Our Case Number: ABP-319566-24



CLLR Michael Foley Main Street Ballylongford Co. Kerry

Date: 19 June 2024

**Re:** The proposed development will comprise of a 600MW Powerplant, 120MW Battery Energy Storage System, Above Ground Installation and associated ancillary works.

Located within the townlands Kilcolgan Lower and Ralappane between Tarbert and Ballylongford

Co.Kerry. (www.steppowerplant.com)

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

The Board will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter.

Please be advised that copies of all submissions / observations received in relation to the application will be made available for public inspection at the offices of the local authority and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

More detailed information in relation to strategic infrastructure development can be viewed on the Board's website: www.pleanala.ie.

If you have any queries in the meantime please contact the undersigned officer of the Board. Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Ellen Moss

**Executive Officer** 

Direct Line: 01-8737285

PA04

Email

## CLLR. MICHAEL FOLEY **KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL**



Omichaelmfoley19@gmail.com / cllr.michael.foley@kerrycoco.ie

Home Address: Main Street, Ballylongford, Co. Kerry



Strategic Infrastructure Development Section An Bord Pleanála 64 Marlborough Street Dublin 1 D01 V902

Date: 14/06/2024

Re: Submission on Case reference: PA08.319566 by Shannon LNG Ltd, located at Kilcolgan Lower and Ralappane, between Tarbert and Ballylongford, Co. Kerry and on the Shannon Estuary

To whom it may concern,

I wish to support the proposed application by Shannon LNG who is seeking a 10 year planning permission for the proposed development of the Shannon Technology and Energy Park (STEP) Power Plant. The proposed Power Plant will comprise 3no. turbine halls (approximately 6,175m2 each, and approximately 30.145m in height), each containing 1no. Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT). Each turbine hall will have a capacity of approximately 200MW for a total installed capacity of 600MW.

The site/land in question has been identified as a Strategic Development Location (Strategic Development Location H: Tarbert-Ballylongford landbank in the Shannon Integrated Framework Plan 2013-2020 (SIFP), the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Southern Region 2020, the Kerry CDP 2022-2028, and the Listowel Municipal District Local Area Plan 2020. The recently published, 8th July 2023, Shannon Estuary Economic Taskforce also supports the site as suitable for energy developments.

Also the Kerry County Development Plan (KCDP) notes that the availability of energy is of critical importance to the continued development and expansion of employment in the county and that it is vital that there is sufficient capacity to meet the current and future needs. There are many more examples in the KCDP supporting this type of development.

Shannon LNG Limited was awarded a capacity contract on 28th March 2023, from EirGrid, to deliver an urgently needed 353 MW of electricity generation capacity by no later than 1st October 2026, or any subsequent date approved by the regulator.

Our Energy demand over the next 10 years is going to increase due to demand from large energy users, continued population growth and the increased electrification of transportation and buildings. According to the National Development Plan electricity demand from large energy users, including data centres, is forecast to grow up to 27% of total power demand in 2030.



## CLLR. MICHAEL FOLEY KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

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Currently we require approximately 5000MWe to keep the lights on in the country and this is expected to grow by 2000MWe into the future. Eirgrid's latest capacity outlook identifies capacity deficits for each year up to 2031 and compounding this is approximately 1,650MW of generation capacity is scheduled to be retired in the Republic of Ireland over the coming years. Eirgrid states that "there is no question that the current outlook, based on the best information available, is serious" and that, to address the challenge, "a balanced portfolio of new capacity is required". It highlights the need for the delivery, through the all-island capacity auctions, of over 2,000 MW of enduring flexible generation capacity" by 2030 alongside additional measures including the procurement of temporary emergency generation capacity with a cost to the state of more than €1 billion and extending the operation of older generators.

This proposed development by Shannon LNG Ltd will facilitate all remaining oil and coal fired power stations to be decommissioned and to be replaced with the efficient, fast responding Power Plant which is necessary to back up intermittent renewables. The proposed 600 MW power plant will be a gas fire power plant (a CCGT gas-powered power plant capable of, a 120 MWh (1-hr) BESS and associated infrastructure) and on 22nd March 2022 before the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Environment and Climate Change, EirGrid's Chief Executive Officer, Mark Foley, stated that "Ireland will need 2,000 MW of dispatchable gas generation by the end of 2026, which will backstop the system and ensure that there is sufficient security of supply, while removing old fossil-intensive plants in the system". Thus making this proposed development necessary to deliver Ireland's Climate Action Plan 2024 policies and support renewables as we require electricity from every available source to secure our energy demand.

The proposed development is close to the 220 kV and 110 kV electrical transmission available from the Kilpaddoge 220 kV substation and is 26km from the national gas network at Foynes, Co Limerick, for which Shannon LNG Ltd obtained consent in February 2009 for Natural Gas Pipeline under Section 182C (1) of the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006, as amended (Shannon Natural Gas Pipeline, Planning Reference: PL08.GA0003) which will facilitate transport of natural gas to the Site.

I welcome the comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) attached to the application in accordance with the EU EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended by EIA Directive 2014/52/EU and the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018. In recognition of the importance of the Shannon Estuary.

Again I want to express my strong support for this planning application for reasons outlined above.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Michael Foley Kerry County Council

