



An  
Bord  
Pleanála

**Board Direction**  
**ABP-308511-20**

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The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 23/04/2021.

The Board decided, as set out in the following Order, that

Board Order as follows:-

**WHEREAS** a question has arisen as to whether the proposed renewing and altering of the existing Kilbarry-Knockraha No.2 110kV overhead transmission line in the townlands of Ballincolly, Ballyvolane, Arderrow, Ballyharoon, Banduff, Poulacurry North, Poulacurry South and Ballinglanna Co. Cork, is or is not development, and if development, is or is not exempted development. The subject works constitute -

- Paint/corrosion treatment of steel towers
- Replacement of wooden polesets
- Replacement of existing steel intermediate towers with wooden intermediate polesets
- Replacement of insulators and hardware
- Civil works on Tower Shear Blocks
- Ancillary works

**AND WHEREAS** Eirgrid PLC of The Oval, 160 Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin c/o MKO, Tuam Galway requested a declaration on the said question from Cork City on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020;

**AND WHEREAS** Cork City Council referred this request for a declaration to An Bord Pleanála on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2020:

**AND WHEREAS** An Bord Pleanála, in considering this referral, had regard particularly to –

- (a) sections 2(1), 3(1), 4(1)(g), 4(1)(h) and 4(4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended,
- (b) the submissions made by the parties to the referral,
- (c) the nature, extent and scope of the works, and
- (d) the report of the planning inspector:

**AND WHEREAS** An Bord Pleanála has concluded that:

- (a) EirGrid PLC is a “statutory undertaker” within the meaning of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended,
- (b) the change in structure types, comprising the replacement of steel towers with wooden polesets, in addition to replacement of wooden polesets, paint/corrosion treatment of steel tower, replacement of insulators and hardware and civil works on tower shear blocks constitute works as defined and is, therefore, “development” within the meaning of section 3 of the said Act,
- (c) the proposed works form part of the renewing and altering of the Kilbarry-Knockraha No. 2 110kV transmission line and are being

undertaken as part of the statutory undertaker's routine function associated with transmission infrastructure,

- (d) the proposed wooden polesets are considered to be of less visual significance than the 2 no. steel towers being replaced and do not give rise to any material adverse planning considerations,
- (e) the proposed replacement of wooden polesets which may result in an increase in height of up to 2 metres at certain points would not be of visual significance and do not give rise to any material adverse planning considerations, and
- (f) the proposed works come within the scope of section 4(1)(g) of the said Act which facilitates, inter alia, the altering and renewing of apparatus by a statutory undertaker:

**NOW THEREFORE** An Bord Pleanála, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 5 (4) of the 2000 Act, as amended, hereby decides that the said proposed renewing and altering of the existing Kilbarry-Knockraha No.2 110kV overhead transmission line is development and is exempted development.

**Board Member:**

**Date:** 23/04/2021

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Chris McGarry