

An Bord Pleanála



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 TO 2015

Kildare County

Planning Register Reference Number: 16/523

An Bord Pleanála Reference Number: PL 09.247028

APPEAL by Peter Sweetman care of Peter Sweetman and Associates of 14 Postnet, 113 Lower Rathmines Road, Dublin against the decision made on the 14th day of July, 2016 by Kildare County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to EirGrid Plc care of Bernard Dee of ESB International, Stephen Court, 18-21 Saint Stephen's Green, Dublin in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Development comprising the replacement of an existing triple circuit branch mast of 34 metres in height at Confey (townland) which supports the existing Corduff-Ryebrook, Maynooth-Ryebrook and Dunfirth-Kinnegad-Rinawade 110Kv overhead line circuits with three masts of maximum heights of 15 metres (single circuit mast), 24 metre and 34 metre (both double circuit masts) and all ancillary site works to occur in the immediate vicinity of the existing mast. This will also result in the consequential realignment of the existing circuit conductors which will be supported on the new structures. The purpose of the mast replacement is to reduce the dependence on one mast to carry three overhead line circuits by means of providing an individual mast in this location for each of the three lines. The masts will be of latticed steel construction similar to the existing mast, all at Confey, Leixlip, County Kildare.

DECISION

GRANT permission for the above proposed development in accordance with the said plans and particulars based on the reasons and considerations under and subject to the conditions set out below.

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

Having regard to the location, scale and nature of the proposed development and to the provisions of the Kildare County Development Plan 2011-2017 as varied and the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2010, it is considered that the proposed development, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, would not seriously injure the amenities of the area or of property in the vicinity and would be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

The Board considered that the proposed development, either individually, or in combination with other development, would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment such that an Environmental Impact Assessment would be required. In coming to this decision the Board had regard to previous Board determinations that an Environmental Impact Assessment was not required in respect of development involving the construction of new electricity pylons along the route of the existing Maynooth Ryebrook electricity line considered by the Board in the case of An Bord Pleanála reference number 09.RL.3080 (planning authority reference number ED/00451) and the renewing and altering of the Maynooth-Ryebrook 110 KV line in the case of An Bord Pleanála reference number 09.RL.3081 (planning authority reference number ED/00440).

The Board completed a screening exercise in relation to Appropriate Assessment, taking into account the screening report submitted with the application and the Inspector's report and submissions on file, in relation to potential impacts of the site having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development. The Board concurred with the Inspector's analysis in relation to Appropriate Assessment. The Board adopted her conclusions that the development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have significant effects on the Rye Water Valley/Carton Special Area of Conservation (Site Code 001398) or any Natura 200 site in view of the site's conservation objectives.

CONDITIONS

1. 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.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. The existing triple circuit branch mast shall be decommissioned and removed from the site within one month of commissioning of the replacement masts.

Reason: In the interest of the visual amenities of the area.

3. The construction of the development shall be managed in accordance with a Construction Management Plan, which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. This plan shall provide details of intended construction practice for the development, including hours of working, noise management measures and off-site disposal of construction/demolition waste.

Reason: In the interest of public safety and residential amenity.

**Member of An Bord Pleanála
duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.**

Dated this day of 2016.