

**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 Westmeath (Westmeath County Council)**

In accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, Lumcloon Energy Limited gives notice of its intention to make an application for a ten-year planning permission to An Bord Pleanála in relation to the following proposed development in the townlands of Kiltotan and Collinstown and Oldtown, County Westmeath. The application site has a total area of c 7.58 hectares.

The proposed development for which permission under Section 182B is being sought constitutes a 220kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) Electrical Substation and two 220kV underground transmission cables which will connect to the existing overhead lines within the development boundary. The proposed substation is location adjacent to a proposed reserve gas-fired generator development and energy storage system development which are subject to separate concurrent applications under Westmeath County Council (Ref 21/515 and 21/532). The development is described as follows:

- Installation of a two-storey GIS substation building of 17.0m high with a gross floor area of c. 2034 sq. m (containing battery room, WC, messroom, workshop, generator room, stair cores, cable pits, storeroom, and switchgear rooms) within a 2.65m high fenced compound,
- Installation of 2no. 220kV underground circuits which will run from the proposed 220kV GIS substation and connect to existing overhead 220kV transmission lines located north-east and west of the proposed GIS substation and within the development boundary,
- Each of the two circuits will terminate in a cable within 2no. separate proposed fenced (2.65m high) mini-interface electrical compounds (each with an area of c.604.5 sq. m), which will provide the interface between the proposed underground transmission circuits and overhead transmission lines. Both mini compounds will contain air insulated electrical equipment including a 17.0m high overhead gantry with line traps, surge arrestors and cable sealing ends. The mini-interface electrical compounds will connect the transmission lines to 2no. proposed single circuit 24m high pylons (located to the west and northeast of the GIS substation building) set on top of concrete foundations,
- Removal of 2no. existing electricity pylons (numbered 151 and 152) within the development boundary and along with associated overhead transmission lines transecting the site,
- a 36.0m high communications tower,
- Construction of a main entrance, access roadway, foul and surface water management systems all ancillary site development works.

This application is seeking a ten-year permission and an unlimited operational period, as part of the national electricity transmission system operated by Eirgrid from commissioning. An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development.

The planning application and EIAR 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 a copy) during public opening hours for a period of seven weeks commencing on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 at the following locations:

- The offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1.
- The offices of Westmeath County Council, Planning Department, Áras an Chontae, Mount Street, Mullingar, N91 FH4N

The application may also be viewed/downloaded on the following stand-alone website: [www.castlelostplanning.com](http://www.castlelostplanning.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,
- (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 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022. 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.

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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](http://www.pleanala.ie).)

The Board may in respect of an application for permission decide to:

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

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](http://www.pleanala.ie) or on the Citizens Information Service website [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie).

Signed:



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Colm Staunton – Halston Environmental & Planning Limited – Agent

Date of Erection of Site Notice: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022