



An
Bord
Pleanála

Mr. Sinens
1) Pl. forward file to
Mrs. C. Kellett, ADP for
allocation. 2) Pl. amend
Memorandum ADP assignment
Case reference number on
ABP-310286-21 *Dec 17.*

3) Pl. log box

*drawings on front
file cover*

J. Hays $\frac{31}{5}$
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To: Josephine Hayes – Senior
Executive Officer
From: Kieran Somers – Executive Officer
Re: ABP-310286-21
Date: 28th May 2021

The above-mentioned case is an application to the Board pursuant to section 37 of the Transport (Railway Infrastructure) Act 2001, as amended. The proposed development is for railway works and all works necessary to eliminate and, where necessary, upgrade seven numbered level crossings and carry out all associated and ancillary works along a 24-kilometre section of the Dublin to Cork Railway Line. The section of railway line in question falls within the functional areas of Cork County Council and Limerick City and County Council.

In relation to the proposed development, I note that the pre-application case which pertains is ABP-305149-19 and I note the following in this regard:

The prospective applicant has notified the following prescribed bodies of the application as advised by the Board:

- Cork County Council
- Limerick City and County Council
- Minister for Transport
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
- Southern Regional Assembly

- Transport Infrastructure Ireland
- Commission for Railway Regulation
- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- Office of Public Works
- An Chomhairle Ealaíon
- Fáilte Ireland
- An Taisce
- Health Service Executive
- Irish Water

The letters to the respective prescribed bodies dated the 17th May 2021 advise that the last date for receipt of a submission by the Board is the 9th July, 2021.

In relation to newspaper notices, I note that notices were published in the following newspapers/publications:

- Weekly Observer (dated 5th May 2021)
- The Corkman (dated 6th May 2021)
- The Irish Examiner (dated 6th May 2021)
- Vale Star (dated 6th May 2021)
- Irish Independent (dated 6th May 2021)
- Limerick Leader (dated 8th May 2021)
- Limerick Post (dated 8th May 2021)

The notices advise that the last date for receipt of submissions by the Board is the 9th July, 2021. It is noted that the said notices have been published in English and Irish.

A Natura Impact Statement has been submitted with the planning application. The European Sites in question are as follows:

- Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC (Site Code: 002170)
- Kilcolman Bog SPA (Site Code: 004095)

The Board has received 3 hard copies and 7 electronic copies of the application, as was outlined to the applicant at pre-application stage. The application is also available for inspection at the following locations:

The application includes the following documents in hard copy:

- Planning Compliance Report
- Natura Impact Statement
- EIAR Volume 1 (Non-Technical Summary)
- EIAR Volume 2 (Chapters 1 – 5)
- EIAR Volume 3 (Chapters 6 – 18)
- EIAR Volume 4 (Drawings and Figures)
- EIAR Volume 5 (Appendices and Schedules)
- Railway Order Documents (Schedules 1 – 7 inclusive and Book of Reference)
- Draft of proposed Railway Order

As also outlined to the applicant at pre-application stage, the Board requires the applicant to provide a stand-alone website containing the application documentation. The address of this website has been included in the public notices, as required, and is www.irishrail.ie/CorkLineLevelCrossings

With regard to requirements regarding the EIA Portal, I note that the applicant has included an acknowledgement of registration from the Department dated the 11th May 2021. The Board has also received acknowledgement from the Department of registration from the Department by email dated the 25th May 2021.

With respect to affected owners/occupiers, the applicant has advised of the serving of notice on the 14th May 2021 and has also provided a sample notice. The last date for receipt of any objections from affected owners/occupiers is also the 9th July 2021.

The proposed development relates to the functional areas of Cork County Council and Limerick City and County Council. In its letter to the local authorities dated the 21st May 2021, the Board has requested the planning authorities to submit a report to it within the same time period as set out in the public notices. The last date for receipt of the planning authorities' reports by the Board is the 9th July, 2021.

The requisite fee of €100,000 has been paid in respect of the application.

File forwarded for comments.

28th May, 2021