

NOTICE OF DIRECT PLANNING APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA IN RESPECT OF A STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

County Kerry

In accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as inserted by the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act, 2006, and amended by the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act, 2010 and the Environment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2011, EirGrid plc, with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for approval of proposed electricity transmission infrastructure, and associated works, in the townlands of Ballynahulla, Tooreenarriv, Knocknaboul, Knockyeala, Knockdown, Glanawadtra and Glanowen in County Kerry.

The proposed development will consist of the following;

i. Construction of a Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) 220/110kV substation of 1,989m² gross floor space comprising: a two storey 220 kV substation building of approx. 1,055m² gross floor space and up to approx. 14.2m in height; a two storey 110 kV substation building of approx. 934m² gross floor space and up to approx. 12m in height; associated outdoor electrical equipment, including 2no. transformers in transformer bays located between the 220 and 110kV substation buildings, 2 no. lightning protection masts (approx. height 14m) and 1 no. SCADA pole (approx. height 20m); associated internal access road, car parking areas (10 no. parking spaces), boundary treatment including 2.6m high station fencing around the perimeter of the substation compound, 1.4m high boundary fencing around the perimeter of the site, and all other associated site development works; all within a site of approximately 5 hectares in the townland of Ballynahulla;

An Environmental Report (ER) (which includes an Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development. The application, ER and NIS may be inspected free of charge, or purchased on payment of the specified fee, during public opening hours for a period of 7 weeks commencing on 15th June 2012 at the following locations;

The Offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 (09:15 - 17:30), and

The Offices of Kerry County Council, County Buildings, Rathass, Tralee, County Kerry (09:00 - 17:00).

The application may also be viewed/downloaded at the following website:

<http://www.eirgrideastkerrynorthwestcork.ie>

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála ('the Board') 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 during the above-mentioned period of seven weeks relating to -

(i) the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development in the area concerned, and

(ii) the likely effects on the environment or adverse effects on the integrity of a European site as the case may be, of the proposed development, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 and must be received by the Board not later than 5.30p.m. on the 2nd August 2012. Such submissions/observations must also include the following information:

(i) the name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent,

(ii) the subject matter of the submission or observation, and

(iii) the reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full.

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Board.

The Board may in respect of an application for permission / approval decide to -

(a) (i) approve the proposed development, or

(ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its approval and approve the proposed development as so modified, or

(iii) approve, in part only, the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of the foregoing kind),

and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions,

or

(b) refuse to approve the proposed development.

A person may question the validity of any such decision of the Board by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986 as amended by S.I. No. 691 of 2011), in accordance with section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed under the heading Publications - Judicial Review Notice on the Board's website www.pleanala.ie or on the Citizens Information Service website www.citizensinformation.ie

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Division of An Bord Pleanála (Tel. 01-8588100).

ii. Construction of an associated access road of approx. 600m in length and generally 6m in width, from the public road to the substation compound, and including a new vehicular entrance onto said public road;

iii. Associated localised modifications to the existing Clashavoon - Tarbert 220kV overhead transmission line (OHL) in order to loop this existing line into the proposed substation. These modifications consist of the removal of approx. 58m of the existing 220kV OHL and its replacement by 2 no. line cable interface towers (approx. height 21.5m), and 2 x 220kV XLPE underground cables running within the access road for approx. 500m connecting the proposed substation with the line cable interface towers;

iv. Installation of approx. 9km of associated underground cables generally within public roads and a permitted private road, between the proposed substation in the townland of Ballynahulla and a permitted 110kV windfarm substation at Cordal, in the townland of Glanowen, Co. Kerry; and

v. All ancillary site and cable development works.