



Galetech Energy Services
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An Chomhairle Ealaíon
The Arts Council
70 Merrion Square
Dublin 2
D02 NY52

8 January 2021
Our Ref: DRU001SS
Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Drumanan and Cornawall, Newbliss, County Monaghan.

Re: (i) 1 no. 110kV 'loop in-loop out' air-insulated switchroom (AIS) substation including control buildings, transformer and all associated electrical equipment, security fencing and lighting; (ii) energy storage system comprising up to 14 no. energy storage modules; (iii) approximately 300 metres of on-site access track with associated site entrances from local public road (LT62013); (iv) approximately 700 metres of 110kV underground electricity lines and communication cabling and all associated infrastructure; (v) replacement of 1 no. existing wooden pole-set with 2 no. lattice-type end masts with a maximum height of up to 16m to facilitate connection of the proposed 110kV underground electricity lines to the existing Lisdrum-Shankill 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; and (vi) all associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, including upgrade works to the LT62013 and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany this planning application.

1.0 Introduction

On behalf of our client, Drumlins Park Limited ('the Applicant'), please find herein notification of a planning application for the abovementioned proposed development which is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála in accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) ('the Act').

2.0 Background to this Planning Application

Planning permission was granted by Monaghan County Council ('the Planning Authority') in September 2020 for the development of an 8 no. turbine wind energy development and associated infrastructure (known hereafter as the 'Drumlins Park Wind Farm') pursuant to Register Reference 19/486.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm assessed 3 no. separate grid connection options, one of which comprised a 110kV 'loop-in/loop-out' substation and ancillary infrastructure

generally at the location of that now proposed. Following an extensive technical evaluation of the grid connection options, in addition to consultation with Eirgrid as the transmission system operator, the Applicant concluded that the construction of a 110kV 'loop-in/loop-out' substation was the most appropriate means of connecting the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm to the national electricity network.

Consequently, the Applicant entered into pre-application consultations with An Bord Pleanála (Reference ABP-306018-19), pursuant to Section 182E. On 20 April 2020, An Bord Pleanála served notice of its determination that the proposed development constituted SID and that a planning application for same must be made directly to it. Accordingly, this Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) planning application is now being made directly to An Bord Pleanála in accordance with Section 182A of the Act.

3.0 Description of the Proposed Development

The planning application seeks permission for a 10-year planning permission for a proposed development generally described as follows:-

- (i) A 110 kilovolt (kV) 'loop-in/loop-out' Air-Insulated Switchgear (AIS) electrical substation, including 2 no. single-storey control buildings (with a Gross Floor Area of 623 square metres); 1 no. transformer bay; 2 no. line bays; and all associated electrical equipment, services and lighting within an up to 2.95 metre high fenced compound (with a total footprint of 12,765 square metres);
- (ii) An Electricity Storage System comprising containerised energy storage modules; transformer and inverter modules; heating, ventilation and air condition units; and associated underground electricity cabling;
- (iii) Approximately 300m of on-site access tracks with associated site entrances from local public road (LT62013);
- (iv) Approximately 700m of 110kV underground electricity lines and communication cabling and all associated infrastructure;
- (v) Replacement of 1 no. existing wooden pole-set with 2 no. lattice-type end masts, to a maximum height of up to 16m, to facilitate connection of the proposed 110kV underground electricity lines to the existing Lisdrum-Shankill 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; and
- (vi) All associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, including upgrade works to the LT62013 and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

4.0 Environmental Impact Assessment

A full Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been submitted with this planning application to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out by An Bord Pleanála.

The EIAR is presented as 3 no. volumes, which should be read in conjunction with each other, as follows:-

- **Volume I** comprises the main EIAR text and follows a 'grouped format' structure where each environmental factor is assessed and presented as a separate chapter. The EIA Directive prescribes the range of environmental factors which should be used to organise descriptions of the environment and likely environmental effects. These have been supplemented with additional environmental factors owing to the characteristics of the project under assessments, as follows:-
 - Chapter 1: Introduction;
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 - Chapter 3: Description of the Proposed Development;
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- **Volume II** comprises a range of annexes, including technical data and reports, which informed the impact assessment provided in **Volume I** so as to ensure the EIAR is transparently supported by evidence; and
- **Volume III** comprises the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) prepared in respect of the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm. This EIAR has been provided to ensure that An Bord Pleanála has before it all necessary and relevant environmental assessments related to the entire project to allow for a complete and comprehensive cumulative assessment of the likely significant effects on the environment.

