



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Record of Meeting ACP-324058-26 (VC)

Case Reference / Description	Proposed development of a 110kV Loop-in substation, grid connection and ancillary development at Glenaree, County Kildare.		
Case Type	Pre-application consultation		
1st / 2nd / 3rd / 4th Meeting	1 st Meeting Record		
Date	21/04/2026	Start Time	11:00pm
Location	MS Teams	End Time	112:50pm

Representing An Coimisiún Pleanála
Stephen Rhys Thomas, Assistant Director of Planning, Chair
Hugh O'Neill, Senior Planning Inspector
Lauren Murphy, Executive Officer

Representing the Prospective Applicant
Niamh Igoo, GP Joule
Ciaran Donnelly, GP Joule
Conor Donnelly, GP Joule

Introduction

The Commission referred to the letter received from the prospective applicant on the 3rd February 2026, requesting pre-application consultations under section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and advised the prospective applicant that the instant meeting essentially constituted an information-gathering exercise for the Commission; it also invited the prospective applicant to outline the nature of the proposed development and to highlight any matters that it wished to receive advice on from the Commission. The Commission's representatives mentioned the following general procedures in relation to the pre-application consultation process.

- The Commission will keep a record of this meeting and any other meetings, if held. Such records will form part of the file which will be made available publicly at the conclusion of the process. The record of the meeting will not be amended by the Commission once finalised, but the prospective applicant may submit comments on the record which will form part of the case file.
- The Commission will serve notice at the conclusion of the process as to the strategic infrastructure status of the proposed development. It may form a preliminary view at an early stage in the process on the matter.
- A further meeting or meetings may be held in respect of the proposed development.
- Further information may be requested by the Commission and public consultations may also be directed by the Commission.
- The Commission may hold consultations in respect of the proposed development with other bodies.
- The holding of consultations does not prejudice the Commission in any way and cannot be relied upon in the formal planning process or in any legal proceedings.

Presentation made by the prospective applicant:

The prospective applicant set out their presentation, which is attached to the file.

Discussion:

- The alteration to the location proposed in the presentation from that in the application for consultation as highlighted. The inspection was of the initial location. It was noted that issues in the new location were likely to be of a similar nature.
-
- The prospective applicant clarified that they have had two meetings to date with Kildare County Council in relation to the proposed utility scale Solar development, one meeting was held with the traffic department.
- The issues raised by Kildare County Council included archaeological concerns and concerns relating to the canal which have been addressed in the planning application documentation.
- The Independent Power Producer Compound will be included as part of the SID application.
- The Commission's representatives advised the prospective applicant to be aware of the Rathangan Drainage district outlined in the OPW online mapping and to give careful consideration and detailing of any required drain crossings.
- The Commissions representatives advised the prospective applicant to consider landscape sensitivity as outlined in the Kildare County Council Development Plan, as well as riparian buffers and to assess potential impacts on hedgerows and trees
- The Commission's representatives advised the prospective applicant to look at similar applications:

ABP-321210-24 - IPP Compound, Including 110kV Transformer

ABP-315476-23 - Proposed 110kV substation to feed into the existing
Drumline-Ennis 110kV overhead line (OHL) circuit.

- The prospective applicant clarified that the proposed drawings which will form part of the planning application are currently still under inhouse design.
- The Commission's representatives advised the prospective applicant of the importance of referencing the Climate Action Plan and Water Framework Directive and undertaking EIA and AA screening in the planning application.
- The Commission's representatives clarified that this project is not considered a RED III project at this moment.
- A discussion was held with regard to the new planning and development act and the commencement and transitional proposals
- Following a query from the Commission's representatives the prospective applicant advised that they would submit draft site drawings following this meeting and were advised to include any communications towers where required.

The Meeting concluded at 11:50am



Stephen Rhys Thomas
Assistant Director of Planning