

Your ref
Our ref 246369-00/MD/LK
File ref L0015

ARUP

An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
For the attention of The Secretary

One Albert Quay
Cork
T12 X8N6
Ireland
t +353 21 422 3200
michael.daly@arup.com
www.arup.com

14 December 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

246369-00

Notice of Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development

Greenlink Interconnector – Ireland Onshore

On behalf of the Applicant, Greenlink Interconnector Ltd., South Bank House, Barrow Street, Dublin 4, D04 TR29, we hereby submit an application for approval under Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, for the proposed development summarised below.

Greenlink Interconnector

The proposed development will form part of the Greenlink Interconnector. The Greenlink Interconnector is designated as a European Union Project of Common Interest (PCI), under the provisions of European Union Regulation No. 347/2013 on guidelines for Trans-European Network for Energy ('TEN-E Regulation'). The Greenlink Interconnector will comprise subsea and underground high voltage electricity cables and associated converter stations to connect EirGrid's Great Island 220 kV substation in County Wexford (Ireland) and National Grid's Pembroke transmission substation in Pembrokeshire (Wales). The elements of the Greenlink Interconnector offshore Ireland, offshore Wales and on land in Wales are the subject of separate applications for consent to the relevant competent authorities.

Approval is sought for the proposed development comprising the following elements:

- a new converter station, tail station, MV substation at Great Island,
- 23km of high voltage direct current (HVDC) electricity cables,
- 420m of high voltage alternating current (HVAC) cables,
- 23.42km of fibre optic cable,

Directors Joe Burns Eva Hinkers (German) Donal McDaid
Company Secretary Ken Freeman

Ove Arup & Partners Ireland Ltd trading as Arup | Company Reg No: 37037
Reg Office: 50 Ringsend Road Dublin 4 D04 T6X0
Cork | One Albert Quay T12 X8N6 Tel +353 (0)21 422 3200
Dublin | 50 Ringsend Rd D04 T6X0 Tel +353 (0)1 233 4455
Galway | Corporate House City East Business Park Ballybrit H91 K5YD Tel +353 (0)91 894 700
Limerick | Hartstonge House Upr Hartstonge St V94 F8XE Tel +353 (0)61 212 100

- associated above ground marker posts,
- 54 car parking spaces on the access road to Baginbun Beach,
- the provision of footpaths and street lighting in Ramsgrange village, and
- associated construction compounds,
- with an overall proposed development site area of 83.8ha.

The proposed development will be located in the townlands of Great Island, Kilmannock, Dunbrody, Saltmills, Grange, Kilhile, Rosetown, Coleman, Ramsgrange, Kilbride, Ballinruan, Aldridge, Booley, Broomhill, Lewistown, Kilcloggan, Templetown, Graigue Little, Graigue Great, Lambstown and Ramstown in County Wexford. A more detailed description of the proposed development is set out in the attached Public Notice and a complete description is set out in the documentation accompanying the application, including the Planning Report, Planning Drawings, Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement. A list of the application enclosures is attached. All of this information will also be available to view at the following dedicated website: www.greenlinkplanning.ie from 16 December 2020.

The proposed development has been formulated through an interactive process, having regard to extensive consultation with relevant parties and informed by environmental and planning considerations and best practice guidelines.

Confirmation Notice

The submission of this strategic infrastructure application follows the completion of statutory pre application consultation meetings with An Bord Pleanála (Board reference 26.VC0102) pursuant to Section 182E of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). By letter dated 7 August 2020 the Board concluded that the proposed development constituted strategic infrastructure and provided Greenlink with a list of prescribed bodies to be notified of the making of the application. These bodies have been notified accordingly

We enclose a Confirmation Notice from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government which confirms receipt of satisfactory information relating to the proposed development, and upload of the same to the EIA Portal.

Payment of Application Fee

We also confirm that the appropriate application fee has been paid by electronic transfer to An Bord Pleanála.

List of Planning Application Documents and Drawings

A list of the planning application documents and drawings is attached to this letter.

Notification of Likely Transboundary Effects

Since the closure of the SI pre application consultation Greenlink have been reviewing all the application and associated documentation, records of the SI pre application consultation meetings, the inspectors concluding reports including Addendum report and Board's decision in determining that the proposed development constituted strategic infrastructure. In particular Greenlink have also reviewed the legislative requirements relating to this type of case and its own obligations having regard to the statutory provisions concerning consultations and

likely effects on the environment of a transboundary state. This has been based on legal advice it has received.

You will note that the application includes an environmental impact assessment report that includes a conclusion that the interconnector project will have significant positive effects on the environment. That is, perhaps, not a surprise given that the interconnector is a PCI, by reason of the trans-European nature of this energy infrastructure and that the project crosses the border of two Member States. Such positive effects arise therefore not only in the Irish State but also in the transboundary State concerned.