A Non-Technical Summary of the **Volume I** EIAR is provided as a separate standalone volume in order to facilitate the wider public concerned in their involvement in the statutory consultation during the planning application determination stage.

5.0 Appropriate Assessment

A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared by Ecofact Environmental Consultants and submitted with this planning application. The NIS is presented as a separate document and submitted to inform a Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment to be carried out by An Bord Pleanála (Council Directive 92/43/EC & Council Directive 2009/147/EC). Again, the NIS addresses the entirety of the project, including relevant off-site and secondary developments, including the Drumlins Park Wind Farm.

The NIS concludes that the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not have a direct, indirect or cumulative adverse

effect on the conservation status or integrity of any European (Natura 2000) sites.

6.0 Planning Application Documentation

This planning application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of Section 182A the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Bord Pleanála has instructed the Applicant to notify The Arts Council, as a prescribed body, of the lodgement of the planning application and to furnish you with a copy (or copies) of the planning application documentation.

All planning application and associated documentation is available to view at the dedicated project website www.drumlinsparkwindfarmsubstationsid.ie, which includes:-

- Completed planning application form;
- Site notice;
- Copy of each newspaper notice (2 no.);
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- EIA Portal Confirmation Notice;
- Planning Application Fee (€100,000);
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7.0 Planning Application Procedure

You are advised that An Bord Pleanála may, in respect of an application for permission, 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 the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions; or
- (b) Refuse to grant the permission/approval.

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to:-

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

Any submissions or observations from the Arts Council must be received by An Bord Pleanála no later than 5.30p.m. on 5 March 2021.

8.0 Conclusion

This planning application is being lodged with An Bord Pleanála following a determination that the proposed development constitutes a SID. The proposed development will facilitate the connection of the extant permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm to the national electricity grid. Government policy recognises that onshore wind energy, as a proven and cost effective technology in the context of Ireland's abundant wind resource, will continue to be the major contributor to Ireland's renewable electricity generation to 2030 and the generation of electricity by the Drumlins Park Wind Farm will make a substantial contribution to the reduction of fossil fuel generated electricity and the abatement of greenhouse gas emissions.

The EIAR and NIS submitted provide a comprehensive assessment of the likelihood of significant adverse environmental effects to arise as a result of the proposed development individually and in combination with the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm and other existing, permitted and proposed developments. Overall, the EIAR and NIS have demonstrated that any likely adverse environmental effects resulting from the proposed development can be mitigated and that there are lasting social and environmental benefits as a result of the proposed development. As a result, it is concluded that the proposed development will have no likely significant environmental effects.

We trust that the documentation provided is in order and is sufficient for your consideration of this proposed development. Should you have any queries in relation to any of the information enclosed, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

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Commission for Regulation of Utilities, Water and Energy
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The Exchange
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Dublin 24
D24 PXW0

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This planning application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of Section 182A the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Bord Pleanála has instructed the Applicant to notify the Commission for Regulation of Utilities, Water and Energy, as a prescribed body, of the lodgement of the planning application and to furnish you with a copy (or copies) of the planning application documentation.

As agreed with Ms. Catherine Kearns on 03 November 2020, an electronic copy of all planning application and associated documentation is available to view at the dedicated project website www.drumlinsparkwindfarmsubstationsid.ie which includes:-

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This planning application is being lodged with An Bord Pleanála following a determination that the proposed development constitutes a SID. The proposed development will facilitate the connection of the extant permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm to the national electricity grid. Government policy recognises that onshore wind energy, as a proven and cost effective technology in the context of Ireland's abundant wind resource, will continue to be the major contributor to Ireland's renewable electricity generation to 2030 and the generation of electricity by the Drumlins Park Wind Farm will make a substantial contribution to the reduction of fossil fuel generated electricity and the abatement of greenhouse gas emissions.

The EIAR and NIS submitted provide a comprehensive assessment of the likelihood of significant adverse environmental effects to arise as a result of the proposed development individually and in combination with the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm and other existing, permitted and proposed developments. Overall, the EIAR and NIS have demonstrated that any likely adverse environmental effects resulting from the proposed development can be mitigated and that there are lasting social and environmental benefits as a result of the proposed development. As a result, it is concluded that the proposed development will have no likely significant environmental effects.

