

APPENDIX A

Approach to the Development of Electricity Transmission Lines



**Approach to the
Development of Electricity
Transmission Lines**

Approach to the Development of Electricity Transmission Infrastructure

What is EirGrid?

EirGrid is a state-owned company that is responsible for operating and developing the electricity transmission grid in Ireland for the benefit of electricity consumers.

It is putting in place the grid infrastructure required to support competition in the supply of electricity, to assist economic growth and to meet Government targets for the generation of renewable energy.

The Grid

The transmission grid refers to the network of higher-voltage electricity infrastructure on the island, comprising overhead lines, underground cables and substations.

The grid provides the vital link between generators of electricity and its users, ensuring that adequate electricity is provided to power homes, farms and industry.

A grid that is safe, secure, reliable and economical is a key factor in Ireland's ability to attract and retain jobs.

Further development and reinforcement of the grid is required to ensure that all enterprises, from large corporations to small businesses, continue to provide jobs in Ireland.

Over the next 15 to 20 years, there will be major improvements and enhancements to the grid. This is being driven by a number of factors, including

- Harnessing of wind and other renewable energy sources
- Increasing competition in the electricity market
- Reinforcing the grid to meet future demand
- Further interconnection to UK and European grids

Grid25

Grid25 is EirGrid's strategic response to these challenges.

It is a strategy that involves significant improvement to, and reinforcement of, the electricity grid. Over the course of the programme, approximately €3.2 billion will be invested in the planning and development of a broad range of electricity transmission projects throughout the country.

Approach to Developing Large Transmission Projects

The purpose of this document is to provide information as to how we progress our large-scale transmission infrastructure projects over a number of key stages - through the public planning process, to construction and eventual operation.



There are opportunities for engaging with EirGrid throughout these stages, helping inform decisions with regard to the nature, extent and location of our projects.

While this overview is intended to give general guidance to our stakeholders in relation to the development of transmission projects, it must be understood that all projects are different and there is no “one size fits all” process.

As such, while we always seek to develop large-scale projects in line with this approach, in some instances, because of the nature and size of the project, there may be a requirement to deviate from this process. In such circumstances we will explain the reasons for any deviation.

However, our structured framework ensures that planning, environmental and community issues are identified and addressed from the earliest stage, helping EirGrid make fully-informed decisions during the development of a project.

Project Development & Consultation

For our larger projects, EirGrid seeks to follow a structured framework of project development that provides a clear and transparent process to all stakeholders.

We seek to engage with a wide range of stakeholders, including

- Landowners
- Local Communities and the General Public
- Business Organisations
- Statutory Bodies
- Public Representatives

Central to this is ensuring that stakeholders are included in the ongoing development of such projects.

We have identified five key stages of project development - four of which are undertaken prior to the lodgement of an application for statutory consent.

Wayleaving and construction of the grid infrastructure, if consented, is undertaken during the fifth stage.

Consultation and engagement are significant elements of EirGrid’s project development framework. Through all stages of the process, we endeavour to keep the public, and other stakeholders, informed about the project, providing opportunities for input and feedback.

The need for the project is kept under review throughout its progression towards the statutory consent process.

EirGrid's

Project Development Roadmap

The Public's Role in the Development of Projects

The public is an important stakeholder in our projects and can play a crucial role from the earliest stages of project development, for example by making us aware of local constraints that may affect the siting or routeing of a project.

EirGrid always considers this information and endeavours to avoid, limit or mitigate any impact on identified constraints. The final project proposal involves a careful balance between the identified need for the project and technical, environmental, economic and social issues.

EirGrid seeks to engage with people who may be affected by the planned transmission infrastructure - from the earliest stage of project development through to project completion.

Engagement with stakeholders can take a variety of forms, such as open days, meetings and written correspondence, depending on the nature and extent of the project.

As the project develops up to submission of a planning application, the public, local communities, individuals, and others, will have regular opportunities to review and provide input into the issues and options we are considering.

Following submission of a planning application for a proposed development, the public will be provided with an opportunity to make a formal written submission to the decision-making authority – normally An Bord Pleanála.

For some projects, a public Oral Hearing will be held by An Bord Pleanála, which allows a further opportunity for issues to be voiced and addressed.

EirGrid's framework for project development and consultation is set out graphically on the opposite page.

- **Stage One:**
Information Gathering
- **Stage Two:**
Evaluate Options
- **Stage Three:**
Confirm Design
- **Stage Four:**
Prepare Planning Application
- **Stage Five:**
Wayleaving and Construction



Project Development & Consultation Roadmap

<p>STAGE 1</p> <p>Information Gathering</p> <p>Identify Project Study Area</p> <p>Identify environmental & other constraints</p> <p>Identify feasible options (corridor/sites)</p> <p>Publication of Stage 1 Report</p> <p>Pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála</p> 	<p>STAGE 2</p> <p>Evaluate Options</p> <p>Consideration of all feedback from Stage 1</p> <p>Identification of EirGrid's emerging preferred option (route corridor/site)</p> <p>Identification of indicative line within corridor or site boundary</p> <p>Identify and meet landowners of indicative line/site; initial survey</p> <p>Publication of Stage 2 Report</p> <p>Pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála</p> 	<p>STAGE 3</p> <p>Confirm Design</p> <p>Consideration of all feedback from Stage 2</p> <p>Conduct environmental studies and surveys</p> <p>Confirmation of design of line/site proposal including construction methodology</p> <p>Ongoing engagement with landowners on preferred line route or site</p> <p>Pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála</p> 	<p>STAGE 4</p> <p>Prepare Planning Application</p> <p>Complete reports and prepare planning application</p> <p>Preparation of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Report as required</p> <p>Conclusion of Pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála</p> <p>Submit application to An Bord Pleanála</p> 	<p>STAGE 5</p> <p>Wayleaving and Construction</p> <p>Preparation of construction plans</p> <p>Serve wayleave notice to landowners and agree access for construction</p> <p>Commence construction</p> 
<p>Public</p> <p>Public and stakeholder consultation on study area and constraints</p> <p>Public and stakeholder consultation on findings of Stage 1 Report</p>	<p>Public</p> <p>Public and stakeholder consultation on findings of Stage 2 Report</p>	<p>Public</p> <p>Ongoing public information</p>	<p>Public</p> <p>Ongoing public information</p> <p>Once application submitted, public can make submissions to An Bord Pleanála including at an oral hearing, if held</p>	<p>Public</p> <p>Ongoing public information</p> <p>Evaluation of Public Consultation process</p>

Stage One: Information Gathering

STAGE

1

Having identified the technical need for new or enhanced grid infrastructure, EirGrid begins the process of gathering technical, environmental and other information regarding the project.

This stage does not involve making binding decisions regarding the detailed nature, extent and location of the project, but simply gathering as much information as possible to ensure a balanced and robust outcome later in the process.

The focus at this stage is primarily on gathering environmental, social, technical and other information to inform and shape the project.

A broad study area is defined in which the project is likely to be located. Within this study area, environmentally sensitive areas and other constraints are identified and mapped; these include designated or protected landscapes (Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Natural Heritage Areas), protected views, villages, towns and other areas of scenic, amenity, ecological and cultural value.

The principal objective is to avoid these environmental and other constraints.

Public/Stakeholder Input

At this stage of the project we commence engagement with the local communities and the general public within the identified study area of the project. We invite public and

stakeholder comment and feedback on published documentation - regarding the identified study area, the identified constraints therein and on identified potential corridor and site options.

Stage One is the first real opportunity for public input in respect of a project. It is extremely useful for the public to engage with, and provide local knowledge to EirGrid at this early stage, where no decisions have been made, and where there is considerable scope to influence the ongoing development of the project, by identifying what considerations should inform our judgements

Stage One Report

A Stage One Report is prepared by EirGrid, which sets out the need for the project, identifies the broad study area, and presents the information gathered to date. Consultants generally identify a number of identified potential options - indicative corridors or site locations - and what is considered at this stage to be the least constrained of these options to meet the need for the project. We make this report available to the public and other stakeholders, and invite feedback on its content, and issues arising.



STAGE 1

Information Gathering

- Identify Project Study Area
- Identify environmental & other constraints

Identify feasible options (corridor/sites)

Publication of Stage 1 Report

Pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála

Output

- Explanation of project need
- Identification of Study Area
- Identification of environmental and other constraints
- Identification of potential route corridors and/or site locations, including considered least constrained option or options
- Publication of Stage One Report for public consultation and feedback



Public

Public and stakeholder consultation on study area and constraints

Public and stakeholder consultation on findings of Stage 1 Report

Stage Two: Evaluate Options

STAGE

2

Stage Two is where decisions begin to be made and endorsed by EirGrid regarding the detailed nature, extent and location of the proposed development.

We consider all feedback from public and stakeholder consultation obtained during Stage One, and use this, as well as our ongoing technical, environmental and other studies, to make informed decisions regarding potential project options.

This may include modifications to an option, or indeed the identification of other options, to meet the needs of the project. There remains scope for ongoing public and stakeholder input and feedback to influence decisions.

Evaluation of Options

The results of ongoing consultation, together with technical, environmental and other studies carried out to this point, are used to identify what EirGrid considers to comprise the emerging preferred option – generally being the best option from a technical, environmental, community and economic perspective. This ensures a structured approach to determining overall preferences among alternative options.

This stage includes identification of the detail of the project proposal – for example identification of an indicative line route within the emerging preferred corridor, or the indicative site for a substation.

Public /Stakeholder Input

Ongoing public and stakeholder engagement will occur throughout Stage Two in order both to inform the general public about the project and to request further feedback from stakeholders.

This stage also involves identification of, and early engagement with landowners along the identified indicative line route or at the identified indicative substation site.

During Stage Two, we also begin pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála (or the relevant planning authority as appropriate) in accordance with the governing Planning and Development Acts.

Stage Two Report

At the end of Stage Two, we will produce a Stage Two Report which summarises feedback received to date. The report identifies any local or wider modifications to potential options and the emerging preferred (least constrained) option following the evaluation process, plus the indicative proposal (line route or substation). This will allow stakeholders to see how and where we have made decisions and the basis upon which we have done so.

As before, we will invite public and stakeholder input and feedback in respect of the Stage Two Report, so it should not be considered that a final decision on these matters has been made at this stage of project development.

STAGE 2

Evaluate Options

Consideration of all feedback from
Stage 1

Identification of EirGrid's emerging preferred option (route corridor/site)

Identification of indicative line within corridor or site boundary

Identify and meet landowners of indicative line/site; initial survey

Publication of
Stage 2 Report

Pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála

Public

Public and stakeholder consultation on findings of
Stage 2 Report

Output

- Review and consider all feedback arising in respect of the Stage One Report
- Modify options where appropriate including rationale for making such changes
- Identification of an emerging preferred (least constrained) option, following a multi-criteria evaluation process
- Identification of indicative detailed proposal (line route or substation), following initial landowner engagement and ongoing consultation
- Publication of Stage Two Report for public consultation and feedback



Stage Three: Confirm Design

STAGE

This stage usually occurs in parallel with Stage Four. In this stage, feedback from stakeholders from Stage Two informs the decisions being made by EirGrid with regard to the specific nature, extent and location of the project. EirGrid and its agents will seek to engage with all landowners on the identified proposed route and/or station sites, in order to ensure that any concerns or matters regarding siting of the proposed infrastructure are addressed.

The focus is on land and site-specific technical and environmental surveys and assessment. There is a shift in emphasis from public and stakeholder consultation and feedback to information-giving.

Preferred Option (Route/Site)

As a result of all the information gathering, technical and environmental studies, and public, stakeholder and landowner consultation and engagement that has been carried out up to this stage, the preferred option is identified. We continue to refine the preferred option in consultation with landowners and other stakeholders, and in the context of ongoing studies and assessment, to minimise the potential impact on the receiving human and natural environment. We complete the preliminary design of the proposed development as it is evolving, including identification of the specific location of the alignment, site and associated structures.

Environmental Assessment

We will carry out a comprehensive environmental assessment on the preferred option and will

consult with key statutory and non-statutory stakeholders (primarily government departments, statutory bodies and agencies) on the scope of this assessment. An Environmental Report (ER) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be submitted as part of the application.

Where a proposed development has the potential to impact upon a designated Natura 2000 site – a site designated under the European Birds and Habitats Directives – we will undertake a screening for Appropriate Assessment in accordance with the requirements of the governing legislation. Depending on the results of this screening, we will prepare a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) which will also be submitted as part of the application.

Public/Stakeholder Input

We continue to update our stakeholders during the process of confirming the design of the proposed development. In particular, we will continue to engage with landowners who are directly affected by the project, as well as with the relevant planning authority. The public and stakeholders will continue to be informed of project progress, and further feedback and input in respect of the project is always welcomed. We will continue to publish factual reports and updates concerning the project on our project website (www.eirgrid.com/projects).

However, at this stage of project development, where there is less opportunity to influence decisions, the emphasis is more on sharing information with the public and stakeholders, for example on project progress, than on seeking new public and stakeholder feedback and input.



STAGE 3

Confirm Design

Consideration of all feedback from **Stage 2**

Conduct environmental studies and surveys

Confirmation of design of line/site proposal including construction methodology

Ongoing engagement with landowners on preferred line route or site

Pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála

Output

- Identify preferred project option and the nature, extent and location of proposed development
- Undertake environmental assessment of proposed development (including Appropriate Assessment if required), in accordance with Irish legislation and European Directives
- Ongoing public and stakeholder involvement, primarily by means of information-giving
- Ongoing landowner engagement



Public

Ongoing public information

Stage Four: Prepare Planning Application

STAGE

4

Stage Four usually occurs in parallel with Stage Three. In this stage, we are preparing the documents, maps and drawings, and other particulars to submit as a planning application.

Once the application has been submitted, the project is in a formal application process. The consenting authority (either An Bord Pleanála or the relevant planning authority, depending on the nature of the application, as confirmed by An Bord Pleanála) will facilitate public input, initially by means of written submission.

At its discretion, An Bord Pleanála may hold an oral hearing in respect of the proposed development. As such, the application process also ensures considerable public participation.

Stage Four will conclude with a decision by the consenting authority in respect of the proposed development.

Public and Stakeholder Consultation

In addition to any informal update or information provided by EirGrid, the public will be formally notified when the application is lodged through a public notice in the newspaper.

The project website will also be updated once the planning application is lodged and we will direct

the public to where they can make a submission to the consenting authority during its formal public consultation period.

If the application is submitted to An Bord Pleanála, it will require EirGrid to provide a dedicated website, containing the full planning application, to allow the public and other parties to view the application online.

Oral Hearing

At the discretion of An Bord Pleanála, an oral hearing will be undertaken under its chairmanship in the region in which the project is proposed. We will fully engage in any oral hearing and will provide all relevant information to allow the Bord to make an informed decision.

Planning Decision

On concluding the planning process the consenting authority will issue its decision and will either issue one of three decisions.

1. Decision to Grant Permission.
2. Decision to Grant Permission, subject to conditions which have to be complied with.
3. Decision not to Grant Permission.

STAGE 4

Prepare Planning Application

Complete reports and prepare planning application

Preparation of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Report as required

Conclusion of Pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála

Submit application to An Bord Pleanála

Output

- Preparation of application documents, including environmental assessment
- Submission of application to the appropriate planning authority or An Bord Pleanála
- Publication of application documents on a dedicated applications website
- Updating of separate EirGrid project website
- Ongoing input throughout applications process as required
- Ultimate decision of An Bord Pleanála or Planning Authority



Public

Ongoing public information

Public can make submissions to An Bord Pleanála once application submitted

Stage Five: Wayleaving and Construction

STAGE

5

Assuming that an application for a proposed development has been successful and has been consented, construction plans will be developed. Wayleave notices will be issued to landowners for access to land to enable construction to proceed.

Subsequent to obtaining landowner permission, EirGrid will inform ESB Networks of the successful issuance of wayleaves. ESB Networks will undertake the actual construction of the transmission infrastructure and the resulting energisation of the project.

Public and Stakeholder Consultation

We will continue to engage with landowners who are directly affected by the project with a view to agreeing access for constructing the permitted development.



5

STAGE 5

Wayleaving and Construction

Preparation of construction plans

Serve wayleave notice to landowners and agree access for construction

Commence construction

Output

- Implementation of permitted development
- Preparation of detailed construction plans
- Construction of the permitted development
- Energisation and operation of the new transmission infrastructure
- Ongoing communications and liaison with landowners, and as appropriate, local communities and the general public



Public

Ongoing public information

Evaluation of Public Consultation process

EirGrid is a wholly owned State company which is responsible for operating and developing the electricity transmission grid in Ireland. The electricity grid or “grid” is the backbone of the electricity network in Ireland. The grid provides the vital link between generators of electricity and its users. The grid ensures that adequate electricity is provided, to all users in Ireland, to power homes, farms and industry.

We seek public input in respect of projects, including local knowledge views as to what considerations should inform our judgements, based on what is considered to be important to local stakeholders.

Major changes to Ireland’s electricity industry will be driven by the harnessing of wind and other renewable energy sources, increased competition in the supply of electricity, a requirement to reinforce the existing grid to meet anticipated future demand and further interconnection to UK and European grids.



