



An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála

## Record of Meeting ACP-324330-26 (OC)

|                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                      |                   |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| <b>Case Reference / Description</b>                                              | Proposed development of the Belview - Great Island 38kV underground cable river crossing in the townlands of Great Island Co. Wexford and Drumdowney Upper and Gorteens Co. Kilkenny |                   |        |
| <b>Case Type</b>                                                                 | Pre-application consultation                                                                                                                                                         |                   |        |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b> | 1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting                                                                                                                                                              |                   |        |
| <b>Date</b>                                                                      | 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2026                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Start Time</b> | 2:30pm |
| <b>Location</b>                                                                  | MS Teams                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>End Time</b>   | 3:10pm |

### Representing An Coimisiún Pleanála

Una Crosse (Assistant Planning Director) Chair

Sinéad Ann O'Connor (Planning Inspector)

Ellen Moss (Executive Officer)

### Representing the Prospective Applicant

Amy O'Connell (ESB)

Janette McDonald (ESB)

Matthew Daly (ESB)

Diarmuid O'Sullivan (ESB)

Amy O'Connell (ESB)

## **Introduction**

The Commission referred to the letter received from the prospective applicant on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026, requesting pre-application consultations under section 287 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and advised the prospective applicant about the purpose of the meeting and 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.
- A further meeting or meetings may be held in respect of the proposed development.
- Further information may be requested by the Commission.
- The Commission may hold consultations in respect of the proposed development with other bodies.
- In accordance with section 287(3) of the Act, the decision to close a consultation rests with the Commission. At the conclusion of the pre-application process the case file including the record of meetings held and the report of the reporting inspector detailing the issues arising in the consultation, will be forwarded to the Commission. The Commission will issue a Direction/Order clarifying that the consultation has closed and that the prospective applicant may make an application for permission under section 291.
- 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 on the file.

## **Discussion:**

- The Commission's representatives reminded the prospective applicant that the onus is on the Commission to close the consultation process under Section 287.
- The Commission's representatives questioned the rationale for not using Barrow Bridge with the prospective applicant highlighting that Barrow Bridge is designed to lift to facilitate ship crossings. It was outlined that further details will be provided in the application. It was noted that the rail crossing is currently out of use but is maintained by Irish Rail and may be used in the future.
- The prospective applicant queried how best to submit Schedule 7A information to inform EIA screening with the Commission's representatives advising that it should be an identifiable document whether standalone or appended.
- The Commission's representatives recommended that the draft CEMP to accompany any application should address the quantity and storage of excavated materials and that the planning application boundary should include sufficient area for compounds and working areas.
- The Commission's representative recommended that construction noise should be addressed within the documentation.
- The prospective applicant outlined their wayleave powers in respect of the matter of consent to make the application and that this will be clearly outlined in the application documentation.
- The Commission's representatives reminded the prospective applicant that a standalone website is required for applications under section 291.
- The Commission's representatives reminded the prospective applicant to refer to the Marine Planning Framework within their documentation.
- The Commission's representatives recommended reviewing submissions received from the NPWS on other cases within the zone of influence of the subject application to identify any relevant issues which may have arisen.
- The prospective applicant queried the next steps. The Commission's representatives advised that if it is determined that no further meetings are required, the Inspector will complete their report, and the Commission will issue a determination.
- The Commission's representatives reminded the prospective applicant that the administrative team are available to review draft notices and reiterated the requirements for a standalone application website.

## **Conclusion:**

The Commission's representatives advised that the record of the instant meeting will be issued in due course and the prospective applicant can submit any comments it may have in writing or alternatively bring any comments for discussion at the time of any further meeting should one be considered necessary.

The Meeting concluded at 3:10pm.



**Una Crosse**

**Assistant Director of Planning**