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**Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022**

**Planning Authority: Meath County Council**

**Planning Register Reference Number: 23458**

**Appeal** by Celene Sheehy of Bluebell House, Brideswell, Hayestown, Navan, County Meath and by Carroll Brothers Investment Limited of Stameen, Drogheda, County Louth against the decision made on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023 by Meath County Council to grant permission subject to conditions to EirGrid PLC care of Atkins of Atkins House, 150 Airside Business Park, Swords, County Dublin in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

**Proposed Development:** The proposed development will consist of an upgrade of the existing Gorman to Platin 110 kV overhead line (OHL) (19.76 kilometres long and comprising 109 number supporting structures between the existing Gorman substation in the townland of Causetown, County Meath and the existing Platin 110kV substation in the townland of Platin, County Meath). The proposed project is located within the townlands of Graigs, Ardmulchan, Dollardstown, Dunmoe, Carranstown, Platin, Haystown and Carnuff, Stackallan, Harmanstown, Causetown, Garballagh, Commons, Downestown, Gillinstown, Longford, Rathdrinagh, Painestown, Thurstanstown, Knockcommon, Drumman, Laughier, Newtown and Platin.

The proposed uprate project will comprise of the replacement ("restringing") of the existing OHL circuit conductor wires with a new higher capacity conductor including installation of a new fibre communication connection; the replacement of 42 number existing polesets - any replacement structures will be constructed at or immediately adjacent to the existing structures they will replace, will be along the same alignment as existing and will be of a similar height and appearance; the replacement of steel members at eight number steel angle masts; the replacement of hardware and fittings at all structure locations; the replacement and relocation of fibre communication structures; all associated site development works; earthwire to be replaced between Angle Mast 94 and End Mast 108; tower painting at 10 number steel angle/end masts; foundation strengthening works at four number angle masts; anti-climbing guards to be installed at one number location; all associated works within the existing Gorman substation and Platin 110 kV substation to accommodate the uprated 110 kV overhead line including alterations to existing apparatus; all associated temporary site development works to gain access to the existing structures including clearance of vegetation, disassembly and reassembly of gate posts/piers and removal and reinstatement of existing fencing and other temporary associated and ancillary site development works required for the purpose of the uprate of the existing circuit, including construction compounds, silt traps, silt fences, stone tracks, ground protection mats, infrastructure crossing support systems and temporary watercourse crossings all at Causetown, Platin, Drogheda, County Meath.

## **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.**

## Reasons and Considerations

The proposed development, comprising the uprating of the existing Gorman to Platin 110kV Overhead line in a sensitive manner, would support and facilitate the development of enhanced electricity supply to serve existing and future need and is, therefore, in accordance with the provisions of policy INF POL 46 of the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027, National Strategic Outcome NS08 of the National Planning Framework (transition to a low carbon and climate resilient society), Objectives RPO 8.25 (Communication Networks and Digital Infrastructure), RPO 10.20 and RPO 10.22 (both Energy Infrastructure) of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy. Having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would be in accordance with the zoning objectives within the settlement of Duleek, would not have an unacceptable impact on the landscape or biodiversity, would not seriously injure the visual or residential amenities of the area or of property in the vicinity and would be acceptable in terms of flood risk. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

## 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. Where such conditions require details to be agreed with the planning authority, the developer shall agree such details in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development and the development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars.

**Reason:** In the interest of clarity.

2. The mitigation measures contained in the submitted Natura Impact Statement (NIS), shall be implemented.

**Reason:** To protect the integrity of European Sites.

3. Site development and building works shall be carried out between the hours of 0700 to 1900 Mondays to Fridays inclusive, between 0800 to 1400 hours on Saturdays and not at all on Sundays and public holidays. Deviation from these times shall only be allowed in exceptional circumstances where prior written agreement has been received from the planning authority.

**Reason:** To safeguard the amenity of property in the vicinity.

4. A Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to the commencement of development. The CEMP shall include but not be limited to construction phase controls for dust, noise and vibration, waste management, protection of soils, groundwaters, and surface waters, site housekeeping, emergency response planning, site environmental policy, and project roles and responsibilities.

**Reason:** In the interest of environmental protection.

5. During the operational phase of the proposed development the noise level shall not exceed

(a) 55 dB(A) rated sound level between the hours of 0700 to 2300, and

(b) 45 dB(A) 15min and 60 dB LAfmax, 15min at all other times,

(corrected for a tonal or impulsive component) as measured at the nearest noise sensitive location. Procedures for the purpose of determining compliance with this limit shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

**Reason:** To protect the amenities of property in the vicinity of the site.

6. Prior to commencement of development, a Resource Waste Management Plan (RWMP) as set out in the Environmental Protection Agency's Best Practice Guidelines for the Preparation of Resource and Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects (2021) shall be prepared and submitted to the planning authority for written agreement. The RWMP shall include specific proposals as to how the RWMP will be measured and monitored for effectiveness. All records (including for waste and all resources) pursuant to the agreed RWMP shall be made available for inspection at the site office at all times.

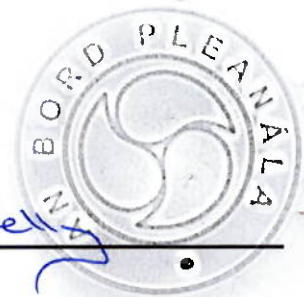
**Reason:** In the interest of reducing waste and encouraging recycling.

7. A detailed construction traffic management plan shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. The plan shall include details of arrangements for routes for construction traffic, parking during the construction phase, the location of the compound for storage of plant and machinery and the location for storage of deliveries to the site.

**Reason:** In the interest of traffic safety and convenience.

  
Eamonn James Kelly

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



Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2024.