



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-002559-19
ABP-302597-18

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 12/03/2019.

The Board decided to grant permission generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations, and subject to the following conditions.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to;

- (a) the nature of the proposed development which comprises the refurbishment of an existing 110kv overhead electricity line,
- (b) national policy with regard to the development of sustainable energy sources, and energy infrastructure including the transmission system,
- (c) Ireland's Grid Development Strategy published by Eirgrid in 2017,
- (d) the provisions of the Roscommon Co. Development Plan 2014-2020,
- (e) the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report and other application documents, and
- (f) The Natura Impact Statement,

it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not give rise to significant adverse impacts on the environment including the landscape and visual amenities of the area, its architectural and archaeological heritage and its natural heritage, would be acceptable in terms of human health and safety and in terms of traffic safety and convenience of road users and would not seriously injure the amenities of the area. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Appropriate Assessment

The applicant submitted a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) which considers the likely or possible significant effects of the entire project on European sites across three county boundaries comprising Galway, Roscommon and Longford, on European sites. The applicant's screening for appropriate assessment considered eleven European sites, and concluded that potential significant impacts on Camderry Bog Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 002347) could not be ruled out and accordingly this site was brought forward for Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment and a NIS. This site is located in County Galway and has been assessed by Galway County Council which issued a decision to grant permission (Reg. Ref. 18/896) for that part of the development within its administrative boundaries.

Stage 1 Screening

In completing the screening for Appropriate Assessment for the proposed development, the Board accepted and adopted the screening assessment and conclusions carried out in the Inspector's report in respect of the identification of the European sites which would potentially be affected, and the identification and assessment of the potential likely significant effects of the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, on these European sites in view of the sites Conservation Objectives. The Cloon to Lanesboro 110kv Line passes through two European sites within Co. Roscommon comprising Corbo Bog Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 002349) and River Suck Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004097) and oversails the Lough Ree Special

Protection Area (Site Code: 0040564) and Lough Ree Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 000440). The Board was satisfied that the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on European Sites Corbo Bog Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 002349), River Suck Callows Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004097), Lough Ree Special Protection Area (Site Code: 0040564) and Lough Ree Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 000440) or any other European site, in view of the sites' Conservation Objectives.

Conditions

1. a) The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions. Where such conditions require details to be agreed with the planning authority, the developer shall agree such details with the planning authority prior to commencement of development and the development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars.

b) all environmental mitigation measures set out in the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report shall be implemented in full, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions.

Reason: In the interests of clarity and environmental protection.

2. (a) A suitably qualified and experienced person with expertise in ecology shall prepare a Construction Management Plan (including further survey work and setting out timescale for construction) shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of Development. The plan shall have regard to the mitigation measures set out in the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report.

(b) The Ecologist shall monitor all site investigation and construction work near sensitive sites and ensure that all works are carried out in accordance

with the agreed Construction Management Plan and the mitigation measures set out in the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report. On completion of the development, a final report setting out all the monitoring, findings and measures so carried out shall be submitted to the planning authority.

Reason: To ensure the protection of the ecological heritage of the area.

3. The developer shall facilitate the protection of archaeological materials or features which may exist within the site. In this regard:
 - (a) The developer shall employ a suitably qualified archaeologist to oversee all the required archaeological mitigation strategies,
 - (b) All construction works associated with the development shall be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. The monitoring shall be undertaken in agreement with the National Monuments Section of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Should archaeological material be uncovered during the course of monitoring, the archaeologist shall have work on the site stopped pending a decision on how best to deal with the archaeology. The developer shall prepare to be advised by the National Monuments Section of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht with regard to any necessary mitigation action and should facilitate the archaeologist in recording any material found.

The planning authority and the National Monuments Section of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht shall be furnished with a report describing the results of the monitoring.

Reason: In order to conserve the archaeological heritage of the site and to secure the preservation and protection of any remains that may exist within the site.

4. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall submit a detailed Traffic Management Plan to the planning authority in advance of any works commencing on site. The Traffic Management Plan shall contain the following details;

(a) All proposed site access locations off the road network and the signage proposed at each location in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual 2010.

(b) Loading/unloading of construction materials and plant. The proposed source of all construction material shall be specified.

(c) Parking locations -parking of all site operatives and construction vehicles shall not be permitted on the national and regional road network.

(d) The location of site compounds.

(e) Proposals to phase deliveries to minimise traffic disruption.

Reason: In the interests of traffic safety.

5. The developer shall undertake a survey at all site locations off the public road network in advance of any works taking place and a further inspection when all works have been completed and the access points have been reinstated to their original condition. Any damage caused to the road pavement at access point locations shall be repaired at the developer's expense, to the satisfaction of the planning authority. Existing roadside drainage shall be maintained at all site access locations.

Reason: In the interests of traffic safety.

Board Member

Date: 12/03/2019

Maria FitzGerald