



An
Bord
Pleanála

Record of Meeting ABP-300167-17 3rd meeting

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|---|--|--------------------------|---------------|
| Case Reference / Description | ABP-300167-17 | | |
| | 110kV substation cable and two cable end masts in townlands of Vesingstown and Harlockstown, Dunboyne, Co. Meath | | |
| Case Type | Pre-application consultation | | |
| 1st / 2nd / 3rd Meeting | 3 rd | | |
| Date | 18/04/18 | Start Time | 2.30 p.m. |
| Location | Meeting Room 3 | End Time | 3 p.m. |
| Chairperson | Phillip Green | Executive Officer | Kieran Somers |

| Attendees | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------|
| Representing An Bord Pleanála | | |
| Staff Member | Email Address | Phone |
| Phillip Green, Assistant Director of Planning | | |
| Pauline Fitzpatrick, Senior Planning Inspector | | |
| David Curran, Senior Executive Officer | | |
| Kieran Somers, Executive Officer | k.somers@pleanala.ie | 01-8737107 |

| Representing the Prospective Applicant | | |
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| Aidan Collins, Principal Planner, Lightsource Renewable Energy Ireland Limited | | |
| Barry Wadding, Business Development Manager, Lightsource Renewable Energy Ireland Limited | | |

The meeting commenced at 2.30 p.m.

Introduction:

The Board referred to its previous meeting with the prospective applicant of the 26th March, 2018. The record of this meeting was provided to the prospective applicant for its information and the Board afforded the prospective applicant an opportunity to comment on this. The prospective applicant replied that it had no comments to make on the record of this meeting.

The Board invited the prospective applicant to outline the issue which had arisen in respect of the red line boundary for the proposed development which may be determined to constitute strategic infrastructure by the Board. The prospective applicant said that the area of the proposed solar farm subject of an application to Meath County Council has been reduced due mainly to flooding issues on the lands in question. As a result of this, the original site for the proposed substation would be relocated from that initially proposed to the Board. It is now proposed to relocate the substation to a site closer to the transmission grid connection point while seeking to minimise visual impact and maintaining set back to dwellinghouses. The prospective applicant said that financial considerations were also a factor in its decision to re-locate the site of the proposed substation in terms of a shorter distance required for the grid connection. Whilst the revised site would still be within the red boundary delineated for the solar farm application itself, it would be outside the red boundary as originally delineated on the plans presented to the Board as part of this pre-application consultation process. It noted also that the lands in question would be in the ownership of the same landowner.

The Board's representatives indicated that this amendment could be considered under the auspices of the present pre-application consultation request. Noting the prospective applicant's intention to delineate the potential for solar panels on the

proposed substation site, on plans accompanying its planning application to Meath County Council, the Board said that to avoid any uncertainty it would be preferable if the plans were to illustrate that the site may be for the proposed substation. The Board added that such an approach would avoid the possibility of conflicting information.

The prospective applicant stated that revised drawings with the site location delineated thereon would be forwarded to the Board. The Board advised that confirmation of the technical requirements, including approximate distance between the proposed substation and the existing overhead line should accompany the plans. In addition, clarification should be provided that in other respects the technical characteristics with regard to the transmission connection remained the same as previously described.

Responding to the Board's query on the matter, the prospective applicant said that its intention would be to lodge an application in respect of the instant case in conjunction with progress on the current planning application with Meath County Council. With respect to the further information request which is outstanding with the Council, the prospective applicant said that it hoped to deal with this in early June 2018. It added that its intention thereafter would be to begin preparation for an SID application to the Board if the instant case is deemed to be strategic infrastructure.

In response to the Board's query on the matter, the prospective applicant said that potentially a planning appeal might be lodged to the Board if its current planning application is granted permission by the Council. In such a scenario, the Board would consider running the two related cases in tandem.

Conclusion:

The Board advised the prospective applicant to await the record of the instant meeting to issue to it prior to requesting formal closure to the pre-application consultation process. Upon receipt of this request, the reporting inspector would prepare a report and recommendation to the Board and forward the case to the Board for formal determination. This might take between two to four weeks approximately. In the meantime, the prospective applicant will forward to the Board the additional information requested at the instant meeting.

The meeting concluded at 3 p.m.

Phillip Green

Assistant Director of Planning