



Our Ref: **G Pre00180/2019**  
(Please quote in all related correspondence)

25 July 2019

An Bord Pleanála  
64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

Via email: [D.Collins@pleanala.ie](mailto:D.Collins@pleanala.ie)

<b>Re: Celtic Interconnector - Concept for Public Participation</b>
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On behalf of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, I refer to correspondence received in connection with the above.

Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations of the Department under the stated heading(s).

**Nature Conservation**

The National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht welcomes the participation concept, and look forward to engaging with Eirgrid in Step 4 of the process in autumn 2019.

Amongst the conservation issues that the NPWS wish to discuss are to the exact route and nature of the development option within Ballyvergan Marsh proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA 078), near Youghal in County Cork, the surveys required for otters and kingfishers in relation to cable river crossing works, and the potential for electro-magnetic interference with migrating and dispersing fish, elasmobranchs and lamprey. Any adverse effects on the integrity of the pNHA must be avoided.

The attention of the applicant is drawn to the more detailed previous responses by the Department to earlier consultations, and to relevant advice on the NPWS website at <https://www.npws.ie/development-consultations>.

The above observations/recommendations are based on the papers submitted to this Department on a pre-planning basis and are made without prejudice to any observations that the Minister may make in the context of any consultation arising on foot of any development application referred to the Minister, by the planning authority/ies, in her/his role as statutory consultee under the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.



You are requested to send further communications to this Department's Development Applications Unit (DAU) at [manager.dau@chg.gov.ie](mailto:manager.dau@chg.gov.ie) (team monitored); if this is not possible, correspondence may alternatively be sent to:

The Manager  
Development Applications Unit (DAU)  
Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht  
Newtown Road  
Wexford  
Y35 AP90

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Joanne Lyons', is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Joanne Lyons  
Development Applications Unit