

Our Ref: PCI0001

**Mr. Des Cox,
Eirgrid,
The Oval,
160 Shelbourne Road,
Ballsbridge,
Dublin 4.**

29th April, 2015.

Re: North-South Electricity Interconnector/Projects of Common Interest

Dear Mr. Cox,

I refer to the above and the meeting of 28th April, 2015 concerning the North-South Electricity Interconnector project.

An Bord Pleanála (Competent Authority) wishes to outline the following arising from the meeting and from earlier correspondence:

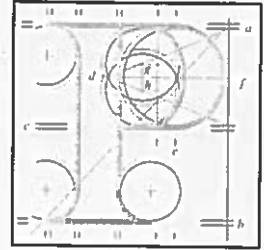
- In relation to Missing Information under Article 10.4(c) of the Regulation, An Bord Pleanála (Competent Authority) has examined the documentation submitted and regards you as having complied with the requirements of the Article as detailed to you in the letter of 16/12/14. An Bord Pleanála (Competent Authority) will now accept the application and considers that, subject to the drawing up of the detailed schedule for the permit granting process, the project may proceed to the statutory permit granting procedure.
- In relation to your letter of 27/3/15 and Article 10(5) of the Regulation, An Bord Pleanála (Competent Authority) considers that it has given you, during the course of the pre-application procedure, its opinion of the completeness and adequate quality of the

application file. In this regard I draw your attention to the record of the meeting held on 7/11/14 which, inter alia, refers to Article 10.5.

It is important to point out that while the PCI process has addressed the completeness and adequacy of the application file, the process under section 182A of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, is a separate and independent process which will involve significant input from the general public and prescribed bodies and that should An Bord Pleanála (SID) consider that information is required which is not contained in your application, it will be in a position to request such information.

It should also be borne in mind that the examination of the Missing Information carried by An Bord Pleanála (SID) did not involve any consideration of the merits or otherwise of the proposed development nor did it arrive at any conclusion as to whether you had adequately addressed any particular issue in the documents provided in order to conclude on the merits of the case. I refer to the record of the meeting of 16/12/14 in relation to the approach taken to the examination of the draft application.

- It is important to ensure that all outstanding information (for example any omitted date, names of people intended to consult with, or outcomes of on-going consultations/discussions or dates when they took place) is incorporated into the application file including on-going work in preparing for the application submission. When you are submitting the report summarising the results of activities related to the participation of the public, you are requested to submit a separate letter confirming that these matters have been incorporated into the application.
- I also draw your attention to the document titled "Other Revisions to the Draft Application File". Having considered the matter, this document was not an issue raised in our letter of 16/12/14 concerning Missing Information and did not form part of any examination of Missing Information carried out.
- We consider that you may now proceed to inform the general public, as required under the modified Public Participation Concept, of the indicative date for lodgement of an application under Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. We consider it is a matter for you to decide on the indicative date. We note that you informed us at the meeting that you intend to lodge the application in the second week of June.
- It is intended to have another meeting concerning the detailed schedule for the permit granting process.
- In relation to the modified Public Participation Concept and our letter of 10/9/14, we draw your attention to that part of the record of the meeting of 13/10/14 concerning Opportunities for Public Participation. As stated at that meeting, a working assumption should be made that an oral hearing will take place.



- Your attention is drawn to Article 9.4 of the Regulation and the requirement to submit a report summarising the results of activities related to the participation of the public prior to the submission of the application file, including those activities that took place before the start of the permit granting process.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Seamus Grant', written over a horizontal line.

**Seamus Grant,
Executive Officer,
PCI Unit.**

