

24/03/2026

Minister's Office
Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications,
29-31 Adeliade Road,
Dublin 2,
D02 X285

Re: Direct Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP) in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development

Location: Townland of Ballydonagh, Kiltormer, Co. Galway.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Neo Environmental Ltd ("Agent") is acting on behalf of Ballydonagh Solar Limited (the "Applicant"), who are applying for a 10 year planning permission for a new 110kV Air Insulated Substation and associated grid connection infrastructure. The Substation is to facilitate the connection of the permitted Ballydonagh Solar Farm under Ref 2361049, as amended under Ref 2561903 and Ballydonagh Solar Farm Extension under Ref 2461749, as amended under 2660009, to the national grid. A Natura Impact Statement has been prepared in respect of the application for planning permission.

This project has been the subject of a Pre-application Stage consultation for Strategic Infrastructure with An Coimisiún Pleanála (**ACP Reference: 323805-25**). An Coimisiún Pleanála has determined that this proposed project falls within the Strategic Infrastructure Development consent process. In confirming that this project is a Strategic Infrastructure Development project it has identified 16 prescribed bodies that have to be notified in relation to this planning application. Accordingly, we are notifying you that the application has been lodged with An Coimisiún Pleanála on 27th of March 2026.

Please see a USB of the following:

- Planning Forms:
 - Application Form
 - Site Notice
 - Newspaper Advertisement (Irish Independent and Connacht Tribune)
 - Landowner Consent Letters
 - Applicant consent to agent
 - Letters to Prescribed Bodies

- SID Determination Letter
- Drawing Schedule
- Schedule of Pre-Application Consultation
- Volume 1:
 - Planning Statement
 - Natura Impact Statement (NIS)
 - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening
- Volume 2:
 - Infrastructure Drawings
- Volume 3:
 - Technical Appendix 1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)
 - Technical Appendix 2: Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA)
 - Technical Appendix 3: Archaeological and Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment (AAHIA)
 - Technical Appendix 4: Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Drainage Impact Assessment (DIA)
 - Technical Appendix 5: Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP)
 - Technical Appendix 6: Preliminary Construction Traffic Management Plan (PCTMP)
 - Technical Appendix 7: Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (OCEMP)
 - Technical Appendix 8: Assessment of Acoustic Impact (AAI)
 - Outline Construction Methodology (TLI Group)
 - Abnormal Indivisible Load Route Survey (Pell Firschmann)
 - Acoustic Impact Assessment (Renewable Energy Systems)

You are advised that the Coimisiún may in respect of an application or permission decide to:

- a) (i) grant the permission, or (ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its decision and grant permission in respect of the proposed development as so modified, or (iii) grant permission 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 permission.

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to:

- i. The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development,
- ii. The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
- iii. The likely significant effects or adverse effect on any European site.

Submissions/observations are for a period of 7 weeks commencing on 1st April 2026 until 20th May 2026. Any submissions/observations must be received by the Coimisiún not later than 5:30pm on 20th May 2026.

The full application is available for viewing and can be downloaded from the dedicated SID project website at the following address: www.gortnalugsid110kv.ie.

Should you have any issues, please contact our office at the details below.

Kind Regards,



Colleen Patterson

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