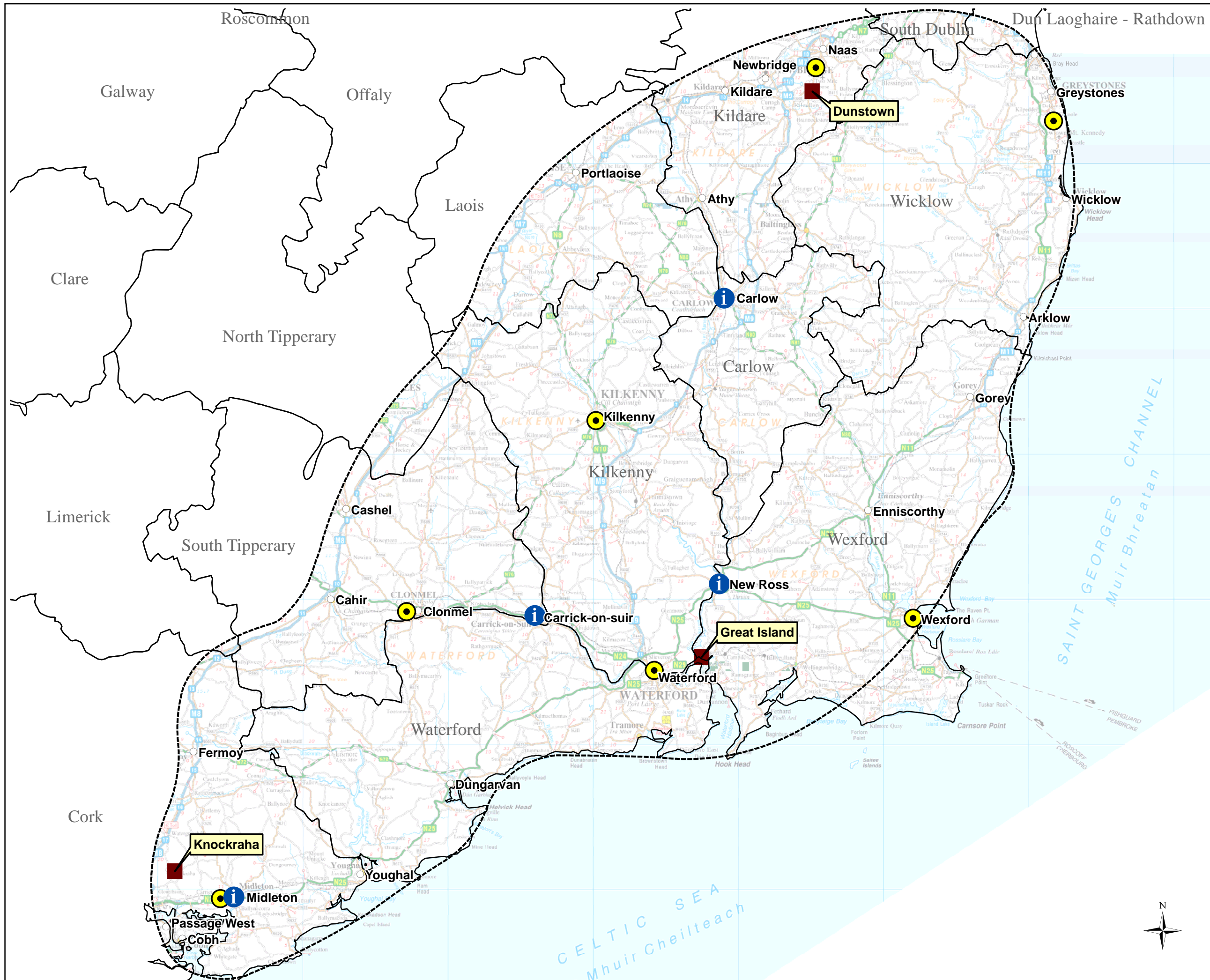
EirGrid plc
The Oval
160 Shelbourne Road
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4

Tel: +353 (0)1 6771700
Fax: +353 (0)1 661 5375





www.eirgrid.com

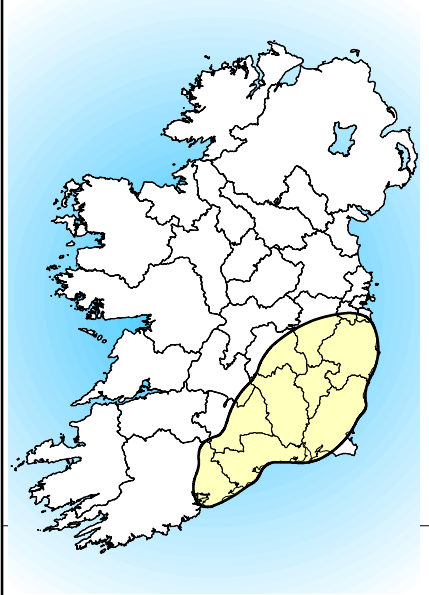
APPENDIX B

Location Map



Legend


-  Project Information Centres
-  Location of the Series One Open Days
-  Project Nodal Point
-  Study Area



Client 

THE GRID LINK PROJECT

Title
Location of the Grid Link Project Information Centres & Series One Open Days
 Figure

 West Pier Business Campus, T +353 (0) 1 4882900
 Dun Laoghaire, F +353 (0) 1 283676
 Co Dublin, Ireland. E ireland@rpsgroup.com
 W rpsgroup.com/ireland

Issue Details			
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APPENDIX C

Display Material from Open Days



The Grid Link Project

Electricity Transmission Scheme Linking Leinster & Munster

- Helping to secure Ireland's electricity supply for our future
- Empowering growth in the south and east of Ireland
- Helping to enable Ireland to meet its 40% renewable energy target



GRID25
DELIVERING IRELAND'S ELECTRICITY FUTURE



The Grid Link Project

How can I get involved?

STAGE
1

EirGrid invites you to:

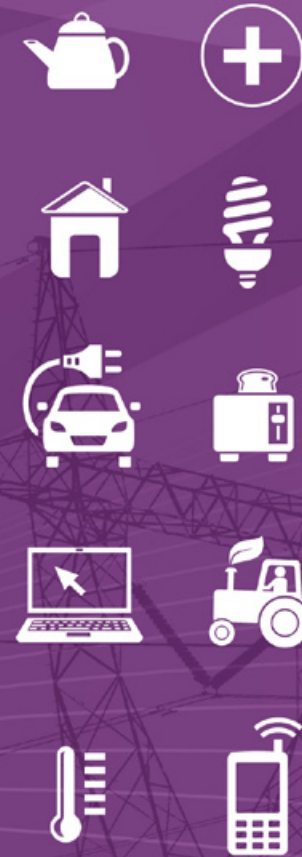
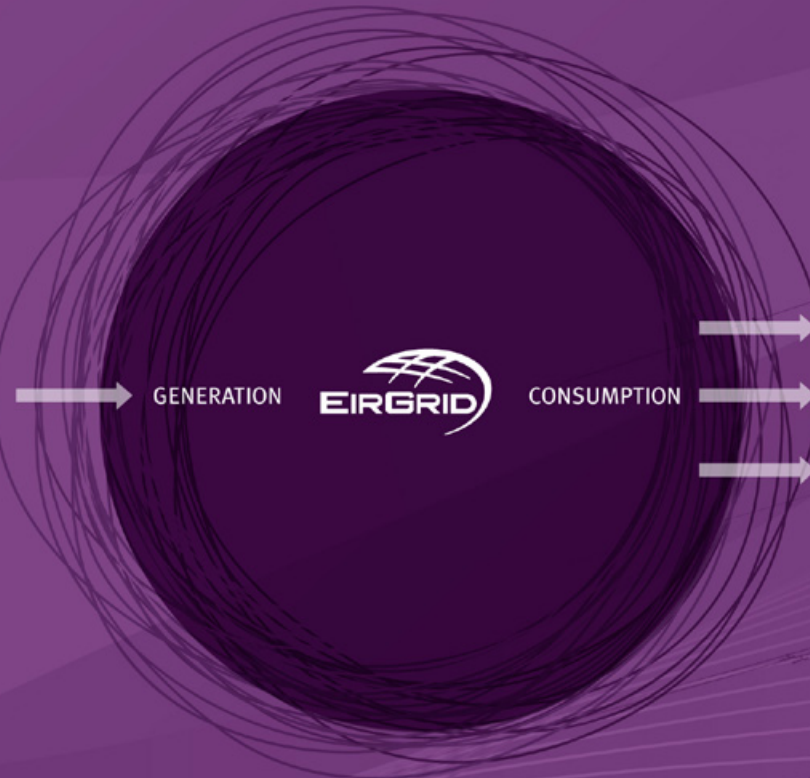
- Comment on the proposed study area
- Identify constraints that should be considered
- Provide feedback on how corridors should be developed
- Is there anything else you would like to share with us?



GRID25
DELIVERING IRELAND'S ELECTRICITY FUTURE



WHAT IS EIRGRID?





HOW DOES EIRGRID DETERMINE THE MOST APPROPRIATE ROUTE?

- Natural Environment:** Landscape and ecology including landscape features and views, topography, water bodies, ground conditions and European and nationally designated sites and species.
- Cultural Environment:** Archaeology, architecture and cultural heritage, including protected monuments, protected structures, demesnes and Architectural Conservation Areas.
- Built Environment:** Land use, settlements and infrastructure, including roads, railways, ports and utilities.



Study Area



Constraints Mapping



Corridor Options



Least Constrained corridor & Indicative Line Route



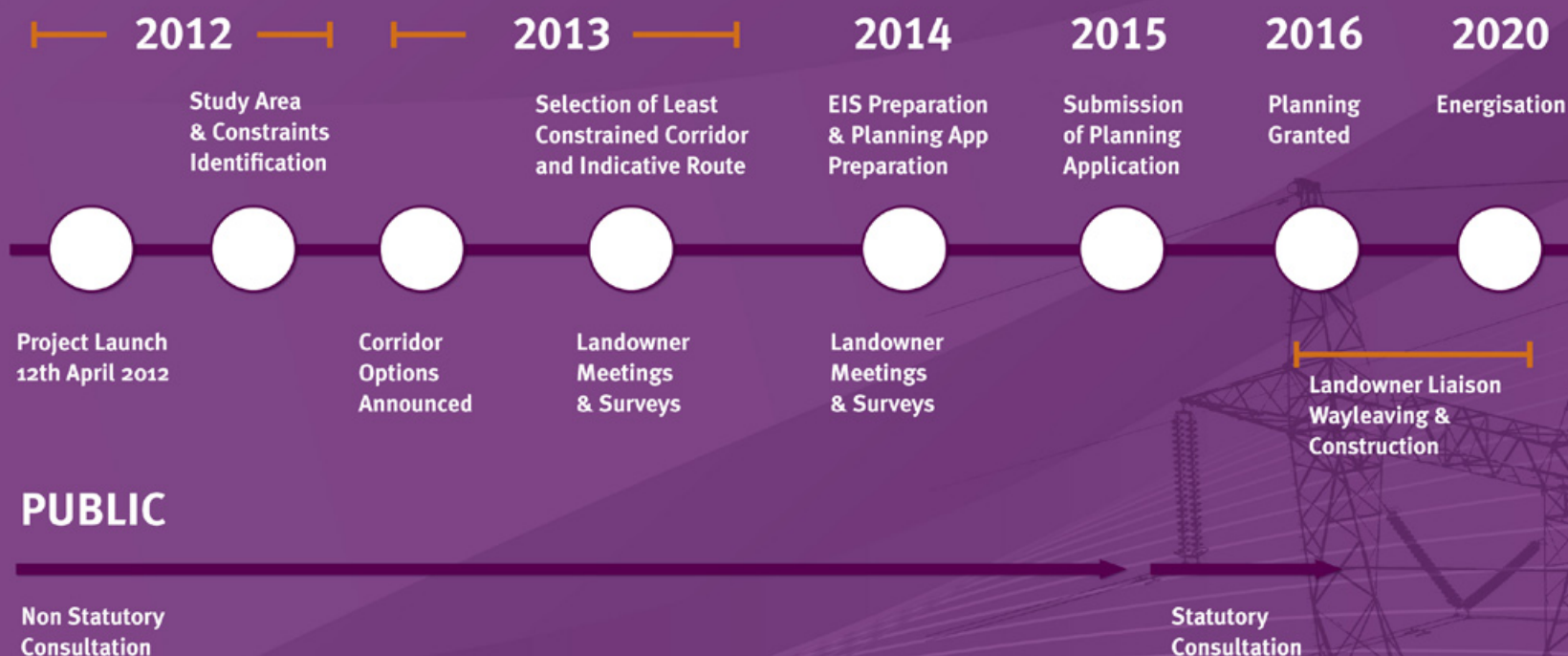


WHY IS THE PROJECT NEEDED?





PLANNED TIMEFRAME





- Proposed Study Area
- Public Information Centres
- County Boundaries
- National Roads

Existing Transmission Lines

- 400kV
- 220kV
- 110kV

APPENDIX D

Feedback Form

Agronomy Impact on farming Impact on future development / sterilisation Impact on livestock Wayleave	Ecology Fauna & flora Fisheries Protected sites / locally important sites Protected species	Project Methodology Constraints (general) Route selection Study area boundaries Study area extent (size/location) Study area (general)
Air & Noise Air issues Substation noise Construction noise Noise/vibrations from line	Human Health EMF Monitoring Specific health concerns	Requests General information Information request Meeting request
Alternatives Need Route alternatives Technologies Tower Design	Landscape & Visual Impact of substation Impact of towers/lines Locally significant views Protected views	Soils & Geology Geology Soil
Construction Access routes Construction techniques Reinstatement of land Safety Traffic	Legal Access to land Compensation Insurance issues	Statutory Process Appropriate assessment EIS Planning application Oral hearing Statutory consultation
Communications / Consultation Landowner consultation Media Public consultation Road map / methodology	Material Assets Community life Devaluation / sterilisation Livelihood Overburdening Property Tourism	Undergrounding AC vs. DC Partial undergrounding
Cultural Heritage Archaeology Architecture Culture Heritage Listed buildings and monuments Locally important sites Protected sites	Planning Best practice Development plans Future developments Planning permission Substations (existing and new)	Water Flooding Ground water Rivers and streams Seas
Other (Please Specify):		
Follow Up Required?		

APPENDIX E

Project Brochures



The Grid Link Project



Electricity Transmission Scheme Linking
Leinster & Munster
Spring / Summer 2012





The Grid Link Project Linking Leinster & Munster

What is The Grid Link Project?

To ensure future electrical power needs are met in the south and east of Ireland, EirGrid is investing an estimated €500 million in a new development called The Grid Link Project. The project consists of a new high voltage power line linking Leinster and Munster.

The Grid Link Project is a vital development for the regions that will deliver a wide range of benefits, which include:

- Securing future electricity supply for homes, businesses, farms, factories and communities
- Helping empower growth in the south and east of Ireland
- Helping Ireland to meet its 40% renewable energy targets

EirGrid has established a dedicated project team to develop a route and substation sites for The Grid Link Project. EirGrid does not expect to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval before 2015 and public consultation will form an important part of all stages of the project over the coming years.

In pursuing The Grid Link Project EirGrid encourages you to participate in the consultation process and will listen to what you have to say.

Why is the project needed?

The Grid Link Project will help secure Ireland's electricity supply for our future

- Based on EirGrid's assessment to date it has been identified that, if left unchanged, the existing grid in the south and east of Ireland will not be sufficient to meet our future electricity needs, thus jeopardising electricity supply to the area.
- The Grid Link Project will facilitate the integration of renewable energy onto the transmission system, thereby reducing our reliance on imported fossil fuels.
- The Grid Link Project will facilitate further electricity interconnection with the European grid, providing a more secure electricity system.

The Grid Link Project will empower growth in the south and east of Ireland

- A region with a high-quality, secure supply of electricity is better placed to attract inward investment that will bring employment and prosperity. The Grid Link Project will facilitate this for communities in the south and east of Ireland.

What will the development consist of?

The Grid Link Project represents a significant upgrade of the electricity grid and involves the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster. Based on assessments to date, EirGrid has determined that in order to best meet the needs of the south and east, the optimum solution is the construction of a 400 kV Alternating Current (AC) overhead line linking Cork and Kildare via Wexford.

EirGrid will review its technology assumptions at key stages throughout the project to ensure they remain valid.





- The Grid Link Project will help ensure that the most efficient electricity generators in the south and east are utilised in the most effective way, helping Ireland make best use of its resources.
- The Grid Link Project will help enable Ireland to shift from a heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels to more sustainable sources of energy.

The Grid Link Project will help enable Ireland to meet its 40% renewable energy target

Ireland's national goal is to meet 40% of electricity demand from renewable sources by 2020 – these include wind, wave and tidal energy. The Grid Link Project will enable this to happen.

The growth of the wind energy sector represents an opportunity to reduce our dependence on imported fossil fuels and foster a clean, indigenous, and sustainable energy source and reduce our CO₂ emissions.

- Ireland has one of the best wind resources in Europe and The Grid Link Project forms a critical element in helping to maximise the potential use of this natural resource.
- The Grid Link Project will facilitate supply of enough wind energy to power 750,000 homes.



Proposed Study Area

A study area is the search area within which a project will be located. To identify the appropriate study area for The Grid Link Project it is necessary to start where the new link can connect to the existing grid. Based on EirGrid's assessments, to date, the optimum connection points (i.e. transmission substations) on the grid have been identified as Knockraha in County Cork, Great Island in County Wexford, and Dunstown in County Kildare.

Why have these connection points been chosen?

- The points are capable of integrating the electricity carried on the new 400 kV link onto the existing electricity grid.
- They are geographically well-positioned to meet the strategic needs of the network development.

Why has this proposed study area been chosen?

- The proposed study area must be large enough to encompass the strategic objectives and drivers for the project, including the three connecting points of Dunstown, Knockraha, and Great Island.
- The study area broadly follows significant jurisdictional or physical boundaries (e.g. motorways, the coastline, or administrative boundaries).
- The study area is influenced by the technology used to connect the three points.

“...in order to maximise the effectiveness of Foreign Direct Investment... we must make sure that Ireland's energy infrastructure continually delivers world-class networks and energy at a competitive price.”

Horizon 2020: IDA Ireland Strategy (March 2010).



Public Consultation

The public will be consulted extensively through a series of non-statutory and statutory consultations to gather information and feedback from the earliest stages of project development right through to the completion of the project.

Developing The Grid Link Project will involve a number of steps over the coming years. Firstly a study area is identified. This is a search area where the project will be located.

