



Córas Iompair Éireann

Heuston Station
Dublin 8
Stáisiun Heuston
Baile Átha Cliath 8

Date: 19th May 2021

Mr. Kieran Somers
An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1
D01 V902

RE: Application for Railway Order – Dublin to Cork Railway Line (Elimination & Upgrade of Level Crossings between Limerick Junction and Mallow) Order 2021

Dear Mr. Somers

Coras Iompair Éireann (CIÉ) hereby applies to you under Section 37 of the Transport (Railway Infrastructure) Act 2001 (as amended and substituted) for a Railway Order that, if granted, will authorise CIÉ to carry out railway works and all works necessary to enable CIÉ to eliminate and, where necessary, upgrade seven numbered level crossings and carry out all associated and ancillary works along a 24 kilometre section of the Dublin to Cork Railway Line (entitled 'The Dublin to Cork Railway Line (Elimination & Upgrade of Level Crossings between Limerick Junction and Mallow) Order 2021').

In accordance with the above mentioned Act and the direction previously given by An Bord Pleanála during pre application consultation, I now enclose 3 hard copies of the following along with 3 electronic copies containing the identical materials:

- A copy of the newspaper notices relating to the application;
- A draft of the proposed Railway Order with associated Schedules including a Book of Reference (indicating the identity of the owners and occupiers of the lands described in the plans) and plans of the proposed works;
- A copy of the statement of the likely effects on the environment (an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) Volumes 1-5 which includes a Natura Impact Statement (NIS));
- A copy of the Planning Compliance Report; and
- A copy of the An Bord Pleanála Pre-Application Consultation File.

In addition to the above, the following is also enclosed with the application, as follows:

- Completed SID Application Form with associated application appendices:
 - 1A – Planning Application Form Additional Information;
 - 1B – Overall List of Figures;
 - 1C – EIA Portal Confirmation; and
 - 1D – List of Owners/Occupiers & Notice Date.
- A copy of the letters served on the Chief Executive Officers of Cork County Council and Limerick City and County Council;

- A copy of the letters served on Prescribed Bodies; and
- National Transport Authority (NTA) Letter dated 14th April 2021 providing Consent for the submission to be made.

In accordance with the terms of the above mentioned Act, the following steps have been taken before the making of this application.

1. A newspaper notice was published by CIÉ in the following publications: The Irish Examiner (6/5/21), The Irish Independent (6/5/21), The Limerick Leader (8/5/21), The Limerick Post (8/5/21), The Vale Star (6/5/21), The Weekly Observer (5/5/21) and The Corkman (6/5/21).
2. Arrangements have been made to display the Railway Order application documents in the offices of An Bord Pleanála, Cork County Council, Limerick City and County Council and Iarnród Éireann Charleville Railway Station in accordance with the terms of the aforementioned newspaper notice;
3. The Railway Order application documents, along with a copy of the newspaper notices, were served on Cork County Council and Limerick City and County Council, being the planning authorities in whose functional areas the proposed railway works are proposed to be carried out, on the Minister for Transport and on bodies specified by An Bord Pleanála in its email dated 2nd March 2021;
4. A copy of the newspaper notices together with relevant extracts of the draft Railway Order application documents have been served on the owners and occupiers of lands referred to in the draft order.

In accordance with the terms of the An Bord Pleanála email dated 5th February 2021, the following has also been undertaken:

1. The Cork County Council and Limerick City and County Council Chief Executive Officers (CEO's) have received 5 hard copies and 2 electronic copies of the proposed Railway Order application;
2. Prescribed bodies, including the Minister for Transport, have received 1 electronic copy of the Railway Order application. This includes a copy of the Notice, the proposed Railway Order and application documents.
3. The letter to prescribed bodies as well as owners/occupiers makes it clear that the person served can make submissions to An Bord Pleanála by the same deadline as the public notice;
4. Electronic copies include a specific folder with the proposed Railway Order;
5. The newspaper notice included the address of a website containing all of the Railway Order documentation (www.irishrail.ie/CorkLineLevelCrossings) and that website will go live in advance of the 28th May 2021;
6. The Railway Order application documents were provided in the designated display locations in advance of 28th May 2021. The commencement date of the six week statutory period for submissions in relation to the proposed order, in order to allow the recipients time to ensure that the documentation is in place for inspection in accordance with the terms of the newspaper notice;
7. The content of the newspaper notice was discussed with An Bord Pleanála in advance of its publication and the date providing exactly 6 weeks for the lodgement of submissions in relation to the proposed order were confirmed;
8. All cover letters served with the appropriate Railway Order documentation were included a clear statement that the person served can make submissions to An Bord Pleanála by the same deadline as is specified in the newspaper notice. A list of the persons served with the application, the date of such service and a sample copy of the letter of service are attached herewith for information;
9. A copy of the letters served on the Chief Executive Officers for Cork County Council and Limerick City and County Council are attached for information;
10. Evidence of service on owners/occupiers in the form of a list of registered post letters issued by CIÉ will be provided to An Bord Pleanála in due course; and

11. A paginated draft of the proposed Railway Order in soft copy format capable of manipulation by An Bord Pleanála will also be provided in due course.

CIÉ certifies that the documentation that has been made available for public inspection at the designated locations and for inspection on www.irishrail.ie/CorkLineLevelCrossings is identical in all respects to the documentation being lodged with An Bord Pleanála.

The appropriate fee of €100,000 has been lodged and receipt confirmed by An Bord Pleanála on 15th April 2021.

Dated this 19th day of May 2021

Yours faithfully,



Geraldine Finucane
Group Secretary, CIÉ

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