

Lauren Murphy

From: Landuse Planning <LandUsePlanning@tii.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 6 January 2026 10:30
To: SIDS
Subject: Proposed substation, associated 220kV or 110kV underground grid connection in Co. Carlow -Ballyloo Solar Farm Ltd.- Case reference: ACP ref. VA01.323860_TII ref. TII25-134006
Attachments: TII25-134006 - 220kV AIS 220kV GIS substation or a 110kV substation, 220kV or 110kV underground grid connection and ancillary works, Ballyloo Solar Farm, Co. Carlow - Case ref. VA01.323860_issued 06.01.2026.pdf

Categories: Lauren

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached a copy of TII's observation on the above application.

Please acknowledge receipt of this submission.

Acknowledgements can be forwarded to landuseplanning@tii.ie.

Regards and thanks,

Cliona Ryan
Land Use Planner

Tel: +353 (0)1 646 0000
Email: landuseplanning@tii.ie



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**An Coimisiún Pleanála
(Strategic Infrastructure Division)
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1**

By email: sids@pleanala.ie

Dáta | Date

Ár dTag | Our Ref.

Bhur dTag | Your Ref.

6 January 2026

TII25-134006

VA01.323860

RE.: Proposed 220kV AIS/ 220kV GIS substation OR a 110kV electricity substation, associated 220kV or 110kV underground grid connection and ancillary works located in the townlands of Ballyloo, Knockbower, Linkardstown, Kilballyhue, Graiguenspiddoge, Castletown, Moyle Big, Leagh or Ballybeg, Kellistown West & Kellistown East, Co. Carlow.

Applicant: Ballyloo Solar Farm Limited

Dear Sir /Madam,

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) acknowledges receipt of referral of the above application for a grid connection route that includes crossing of the N80 in the vicinity of local roads junctions and where a maximum 100 kmh speed limit applies.

TII notes the following:

- Submitted drawing entitled *Overview Key Layout Plan* (Drawing No. *BYLOO-DR-001B*) indicates *Site Layout Plan (Grid Connection Route)*, Drawing no. *BYLOO-DR-019* for the proposed N80 crossing.
- *Site Layout Plan (Grid Connection Route)*, Drawing no. *BYLOO-DR-019* indicates a proposed horizontal directional drilling "HDD 2" crossing of the N80 with launch and reception pits in the L30504 and L7148.

The proposed development includes a grid connection purported to service 3 no. permitted solar farm developments located in the vicinity of the M9 as follows:

- Located south of the M9: "*Ballyloo Solar Farm*" permitted after appeal under Reg. Ref. 2460043 (appeal ref. ABP-322347-25) in September 2025;
- Located north of the M9: "*Park Solar Farm*" permitted under Reg. Ref. 2460205 in May 2025; and
- Located north of the M9: "*Ballybannon Solar Farm*" permitted under Reg. Ref. 2560137 in December 2025.

The above planning applications were circulated to TII who made submissions on foot of referrals, including at further information stages. The grants of planning permission arising include conditions specifically for the protection of the maintenance of the safe and efficient operation of the national roads network by the submission and agreement of an updated Construction Management Plan

(CMP) or Construction Management Plan (CEMP) for direct interfaces with the M9 and a Construction Traffic Management Plan to include national road network considerations.

Please be advised that the N80 is an essential interregional route part of the national roads network. *Project Ireland 2040, National Planning Framework and National Development Plan 2021 – 2030*, outline the key sectoral priority of maintaining Ireland's existing national road network to a robust and safe standard for users. Official planning policy for development at or near national roads is set out in the Section 28 *Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DoECLG, 2012)*. The requirement to protect the capacity, safety and efficiency of the existing national road network is further reflected in Regional *Policy Objectives (RPO) 8.1 of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy 2019-2031*, specifically at *Integrated Land Use and Transportation Guiding Principle* set out at Section 5.6 that; *"The strategic transport function of national roads and associated junctions should be maintained and protected."*

To assist the Commission in ensuring sustainable compatibility between the State's national road transport asset and proposed development, TII's submission seeks to address the safety, capacity and strategic function of the national road network with TII's statutory functions, and the provisions of official policy.

TII notes the description of the proposed HDD crossing of the N80 included in the submitted *Ballyloo Substation & Grid Connection - Construction Methodology* which includes reference to TII submissions to associated solar farms. In this regard, TII notes commitment to consultation with TII in the preparation of a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) and the preparation of *"detailed Method Statements for each section of the cabling"* by the contractor and appointed site manager.

TII considers it is critical to the safe and efficient operation of the national road network during and after the proposed development that any potential impacts of the proposed works and resulting scheme are adequately mitigated as part of the proposed development.

Having regard to the above context, and in the interests of coordination and compatibility of the wider solar farm developments and grid connection in the general area; the sustainable planning and development of that area; and the protection of the safety, capacity and efficiency of the national road network, TII recommends that the following conditions in the event of a grant of planning permission:

- Prior to commencement of development, and the proposed construction method statement for the section of cabling crossing the N80 shall be submitted for the written agreement of the planning authority subject to the written agreement of TII which shall include details demonstrating compliance of works on, or in the vicinity of the N80 with TII Publications.
- Prior to commencement of development, a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) shall be submitted for the written agreement of the planning authority subject to the written agreement of TII which shall include the following information in relation to the national road network:-
 - a) details demonstrating compliance of proposed works to the national road network, including signage, to facilitate construction traffic with TII Publications;
 - b) demonstration of consultation with TII Bridge Management Section to ensure that national road structures are not adversely affected and to ensure adherence to required standards and procedures;

- c) demonstration of consultation with all relevant PPP Companies, MMaRC Contractors and road authorities over which the haul route traverses to ascertain any operational requirements such as delivery timetabling, etc. to ensure that the strategic function of the national road network is maintained;
- d) copies of any proposals agreed between the road authority, PPP Concessions and MMaRC Companies and the applicant impacting on national roads; and
- e) demonstration of consultation with thirdpartyworks@tii.ie where temporary works within national road network maintenance boundaries are required to facilitate construction traffic to site, as a works specific Deed of Indemnity may be required by TII before the works can take place.
- f) Mitigation measures of the Construction Traffic Management Plan shall include that any damage caused to the pavement of the existing national road due to construction traffic shall be rectified in accordance with TII Pavement Standards and details in this regard shall be agreed with the Road Authority prior to the commencement of any development on site.

Please acknowledge receipt of this submission.

Yours faithfully,



Cliona Ryan
Land Use Planner