

Uisce Éireann's Ref: PN26000041843

Planning Ref: SID-Further Information Recieved-An Coimisiún Pleanála - Case reference: VA07.320094

Planning Authority: Galway County Council

Issue Date: 15 June 2026

Uisce Éireann
Bosca OP 448
Oifig Sheachadta na
Cathrach Theas
Cathair Chorcaí

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Development Location: Coolpowra, Cooldorragha, Coolnageeragh, Ballynaheskeragh, Gortlusk & Sheeaunrush, Co. Galway

Development Description: Proposed 400kV Gas insulated SwitchGear electricity substation and high voltage transmission lines/cables and electric plant.

A Chara,

Uisce Éireann (UÉ) has reviewed the plans and particulars submitted with the application and has the following observations;

The applicant has engaged with UÉ via a Pre-Connection Enquiry and UÉ can confirm that a Confirmation of Feasibility (COF) has been issued to the applicant advising that a water connection is feasible subject to upgrades.

The COF further notes, the existing UÉ owned Water Treatment Plant (Portumna WTP) is at capacity and unable to accept new connections without an upgrade. An upgrade is planned and included in the Irish Water Capital Investment Plan and is undergoing design and planning in Q4 2025 with a proposed construction completion date in 2027 in which a connection will be feasible following completion.

The applicant shall enter into a Connection Agreements with Uisce Éireann to provide for a service connection to the public water supply collection network and adhere to the standards and conditions set out in that agreement.

Public Water Source Protection

UÉ has undertaken a review of this application, and the supporting EIAR and appendices submitted as part of this application. The proposed reserved Gas Fired Generator (RGFG), Energy Storage System, electric substation and associated infrastructure are located in the drinking water abstraction catchment for three public water supplies (PWS):

- Portumna PWS with the abstraction point on Lough Derg located 10 km from the development.

- Nenagh PWS with the abstraction point on Lough Derg located 50 km from the development.
- Limerick City Water Supply with the abstraction point on River Shannon located over 60 km downstream.

The applicant/operator shall comply with the Water Framework Directive and River Basin Management Plan objectives to ensure that the development will not negatively impact on the water quality of source/receiving waters during both construction and operational phases.

The applicant/operator shall meet the requirements of EIA Directive 2014/52/EU.

The applicant/operator shall comply with the requirements of the Groundwater Directive, Article 6(1) of Directive 2000/60/EC.

In the interest of Public Health and Environmental Sustainability the applicant/operator will comply with best practice Groundwater Protection Schemes set in the GSI Groundwater Protection Schemes.

Where the applicant proposes to connect to a public water/wastewater network operated by Uisce Éireann, the applicant shall sign a connection agreement with UÉ prior to the commencement of the development and adhere to the standards and conditions set out in that agreement.

In the interest of Public Health and Environmental Sustainability, UÉ Infrastructure capacity requirements and proposed connections to the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure will be subject to the constraints of the Uisce Éireann Capital Investment Programme.

All development shall be carried out in compliance with Uisce Éireann's Standard Details and Codes of Practice.

As a result, UÉ request that the below measures are included in any condition of grant to ensure appropriate safeguards are included to protect the downstream drinking water receptors and to ensure adequate provision and protection of water and wastewater facilities, Uisce Éireann recommends the following;

1. UÉ requests that all mitigation and control measures outlined within Chapter 8 of the EIAR and the Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) are carried out for the duration of the construction and operation of the facility, to ensure that there are no impacts to the sensitive downstream drinking water receptors on the River Shannon, with particular reference to the abstraction for the Portumna Water Supply on Lough Derg, 10 km from the development.
2. A final updated Construction and Environmental Management Plan shall be developed and submitted for agreement with the Planning Authority. Additionally, UÉ request to be included in the list of Third Party stakeholders to be contacted in the event of an emergency as outlined in Section 5.3.2.
3. Firewater Management Plan: UÉ notes that firewater retention and containment is proposed for the development. UÉ recommends that a Firewater Management Plan is also developed for the site and submitted for agreement with the planning authority.
4. Water Quality Monitoring: The applicant notes in Section 8.8 that water monitoring will be undertaken during the construction phase of the project. UÉ recommends that a water quality monitoring programme is implemented for the duration of the construction phase of the project given the presence of sensitive downstream receptors.

5. Where the applicant seeks a connection to the public network, the applicant shall enter into a connection agreement with Uisce Éireann prior to the commencement of the development and adhere to the standards and conditions set out in that agreement.
6. There shall be no build over of public infrastructure from these proposals. Separation distances as per Uisce Éireann's Standards Codes & Practices shall be achieved where public infrastructure is in situ within and/or adjacent to site boundaries*.
7. The development shall not impact public drinking water sources and/or abstraction point(s) and/or abstraction infrastructure**.
8. The design and construction of the Water & Wastewater pipes and related infrastructure to be installed in this Development shall comply with the Uisce Éireann Connections and Developer Services Standard Details and Codes of Practice.

Queries relating to the terms and observations above should be directed to planning@water.ie

Yours sincerely,



Dermot Phelan
Connections and Developer Services

Advisory Note(s):

*Uisce Éireann does not permit build over of its assets. Separation distances from public infrastructure, as per Uisce Éireann's Standards Codes and Practices must be achieved. It is the applicant's responsibility to submit a diversion enquiry to Uisce Éireann Diversions Section (diversions@water.ie) prior to construction, where a potential build over of public assets is in question and/or where the applicants proposals cannot achieve separation distances from public infrastructure as per UÉ Standards & Codes of Practice.

** Protection of drinking water source(s) from potentially adverse impacts is a priority for Uisce Éireann. It is Uisce Éireann's current policy to maintain safe and secure drinking water supplies and ensure that development will not give rise to any deterioration in water quality. Development proposals shall not impact public drinking water sources and/or abstraction point(s). It is also a requirement of the Water Framework Directive that waters used for the abstraction of drinking water are protected to avoid deterioration in quality. Development proposals shall not impact public drinking water sources and/or abstraction point(s).

Any person discharging trade effluent** to a sewer, must have a Trade Effluent License issued pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act, 1977 (as amended). More information and an application form for a Trade Effluent License can be found at the following link: <https://www.water.ie/business/trade-effluent/about/> . Trade effluent is defined in the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act, 1977 (as amended).

Uisce Éireann does not permit surface waters into the public sewer network.