

## Planning and Development Act 2000 as Amended.

### Notice of Direct Planning Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development. County Kilkenny (Kilkenny County Council)

In accordance with section 182A of the Planning and Development Acts (as amended) Drumdowney Solar Farm Limited gives notice that it proposes to seek the approval of An Coimisiún Pleanála for a period of 10 years for development at Rathpatrick (townland), County Kilkenny.

The proposed development comprises of:

- 1) A 110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) electricity substation with two-storey GIS substation building, single-storey Independent Power Producer (IPP) control room building, High Voltage (HV) electrical equipment and associated infrastructure (to include transformer, lightning protection masts, back-up diesel generator, fire/blast wall, telecoms pole, perimeter security fencing, security lighting, water and drainage infrastructure, and temporary construction compound) to connect to and serve solar farm development;
- 2) Associated loop-in / loop out grid connection infrastructure to connect into an existing 110kV overhead transmission line (including underground 110kV cabling, 2 No. new interface towers and decommissioning of ca. 15m of existing 110kV overhead line);
- 3) Construction and operational access from the public road L34142;
- 4) All ancillary site development, landscaping and earthworks. The development subject to this application forms part of grid connection and access arrangements which will facilitate the connection of the proposed Drumdowney Solar Farm (Kilkenny County Council Reference 25/60391) to the national grid.

A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared in respect of the proposed development. The NIS includes consideration of the proposed Drumdowney Solar Farm which is located in the townlands of Atateemore or Blackneys, Ballyhobuck, Ballyrahan, Carriganurra, Charlestown, Davidstown, Drumdowney Lower, Drumdowney Upper, Gorteens, Grogan, Kilmurry, Nicholastown, Rathpatrick, Scartnamoe, Tinvaucosh and Treanaree in County Kilkenny.

The planning application and the NIS may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which fee shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such copy) during public opening hours for a period of seven weeks commencing 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at the following locations:

- The offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01V902.
- The offices of Kilkenny County Council, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny.

The application may also be viewed on the following website: [www.drumdowneysubstation.ie](http://www.drumdowneysubstation.ie)

Submissions or observations may be made in writing to An Coimisiún Pleanála ('the Commission') 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01V902, or online at [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie), during the above-mentioned period of seven weeks relating to -

- (i) the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and
- (ii) the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
- (iii) the likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received by the Commission **not later than 5.30 p.m. on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026**.

Such submissions / observations must also include the following information:

- The name of the person making the submission/observation, the name of the person acting on his/her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent;
- The subject matter of the submission/observation; and
- The reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full.

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Commission. The Commission may at its absolute discretion hold an oral hearing on the application. (For further details see 'A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development' on the Commission's website [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)).

The Commission may in respect of an application for permission/ approval decide to-

- (a) (i) grant the permission/approval, or
- (ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its decision and grant permission/approval in respect of the proposed development as so modified, or
- (iii) grant permission/approval in respect of part of the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind),

and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or

- (b) refuse to grant the permission/approval.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Development Section of An Coimisiún Pleanála (Tel. 01-8588100). A person may question the validity of any such decision by the Commission by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S. I. No.15 of 1986, as amended), in accordance with section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended. Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed under the heading Information on cases / Weekly lists - Judicial review of planning decisions on the Commission's website [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie) or on the Citizens Information Service website [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie).

Signed:



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Date Site Notice Erected: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025