# Transmission Network Optimisation

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EirGrid Customer Conference
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### **Overview**

- Context: TSO, Grid Development and Grid 25
- Transmission Network Optimisation
- Grid25 Delivery
  - Constructed
  - In construction
  - Being developed







### **EirGrid**

- TSO, licensed by Commission for Energy Regulation
- Semi-state Company
- Operates the real-time system keeps the lights on!
- Plans and develops the transmission grid
- Connects renewable and conventional generators
- Manages the day-to-day operations of the market



### **Grid Development Imperatives?**

(intel)

- 40% renewable Government target
- Reduce our reliance on imported fuels
- Interconnection with Europe
- Competitive Electricity Market
- Long term demand growth for electricity
- Platform for economic growth and competitiveness – jobs!
- Regional Growth





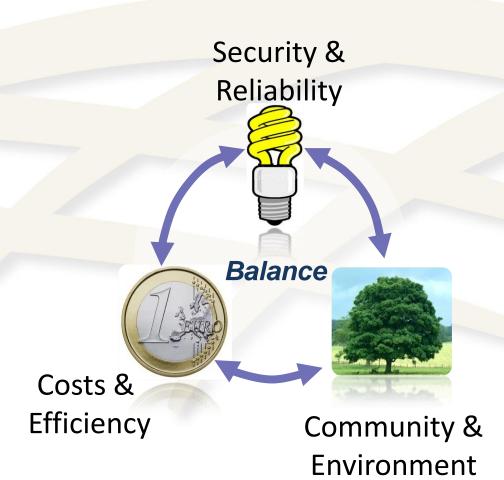




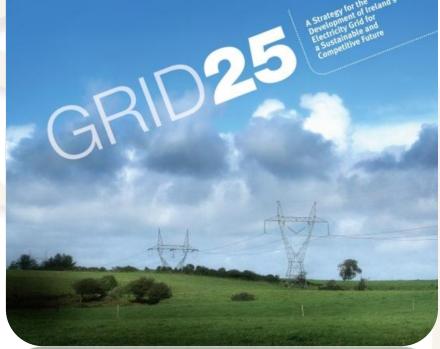




### GRID25

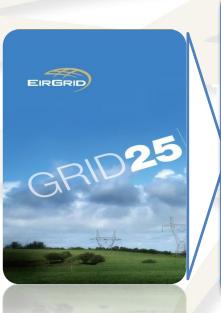


- Support energy policies
- Facilitate economic growth
- Connect generation
- Increase interconnectivity





### 3 Phases of Project Life Cycle



#### Phase 1

Technical and economic studies to prove need and to identify preferred solution

#### Phase 2

Information
gathering and
consultation to
identify preferred
site / route and
get planning
permissions

#### Phase 3

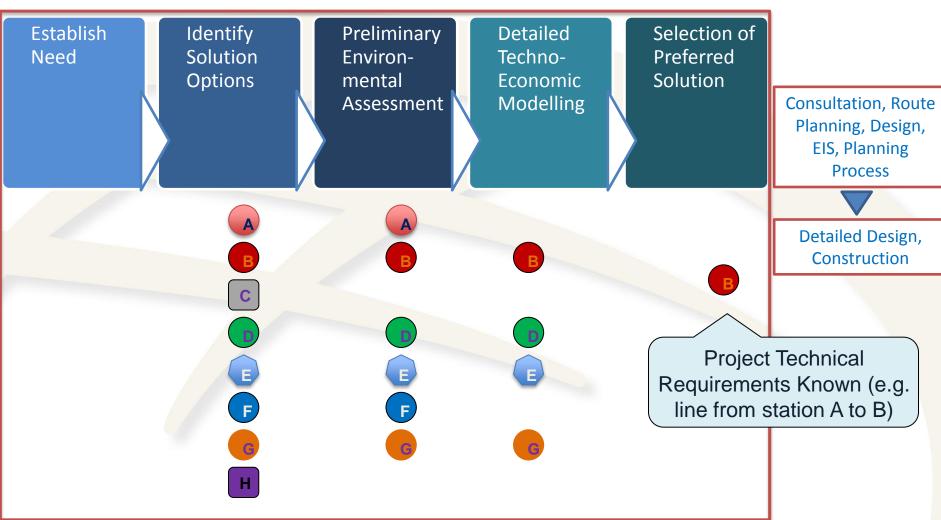
Detailed
Design &
Construction







### **Internal Project Approval Process**









### **Reduction in Grid25 Costs**

- Economic down-turn has eased urgency on some "demand-led" projects
- Cost-Benefit analysis
- New Technologies High Temperature Low Sag conductor

