



# CLASHAVOON-DUNMANWAY Project

Including: Rusheen, Carrigadrohid, Canovee, Lissarda,  
Teerelton, Kilmichael, Cappeen & Dunmanway

Summer/Autumn 2011

**GRID25**  
DELIVERING IRELAND'S ELECTRICITY FUTURE

Phase 2  
Project Update Document



# Clashavoon - Dunmanway Project

## About EirGrid

**EirGrid, a state-owned company, is the national operator of the electricity grid.**

The national grid is an interconnected network of high voltage power lines and cables, the equivalent of the main roads, dual carriageways and motorways of the road network.

EirGrid's role is to operate, plan and develop the grid to provide customers throughout the country with a safe, secure, reliable and efficient electricity supply.

EirGrid has developed a strategy called Grid25 to deliver the development of Ireland's electricity grid for a sustainable and competitive future.

## What is Grid25?

Grid25 is EirGrid's plan to develop and upgrade the electricity transmission network from now until 2025. This major initiative will put in place a safe, secure and affordable electricity supply throughout Ireland. This major undertaking which will take several years, represents an investment of €3.2 billion.

Grid25 is critical to Ireland's future from both an economic and environmental standpoint and will help secure Ireland's energy needs for future generations.

Under Grid25, €730 million will be invested in the development of the electricity transmission network for the South West region.

One of the projects under this €730 million investment is the Clashavoon-Dunmanway project which is detailed next. It is vital that this new electricity infrastructure is built to ensure that the region meets the standards required of a safe and secure electricity system.

## What is proposed?

A new 110 kV electricity circuit is proposed to connect Clashavoon electricity substation, which is located north east of Macroom, Co. Cork, and Dunmanway electricity substation located on the outskirts of Dunmanway, Co. Cork.

The proposed new circuit will be of similar construction to the existing Dunmanway Macroom line shown in Fig. 1 below.

## Why is this needed?

The proposed development is required to remedy two identified transmission network problems in South West Cork.

- Increase security of electricity supply**  
Currently the electricity supply in South West Cork is maintained by two 110 kV transmission lines, the Dunmanway – Macroom 110 kV line and the Bandon – Raffeen 110 kV line. During routine maintenance of either line, the subsequent loss of the other line would mean that South West Cork would lose its electricity supply and leave the towns of Bandon, Bantry, Dunmanway and extended areas around them, without power.
- Facilitate connection of renewable generation**  
There is a significant amount of renewable generation connected or seeking to connect in South West Cork. The current transmission network configuration and capacity is not capable of accommodating the connection of this amount of renewable generation.

Fig.1 Existing Dunmanway-Macroom 110kV line



# Indicative Line Route

Following an extensive public consultation and planning process, an indicative line route has been selected.

A Phase 2 report has been published which details how the indicative line route was selected. This is available at [www.eirgridprojects.com](http://www.eirgridprojects.com)

The indicative line route is contained within the map on the following page. If you have any queries or comments regarding this indicative line route, please feel free to contact the EirGrid team.

## How was the indicative line route selected?

Several key **criteria & inputs** were taken into account by the consultants when choosing this indicative line route for the proposed overhead line:

### Criteria

#### Visual Impact:

An assessment of the visual impact of the proposal on the environment was carried out in order to minimise the impact.

#### Community:

An assessment of the local villages and communities was undertaken to reduce the proximity of the power lines to them and ensure minimal impact on lifestyles of those living and working in nearby communities.

#### Ecology:

A review of conservation designated areas, including Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Area (SPAs) and Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) was completed.

#### Cultural Heritage:

Architectural and archaeological heritage sites, including recorded archaeological monuments and places, protected structures, and national monuments, were assessed in an attempt to minimise any impact.

#### Landscape:

A review of County Development Plans was undertaken in order to assess the numbers of scenic views, scenic routes, and vulnerable landscapes in the area.

#### Geology:

Soil, subsoil and bedrock data was used to characterise & determine geology constraints.

#### Water:

The surface water features were reviewed, as lakes are to be avoided and river crossings minimised.

### Inputs

#### Public Consultation:

The identification of constraints also included consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees as well as the general public.

#### Aerial Photography:

Aerial photography for the study area was obtained. This aerial photography was used as a basis for the constraints mapping and was in itself used as a means of identifying project constraints.

#### OSI Mapping:

OSI Mapping under licence was obtained and used to identify possible constraints.

#### An Post GeoDirectory:

The An Post GeoDirectory identifies the precise address and location of residential and commercial property in Ireland. Information was obtained and mapped along with ongoing reviews of publically available data from Cork County Council.