Then constraints are mapped in the study area. Constraints are features or designations, such as protected areas, in the landscape that might make an area unsuitable for the project.

Once constraints are mapped, corridors will be identified and then assessed to determine which is the least constrained. A 'least constrained corridor' is the corridor that achieves the most acceptable balance between competing constraints while meeting the needs of the project. This corridor and an indicative line route and substation locations will be subject to further study. The indicative line is the proposed alignment for the project, based on the information available at the time. These locations are then subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which forms the basis of an application that is submitted to An Bord Pleanála for approval.

At all stages, feedback from the public will be reviewed and considered by the project team. As the project develops, the public, local communities and everyone who is interested in The Grid Link Project will have regular opportunities to review and provide input into the issues and options under consideration.

EirGrid seeks to follow a structured framework of project development that provides a clear and transparent process for all stakeholders, as shown on the project road map. To facilitate this process, EirGrid has established The Grid Link Project information service to inform people about the project and answer any queries they may have.

Visit the project team at The Grid Link Project information centres, as follows:

The EirGrid Midleton Information Centre

Open every Monday from 12 noon to 6pm
Oikoseen House, Castleredmond, Midleton, Co. Cork

The EirGrid Carrick-on-Suir Information Centre

Open every Tuesday from 12 noon to 6pm
Carrick Community Business Centre, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary

The EirGrid New Ross Information Centre

Open every Wednesday from 12 noon to 6pm
The Coach House, Marsh Lane, New Ross, Co. Wexford

The EirGrid Carlow Information Centre

Open every Thursday from 12 noon to 6pm
Enterprise House, O'Brien Road, Carlow, Co. Carlow

Telephone: **Lo-call 1890 422 122**

Email: **gridlink@eirgrid.com**

Visit the website: **www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink**

Write: **The Grid Link Project Manager,
EirGrid, PO Box 12213, Glenageary,
Co. Dublin, Ireland.**

Map of Proposed Study Area






Project Development & Consultation Road Map

You are Here





Road map stages	What's happening?	How can people get involved?
	<p>The proposed study area has been identified and the process of identifying constraints has begun</p>	<p>Consultation 1 Stakeholders can:</p> <p>Comment on the proposed study area map: Has EirGrid considered all relevant criteria when determining the study area? Should anything else have been considered?</p> <p>Identify constraints that should be considered for further review: Are you aware of any locally or regionally important features that you believe should be considered as the project develops? Constraints can be anything from natural features in the landscape to cultural or archaeological structures. They are mapped in the study area and taken into account when corridors are identified.</p> <p>Provide feedback on how corridors should be developed: How should constraints or features in the landscape be taken into account when corridors are defined for the project?</p> <p>Any other issues? If you have any other issues that you think should be taken into account at this stage of the project EirGrid would welcome your input.</p> <p>How would you like to be involved or communicated with, as the project progresses?</p>
	<p>The proposed constraints map will be published and the search for route corridor options will begin</p>	<p>Consultation 2 Stakeholders can:</p> <p>Comment on the proposed constraints map</p> <p>Provide feedback on how EirGrid should develop corridors for the project</p> <p>Provide feedback on what criteria should be used to determine a least constrained corridor. A 'least constrained corridor' is the corridor that achieves the most acceptable balance between competing constraints while meeting the needs of the project.</p>
	<p>Route corridor options will be identified and work will begin to identify the least constrained corridor</p>	<p>Consultation 3 Stakeholders can:</p> <p>Comment on the identified corridors</p> <p>Provide feedback on the criteria that should be used to determine a least constrained corridor.</p>

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, comparable to the motorways, dual carriage ways and main roads of the national road network. It is operated at three voltage levels, 400 kV, 220 kV and 110 kV, and is approximately 6,400km in overall length.

It is the backbone of Ireland's power system and is vital to ensuring that all customers, including industrial, commercial and residential, from both rural and urban areas, have a safe, secure, reliable, economic and efficient electricity supply.

What is Grid25?

Grid25 is a major initiative to put in place a safe, secure and affordable electricity supply throughout Ireland, supporting economic growth and utilising our renewable energy resource to its maximum potential.

Development of the grid is essential to provide a platform for renewed economic growth and regional development, and is vital if we are to effectively tap into our abundant renewable energy resources.

Grid25 will involve upgrading the high voltage system and an overall investment of approximately €3.2 billion in the period up to 2025. This new infrastructure is every bit as essential to the future growth of the country as any investment in road, rail and broadband.

Contact Details

EirGrid is committed to ensuring that all members of the public are fully aware of the project and encourage you to participate in public consultation. If you would like to discuss the project or to meet with a member of the project team, please visit our website for regular updates.

Telephone: **Lo-call 1890 422 122**

Email: **gridlink@eirgrid.com**

Visit the website: **www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink**

Write: **The Grid Link Project Manager, EirGrid,
PO Box 12213, Glenageary, Co. Dublin, Ireland**





The Grid Link Project



Electricity Transmission Scheme Linking Leinster & Munster Spring / Summer 2012





The Grid Link Project Linking Leinster & Munster

What is The Grid Link Project?

To ensure future electrical power needs are met in the south and east of Ireland, EirGrid is investing an estimated €500 million in a new development called The Grid Link Project. The project consists of a new high voltage power line linking Leinster and Munster. It is a vital development for the region and will deliver a wide range of benefits, including:

- Securing future electricity supply for homes, businesses, farms, factories and communities
- Empowering growth in the south and east of Ireland
- Helping Ireland to meet its 40% renewable energy targets

Based on assessments to date, EirGrid has determined that in order to best meet the needs of the south and east, the optimum solution is the construction of a 400 kV Alternating Current (AC) overhead line linking Cork and Kildare via Wexford. In developing The Grid Link Project, EirGrid will review its technology assumptions at key stages throughout the project to ensure they remain valid.

EirGrid has established a dedicated project team to develop a route and substation sites for The Grid Link Project. EirGrid does not expect to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval before 2015 and public consultation will form an important part of all stages of the project over the coming years.

Developing The Grid Link Project

The public will be consulted extensively through a series of non-statutory and statutory consultations to gather information and feedback from the earliest stages of project development right through to the completion of the project.


Developing The Grid Link Project will involve a number of steps over the coming years.

First, a study area is identified. This is a search area where the project will be located.

Then constraints are mapped in the study area. Constraints are features or designations, such as protected areas, in the landscape that might make an area unsuitable for the project.

Once constraints are mapped, corridors will be identified and then assessed to determine which is the least constrained. A 'least constrained corridor' is the corridor that achieves the most acceptable balance between competing constraints while meeting the needs of the project. The indicative line is the proposed alignment for the project, based on the information available at the time. These locations are then subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which forms the basis of an application that is submitted to An Bord Pleanála for approval.

At all stages, feedback from the public will be reviewed and considered by the project team. As the project develops, the public, local communities and everyone who is interested in The Grid Link Project will have regular opportunities to review and provide input into the issues and options under consideration.



For more information on the proposed study area, please see Information Brochure 1 or the project website, www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink



The Grid Link Project: Public Consultation 1

This first stage of public consultation is focusing on the proposed study area and on the identification of constraints.

It will run for an eight week period, from **Thursday, 12th April to Friday, 8th June 2012.**

Comment on the proposed study area map: Has EirGrid considered all relevant criteria when determining the study area? Should anything else have been considered?

Identify constraints that should be considered for further review: Are you aware of any locally or regionally important features that you believe should be considered as the project develops? Constraints can be anything from natural features in the landscape to cultural or archaeological structures. They are mapped in the study area and taken into account when corridors are identified.

Provide feedback on how corridors should be developed: How should constraints or features in the landscape be taken into account when corridors are defined for the project?

Any other issues? If you have any other issues that you think should be taken into account at this stage of the project EirGrid would welcome your input.

How would you like to be involved or communicated with, as the project progresses?

This is a non-statutory public consultation that will provide all interested individuals and organisations an opportunity to feed into the early development of the project. Everyone is welcome to give their views.

Submissions and feedback will be reviewed and considered by the project team and a full consultation report on this phase of the project will be produced following the close of this consultation. In order to ensure stakeholder feedback is considered in advance of the project moving to the next phase, all feedback for this consultation should be received by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, 8th June 2012.**

However, stakeholders are welcome to make a submission to the project team at any time.

How can I participate?

All interested stakeholders are invited to engage with The Grid Link Project in any of the following ways:

Email Us: gridlink@eirgrid.com

Attend an Open Day:

1. Wednesday, 2nd May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Middleton Park Hotel, Middleton, Co. Cork
2. Tuesday, 8th May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., The Granville Hotel, Waterford, Co. Waterford
3. Thursday, 10th May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Killashee House Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare
4. Friday, 11th May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Clonmel Park Conference, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
5. Tuesday, 15th May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Kilkenny Ormonde, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny
6. Tuesday, 22nd May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Druids Glen, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow
7. Wednesday, 23rd May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Talbot Wexford, Wexford, Co. Wexford

Visit our Information Centres:

The EirGrid Middleton Information Centre

Open every Monday from 12 noon to 6pm
Oikoseen House, Castleredmond, Middleton, Co. Cork

The EirGrid Carrick-on-Suir Information Centre

Open every Tuesday from 12 noon to 6pm
Carrick Community Business Centre, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary

The EirGrid New Ross Information Centre

Open every Wednesday from 12 noon to 6pm
The Coach House, Marsh Lane, New Ross, Co. Wexford

The EirGrid Carlow Information Centre

Open every Thursday from 12 noon to 6pm
Enterprise House, O'Brien Road, Carlow, Co. Carlow

Phone Us: 1890 422 122

Write To Us: The Grid Link Project Manager, EirGrid, P.O. Box 12213, Glenageary, County Dublin, Ireland

See: www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink

Feedback



Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please tick here to be added to our mailing list

The Grid Link Project Manager
EirGrid, PO Box 12213,
Glenageary,
Co. Dublin, Ireland

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Email: gridlink@eirgrid.com

Web: www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink

What are your views?

APPENDIX F

Screen Grabs of Online Information



The Grid Link Project

- Secures supply of energy for the south & east regions
- Facilitates growth in the south & east
- Enables Ireland meet its 40% renewable targets

Overview

To ensure future electrical power needs are met in the south and east of Ireland, EirGrid is investing an estimated €500 million in a new development called the Grid Link project. The project consists of a new high voltage power line linking Leinster and Munster. It is a vital development for the region and will deliver a wide range of benefits, including:

- Securing future electricity supply for homes, businesses, farms, factories and communities
- Empowering growth in the south and east of Ireland
- Helping Ireland to meet its 40% renewable energy targets

The Grid Link project represents a significant upgrade of the electricity grid and involves the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster. Based on assessments to date, EirGrid has determined that in order to best meet the needs of the south and east, the optimum solution is the construction of a 400 kV Alternating Current (AC) overhead line linking Cork and Kildare via Wexford. EirGrid will review its technology assumptions at key stages throughout the project to ensure they remain valid.

Contact Us



Postal Address:
The Grid Link Project Manager
EirGrid
P.O. Box 12213
Glenageary
Co. Dublin
Ireland

Phone lo-call: 1890 422 122

Email: gridlink@eirgrid.com

Regional Offices
For Details of our Regional Offices

Open Day Series One
Upcoming **open days** in May 2012

View an interview with Andrew Cooke and John Lowry on EirGrid's Grid Link Project.



Public Engagement

The public will be consulted extensively through a series of non-statutory and statutory consultations to gather information and feedback from the earliest stages of project development right through to the completion of the project. EirGrid has established [four regional information centres](#) within the [proposed study area](#).

Developing the Grid Link project will involve a number of steps over the coming years.



Firstly a study area is identified. This is a search area where the project will be located, constraints are then mapped in the study area. Constraints are features or designations, such as protected areas, in the landscape that might make an area unsuitable for the project.

Once constraints are mapped, corridors will be identified and then assessed to determine which is the least constrained. A 'least constrained corridor' is the corridor that achieves the most acceptable balance between competing constraints while meeting the needs of the project. This corridor and an indicative line route and substation locations will be subject to further study. The indicative line is the proposed alignment for the project, based on the information available at the time. These locations are then subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which forms the basis of an application that is submitted to An Bord Pleanála for approval.

At all stages, feedback from the public will be reviewed and considered by the project team. As the project develops, the public, local communities and everyone who is interested in The Grid Link Project will have regular opportunities to review and provide input into the issues and options under consideration.

Maps:

[Proposed Study Area Map](#)

Videos:

[Grid Link Project Video](#)

[Take a journey through Grid25](#)

Related Documents:

[April 2012 Grid Link Consultation Information Brochure](#)

[April 2012 Grid Link Information Brochure](#)

[April 2012 Study Area Paper](#)

Archive:

EirGrid seeks to follow a structured framework of project development that provides a clear and transparent process for all stakeholders, as shown on the project [Road Map](#).

How can I participate

The first stage of public consultation is focused on the proposed study area and on the identification of constraints. It will run for an eight week period from Thursday, 12th April to Friday, 8th of June 2012. This is a non-statutory public consultation that will provide all interested stakeholders an opportunity to feed into the early development of the project. Everyone is welcome to give their views. In May 2012, we are hosting the first series of [open days](#) within the Study Area, this is an opportunity to meet with the project team and provide your feedback.



Identify constraints that should be considered for further review: Are you aware of any locally or regionally important features that you believe should be considered as the project develops? Constraints can be anything from natural features in the landscape to cultural or archaeological structures. They are mapped in the study area and taken into account when corridors are identified.

Provide feedback on how corridors should be developed: How should constraints or features in the landscape be taken into account when corridors are defined for the project?

Any other comments? If you have any observations that you think should be taken into account at this stage of the project EirGrid would welcome your input.

The received submissions and feedback will be reviewed and considered by the project team, this will form the basis of a consultation report.

All feedback for this consultation should be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, 8th June 2012. However, stakeholders are welcome to make a submission to the project team at any time.

More information on this consultation can be found in our [April 2012 Grid Link Consultation Information Brochure](#).



Get directions

My places



Save to My Places

Explore making custom maps in an interactive tutorial.

EirGrid Grid Link Regional Information Offices

Public · 360 views
Created on Mar 29 · By gridlink · Updated Apr 12
Rate this map · Write a comment · KML



EirGrid Middleton Information Centre

Address: O'Riagain House, Castle Redmond, Middleton, Co. Cork
Open every Monday 12 noon to 6pm
Phone: 1890 422 122
email: gridlink@eirgrid.com
Website: www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink



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Open every Thursday 12 noon to 6pm Phone: 1890 422 122
email: gridlink@eirgrid.com
Website: www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink

Report a problem







Project Development & Consultation Road Map

You are Here



You are Here



The Grid Link Project

- Secures supply of energy for the south & east regions
- Facilitates growth in the south & east
- Enables Ireland meet its 40% renewable targets

Health & Safety

EirGrid regards the protection of the health, safety and welfare of its staff and the general public as a core company value.

It is EirGrid's policy to design and operate the transmission network to the highest safety standards and to comply with the most up to date international guidelines and recommendations.

Your Health and Electric & Magnetic Fields (EMF)

A debate about the possible health effects of electric and magnetic fields associated with electric power systems on humans and animals has continued over the last number of decades. Despite extensive worldwide research, international review bodies have found no conclusive evidence that exposure to electric and magnetic fields encountered in normal living and working conditions are harmful to public health.

[Read a full explanation of what an EMF is](#)

Your concerns

EirGrid continues to review new developments and research findings and is satisfied from the totality of studies and the views of authoritative bodies that the balance of evidence is that electric and magnetic field emissions from electric power systems do not cause adverse effects on health.

Contact Us



Postal Address:

The Grid Link Project Manager
EirGrid
P.O. Box 12213
Glenageary
Co. Dublin
Ireland

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Upcoming **open days** in May 2012

Maps:

[Proposed Study Area Map](#)

However, EirGrid recognises that some individuals are genuinely concerned about issues regarding electric and magnetic fields and health. The quality of you and your family's living and working environment, along with the welfare of livestock and farm crops is of the utmost importance to us at all times.

We are committed to addressing your concerns in an open manner. To assist in this process we ask that you consult our booklet on electric and magnetic fields.

[Click here for EMF Booklet](#)

We hope that you find it useful and that it provides answers to questions currently being asked on this issue.

Your questions answered

We are committed to continuously reviewing new research to provide answers to your questions.

If you have concerns about this project, we can make an expert available to you. Please feel free to contact us with your questions.

Your physical safety

To make sure you and your family stay safe during this project, we are following strict guidelines for construction and electrical operations.

In addition, before we start any construction task we will carry out an assessment to explore what hazards may be present. If any are found, we will then make sure they are controlled before works begins.

If you have any other concerns about safety on this project, please contact us.

Finally, we acknowledge the obvious health, social and economic benefits that electric power brings to society and reaffirm our commitment to design and operate the electricity transmission system that facilitates these benefits in a safe, reliable and economic manner.

Videos:

[Grid Link Project Video](#)

[Take a journey through Grid25](#)

Related Documents:

[April 2012 Grid Link Consultation Information Brochure](#)

[April 2012 Grid Link Information Brochure](#)

[April 2012 Study Area Paper](#)

Archive:



Your Health

Collapse all sections

The most common queries we receive concern **Electric & Magnetic Fields** (also called EMFs) and their possible health effects.

For specific information in relation to health concerns and the East West Interconnector, see <http://www.eirgridprojects.com/projects/east-westinterconnector/healthsafety/>

EMF defined

In basic terms, an EMF is present where ever electricity occurs.

EMFs occur both naturally and from man-made objects. For example, the Earth's magnetic field is produced by electric currents circulating in our planet's core. Man-made EMFs are created by things as diverse as electrical power systems and kitchen appliances, e.g. toasters.

