

From: [LAPS](#)
To: [SIDS](#)
Subject: FW: SID application ACP-324429-26, Co. Mayo
Date: Tuesday 1 September 2026 14:20:40
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[SID-MO-2026-033.pdf](#)

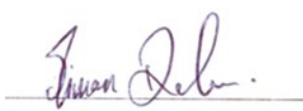
From: Simon Dolan (Housing) <Simon.Dolan@npws.gov.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 1 September 2026 14:19
To: LAPS <laps@pleanala.ie>
Subject: SID application ACP-324429-26, Co. Mayo

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A chara,

Attached please find the Archaeological observations.

Regards,



Simon Dolan

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Executive Officer
Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt
Development Applications Unit
Oifigí an Rialtais
Government Offices
Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman, Y35 AP90
Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford, Y35 AP90



Your Ref: ACP-324429-26
Our Ref: SID-MO-2026-033

(Please quote in all related correspondence)

1 September 2026

The Secretary
An Comisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Via email to laps@pleanala.ie

Re: Notification under the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

Proposed Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID): Construction consists of a 110kV onsite electrical substation, loop-in grid connection, and associated infrastructure and works at Cloonbaul, County Mayo.

A chara

I refer to correspondence received in connection with the above.

Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations coordinated by the Development Applications Unit under the stated headings

Archaeology

It is noted that the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) submitted as part of the planning application includes a desk-based Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) which was carried out in relation to the proposed development by IAC Ltd (EIAR Chapter 14; date 14 May 2026).

The EIAR acknowledges that there is a potential that previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features or deposits may be present within the proposed development site (PDS) which may be negatively impacted by the proposed development. It is noted that no advance archaeological investigations have been carried out within the PDS to inform the EIAR, other than a walkover survey. This Department advises that advance archaeological test excavation should be carried out in advance of any development to determine if previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features or deposits are present. If such material is present, then additional mitigation measures to ensure the preservation in situ or preservation by record (i.e. full archaeological excavation) of such discoveries will be



necessary. It is advised that this can be addressed by the inclusion of an appropriate condition, if the development is permitted.

The Department has reviewed the EIAR and advises that the following should be included as a condition of any grant of permission. Note these recommended conditions align with Sample Conditions C3, C5 and C6 as set out in *OPR Practice Note PN03: Planning Conditions* (October 2022), with appropriate site-specific additions/adaptations based on the particular characteristics of this development and informed by the findings of the EIAR.

Archaeological Requirements:

1. All mitigation measures in relation to archaeology and cultural heritage as set out in Chapter 14 of the EIAR (date 14 May 2026) shall be implemented in full, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the conditions of this Order.
2. The developer shall engage a suitably qualified archaeologist (licensed under the National Monuments Acts) to carry out pre-development archaeological testing in all greenfield areas of the development site and to submit an archaeological impact assessment report for the written agreement of the planning authority, following consultation with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in advance of any site preparation works or groundworks, including site investigation works/topsoil stripping/site clearance and/or construction works.
 - a. The report shall include an archaeological impact statement and mitigation strategy. Where archaeological material is shown to be present, avoidance, preservation in-situ, preservation by record (archaeological excavation) and/or monitoring may be required.
 - b. Any further archaeological mitigation requirements specified by the planning authority, following consultation with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, shall be complied with by the developer.
 - c. No site preparation and/or construction works shall be carried out on site until the archaeologist's report has been submitted to and approval to proceed is agreed in writing with the planning authority.
3. The Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) shall include the location of any and all archaeological or cultural heritage constraints relevant to the proposed development as set out in Chapter 14 of the EIAR and by any subsequent archaeological investigations associated with the project. The CEMP shall clearly describe all identified likely archaeological impacts, both direct and indirect, and all mitigation measures to be employed to protect the archaeological or cultural heritage environment during all phases of site preparation and construction activity.
4. The planning authority and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage shall be furnished with a final archaeological report describing the results of all archaeological monitoring and any archaeological investigative work/excavation required, following the completion of all archaeological work on site and any necessary post-excavation specialist analysis. All resulting and associated archaeological costs shall be borne by the developer.



Reason: To ensure the continued preservation (either *in situ* or by record) of places, caves, sites, features or other objects of archaeological interest.

You are requested to send any further communications to this Department's Development Applications Unit (DAU) at manager.dau@npws.gov.ie or to the following address:

The Manager, Development Applications Unit (DAU), Government Offices, Newtown Road, Wexford, Y35 AP90

Is mise le meas,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Julie Sullivan', is positioned above a horizontal line.

Julie Sullivan
Assistant Principal
Development Applications Unit
Administration