



An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála

## Record of Meeting ABP-322056-25(VC)

<b>Case Reference / Description</b>	Construction of a Grid Connection, Substation and All Associated developments Located in the townlands of Curraghtown, Brownstown, Navan, County Meath.		
<b>Case Type</b>	Pre-application consultation		
<b>1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting		
<b>Date</b>	19/06/2025	<b>Start Time</b>	11:00am
<b>Location</b>	MS Teams	<b>End Time</b>	11:25am

<b>Representing An Coimisiún Pleanála</b>
Una Crosse, Assistant Director of Planning, Chair
Auriol Considine, Senior Planning Inspector
Lauren Murphy, Executive Officer

<b>Representing the Prospective Applicant</b>
Breena Coyle, Jennings O'Donovan
Evan Concor, Jennings O'Donovan
Paul Ferry, VPI Energy
Richard Walshe, Applicant
Tom Bruton, BioXL

## **Introduction**

The Commission referred to the letter received from the prospective applicant on the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025, requesting pre-application consultations under section 182E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. It also invited the prospective applicant to outline the nature of the proposed development and to highlight any matters that it wished to receive advice on from the Commission. The Commission's representatives mentioned the following general procedures in relation to the pre-application consultation process:

- The Commission will keep a record of this meeting and any other meetings, if held. Such records will form part of the file which will be made available publicly at the conclusion of the process. The record of the meeting will not be amended by the Commission once finalised, but the prospective applicant may submit comments on the record which will form part of the case file.
- The Commission will serve notice at the conclusion of the process as to the strategic infrastructure status of the proposed development. It may form a preliminary view at an early stage in the process on the matter.
- A further meeting or meetings may be held in respect of the proposed development.
- Further information may be requested by the Commission and public consultations may also be directed by the Commission.
- The Commission may hold consultations in respect of the proposed development with other bodies.
- The holding of consultations does not prejudice the Commission in any way and cannot be relied upon in the formal planning process or in any legal proceedings.

### **Presentation made by the prospective applicant:**

The prospective applicant began the presentation by providing an overview of the applicant, the proposed development site characteristics and the project history.

The prospective applicant presented a site location map and proposed site location images and discussed the project.

The prospective applicant presented the proposed layout of the 220kV connection layout and discussed in detail.

Following on, the prospective applicant then presented the proposed layout of the 110kV connection option and discussed in detail.

The prospective applicant then discussed the planning policy context in relation to the proposed development.

The prospective applicant discussed their constraints mapping to date which included water courses and drainage, proximity to dwellings, cultural heritage registered sites, ecology, cultural heritage sites, overhead lines and flood risk areas and presented a drawing to discuss further.

The prospective applicant concluded their presentation by providing their opinion that the proposed development could fall within the remit of Strategic Infrastructure Development.

### **Discussion:**

- The commissions representatives began the discussion by seeking clarity on previous references made by the prospective applicant to Garballagh substation and questioned if this is still a preferred option. The prospective applicant clarified that this substation is also known as Gillinstown substation.
- Following a question raised by the Commission's representatives the prospective applicant advised that it is their intention to transfer the proposed development to EirGrid once it has become operational.

- The Commission's representatives sought clarity from the prospective applicant if this proposed development is a standalone development, the prospective applicant clarified that it is.
- Following a question raised by the prospective applicant the Commission's representatives on the potential effect of the commencement of the Planning and Development Act 2024 on the subject process, it was advised that transitional arrangements for same are awaited.

The Meeting concluded at 11:25.



**Una Crosse**

**Assistant Director of Planning**