



An  
Bord  
Pleanála

**Board Direction**  
**BD-007227-20**  
**ABP-308620-20**

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 22/12/2020.

Request received by An Bord Pleanála on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020 from Highfield Solar Limited under section 146B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, to alter the terms of a strategic infrastructure development, comprising a proposed electrical substation and associated 110kV and MV infrastructure required to connect ground-mounted solar PV generation to the electricity transmission system and associated development at Gillinstown, Duleek, County Meath, which was the subject of an approval under An Bord Pleanála reference number ABP-303568-19.

**WHEREAS** the Board made a decision to approve, subject to conditions, the above-mentioned development by order dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2019,

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

**AND WHEREAS** the proposed alteration is described as follows:

- Increase in footprint dimensions of the GIS building from 26.8 metres long by 20 metres wide, to 32.2 metres long by 22.5 metres wide.

- Change in the footprint dimensions of the associated substation compound from 51 metres long by 43.8 metres wide, to 52.2 metres long by 40.2 metres wide.

**AND WHEREAS** 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 from the public in relation to whether the proposed alteration would constitute the making of a material alteration to the terms of the development concerned,

**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 approval,

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

**NOW THEREFORE**, in accordance with section 146B(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the Board hereby alters the abovementioned decision so that the approved development shall be altered in accordance with the plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020 for the reasons and considerations set out below.

### **Reasons and Considerations**

Having regard to:

(i) the nature and scale of the substation and associated development approved by An Bord Pleanála under Reference Number ABP-303568-19 for this site,

(ii) the examination of the environmental impact, including in relation to Natura 2000 sites, carried out in the course of that application,

(iii) the limited nature and scale of the alterations, when considered in relation to the overall approved development,

(iv) the absence of any significant new or additional environmental concerns (including in relation to Natura 2000 sites) arising as a result of the proposed alterations, and

(v) the report of the Board's inspector, which is adopted,

it is considered that the proposed alterations would not be material. In accordance with section 146B(3)(a) of the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended, the Board hereby makes the said alterations.

**Board Member:**

**Date:** 22/12/2020

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Dave Walsh