

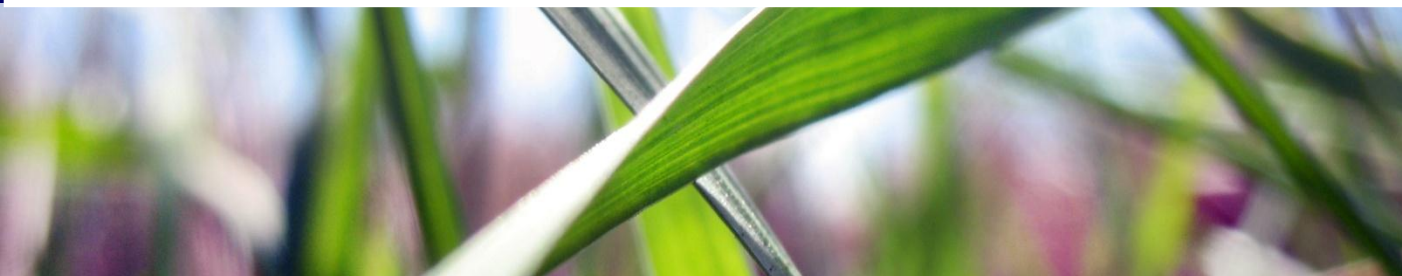


North Wexford 110kV INFRASTRUCTURE
Presentation to An Coimisiún Pleanála
25th May 2026



Highfield
Energy

On behalf of Loricloy
Limited





PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Policy Context & Need for the Development
- Project Introduction & Description
- Site Context: Figures & Proposed Design
- Environmental Assessment & Scoping
- SID Screening
- Conclusions
- Questions



Policy Context and Need for the Development

Climate Emergency Declared

- Climate Action Plan;

- Update published in April 2025
- National Climate Targets include a legally binding commitment to a 51% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 and climate neutrality by no later than 2050
- Renewable Electricity Share (RES-E) target of 80% by 2030
- 8GW of solar needed to achieve this

- Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS);

- Support allocated through an Auction structure (i.e. the competition based format requires a suitable volume of projects to ensure value to the consumer)
- RESS 1 (December 2020)
 - 796MW Solar Supported
- RESS 2 (May 2022)
 - 1534MW Solar Supported
- RESS-3 (September 2023)
 - 497MW Solar Supported
- RESS 4 (September 2024)
 - 959MW Solar Supported
- RESS 5 (October 2025)
 - 822.32MW Solar Supported

Project Introduction & Description

- The proposed 110kV infrastructure is to facilitate the connection of North Wexford Solar Farm to the transmission network.
 - Located on agricultural land in the townlands of Monagarrow Little, Monagarrow Lower, Killowen Upper, Killowen Lower, Coolroe Great, Coolroe Little, Ashwood Lower, Ashwood Upper, Scarnagh Lower and Whitepark, Co. Wexford & Kilmurry Upper, Co. Wicklow.
- The solar farm development consists of solar photovoltaic panels on ground mounted steel frames, on a site area of approximately 718.2 acres, of which 654.1 acres are in Co. Wexford and 64.1 acres are in Co. Wicklow.
- The solar farm development will include solar PV panels ground mounted on steel support structures, electrical transformer/inverter station modules, storage containers, CCTV cameras, access tracks, upgrading of existing agricultural entrances, construction of new entrance locations, fencing and associated electrical cabling, ducting and ancillary infrastructure
- The development requires a 110kV on-site substation and associated compound and cabling to facilitate grid connection to the existing 110kV connection network (Transmission Connection application to be made in future ECP GSS Process). A battery storage compound is being included within the SID application boundary.