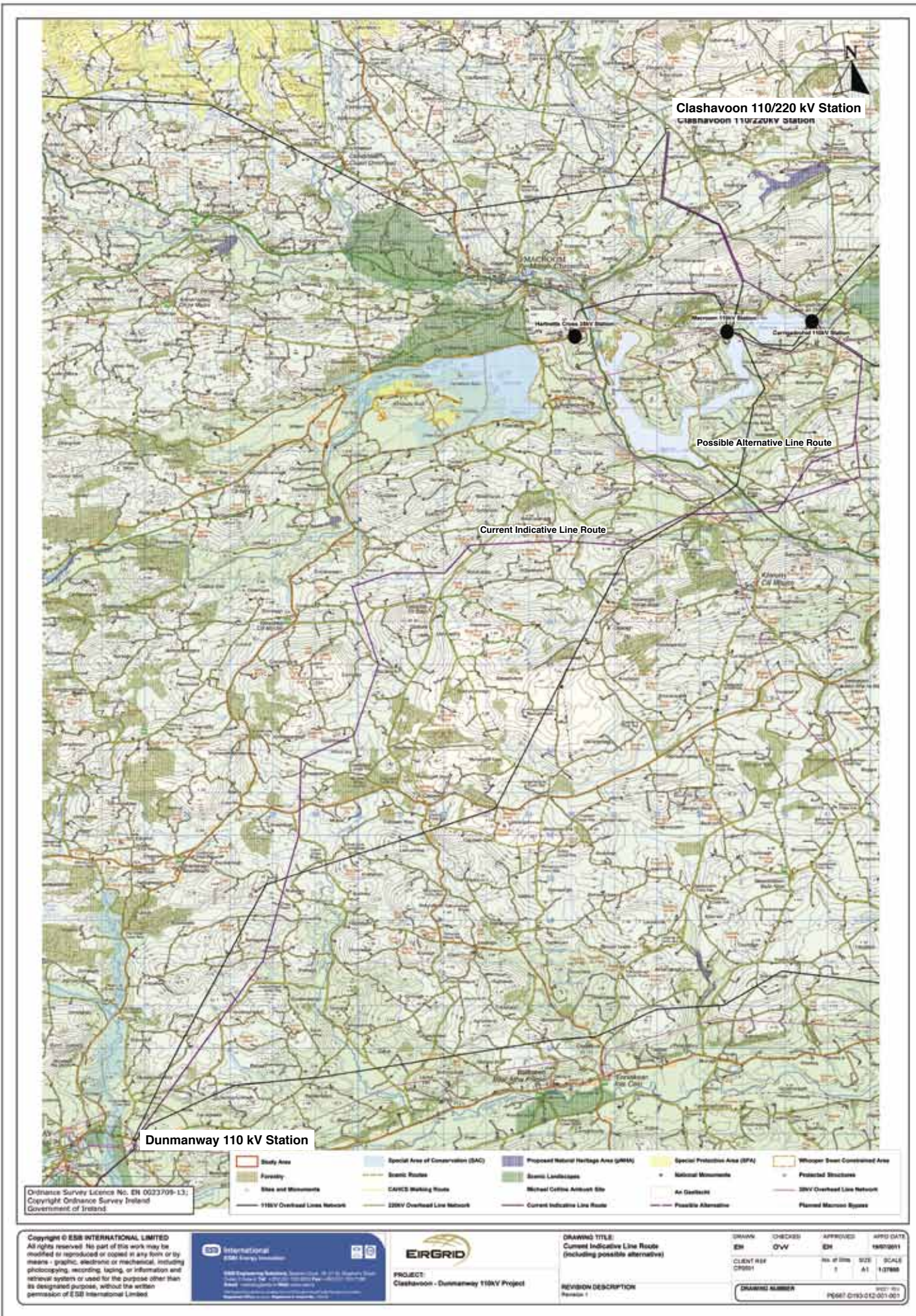
#### Local History:

The study area is particularly interesting in regard to Irish History and every effort has been made to identify and give due recognition and protection to any sites discovered.

#### Site Visit:

Frequent site visits were made by the project team to get a full appreciation of all identified constraints and the general appreciation of the topography/landscape of the study area.

# Proposed Indicative Line Route



# Planning Application Project Roadmap

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

**PHASE 1 - INFORMATION GATHERING**

- Identify Study Area
- Consultation (SIB, Statutory, Non Statutory and Public)
- Identify environmental (and other) constraints
- Identify route corridor options
- Preliminary evaluation of data received
- Identify emerging preferred route corridor

**Publish Phase 1 Lead Consultants Report with Emerging Preferred Corridor**

**PHASE 2 - ROUTE CORRIDOR EVALUATION**

**Part A**

- Consultation & Engagement (SIB, Statutory, Non Statutory and Public)
- Evaluation of feedback from Phase 1 report
- Incorporate any modifications to route options identified in Phase 1 report
- Comparative evaluation of updated route corridors options
- Identify the preferred route corridor

**Part B**

- Identify indicative alignment of overhead line route within updated preferred route corridor
- Identify landowners/Initial Consultation with landowners on indicative overhead line route
- Evaluation of feedback from land owner consultation

**Publish Phase 2 Lead Consultants Report, identifying the preferred route corridor & the indicative overhead line route**

**PHASE 3 - PRELIMINARY LINE ROUTE DESIGN**

- Ongoing Consultation & Engagement (SIB, Statutory, Non Statutory and Public)
- Evaluation of feedback from Phase 2 report
- Preliminary design of overhead line route within the preferred corridor & identify location of structures
- Ongoing consultation with landowners on overhead line route

**PHASE 4 - APPLICATION SUBMISSION**

- Consultation & Engagement (SIB, Statutory, Non Statutory and Public)
- Preparation of Planning Application
- Preparation of Environmental Report

**Submission of Planning Application**

- Next Steps**
- Preliminary design of the line route and location of structures.
  - Preliminary preparation of final environmental reports.

Rev 2.0

## Benefits

- The new electrical infrastructure will allow the region to utilise its rich renewable energy resources.
- The development of the renewable energy sector is an important element in driving future job creation and is a key platform for economic recovery.
- To support growth and development in the region and ensure security of supply for the future.
- A strong electricity network will help boost existing industry in the South West when competing for business and inward development in the area.

## Timelines

- This new infrastructure is required to be fully operational by 2014.
- A planning application is expected to be lodged with An Bord Pleanála in 2011.

## Contact Us

If you would like to discuss the project or to meet with a member of the project team, please contact us by either telephone or email. Otherwise, consult our website for regular updates.

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