



## North-South 400kV Interconnection Development



# Community Update

July 2013



Part Funded by the EU-TEN-E Initiative



## The Project

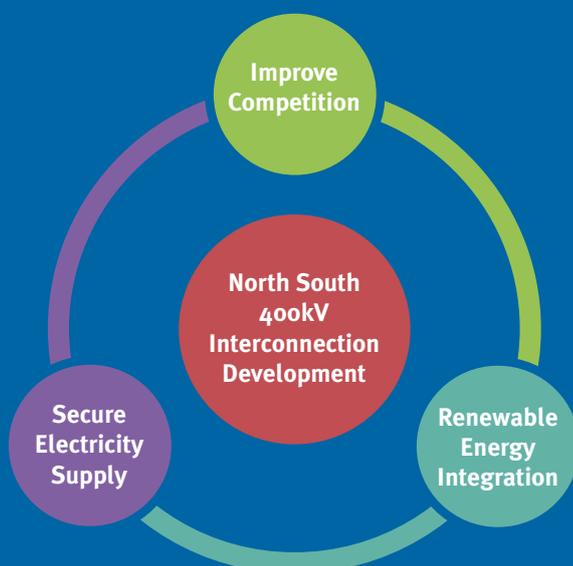
EirGrid and Northern Ireland Electricity (NIE) are jointly planning a major cross-border electricity transmission scheme.

This scheme is a 400kV overhead line linking the existing 400kV substation in Woodland, County Meath with a planned substation in Turleenan, County Tyrone and will provide a second high capacity electricity transmission line between Ireland and Northern Ireland. EirGrid will in due course apply for planning approval for that part of the scheme located in Ireland called the North-South 400kV Interconnection Development.

## Project Drivers

The key drivers for this project are to:

- **Improve competition**  
This project will improve the efficiency of the all-island electricity market
- **Ensure a secure supply of electricity**  
This project will enhance the security of the electricity supply throughout the island of Ireland which is essential for economic growth, the creation of jobs and improving the standard of living and quality of life for all
- **Help Ireland meet its 40% renewable electricity target**  
This project will allow more renewable energy to be connected to the network, reducing our production of greenhouse gases and our reliance on imported fossil fuels



NIE has already applied to the competent authority in Northern Ireland for approval for the part located in Northern Ireland.

## What has happened recently?

In April 2013, EirGrid published a Final Re-evaluation Report, which provided a comprehensive review of the project and was the subject of a six-week period of public engagement. Stakeholders, including members of the public and landowners, were invited to provide feedback on the content and findings of the report.

Stakeholders provided feedback on the Final Re-evaluation Report at nine open days in Meath, Cavan and Monaghan. Further feedback was received, through the project information service, which included telephone, email, post and face to face meetings with the project team during April and May 2013. This feedback has been considered and responded to by the project team and forms part of a new publication called the Preferred Project Solution Report.

## What is happening now?

The Preferred Project Solution Report for the North-South 400kV Interconnection Development documents the line design process and provides detailed information on the line route. An eight-week public consultation on the Report is underway from Tuesday 16th July to Monday 9th September 2013.

This is the final formal consultation period prior to the submission of an application for planning approval to An Bord Pleanála.

The preferred project solution is a 400kV overhead power line linking the existing 400kV substation in Woodland, County Meath with a planned substation in Turleenan, County Tyrone.

The Report provides detailed information on the line route, including

- Maps showing the preferred line route for the project and the proposed locations of the towers.
- Description of the methodologies for siting and constructing towers.
- An outline of the environmental issues to be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which will accompany a future application for planning approval.

In developing the line design for this project, previously received landowner and stakeholder feedback has been considered.

EirGrid will not seek permission in its application to An Bord Pleanála to move tower positions post-planning. This was previously referred to as "micro-siting".



# EirGrid's Project Development & Consultation Roadmap

The North-South 400kV Interconnection Development has entered Stage Three: Confirm Design phase of the EirGrid Project Development & Consultation Roadmap.

The roadmap is a structured framework of project development that provides a clear and transparent process to all stakeholders.

During this phase feedback from stakeholders informs decisions made by EirGrid with regard to the specific nature, extent and location of the project.

EirGrid will seek to engage with landowners on the proposed route in order to ensure that any concerns

or matters regarding siting of the proposed towers are addressed.

Following the close of this 8-week consultation period, EirGrid will review and consider all stakeholder and landowner information received.