Figure 1: Site Location

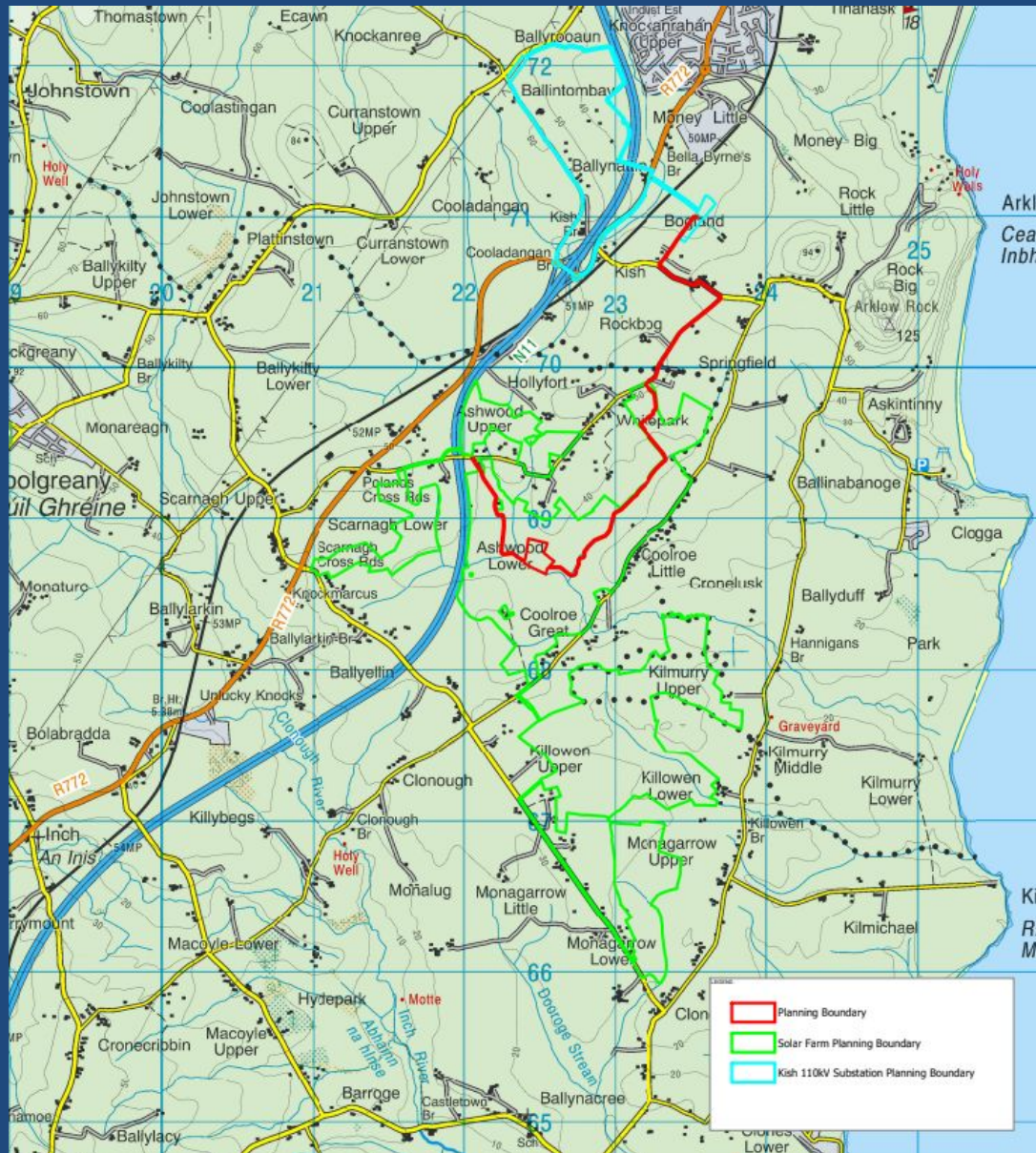


