



An  
Bord  
Pleanála

**Board Direction**  
**BD-006880-20**  
**ABP-308242-20**

**REQUEST** received by An Bord Pleanála on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2020 from Suir Engineering Limited under section 146B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, in respect of an application for permission under section 182A(1) of the Act described as the provision of a Gas Insulated Switchgear substation, 2 no. 220kV underground circuits forming a loop-in/loop out to the existing Maynooth-Woodland 220kV Overhead line and 6 no. 220kV underground circuits and associated low voltage and communication underground cabling connecting the proposed substation with electricity transformers within the Intel Ireland Facility and all associated and ancillary site development works. Within the townlands of Bogganstown, County Meath and Ravensdale, Kellystown, Blakestown (North Salt-By) and Leixlip, County Kildare.

**PROPOSED ALTERATIONS:** consisting of:

- (a) A reduction in the extent and scale of the horizontal directional drilling bores under the River Rye to facilitate the installation of up to six 220kV circuits and associated low voltage and communications cabling,
- (b) Those sections of cabling originally to be routed by the horizontal directional drilling will be replaced by conventional trench excavation, and

(c) The relocation of the horizontal directional drilling launch pad from the northern side of the River Rye to the southside and into the demand customer (Intel) site.

**WHEREAS** the Board made a decision to approve, subject to conditions, the above-mentioned development by order dated the 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2019,

**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 nature of the issues involved, the Board decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, not to invite submissions or observations in relation to the matter from persons who had made submissions or observations in relation to the application, the subject of this alteration,

**AND WHEREAS** the Board decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that the proposed alterations would not result in a material alteration to the terms of the development, the subject of the permission,

**AND WHEREAS**, having considered all of the documents on file and the Inspector's report, the Board considered that the making of the proposed alterations would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment or on any European site,

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September 2020.

## **REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS**

Having regard to the nature, scale and location of the proposed development, the documentation submitted with the request and the report of the Inspector, the Board considered that the requested alterations would be of a minor nature, by reason of their nature, extent and temporary duration in the context of the development as a whole, being a major infrastructural development. The proposed alterations would, therefore, not be material in terms of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

### **Appropriate Assessment**

In conducting a screening exercise for appropriate assessment, the Board considered the nature, scale and location of the proposed alteration, the planning history of the scheme, the documentation on file, and the assessment of the Inspector in relation to the potential for effects on European Sites. In undertaking the screening exercise, the Board accepted the analysis and conclusions of the Inspector, and concluded that, by itself and in combination with other plans or projects in the vicinity, the proposed alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on European Sites.

### **Environmental Impact Assessment Screening**

Having regard to the modest nature, scale, location and characteristics of the proposed alteration, the characteristics and scale of the potential impacts of the alteration and the provisions of Schedule 5 and Schedule 7 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, the Board is satisfied that the proposed alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment, either by itself or in combination with other development in the area. In coming to this determination, the Board concurred with the analysis and conclusions set out in the Inspector's overall report.

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

The Board concluded that the making of the proposed alteration to the approved development would be in accordance with national policies and guidelines, and with regional and local development policy, and that, subject to compliance with the mitigation measures set out on file, the proposed alteration would not seriously injure the amenities of the area or of property in the vicinity, would result in reduced environmental effects, and would be acceptable in terms of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

**Board Member:**

**Date:** 06/11/2020

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Dave Walsh