

AN BORD PLEANÁLA
Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2014
NOTICE OF DIRECT PLANNING APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA FOR APPROVAL IN RESPECT OF A STRATEGIC
INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT
(A PROPOSED ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION DEVELOPMENT)
County Monaghan, County Cavan and County Meath

In accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), EirGrid plc, with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board (ESB), gives notice that it proposes to seek the approval of An Bord Pleanála for the development of that portion of a cross-border electricity transmission interconnector to be constructed within Ireland (and referred to as the 'proposed North-South 400 kV Interconnection Development').

The overall interconnector (approximately 138km long inclusive of approximately 34km located in Northern Ireland) will link the existing electricity transmission networks of Northern Ireland and Ireland between Turleenan, County Tyrone and Woodland, near Batterstown, County Meath. This interconnector has been designated as a Project of Common Interest (PCI) pursuant to the provisions of Regulation (EU) No. 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17th April 2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure.

The proposed North-South 400 kV Interconnection Development located in Counties Monaghan, Cavan and Meath, which will be the subject of the application for approval, is approximately 103.35km long and consists of the following principal elements:

(i) A new single circuit 400 kV overhead transmission line (covering a distance of approximately 100.5km in the counties of Monaghan, Cavan and Meath) extending in a generally southerly alignment from the jurisdictional border with Northern Ireland (between the townland of Dooat or Crossreagh, County Armagh, and the townland of Lemgare, County Monaghan) to the townland of Bogganstown (Electoral District (ED) Culmullin), County Meath. In addition the proposed transmission line crosses the jurisdictional border with Northern Ireland at two points - from the townland of Lemgare, County Monaghan into the townland of Crossbane, County Armagh and back into the townland of Lemgare, County Monaghan. This transmission line comprises 299 No. new lattice steel support structures (ranging in height from approximately 26m to 51m over ground level), with associated conductors, insulators, and other apparatus.

The proposed new transmission line extends across the following townlands of County Monaghan, County Cavan and County Meath:

County Monaghan: Lemgare, Lisdrumgormly, Annaglogh, Latnakelly, Tassan, Cashel, Annagh (Cremorne Barony (By)), Carrickanure, Clarderry, Cornamucklagh North, Derryhallagh (Monaghan By), Drumroosk, Cargaghramer, Cornanure (Monaghan By), Rausker, Terrygreeghan, Cornamucklagh South, Crinkill, Clogher, Drumguillew Lower, Drumhawan, Greagh (Cremorne By), Brackly (Cremorne By), Tullynahinnera, Cooltrimegish, Boraghy, Aghmakerr, Drumillard (Cremorne By), Tooa, Tullyglass, Cornasassonagh, Corrinenty, Ummerafree, Sreenty, Ardragh, Corvally (Farney By), Raferagh, Cornalaragh, Doagh, Corlea (ED Drumcarrow), Scalkill and Ballaghneagarn.

County Cavan: Lisagoan, Drumiller, Corlea (Clankee By), Cornamagh, Corglass (ED Lisagoan), Collops, Dingin, Corrycholman, Leiter (ED Lisagoan), Cordoagh (ED Enniskeen), Laragh, Corraneary (ED Enniskeen), Carrowreagh, Clonturkan and Balloughly.

County Meath: Boherlea, Moorlagh, Tullyweel, Lislea, Aghamore, Shancor, Towas, Eden, Boynagh (ED Kilmainham), Altmush (ED Cruicetown), Cruicetown (ED Cruicetown), Brittas, Rahood, Raffin, Clooney, Drakerath, Mountainstown, Dowdstown (ED Castletown), Fletcherstown, Cluain an Ghaill (Clongill), Baile Órthaí (Oristown), Diméin Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown Demesne), Taitlin (Teltown), Castlemartin, Tankardstown (ED Ardraccan), Grange (ED Ardraccan), Durhamstown, Neillstown (ED Ardraccan), Betaghstown (ED Ardraccan), Ongenstown (ED Ardraccan), Irishtown (ED Ardraccan), Halltown, Churchtown, Philpotstown (ED Bective), Rataine, Dunlough, Balbrigh, Dunganey, Rathnally, Trublely, Knockstown (ED Kilcooly), Knockstown (ED Kilmessan), Creroge, Crumpstown or Marshallstown (ED Galtrim), Branganstown, Boycetown, Galtrim, Martinstown (ED Galtrim), Derrypatrick, Culmullin, Woodtown (ED Culmullin), Curraghtown (ED Culmullin) and Bogganstown (ED Culmullin).

The proposed development includes development in a Gaeltacht area, located in the townlands of Cluain an Ghaill (Clongill), Baile Órthaí (Oristown), Diméin Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown Demesne) and Taitlin (Teltown), all in County Meath.