Decide for yourself

A debate about the possible harmful **effects** of EMF on humans and animals has continued since the 1970s. Despite extensive worldwide authoritative research, no conclusive evidence has been found that the EMFs caused by power systems result in disease.

However, we do not want to tell you what to think about EMFs. **We invite you to reach your own conclusions.**

You can then explore these details and decide for yourself if EMFs are a problem. We are confident that you will discover there is **little to fear.**

Your Health

- » Your Health
- » Electric & Magnetic Fields (EMFs) explained

Clear, plain English

For more information about EMF's and overhead lines view [EirGrid Booklet on EMF & Electricity](#)

A Review of Recent Investigations into the Possible Health Effects of Exposure to Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) from Power Lines by Prof. Denis O'Sullivan was conducted in July 2010.

It found that the "World Health Organisation, ICNIRP (International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection), the Irish authorities and several other international and national radiation authorities consider that the evidence for increased risk of all other types of cancer, as a result of exposure to power frequency electric and magnetic fields, to be scientifically unconvincing".

Full report: [Office of the Chief Scientific Adviser Review on EMF & Power Lines 2010](#)

The Office of the Chief Scientific Adviser was established in 2004 to provide the Government with independent, expert advice on issues related to public science policy.

Our promise to you

We want to give you everything your need to make up your mind. Therefore, we pledge to constantly review this area.

Your health and safety are absolutely **fundamental** to how we work. We are committed to operating our network in full compliance with international guidelines and recommendations.

Electric & Magnetic Fields (EMFs) explained

Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMFs) are not only a man-made phenomenon. They have always existed. In fact, you are completely surrounded by natural EMFs.

EMFs in nature

Sunlight is the most obvious example of an EMF. This field (in the form of light and heat) provides the energy for most life on our planet.

The **earth** itself also produces an EMF from deep within its core. This field gives rise to the north and south poles, which allow for navigation by compass.

Finally, your own **body** creates an EMF. This is generated by the electrical signals that constantly flash through your nervous system.

Of course, EMFs are also created by **artificial objects**. Anything with an electrical current will produce an EMF. This includes hair dryers, televisions, car batteries and electricity powerlines.

EMFs in more detail

Before we get into the detail of EMFs, let us first define some of the terms we are using.

- **A field:** This term describes the influence an object has on a surrounding space. For example, the 'temperature field' that surrounds a hot water pipe has a heating effect. It can heat up nearby walls.
- **An electric field:** An electric field is produced when voltage is applied to a conductor. For example, when you plug the cable from a toaster into a socket an electric field is created in surrounding air. The higher the voltage, the stronger the field.
- **A magnetic field:** A magnetic field is produced by a magnetic object. Although magnetism appears to be natural to some items (e.g. in the mineral Magnetite), it occurs most frequently when an electrical current flows through an object. For example, an electromagnet creates a magnetic field around itself when a current is applied. This field can then interact with nearby objects, e.g. to lift metal objects.

Differences between electric and magnetic fields

There are some important difference between electric and magnetic fields.

For example, **electric fields** can be blocked very easily by buildings, hedges, fences, trees, etc. As a result, very little energy from any electric fields outside a house (e.g. from a powerline) can penetrate inside it.

By contrast, **magnetic fields** are much harder to screen and not generally screened by buildings.

Another difference is that **electric fields** are created whenever an appliance (such as a radio or TV) is plugged in. The appliance does not have to be turned 'on' in order to produce the electric field. The field is created because a voltage is present.

However, **magnetic fields** are only produced when an appliance is turned on and electric current is flowing.

Electromagnetism, your bicycle and EMFs

You can see that electric and magnetic fields are very tightly linked. In fact, they are just 2 aspects of a single force called **electromagnetism**.

Electromagnetism is what allows us to create electricity from a magnet (or to create a magnet from electricity).

The classic example of electromagnetism is a bicycle dynamo.

When you pedal a bicycle, it causes a magnet to spin every quickly inside a coil of tightly wrapped wire. The spinning magnetic field causes the electrons in the wire to move. This creates electricity, which in turn lights the lamp. (The same electrical current also causes an electric field to be generated).

The opposite is also true.

Spin a coil of tightly wrapped wire carrying an electrical current around a piece of iron, and it will be magnetised. (It also causes a magnetic field to be created).

As you can see, in both instances an EMF has been generated by the dynamo. This EMF surrounds and penetrates your body.

Measuring EMFs

Even though a bicycle dynamo may be very close to you, the risk posed by its EMF is insignificant. This is because the strength of the fields is tiny.

To measure the intensity of an EMF, you need to evaluate 2 factors:

1. How **far** are you from the object that creates it?
2. How **strong** is the field that surrounds you?

The importance of distance

An important characteristic of EMFs is that their strength diminishes as you move away from their source. This is similar to the way that the heat from a candle diminishes as you move away.

The Irish electricity system is designed to ensure that the EMF exposure of someone standing directly under an electricity line (i.e. at a short distance from an EMF source) or standing above an underground cable is well within international and EU guidelines.

Measuring EMF strength

The strength of an EMF can be measured in 3 ways.

1. Electric field strength

This field is measured using 'Volts per metre' or V/m (thousands of volts per metre = kV/m).

2. Magnetic field strength

This field is measured using a scientific quantity called 'Magnetic flux density', expressed in the unit 'Tesla' or T.

3. Frequency

Another—and more fundamental—way to measure both electric and magnetic fields is to calculate the 'frequency' of the electromagnetism that underlies them.

The force of electromagnetism is carried in 'waves' at the speed of light. These waves have 'peaks' and 'troughs' – just like a water wave.

In a '**high frequency**' wave all the peaks and troughs are packed closely together. As a result, they carry lots of energy.

In the '**low frequency**' wave, the peaks and troughs are spaced out. As a result, they are low in energy.

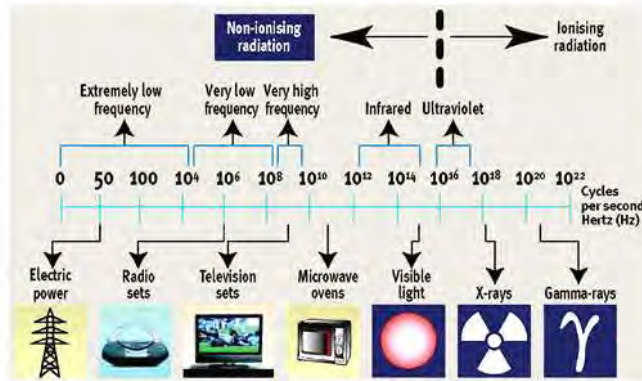
Basically, the higher the frequency of an electromagnetic wave, the more powerful the resulting electric or magnetic field becomes.

Frequency is measured in a unit called Hertz (Hz).

EMF risks, strength & distance

The frequency of the Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMFs) created by the electricity system in Ireland is **50 Hz**, i.e. 50 waves per second.

In comparison with other types of electromagnetic waves, this is extremely low. This is illustrated in the diagram below.



Since the frequency of the electromagnetic waves is so low, the strength of the resulting EMF is also low.

[Types]	Electric field strength (kV/m)	Magnetic flux density (Micro Tesla)
International guideline reference limits	5 kV/m	100 or 100 millionths of a Tesla
400kV powerlines (biggest in Ireland)	1.29 kV/m	1.81 or 1.81 millionths of a Tesla
220kV powerlines (single circuit)	0.359 kV/m	0.71 or 0.71 millionths of a Tesla
110kV powerlines (single circuit)	0.08 kV/m	0.2 or 0.2 millionths of a Tesla

Research into EMFs

Millions have now been spent on research into EMFs and human health. No conclusive evidence has been found that such fields are harmful, at levels to which you can expect to be exposed.

This view is shared by many respected international organisations, including the **World Health Organisation**. The Department of Communications, Marine & Natural Resources and the EU also agree that - based on the balance of evidence - EMFs do not have any adverse effect.

Both these bodies recommend compliance to the **international guideline exposure limits** set by the [International Commission for Non Ionising Radiation](#) (ICNIRP). These guidelines are designed to limit human exposure to electromagnetic fields.

The guidelines have become the international standard for EMF safety. The ICNIRP guidelines are reviewed on a regular basis and were endorsed by the World Health Organization's most recent EMF report in 2007.



The Grid Link Project

- Secures supply of energy for the south & east regions
- Facilitates growth in the south & east
- Enables Ireland meet its 40% renewable targets

FAQs

We answered a number of questions that are frequently asked by members of the public; however should you require further information please contact us or join us at one of our [open days](#).

[Collapse all sections](#)

What is the Grid Link Project?

To ensure future electrical power needs are met in the south and east of Ireland, EirGrid is investing an estimated €500 million in a new development called the Grid Link Project. The project consists of a new high voltage power line linking Leinster and Munster.

What will the development consist of?

The Grid Link Project represents a significant upgrade of the electricity grid and involves the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster. Based on assessments to date, EirGrid has determined that in order to best meet the needs of the south and east, the optimum solution is the construction of a 400 kV Alternating Current (AC) overhead line linking Cork and Kildare via Wexford. EirGrid will review its technology assumptions at key stages throughout the project to ensure they remain valid.



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The Grid Link Project Manager
EirGrid
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Glenageary
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Upcoming **open days** in May 2012

Why is this project needed?

The Grid Link Project will help secure Ireland's electricity supply for our future

- Based on EirGrid's assessment to date it has been identified that, if left unchanged, the existing grid in the south and east of Ireland will not be sufficient to meet our future electricity needs, thus jeopardising electricity supply to the area.
- The Grid Link Project will facilitate the integration of renewable energy onto the transmission system, thereby reducing our reliance on imported fossil fuels.
- The Grid Link Project will facilitate further electricity interconnection with the European grid, providing a more secure electricity system.

The Grid Link Project will empower growth in the south and east of Ireland

- A region with a high-quality, secure supply of electricity is better placed to attract inward investment that will bring employment and prosperity. The Grid Link Project will facilitate this for communities in the south and east of Ireland.
- The Grid Link Project will help ensure that the most efficient electricity generators in the south and east are utilised in the most effective way, helping Ireland make best use of its resources.
- The Grid Link Project will help enable Ireland to shift from a heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels to more sustainable sources of energy.

The Grid Link Project will help enable Ireland to meet its 40% renewable energy target

- Ireland's national goal is to meet 40% of electricity demand from renewable sources by 2020 – these include wind, wave and tidal energy. The Grid Link Project will enable this to happen.
- The growth of the wind energy sector represents an opportunity to reduce our dependence on imported fossil fuels and foster a clean, indigenous, and sustainable energy source and reduce our CO₂ emissions.
- Ireland has one of the best wind resources in Europe and The Grid Link Project forms a critical element in helping to maximise the potential use of this natural resource.

Maps:

[Proposed Study Area Map](#)

Videos:

[Grid Link Project Video](#)

[Take a journey through Grid25](#)

Related Documents:

[April 2012 Grid Link Consultation Information Brochure](#)

[April 2012 Grid Link Information Brochure](#)

[April 2012 Study Area Paper](#)

Archive:

- The Grid Link Project will facilitate supply of enough wind energy to power 750,000 homes.

What Benefits will it bring?

The Grid Link Project is a vital development for the regions that will deliver a wide range of benefits, which include:

- Securing future electricity supply for homes, businesses, farms, factories and communities
- Helping empower growth in the south and east of Ireland
- Helping Ireland to meet its 40% renewable energy targets

EirGrid has established a dedicated project team to develop a route and substation sites for the Grid Link project. EirGrid does not expect to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval before 2015 and public consultation will form an important part of all stages of the project over the coming years.

Why this Proposed Study Area?

A study area is the search area within which a project will be located. To identify the appropriate study area for The Grid Link Project it is necessary to start where the new link can connect to the existing grid. Based on EirGrid's assessments, to date, the optimum connection points (i.e. transmission substations) on the grid have been identified as Knockraha in County Cork, Great Island in County Wexford, and Dunstown in County Kildare.

Why have the three connection points been chosen?

- The points are capable of integrating the electricity carried on the new 400 kV link onto the existing electricity grid.
- They are geographically well-positioned to meet the strategic needs of the network development.

Why has this proposed study area been chosen?

- The proposed study area must be large enough to encompass the strategic objectives and drivers for the project, including the three connecting points of Dunstown, Knockraha, and Great Island.
- The study area broadly follows significant jurisdictional or physical boundaries (e.g. motorways, the coastline, or administrative boundaries).
- The study area is influenced by the technology used to connect the three points.

When will a planning application be made?

We envisage submitting a planning application to An Bord Pleanála no sooner than the end of 2015.

What stage is the project at now (April 2012)?

We are currently at the initial phase of the project where we have just launched the project to the public. We are currently seeking comment from the public in relation to the study area and we are consulting and seeking feedback on the constraints contained within the proposed study area.

What Public Consultation will happen? / How will the project be developed?

The public will be consulted extensively through a series of non-statutory and statutory consultations to gather information and feedback from the earliest stages of project development right through to the completion of the project.

Developing the Grid Link Project will involve a number of steps over the coming years. Firstly a study area is identified. This is a search area where the project will be located.

Then constraints are mapped in the study area. Constraints are features or designations, such as protected areas, in the landscape that might make an area unsuitable for the project.

Once constraints are mapped, corridors will be identified and then assessed to determine which is the least constrained. A 'least constrained corridor' is the corridor that achieves the most acceptable balance between competing constraints while meeting the needs of the project. This corridor and an indicative line route and substation locations will be subject to further study. The indicative line is the proposed alignment for the project, based on the information available at the time. These locations are then subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which forms the basis of an application that is submitted to An Bord Pleanála for approval.

At all stages, feedback from the public will be reviewed and considered by the project team. As the project develops, the public, local communities and everyone who is interested in the Grid Link Project will have regular opportunities to review and provide input into the issues and options under consideration.

EirGrid will review its technology assumptions at key stages throughout the project to ensure they remain valid

Where and how can people engage with the project team?

Visit the project team at The Grid Link Project information centres, as follows:

The EirGrid Middleton Information Centre

Open every Monday from 12 noon to 6pm

Oikoseen House, Castleredmond, Middleton, Co. Cork

The EirGrid Carrick-on-Suir Information Centre

Open every Tuesday from 12 noon to 6pm

Carrick Community Business Centre, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary

The EirGrid New Ross Information Centre

Open every Wednesday from 12 noon to 6pm

The Coach House, Marsh Lane, New Ross, Co. Wexford

The EirGrid Carlow Information Centre Open every Thursday from 12 noon to 6pm Enterprise House, O'Brien Road, Carlow, Co. Carlow

Telephone: Lo-call 1890 422 122

Email: gridlink@eirgrid.com

Visit the website: www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink

Write: The Grid Link Project Manager, EirGrid, PO Box 12213, Glenageary, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

The Grid Link Project in any of the following ways: Email Us: gridlink@eirgrid.com

Attend an Open Day:

1. Wednesday, 2nd May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
Midleton Park Hotel, Midleton, Co. Cork
2. Tuesday, 8th May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
The Granville Hotel, Waterford, Co. Waterford
3. Thursday, 10th May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
Killashee House Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare
4. Friday, 11th May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
Clonmel Park Conference, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
5. Tuesday, 15th May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
Kilkenny Ormonde, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny
6. Tuesday, 22nd May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
Druids Glen, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow
7. Wednesday, 23rd May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
Talbot Wexford, Wexford, Co. Wexford

What are stakeholders being consulted on in this first consultation?

Stakeholder are being invited to:

- Comment on the proposed study area map: Has EirGrid considered all relevant criteria when determining the study area? Should anything else have been considered?
- Identify constraints that should be considered for further review: Are you aware of any locally or regionally important features that you believe should be considered as the project develops? Constraints can be anything from natural features in the landscape to cultural or archaeological structures. They are mapped in the study area and taken into account when corridors are identified.
- Provide feedback on how corridors should be developed: How should constraints or features in the landscape be taken into account when corridors are defined for the project?
- Any other issues? If you have any other issues that you think should be taken into account at this stage of the project EirGrid would welcome your input.
- Comment on how they should be involved or communicated with, as the project progresses?

The Grid Link Project: Public Consultation Notice



EirGrid is the Irish state-owned company responsible for operating and developing the electricity transmission grid in Ireland for the benefit of all electricity consumers.

To ensure future electrical power needs are met in the south and east of Ireland, EirGrid is investing an estimated €500 million in a new development called the Grid Link Project. The project consists of a new 400 kV overhead power line linking Leinster and Munster.

The Grid Link Project is a vital development for the regions that will deliver a wide range of benefits, including:

- Securing future electricity supply for homes, businesses, farms, factories, and communities
- Helping empower growth in the south and east of Ireland
- Helping Ireland to meet its 40% renewable energy targets

In pursuing the Grid Link Project EirGrid encourages you to participate in the consultation process and will listen to what you have to say.

The first stage of public consultation focuses on the proposed study area and on the identification of constraints.

This consultation will run for eight weeks, from Thursday 12th April to Friday 8th June 2012, and all interested stakeholders are invited to engage.