Figure 2: Site Layout

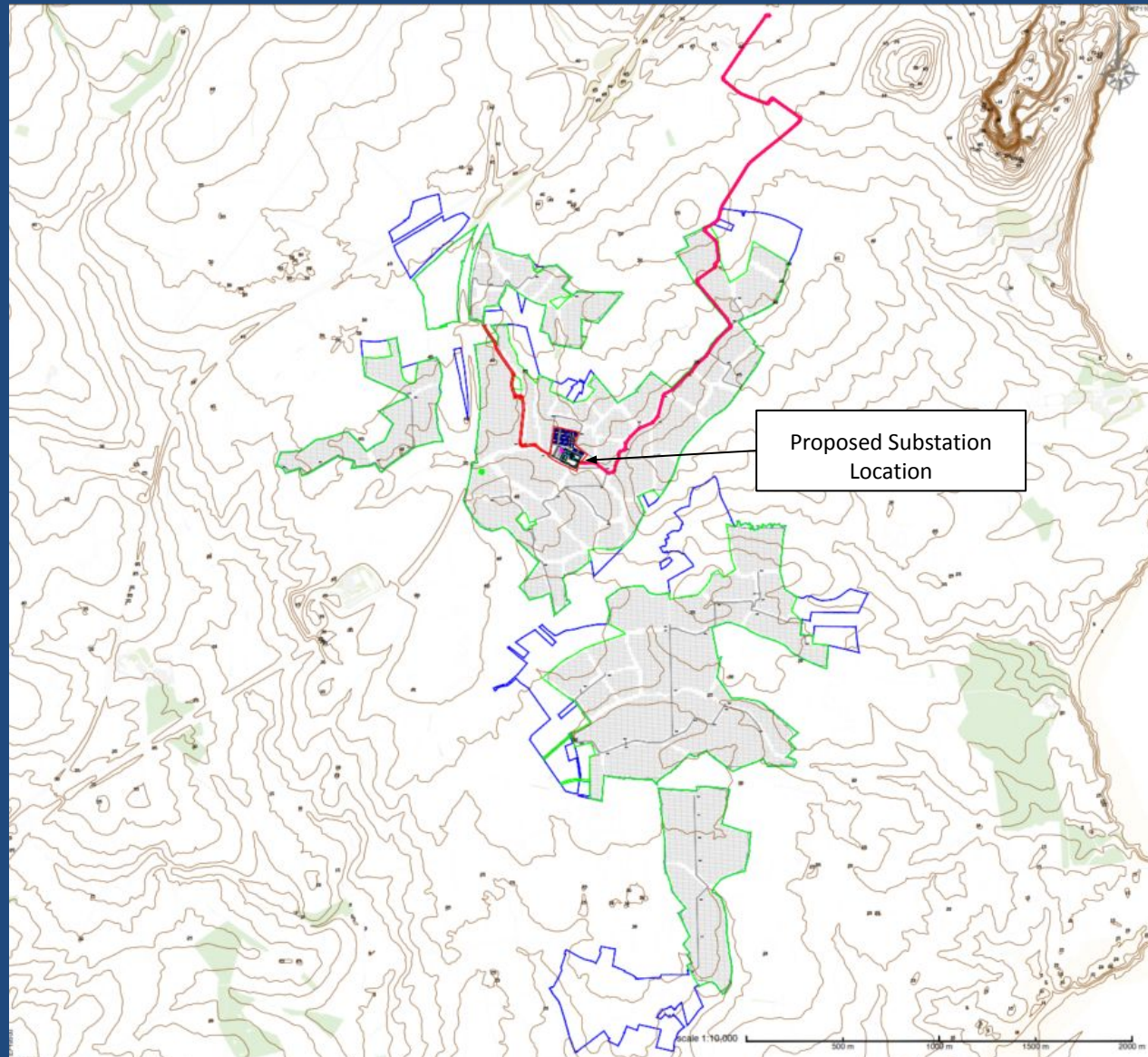


Figure 2: Site Layout

