

Planning and Development Act, 2000 (As Amended)

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

Kerry County Council

In accordance with Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), SSE Generation Ireland Limited gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for a 10-year planning permission to develop an Open Cycle Gas Turbine ('OCGT') power plant fuelled by Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil ('HVO') along with associated buildings, plant, site works, services and ancillary development on land within the existing SSE Tarbert Power Station site at Tarbert Island, Tarbert, Co. Kerry.

The Proposed Development will include: Demolition of existing structures on site (Including workshop and storage buildings, shot blasting shed, lube oil store, toilet block, chemical storage bund, boiler wash storage tank, canteen, demineralised water tank, water treatment plant building and associated infrastructure, 'puraflo' wastewater treatment plant, tanks and fuel lines); Construction of OCGT power plant (350MW), and associated building (30m high) including air intake; Emissions stack (55m high) with continuous emissions monitoring systems ('CEMS'); Selective Catalytic Reduction ('SCR') with air intake, filters and dilution fans; Skids; 2no. blocks of fin fan coolers; Power control module; Emergency generator; One unit transformer and one grid transformer with a firewall separating, and overhead cable connection to existing 220kV substation; Aqueous ammonia tank; Propane gas tank, compound and unloading bay; Demineralised water treatment plant; 2no. Demineralised water storage tanks; Raw water and fire water storage tank; Fire water module; 3no. fuel storage tanks with 2no. unloading bays; Fuel polishing and transfer system; Fuel pipework; Wastewater treatment plant; Administration building and workshop with associated car parking area (8no. spaces); Store; Flood defence wall and gates; And all associated ancillary development, site works and services including internal roads, security fencing and gates, drainage infrastructure, lighting, underground pipework and cabling.

The application relates to development for the purposes of an activity requiring a license from the Environmental Protection Agency under the Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992, as amended. It also relates to a COMAH establishment and therefore falls under the requirements of the Chemicals Act (Control of Major Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substances) Regulations, 2015.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report ('EIAR') and Natura Impact Statement ('NIS') will be submitted with the application.

The planning application, including the EIAR and NIS, may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making a copy) during public opening hours for a period of seven weeks commencing on 5th December 2023 at the following locations:

- The offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902;
- The offices of Kerry County Council, County Buildings, Rathass, Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92 H7VT.

The planning application, including the EIAR and NIS, may also be viewed or downloaded on the following website: www.ssetarbertnextgen.com.

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála (“the Board”), 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902; or via the Board’s website, www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/observations, during the aforementioned period 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 or 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 1st February 2024 (The provisions of section 251 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, relating to the holiday period between the 24th December and 1st January, both days inclusive, have been taken into account in the calculation of the response date). Such submissions or 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; and
- 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 and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, 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 (refer to ‘A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development’ at 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 the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions; or
- b) Refuse permission to grant the permission/approval.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Development Section of An Bord Pleanála (Tel. 01-8588100).

A person may question the validity of any such decision of the Board by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rule of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986, as amended by S.I. No. 691 of 2011), in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed on the Board’s website (www.pleanala.ie) under the following heading: Legal Notices – Judicial Review Notice. This information is also available on the Citizens Information Service website (www.citizensinformation.ie).