

East Meath - North Dublin Grid Upgrade Construction Environmental Management Plan – Appendix A

Environmental Incident Response Plan

EirGrid

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Appendix A – Environmental Incident Response Plan

1. Environmental Incident Response Plan

1.1 Introduction

This Environmental Incident Response Plan (EIRP) has been prepared to ensure that in the unlikely event of an incident, response efforts are prompt, efficient, and suitable for the particular circumstances. The EIRP details the procedures to be undertaken in the event of a significant release of sediment into a watercourse, or a significant spillage of chemical, fuel or other hazardous substances (e.g. concrete), non-compliance incident with any permit or license, or other such risks that could lead to a pollution incident, including flood risks. The EIRP will identify the on-site risks and appropriate responses. The focus of including the measures in this EIRP is on prevention of the incident arising in the first place.

The EIRP will be further developed by the appointed contractor, in line with the mitigation measures detailed in the CEMP, EIAR and NIS for the East Meath – North Dublin Grid Upgrade (hereafter referred to as the Proposed Development), to describe the procedures, lines of authority and processes that will be followed to ensure that all incident response efforts are prompt, efficient and appropriate to the particular incident.

1.2 Plan Objectives

The objectives of this EIRP are to:

- Ensure the health and safety of all workers on-site and visitors to the sites along the Proposed Development;
- Minimise environmental impacts;
- Minimise any impacts on properties, services etc.; and
- Establish procedures that will enable personnel to respond to incidents with an integrated multi-departmental effort in a manner that minimises the possibility of loss and reduces the potential for affecting health, property and the environment.

1.3 Relevant Guidelines

This EIRP will be prepared with regard to the following guidance documents, where relevant:

- Control of Water Pollution from Linear Construction Projects. Technical Guidance (C648) (CIRIA 2006a);
- Control of Water Pollution from Linear Construction Projects. Site Guide (C649) (CIRIA 2006b);
- Control of Water Pollution from Construction Sites. Guidance for Consultants and Contractors (C532) (CIRIA 2001);
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) A Framework for Major Emergency Management (DHLGH 2021); and • A Framework for Major Emergency Management. Guidance Document 1. A Guide to Risk Assessment in Major Emergency Management (DEHLG 2010);
- Major Emergency Plan of Fingal County Council (FCC) (FCC 2023); and
- Meath County Council (MCC) Meath County Council (MCC) Major Emergency Plan (MCC 2019).

1.4 Implementation of the Plan

The EIRP will be reviewed and updated regularly so that it continues to apply to construction activities and is amended when applicable regulations are revised or when amendments are required by a regulatory authority. It will identify the risks associated with health and safety and the environment and will evolve throughout the Proposed Development lifecycle, with inputs from the appointed contractor/ Project

Supervisor for the Construction Phase (PSCP) and any subcontractors. It will be the responsibility of the Environmental Clerk of Works (EnCoW) or equivalent as stipulated by the appointed contractor to maintain and change the EIRP as required. The EIRP may also require amendments from the various stakeholders or suppliers as the Proposed Development progresses.

The mitigation measures specified in the CEMP, EIAR and NIS will minimise / avoid the potential for environmental pollution. However, procedures must be in place in the unlikely event of an incident. The appointed contractor will provide a full list, including the exact locations, of all pollution control plant and equipment. All such plant and equipment will be maintained in place and in working order for the duration of the works.

As part of the Proposed Development and management of the EIRP, the appointed contractor will:

- Assess the pollution risks and develop emergency and spill response procedures for specific construction activities;
- Obtain details of key people that may need to be contacted for help in the event of an incident;
- Conduct a risk assessment for each activity and all possible emergency scenarios, including but not limited to:
 - Injury or health emergency to site staff or members of the public; bridge strikes, fire, criminal damage, fuel spills, earthworks incidents, siltation incident and other water pollution events, Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) incidents, utility strikes and traffic collision and incidents.
- Identify emergency access routes along the Proposed Development;
- Identify emergency response equipment and resources that will be needed in the event of an environmental emergency, such as spill kits, containment kits and pumps, and identify their locations at regular intervals for ease of access;
- Develop an Emergency Response Team / Lead that includes designated individuals (including the EnCoW) who will be responsible for coordinating and implementing the EIRP. This team will be trained in emergency response procedures and will be familiar with the specific environmental risks and hazards associated with the construction of the Proposed Development;
- Establish communication protocols with local authorities and emergency services, including phone numbers and contact details for the responsible parties;
- Conduct drills and exercises to test the effectiveness of the EIRP and ensure that all team members are familiar with their roles and responsibilities;
- Train personnel to follow procedures and use equipment correctly;
- Take action following an incident to ensure it does not occur again; and
- Review and update the Plan regularly to ensure it remains relevant and effective.

