

UWF Grid Connection Environmental Management Plan (2019)

Tab 7 Scheduling & Timing of Works Measures

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MEASURE – Scheduling and Timing of Works	
Responsibility of	Role/Duty
Project Manager	Liaising with the Construction Manager, Environmental Clerk of Works and specialist environmental experts (e.g. Site Ecologist) regarding temporal restrictions
Scheduling of Works included as Project Design Environmental Protection Measures <i>(in some instances, only those parts of a PD which are relevant to scheduling or timing is included below)</i>	
PD01	UWF Grid Connection construction works during the Hen Harrier breeding season (March to August inclusive) will only take place at the Mountphilips Substation Site; construction of the 110kV UGC between the Mountphilips Substation site and the Consented UWF Substation compound will be carried out during the months of September to February inclusive.
PD02	If works at Mountphilips Substation site are programmed to begin in the Hen Harrier breeding season (March to August) confirmatory Hen Harrier breeding surveys will be completed, before such works initiate, such that all pre breeding nuptial activity, nesting activity and active nests are recorded within 2km of the entire construction works area boundary. These surveys will be completed prior to the start-up of all construction activities. No works will take place within 2 km of any identified active Hen Harrier nest during the hen harrier breeding season.
PD03	Although no hen harrier roosts are currently known to occur within 1km of UWF Grid Connection, confirmatory surveys will be completed to record any roosting locations within 1km of UWF Grid Connection. Should a hen harrier roost occur within 1km of UWF Grid Connection works, then construction works within 1km of a roost will be limited to the period between 'one hour after sunrise' to 'one hour before sunset' during the Hen Harrier roosting season (October to February inclusive).
PD04	All construction works will be carried out during daylight hours.
PD06	Construction works will not be carried out within 150m of Rear Cross National School or Lackamore National School, during school hours. In addition, the project Community Liaison Officer will keep each school informed of construction timetables and scheduling.
PD07	110kV UGC construction works along the local roads L2264-50 and L6188-0, will not take place at the same time as the UWF Related Works Haul Route Works on these roads. The 110kV UGC construction works will also be scheduled so that the works do not occur on the same days as concrete deliveries for Consented UWF Turbines along these local roads.
PD11	Construction works for the 110kV UGC in Knocknabansha, Knockmaroe, Knockcurraghbola Crownlands and Knockcurraghbola Commons townlands, which are within 350m of local residences, will not take place at the same time as either the UWF Related Works or Upperchurch Windfarm where those works also occur within 350m.
PD12	As requested by the Roads Department of Tipperary County Council, during pre-planning consultations, the works along the public road network will be scheduled to minimise impacts on schools and local businesses. The works will be scheduled so that they do not disrupt or interfere with Tipperary County Council's road works programme on the R503 through Newport town.
PD25	Construction works along the 110kV UGC route will cease during heavy or prolonged rainfall events, and any open trenches or excavations will be covered. Use of weathering forecasting will be undertaken in advance of works.
PD26	A phased approach will be undertaken in relation to excavations, excavation dewatering and any culvert

