

PUBLIC NOTICE

Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)

Notice of Direct Planning Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development in County Galway.

In accordance with section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Bord Gáis Energy Limited gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Coimisiún Pleanála for approval for the proposed development of a 220kV Electrical Substation on lands at Rathmorrissy (Townland), Athenry, Co. Galway and the construction an underground grid connection route from the proposed Electrical Substation to the existing Cashla 220kV Substation. The grid connection route traverses approximately 8.1km along the L7109, L71093, L7108 and L3103 roads and across the townlands of Rathmorrissy, Pollnagroagh, Moanbaun, Castlelambert, Knocknacreeva, Caraunduff, Caherbriskaun, Lisheenkyle East, Barrettspark, Cashla, Athenry, Co. Galway. The site area is 12.11 hectares.

The proposed development will consist of:

- a) The construction of a 4-bay 220kV electrical substation comprising of: one single-storey 220kV Air-Insulated Switchgear (AIS) Substation Building (approximately 388sqm) with welfare facilities, transformer, all associated electrical plant and apparatus, one telecommunication mast (approximately 36m high), security fencing, entrance gate, lighting, lightning masts, internal tracks, drainage (foul and storm), carparking (4 no. spaces), watermains and all ancillary works.
- b) The installation of 220kV underground electricity cabling connecting the proposed 220kV electrical substation to the existing Cashla 220kV substation within a trench, consisting of underground cabling and ducting, 10 no. joint bays and associated communication chambers and link boxes, 2 no. crossings of the M6 motorway and 1 no. crossing of the M17 motorway by way of horizontal directional drilling, and all associated site development and reinstatement works.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany this planning application.

The proposed development will facilitate the export of electrical energy from a proposed natural gas fuelled electricity generation peaking plant, the 'Cashla Peaker Plant' on lands at Pollnagroagh and Rathmorrissy (Townlands), Athenry, Co. Galway which is the subject of a separate Strategic Infrastructure Development application to An Coimisiún Pleanála (Ref. ACP-324113-26) under section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The Cashla Peaker Plant relates to development for the purposes an activity requiring an Industrial Emissions Licence from the Environmental Protection Agency under the Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992, as amended and also relates to a COMAH establishment and falls under the requirements of the Chemicals Act (Control of Major Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substances) Regulations, 2015. It is noted that the "project", subject of the EIAR and NIS, includes the Cashla Peaker Plant and Above-Ground Installation subject of the section 37E application

(Ref. ACP-324113-26) and also includes the connection to the existing mains gas network (Mayo–Galway pipeline (BGE/85)) which will be undertaken via a new transmission pipeline (named GNI146) located within the townland of Rathmorrissy, Athenry, Co. Galway. A separate application to obtain approval for the GNI146 gas pipeline will be submitted under section 39A of the Gas Act 1976, as amended.

The planning application, EIAR and 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 on 7th April 2026 at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 D01 V902 (9:15am – 5:30pm, Monday to Friday).
- The Offices of Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX (9am – 4pm, Monday to Friday).

The planning application, including the EIAR and NIS, may also be viewed or downloaded on the following website: www.cashlapeakerplantgrid.ie

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Coimisiún Pleanála (“the Commission”), 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902; in writing or online at 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 of the area concerned, and
- ii. the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out, and
- iii. the likely effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Any submissions or 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 26th May 2026 and must include the following information in accordance with Article 217 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended:

- the name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent,
- the subject matter of the submission or 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 (refer to “A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development” at www.pleanala.ie).

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

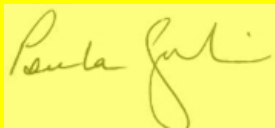
1. approve the proposed development, or
2. make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in the approval and approve the proposed development as so modified, or
3. approve, in part only, the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of the forgoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or
4. refuse to approve the proposed development.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Development Section of An Coimisiún Pleanála (Telephone: 01 8588100). A person may question the validity of any such decision of the Commission by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rule of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986, as amended by S.I. No 691 of 2011), in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed on the Commission’s website <https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/home> or on the Citizens Information Service website, www.citizeninformation.ie

Signed:

Date of Erection of Site Notice: 27th March 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored rectangular background. The signature appears to read 'Paula Galvin' in a cursive script.

Agent: Paula Galvin
McCutcheon Halley Planning Consultants
4th Floor, Kreston House, Arran Court, Arran Quay,
Dublin 07, D07 K271