We trust that the documentation provided is in order and is sufficient for your consideration of this proposed development. Should you have any queries in relation to any of the information enclosed, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

Galetech Energy Services

Galetech Energy Services Ltd





Galetech Energy Services
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Cork: Unit 2 Airport East Business Park, Farmers Cross,
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Minister for Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht
(formerly Minister of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht)
c/o Development Applications Unit
Newtown Road
Wexford
County Wexford
Y35 AP90

Issued via email to Manager.DAU@chg.gov.ie

8 January 2021
Our Ref: DRU001SS
Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Drumanan and Cornawall, Newbliss, County Monaghan.

Re: (i) 1 no. 110kV 'loop in-loop out' air-insulated switchroom (AIS) substation including control buildings, transformer and all associated electrical equipment, security fencing and lighting; (ii) energy storage system comprising up to 14 no. energy storage modules; (iii) approximately 300 metres of on-site access track with associated site entrances from local public road (LT62013); (iv) approximately 700 metres of 110kV underground electricity lines and communication cabling and all associated infrastructure; (v) replacement of 1 no. existing wooden pole-set with 2 no. lattice-type end masts with a maximum height of up to 16m to facilitate connection of the proposed 110kV underground electricity lines to the existing Lisdrum-Shankill 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; and (vi) all associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, including upgrade works to the LT62013 and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany this planning application.

1.0 Introduction

On behalf of our client, Drumlins Park Limited ('the Applicant'), please find herein notification of a planning application for the abovementioned proposed development which is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála in accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) ('the Act').

2.0 Background to this Planning Application

Planning permission was granted by Monaghan County Council ('the Planning Authority') in September 2020 for the development of an 8 no. turbine wind energy development and associated infrastructure (known hereafter as the 'Drumlins Park Wind Farm') pursuant to Register Reference 19/486.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm assessed 3 no. separate grid connection options, one of which comprised a 110kV 'loop-in/loop-out' substation and ancillary infrastructure generally at the location of that now proposed. Following an extensive technical evaluation of the grid connection options, in addition to consultation with Eirgrid as the transmission system operator, the Applicant concluded that the construction of a 110kV 'loop-in/loop-out' substation was the most appropriate means of connecting the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm to the national electricity network.

Consequently, the Applicant entered into pre-application consultations with An Bord Pleanála (Reference ABP-306018-19), pursuant to Section 182E. On 20 April 2020, An Bord Pleanála served notice of its determination that the proposed development constituted SID and that a planning application for same must be made directly to it. Accordingly, this Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) planning application is now being made directly to An Bord Pleanála in accordance with Section 182A of the Act.

3.0 Description of the Proposed Development

The planning application seeks permission for a 10-year planning permission for a proposed development generally described as follows:-

- (i) A 110 kilovolt (kV) 'loop-in/loop-out' Air-Insulated Switchgear (AIS) electrical substation, including 2 no. single-storey control buildings (with a Gross Floor Area of 623 square metres); 1 no. transformer bay; 2 no. line bays; and all associated electrical equipment, services and lighting within an up to 2.95 metre high fenced compound (with a total footprint of 12,765 square metres);
- (ii) An Electricity Storage System comprising containerised energy storage modules; transformer and inverter modules; heating, ventilation and air condition units; and associated underground electricity cabling;
- (iii) Approximately 300m of on-site access tracks with associated site entrances from local public road (LT62013);
- (iv) Approximately 700m of 110kV underground electricity lines and communication cabling and all associated infrastructure;
- (v) Replacement of 1 no. existing wooden pole-set with 2 no. lattice-type end masts, to a maximum height of up to 16m, to facilitate connection of the proposed 110kV underground electricity lines to the existing Lisdrum-Shankill 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; and
- (vi) All associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, including upgrade works to the LT62013 and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

4.0 Environmental Impact Assessment

A full Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been submitted with this planning application to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out by An Bord Pleanála.