#### **Scale of Development**

- More than 300 Projects
- 3.2 €billion investment
- 2,400 km uprating
- 1,000 km new build









### **Grid25 Progress**

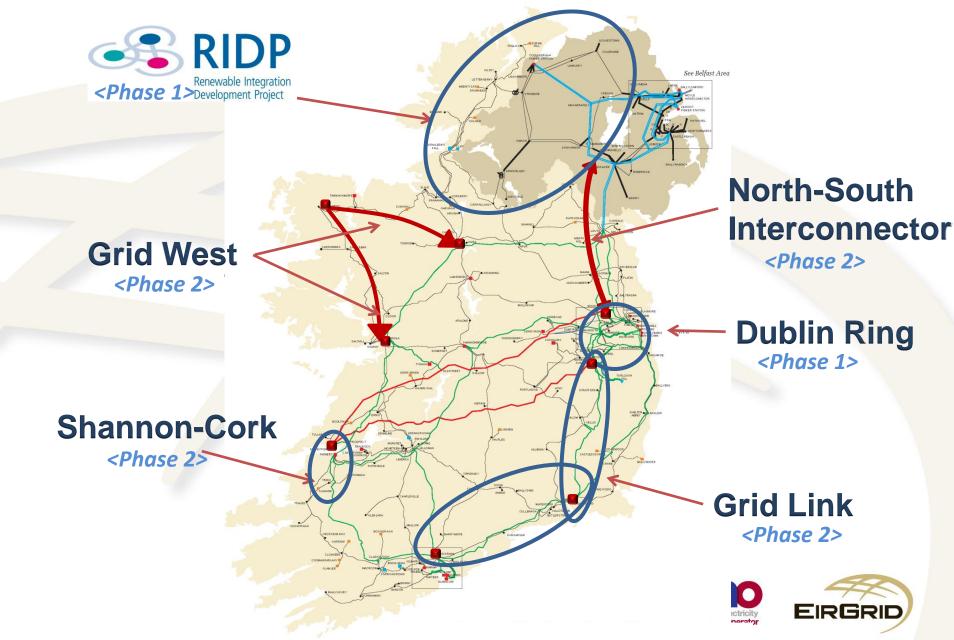
- 150 km of new circuit completed
- 300 km of existing network uprated
- Plan to uprate 300 km p.a. going forward
- Over 300 km of new build with planning consent and in construction
- 14 major high voltage stations in development





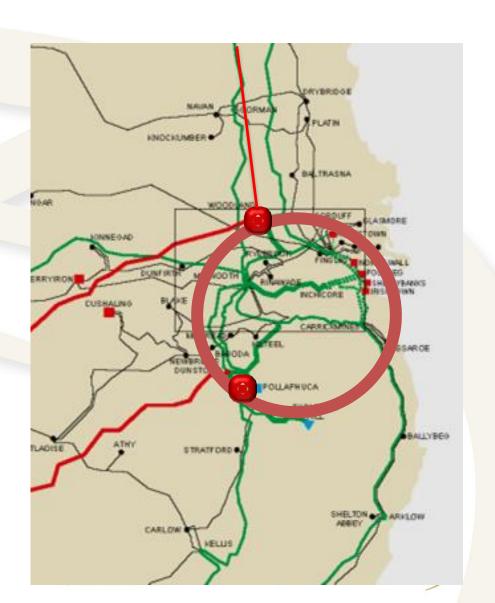


### **Grid25 Major Backbone Projects**



### **Phase 1 - Dublin Ring**

- Long-term strategy is for "ring" around Dublin
  - To secure supplies to Dublin
  - To avoid large flows through Dublin
- Currently re-examining timing in light of down-turn



