



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Order 11.VM0012

Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2017

Planning Authorities: Laois County Council and Kilkenny County Council

(Associated reference number: 11.VA0015)

REQUEST received by An Bord Pleanála on the 9th day of June, 2017 from Eirgrid Plc of The Oval, 160 Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin under section 146B of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, in respect of a strategic infrastructure development described as the Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project.

WHEREAS the Board made a decision to approve, subject to conditions, the above-mentioned development by order dated the 23rd day of April, 2014 under case reference number 11.VA0015,

AND WHEREAS the proposed alterations are described as follows:

- An additional temporary angle mast structure and localised diversion of the existing Athy-Portlaoise 110kV overhead line
- Provision of a temporary site compound for the storage of materials and to facilitate site offices

AND WHEREAS having regard to the nature of the issues involved, 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 in relation to the matter from persons who had made submissions or observations in relation to the application, the subject of this alteration,

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 permission,

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

NOW THEREFORE in accordance with section 146B(3)(b) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the Board hereby alters the above-mentioned decision so that the approved development shall be carried out in accordance with the plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 9th day of June, 2017.

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

In deciding to make the alterations, the Board had regard to the following:

- (a) the terms of the development approved under case reference number 11.VA0015,
- (b) the nature, scale and limited time scale of the alterations being requested,
- (c) the documentation submitted with the alteration request, and
- (d) the report and recommendation of the Inspector.

The Board was satisfied that the information before it was adequate to undertake screening for Appropriate Assessment and a screening for environmental impact assessment in respect of the proposed alterations.

Appropriate Assessment Screening:

In conducting a screening exercise for appropriate assessment, the Board considered the nature, scale and limited time scale of the alterations being requested, the planning history of the scheme, the documentation and submissions on file, the distances to European Sites, and the assessment of the Inspector in relation to the potential for effects on such sites. In undertaking the screening exercise, the Board accepted the analysis and conclusions of the Inspector, and concluded that, by itself and in combination with other plans or projects in the vicinity, the proposed alterations would not be likely to have significant effects on European Sites.

Environmental Impact Assessment Screening:

Having regard to the nature, scale and limited time scale of the alterations being requested, the planning history of the subject site, the documentation and submissions on file, and the provisions of Schedule 5 and Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, the Board is satisfied that the proposed alterations would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment, either by itself or in cumulation with other development in the area. In coming to this determination, the Board concurred with the analysis and conclusions set out in the Inspector's overall report.

Conclusions on the Proper Planning and Sustainable Development of the Area:

The Board concluded that, having regard to :

- The overall nature and scale of the project approved by An Bord Pleanála under reference 11.VA0015,
- The pattern of development in the location of the proposed alterations (which is in proximity to the approved works),
- The nature and limited extent of the alterations proposed, and
- The temporary nature of the alterations proposed,

the proposed alterations would not constitute the making of a material alteration to the terms of the development concerned in the context of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

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

Dated this day of 2017.