OPEN DAYS

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NEWTOWNMOUNTKENNEDY OPEN DAY

Tuesday, 22nd May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
Druids Glen Resort, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow

WEXFORD OPEN DAY

Wednesday, 23rd May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
Talbot Wexford, Wexford, Co. Wexford

Map of Proposed Study Area



Visit our Information Centres, open as follows from 16th April 2012:

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Open every Tuesday from 12 noon to 6pm
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Open every Wednesday from 12 noon to 6pm
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Open every Thursday from 12 noon to 6pm
Enterprise House, O'Brien Road, Carlow, Co. Carlow

Email Us: gridlink@eirgrid.com
Phone Us: 1890 422 122
Write To Us: The Grid Link Project Manager,
EirGrid, P.O. Box 12213, Glenageary, Co. Dublin,
Ireland
Web: www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink

GRID25
DELIVERING IRELAND'S ELECTRICITY FUTURE



The Grid Link Project

- Secures supply of energy for the south & east regions
- Facilitates growth in the south & east
- Enables Ireland meet its 40% renewable targets

Benefits



Postal Address:

The Grid Link Project Manager
 EirGrid
 P.O. Box 12213
 Glenageary
 Co. Dublin
 Ireland

Phone lo-call: 1890 422 122

Email: gridlink@eirgrid.com

Regional Offices

For Details of our Regional Offices

Open Day Series One

Upcoming **open days** in May 2012

Maps:

[Proposed Study Area Map](#)

Videos:

[Grid Link Project Video](#)

The Grid Link Project will help secure Ireland’s electricity supply for our future

Based on EirGrid’s assessment to date it has been identified that, if left unchanged, the existing grid in the south and east of Ireland will not be sufficient to meet our future electricity needs, thus jeopardising electricity supply to the area. The Grid Link Project will facilitate the integration of renewable energy onto the transmission system, thereby reducing our reliance on imported fossil fuels. The Grid Link Project will facilitate further electricity interconnection with the European grid, providing a more secure electricity system.

The Grid Link Project will empower growth in the south and east of Ireland

A region with a high-quality, secure supply of electricity is better placed to attract inward investment that will bring employment and prosperity. The Grid Link Project will facilitate this for communities in the south and east of Ireland. The Grid Link Project will help ensure that the most efficient electricity generators in the south and east are utilised in the most effective way, helping Ireland make best use of its resources. The Grid Link Project will help enable Ireland to shift from a heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels to more sustainable sources of energy.

The Grid Link Project will help enable Ireland to meet its 40% renewable energy target

Ireland’s national goal is to meet 40% of electricity demand from renewable sources by 2020 – these include wind, wave and tidal energy. The Grid Link Project will enable this to happen. The growth of the wind energy sector represents an opportunity to reduce our dependence on imported fossil fuels and foster a clean, indigenous, and sustainable energy source and reduce our CO2 emissions. Ireland has one of the best wind resources in Europe and The Grid Link Project forms a critical element in helping to maximise the potential use of this natural resource. The Grid Link Project will facilitate supply of enough wind energy to power 750,000 homes.

[Take a journey through Grid25](#)

Related Documents:

[April 2012 Grid Link Consultation Information Brochure](#)

[April 2012 Grid Link Information Brochure](#)

[April 2012 Study Area Paper](#)

Archive:



The Grid Link Project

- Secures supply of energy for the south & east regions
- Facilitates growth in the south & east
- Enables Ireland meet its 40% renewable targets

Project Activity

May 2012

Open Day Series one commences on the 2nd of May 2012, this is an opportunity to meet with the project team, find out more information about the project and give your feedback.

Open Day	Date and Time	Location
Midleton Open Day	Wednesday, 2nd May 2012 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Midleton Park Hotel Midleton, Co. Cork
Waterford Open Day	Tuesday, 8th May 2012 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	The Granville Hotel Waterford
Naas Open Day	Thursday, 10th May 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Killashee House Hotel Naas, Co. Kildare
Clonmel Open Day	Friday, 11th May 2012 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Clonmel Park Conference Clonmel, Co. Tipperary



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EirGrid
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Glenageary
Co. Dublin
Ireland

Phone lo-call: 1890 422 122

Email: gridlink@eirgrid.com

Regional Offices

[For Details of our Regional Offices](#)

Open Day Series One

Upcoming [open days](#) in May 2012

Kilkenny Open Day	Tuesday, 15th May 2012 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny
Newtownmountkennedy Open Day	Tuesday, 22nd May 2012 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Druids Glen Resort, Newtownmountkennedy Co. Wicklow
Wexford Open Day	Wednesday, 23rd May 2012 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Talbot Wexford Wexford

April 2012

12th April 2012: Public consultation starts today on the Grid Link Project, an estimated €500 million project planned by EirGrid to upgrade the electricity grid that will deliver a wide range of benefits to the national and regional economies. The development will involve the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.

The initial proposed project study area, spanning counties Carlow, Cork, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford and Wicklow, is now the subject of non-statutory public consultation. This first stage of consultation will run for an eight-week period from Thursday 12th April 2012 to Friday 8th June 2012.



For more information on this first stage of consultation, please see the [April 2012 Grid Link Information Brochure](#) and [Press Release](#)

EirGrid has established a comprehensive information service to inform people about the project, answer their questions, provide access to maps and technical documentation and hear their views.

Information offices will open in New Ross, Carlow, Carrick-on-Suir and Middleton on Monday, 16th April.

A lo-call information line, **1890-422 122** has been established and will be open manned Monday-Friday between 9.00am and 5.00pm (excluding bank holidays).

Public open days will be held in May.

People may also email the project team at gridlink@eirgrid.com

Maps:

[Proposed Study Area Map](#)

Videos:

[Grid Link Project Video](#)

[Take a journey through Grid25](#)

Related Documents:

[April 2012 Grid Link Consultation Information Brochure](#)

[April 2012 Grid Link Information Brochure](#)

[April 2012 Study Area Paper](#)

Archive:

MAJOR NEW ELECTRICITY POWER LINK FOR LEINSTER & MUNSTER TO ENSURE A SECURE AND RELIABLE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, PROVIDE A PLATFORM FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE & CLEAN ENERGY

PUBLIC CONSULTATION OPENS TODAY

Cork, 12TH April 2012: Public consultation starts today on the Grid Link Project, an estimated €500 million project planned by EirGrid to upgrade the electricity grid that will deliver a wide range of benefits to the national and regional economies. The development will involve the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.

Launching the Grid Link Project in Cork today Mr. Pat Rabbitte, T.D., Minister for Communications, Energy & Natural Resources, said it will provide a secure, long-term electricity supply for homes and businesses across the south and east of the country.

He said: “The Grid Link Project will reinforce the electricity grid and have direct economic benefits for our local communities. I encourage people to engage in the public consultation and provide feedback to EirGrid.”

EirGrid carried out a detailed analysis of the national transmission grid to identify the level of reinforcement required to ensure a secure electricity supply and to enable the country achieve its renewable energy targets. This analysis identified a capacity shortfall in the south and east of the country.

Dermot Byrne, chief executive of EirGrid, said: “This is a vital development strengthening the electricity grid across the south and east of the country that will help empower economic growth and enable Ireland to meet its renewable energy targets.

“The project will help enable Ireland to shift from a heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels to more sustainable sources of energy. It will also help ensure that the most efficient electricity generators in the south and east are utilised in the most effective way,” he added.

Seán Murphy, head of policy & communications at Chambers Ireland, said: “EirGrid’s initiative to reinforce the grid in the south and east of the country will ensure that the area is well positioned to deal with future growth in energy demand in the medium term. A robust and future-proofed energy infrastructure is a vital prerequisite for new industries that may be attracted to locate in the region. The Grid Link Project is a significant opportunity that will underpin the attractiveness of the area. It will also assure electricity availability for existing homes, farms and businesses while underpinning the development of the renewable energy sector. This in turn will create new job opportunities. For these reasons, we welcome EirGrid’s plans.”

EirGrid has established a dedicated project team that has identified a proposed study area within which the project will be located. The project team will undertake detailed studies and extensive public consultation over the coming years to determine constraints that will influence the siting and route selection.

The initial proposed project study area, spanning counties Carlow, Cork, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford and Wicklow, is now the subject of non-statutory public consultation. This first stage of consultation will run for an eight-week period from today, Thursday 12th April 2012 to Friday 8th June 2012. For more information visit www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink

“During this first stage of public consultation, EirGrid is seeking comment on the proposed study area map, feedback on what constraints should be identified and on how EirGrid should develop corridors for the project,” said John Lowry, the Grid Link Project manager. “This is a non-statutory consultation that will provide all interested individuals and organisations an opportunity to feed into the early development of the project.”

Based on assessments to date, EirGrid has determined that the optimum solution is the construction of a 400 kV alternating current (AC) overhead line linking Cork and Kildare via Wexford. EirGrid will review its technology analysis at key stages throughout the project to ensure it remains valid.

EirGrid has established a comprehensive information service to inform people about the project, answer their questions, provide access to maps and technical documentation and hear their views. Information offices will open in New Ross, Carlow, Carrick-on-Suir and Midleton from next Monday, 16th April. A lo-call information line, 1890-422 122, is operated during office hours and public open days will be held in May. People may also email the project to gridlink@eirgrid.com.

The Grid Link Project is a key element of EirGrid’s Grid25 strategy - a €3.2 billion investment in developing and upgrading Ireland’s electricity transmission grid.

ENDS



Get directions

My places



Save to My Places

Explore making custom maps in an interactive tutorial.

EirGrid Grid Link Regional Information Offices

Public · 360 views
Created on Mar 29 · By gridlink · Updated Apr 12
Rate this map · Write a comment · KML



EirGrid Midleton Information Centre

Address: O'Riagain House, Castle Redmond, Midleton, Co. Cork
Open every Monday 12 noon to 6pm
Phone: 1890 422 122
email: gridlink@eirgrid.com
Website: www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink



EirGrid Carrick-On-Suir Information Centre

Address: Carrick Community Business Centre, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary
Open every Tuesday 12 noon to 6pm
Phone: 1890 422 122
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EirGrid New Ross Information Centre

Address: The Coach House, Marsh Lane, New Ross, Co. Wexford
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Phone: 1890 422 122
email: gridlink@eirgrid.com
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EirGrid Carlow Information Centre

Address: Enterprise House, O'Brien Road, Carlow, Co. Carlow
Open every Thursday 12 noon to 6pm Phone: 1890 422 122
email: gridlink@eirgrid.com
Website: www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink

Report a problem



The Grid Link Project: Public Consultation Notice



EirGrid is the Irish state-owned company responsible for operating and developing the electricity transmission grid in Ireland for the benefit of all electricity consumers.

To ensure future electrical power needs are met in the south and east of Ireland, EirGrid is investing an estimated €500 million in a new development called the Grid Link Project. The project consists of a new 400 kV overhead power line linking Leinster and Munster.

The Grid Link Project is a vital development for the regions that will deliver a wide range of benefits, including:

- Securing future electricity supply for homes, businesses, farms, factories, and communities
- Helping empower growth in the south and east of Ireland
- Helping Ireland to meet its 40% renewable energy targets

In pursuing the Grid Link Project EirGrid encourages you to participate in the consultation process and will listen to what you have to say.

The first stage of public consultation focuses on the proposed study area and on the identification of constraints.

This consultation will run for eight weeks, from Thursday 12th April to Friday 8th June 2012, and all interested stakeholders are invited to engage.

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Map of Proposed Study Area



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The Coach House, Marsh Lane, New Ross, Co. Wexford
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GRID25
DELIVERING IRELAND'S ELECTRICITY FUTURE





The Grid Link Project

- Secures supply of energy for the south & east regions
- Facilitates growth in the south & east
- Enables Ireland meet its 40% renewable targets

Grid Link Project Video



ANDREW COOKE
DIRECTOR, GRID DEVELOPMENT & COMMERCIAL



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APPENDIX G

Media Coverage 12 April – 8th June 2012

Grid Link Public Consultation 1 – Media Coverage

Print Media Cover: Public Consultation 1 – 12.04.12 – 06.06.12

Date	Publication	Title
12.04.12	Evening Herald	EirGrid's €500m project to boost power links
13.04.12	Evening Echo	Public get say on new power line to link Cork to Kildare
13.04.12	Irish Examiner	EirGrid urged to liaise with landowners over power line
13.04.12	Irish Independent	Co-operative landowners can expect high compensation rate
13.04.12	Irish Independent	Giant pylons network 'to cut energy bills by 10pc'
13.04.12	Irish Times	EirGrid plans EUR500m pylon corridor across southeast
13.04.12	Irish Times	Farmers' Body Warns of Need for Consultation Over Route
13.04.12	Metro-Herald	Pylon plan would stretch to 250km
13.04.12	Star	EUR500 power line to link provinces
13.04.12	Star	More Power to EirGrid
14.04.12	Southern Star	EirGrid to lodge planning
16.04.12	Evening Echo	Chamber hails Cork power link to Kildare
17.04.12	Carlow Nationalist	High-voltage power line could run through the country
17.04.12	Donegal Democrat	EirGrid must consult - IFA
17.04.12	Donegal People's Press	EirGrid must consult - IFA
17.04.12	Enniscorthy Guardian	IFA encourages landowners to engage in consultations
17.04.12	Enniscorthy Guardian	Power line is likely to run through Co. Wexford
17.04.12	Evening Echo	IFA welcome for EirGrid's network development scheme
17.04.12	Gorey Gaurdian	IFA encourages landowners to engage in consultations
17.04.12	Gorey Guardian	Power line is likely to run through Co. Wexford
17.04.12	Irish Independent	IFA warn on EirGrid upgrade
17.04.12	Kildare Post	Grid link project open day
17.04.12	New Ross Standard	IFA encourages landowners to engage in consultations
17.04.12	New Ross Standard	Power line is likely to run through Co. Wexford
17.04.12	Offaly Express	Lessons need to be learned ahead of EirGrid upgrades
18.04.12	Anglo Celt	EirGrid upgrade work must include proper consultation with landowners
18.04.12	Bray People	IFA encourages landowners to engage in consultations
18.04.12	Bray People	Power line is likely to run through Co. Wicklow
18.04.12	Corkman	Anti-pylon group set to oppose EirGrid plans
18.04.12	Finn Valley Voice	EIRGRID UpGrade Work Must Include Proper Consultation With Landowners
18.04.12	Wexford People	Power line is likely to run through county
18.04.12	Wexford People	IFA encourages landowners to engage in consultations
19.04.12	Anglo Celt	EirGrid upgrade work must include proper consultation with landowners
19.04.12	Cork Independent	Consultation process launched
19.04.12	Northern Standard	EirGrid upgrade work must include proper consultation with landowners
19.04.12	Tipperary Star	Concerns Over EUR500m EirGrid Power Line
19.04.12	Vale Star	EirGrid upgrade work must include proper consultation with landowners
20.04.12	Clare Champion	IFA meeting EirGrid
20.12.04	Irish Times	EUR240m EirGrid project to develop power grid in west
20.04.12	Dungarvan Leader	EirGrid Upgrade Work Must Include Proper Consultation With Landowners
21.04.12	Irish Farmers Journal	EirGrid upgrade must include proper consultation
21.04.12	Irish Farmers Journal	Leinster to Munster power line to cost EUR500m

24.04.12	Carlow Nationalist	EirGrid upgrade gets cautious welcome
24.04.12	Kildare Nationalist	Powerline will be close to Kilcullen
24.04.12	Kildare Nationalist	Public consultation on power line plan
24.04.12	Leinster Leader	IFA warns EirGrid over Kilcullen investment
25.04.12	Leinster Express	No Grid Link to Ratheniska
28.04.12	Southern Star	EirGrid power link will be big boost for two provinces
28.04.12	Southern Star	Kingston calls on EirGrid to consult with farmers
01.05.12	Evening Echo	Chamber's joy at EirGrid's EUR500 million investment
01.05.12	Kildare Post	Grid open day
01.05.12	New Ross Standard	Open day allows public run rule over Grid Link Project
01.05.12	Evening Echo	EirGrid open day
02.05.12	Bray People	Public's opportunity to have their say on new power line
02.05.12	Evening Echo	EirGrid team to answer queries
02.05.12	Leinster Express	EirGrid to hold open days
02.05.12	Leinster Express	Meeting to discuss EirGrid plans
02.05.12	Wicklow People	Public's opportunity to have their say on new power line
03.05.12	Clonmel Nationalist	Open day to discuss new power line linking Munster and Leinster
04.05.12	Evening Echo	EirGrid hosts Midelton open day to inform public of future projects
04.05.12	Kilkenny People	Open day on new electricity pylon scheme planned for Kilkenny and Leinster
08.05.12	Kildare Nationalist	Open day for Grid Link project
08.05.12	Leinster Leader	EirGrid project meeting
08.05.12	Leinster Leader	Open meeting in Naas about pylon route
09.05.12	Evening Echo	Chambers welcome Grid Link Project plan
15.05.12	Evening Echo	Grid Link project will connect Cork-Kildare
15.05.12	Evening Echo	Project will look to hire CIT and UCC graduates
15.05.12	Evening Echo	To meet 40% renewable energy targets scheme aims to build an overhead line linking Cork and Kildare via Wexford
15.05.12	Kildare Nationalist	Public concern over plans for overhead lines and pylons
22.05.12	Enniscorthy Guardian	Opinions sought on Eur 500m EirGrid plan
22.05.12	Carlow Nationalist	Councillors voice concern over power line project
22.05.12	Gorey Guardian	Opinions sought on EUR500m EirGrid plan
22.05.12	New Ross Standard	Opinions sought on E500m EirGrid plan
23.05.12	Wexford People	Opinions sought on €500m EirGrid plan
25.05.12	Kilkenny People	New high voltage power line likely to run through Kilkenny
29.05.12	Carlow People	EirGrid make council pitch
05.06.12	New Ross Standard	Plans for electricity grid upgrade go on display
06.06.12	Wexford People	Plans for electricity grid upgrade go on display