	replacement works, where these works occur within 50m of a watercourse. The phased approach will only permit one of main potential sediment producing activities (i.e. excavations, excavation dewatering or culvert replacement works), to be carried out within 50m of a watercourse, at any one time.
PD29	Cable trenching works, joint bay chamber installation and culvert replacement works on the section of 110kV UGC between W13 and W20 (inclusive) and the culvert replacement works at W32 and W34 will only be completed during dry weather in the dryer months of the year – i.e. February to September inclusive. This will minimise/avoid the requirement for any excavation dewatering as a result of waterlogged soils or surface water runoff. None of these 110kV UGC sections are within the Lower River Shannon SAC.
PD31	Works to bridge parapet walls at watercourse crossings W7, W36, W53 will be carried out during dry weather, and debris netting will be fixed to the outside of the walls in order to prevent any debris falling into the watercourse below.
PD32	<p>At Mountphilips Substation site, instream construction works at the watercourse crossings W1, W2 and W3 will be followed by site-specific reinstatement measures to ensure the equilibrated restoration of flow character and morphology within the affected reach to achieve baseline character and avoid any deterioration in morphology as required under the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Measures will include: bank stabilisation using boulder armour or willow/brush bank protection; reinstatement of bank slope and character, creation of compound channels where necessary; reinstatement of instream flow features such as boulder substrates, pool / riffle sequences, or spawning cobbles; and planting along the riparian margins to stabilise banks, add flood protection and provide riparian buffer; and the use of deflector plates during the restoration of flow. Instream works at W1, W2 and W3 at the Mountphilips Substation site will be undertaken during dry weather within the IFI instream works window (July – September inclusive). As per PD41, instream works at W1, W2 and W3 will be supervised by a member of CIEEM and the Institute of Fisheries Management to ensure both the Project Design Measures and Best Practice are followed.</p> <p>Although intended for the purpose of the WFD, this measure will also indirectly contribute to downstream water quality protection in the SAC.</p>
PD49	In-stream works at Mountphilips Substation site and culvert replacement works at W14 along the R503 Regional Road will only be undertaken during the IFI specified period (July, August and September) and will be carried out to best practice (IFI, 2016).
PD53	All construction works within 150m of an active otter holt, will be carried out during daylight hours and outside of 2 hours after sunrise or before sunset during summer and outside of 1 hours after sunrise or before sunset during winter.
PD54	If an active holt (particularly holts at which breeding females or cubs are present) is located within 150 meters of the watercourse crossing points, no works will be undertaken while breeding females or cubs are present in the holt and NPWS will be notified immediately
PD58	Hedgerow removal and clearance of any other breeding bird vegetation will take place outside of the bird breeding season i.e. not during the period of March to August inclusive. This includes hedgerow and scrub removal in addition to hedgerow trimming.
PD59	Works will not take place at any bridge during the Dipper breeding season (Feb-June inclusive) without a confirmatory survey to determine Dipper presence or absence. If Dippers are present, where possible works will not proceed until breeding has completed. All works at these and other bridges will be overseen by a project ecologist to ensure the requirements of the Wildlife Acts are being met. During culvert replacement works at W13, a Dipper nest box will be fitted to the new crossing structure. Additional nest boxes (c.10) will be provided for Dipper at suitable bridges to provide a net gain for this species.

PD61	Works will not take place at any bridge during the Kingfisher breeding season (March to July inclusive) without a confirmatory survey to determine the presence of nesting Kingfisher within 150m upstream or downstream of the bridge. If nesting Kingfishers are present, works will not proceed until breeding has completed.
PD63	All construction works will be carried out during daylight hours. Security lighting will be used at the temporary compound at Mountphilips Substation site. All lighting will be cowled in order to prevent light spill and no lighting will be left turned on overnight. Lighting will be controlled by motion and time sensors to minimise the amount of time the lights are operational.
PD65	While it is not expected that any trees with high suitability for roosting bats will be felled, the following measures will be implemented where a tree with moderate or high bat suitability is to be felled: a presence/absence bat surveys will be carried out; Felling of trees with bat roost suitability will be undertaken in the period late-August to late-October/early-November. Trees with low suitability for bats will be felled carefully and slowly in order to avoid impact-related injuries to any bats that may be roosting inside them. Sections of the tree with potential roost features for bats (e.g. crevices, damaged branches) will be cut in sections, lowered carefully to the ground and left undisturbed for 48 hours before removal; and Where the felling of trees with bat suitability is carried out, robust, weather-proof bat-boxes, for example Schwegler type 1FF and 2F models, will be placed in each of the affected sections to compensate for the loss of potential tree roosts. The number of bat boxes will match the number of trees with bat suitability to be felled. Bat boxes will be placed on an exposed section of tree trunk at a minimum height of 4-5m, providing a clear space in front of the box for bats to enter and exit. Boxes will be placed in locations that will receive at least 6-7 hours of sunlight during summer months, and will be placed on the southern side of the tree. The Project Ecologist will supervise the installation of bat boxes in order to ensure that they are sited appropriately.
PD67	No badger setts were recorded within 50m of the UWF Grid Connection during pre-planning surveys. Confirmatory surveys will be carried out within 50 m of either side of the construction works area boundary to determine if any new setts have been established in the intervening period following initial pre-planning surveys and the commencement of construction activity. These confirmatory badger surveys will be undertaken no more than 12 months in advance of proposed construction activities, during the period November and April when vegetation cover is reduced. Should a badger sett be confirmed, the following measures will be implemented: NWPS will be notified immediately of any new active setts which are located within 50 meters of the footprint of the development; If sett exclusion is required, this will be undertaken by an experienced ecologist under the necessary license and following best practice guidance (NRA, 2005); No construction works will be carried within 50m of an active badger sett during the main breeding season (December 1st to June 30th); and Construction activity in the environs of an active badger sett outside of the breeding period will follow NRA (2005) guidelines, i.e. no heavy machinery will be used within 30m of badger setts (unless carried out under license); lighter machinery (generally wheeled vehicles) will not be used within 20m of a sett entrance; light work, such as digging by hand will not take place within 10m of sett entrances.

Scheduling & Timing of Works Measures
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