The EIAR is presented as 3 no. volumes, which should be read in conjunction with each other, as follows:-

- **Volume I** comprises the main EIAR text and follows a 'grouped format' structure where each environmental factor is assessed and presented as a separate chapter. The EIA Directive prescribes the range of environmental factors which should be used to organise descriptions of the environment and likely environmental effects. These have been supplemented with additional environmental factors owing to the characteristics of the project under assessments, as follows:-
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 - Chapter 4: Population & Human Health;
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- **Volume II** comprises a range of annexes, including technical data and reports, which informed the impact assessment provided in **Volume I** so as to ensure the EIAR is transparently supported by evidence; and
- **Volume III** comprises the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) prepared in respect of the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm. This EIAR has been provided to ensure that An Bord Pleanála has before it all necessary and relevant environmental assessments related to the entire project to allow for a complete and comprehensive cumulative assessment of the likely significant effects on the environment.

A Non-Technical Summary of the **Volume I** EIAR is provided as a separate standalone volume in order to facilitate the wider public concerned in their involvement in the statutory consultation during the planning application determination stage.

5.0 Appropriate Assessment

A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared by Ecofact Environmental Consultants and submitted with this planning application. The NIS is presented as a separate document and submitted to inform a Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment to be carried out by An Bord Pleanála (Council Directive 92/43/EC & Council Directive 2009/147/EC). Again, the NIS addresses the entirety of the project, including relevant off-site and secondary developments, including the Drumlins Park Wind Farm.

The NIS concludes that the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not have a direct, indirect or cumulative adverse effect on the conservation status or integrity of any European (Natura 2000) sites.

6.0 Planning Application Documentation

This planning application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of Section 182A the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Bord Pleanála has instructed the Applicant to notify the Development Applications Unit, as a prescribed body, of the lodgement of the planning application and to furnish you with a copy (or copies) of the planning application documentation.

In accordance with correspondence received from DAU dated 03 November 2020, all planning application and associated documentation is available to view at the dedicated project website www.drumlinsparkwindfarmsubstationsid.ie which includes:-

- Completed planning application form;
- Site notice;
- Copy of each newspaper notice (2 no.);
- Letters of consent from the relevant landowners;
- EIA Portal Confirmation Notice;
- Planning Application Fee (€100,000);
- Planning Application Notification Letter issued to Monaghan County Council;
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- Natura Impact Statement.

7.0 Planning Application Procedure

You are advised that An Bord Pleanála may, in respect of an application for permission, 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 the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions; or
- (b) Refuse to grant the permission/approval.

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough



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e: info@galetechenergy.com
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Street, Dublin 1 relating to:-

- (i) The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development;
- (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.

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Failte Ireland
Aras Failte
88/95 Amiens Street
Dublin 1

Issued via email to planning.applications@failteireland.ie

8 January 2021
Our Ref: DRU001SS
Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Drumanan and Cornawall, Newbliss, County Monaghan.

Re: (i) 1 no. 110kV 'loop in-loop out' air-insulated switchroom (AIS) substation including control buildings, transformer and all associated electrical equipment, security fencing and lighting; (ii) energy storage system comprising up to 14 no. energy storage modules; (iii) approximately 300 metres of on-site access track with associated site entrances from local public road (LT62013); (iv) approximately 700 metres of 110kV underground electricity lines and communication cabling and all associated infrastructure; (v) replacement of 1 no. existing wooden pole-set with 2 no. lattice-type end masts with a maximum height of up to 16m to facilitate connection of the proposed 110kV underground electricity lines to the existing Lisdrum-Shankill 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; and (vi) all associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, including upgrade works to the LT62013 and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

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Consequently, the Applicant entered into pre-application consultations with An Bord Pleanála (Reference ABP-306018-19), pursuant to Section 182E. On 20 April 2020, An Bord Pleanála served notice of its determination that the proposed development constituted SID and that a planning application for same must be made directly to it. Accordingly, this Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) planning application is now being made directly to An Bord Pleanála in accordance with Section 182A of the Act.

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The NIS concludes that the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not have a direct, indirect or cumulative adverse

effect on the conservation status or integrity of any European (Natura 2000) sites.

6.0 Planning Application Documentation

This planning application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of Section 182A the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Bord Pleanála has instructed the Applicant to notify Fáilte Ireland, as a prescribed body, of the lodgement of the planning application and to furnish you with a copy (or copies) of the planning application documentation.

As agreed with Ms. Yvonne Jackson on 13 November 2020, all planning application and associated documentation is available to view at the dedicated project website www.drumlinsparkwindfarmsubstationsid.ie, which includes:-

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- Site notice;
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- Planning Application Fee (€100,000);
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- (b) Refuse to grant the permission/approval.