### Phase 2 -"Grid Link": Cork to Dunstown

 400 kV circuit between South and East

Optimised solution to meet a broad range of needs

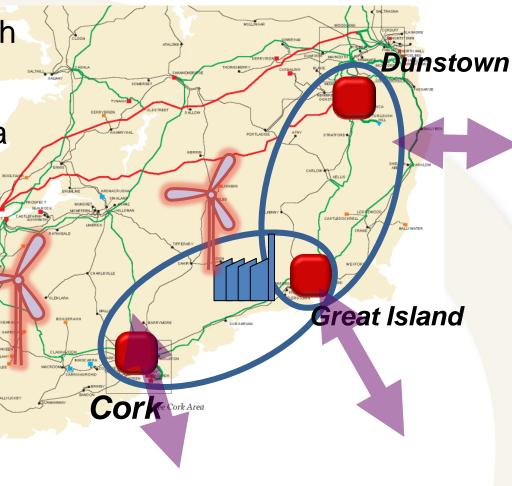
Facilitates:

flows from renewable generation

future interconnection

efficient use of new/ future
 thermal plant in the south

 economic growth in the south and east

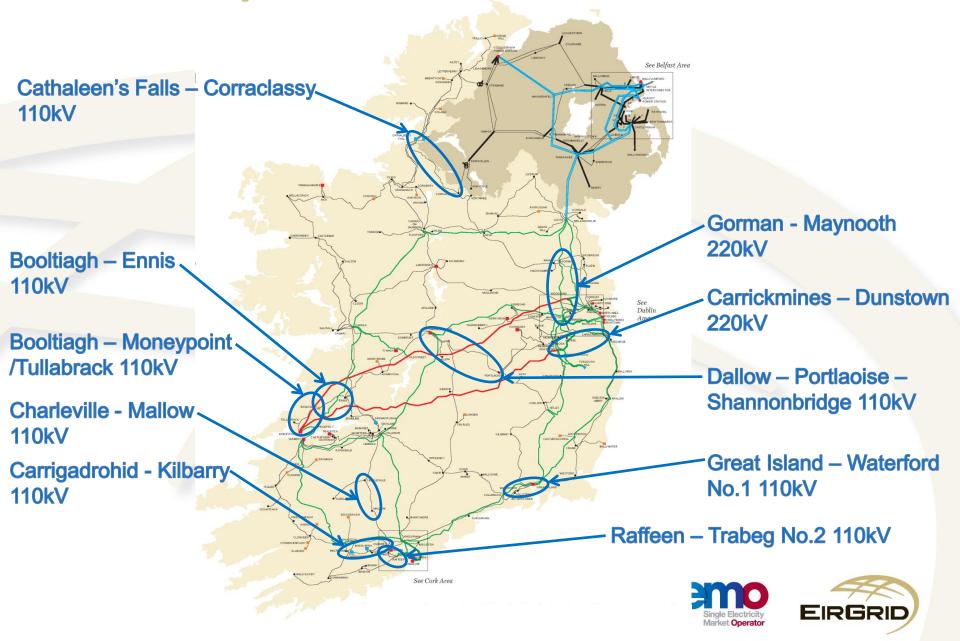




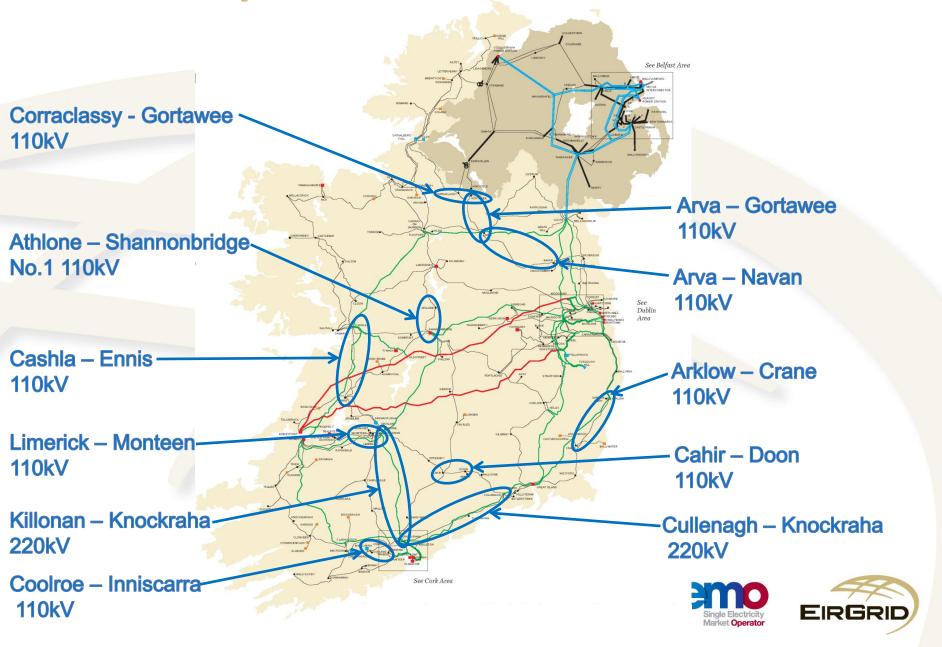




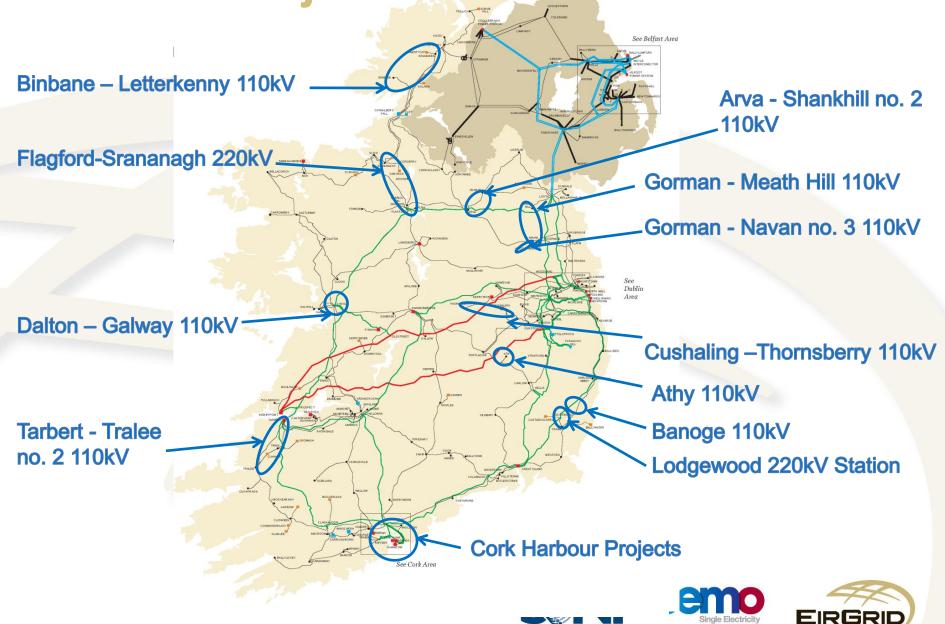
### Circuit Uprates & Refurbishments 2010



