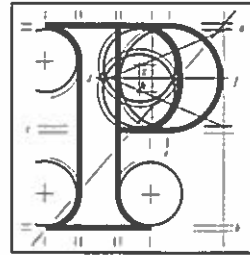



An Bord Pleanála



To: Des Johnson, Director of Planning.

From:  Diarmuid Collins, SAO, PCI Unit.

Re: PCI/North-South Electricity Interconnector

Date: 19th December, 2014.

1. As you are aware Eirgrid, the project promoter for the North-South Electricity Interconnector project in the Republic of Ireland, has submitted a draft application file to An Bord Pleanála (Competent Authority).
2. Following on from the receipt of input from the Strategic Infrastructure Section of An Bord Pleanála a letter issued to Eirgrid on 16th December, 2014 detailing the missing information in the draft application file.
3. It is envisaged that the next stage in the PCI process will be that the PCI Unit will draw up, in close co-operation with the project promoter (Eirgrid) a detailed schedule for the permit granting process, as is required under article 10. 4. (b) of Regulation 347/2013.
4. Under the Regulation, in line with the guidelines set out in Annex V1.(2), the detailed schedule should specify as a minimum:
 - a) the decisions and opinions to be obtained;
 - b) the authorities, stakeholders, and the public likely to be concerned;
 - c) the individual stages of the procedure and their duration;

- d) major milestones to be accomplished and their deadlines in view of the comprehensive decision to be taken;
 - e) the resources planned by the authorities and possible additional resource needs.
5. The PCI Unit requests the input of An Bord Pleanála (SID) into the drawing up of the schedule for the permit granting process. Note that Eirgrid has already stated that it did not anticipate any other statutory permit/approval being required within the State in relation to the project.