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to:-

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

Any submissions or observations from Failte Ireland must be received by An Bord Pleanála no later than 5.30p.m. on 5 March 2021.

8.0 Conclusion

This planning application is being lodged with An Bord Pleanála following a determination that the proposed development constitutes a SID. The proposed development will facilitate the connection of the extant permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm to the national electricity grid. Government policy recognises that onshore wind energy, as a proven and cost effective technology in the context of Ireland's abundant wind resource, will continue to be the major contributor to Ireland's renewable electricity generation to 2030 and the generation of electricity by the Drumlins Park Wind Farm will make a substantial contribution to the reduction of fossil fuel generated electricity and the abatement of greenhouse gas emissions.

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Yours sincerely,

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The Heritage Council
Áras na hOidhreacht
Church Lane
Kilkenny
R95 X264

8 January 2021
Our Ref: DRU001SS
Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Drumanan and Cornawall, Newbliss, County Monaghan.

Re: (i) 1 no. 110kV 'loop in-loop out' air-insulated switchroom (AIS) substation including control buildings, transformer and all associated electrical equipment, security fencing and lighting; (ii) energy storage system comprising up to 14 no. energy storage modules; (iii) approximately 300 metres of on-site access track with associated site entrances from local public road (LT62013); (iv) approximately 700 metres of 110kV underground electricity lines and communication cabling and all associated infrastructure; (v) replacement of 1 no. existing wooden pole-set with 2 no. lattice-type end masts with a maximum height of up to 16m to facilitate connection of the proposed 110kV underground electricity lines to the existing Lisdrum-Shankill 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; and (vi) all associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, including upgrade works to the LT62013 and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

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 - Non-Technical Summary; and
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7.0 Planning Application Procedure

You are advised that An Bord Pleanála may, in respect of an application for permission, 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 the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions; or
- (b) Refuse to grant the permission/approval.

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to:-

- (i) The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development;
- (ii) The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development; and



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(iii) The likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Any submissions or observations from the Heritage Council must be received by An Bord Pleanála no later than 5.30p.m. on 5 March 2021.

8.0 Conclusion

This planning application is being lodged with An Bord Pleanála following a determination that the proposed development constitutes a SID. The proposed development will facilitate the connection of the extant permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm to the national electricity grid. Government policy recognises that onshore wind energy, as a proven and cost effective technology in the context of Ireland's abundant wind resource, will continue to be the major contributor to Ireland's renewable electricity generation to 2030 and the generation of electricity by the Drumlins Park Wind Farm will make a substantial contribution to the reduction of fossil fuel generated electricity and the abatement of greenhouse gas emissions.

The EIAR and NIS submitted provide a comprehensive assessment of the likelihood of significant adverse environmental effects to arise as a result of the proposed development individually and in combination with the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm and other existing, permitted and proposed developments. Overall, the EIAR and NIS have demonstrated that any likely adverse environmental effects resulting from the proposed development can be mitigated and that there are lasting social and environmental benefits as a result of the proposed development. As a result, it is concluded that the proposed development will have no likely significant environmental effects.

We trust that the documentation provided is in order and is sufficient for your consideration of this proposed development. Should you have any queries in relation to any of the information enclosed, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

Galetech Energy Services

Galetech Energy Services Ltd





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Health Service Executive
Environmental Health Service
St Fintan's Campus
Dublin Road
Portlaoise
Co. Laois

8 January 2021
Our Ref: DRU001SS
Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Drumanan and Cornawall, Newbliss, County Monaghan.

Re: (i) 1 no. 110kV 'loop in-loop out' air-insulated switchroom (AIS) substation including control buildings, transformer and all associated electrical equipment, security fencing and lighting; (ii) energy storage system comprising up to 14 no. energy storage modules; (iii) approximately 300 metres of on-site access track with associated site entrances from local public road (LT62013); (iv) approximately 700 metres of 110kV underground electricity lines and communication cabling and all associated infrastructure; (v) replacement of 1 no. existing wooden pole-set with 2 no. lattice-type end masts with a maximum height of up to 16m to facilitate connection of the proposed 110kV underground electricity lines to the existing Lisdrum-Shankill 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; and (vi) all associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, including upgrade works to the LT62013 and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany this planning application.

1.0 Introduction

On behalf of our client, Drumlins Park Limited ('the Applicant'), please find herein notification of a planning application for the abovementioned proposed development which is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála in accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) ('the Act').

