



Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

Replacement of T2101 at Knockraha 220 kV Station [Exempted Development] (County Cork)

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 Replacement of T2101 at Knockraha 220 kV Station ('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 development consists of works for the purpose of removing the existing transformer (T2101) and replacing with a new transformer at Knockraha 220 kV Station and associated works for that purpose.

The development is not located within or near any European site; the closest such sites are the Cork Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA; site code 4030)¹, and the Great Island Channel Special Area of Conservation (SAC; site code 1058)² both located c. 4.8 the development site). This determination has had regard for these and all other European sites as relevant.

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 written over a horizontal line.

Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

6 January 2022

¹NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives: Cork Harbour SPA 004030. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

² NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives: Great Island Channel SAC 001058. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.