1.5 Environmental Response Procedures

The following are the procedures for the EIRP. The actual response will be tailored to the nature and scale of the incident. Professional judgement will be applied to ensure the response is appropriate without undermining anyone's safety or protection of the environment, and property. The following procedures will be carried out in an event of an emergency:

- **Notification and Communication:** In the event of an environmental emergency, the first priority is to notify the appropriate authorities and emergency services. The contact numbers will be readily available and will be displayed at prominent and suitable locations at construction sites during the proposed works. Additionally, all numbers will be pre-programmed into site members' mobile phones so that they can be easily contacted. A table of Emergency Contacts will be developed to include contact details for key personnel with environmental responsibilities;

- Evacuate all personnel from the immediate area of the incident to a safe location;
- If possible, contain the spill or release using appropriate equipment such as spill kits or containment booms;
- Notify the designated Emergency Response Team members and ensure that they have access to the necessary resources and equipment to respond to the emergency;
- Implement emergency response measures, as outlined in the final EIRP, to mitigate the environmental impact of the incident;
- Cooperate fully with the relevant authorities and emergency services to ensure a coordinated and effective response;
- All works in the vicinity of the incident must be ceased until such a time as the Site Manager notifies personnel that it is safe to proceed with the works. The appointed contractor's EnCoW will be responsible for formulating any corrective actions that are required (e.g., repair silt fencing in the event of damage from extreme weather) in consultation with the appointed contractor and relevant stakeholders;
- Conduct an assessment of the environmental impact of the incident, including any damage to the surrounding area or waterways;
- Where appropriate, monitor air, soil and water quality to ensure that the environment is returning to normal levels; and
- Report the findings of the assessment to the relevant authorities, including details of any remedial action taken to mitigate the environmental impact of the incident.

An emergency contact list will be displayed at prominent and suitable locations at construction sites during the proposed construction works. An example is provided in Table 1, and this will be further developed by the appointed contractor to include contact details for key personnel with environmental responsibilities, as detailed in Section 1.5 of the CEMP.

Table 1: Emergency Contacts

Point of Contact	Telephone Number
Emergency services (fire, police, ambulance)	999/112
Local Authority	<Relevant point of contact within Meath and Fingal County Councils will be confirmed pre-construction>
Lead member of the Emergency Response Team (Likely Project Supervisor)	<Relevant details will be confirmed pre-construction>
Senior Project Manager	<Relevant details will be confirmed pre-construction>
Project Supervisor	<Relevant details will be confirmed pre-construction>
Safety, Health, Environment, Security and Quality (SHESQ) Manager	<Relevant details will be confirmed pre-construction>
EnCoW or equivalent	<Relevant details will be confirmed pre-construction>
ESB (Client)	<Relevant details will be confirmed pre-construction>
Irish Rail Emergency	018555454
ESB Emergency Services	1850372999
Waterways Ireland Emergency	<Relevant details will be confirmed pre-construction>
Uisce Éireann Emergency	1800278278
Bord Gáis Emergency	1850205050
Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) – Motorway Control Centre	0818715100
Health and Safety Authority	1890289389
Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI)	1890347424
Project Supervisor Construction Stage (PSCS): TBC	<Relevant details will be confirmed pre-construction>
Project Supervisor Design Process Lead (PSDP): TBC	<Relevant details will be confirmed pre-construction>
Environmental Protection Agency	1890 33 55 99 / 053 91660600

For each incident, the following information will be communicated to the relevant authorities:

- The nature and location of the emergency;
- The time and date;
- Nature of the incident and source-pathway and receptor;
- The estimated size and severity of the incident;
- The type of hazardous materials or substances involved, if applicable;
- The number of individuals involved or affected by the incident, if applicable;
- Remediation measures undertaken;
- Name of the personnel who reported the incident; and
- Any other relevant details.

The Site Manager will keep a log of all environmental incidents on file and these will be made available to the Local Authority, the independent EnCoW within the Employer’s Representative Team and other agencies, as required, such as the Inland Fisheries Ireland or the Environmental Protection Agency.

The communication chain shown in Image 1 will be followed in the event of an emergency.

