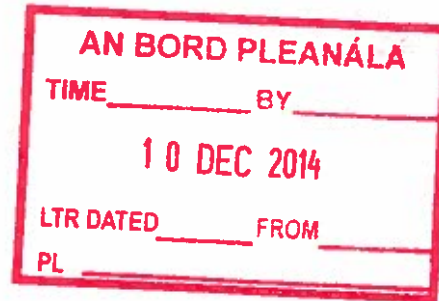


Eirgrid  
The Oval  
160 Shelbourne Road  
Ballsbridge  
Dublin 4

8<sup>th</sup> December 2014



*Without Prejudice*

Our Ref: COM001001

Your Ref.

**Re: Co. Monaghan Anti-Pylon Limited (Our Clients)  
The North-South 400kV Interconnection Development (the "Development")**

Dear Sirs,

We refer to the above referenced matter.

Following a recent meeting of the landowners whom we represent, we have been instructed to write to you to set out our clients' concerns, particularly in the context of the upcoming planning application which we note is due to be lodged with An Bord Pleanála in the coming weeks.

For the avoidance of any doubt, should the aforementioned application proceed as proposed, our clients will be mounting a robust opposition of same and, without prejudice to any arguments that we will be making in the context of our objections, we would highlight the following core issues which our clients have with the process to date:

- Eirgrid has failed to comply with its obligations pursuant to Annex VI of Regulation 347 / 13 of the European Council and Parliament (the "Regulations") in respect to Projects of Common Interest;
- In particular, Eirgrid has failed to comply with Annex VI 3 (a) and Chapter III Article 9 (4) of the said Regulations;
- Our Clients are firmly of the view that the process to date has failed to comply with the requirements of the Aarhus Convention in particular with regard to the timely involvement of the public in the planning of this significant infrastructure project, "when all options are open";
- It is our Clients view that there has been an unfair discrimination against the North-South Interconnector when compared to reviews being undertaken on Grid West and Grid Link, insofar as

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AN BORD PLEANÁLA  
TIME \_\_\_\_\_ BY \_\_\_\_\_  
10 DEC 2014  
LYR DATED \_\_\_\_\_ FROM \_\_\_\_\_  
PL \_\_\_\_\_

Flynn &  
O'Donnell

there has been no comprehensive analysis of a viable underground route with regard to HVDC cabling;

- There have been numerous instances where Eirgrid has failed to adequately address the concerns of our clients, and in some cases the Preferred Project Solution has been decided upon in the absence of complete feedback from our Clients;
- In addition, the PCI process instead of "implementing additional measures to ensure the highest possible standards of transparency and public participation" has, in our Clients opinion, been subverted into a tick box administration exercise, being carried out with undue haste without any public participation whatsoever, despite the transitional provisions of Article 19 not applying;

We further note that on Friday 5th December inst. Eirgrid published a report entitled "Reviewing and Improving our public consultation process". It is our Clients view that the CI Arb report contained therein fully underpins the above points. Indeed, our Clients find it to be "most fortunate" that the Consultation Review was not published until after An Bord Pleanála had given its imprimatur to the Concept for Public Participation under the PCI process - a document that in light of the Consultation Review is now not fit for purpose.

The above list of issues is not intended to be exhaustive and indeed there are many more issues that will be raised at the objections stage.

For the avoidance of any doubt, we have firm instructions to oppose any planning application in respect of this project and you accordingly on notice of same.

We trust that the above is in order.

Yours faithfully,

  
Flynn & O'Donnell

C.C. **An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough St, Dublin 1**

The Commission for Energy Regulation, P.O. Box 11934, Dublin 24

The Department of Communication, Energy & Natural Resources, 29-31 Adelaide Road, Dublin 2