



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Record of Meeting ABP-320865-24 (VC)

Case Reference / Description	Proposed development comprising of a 220kV Substation and associated 220kV Grid Connection in the townlands of Garryard West, Gortshanroe & Silvermines, Co. Tipperary.		
Case Type	Pre Application Consultation		
1st / 2nd / 3rd / 4th Meeting	2 nd Meeting		
Date	12/02/2026	Start Time	14:30
Location	MS Teams	End Time	15:00

Representing An Coimisiún Pleanála

Una Crosse, Assistant Director of Planning, Chair

David Ryan, Senior Planning Inspector

Niamh Hickey, Executive Officer

Representing the Prospective Applicant

Darren Quinn, Siga Hydro

Ken Oakley, Siga Hydro

Fergal Hynes, Siga Hydro

Stephen Barrett, Tom Phillips and associates

Introduction

The Commission referred to the email received from the prospective applicant on the 23rd January 2026, requesting a 2nd pre-application consultation meeting with the first meeting held on 5th November 2024. The Commission's representatives mentioned the general procedures outlined at the first meeting, noting they remain applicable.

Presentation

The prospective applicant set out their presentation, which is attached to the file. The prospective applicant provided the Commission with background information on the entire Pumped Hydro Storage project and a general layout of the proposed development. The prospective applicant then provided an overview of the proposed development which is the subject of this pre-application request, and which consists of a 220kV underground cable connecting 2 no. substations to the 220kV transmission line.

Discussion

General Matters

- ACP began the discussion by querying if the prospective applicant was seeking to apply for the 2 no. grid connection options as detailed on mapping, outlining that only one option can be applied for, unless design flexibility was sought.
- The prospective applicant outlined one grid connection route is proposed to be sought, and it was not proposed to seek design flexibility.
- Clarity was sought on the specifics and locations of the grid connection options, relative to the westernmost substation and public roads. The prospective applicant clarified details on the proposed options.
- ACP requested that revised mapping should be submitted clarifying the grid connection routes from the eastern section of site to the western section at the Shalee substation.

- ACP outlined that while two grid route options may be considered at this stage, the prospective applicant can only apply for 1 no. grid route option in the application, in the absence of design flexibility.
- ACP noted that existing and extant developments within vicinity of the site including an airfield should be considered in the documentation.
- ACP outlined an Appropriate Assessment stage 1 should be carried out, which will inform Appropriate Assessment stage 2.

SID Status

- A preliminary opinion provided that the proposed development falls within the scope of strategic infrastructure but noted that the final determination is a matter for the Commission.

Conclusion

The Commission's representatives outlined the onus is on the prospective applicant to request a further meeting or formal closure of the instant pre-application consultation process. The Commission's representatives advised that the record of the instant meeting will be issued in the meantime and that the prospective applicant can submit any comments it may have in writing or alternatively bring any comments for discussion at the time of any further meeting.

The meeting concluded at 15:00.



Una Crosse

Assistant Director of Planning.