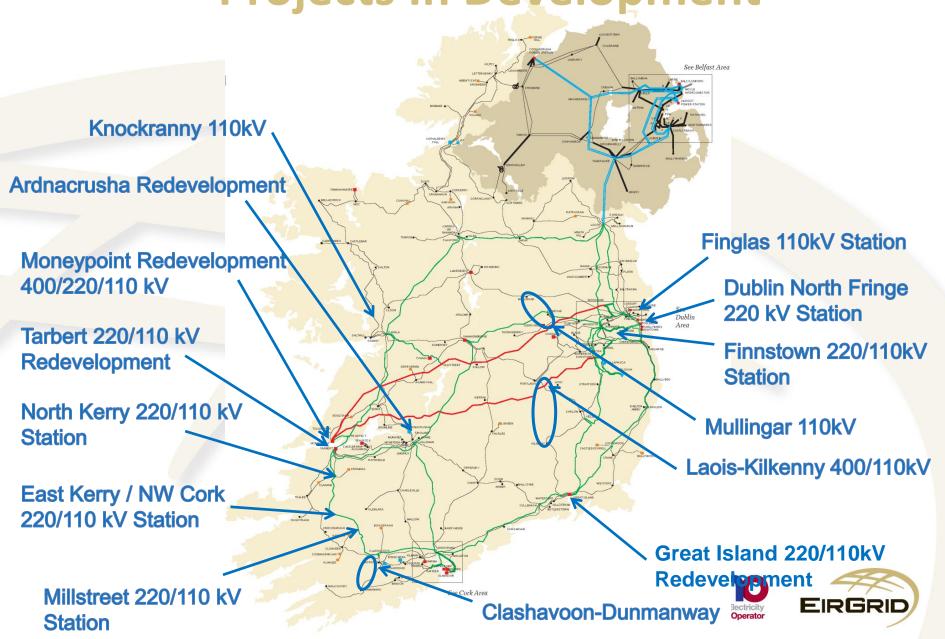
### Circuit Uprates & Refurbishments 2011



**Projects: Construction** 



**Projects In Development** 



### **Summary**

- Projects are developed and optimised according to a rigorous process
- Significant progress made on major Grid25 projects
- EirGrid flexing its plans to best meet changing circumstances
- Value for money a key factor









### **BACKUP SLIDES**









#### Project Development & Consultation Road Map



#### Information Gathering

Identify Project Study Area

Identify environmental & other constraints

Identify feasible options (corridor/sites)

Publication of Stage 1 Report



## STAGE 2

#### **Evaluate Options**

Construction of all feedback from **Stage 1** 

Identification of emerging preferred option (route corridor/site)

Identification of indicative line within corridor or site boundary

Identify & meet landowners of indicative line/site; for initial survey

Publication of Stage 2 Report

#### You are Here



#### Confirm Design

Construction of all feedback from **Stage 2** 

Conduct environmental studies and surveys

Confirmation of design of line/site proposal

Ongoing engagement with landowners on preferred line route or site



## STAGE 4

#### Prepare Planning Application

Complete reports and prepare planning application

Preparation of EIS/Environmental Impact Stement (as required)

Submit application to Planning Authority/ An Bord Pleanála.



#### Planning Permission/Approval Granted

Preparation of construction plans

Serve Wayleave notice to landowners & agree access for construction

Commence construction



#### **Public**

Public and stakeholder consultation on study area and constraints

Public and stakeholder consultation on finding of Stage 1 Report

Pre-application consultation with ABP

#### Public

Public and stakeholder consultation on findings of Stage 2 Report

Pre-application consultation with ABP

#### Public

Ongoing public information

Pre-application consultation with ABP

#### **Public**

Ongoing public information

Conclusion of Pre-application consultation with ABP

Public can make submissions to Planning Authority/ An Bord Pleanála once application submitted

#### **Public**

Ongoing public information

Evaluation of Public Consultation process

You are Here







### **Assessment of Options**

#### Technical merit

- Does the option resolve the technical problems identified (thermal loading, voltage, short circuit levels, stability)?
- Does it comply with all aspects of the transmission planning criteria for a range of plausible scenarios?

#### Economic analysis

- For each option what savings result from reduced constraints and losses?
- Do these savings exceed the initial capital and ongoing maintenance costs of the investment?