Printed Advertisements: Public Consultation 1 – 16.04.12 – 17.05.12

Date	Publication	Title
16.04.12	Irish Examiner	Project information centres
17.04.12	Carlow nationalist	Project information centres
17.04.12	Enniscorthy Guardian	Project information centres
17.04.12	Gorey Guardian	Project information centres
17.04.12	Kildare Nationalist	Project information centres
17.04.12	Laoise nationalist	Project information centres
17.04.12	Leinster Leader	Project information centres
17.04.12	Offaly Express	Project information centres
17.04.12	Waterford News and Star	Project information centres
18.04.12	Bray People	Project information centres
18.04.12	Leinster Express	Project information centres
18.04.12	Wexford People	Project information centres
19.04.12	Clondalkin Echo	Project information centres
19.04.12	Cork Man	Project information centres
19.04.12	Dun Laoghaire Gazette	Project information centres
19.04.12	Dundrum Gazette	Project information centres
19.04.12	South Tipp Today	Project information centres
19.04.12	Tallaght Echo	Project information centres
19.04.12	The Nationalist	Project information centres
20.04.12	Kilkenny People	Project information centres
20.04.12	New Ross Standard	Project information centres
21.04.12	Limerick Leader	Project information centres
21.04.12	Nenagh Guardian	Project information centres
21.04.12	Southern Star	Project information centres
30.04.12	Irish Examiner	Public Consultation 1
01.05.12	Carlow People	Public Consultation 1
01.05.12	Waterford News and Star	Public Consultation 1
02.05.12	Leinster Express	Public Consultation 1
03.05.12	Dun Laoghaire Gazette	Public Consultation 1
03.05.12-	Dundrum Gazette	Public Consultation 1
04.05.12	Kilkenny People	Public Consultation 1
04.05.12	Munster Express	Public Consultation 1
05.05.12	Limerick Leader	Public Consultation 1
08.05.12	Carlow Nationalist	Public Consultation 1
08.05.12	Kildare Nationalist	Public Consultation 1
08.05.12	Leinster Leader	Public Consultation 1
10.05.12	Clonmel Nationalist	Public Consultation 1
10.05.12	Tiperary Star	Public Consultation 1
12.05.12	Nenagh Guardian	Public Consultation 1
15.05.12	Enniscorthy Guardian	Public Consultation 1
15.05.12	Enniscorthy Guardian	Public Consultation 1
15.05.12	Enniscorthy Guardian	Public Consultation 1
15.05.12	New Ross Standard	Public Consultation 1
15.05.12	Wicklow Times	Public Consultation 1
16.05.12	Irish Examiner	Knockraha Information Evening
16.05.12	Kilkenny Reporter	Public Consultation 1
16.05.12	Wexford People	Public Consultation 1
16.05.12	Wicklow People	Public Consultation 1
17.05.12	Evening Echo	Knockraha Information Evening

Online Media Coverage: Public Consultation 1 – 12.04.12 – 08.06.12

Date	Source	Title	Link
12.04.12	Boards.ie	EirGrid to build €500m power line between Leinster and Munster	http://www.boards.ie/vbulletin/showthread.php?threadid=2056604183
12.04.12	Build.ie	New Electricity Power Link For Leinster And Munster Launched In Cork	http://www.build.ie/construction_news.asp?newsid=142749
12.04.12	Business and Leadership	EirGrid Launches Consultation on €500m Electricity Grid Link Project	http://www.businessandleadership.com/business/item/34699-eirgrid-launches-consultati
12.04.12	DCENR	Address by Minister Pat Rabbitte at the Launch of the Eirgrid Gridlink Project	http://www.dcenr.gov.ie/Corporate+Units/Press+Room/Speeches/2012/Address+by+Minister+Pat+Rabbitte+at+the+Launch+of+the+Eirgrid+Gridlink+Project.htm
12.04.12	IFA.ie	Eirgrid Upgrade Work Must Include Proper Consultation With Landowners	http://www.ifa.ie/News/tabid/640/ctl/Detail/mid/2250/xmid/5096/xmfid/23/Default.aspx
12.04.12	Independent.ie	EirGrid identifies three sites for €500m electricity network linking Leinster and Munster	http://www.independent.ie/national-news/eirgrid-identifies-three-sites-for-500m-electricity-network-linking-leinster-and-munster-3079901.html
12.04.12	Independent.ie	Eirgrid's €500m link between Leinster and Munster open to public consultation	http://www.independent.ie/business/irish/500m-plan-to-link-electricity-supplies-between-kildare-and-munster-unveiled-by-eirgrid-3079700.html
12.04.12	Kildare Planning Blog	Eirgrid plans new power line from Leinster to Munster	http://kildareplanner.wordpress.com/tag/eirgrid/
12.04.12	Politics.ie	EirGrid – Investment	http://www.politics

			.ie/forum/environment/186142-eirgrid-investment-print.html?pp=40
12.04.12	RTE News	EirGrid to build €500m power line between Leinster and Munster	http://www.rte.ie/news/2012/0412/eirgrid-confirms-500m-power-line-investment.html
12.04.12	Silicon Republic	Public consultation opens for EirGrid's €500m electricity grid link	http://www.siliconrepublic.com/clean-tech/item/26673-public-consultation-opens/
12.04.12	Sligo Today	EirGrid upgrade work must consult with landowners	http://www.sligotoday.ie/details.php?id=19591&PHPSESSID=cee8f687c6c41e4549f6dd743a21b665
12.04.12	The Daily Business Post Online	Consultation starts on electricity grid upgrade	http://www.businesspost.ie/#
12.04.12	The Irish Times Online	EirGrid confirms €500m power link	http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/breaking/2012/0412/breaking28_pf.html
12.04.12	Topix.com	EirGrid identifies three sites for 500m electricity network linking Leinster and Munster	http://www.topix.com/forum/world/ireland/TD43ROOP55QA5U83N
13.04.12	Build.ie	EirGrid Upgrade Work Must Include Proper Consultation with Landowners - IFA	http://www.build.ie/construction_news.asp?newsid=142828
13.04.12	Independent.ie	Giant pylon network 'to cut energy bills by 10pc'	http://www.independent.ie/national-news/giant-ylon-network-to-cut-energy-bills-by-10pc-3080106.html
13.04.12	InsideIreland.ie_	New pylons will save customers 10	http://insideireland.ie/2012/04/13/new-pylons-will-save-customers-10-65496/
13.04.12	Kilcullenbridge	Planned Eirgrid line will come to Kilcullen	http://kilcullenbridge.blogspot.com/2012/04/planned-eirgrid-line-will-come-to.html
13.04.12	ReCharge.com	Planned 250km Irish power line would boost wind industry	http://www.recharge.com/energy/wind/article310836.ece

13.04.12	Stephen Little	EirGrid Announces New €500m 'GridLink' Transmission Line	http://www.slapdc.com/news/108-gridlink.html
13.04.12	The Anglo-Celt Online	EirGrid upgrade work must include proper consultation with landowners	http://www.anglocelt.ie/news/farming/articles/2012/04/13/4010017-eirgrid-upgrade-work-must-include-proper-consultation-with-landowners/
13.04.12	The Cork News Online	€500m EirGrid project to benefit Cork	http://thecorknews.ie/articles/%E2%82%AC500m-eirgrid-project-benefit-cork-5135
13.04.12	utilitiesnetwork.energy-business-review.com	EirGrid plans EUR500m power project in Ireland	http://utilitiesnetwork.energy-business-review.com/news/eirgrid-plans-eur500m-power-project-in-ireland-130412
16.04.12	Enviro-solutinos.com	Major new electricity power link for Leinster & Munster - public consultation	http://www.envirosolutions.com/dailynews2/120412-grid-link.htm
17.04.12	Leinster Leader	Massive national power line to end near Kilcullen	http://www.leinsterleader.ie/news/local/massive-national-power-line-to-end-near-kilcullen-1-3741577
17.12.04	Offaly Express	Lessons need to be learned ahead of EirGrid upgrades	http://www.offalyexpress.ie/news/business/lessons-need-to-be-learned-ahead-of-eirgrid-upgrades-1-3741266
18.04.12	Leinster Express	Fears growing over pylons	http://www.leinsterexpress.ie/news/fears-growing-over-pylons-1-3746585
18.04.12	Wicklow People	IFA encourages landowners to engage in consultations	http://www.wicklowpeople.ie/news/ifa-encourages-landowners-to-engage-in-consultations-3084243.html
19.04.12	Cork Independent Online	Consultation process launched	http://corkindependent.com/stories/item/8619/2012-

			16/Consultation-process-launched
19.04.12	Industrial Info Resources	Ireland's EirGrid Proposes €500 Million Grid Project	http://www.industrialinfo.com/showAbstract.jsp?newsitemID=212520
19.04.12	Silicon Republic	Grid25 will help Ireland's economic recovery, EirGrid says	http://www.siliconrepublic.com/innovation/item/26802-grid25-will-help-irelands/
20.04.12	Build.ie	Improved Grid Will Facilitate Recovery	http://www.build.ie/construction_news.asp?newsid=143286
24.04.12	Offaly Express	Fears growing over pylons	http://www.offalyexpress.ie/news/business/fears-growing-over-pylons-1-3767750
28.04.12	The Nationalist	EirGrid upgrade gets cautious welcome	http://www.carlow-nationalist.ie/tabId/401/itemId/14567/EirGrid-upgrade-gets-cautious-welcome.aspx
01.05.12	Kilkenny People	Open day on new electricity pylon scheme planned for Kilkenny and Leinster	http://www.kilkennypeople.ie/news/local/open-day-on-new-electricity-ylon-scheme-planned-for-kilkenny-and-leinster-1-3793467
03.05.12	Leinster Express	Meeting to discuss Egrid plan	http://www.leinsterexpress.ie/news/local/meeting-to-discuss-eigrd-plan-1-3799012
03.05.12	Silobreaker	Links to articles	http://www.silobreaker.com/meeting-to-discuss-eigrd-plan-5_2265669370111852681
08.05.12	Laois Nationalist	Substation group says county manager won	http://www.laois-nationalist.ie/tabId/153/itemId/14724/Substation-group-says-county-manager-wont-meet-th.aspx
08.05.12	Leinster Express	Eirgrid to hold open days	http://www.leinsterexpress.ie/news/business/eirgrid-to-

			hold-open-days-1-3799061
09.05.12	Leinster Express	Thursday protest over power substation	http://www.leinsterexpress.ie/news/business/thursday-protest-over-power-substation-1-3822445
10.05.12	Leinster Leader	Open meeting in Naas about pylon route	http://www.leinsterleader.ie/news/local/open-meeting-in-naas-about-ylon-route-1-3822367
10.05.12	Northern Sound	Protest against Eirgrid's plans for a substation take place in Portlaoise	http://www.northernsound.ie/news-details.php?nid=10232&action=newsdetails
11.05.12	A Kilcullen Diary	'Not enough notice' of electricity line information event	http://kilcullenbridge.blogspot.com/2012/05/not-enough-notice-of-electricity-line.htm
15.05.12	KCLR96FM Website	500m power line upgrade up for discussion in Kilkenny	http://kclr96fm.com/tag/eirgrid/
21.05.12	Bunclody.ie	Bunclody Community Council Submissions Eirgrid	http://www.bunclody.ie/
21.05.12	Bunclody.ie	Letter to Community Groups Schools and Businesses	http://www.bunclody.ie/
21.05.12	Bunclody.ie	Submissions to EirGrid consultation	http://www.bunclody.ie/
22.05.12	Gorey Guardian Website	Opinions sought on €500m Eirgrid plan	http://www.goreyguardian.ie/news/opinions-sought-on-500m-eirgrid-plan-3118179.html
22.05.12	Newrossstandard.ie	Opinions sought on €500m EirGrid plan	http://www.newrossstandard.ie/news/opinions-sought-on-500m-eirgrid-plan-3121985.html
25.05.12	Kilkenny People.ie	New high voltage power line likely to run through Kilkenny	http://www.kilkennyypeople.ie/news/business/new-high-voltage-power-line-likely-to-run-through-kilkenny-1-3880250

29.05.12	Irish Times Online	Republic could supply renewable power to UK	http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2012/0529/1224316866867_pf.html
08.06.12	Midlands103	D day for submissions on Eirgrid plans	http://www.midlandsradio.fm/news/13eirgrid-localclip-aor

Broadcast Media Coverage: Public Consultation 1 – 12.04.12 – 10.05.12

Date	Radio/TV	Station	Time	Duration (min)	Programme	Presenter	Summary
12.04.12	TV	TV3	07:00	7:00	Ireland AM	Aidan Cooney, Anna Daly & Laura Woods	Minister for Communications, Energy & Natural Resources Pat Rabbitte will launch a Eur 500m electricity infrastructure programme being run by EirGrid in Cork this morning.
12.04.12	Radio	2FM	11:00	1:00	Eleven News	Lisa McKelvey	Eirgrid has announced an investment of around half a billion Euro in the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.
12.04.12	Radio	2Fm	13:00	1:00	Newsbeat	Jan O'Connell	EirGrid has announced its to invest half a billion euro in the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.
12.04.12	Radio	2FM	16:00	1:00	Newsbeat	Eoin McHugh	The Energy Minister says a planned new 250 power line will ensure long term electricity supply

							for homes and businesses across the South and East of the country.
12.04.1 2	Radio	98FM	15:00	1:00	Three News	Orlaith Farrell	Energy Minister says a planned new power line will ensure more competitive electricity prices. Minister Rabbitte comments.
12.04.1 2	Radio	Clare Fm	13:23	2:00	One News	Trudy Waters	Plans have been unveiled for a major new power line to connect Munster and Leinster.
12.04.1 2	Radio	FM104	13:00	1:00	One News	Ross Lynch	The Energy Minister believes a new electricity grid will lead to cheaper energy prices.
12.04.1 2	Radio	FM104	15:00	1:00	Three News	Ross Lynch	The Energy Minister believes a new electricity grid will lead to cheaper energy prices.
12.04.1 2	Radio	Newstalk	12:26	5:00	Lunchtime Show	Jonathan Healy	Jonathon Healy reports from the launch at Cork County Hall of Eirgrids plans for a new power line that will link Cork and Kildare via Wexford. Interview with Dermot Byrne (Chief Executive, EirGrid) who comments on an eight week consultation period.
12.04.1 2	Radio	Newstalk	17:00	1:00	Five News	Tara Duggan	Jonathon Healy reports from the launch at Cork County Hall of Eirgrids plans for a new power line that will link Cork and Kildare

							via Wexford. Interview with Dermot Byrne (Chief Executive, EirGrid) who comments on an eight week consultation period.
12.04.12	Radio	Newstalk	11:00	1:00	Eleven News	Ciara McDonagh	Eirgrid has revealed plans for the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster. Dermot Byrne (CEO, Eirgrid) comments.
12.04.12	Radio	Newstalk	15:00	1:00	Three News	Tara Duggan	The Energy Minister says a planned new 250km power line will ensure a cheaper and long-term electricity supply for homes and businesses across the country. Minister Pat Rabbitte comments.
12.04.12	Radio	Q102	13:00	1:00	One News	Eamon Torsney	EirGrid is to spend half a billion euro improving the electricity network
12.04.12	TV	RTE One	21:00	2:00	Nine O'Clock News	Eileen Dunne – presenter Pascal Sheehy - reporters	Eirgrid is to invest around Eur500m in the construction of a new electricity power line linking Leinster and Munster. Pascal Sheehy reports. Interview with Pat Rabbitte TD (Minister for Communications), Dermot Byrne (Eirgrid) and Harold Kingston

							(IFA).
12.04.1 2	TV	RTE One	18:01	2:00	Six One News	Bryan Dobson & Eileen Whelan – presenters Pascal Sheehy - reporter	Eirgrid is to invest around Eur500m in the construction of a new electricity power line linking Leinster and Munster. Pascal Sheehy reports. Interview with Pat Rabbitte TD (Minister for Communications), Dermot Byrne (Eirgrid) and Harold Kingston (IFA).
12.04.1 2	TV	RTE One	13:00	3:00	One News	Eileen Whelan	Eirgrid investing 500m in new overhead power line -Reporter: Paschal Sheehy - Interview: Pat Rabbitte & Dermot Byrne (Eirgrid)
12.04.1 2	Radio	RTE Radio 1	11:00	1:00	Eleven News	Susan Jackson – presenter Pascal Sheehy - reporter	Eirgrid has announced an investment of around half a billion Euro in the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster
12.04.1 2	Radio	RTE Radio 1	15:00	1:00	Three News	Eileen Dunne	EirGrid has announced an investment of around 500m in the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.
12.04.1 2	Radio	RTE Radio 1	13:08	9:00	News at One	Sean O' Rourke	EirGrid has announced an investment of around 500m in the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and