(ii) Modifications are required to three existing 110 kV overhead lines. The modifications comprise the insertion of additional polesets and / or replacement of existing structures with polesets of shorter height (ranging in height from approximately 11.5m to 19m over ground level) in the following locations:

- The vicinity of where the proposed 400 kV overhead transmission line intersects with the Lisdrum-Louth 110 kV transmission line, in Drumroosk, County Monaghan.
- The vicinity of where the proposed 400 kV overhead transmission line intersects with the Louth-Rathrussan 110 kV transmission line, in Corrinenty and Corbane, County Monaghan.
- The vicinity of where the proposed 400 kV overhead transmission line intersects with the Arva-Navan 110 kV transmission line, in Diméin Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown Demesne and Taitlin (Teltown), County Meath.

(iii) The addition of a new 400 kV circuit for approximately 2.85km along the currently used northern side of the existing Oldstreet to Woodland 400 kV transmission line, extending eastwards from the townland of Bogganstown (ED Culmullin) to the existing ESB Woodland 400 kV Substation, in the townland of Woodland, County Meath, and crossing the following townlands in County Meath: Bogganstown (ED Culmullin), Curraghtown (ED Culmullin), Gaulstown (ED Culmullin), Hayestown, Creemore and Woodland. The existing double circuit lattice steel support structures along this existing line range in height from approximately 52m to 61m over ground level.

(iv) Associated works on a site of approximately 0.544ha within and immediately adjacent to the existing ESB Woodland 400 kV Substation, in the townland of Woodland, County Meath to include: a western extension of the existing compound (of approximately 0.231ha) including associated modifications to the existing 2.6m high palisade boundary fence; the addition of electrical equipment and apparatus including circuit breaker, current transformers, inductive voltage transformers, disconnectors, pantograph disconnecting switches, surge arresters, support insulators and support insulator bars (all ranging in height from approximately 7.4m to 13.7m); gantry structures (approximately 28m); and a lightning monopole (approximately 28m); and all associated ancillary construction and site development works.

(v) An associated temporary construction material storage yard to be located in the townlands of Monaltyduff and Monaltybane, Carrickmacross, County Monaghan, on a site of approximately 1.4ha, including associated site works, new site entrance onto the L4700 Local Road, associated 2.6m high boundary palisade fencing (with noise barrier affixed) and associated ancillary staff facilities and parking.

(vi) All associated and ancillary development including works comprising or relating to permanent and temporary construction and excavation.

Both an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development. In addition a Joint Environmental Report (JER) has been prepared by EirGrid plc and SONI Ltd in respect of the overall interconnector from County Tyrone to County Meath, having had regard to the European Commission Guidance on the Application of the Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure for Large-Scale Transboundary Projects (May 2013).

The proposed development is likely to have significant effects on the environment of Northern Ireland, an area of a Member State of the European Union (i.e. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

A copy of the application for approval (and the EIS and NIS) may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee (not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy) during public opening hours on Mondays to Fridays (excluding public holidays) for a period of 10 weeks commencing on Tuesday 16th June 2015 at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1,
- The Offices of Cavan County Council, Farnham Street, Cavan, County Cavan,
- The Offices of Meath County Council, County Hall, Navan, County Meath, and
- The Offices of Monaghan County Council, County Offices, The Glen, Glen Road, Monaghan, County Monaghan.

In addition, a copy of the application for approval and the EIS and NIS may be inspected at the following locations over a period of 10 weeks commencing on Tuesday 16th June 2015:

- The North-South Interconnection Information Centre, Carrickmacross Workhouse, Shercock Road, Carrickmacross, County Monaghan,
- The North-South Interconnection Information Centre, 10a Kennedy House, Kennedy Road, Navan, County Meath, and
- The Cootehill Enterprise and Technology Centre, Station Road, Cootehill, County Cavan.

To arrange to view the application documentation (and the EIS and NIS), at any of the above three locations, phone: Lo-Call 1890 25 26 90 (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday) or e-mail: northsouth@eirgrid.com.

The application documentation (including the EIS and NIS) may also be viewed / downloaded at the following website: www.eirgridnorthsouthinterconnector.ie.

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

- The implications of the proposed development, if carried out, for proper planning and sustainable development in the area or areas concerned; and
- 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 and observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed authorities) and must be received by the Board not later than 5.30p.m. on Monday 24th August 2015 and must include the following information:

- 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,
- The subject matter of the submission or observation, and
- The reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full (Article 217 of the Planning and Development Regulations refers).

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Board. Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Development Section of An Bord Pleanála (Tel: 01-8588100). It is at the absolute discretion of the Board whether to hold an oral hearing on the case (for further details see 'A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development' on the Board's website (www.pleanala.ie)).

The Board may make the following types of decision, under section 182B of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), in relation to the application:

- Approve the proposed development,
- Make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in the approval and approve the proposed development as so modified,
- Approve, in part only, the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind), or
- Refuse to approve the proposed development

and may attach to an approval under (a), (b), or (c) above such conditions as it considers appropriate.

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 1986 (S.I. No.15 of 1986 as amended by S.I. No. 691 of 2011), in accordance with the provisions 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.