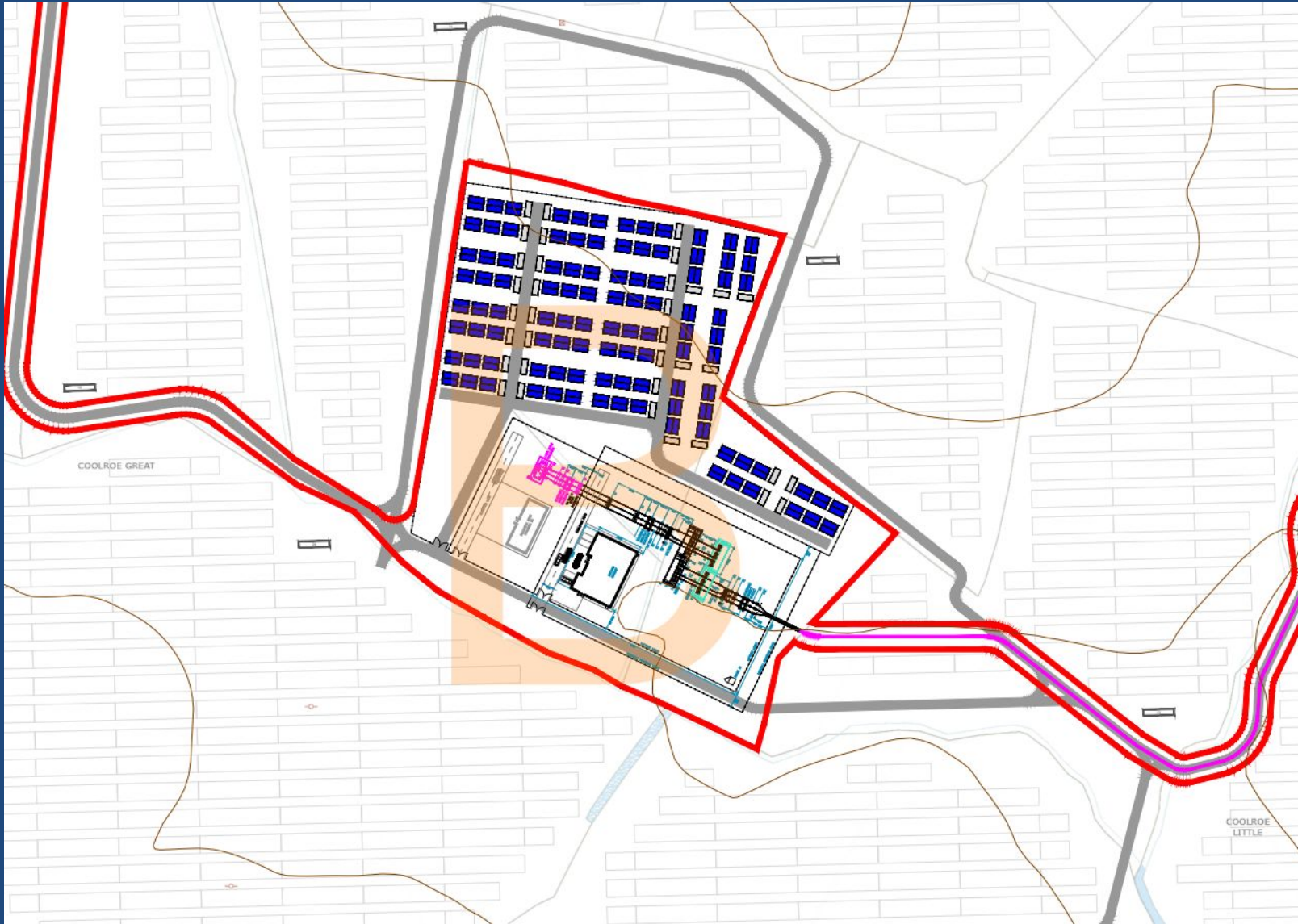


Figure 3: Plan View