2.0 Background to this Planning Application

Planning permission was granted by Monaghan County Council ('the Planning Authority') in September 2020 for the development of an 8 no. turbine wind energy development and associated infrastructure (known hereafter as the 'Drumlins Park Wind Farm') pursuant to Register Reference 19/486.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm assessed 3 no. separate grid connection options, one of which

comprised a 110kV 'loop-in/loop-out' substation and ancillary infrastructure generally at the location of that now proposed. Following an extensive technical evaluation of the grid connection options, in addition to consultation with Eirgrid as the transmission system operator, the Applicant concluded that the construction of a 110kV 'loop-in/loop-out' substation was the most appropriate means of connecting the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm to the national electricity network.

Consequently, the Applicant entered into pre-application consultations with An Bord Pleanála (Reference ABP-306018-19), pursuant to Section 182E. On 20 April 2020, An Bord Pleanála served notice of its determination that the proposed development constituted SID and that a planning application for same must be made directly to it. Accordingly, this Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) planning application is now being made directly to An Bord Pleanála in accordance with Section 182A of the Act.

3.0 Description of the Proposed Development

The planning application seeks permission for a 10-year planning permission for a proposed development generally described as follows:-

- (i) A 110 kilovolt (kV) 'loop-in/loop-out' Air-Insulated Switchgear (AIS) electrical substation, including 2 no. single-storey control buildings (with a Gross Floor Area of 623 square metres); 1 no. transformer bay; 2 no. line bays; and all associated electrical equipment, services and lighting within an up to 2.95 metre high fenced compound (with a total footprint of 12,765 square metres);
- (ii) An Electricity Storage System comprising containerised energy storage modules; transformer and inverter modules; heating, ventilation and air condition units; and associated underground electricity cabling;
- (iii) Approximately 300m of on-site access tracks with associated site entrances from local public road (LT62013);
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- (v) Replacement of 1 no. existing wooden pole-set with 2 no. lattice-type end masts, to a maximum height of up to 16m, to facilitate connection of the proposed 110kV underground electricity lines to the existing Lisdrum-Shankill 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; and
- (vi) All associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, including upgrade works to the LT62013 and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

4.0 Environmental Impact Assessment

A full Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been submitted with this planning application to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out by An Bord Pleanála.

The EIAR is presented as 3 no. volumes, which should be read in conjunction with each other, as follows:-

- **Volume I** comprises the main EIAR text and follows a 'grouped format' structure where each environmental factor is assessed and presented as a separate chapter. The EIA Directive prescribes the range of environmental factors which should be used to organise descriptions of the environment and likely environmental effects. These have been supplemented with additional environmental factors owing to the characteristics of the project under assessments, as follows:-
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A Non-Technical Summary of the **Volume I** EIAR is provided as a separate standalone volume in order to facilitate the wider public concerned in their involvement in the statutory consultation during the planning application determination stage.

5.0 Appropriate Assessment

A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared by Ecofact Environmental Consultants and submitted with this planning application. The NIS is presented as a separate document and submitted to inform a Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment to be carried out by An Bord Pleanála (Council Directive 92/43/EC & Council Directive 2009/147/EC). Again, the NIS addresses the entirety of the project, including relevant off-site and secondary developments, including the Drumlins Park Wind Farm.

The NIS concludes that the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not have a direct, indirect or cumulative adverse

effect on the conservation status or integrity of any European (Natura 2000) sites.

6.0 Planning Application Documentation

This planning application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of Section 182A the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Bord Pleanála has instructed the Applicant to notify the Health Service Executive, as a prescribed body, of the lodgement of the planning application and to furnish you with a copy (or copies) of the planning application documentation.

All planning application and associated documentation is available to view at the dedicated project website www.drumlinsparkwindfarmsubstationsid.ie, which includes:-

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- Copy of each newspaper notice (2 no.);
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Galetech Energy Services

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Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment
Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment
29-31 Adelaide Road
Dublin
D02 X285

8 January 2021
Our Ref: DRU001SS
Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Drumanan and Cornawall, Newbliss, County Monaghan.