							Munster. Interview with Harold Kingston (Environment & Rural Affairs Committee, IFA) who says the company needs to learn lessons from mistakes it made previously in the Midlands. Dermot Byrne (Chief Executive, EirGrid) discusses the project.
12.04.1 2	Radio	Shannonside	13:18	1:00	One News	Claire Mulcahy	Its hoped a new Eur 500million electricity project will help attract more international companies to set up in Ireland.
12.04.1 2	Radio	Today FM	17:00	1:00	Five News	Laura Byrne	EirGrid have announced plans for a new 250km power line running from Kildare to Cork. Minister Pat Rabbitte comments.
12.04.1 2	Radio	Today FM	12:45	2:00	National Lunchtime News	Laura Byrne – presenter Jonathon Healy - reporter	EirGrid has unveiled plans for a new power line connecting Munster and Leinster involving up to 1,000 pylons. Jonathan Healy reports. Interview: John Lowry (Project Manager, EirGrid), Dermot Byrne (Chief Executive, EirGrid)
12.04.1 2	Radio	Today FM	11:00	1:00	Eleven News	Juliette Gash	Eirgrid has revealed plans for the construction of a new power line

							linking Leinster and Munster. Dermot Byrne (CEO, Eirgrid) comments.
12.04.12	Radio	Today FM	16:33	5:00	The Last Word	Anton Savage	Interview with Harold Kingston (IFA) who discusses plans by Eirgrid to build an electricity interconnector between Leinster and Munster
12.04.12	TV	TV3	11:50	0:30	Midday	Elaine Crowley	Eirgrid has revealed details of new power line that will link Leinster and Munster - Minister Rabbitte attended today's press conference
12.04.12	TV	TV3	17:30	2:00	News at 5:30	Alan Cantwell & Colette Fitzpatrick	Eirgrid has announced plans to build a new power line linking Leinster and Munster. Paul Byrne reports. Interview with Dermot Byrne (Eirgrid), Pat Rabbitte TD (Minister for Communications) and Conor Healy (Cork Chamber of Commerce).
12.04.12	TV	TV3	23:00	1:00	Nightly News	Alan Cantwell	Eirgrid has announced plans to build a new power line linking Leinster and Munster. Interview with Pat Rabbitte TD (Minister for Communications).
12.04.12	Radio	Newstalk	17:46	12:00	The Right Hook	George Hook	Interview with Frank McDonald (Irish Times)

							who discusses plans by Eirgrid to build an interconnector between Leinster and Munster
12.04.12	Radio	Dundalk FM	10:42	2:00	Town Talk	Eileen Corcoran	Presenter reviews news article on the Eirgrid Gridlink project and the possible reduce cost of energy in the future
12.04.12	Radio	KCLR	09:11	2:00	Sue Nunn Show	Sue Nunn	Emma Reece (Tax Assist Accountants) reviews today's newspaper stories: 250km electricity power line is to be built between Cork and Leinster. Brief discussion on the issue
12.04.12	Radio	KFM	09:27	10:00	Kildare Today	Clem Ryan	500m Euro power line linking Munster and Leinster will bring a range of benefits - Interview: John Lowry (Eirgrid)
12.04.12	Radio	Midlands 103	10:22	19:00	Midlands Today	Will Faulkner	Eirgrid is to spend half a billion Euro to upgrade power lines in parts of Leinster and Munster. The Irish Farmers Association says they hope Eirgrid has learned from their standoff with landowner Teresa Tracy. Interview: John Lowry (project manager, Gridlink project)
12.04.12	Radio	Tipp FM	10:00	17:00	Tipp Today	Seamus Martin	EirGrid announced plans yesterday to erect a new power line

							running from Cork to Kildare. Bernard Lennon (Green Party) explains why he has little faith in EirGrid's consultation process for the project. [10:20am] John Lowry (Senior Project Manager, EirGrid) discusses the plans for a new power line. [10:35am]
12.04.1 2	Radio	WLR	11:21	6:00	Deise AM	Billy McCarthy	Eur 500million plan to link electricity supplies between Kildare and Munster has been unveiled by EirGrid. Interview with John Lowry (Grid Link project manager).
10.05.1 2	Radio	KFM	10:40	4:00	Kildare Today	Clem Ryan	Details of Grid Link power line infrastructure development discussed - Interview: John Lowry (Eirgrid)

APPENDIX H

Media Releases 12 April – 8th June 2012

MAJOR NEW ELECTRICITY POWER LINK FOR LEINSTER & MUNSTER TO ENSURE A SECURE AND RELIABLE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, PROVIDE A PLATFORM FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE & CLEAN ENERGY

PUBLIC CONSULTATION OPENS TODAY

Cork, Thursday 12TH April 2012: Public consultation starts today on the Grid Link Project, an estimated €500 million project planned by EirGrid to upgrade the electricity grid that will deliver a wide range of benefits to the national and regional economies. The development will involve the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.

Launching the Grid Link Project in Cork today Mr. Pat Rabbitte, T.D., Minister for Communications, Energy & Natural Resources, said it will provide a secure, long-term electricity supply for homes and businesses across the south and east of the country.

He said: "The Grid Link Project will reinforce the electricity grid and have direct economic benefits for our local communities. I encourage people to engage in the public consultation and provide feedback to EirGrid."

EirGrid carried out a detailed analysis of the national transmission grid to identify the level of reinforcement required to ensure a secure electricity supply and to enable the country achieve its renewable energy targets. This analysis identified a capacity shortfall in the south and east of the country.

Dermot Byrne, chief executive of EirGrid, said: "This is a vital development strengthening the electricity grid across the south and east of the country that will help empower economic growth and enable Ireland to meet its renewable energy targets.

"The project will help enable Ireland to shift from a heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels to more sustainable sources of energy. It will also help ensure that the most efficient electricity generators in the south and east are utilised in the most effective way," he added.

Seán Murphy, head of policy & communications at Chambers Ireland, said: "EirGrid's initiative to reinforce the grid in the south and east of the country will ensure that the area is well positioned to deal with future growth in energy demand in the medium term. A robust and future-proofed energy infrastructure is a vital prerequisite for new industries that may be attracted to locate in the region. The Grid Link Project is a significant opportunity that will underpin the attractiveness of the area. It will also assure electricity availability for existing homes, farms and businesses while underpinning the development of the renewable energy sector. This in turn will create new job opportunities. For these reasons, we welcome EirGrid's plans."

EirGrid has established a dedicated project team that has identified a proposed study area within which the project will be located. The project team will undertake detailed studies and extensive public consultation over the coming years to determine constraints that will influence the siting and route selection.

The initial proposed project study area, spanning counties Carlow, Cork, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford and Wicklow, is now the subject of non-statutory public consultation. This first stage of consultation will run for an eight-week period from today, Thursday 12th April 2012 to Friday 8th June 2012. For more information visit www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink

“During this first stage of public consultation, EirGrid is seeking comment on the proposed study area map, feedback on what constraints should be identified and on how EirGrid should develop corridors for the project,” said John Lowry, the Grid Link Project manager. “This is a non-statutory consultation that will provide all interested individuals and organisations an opportunity to feed into the early development of the project.”

Based on assessments to date, EirGrid has determined that the optimum solution is the construction of a 400 kV alternating current (AC) overhead line linking Cork and Kildare via Wexford. EirGrid will review its technology analysis at key stages throughout the project to ensure it remains valid.

EirGrid has established a comprehensive information service to inform people about the project, answer their questions, provide access to maps and technical documentation and hear their views. Information offices will open in Carlow, Carrick-on-Suir, Midleton and New Ross from next Monday, 16th April. A lo-call information line, 1890-422 122, is operated during office hours and public open days will be held in May. People may also email the project to gridlink@eirgrid.com.

The Grid Link Project is a key element of EirGrid's Grid25 strategy - a €3.2 billion investment in developing and upgrading Ireland's electricity transmission grid.

ENDS

For further information: Neasa Kane-Fine, 087-232 0038 / Mary Murphy 087-233 6415

**MAJOR NEW ELECTRICITY POWER LINK FOR LEINSTER & MUNSTER TO ENSURE A
SECURE AND RELIABLE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, PROVIDE A PLATFORM FOR ECONOMIC
GROWTH AND SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE & CLEAN ENERGY
EXTENSIVE PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOW UNDERWAY; INFORMATION CENTRE OPENS
IN CARLOW**

16th April 2012: Public consultation is now underway on the Grid Link Project, an estimated €500 million project planned by EirGrid to upgrade the electricity grid that will deliver a wide range of benefits to the national and regional economies. The development will involve the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.

Launching the Grid Link Project in Cork last Thursday Mr. Pat Rabbitte, T.D., Minister for Communications, Energy & Natural Resources, said it will provide a secure, long-term electricity supply for homes and businesses across the south and east of the country.

He said: "The Grid Link Project will reinforce the electricity grid and have direct economic benefits for our local communities. I encourage people to engage in the public consultation and provide feedback to EirGrid."

EirGrid has established a comprehensive information service to inform people about the project, answer their questions, provide access to maps and technical documentation and hear their views. **EirGrid is opening a Grid Link Project Information Centre in Carlow town on Thursday, from 19th April, from 12 noon to 6pm at Enterprise House, O'Brien Road, Carlow.** A lo-call information line, 1890-422 122, is operated during office hours and public open days will be held in May. People may also email the project to gridlink@eirgrid.com.

Information offices will open in Carlow, Carrick-on-Suir, Midleton and New Ross this week.

EirGrid carried out a detailed analysis of the national transmission grid to identify the level of reinforcement required to ensure a secure electricity supply and to enable the country achieve its renewable energy targets. This analysis identified a capacity shortfall in the south and east of the country.

Dermot Byrne, chief executive of EirGrid, said: "This is a vital development strengthening the electricity grid across the south and east of the country that will help empower economic growth and enable Ireland to meet its renewable energy targets."

“The project will help enable Ireland to shift from a heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels to more sustainable sources of energy. It will also help ensure that the most efficient electricity generators in the south and east are utilised in the most effective way,” he added.

Seán Murphy, head of policy & communications at Chambers Ireland, said: “EirGrid’s initiative to reinforce the grid in the south and east of the country will ensure that the area is well positioned to deal with future growth in energy demand in the medium term. A robust and future-proofed energy infrastructure is a vital prerequisite for new industries that may be attracted to locate in the region. The Grid Link Project is a significant opportunity that will underpin the attractiveness of the area. It will also assure electricity availability for existing homes, farms and businesses while underpinning the development of the renewable energy sector. This in turn will create new job opportunities. For these reasons, we welcome EirGrid’s plans.”

EirGrid has established a dedicated project team that has identified a proposed study area within which the project will be located. The project team will undertake detailed studies and extensive public consultation over the coming years to determine constraints that will influence the siting and route selection.

The initial proposed project study area, spanning counties Carlow, Cork, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford and Wicklow, is now the subject of non-statutory public consultation. This first stage of consultation will run for an eight-week period from today, Thursday 12th April 2012 to Friday 8th June 2012. For more information visit www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink

“During this first stage of public consultation, EirGrid is seeking comment on the proposed study area map, feedback on what constraints should be identified and on how EirGrid should develop corridors for the project,” said John Lowry, the Grid Link Project manager. “This is a non-statutory consultation that will provide all interested individuals and organisations an opportunity to feed into the early development of the project.”

Based on assessments to date, EirGrid has determined that the optimum solution is the construction of a 400 kV alternating current (AC) overhead line linking Cork and Kildare via Wexford. EirGrid will review its technology analysis at key stages throughout the project to ensure it remains valid.

The Grid Link Project is a key element of EirGrid’s Grid25 strategy - a €3.2 billion investment in developing and upgrading Ireland’s electricity transmission grid.

ENDS

PHOTO OF MINISTERIAL LAUNCH AND MAP OF PROPOSED STUDY AREA AVAILABLE –
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EXTENSIVE PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOW UNDERWAY; INFORMATION CENTRE OPENS
IN MIDDLETON EVERY MONDAY**

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EirGrid has established a comprehensive information service to inform people about the project, answer their questions, provide access to maps and technical documentation and hear their views. Starting this week **EirGrid is opening a Grid Link Project Information Centre in Middleton on Mondays from 12 noon to 6pm at Oikoseen House, Castleredmond, Middleton.** A lo-call information line, 1890-422 122, is operated during office hours and public open days will be held in May. People may also email the project to gridlink@eirgrid.com.

Information offices will also open in Carlow, Carrick-on-Suir and New Ross this week.

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Launching the Grid Link Project in Cork last Thursday Mr. Pat Rabbitte, T.D., Minister for Communications, Energy & Natural Resources, said it will provide a secure, long-term electricity supply for homes and businesses across the south and east of the country.

He said: "The Grid Link Project will reinforce the electricity grid and have direct economic benefits for our local communities. I encourage people to engage in the public consultation and provide feedback to EirGrid."

- EirGrid has established a comprehensive information service to inform people about the project, answer their questions, provide access to maps and technical documentation and hear their views. Starting this week **EirGrid is opening Grid Link Project Information Centre in Carrick-on-Suir on Tuesdays from 12 noon to 6pm at Carrick Community Business Centre, Carrick-on-Suir, Co Tipperary.** A lo-call information line, 1890-422 122, is operated during office hours and public open days will be held in May. People may also email the project to gridlink@eirgrid.com.

An Information centre will also open in Carlow, Middleton and New Ross.

EirGrid carried out a detailed analysis of the national transmission grid to identify the level of reinforcement required to ensure a secure electricity supply and to enable the country achieve its renewable energy targets. This analysis identified a capacity shortfall in the south and east of the country.

Dermot Byrne, chief executive of EirGrid, said: "This is a vital development strengthening the electricity grid across the south and east of the country that will help empower economic growth and enable Ireland to meet its renewable energy targets."

“The project will help enable Ireland to shift from a heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels to more sustainable sources of energy. It will also help ensure that the most efficient electricity generators in the south and east are utilised in the most effective way,” he added.

Seán Murphy, head of policy & communications at Chambers Ireland, said: “EirGrid’s initiative to reinforce the grid in the south and east of the country will ensure that the area is well positioned to deal with future growth in energy demand in the medium term. A robust and future-proofed energy infrastructure is a vital prerequisite for new industries that may be attracted to locate in the region. The Grid Link Project is a significant opportunity that will underpin the attractiveness of the area. It will also assure electricity availability for existing homes, farms and businesses while underpinning the development of the renewable energy sector. This in turn will create new job opportunities. For these reasons, we welcome EirGrid’s plans.”

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“During this first stage of public consultation, EirGrid is seeking comment on the proposed study area map, feedback on what constraints should be identified and on how EirGrid should develop corridors for the project,” said John Lowry, the Grid Link Project manager. “This is a non-statutory consultation that will provide all interested individuals and organisations an opportunity to feed into the early development of the project.”

Based on assessments to date, EirGrid has determined that the optimum solution is the construction of a 400 kV alternating current (AC) overhead line linking Cork and Kildare via Wexford. EirGrid will review its technology analysis at key stages throughout the project to ensure it remains valid.

The Grid Link Project is a key element of EirGrid's Grid25 strategy - a €3.2 billion investment in developing and upgrading Ireland's electricity transmission grid.

ENDS

PHOTO OF MINISTERIAL LAUNCH AND MAP OF PROPOSED STUDY AREA AVAILABLE –
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**MAJOR NEW ELECTRICITY POWER LINK FOR MUNSTER & LEINSTER TO ENSURE A
SECURE AND RELIABLE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, PROVIDE A PLATFORM FOR ECONOMIC
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Information offices will also open in Carlow, Carrick-on-Suir and Midleton this week.

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NASC MÓR CUMHACHTA LEICTREACHAIS LE TÓGÁIL IDIR CÚIGE LAIGHEAN AGUS CÚIGE MUMHAN LE SOLÁTHAR LEICTREACHAIS SLÁN AR FÉIDIR BRATH AIR A CHINNTIÚ CHOMH MAITH LE ARDÁN A CHUR AR FÁIL D'FHÁS AN GHEILLEAGAIR AGUS LE TACÚ LE FUINNEAMH GLAN & INBHUANAITHE.

COMHCHOMHAIRLE POIBLÍ TOSAITHE INNIU

Corcaigh, 12ú Aibreán 2012: Cuirtear tús inniu le comhchomhairle phoiblí ar Thionscadal Grid Link, tionscadal ar fiú €500 milliún atá beartaithe ag EirGrid le huasghrádú a dhéanamh ar an eangach leictreachais agus a mbeidh réimse leathan buntáistí ag baint leis don gheilleagar náisiúnta agus go réigiúnach. Beidh líne nua cumhachta i gceist sa bhforbairt a shínfidh as Cúige Laighean go Cúige Mumhan.

Le linn dó Tionscadal Grid Link a sheoladh i gCorcaigh inniu dúirt an tUasal Pat Rabbitte T.D., An tAire Cumarsáide, Fuinnimh agus Acmhainní Nádurtha, go gcuirfeadh an tionscadal soláthar leictreachais fad-téarmach ar fáil do thithe agus do ghnólachtaí ó dheas agus sa taobh thoir den tír.

Dúirt sé: “Nearthóidh Tionscadal Grid Link an eangach leictreachais agus beidh tairbhe eacnamaíochta le baint ag pobail áitiúla as. Molaim do dhaoine a bheith páirteach sa chomhchomhairle phoiblí agus aiseolas a thabhairt do EirGrid.”

Thug EirGrid faoi anailís shonrach ar an eangach tarchuir lena fháil amach cé méid a theastódh a dhéanamh lena chinntiú go mbeadh soláthar leictreachais slán ar fáil agus a chuirfeadh ar chumas na tíre a cuid spriocanna fuinnimh inathnuaite a bhaint amach. Leis an anailís seo aithníodh go raibh easpa ó dheas agus in oirthear na tíre.

Dúirt Dermot Byrne, Príomhfheidhmeannach : “Fobairt thábhachtach í seo leis an eangach leictreachais a neartú ó dheas agus in oirthear na tíre agus cuideodh sé le fás an gheallagair a neartú agus le go mbeidh Éire in ann a cuid spriocanna fuinnimh inathnuaite a chomhlíonadh.

“Leis an tionscadal seo beidh Éire in ann imeacht ó bhreosla iontaise, a bhfuil sí ag brath go mór air, go dtí foinsí fuinnimh atá níos inbhuanaithe. Cuideoidh sé freisin a chinntiú go mbaintear an leas is éifeachtaí as gineadóirí leictreachais ó dheas agus in oirthear na tíre” a deir sé.

Dúirt Seán Murphy, Ceannasaí Beartas agus Cumarsáide said: “Cinntoidh tionscadal EirGrid, is é sin an eangach a neartú ó dheas agus in oirthear na tíre, go mbeidh an limistéar faoi réir le haghaidh a thabhairt ar aon fhás a thioctadh ar an éileamh ar fhuinnimh sa mhéantéarma. Réamhchoinníoll thábhachtach le tionscail nua a mhealladh chuig réigiún go mbeadh infreastruchtúr láidir agus nua-aimseartha ann. Deis mhór atá sa Tionscadal Grid Link Project a chuirfidh leis an tarraingt a bheidh ag baint leis an áit. Cinntofar freisin go mbeidh leictreachas ar fáil do thithe, d’fheirmeacha, agus do ghnólachtaí atá ann cheana agus beidh mar bhun taca faoin earnáil fuinnimh inathnuaite. Leis seo cruthófar deiseanna nua fostaíochta. Ar na cúiseanna seo ar fad, fáiltimid roimh phleananna EirGrid.”

