



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-000275-18
ABP-300589-18

REQUEST received by An Bord Pleanála on the 21st day of December, 2017 from Eirgrid plc under section 146B of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, in respect of a strategic infrastructure development described as construction of a 220/110kV substation in the townland of Trien, modifications to existing lines, construction of 110kV line between existing Trien 110kV substation and proposed interface tower in townland of Patch, associated underground cables and site works, County Kerry.

PROPOSED ALTERATION:

- An extension of the approved substation compound footprint to the east by approximately 1950m to accommodate the provision of a single 50 MVAR shunt reactor. The reactor would comprise 3 no. shunt reactance coils, each approximately 3 metres in diameter and 10 metres high. Other associated substation equipment would include:
 - 220 kV switch gear comprising 3 no. cable sealing ends, 3 no. surge arresters, 3 no. coupling capacitors, 3 no. combined CT/VTs and 3 no. support insulators;
 - a cable/switchgear interface within the existing 220 kV GIS building to facilitate cable connection of the new reactance coils to the existing switchgear;
 - pipe ducting and block ducting for electrical control cables, and
 - an extension of the earthgrid works.

- An associated extension to the existing 2.6m high palisade perimeter fence to encompass the substation extension, and the erection of an inner security fence around the reactance coils;
- An extension to the substation's internal access road of approximately 30 metres;
- 4 no. associated lightning protection rods, each 15m high;
- Associated revisions to the landscaping plan approved under PL08.VA0011 in order to facilitate the proposed extension; and
- All other associated site development works and site drainage.

WHEREAS the Board made a decision to approve, subject to conditions, the above-mentioned development by order (Ref. PL08.VA0011) dated the 19th day of November, 2012

AND WHEREAS the Board has received a request to alter the terms of the development, the subject of the approval,

AND WHEREAS having regard to the extent of the changes proposed, the Board considered that the proposed alteration would result in a material alteration to the terms of the development, the subject of the approval,

AND WHEREAS the Board decided to invoke the provisions of section 146B(8)(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, to invite submissions or observations in relation to the matter,

AND WHEREAS having considered all of the submissions and documents on file and the Inspector's report, the Board considered that, subject to compliance with the condition set out below:

- (i) the making of the proposed alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment or on any European site in view of the sites' conservations objectives, and
- (ii) the making of the proposed alteration would be acceptable in terms of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

NOW THEREFORE in accordance with section 146B(3)(b) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the Board hereby alters the above-mentioned decision so that the approved development shall be carried out in accordance with the plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 21th day of December, 2017.

MATTERS CONSIDERED

In making its decision, the Board had regard to those matters to which, by virtue of the Planning and Development Acts and Regulations made thereunder, it was required to have regard. Such matters included any submissions and observations received by it in accordance with statutory provisions.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

In coming to its decision, the Board had regard to:

- (a) The planning history of the site including the scope and nature of the approved development under An Bord Pleanála planning reference 08.VA0011, under which development of the nature proposed by the amendment was considered acceptable in principle,
- (b) The nature and extent of the development in question,
- (c) The location of the development within an established electrical station compound,

- (d) The limited interaction between the proposed construction works and the natural environment,
- (e) The absence of any indication that the amenities of the area or of property in the vicinity of the site would be adversely affected by the proposed alteration,
- (f) The documents on the subject file and the submissions and documents on the approved development Ref. PL08.VA0011, and
- (g) The report of the Inspector.

The Board was satisfied that the information before it was adequate to undertake screening for Appropriate Assessment and a screening for environmental impact assessment in respect of the proposed alteration.

Appropriate Assessment Screening:

The Board considered the Appropriate Assessment Stage 1 Screening Report submitted with the alteration request, as well as the relevant information submitted and assessments carried out on the approved development (Ref. PL08.VA0011), and the Inspector's reports on the subject file. The Board completed a screening exercise in relation to the potential impacts of the proposed alteration on European Sites, having regard to its nature and scale and to the receiving environment, and concluded that the proposed alteration, in itself or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European Site, site in view of the sites' conservations objectives.

Environmental Impact Assessment Screening:

The Board considered the potential environmental impacts that might arise due to the proposed alteration taking into account the information available from the approved development file (Ref. PL08.VA0011), the documents submitted by the applicant in relation to the proposed alteration, and the Inspector's report. Having regard to the characteristics of the proposed alteration, the planning history of the site, the limited environmental impacts associated with the proposed alteration and the characteristics

of the receiving environment, the Board was satisfied that the proposed alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and that the completion of an environmental impact assessment report was not required in respect of the alteration being sought.

Conclusions on the Proper Planning and Sustainable Development of the Area:

The Board concluded that the making of the proposed alteration, subject to compliance with the condition set out below, would not seriously injure the amenity of the area or property in the area, would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and, furthermore, that the making of the proposed alteration would be acceptable in terms of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Condition:

1. The development, the subject of the proposed alteration, shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application and, apart from any departures specifically authorised by this consent, the development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the permission Ref. PL08.VA0011 granted on the 19th day of November, 2012 and any agreements entered into thereunder.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

Board Member

Date: 04/05/2018

Eugene Nixon