

# **Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2023**

## **An Bord Pleanála Reference Number ABP-318258-23**

**In accordance with Section 146B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, An Bord Pleanála has received a request to alter the terms of the previously approved development of that portion of an electricity transmission interconnector (Celtic Interconnector) to be constructed onshore in Ireland to the mean high water mark, including a connection to the Irish National Grid, an electricity converter station and all associated and ancillary works at Townlands of Ballynanelagh, Ballyadam and other various townlands, County Cork.**

The case reference for the alteration request is **ABP- 318258-23**.

The request, submitted by EirGrid, relates to a proposed alteration to the terms of the Board's decision to grant approval for the above-mentioned development (An Bord Pleanála application reference number ABP- 310798-21 refers).

The proposed alteration to the approved development comprises as follows: -

- Creation of a new permanent vehicular access onto the L6989 public road at the south-eastern corner of the overall lands at ESB Networks (ESBN) Knockraha 220 kV Substation, in the townland of Ballynanelagh, Co. Cork. The proposed vehicular access will serve the previously approved Cable Sealing End (CSE) compound located immediately to the east of the existing Substation. The proposed splayed vehicular access, of approximately 21m width, will serve a 6m wide internal access road, leading northwards from the L6989 public road to the previously approved CSE compound.
- A new 1.2m high post and rail entrance gate, of a design to match that existing at the entrance to the ESBN Knockraha 220 kV substation, located across the southern end of the internal access road at the proposed vehicular access.
- A new 2.4m high palisade security entrance gate located at the northern end of the proposed internal access road where it adjoins the previously approved CSE compound. The proposed entrance gate, and additional proposed 2.4m high palisade security fencing, both of a design to match that bounding the existing ESBN Knockraha 220 kV Substation, will form the southern boundary of the CSE compound;
- All associated and ancillary site development works including: new earthen berms on either side of the proposed splayed vehicular access, connecting between the existing roadside ditch and the existing concrete post and rail fencing within the landholding; the removal and/or trimming of existing roadside trees and hedgerow, and the cutting back of the existing roadside ditch in the vicinity of the proposed vehicular access to ensure adequate sightlines for vehicles exiting the site; the permanent closure of an existing field gate access onto the public road, and its replacement with an earthen ditch and planting to match that existing along the roadside boundary.

The Board has decided, in accordance with section 146B(2)(a) of the Act, that the proposed development would constitute a material alteration to the terms of the development.

Under section 146B (8), submissions/observations in relation to the request may be made to An Bord Pleanála, **during a period of 4 weeks** relating to:

- (i) Whether such an alteration would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.
- (ii) Whether the Board should make the alteration, make an alteration to the terms of the development concerned being an alteration other than that to which the request relates, or refuse to make the alteration.

The Board shall have regard to any submissions/observations made on foot of this invitation.

The information relating to the proposed alteration (including the details of the request) may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee at the offices of Cork County Council and the offices of An Bord Pleanála during public opening hours for a period of 4 weeks commencing on Thursday 1 February 2024. This information is also available to view online at [www.eirgridcelticinterconnector.ie](http://www.eirgridcelticinterconnector.ie)

Any submissions/observations in relation to the request to alter the terms of the development may be made to An Bord Pleanála, (the Board), 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 or online at [online.pleanala.ie/en-ie/sid/observation](http://online.pleanala.ie/en-ie/sid/observation). Any submission must be accompanied by a fee of €50, except for certain prescribed bodies. There is no fee required to make a submission/observation by those parties/individuals who have already made a valid submission/observation to the Board in relation to the original application (reference number ABP-310798-21).

Submissions/observations must be received by the Board **no later than 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday 28th February 2024**. Such submissions/observations must include the following:

- (i) the name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent,
- (ii) the subject matter of the submission or observation, and
- (iii) the reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full.

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Board.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Marine and Climate Section of An Bord Pleanála (Tel. 01-8588100).