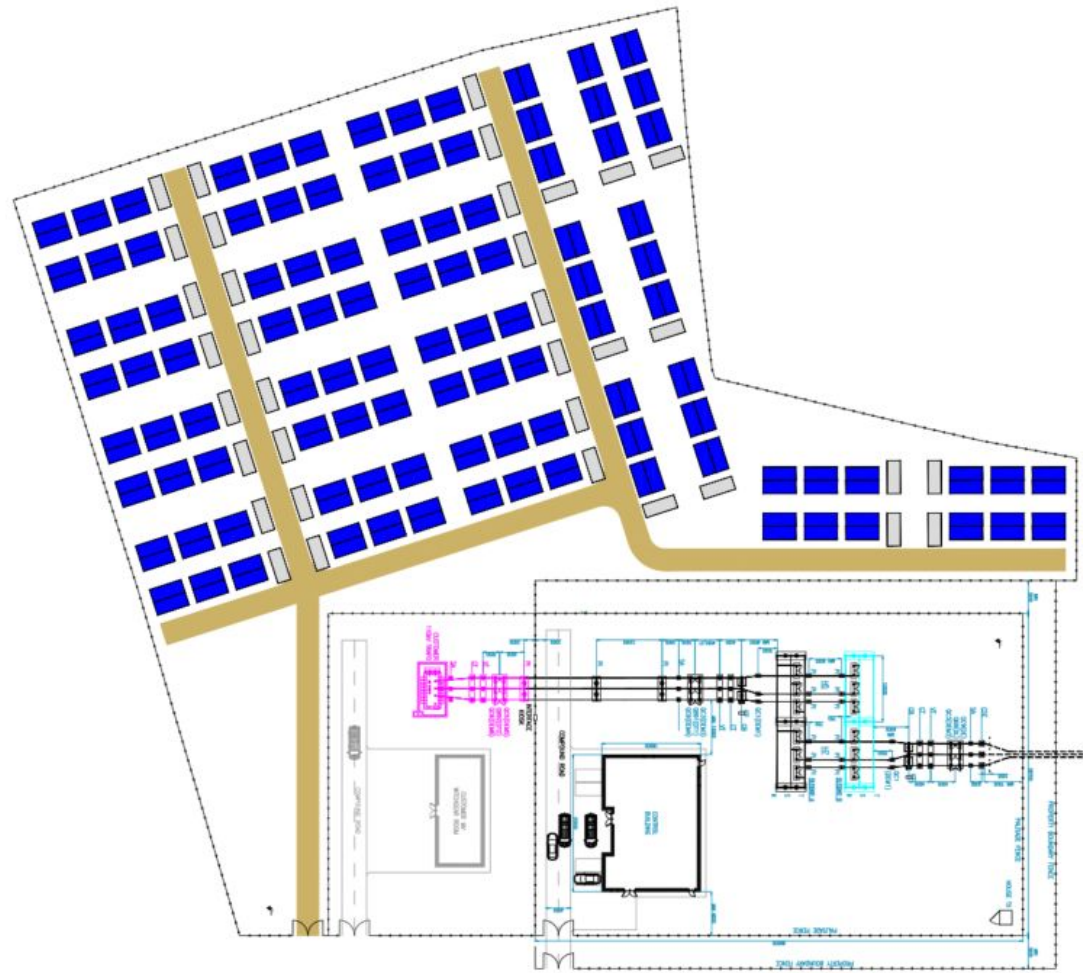
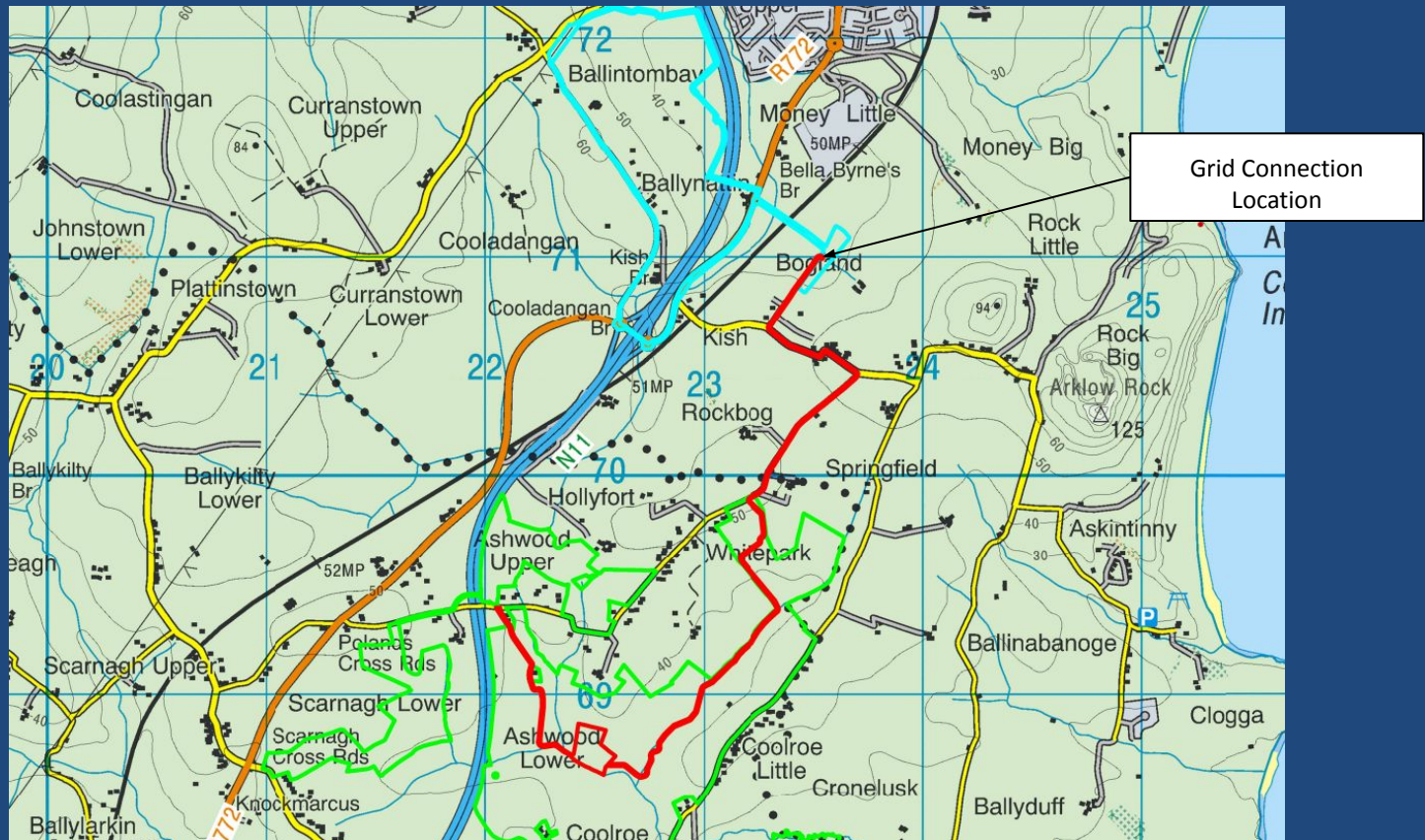