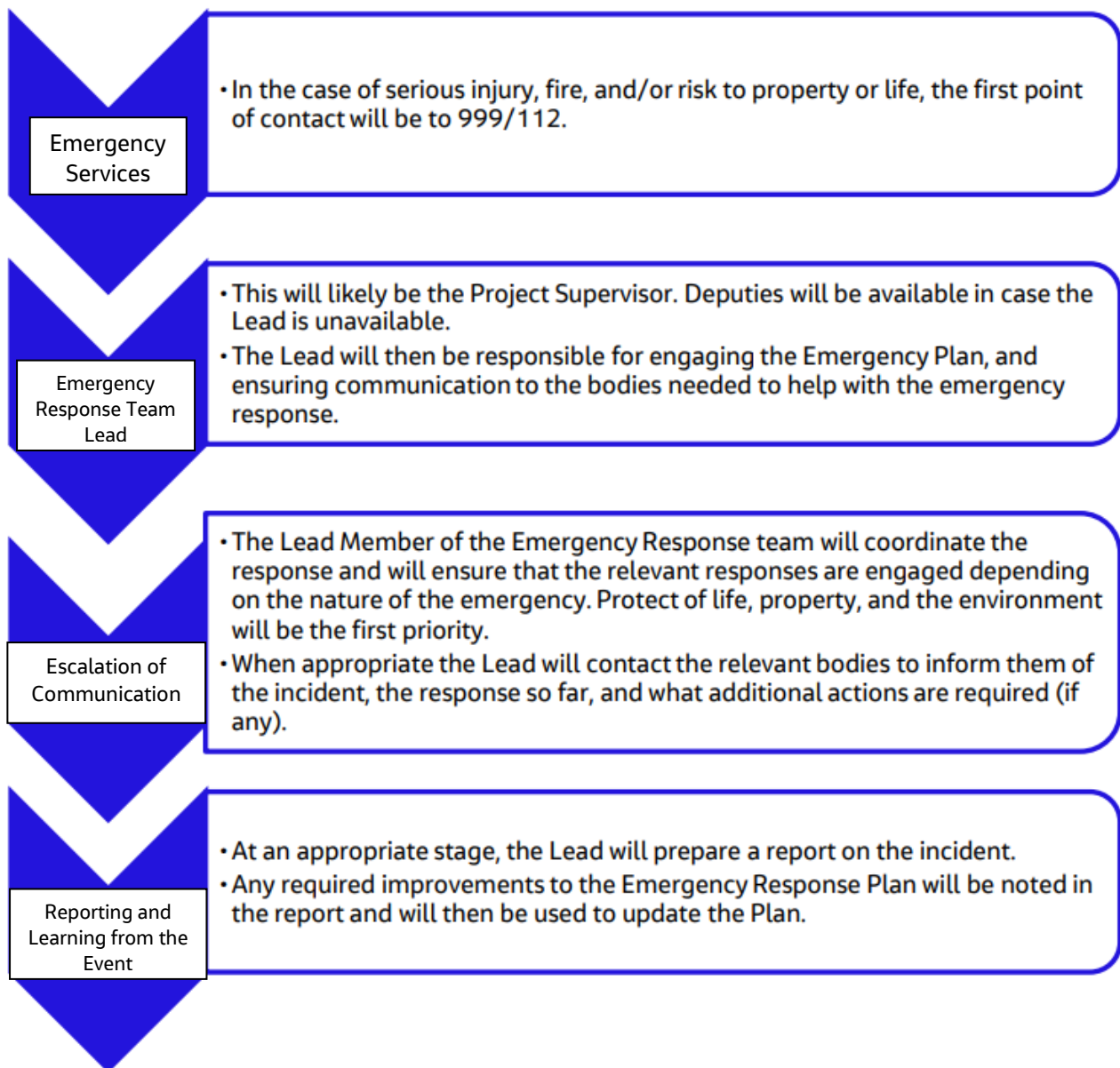


Image 1: Emergency Communication Chain

1.6 References

CIRIA (2001). Control of Water Pollution from Construction Sites. Guidance for Consultants and Contractors (C532)

CIRIA (2006a). Control of Water Pollution from Linear Construction Projects. Technical Guidance (C648)

CIRIA (2006b). Control of Water Pollution from Linear Construction Projects. Site Guide (C649)

DEHLG (2010). A Framework for Major Emergency Management. Guidance Document 1. A Guide to Risk Assessment in Major Emergency Management

DHLGH (2021). A Framework for Emergency Management

FCC (2023). Major Emergency Plan of Fingal County Council

MCC (2019). Meath County Council Major Emergency Plan