

Tomasz Jerzyniak
Policy Officer
European Commission
Directorate-General for Energy
Internal market
Networks and regional initiatives
DM24 06/121
B-1040 Brussels/Belgium

20th December, 2016.

Re: North-South 400kv Electricity Interconnector/Projects of Common Interest (PCI)

Dear Mr. Jerzyniak,

I refer to the Projects of Common Interest permit granting process and the application lodged by EirGrid of The Oval, 160 Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Ireland on 2nd July, 2014 under Article 10 of Regulation (EU) No. 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17th April 2013 on Guidelines for Trans-European Energy Infrastructure in relation to the North-South Electricity Interconnector (Reference Number 2.13.1).

You will be aware that Ireland to implement the permit granting process has chosen, pursuant to Article 8.3 of the Regulation, the collaborative scheme as the mechanism to facilitate the issuing of the comprehensive decision.

Comprehensive Decision on Project

The comprehensive decision means the decision or set of decisions taken by a Member State authority or authorities not including courts or tribunals, that determines whether or not a project promoter is to be granted authorisation to build the energy infrastructure to realise a project without prejudice to any decision taken in the context of an administrative appeal procedure.

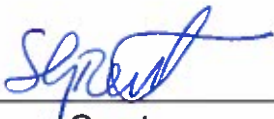
An Bord Pleanála acting in its capacity as the designated Competent Authority for Projects of Common Interest in Ireland has co-ordinated the organisation of the permit granting process.

Due account has been taken in the comprehensive decision of 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.

The decision by the relevant authority and identified as necessary by the project promoter to build the energy infrastructure to realise the project issued on December 19th, 2016. The comprehensive decision is now issued in accordance with Article 8(3)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 347/2013.

As Competent Authority we point out that the comprehensive decision in relation to the above project was taken in compliance with the time limits set out in Article 10.2 of the Regulation.

Yours faithfully,



Seamus Grant,
Executive Officer,
PCI Unit.