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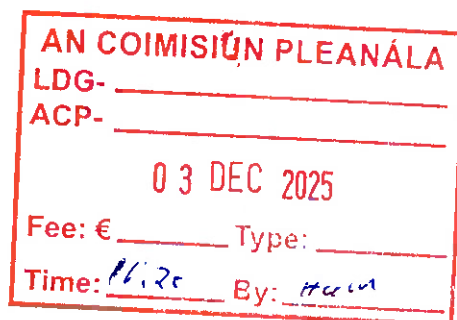
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**An Coimisiún Pleanála,  
64 Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1,  
D01 V902.**

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025

**Re: ACP Case Number: 323456-25  
Response to Submissions**



Dear Sir/Madam,

### 1. Introduction

On behalf of the Electricity Supply Board (ESB), I refer to the above case number and in particular to correspondence received from An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP) dated 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025, inviting a response to the copy of submissions received on the application.

Submissions were received from:

- Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)
- Meath County Council (MCC)

Generally, the issues raised in the submissions have already been considered in the Planning and Environmental Documents and are addressed by mitigation measures or will be addressed during the detailed design and construction stages for this project, as is common for projects of this nature. The specific submissions are responded to below.



## **2. Response to Submissions**

### **2.1 Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)**

TII has requested that ACP has regard to the provisions of Chapter 3 of the DoECLG Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines in the assessment and determination of the subject planning application.

**The submission from TII is noted.**

### **2.2 Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)**

The DHLGH Development Applications Unit (DAU) notes the inclusion of a desk-based Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) with the planning application, which states that previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features or deposits may be present within the proposed development site. They also note that no archaeological geophysical survey or advance archaeological test excavation was carried out and advise that this can be addressed by the inclusion of an appropriate condition if the development is permitted.

Specific archaeological conditions, which align with the sample conditions C3, C5 and C6 in the *OPR Practice Note PN03: Planning Conditions (October 2022)*, are suggested by the DAU.

**ESB is willing to accept conditions as suggested by the DAU.**

### **2.3 Meath County Council (MCC)**

The submission from the planning authority sets out MCC's response in relation to the relevant planning application. The submission sets out the site context, planning history, relevant planning policy and provides an assessment of the proposed development.

Key planning issues from the submission are summarised as follows:

- The principle of the development is acceptable as it aligns with national, regional, and local policies, addresses critical infrastructure needs, and adheres to proper planning and sustainable development principles.



- The project is necessary to ensure a secure and effective electricity supply for the Trim area and supports broader policy objectives for economic growth, housing delivery and renewable energy integration.
- The Transportation Section has no objections subject to condition in relation to maintain sightlines.
- The Environment Section has no objections subject to conditions. There are also no objections in relation to flood risk.
- The Planning Authority notes the Hayshed to be removed proposed for access roads but welcomes the retention of the existing derelict cottage along southeasterly boundary of the proposed.
- The Planning Authority suggests an alternative boundary treatment should be sought in the context of the rural setting. ACP to consider the residential amenity of neighbouring properties.
- Noted that AA screening report was submitted, and that ACP are the Competent Authority for this purpose.
- Noted that an EIAR was not considered necessary and not submitted and that ACP are the Competent Authority for this purpose.
- Suggests a community gain condition to go towards financing an education and awareness programme in respect of renewable energy and energy conservation for the community in the area. *(ESB considers such a condition to be unnecessary in the context of this project, which is a project to improve continuity of electricity supply and it will also facilitate increased renewables. ESB run many campaigns and schemes nationally and locally in various places throughout the country to promote renewable energy and energy conservation as part of its statutory role and a localised programme is not considered necessary in the context of this particular project. In that regard ESB would suggest that ACP do not attach a condition requiring a community gain fund).*
- Requests the inclusion of a cash deposit for the purposes of the public roads and requests ACP to consider the contents of the Meath County Development Contribution Scheme 2024-2029.



MCC state that should ACP be minded to grant permission for the development, that 6 no. conditions should be considered. **ESB has no objection to the 6 no. conditions proposed in MCC's submission.**

### 3. Conclusion

I trust that you have all the required information to progress the assessment of the application. If you have any queries, please contact the undersigned at [heather.mcmeel@esb.ie](mailto:heather.mcmeel@esb.ie) or on 086 176 7511.

Yours sincerely,

Heather McMeel

Heather McMeel,

Senior Planner ESB Engineering and Major Projects