



An
Bord
Pleanála

Record of Meeting ABP-310033-21 2nd meeting

Case Reference / Description	ABP-310033-21 Proposed development of a 220kV substation and grid connection at existing Dunnstown 400kV substation, Dunnstown Co. Kildare.		
Case Type	Pre-application consultation		
1st / 2nd / 3rd Meeting	2 nd		
Date	23/11/21	Start Time	11 a.m.
Location	N/A	End Time	11.15 a.m.

Representing An Bord Pleanála
Staff Members
Ciara Kellett, Assistant Director of Planning (Chair)
Karla McBride, Senior Planning Inspector
Kieran Somers, Executive Officer
Representing the Prospective Applicant
Peter Thomson, PT Planning Solutions
Ryan McBirney, Strategic Power Projects
Kevin O'Regan, Malone O'Regan Environmental
Carlos Galvan, PSC Consulting
Brian Mackey, Malone O'Regan Engineering

The meeting commenced at 11 a.m.

The Board referred to its previous meeting with the prospective applicant (31st August 2021) and the record of this meeting. The Board enquired if the prospective applicant had any comments it wished to submit on the record of this meeting; the prospective applicant replied that it had no comments to make.

The Board also referred to the prospective applicant's letter of the 1st October 2021 and noted that, as outlined in that letter, the scope of the proposed development has been extended.

Prospective applicant's presentation:

The prospective applicant noted the proposed amendments to the proposed development and said that the project is advancing towards planning application stage. The prospective applicant said that it now intends to include the proposed substation to facilitate the solar farm and associated grid connection. The prospective applicant said that the proposed substation would be a standard Eirgrid compound with ancillary works; the proposed substation allows for future development and would also facilitate third-party connection. The proposed substation and associated grid connection will be 110kV and the prospective applicant stated its opinion that the proposed substation and grid connection would be SID on this basis.

Board's comments/queries:

In response to the Board's query on the matter, the prospective applicant confirmed that the planning application for the proposed solar farm is pending for lodgement with Kildare County Council. With respect to the instant project, the prospective applicant added that assessments are on-going and that consultations are taking place with members of the local community and also with representatives of Punchestown Racecourse. The prospective applicant said that it intends to lodge a robust planning application.

In response to the Board's query on the matter, the prospective applicant said that agricultural activities, such as sheep farming, could continue notwithstanding the proposed solar farm. The prospective applicant also said that it is continuing to compile data in respect of birds.

Conclusion:

The record of the instant meeting will issue in the meantime and the prospective applicant can submit any comments it may have in writing or alternatively bring any comments for discussion at the time of a further meeting. The onus is on the prospective applicant to either request a further meeting or formal closure of the instant pre-application consultation process.

The meeting concluded at 11.15 a.m.

Ciara Kellett
Assistant Director of Planning