenging 2020 target of having 40% of our electricity generated from renewable sources.

The Grid will be developed in all regions of the country, North, South, East and West. This development will help all regions operate on a level playing field to attract new industries which will create jobs and boost existing industry. Work is continuing on many different Grid25 projects with highlights and achievements for the quarter outlined below.

GRID25 PROGRAMME MILESTONES ACHIEVED

The tables below show recent milestones achieved:

Recent Capital Approvals

• South East Reinforcement Scheme	June 2011
• Ikerrin Thurles 110kV line uprate	June 2011
• Corduff Ryebrook 110kV line uprate	May 2011

Recent Planning Lodgements

• Moneypoint 400/220/110kV station redevelopment	June 2011
• Cathaleen's Fall Srananagh No.1 110kV line mod	May 2011
• Navan 110kV station busbar uprate	May 2011

Recent Project Agreements

• Mullingar capacitor bank	June 2011
• Knockraha 220kV station busbar uprate	May 2011
• Cullenagh Knockraha 220kV line uprate	April 2011
• Arklow Crane 110kV line uprate	April 2011
• Corderry 110kV station busbar uprate	April 2011
• Athlone 110kV station busbar uprate	April 2011
• Dunmanway Macroom 110kV line uprate	April 2011
• Limerick Monteen 110kV line uprate	April 2011

Recent Energisations*

• Doon 110kV station busbar uprate	June 2011
• Killonan 4th 220/110kV transformer (250MVA)	June 2011
• Athy 110kV line loop-in	June 2011
• Cauteen 110kV station	June 2011
• Cahir Doon 110kV line uprate – busbar uprate in Cahir	April 2011
• Lisdrum 2nd capacitor bank	April 2011
• Lodgewood 220kV project - Crane - Lodgewood new 110kV line	April 2011
• Kilbarry 110kV station refurbishment	April 2011

* Please note that the energisation of a project, or an element of a project, does not imply that all works of a particular project are complete.



ENERGY MINISTER VISITS EIRGRID

The Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources Pat Rabbitte, TD recently paid a visit to EirGrid to meet with the Chairperson, Chief Executive and Senior Executives to discuss current issues. While there, he visited the National Control Centre to see how demand and generation is balanced.

Recently, Minister Rabbitte expressed strong support for Grid25, in an address to the industry conference, Energy Ireland. Speaking at the conference in June, he stated: "It is essential that, together, we identify the best energy solutions for this country which enhance security of supply, reduce our dependence on imported fossil fuels, reduce our carbon footprint and, of course, minimise costs for all consumers."

"The Government fully endorses the strategic national importance of investing in Ireland's electricity transmission infrastructure. EirGrid's national grid development strategy, Grid25, is of key importance. Development of the high voltage electricity grid is critical to economic recovery, security of supply, competitiveness and the realisation of our renewable electricity targets."



Chief Executive Dermot Byrne, Minister Pat Rabbitte, TD and Chairperson Bernie Gray.

LODGEWOOD 220KV STATION ENERGISATION



Seán Mythen, President of Wexford Chambers of Commerce and Cathoirleach of Wexford County Council Michael Kinsella being shown the ropes by Andrew Cooke, Director of Grid Development and Commercial, EirGrid.

With works recently completed on the Lodgewood 220kV station near Ferns, Wexford, EirGrid and ESB took the opportunity to introduce the substation to members of the press, local business people and public representatives in May 2011.

Cathoirleach of Wexford County Council, Mr. Michael Kinsella (FG) unveiled a plaque at the substation before being shown inside where the use of innovative new telecoms technology will produce new efficiencies in managing the substation.

TRANSMISSION ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE (TEM)

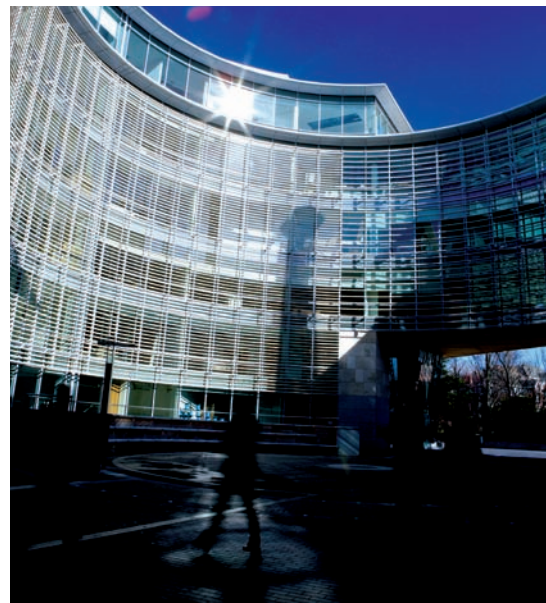
Capital Approval for the GIS rebuild of Ardnacrusha 110kV station was achieved in June 2011, and on the construction side the commissioning of Glanagow 220kV GIS station has commenced. The construction of the Gorman-Navan No.3 110kV line is progressing well and it is planned that the station elements of this project will be commissioned in September 2011.

