

Planning and Development Act 2000 (as Amended)

Notice of Direct Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála in Respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development (A proposed Electricity Transmission Development)

County Meath (Meath County Council)

In accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) EngineNode Ltd., gives notice of its intention to make an application for permission/approval to An Bord Pleanála in relation to the proposed development described below. The proposed development primarily comprises the provision of a new 220 kV substation with Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) technology and two 220 kV underground transmission cables (connecting to existing 220 kV overhead lines to the north of the proposed substation) along with associated and ancillary works. The proposed development is located within the townlands of Bracetown, Gunnocks, Paddingstown, Normansgrove, Rowan, Portmanna, and Pace, Co. Meath. The application site has a total area of c. 14.35 hectares.

The proposed development is described as follows:

The proposed 220 kV GIS substation is to be located on lands at Bracetown and Gunnocks, to the north of Clonee, to the west of the R147 Regional Road, and to the southeast of Bracetown Business Park. The proposed substation is located to the south of a proposed data storage development subject to a separate concurrent application under Meath County Council Reg. Ref.: RA191593 and An Bord Pleanála Reg. Ref.: ABP-307546-20 (currently under appeal).

The proposed substation includes the provision of four transformers, a client control building (with a gross floor area of c. 637 sq.m) and a two storey GIS substation building (with a gross floor area of c. 2,430 sq.m) within a 2.6 m high fenced compound.

The proposed 220 kV transmission cables will run from the proposed 220 kV GIS substation, connecting to existing 220 kV overhead transmission lines to the north of the substation site (within the townlands referenced above).

One underground transmission cable circuit (the Gunnocks - Woodland circuit) will proceed from the proposed substation to the east, before following the R147 roadway northwards to an existing roundabout linking the R145 with the M3 motorway. From this roundabout, the circuit proceeds northeast through private agricultural lands, before reaching the Corduff – Woodland overhead line. This circuit will cover a distance of c. 2 kilometres.

The other underground transmission cable circuit (Gunnocks – Corduff circuit) will proceed from the proposed substation to the east, following the perimeter of the data storage facility site northwards, then northeast and exiting onto an existing rural roadway. The route then follows this rural road north-eastward, before reaching the Corduff – Woodland overhead line in private agricultural lands to the west of the roadway. This circuit will cover a distance of c. 1.7 kilometres.

Each of the two circuits will terminate in a cable – overhead interface compound containing air-insulated electrical equipment mounted on concrete plinths. Adjacent to each interface compound, an overhead line tower will be erected to facilitate connection of the new underground cables to the existing 220 kV overhead line. Each new overhead line tower will be approximately 21 metres in height, set on top of concrete foundations.

The development includes enabling works, services diversions, adjacent access paths to serve the proposed transmission cables, connections to the proposed substation, landscaping, security fencing and berms, lighting masts, provision of internal access arrangements and car parking within the substation compound, services, all associated construction works, and all ancillary works.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report has been prepared in respect of this application.

The planning application and the Environmental Impact Assessment Report may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which fee shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such copy) during public opening hours **for a period of seven weeks commencing on the 15th of September 2020** at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1.
- Meath County Council, Buvinda House, Dublin Road, Navan, County Meath.

The application may also be viewed/downloaded on the following website: **www.gunnockssid.com**

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála ('the Board') 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 during the above-mentioned period of seven weeks relating to -

- (i) the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and
- (ii) the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
- (iii) the likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received by the Board not later than 5.30 p.m. on the **3rd of November 2020**. Such submissions/observations must also include the following information:

- The name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent,
- The subject matter of the submission or observation, and
- The reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full. (Article 217 of the Planning & Development Regulations refers).

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Board.

The Board may at its absolute discretion hold an oral hearing on the application. (For further details see 'A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development' on the Board's website www.pleanala.ie).

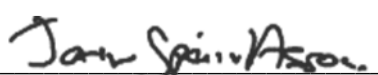
The Board may in respect of an application for permission/ approval decide to-

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

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Development Section of a Bord Pleanála (Tel. 01- 8588100). A person may question the validity of any such decision by the Board by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S. I. No.15 of 1986, as amended), in accordance with section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended. Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed under the heading Information on cases / Weekly lists - Judicial review of planning decisions on the Board's website www.pleanala.ie or on the Citizens Information Service website www.citizensinformation.ie.

Signed: 

(John Spain Associates - Agent)

Date of Erection of Site Notice: **7th September 2020**