Figure 5: Grid Connection Routes

The grid connection route currently being explored will look to connect to the 110kV transmission network via a tailed connection to the planned 110kV loop-in station (Ref: ABP-315200-22) at Kish Business Park, approximately 2.6km north of the proposed substation site





Environmental Assessments & Scoping

Environmental assessments are currently being prepared to cover both the solar farm and SID application. Assessments include;

- Ecology
 - Appropriate Assessment Screening
 - Current assessments have determined that a Stage 2 AA is not required
- Residential Amenity
 - Noise Impact Assessment
- Archaeology, Architectural Heritage and Cultural Heritage
- Flooding
 - Stage 2 Flood Risk Assessment
- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
 - Viewpoint Analysis and Photomontages
 - Landscape plan – mitigation planting
- Traffic and Transportation
 - Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan

Environmental Assessment & Scoping

- The Board has previously determined that large scale ground mounted solar PV does not require Environmental Impact Assessment and does not fall into Schedule 5 of the Planning & Development Act 2001 As Amended
- Similarly the 110kV substation does not fall under Schedule 5.



Renewable Energy Directive III

- As per the definitions outlined in S.I. 274 of 2025, the proposed 110kV substation falls under the definition of 'renewable energy development' as it relates to works necessary for the connection of renewable. Confirmation sought on this.

Completeness Check

- Confirmation required on whether the list of assessments provided on the previous slide will be sufficient for ACP to determine the application complete?



SID Screening

- Currently still operating under the 2000 Planning Act framework as Chapter 4 of the 2024 Act not yet commenced. ACP to confirm.
- Section 182A (9) “Transmission”
“a high voltage line where the voltage would be 110 kV or more or an interconnector, whether ownership of the interconnector will be vested in the undertaker or not”.
- *Electricity Regulation Act 1999 definition of “Transmission”;*
“the transport of electricity by means of a transmission system, that is to say a system which consists, wholly or mainly, of high voltage lines and electric plant and which is used for conveying electricity from a generating station to a substation, from one generating station to another, from one substation to another”.
- “Electric Plant” is defined as:
“any plant, apparatus or appliance used for, or for the purposes connected with, the generation, transmission, distribution or supply of electricity...”
- EirGrid “Transmission Connection Agreement” issuing, including ownership transfer for transmission assets/ contestable works
- Tailed sections of Transmission Connected Generation on Transmission System
- Similar to other recent ABP determinations.





Conclusions

- This substation project is required to facilitate connection of ground mounted solar PV and energy storage devices of scale.
- Following analysis of the existing grid network in the area, Highfield Solar Ltd. intend to enter the project in subsequent Enduring Connection Policy – Generation and System Services grid application process. Further engagement with EirGrid will ultimately confirm the grid connection requirements.
- The substation is proposed to connect to the existing 110kV transmission network via a tailed connection to the consented 110kV loop-in station (Ref: ABP-315200-22) at Kish Business Park, approximately 2.6km north of the proposed substation site
- The Board has previously determined that large scale ground mounted solar PV does not require EIA and does not fall into Schedule 5 of the Planning & Development Act; similarly the proposed works do not fall under Schedule 5.

Is our understanding that the proposed works are Strategic Infrastructure.

THANK YOU

We would be delighted to answer any
questions you may have