### **Assessment of Options**

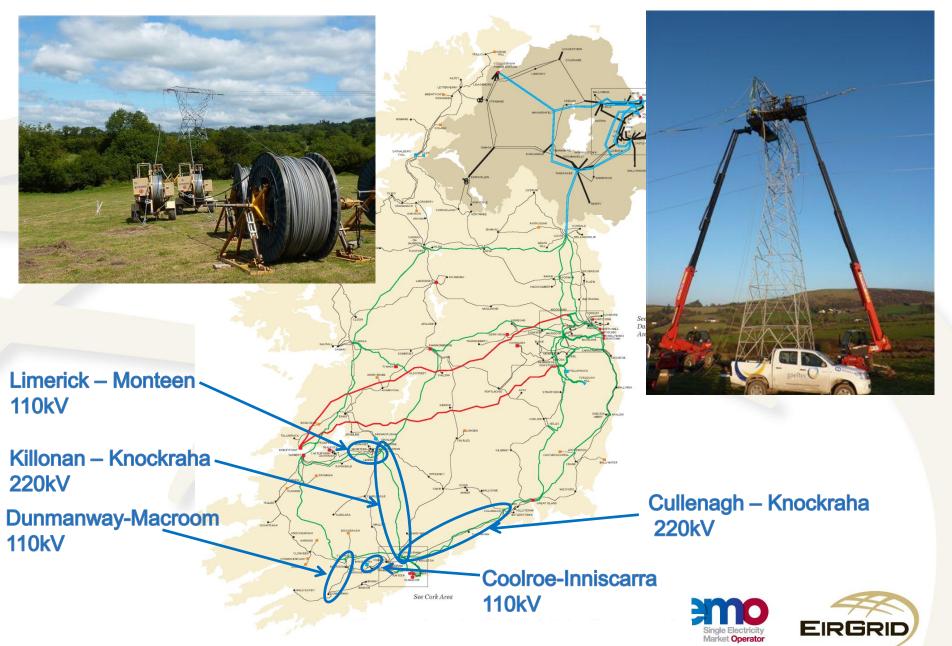
- Environmental Evaluation
  - Is there an available route for a circuit between stations?
  - Can a suitable site be found for a station in the study area?
- Flexibility
  - What are the likely future expansion requirements?
  - Can the plant be easily maintained and operated?
- Strategic
  - Can the option resolve multiple issues?
  - Does the option provide other benefits?
    - Security of supply
    - Meeting government's policies



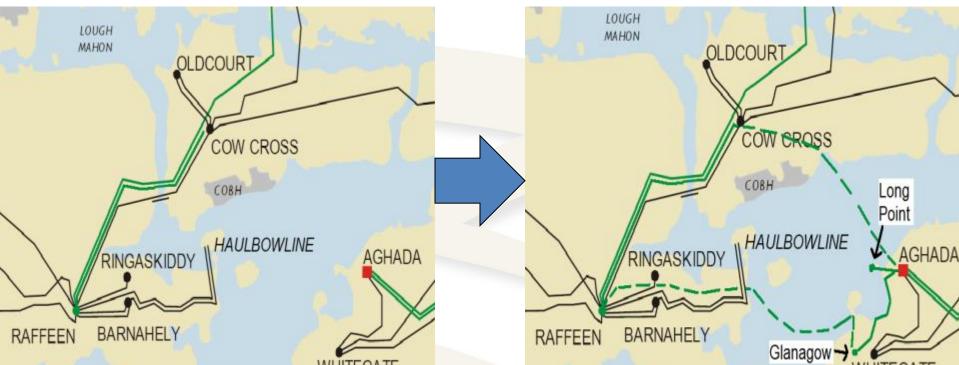




#### **HTLS INSTALLATIONS**



## Connection of 876MW & reinforcement of network



Connection of ESB Generating Plant July 2008 – Jan 2009

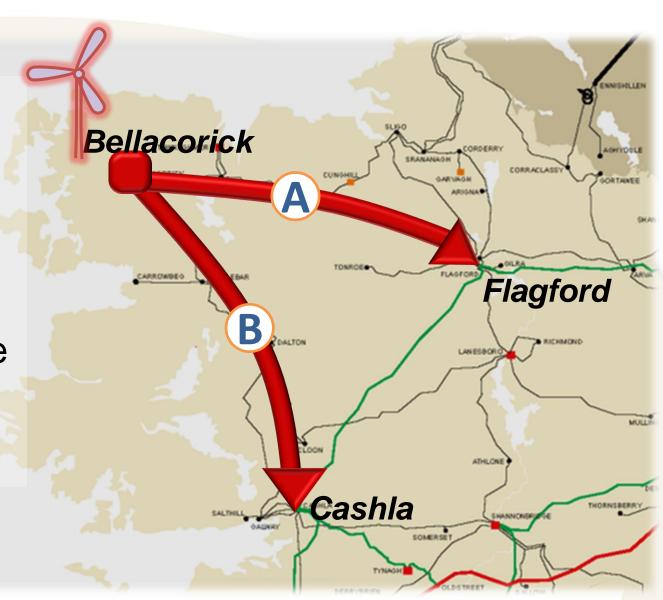
Connection of Bord Gáis Generating Plant Oct 2008 – July 2009

