

**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

**Record of Meeting  
ABP-313117-22 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting**

|   |  |                   |            |
|---|--|-------------------|------------|
| <b>Case Reference / Description</b>       | Construction of temporary emergency electricity generation at Huntstown Power Station, Johnstown, Co. Dublin |                   |            |
| <b>Case Type</b>                          | Pre-application consultation under s.181(2R) of the P&D Act  |                   |            |
| <b>1st / 2nd / 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting</b> | 2 <sup>nd</sup>  |                   |            |
| <b>Date</b>                               | 18/05/2022   | <b>Start Time</b> | 10.00 a.m. |
| <b>Location</b>                           | N/A  | <b>End Time</b>   | 11:00 a.m. |

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| <b>Representing An Bord Pleanála</b>                                    |
| <b>Staff Members</b>  |
| Ciara Kellett, Assistant Director of Planning (Chair)                   |
| Una Crosse, Senior Planning Inspector                                   |
| Jennifer Sherry, Executive Officer                                      |
| <b>Representing the Prospective Applicant</b>                           |
| Paul O'Neill, Department of Environment, Climate and Communications     |
| Sinéad O'Reilly, Department of Environment, Climate and Communications  |
| Philip Carson, Emergency Generation Project Lead, Developer             |
| Doireann Ni Cheallaigh, Planning and Environment Officer, Energia Group |
| Kitty Chim, Aggreko Business Development Manager                        |
| Danielle Conaghan, Arthur Cox   |

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| Caroline Lew, Environmental Co-ordinator, Mott MacDonald |
| Lara Gough, Principal Planner, Mott MacDonald            |
| Gráinne Reid, Environmental Planner, Mott MacDonald      |
| Roger Macnaughton, Principal Ecologist, Mott MacDonald   |

## Introduction

The Board referred to its previous meeting with the prospective applicant 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 advised it had no comments to make.

## Presentation

The prospective applicant reiterated that the current position of the Minister is that they are considering if the proposed development is required, and a decision has not yet been made as to whether an application for approval will be made to the Board.

The prospective applicant in its presentation to the Board gave an overview and update on the proposed project as follows:

- **Project Overview** – the proposed development is required in response to the national emergency relating to a forecasted shortfall in electricity supply for the next 5 winters. The prospective applicant also referred to the wider context of the proposed development in the EU, which has highlighted the need for greater energy security of supply by adding new momentum to the objective of the European Green Deal.
- **Overview & Context** – the proposed development is a temporary, gas-fired power generation facility which will be located on an existing power station site that has been in-situ for over 20 years. The design of the proposed development is modularized, and units will be delivered, pre-assembled to site and will connect to existing on-site utilities infrastructure/services. Furthermore, it is intended that the power generation facility will be operational for a minimum of 3 years and maximum

of 5 years. The facility will only be run when the system is in Alert or Emergency state.

- **Development Description** – a list of the principal elements of the proposed development was included in the presentation provided by the prospective applicant. The equipment provider Aggreko provided background to the company as the largest temporary power provider in the world with operations already in Dublin.
- **Design Details** – the proposed development will be designed to incorporate best practice measures including in relation to air quality, noise and surface water. A COMAH assessment has been carried out which indicated that the proposed development will not result in a risk of major accidents or disasters.
- **EIA and AA Screening** – the prospective applicant set out the characteristics of the proposed development and any potential impacts in relation to EIA screening. It was concluded the proposed development is not in an environmentally sensitive area and no significant impacts are predicted. The closest European Site to the proposed development is the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA located approximately 8.6km from the subject site. An assessment was made on potential source-pathway-receptor links, potential for impact to ex-situ populations of Qualifying Interests/Special Conservation Interests and potential hydrological links to Malahide Estuary SAC.

## Discussion

The following matters were discussed as part of the meeting:


- The Board's representatives queried if a decision has been made by the prospective applicant to screen out EIA and AA. The prospective applicant advised that extensive survey work has been carried out to date and their preliminary opinion suggests that EIA and AA can be screened out. This has been informed by undertaking extensive environmental assessments.
- In a general context, the Board's representatives noted the significantly subthreshold nature of this particular project (at 50MW). As such, the Board's representatives

advised it would not consider an EIAR would be required for the proposed development unless potential significant environmental impacts have been identified in the environmental assessments undertaken.

- The Board's representatives reiterated that if the Minister is minded to submit a screening request for EIA and/or AA there is a provision under section 181(2T) of the Act to allow this. If this option is pursued, the Board will be required to consult with the EPA as the existing Huntstown Power Station is subject to an EPA license and in addition, the Act requires that the owner/occupier of the site is consulted. The prospective applicant confirmed it has commenced consultation with the EPA and noted the proposed development would be considered by way of an amendment to the existing EPA license on the wider site.

## Conclusion

The record of the instant meeting will issue in due course, and it is then open to the prospective applicant to consider its next steps.

 24/5/22

Ciara Kellett

Assistant Director of Planning

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