EVIDENCE-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

EirGrid has just appointed RPS Group to carry out evidence-based environmental studies of existing grid infrastructure. The evidence based environmental studies will comprise a suite of scientific studies designed to examine the actual effects of existing transmission infrastructure on the environment.

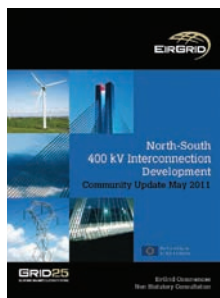
Topics to be covered include ecology, geology, soil and water, landscape and visual, cultural heritage and human population. The need for the evidence based studies arose from the process of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Grid25 Implementation Programme. In short, they will provide actual evidence of environmental impact, to inform the design of future projects, and to support planning applications and oral hearings.

The studies are part of a wider process of the integration of environmental best practice into EirGrid planning of future transmission projects and will inform future guidance in terms of planning and design.



EirGrid Headquarters, Dublin.

GRID25 PROJECT UPDATES



North South 400kV Interconnection Development

The Preliminary Re-evaluation Report for the North South 400kV Interconnection Development was published on 9th May 2011. This date also marks the start of a 10 week non-statutory consultation period, and is an opportunity for all interested stakeholders to provide feedback on the indicative project solution, before EirGrid submits a fresh application for planning approval to An Bord Pleanála.

The Preliminary Re-evaluation Report is available on www.eirgrid.com or by contacting the project team.

Finglas 110kV Station Redevelopment

Planning permission was recently granted for a new 40 bay gas insulated switchgear (GIS) station in Finglas. This new GIS station is a €60 million investment in the transmission system in North Dublin and is a vital part of securing the region's electricity supply into the future.

As part of the planning application the consultants prepared a photomontage of the new GIS station, at the request of Fingal County Council, which can be seen on the right. Construction is scheduled for 2012 and energisation is scheduled for 2014.



CAPITAL APPROVAL GRANTED FOR SOUTH EAST REINFORCEMENT PROJECT



Pictured are: (L-R) Arthur Moynihan, Kieran French, Colm MacOireachtaigh, Mario Duarte, Louis Fisher, John Lowry, Ken McDonnell. Not pictured: Peter Lantry, Tomás Mahony, Des Cox, Maeve Flynn, Gael Gibson, David Martin and Ciara Feehely.

Capital Approval to proceed with the South East Reinforcement Project was granted by the EirGrid Board on 15th June 2011. The project is driven by the need to connect 1,630MW of Gate 3 renewable generation in the south, south east and south west, to facilitate future interconnection, to facilitate the

connection of thermal generation in the south and cater for long term demand growth in the region. The proposed development represents a significant investment in the south east of the country.

The major element of the scheme is a 400kV circuit between Co. Cork and Co. Kildare via Wexford.

Now that project approval has been obtained EirGrid will commence the Phase 2 pre-application project development process.

Consultation with the public will continue throughout this process in line with EirGrid's Project Development and Consultation Road Map.

The achievement of capital approval represents the culmination of significant analyses and Phase 1 project management activities that were undertaken by members of a large cross functional team.

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF TRANSMISSION SYSTEM OPERATORS FOR ELECTRICITY (ENTSO-E)

Aidan Corcoran, Grid25 Programme Manager, was recently elected as the Convenor of the ENTSO-E working group Asset Implementation and Management (AIM) providing an opportunity for EirGrid to contribute to and influence policy in this area and continuing EirGrid's vision of being an authoritative voice in the industry.



Kevin O'Brien DCENR, Joe O'Mahoney, Managing Director NIE and Andrew Cooke, Director GDC.

EIRGRID HOLDS 2ND NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER FORUM

EirGrid held its second National Stakeholder Forum in Dublin on 27th May 2011 which was attended by 47 CEOs and Senior Executives from the energy, environment and business sectors. The group was addressed by Chairperson Bernie Gray, Chief Executive, Dermot Byrne, GDC Director Andrew Cooke and Grid25 Programme Manager Aidan Corcoran. This was followed by a lively and engaging forum which was facilitated by Peter Cassells.

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