



An
Bord
Pleanála

Record of Meeting ABP-311032-21 2nd meeting

Case Reference / Description	ABP-311032-21 Proposed new tail-fed 110kV substation to connect to Finglas substation via underground cables in townland of Fieldstown, Co. Dublin.		
Case Type	Pre-application consultation		
1st / 2nd / 3rd Meeting	2 nd		
Date	31/05/22	Start Time	12 p.m.
Location	Remote via MS Teams	End Time	12.20 p.m.

Representing An Bord Pleanála
Staff Members
Ciara Kellett, Assistant Director of Planning (Chair)
Niall Haverty, Senior Planning Inspector
Kieran Somers, Executive Officer
Representing the Prospective Applicant
Eanna Farrell, Energia
Sara Tinsley, Energia
Fiona Somers, Energia
David Lyons, Energia
Shane Whyte, Energia

Richard Green, Energia
Shauna Woods, Aecom
Niamh Kennedy, Aecom
Barry Wall, Aecom
Oisin Burke, Aecom

The Board referred to its previous meeting with the prospective applicant (22nd November 2021) and the record of this meeting. The Board enquired as to whether the prospective applicant had any comments it wished to make on the record of this meeting. The prospective applicant replied that it had no comments to make on this specifically.

Presentation by the prospective applicant:

The prospective applicant said that it wished to discuss some matters following on from the meeting of the 22nd November 2021, as outlined in the letter (dated 18th May 2022) sent to the Board in advance of the meeting.

With regard to engagement with Eirgrid, the prospective applicant noted that Eirgrid is the statutory body responsible for the operation and development of the electricity grid in Ireland. With respect to the instant proposed development, the prospective applicant pointed out that the proposed substation will be tail-fed, will not be a meshed transmission station and will not form a node on the meshed transmission system. The prospective applicant also emphasised the fact that the section of proposed 110kV cable and the existing substation it would connect into (located in Finglas) is within the Dublin distribution network and would not, in its opinion, be for the purposes of transmission in the overall network.

The prospective applicant re-stated its opinion that the proposed development would not constitute strategic infrastructure development within the scope of section 182A(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, for a number of reasons, including the fact that the proposed substation would be tail-fed and would not form a node on the transmission network. The prospective applicant also added that the Board has determined previous proposed developments of this nature and extent to be not SID.

Board's comments/queries:

The Board's representatives noted the points made by the prospective applicant and with particular regard to certain 110kV infrastructure being part of the Dublin distribution system, rather than the transmission system. The Board noted the definition of transmission set out in section 182A(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, which is broader than the definition contained in the Electricity Regulation Act, and noted that the Board of recent has deemed new 110kV substations and grid connections to be SID notwithstanding their tail-fed nature; the Board's representatives noted some recent decisions made by the Board in this regard (ABP-310846-21 and ABP-310026-21).

With regard to the prospective applicant's point about the Dublin distribution network, the Board's representatives said that they would need to give further consideration to this matter and advised that the prospective applicant's position and arguments would be outlined in the Inspector's Report and would be brought to the Board's attention. It was noted that the SID status of the proposed development is ultimately a matter for the Board to determine.

The Board asked the prospective applicant if it wished to raise any new issues with regard to planning and environmental matters or the overall development of the project. The prospective applicant replied that it had no new project-specific issues to raise.

Conclusion:

The record of the instant meeting will issue shortly and it will then be open to the prospective applicant to consider its next steps.

The meeting concluded at 12.20 p.m.

Ciara Kellett**Assistant Director of Planning**