Tá foireann tionscadail tiomanta curtha le chéile ag EirGrid a bhfuil ceantar staidéir beartaithe aitheanta acu ina lonnófar an tionscadal. Tabharfaidh an fhoireann tionscadail faoi mhionstaidéir

agus faoi chomhchomhairle phoiblí chuimsitheach sna blianta atá romhainn leis na srianta a mbeadh tionchar acu ar an láthair agus rogha bealaí a aithint.

An chéad réimse staidéir den tionscadal, ar fud Chontaetha Cheatharlach, Chorcaí, Bhaile Átha Cliath, Chill Dara, Chill Chainnigh, Laoise, Luimnigh, Thiobraid Árann, Phort Láirge, Loch Garman agus Chill Mhantáin is ábhar don chéad chomhchomhairle phoiblí reachtúil. Beidh an chéad chéim den chomhchomhairle ar bun go ceann tréimhse ocht seachtainí ó inniu Déardaoin 12ú Aibreán 2012 go dtí an Aoine 8ú Meitheamh 2012. Chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil tabhair cuairt ar www.eirgridprojects.com/gridlink

“Le linn an chéad chéim den chomhchomhairle phoiblí seo tá EirGrid ag lorg tuairimí ar an léarscáil den limistéar staidéir atá beartaithe chomh maith le haiseolas ar na srianta a bheadh i gceist agus ar an tslí ar chóir do EirGrid bealaí a fhorbairt don tionscadal, “ a deir John Lowry, bainisteoir Thionscadal EirGrid. “Is comhchomhairle neamh-reachtúil atá anseo a thabharfaidh an deis do gach duine agus eagraíocht a bhfuil suim acu ann eolas a sholáthar ag an tús an tionscadail. “

De réir measúnuithe go dáta tá sé socraithe ag EirGrid gurb é an réiteach is fearr ná líne lastuas srutha ailtéarnaigh (AC) 400 kV a thógáil a cheanglódh Corcaigh le Cill Dara ag dul trí Loch Garman. Déanfaidh EirGrid athbhreithniú ar an anailís teicneolaíochta ag céimeanna tábhachtacha le linn an tionscadail lena chinntiú go mbíonn sé fós bailí.

Tá seirbhís eolais chuimsitheach bunaithe ag EirGrid chun daoine a chur ar an eolas faoin tionscadal, a gcuid ceisteanna a fhreagairt agus rochtain a thabhairt ar léarscáileanna agus ar cháipéisíocht theicniúil chomh maith le héisteacht lena dtuairimí. Beidh oifigí eolais oscailte i Ros Mhic Thriúin, Ceatharlach, Carraig na Siúire agus i Mainistir na Corann ó Dé Luain, 16ú Aibreán. Beidh líne eolais ló-ghlao, 1890-422 122, ag obair le linn uaireanta oifige agus reáchtálfar laethanta oscailte poiblí sa mBealtaine. Is féidir ríomphoist a sheoladh chuig gridlink@eirgrid.com.

Is gné thábhachtach de Straitéis 25 Bliain na hEangaí é Tionscadal Eirgrid – infheistíocht €3.2 billiún le heangach tarchuir leictreachais na hÉireann a fhorbairt agus a uasghrádú.

CRÍOCH

PRESS RELEASE

PUBLIC INVITED TO ATTEND GRID LINK PROJECT OPEN DAYS

Monday 30th, April 2012: Members of the public are invited to visit project Open Days being held over the coming weeks as part of the first public consultation phase now underway for the Grid Link Project – an estimated €500 million upgrade of the electricity grid involving the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.

EirGrid's project team will be available to discuss the project, record feedback and answer any queries that people may have at a series of open days being held between the 2nd and the 23rd of May in counties Cork, Waterford, Kildare, Tipperary, Kilkenny, Wicklow and Wexford.

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He continued, “We encourage people who have knowledge of the area to provide feedback on the proposed study area map and let us know about any regional or locally important features that they believe should be considered as the project develops.”

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“This is the first of a number of statutory and non-statutory public consultations which EirGrid will undertake to provide all interested individuals and organisations with an opportunity to contribute to the early development of the Grid Link Project and we look forward to hearing from people,” says John Lowry.

In order to ensure stakeholder feedback is considered in advance of the project moving to the next phase, all feedback for this first consultation should be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, 8th June 2012 by email to gridlink@eirgrid.com or by post to The Grid Link Project Manager, EirGrid, PO Box 12213, Glenageary, County Dublin.

Submissions and feedback will be reviewed and considered by the project team and a full consultation report on the first phase of the project will be produced following the close of this consultation. There will be further opportunities to consult with the project to ensure the public's feedback is taken into account. EirGrid does not expect to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval before 2015 and public consultation will form an important part of all stages of the project over the coming years.

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- A lo-call information line, 1890-422122, is operated during office hours.
- People can email the project to gridlink@eirgrid.com or visit www.eirgridprojects.com/projects/gridlink for more information.
- Open Days for the first phase of Public Consultation are taking place during May as follows:-

Wednesday, 2nd May 2012	Midleton Park Hotel, Midleton, Co. Cork from 1pm to 8pm
Tuesday, 8th May 2012	The Granville Hotel, Waterford, Co. Waterford from 1pm to 8pm
Thursday, 10th May 2012	Killashee House Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare from 1pm to 8pm
Friday, 11th May 2012	Clonmel Park Conference, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary from 1pm to 8pm
Tuesday, 15th May 2012	Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny from 1pm to 8pm
Tuesday, 22nd May 2012	Druids Glen Resort, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow from 1pm to 8pm
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Note to Editors

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The Grid Link Project is a key element of EirGrid's Grid25 strategy - a €3.2 billion investment in developing and upgrading Ireland's electricity transmission grid.

ENDS.

For further information: Mary Murphy, 087-233 6415 / Neasa Kane-Fine, 087-232 0038

NEWS RELEASE

PEOPLE IN CO. CARLOW INVITED TO ATTEND GRID LINK PROJECT OPEN DAY Information Office open in Carlow every Thursday

Monday, 30th April 2012: Members of the public are invited to visit project Open Days being held over the coming weeks as part of the first public consultation phase now underway for the Grid Link Project – an estimated €500 million upgrade of the electricity grid involving the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.

EirGrid's project team will be available to discuss the project, record feedback and answer any queries that people may have at a series of Open Days during May, including **on Thursday, 10th May 2012 in Killashee House Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare from 1pm to 8pm and on Tuesday, 15th May 2012 in the Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny from 1pm to 8pm.**

A Grid Link Information Centre is open in Carlow every Thursday at Enterprise House, O'Brien Road, from 12noon to 6pm.

"This is essentially an information gathering exercise for EirGrid. During this first stage of public consultation we would urge people to come in and talk to us about the study area. Local knowledge is invaluable and all information received will inform preparations and plans for proposed route corridors and the line route," says John Lowry, Project Manager.

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Thursday, 10th May 2012

Killashee House Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare from 1pm to 8pm

Friday, 11th May 2012

Clonmel Park Conference, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary from 1pm to 8pm

Tuesday, 15th May 2012

Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny from 1pm to 8pm

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ENDS

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NEWS RELEASE

PEOPLE IN CO. CORK INVITED TO ATTEND GRID LINK PROJECT OPEN DAY IN MIDLETON

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EirGrid's project team will be available to discuss the project, record feedback and answer any queries that people may have at an Open Day on **Wednesday, 2nd May 2012 in the Middleton Park Hotel, Middleton, Co. Cork from 1pm to 8pm.**

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EirGrid's project team will be available to discuss the project, record feedback and answer any queries that people may have at an Open Day on **Thursday, 10th May in Killashee House Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare from 1pm to 8pm.**

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EirGrid's project team will be available to discuss the project, record feedback and answer any queries that people may have at an Open Day on **Tuesday, 15th May 2012 in the Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny from 1pm to 8pm.**

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ENDS

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NEWS RELEASE

PEOPLE IN CO. TIPPERARY INVITED TO ATTEND GRID LINK PROJECT OPEN DAY IN CLONMEL

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EirGrid's project team will be available to discuss the project, record feedback and answer any queries that people may have at an Open Day on **Friday, 11th May 2012 in Clonmel Park Conference, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary from 1pm to 8pm.**

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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, comparable to the motorways, dual carriage ways and main roads of the national road network. It is operated at three voltage levels, 400 kV, 220 kV and 110 kV, and is approximately 6,400km in overall length. It is the backbone of Ireland's power system and is vital to ensuring that all customers, including industrial, commercial and residential, from both rural and urban areas, have a safe, secure, reliable, economic and efficient electricity supply.

The Grid Link Project is a key element of EirGrid's Grid25 strategy - a €3.2 billion investment in developing and upgrading Ireland's electricity transmission grid.

ENDS

For further information: Mary Murphy, 087-233 6415 / Neasa Kane-Fine, 087-232 0038

NEWS RELEASE

PEOPLE IN WATERFORD INVITED TO ATTEND GRID LINK PROJECT OPEN DAY

Monday, 30th April 2012: Members of the public are invited to visit project Open Days being held over the coming weeks as part of the first public consultation phase now underway for the Grid Link Project – an estimated €500 million upgrade of the electricity grid involving the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.

EirGrid's project team will be available to discuss the project, record feedback and answer any queries that people may have at an Open Day **on Tuesday 8th May 2012 in the Granville Hotel, Waterford from 1pm to 8pm.**

“This is essentially an information gathering exercise for EirGrid. During this first stage of public consultation we would urge people to come in and talk to us about the study area. Local knowledge is invaluable and all information received will inform preparations and plans for proposed route corridors and the line route,” says John Lowry, Project Manager.

He continued, “We encourage people who have knowledge of the area to provide feedback on the proposed study area map and let us know about any regional or locally important features that they believe should be considered as the project develops.”

EirGrid will identify, with the help of the public, constraints within the proposed study area over the coming months. Constraints can be anything from natural features in the landscape to cultural or archaeological structures. They are mapped in the study area and taken into account when corridors are identified.

“This is the first of a number of statutory and non-statutory public consultations which EirGrid will undertake to provide all interested individuals and organisations with an opportunity to contribute to the early development of the Grid Link Project and we look forward to hearing from people,” says John Lowry.

In order to ensure stakeholder feedback is considered in advance of the project moving to the next phase, all feedback for this first consultation should be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, 8th June 2012 by email to gridlink@eirgrid.com or by post to The Grid Link Project Manager, EirGrid, PO Box 12213, Glenageary, County Dublin.

Submissions and feedback will be reviewed and considered by the project team and a full consultation report on the first phase of the project will be produced following the close of this consultation. There will be further opportunities to consult with the project to ensure the public's feedback is taken into account. EirGrid does not expect to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval before 2015 and public consultation will form an important part of all stages of the project over the coming years.

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The public are welcome to contact the project at any time and in addition to Open Days, EirGrid has established a comprehensive information service:-

- Grid Link Project Information centres are now open in Midleton every Monday, in Carrick-on-Suir every Tuesday, New Ross every Wednesday and Carlow every Thursday, from 12noon to 6pm in each venue.
- A lo-call information line, 1890-422122, is operated during office hours.
- People can email the project to gridlink@eirgrid.com or visit www.eirgridprojects.com/projects/gridlink for more information.
- Open Days for the first phase of Public Consultation are taking place during May as follows:-

Wednesday, 2nd May 2012	Midleton Park Hotel, Midleton, Co. Cork from 1pm to 8pm
Tuesday, 8th May 2012	The Granville Hotel, Waterford, Co. Waterford from 1pm to 8pm
Thursday, 10th May 2012	Killashee House Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare from 1pm to 8pm
Friday, 11th May 2012	Clonmel Park Conference, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary from 1pm to 8pm
Tuesday, 15th May 2012	Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny from 1pm to 8pm
Tuesday, 22nd May 2012	Druids Glen Resort, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow from 1pm to 8pm
Wednesday, 23rd May 2012	Talbot Wexford, Wexford, Co. Wexford from 1pm to 8pm

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ENDS

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NEWS RELEASE

PEOPLE IN CO. WEXFORD INVITED TO ATTEND GRID LINK PROJECT OPEN DAY

Monday, 30th April 2012: Members of the public are invited to visit project Open Days being held over the coming weeks as part of the first public consultation phase now underway for the Grid Link Project – an estimated €500 million upgrade of the electricity grid involving the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.

EirGrid's project team will be available to discuss the project, record feedback and answer any queries that people may have at an Open Day **on Wednesday, 23rd May in the Talbot Wexford, Wexford from 1pm to 8pm.**

“This is essentially an information gathering exercise for EirGrid. During this first stage of public consultation we would urge people to come in and talk to us about the study area. Local knowledge is invaluable and all information received will inform preparations and plans for proposed route corridors and the line route,” says John Lowry, Project Manager.

He continued, “We encourage people who have knowledge of the area to provide feedback on the proposed study area map and let us know about any regional or locally important features that they believe should be considered as the project develops.”

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Submissions and feedback will be reviewed and considered by the project team and a full consultation report on the first phase of the project will be produced following the close of this consultation. There will be further opportunities to consult with the project to ensure the public's feedback is taken into account. EirGrid does not expect to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval before 2015 and public consultation will form an important part of all stages of the project over the coming years.

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The public are welcome to contact the project at any time and in addition to Open Days, EirGrid has established a comprehensive information service:-

- **Grid Link Project Information centres are now open in New Ross every Wednesday at The Coach House, Marsh Lane, New Ross from 12 noon to 6pm**, and in Midleton every Monday, Carrick-on-Suir every Tuesday, and Carlow every Thursday, from 12noon to 6pm in each venue.
- A lo-call information line, 1890-422122, is operated during office hours.
- People can email the project to gridlink@eirgrid.com or visit www.eirgridprojects.com/projects/gridlink for more information.
- Open Days for the first phase of Public Consultation are taking place during May as follows:-

Wednesday, 2nd May 2012	Midleton Park Hotel, Midleton, Co. Cork from 1pm to 8pm
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Friday, 11th May 2012	Clonmel Park Conference, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary from 1pm to 8pm
Tuesday, 15th May 2012	Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny from 1pm to 8pm
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Wednesday, 23rd May 2012	Talbot Wexford, Wexford, Co. Wexford from 1pm to 8pm

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ENDS

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NEWS RELEASE

PEOPLE IN CO. WICKLOW INVITED TO ATTEND GRID LINK PROJECT OPEN DAY IN NEWTOWNMOUNTKENNEDY

Monday, 30th April 2012: Members of the public are invited to visit project Open Days being held over the coming weeks as part of the first public consultation phase now underway for the Grid Link Project – an estimated €500 million upgrade of the electricity grid involving the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.

EirGrid's project team will be available to discuss the project, record feedback and answer any queries that people may have at an Open Day **on Tuesday, 22nd May 2012 in the Druids Glen Resort, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow from 1pm to 8pm.**

“This is essentially an information gathering exercise for EirGrid. During this first stage of public consultation we would urge people to come in and talk to us about the study area. Local knowledge is invaluable and all information received will inform preparations and plans for proposed route corridors and the line route,” says John Lowry, Project Manager.

He continued, “We encourage people who have knowledge of the area to provide feedback on the proposed study area map and let us know about any regional or locally important features that they believe should be considered as the project develops.”

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In order to ensure stakeholder feedback is considered in advance of the project moving to the next phase, all feedback for this first consultation should be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, 8th June 2012 by email to gridlink@eirgrid.com or by post to The Grid Link Project Manager, EirGrid, PO Box 12213, Glenageary, County Dublin.

Submissions and feedback will be reviewed and considered by the project team and a full consultation report on the first phase of the project will be produced following the close of this consultation. There will be further opportunities to consult with the project to ensure the public's feedback is taken into account. EirGrid does not expect to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval before 2015 and public consultation will form an important part of all stages of the project over the coming years.

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Thursday, 10th May 2012	Killashee House Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare from 1pm to 8pm
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Tuesday, 15th May 2012	Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny from 1pm to 8pm
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ENDS

For further information: Mary Murphy, 087-233 6415 / Neasa Kane-Fine, 087-232 0038



PRESS RELEASE

PUBLIC INVITED TO ATTEND GRID LINK PROJECT OPEN DAYS

Tuesday, 15th May 2012: Members of the public are invited to visit project Open Days being held over the coming weeks as part of the first public consultation phase now underway for the Grid Link Project – an estimated €500 million upgrade of the electricity grid involving the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster.

EirGrid's project team will be available to discuss the project, record feedback and answer any queries that people may have at a series of open days being held between the 2nd and the 23rd of May in counties Cork, Waterford, Kildare, Tipperary, Kilkenny, Wicklow and Wexford.

“This is essentially an information gathering exercise for EirGrid. During this first stage of public consultation we would urge people to come in and talk to us about the study area. Local knowledge is invaluable and all information received will inform preparations and plans for proposed route corridors and the line route,” says John Lowry, Project Manager.

He continued, “We encourage people who have knowledge of the area to provide feedback on the proposed study area map and let us know about any regional or locally important features that they believe should be considered as the project develops.”

EirGrid will identify, with the help of the public, constraints within the proposed study area over the coming months. Constraints can be anything from natural features in the landscape to cultural or archaeological structures. They are mapped in the study area and taken into account when corridors are identified.

“This is the first of a number of statutory and non-statutory public consultations which EirGrid will undertake to provide all interested individuals and organisations with an opportunity to contribute to the early development of the Grid Link Project and we look forward to hearing from people,” says John Lowry.

In order to ensure stakeholder feedback is considered in advance of the project moving to the next phase, all feedback for this first consultation should be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, 8th June 2012 by email to gridlink@eirgrid.com or by post to The Grid Link Project Manager, EirGrid, PO Box 12213, Glenageary, County Dublin.

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Submissions and feedback will be reviewed and considered by the project team and a full consultation report on the first phase of the project will be produced following the close of this consultation. There will be further opportunities to consult with the project to ensure the public's feedback is taken into account. EirGrid does not expect to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval before 2015 and public consultation will form an important part of all stages of the project over the coming years.

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- A lo-call information line, 1890-422122, is operated during office hours.
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