

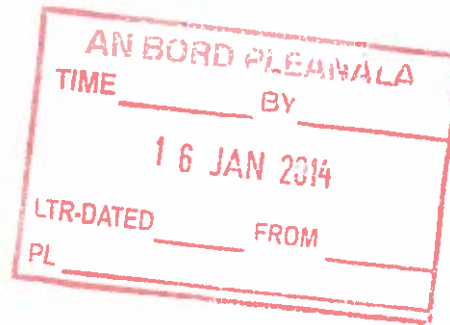


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Mr. Kieran Doherty,
Executive Officer,
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1

16th January 2014

North-South 400 kV Interconnection Development.

Formal Notification under Article 10(1)(a) of Regulation 347/2013 of a Designated Project of Common Interest (PCI).

Dear Kieran,

I refer to the above proposed transmission infrastructure development, which is currently the subject of pre-application consultation between EirGrid and An Bord Pleanála under the provisions of Section 182E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) – ABP Ref. VC0054 applies.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 10(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) No. 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure and repealing Decision No 1364/2006/EC and amending Regulations (EC) No 713/2009, (EC) No 714/2009 and (EC) No 715/2009, EirGrid, as project promoter, hereby formally notifies An Bord Pleanála, as designated Competent Authority for Projects of Common Interest (PCI), that the North-South 400 kV Interconnection Development project has been designated as a Project of Common Interest.

Specifically in this regard, Part 1 of Annex 1 – *Energy Infrastructure Priority Corridors and Areas* - of Regulation (EU) No. 344/2013 identifies:-

“(2) North-South electricity interconnections in Western Europe (‘NSI West Electricity’): interconnections between Member States of the region and with the Mediterranean area including the Iberian peninsula, notably to integrate electricity from renewable energy sources and reinforce internal grid infrastructures to foster market integration in the region.

Member States concerned: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Malta, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom;”

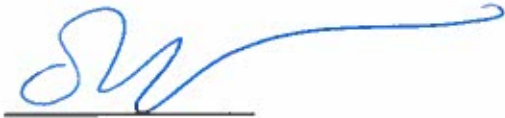


Also in accordance with the provisions of Article 10(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) No. 347/2013, please find enclosed a copy of the *Preferred Project Solution Report* prepared by EirGrid in respect of the proposed North-South 400 kV Interconnection Development, which includes (and is in fulfilment of the requirement to provide) "a reasonably detailed outline of the project" for the purposes of this notification.

Pursuant also to the provisions of Article 10(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) No. 347/2013, EirGrid would be grateful to receive the Board's signed and dated acknowledgement (within the meaning of Article 10(1)(a)) of this formal written notification of a PCI project at its earliest convenience.

Please contact the undersigned in all correspondence relating to this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Des Cox

Senior Co-ordinator, Public Planning and Consents,

EIRGRID plc