Re: (i) 1 no. 110kV 'loop in-loop out' air-insulated switchroom (AIS) substation including control buildings, transformer and all associated electrical equipment, security fencing and lighting; (ii) energy storage system comprising up to 14 no. energy storage modules; (iii) approximately 300 metres of on-site access track with associated site entrances from local public road (LT62013); (iv) approximately 700 metres of 110kV underground electricity lines and communication cabling and all associated infrastructure; (v) replacement of 1 no. existing wooden pole-set with 2 no. lattice-type end masts with a maximum height of up to 16m to facilitate connection of the proposed 110kV underground electricity lines to the existing Lisdrum-Shankill 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; and (vi) all associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, including upgrade works to the LT62013 and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

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Transport Infrastructure Ireland
Parkgate Business Centre
Parkgate Street
Dublin 8
D08 DK10

Issued via email to landuseplanning@tii.ie

8 January 2021
Our Ref: DRU001SS
Your Ref: --/--

Dear Sir/Madam,

Location: Drumanan and Cornawall, Newbliss, County Monaghan.

Re: (i) 1 no. 110kV 'loop in-loop out' air-insulated switchroom (AIS) substation including control buildings, transformer and all associated electrical equipment, security fencing and lighting; (ii) energy storage system comprising up to 14 no. energy storage modules; (iii) approximately 300 metres of on-site access track with associated site entrances from local public road (LT62013); (iv) approximately 700 metres of 110kV underground electricity lines and communication cabling and all associated infrastructure; (v) replacement of 1 no. existing wooden pole-set with 2 no. lattice-type end masts with a maximum height of up to 16m to facilitate connection of the proposed 110kV underground electricity lines to the existing Lisdrum-Shankill 110kV overhead electricity transmission line; and (vi) all associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, including upgrade works to the LT62013 and the provision of site drainage infrastructure and surface water protection measures.

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6.0 Planning Application Documentation

This planning application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of Section 182A the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Bord Pleanála has instructed the Applicant to notify Transport Infrastructure Ireland, as a prescribed body, of the lodgement of the planning application and to furnish you with a copy (or copies) of the planning application documentation.

In accordance with correspondence received from Mr. Mark Byrne date 06 November 2020, all planning application and associated documentation is available to view at the dedicated project website www.drumlinsparkwindfarmsubstationsid.ie which includes:-

- Completed planning application form;
- Site notice;
- Copy of each newspaper notice (2 no.);
- Letters of consent from the relevant landowners;
- EIA Portal Confirmation Notice;
- Planning Application Fee (€100,000);
- Planning Application Notification Letter issued to Monaghan County Council;
- Planning Application Notification Letter issued to each Prescribed Body;
- Planning Application Drawings (see Schedule of Drawings attached to Planning Application Form);
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report;
 - Volume I – Assessment of Proposed Development;
 - Volume II – Technical Annexes in support of Volume I;
 - Volume III – Drumlins Park Wind Farm EIAR;
 - Non-Technical Summary; and
- Natura Impact Statement.

7.0 Planning Application Procedure

You are advised that An Bord Pleanála may, in respect of an application for permission, 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 the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions; or
- (b) Refuse to grant the permission/approval.

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to:-

- (i) The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development;



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- (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 or observations from Transport Infrastructure Ireland must be received by An Bord Pleanála no later than 5.30p.m. on 5 March 2021.

8.0 Conclusion

This planning application is being lodged with An Bord Pleanála following a determination that the proposed development constitutes a SID. The proposed development will facilitate the connection of the extant permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm to the national electricity grid. Government policy recognises that onshore wind energy, as a proven and cost effective technology in the context of Ireland's abundant wind resource, will continue to be the major contributor to Ireland's renewable electricity generation to 2030 and the generation of electricity by the Drumlins Park Wind Farm will make a substantial contribution to the reduction of fossil fuel generated electricity and the abatement of greenhouse gas emissions.

The EIAR and NIS submitted provide a comprehensive assessment of the likelihood of significant adverse environmental effects to arise as a result of the proposed development individually and in combination with the permitted Drumlins Park Wind Farm and other existing, permitted and proposed developments. Overall, the EIAR and NIS have demonstrated that any likely adverse environmental effects resulting from the proposed development can be mitigated and that there are lasting social and environmental benefits as a result of the proposed development. As a result, it is concluded that the proposed development will have no likely significant environmental effects.

We trust that the documentation provided is in order and is sufficient for your consideration of this proposed development. Should you have any queries in relation to any of the information enclosed, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

Galetech Energy Services

Galetech Energy Services Ltd