For this reason, Greenlink has been advised that sections 182A(4)(a)(i)(I) and 182A(4)(c) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) apply, so has included reference to the development being likely to have significant effects on the environment of a transboundary State in the published newspaper notice and has given notice of the application to the prescribed point of contact for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Mr Ryan Shean of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government of the United Kingdom.

We highlight this matter for two reasons.

First, where notice of this kind is given, Greenlink has been advised that article 124(1)(b)(ii) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) applies. We note for the Board's information that it is Greenlink's advised legal opinion that the obligation expressed in that sub-article is one that arises where notice has been given by the applicant (in contrast with sub-article (i), where the obligation is contingent on the Board having formed an opinion on the likelihood of significant effects on another State).

Second, for completeness, we note that the Board has previously considered whether the development "proposed within the Irish State" would be likely to have transboundary effects. We note that article 210(3)(a) of the Regulations obliges the Board to indicate which bodies should be notified, but only where the Board forms an opinion that significant effects are likely. The Board did not form that opinion, so the obligation for the Board to indicate bodies did not arise in this case. Greenlink has been advised that this does not release them from their independent obligations under section 182A(4)(a)(i)(I) and 182A(4)(c) of the Act.

Greenlink Interconnector Ltd. looks forward to receiving a favourable and timely permission from the Board.

We would ask that all further correspondence in relation to the planning application is directed to this office.

Yours faithfully
for

Ove Arup & Partners Ireland Ltd t/a Arup



Michael Daly (Agent)
Associate Director

Greenlink Interconnector Project

List of Planning Application Documents and Drawings

3 no. hard copies and 7 no. electronic copies of the following items are included within the application to An Bord Pleanála.

1. SID Application Cover Letter
2. SID Application Form, signed and dated
3. Application fee paid by electronic transfer (confirmation of €100,000 payment enclosed with application)
4. Copy of the relevant page of the Irish Independent and Wexford People containing the project Newspaper Notice, as published on 8th December 2020.
5. Copy of the Site Notice, as erected, on white background at 8 no. locations across the extent of the proposed development, the locations of same being shown on Drawing No's C-RM-002, C-RM-003 and C-RM-004 accompanying this planning application
6. Letters of consent received from the legal owners of the lands in question as follows:
 - Brian Barnwell
 - Coras Iompair Eireann
 - Dermot Doyle
 - Edel Barnwell
 - Edward Power
 - ESB Networks
 - Ivan Ward
 - John Joe Furlong
 - John Joseph O'Brien
 - Joseph Chapman
 - Mary O'Brien
 - Matthew Hyland & Bernadette Sutton
 - Michael Murphy, John Flahavan, Liam Strain & Patrick Hoynes
 - Patrick Cummins
 - Philip Cleary
 - Sean Clancy
 - Sheila Chapman
 - SSE Generation Ireland Limited
7. A schedule of Prescribed Bodies to whom notice of the application, and a copy of the application, in accordance with Section 182A (4)(b) of the Act, has been sent
8. Copy of Letter to Prescribed Bodies and a copy of the receipt received from all, as follows:
 - Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage
 - Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (Development Applications Unit assuming responsibility)
 - Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications
 - Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine
 - Transportation Infrastructure Ireland
 - Environmental Protection Agency
 - Irish Water
 - Commission for Regulation of Utilities

- Failte Ireland
 - An Taisce
 - The Heritage Council
 - An Chomhairle Ealaíon
 - Health Services Executive (Seveso sites)
 - Inland Fisheries Ireland
 - Waterways Ireland
 - The Southern Regional Assembly
 - Coras Iompair Éireann
 - Commission for Railway Regulation (previously Railway Safety Commission)
 - Wexford County Council
9. Copy of the letter to the UK Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (UK Point of Contact in Transboundary Context) and a copy of the receipt received
 10. Planning Report, including Appendix A – Consultation Report Ireland
 11. Environmental Impact Assessment Report –Ireland | Onshore, comprising:
 - EIAR Volume 1 – Part A – Non Technical Summary
 - EIAR Volume 1 – Part B – Main Chapters
 - EIAR Volume 2 – Appendices; including Appendix 1.6 – Joint Environmental Report | Greenlink Summary of Offshore & Onshore Environmental Effects
 12. Confirmation Notice from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government re provision of required information for its EIA portal
 13. Natura Impact Statement | Ireland Onshore
 14. Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Environmental Report
 15. Greenlink - Consent Applications Overview
 16. Greenlink Marine EIAR - Ireland
 - EIAR Volume 1 – Non-technical Summary
 - EIAR Volume 2 – Main Chapters
 - EIAR Volume 3A – Appendices A-G
 - EIAR Volume 3B – Appendices H-L
 17. Greenlink Marine Natura Impact Statement
 18. ABP permits & consent confirmation letter 01.09.20 - signed
 19. Shapefile of the planning boundary (in the required format), provided with the electronic copies of the documents
 20. 3 copies at A1 size and one bound A3 size set of the Planning Application Drawings, as per attached Schedule