GREENLINK INTERCONNECTOR

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Wexford County Council Planning Department

January 29th 2019



The Greenlink Interconnector project (Greenlink) is a proposed 500 megawatt (MW) subsea and underground cable electricity interconnector (with associated converter stations) between the existing electricity grids in Ireland and Great Britain, allowing for electricity to flow both ways between the two countries.

Greenlink is being developed by Greenlink Interconnector Limited.



PROJECT STATUS



PCI

Greenlink is a Project of Common Interest (PCI) as defined in Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 (the 'TEN-E' regulation). This means that An Bord Pleanála will have a formal role in coordinating the authorisations and consents required for the project. These authorisations and consents include Authorisation to Construct an Interconnector under Section 16 of the Electricity Regulation Act 1999 from the CRU, a Foreshore Licence from the Foreshore Unit of the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, and planning consent under the strategic infrastructure provisions of the Planning and Development Act as amended, from An Bord Pleanála.

SID

Greenlink are in a pre application consultation phase with the SID (Strategic Infrastucture Development) Unit of An Bord Pleanála.

EIA

Greenlink is not an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development within Wales or Ireland, and the component parts of Greenlink (such as the converter stations or underground / subsea cables) are not EIA development, for the purposes of the Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU (the EIA Directive). However, because Irish Courts' interpretation of the EIA Directive is evolving, and may go beyond our current interpretation of the Directive, the decision was made to adopt a voluntary EIA approach. An EIAR (or equivalent) is being prepared for each component of the project. The EIA reporting in each case will include the predicted cumulative effects of the entire Greenlink project.

PROJECT TIMELINE



The project is envisaged to commence on-site in 2020 and be fully operational in 2023.



PROJECT BENEFITS

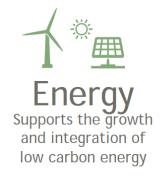


Benefits include: regional investment and job creation, security of supply, integration of renewable energy technologies, better market integration and competition, and an integrated European grid.



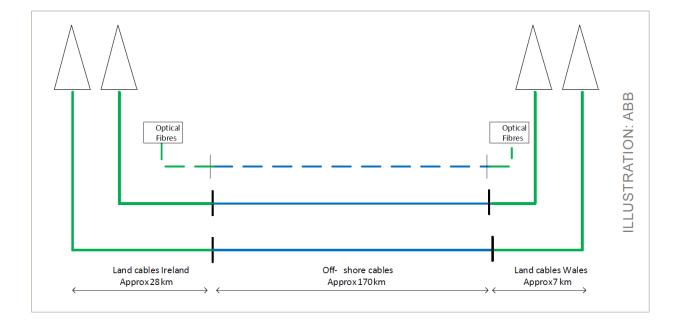












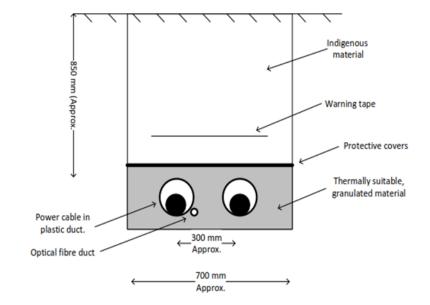
EMERGING PREFERRED CABLE ROUTE IRELAND





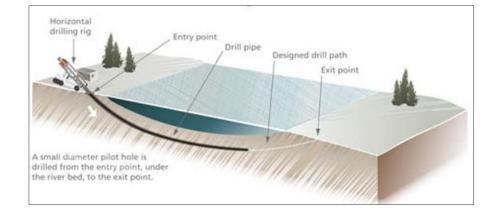
OPEN TRENCH DETAIL

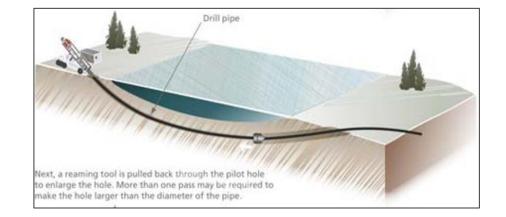


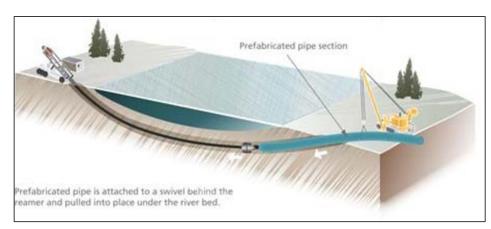


HDD PROCESS



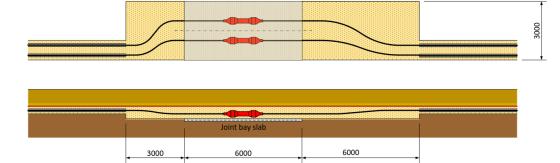






JOINT BAY DETAIL





Typical joint-bay dimensions for 1 x 320 kW HVDC circuit. Additional room must be provided in front and behind each joint-bay location to adequately accommodate cable drums and pulling equipment.



Typical cable drum shown at a joint bay location. Typical dimensions of the cable drum would be 4.5m high and 3m wide with a mass of 20-30 tonnes.

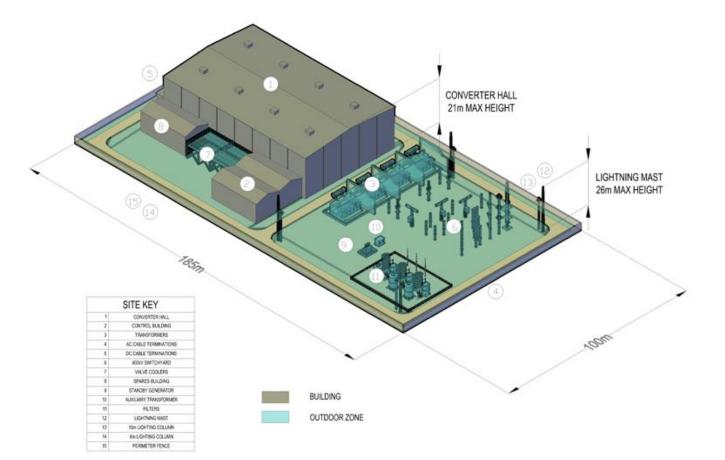
CONVERTOR STATION SITE





CONVERTER STATION MODEL





CONSULTATION TO DATE



Greenlink Interconnector Ltd. has carried out extensive consultation to date. EIA scoping reports have been sent to the following:

- An Bord Pleanála SID unit
- An Bord Pleanála PCI unit
- Wexford County Council
- Port of Waterford Company
- Commission for Energy Regulation
- Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
- Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government
- Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment
- Development Applications Unit: NPWS & NMS
- Irish Rail
- Southern Regional Assembly
- Wexford Local Enterprise Office
- Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland
- National Transport Authority
- Health and Safety Authority
- Sea Fisheries Protection Authority

- Commission for Railway Regulation
- Railway Procurement Agency
- Iarnród Éireann
- Heritage Council
- Fáilte Ireland
- An Chomhairle Ealaíon (The Arts Council)
- Marine Institute
- Office of Public Works
- Geological Survey of Ireland
- Bord Iascaigh Mhara
- An Taisce
- Birdwatch Ireland
- Irish Whale and Dolphin Group
- Irish Peatland Conservation Council
- Irish Wildlife Trust
- Bat Conservation Ireland

Public Consultations have been under taken to date in both Fethard and Duncannon during June/July 2018 and again in January 2019. Further public consultations are to be held prior to submission.





Co-financed by the European Union Connecting Europe Facility

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