During this time, EirGrid will also undertake technical and environmental studies which will also inform the final project proposal.

EirGrid will then prepare a planning application, including EIS, for the proposed development, which will then be submitted to An Bord Pleanála for EIA and planning approval.

## We are Here



## We are Here

## EIRGRID WELCOMES YOUR VIEWS

EirGrid is seeking your views on the topics covered in the Preferred Project Solution Report, particularly on the following:

- Preferred line design.
- Construction methodology.
- Topics to be considered and/or addressed in the EIS.
- Any other feedback or comments on other issues relating to the project.

You can make a submission through the feedback form on the last page of this brochure, at the project open days or information centres, or through the project information service.

All feedback and submissions will be reviewed and considered by the project team and, where appropriate, will be incorporated into the proposed development which will be the subject of an application for planning approval to An Bord Pleanála. To facilitate this process all feedback should be received by 5pm on Monday 9th September 2013.

## Meet the Project Team

EirGrid extends an invitation to all interested members of the public and other stakeholders to attend information days on the project to meet the project team, learn more about the project and give feedback.

## Information days

Location	Date	Time
<b>Co Meath:</b> Education Centre Athlumney Navan	Tuesday 30th July 2013	1pm – 8pm
<b>Co. Monaghan:</b> The Workhouse Shercock Road Carrickmacross	Wednesday 31st July 2013	1pm – 8pm
<b>Co. Cavan:</b> Murtaghs Function Room, Main Street Kingscourt	Thursday 1st August 2013	1pm – 8pm

## The Environmental Impact Statement

### KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES THAT WILL BE CONSIDERED IN THE EIS

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be conducted by An Bord Pleanála that will identify, describe and assess the direct and indirect effects of the proposed North-South 400kV Interconnection Development on the environment.

A key element of this EIA process will include the submission by EirGrid of an EIS with the application, for review by An Bord Pleanála.

Legislation and relevant guidelines require the potential impacts on the following environmental topics to be addressed in an EIS:

- Human Beings & Population.
- Flora & Fauna.
- Soil (Geology).
- Air.
- Water.
- Climatic factors.
- Landscape.
- Material Assets, including architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage.
- The inter-relationship between the above factors.

If you would like to identify issues and environmental topics that you feel should be addressed during this process, please participate in this consultation.

### IN DETERMINING THE ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE EIS, CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING:

- Legislative (EU and Irish) requirements and relevant guidelines.
- Issues of concern to the public and other stakeholders.
- Baseline studies and surveys.
- Alternatives considered.
- Likely significant impacts, e.g. visual impact of overhead power lines.



## About EirGrid

EirGrid, a state-owned company, is the national operator of the electricity transmission grid.

The national transmission grid is an interconnected network of high voltage power lines and cables, comparable to the motorways, dual carriageways and main roads of the national road network. It is operated at three voltage levels; 400kV, 220kV and 110kV and is approximately 6,400km in overall length within Ireland.

It is the backbone of Ireland's electricity system and is vital to ensuring that all industrial, commercial and residential customers from both rural and urban areas have a safe, secure, reliable, economic and efficient electricity supply.

## Contact Details

**Write:** C/O EirGrid NS Project Manager, Block 2, Floor 2, West Pier Business Campus, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

**Phone:** Lo-call **1890 25 26 90** (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday)

**Email:** [northsouth@eirgrid.com](mailto:northsouth@eirgrid.com)

**Website:** <http://www.eirgridprojects.com/projects/northsouth400kvinterconnectiondevelopment>

**Visitor Information Centres open as follows until 5th September 2013 or by appointment:**

### Navan

Every Tuesday from 12 noon to 7pm  
10a Kennedy House, Kennedy Road, Navan, Co. Meath.

### Carrickmacross

Every Wednesday from 12 noon to 7pm  
Carrickmacross Workhouse, Shercock Road, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan.

### Kingscourt

Every Thursday from 12 noon to 7pm  
Dun A Ri House Hotel, Station Road, Kingscourt, Co. Cavan.



# GRID25

DELIVERING IRELAND'S ELECTRICITY FUTURE

[www.eirgridprojects.com](http://www.eirgridprojects.com)

Grid25 is EirGrid's ongoing development plan to deliver a sustainable, competitive and secure electricity supply to homes, business and industries. Grid25 will also help us meet our target of 40% of our energy supply coming from sustainable Irish sources.