

Board Order ABP-318258-23

Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Cork County Council

(Associated reference number: ABP-310798-21)

REQUEST received by An Bord Pleanála on the 13th day of October, 2023 from EirGrid of The Oval, 160 Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin under section 146B of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, to alter the terms of a strategic infrastructure development described proposed alterations to the previously approved Celtic Interconnector Project and associated works, subject of approval under An Bord Pleanala Reference Number ABP 310798-21 and also the subject of a previous alteration under reference number ABP 316191-23.

WHEREAS the Board made a decision to approve the proposed development, subject to conditions, for the above-mentioned development by Order dated the 19th day of May 2022,

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

AND WHEREAS the proposed alterations is described as follows:

Realignment of permitted internal road and construction of new entrance.

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AND WHEREAS the Board decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, 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 considered the submissions received,

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 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 above-mentioned decision so that the approved development shall be altered in accordance with the plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 13th day of October, 2023, for the reasons and considerations set out below.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Having regard to:

 the nature and scale of the Celtic Interconnector Project, and specifically the substation element works at Knockraha permitted under An Bord Pleanála Reference Number ABP-310798-21 for this site, which includes 400kV and 220kV Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) equipment, 400/220kV transformer, lightning protection poles (max height of 20 metres), a small relay room, access track and associated works;

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- the limited nature and scale of the alterations when considered in relation to the overall permitted development;
- the absence of any significant new or additional environmental concerns arising as a result of the proposed alterations;
- the report of the Board's Inspector, which is adopted; and
- the submissions received in relation to the proposed amendments,

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.

Chris McGarry

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

day of

Dated this

2024.