

Memorandum

To: Deputy Chairperson.

From: Diarmuid Collins, An Bord Pleanála (PCI Unit).

Re: Projects of Common Interest

File Ref: PCI0001 North-South Electricity Interconnector

Date: 27th June, 2014.

1. Eirgrid (Project Promoter) by letter dated 3rd June 2014 has notified An Bord Pleanála (Competent Authority) of the North – South Electricity Interconnector project in accordance with Article 10.1(a) of Regulation (EU) 347/2013. As required by the Regulation, Eirgrid has included a reasonably detailed outline of the project (reference 3.5 of report of SI ADP of 26/6/14).
2. Article 10.1(a) of the Regulation provides that An Bord Pleanála (Competent Authority) shall, including on behalf of other authorities concerned, acknowledge or, if it considers the project as not mature enough to enter the permit granting process, reject the notification. Eirgrid is of the opinion that there is no authority concerned, other than An Bord Pleanála (SID), in relation to permits required.
3. The competent authority in Northern Ireland (Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment) has responded to a letter issued and no impediment arises from its response to acknowledging the notification.
4. Having regard to the report received from the Strategic Infrastructure Section of An Bord Pleanála and to the statement that Eirgrid does not currently anticipate any other statutory permit being required (other than an approval from An Bord Pleanála) to realise the project, I recommend that An Bord Pleanála in its role as Competent Authority acknowledge the notification under Article 10.1(a) of the Regulation. By acknowledging the notification, An Bord Pleanála (Competent

Authority) is accepting that the project is mature enough to enter into the permit granting process.

5. If the recommendation is accepted, the next step is for the PCI Unit to engage with Eirgrid in relation to drawing up a detailed schedule for the permit granting process and for Eirgrid to draw up and present a public participation concept to An Bord Pleanála (Competent Authority).