Completion of Aghada Raffeen Oct 2009 — July 2010

Installation of Glanagow Raffeen & Transfer of Glanagow AIS to GIS Oct 2010 – Oct 2011

### "Grid West" Bellacorick Connection

- 400 kV circuit –
   A or B
- Some 110 kV works required
- Facilitates Gate
   3 and regional development

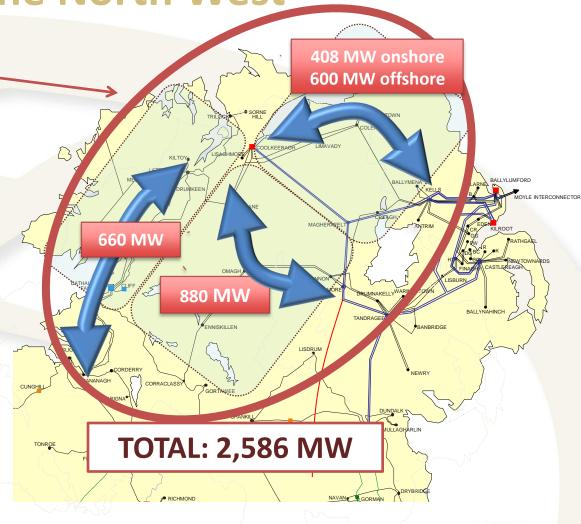


Renewable Integration Development Project in the North West

RIDP
Renewable Integration
Development Project

 Joint study between EirGrid, NIE and SONI

To identify the best allisland transmission
reinforcement scheme to
a) meet future demand
and b) provide access to
renewable generation in
the north west of the
island



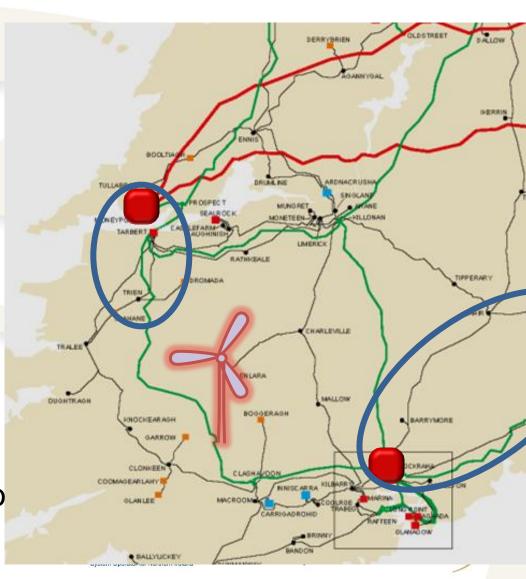






### **Moneypoint - Cork**

- 400 kV circuit in Shannon Area
- Strengthens network between Moneypoint and Cork
- Facilitates renewable generation in Kerry and west Cork
- Currently no economic justification for continuing new 400 kV circuit down to Cork

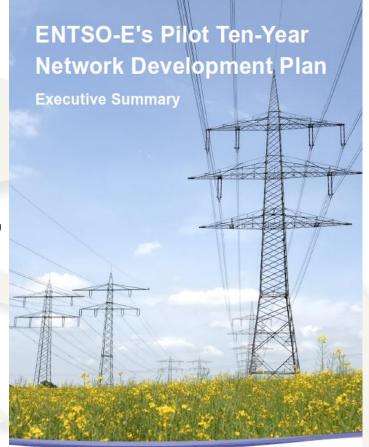


### What is happening across Europe

 EirGrid actively involved in ENTSO-E

 Similar grid development needs, drivers & challenges

- Europe building 23,000 kms of >300kV over next 10 years
  - primarily overhead











### Summary

 Grid25 is a platform for economic growth and job creation

 Grid25 is essential to meet national policy objectives

 Challenges such as public acceptability and awareness must be overcome









