

Simon Carleton

From: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) [Environmental_Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie]
Sent: Thursday 19 March 2020 13:18
To: 'Simon Carleton'
Subject: RE: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Simon

I refer to your recent correspondence concerning the above and please find comments from the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine below;

If the proposed development will involve the felling or removal of any trees, the developer must obtain a Felling License from this Department before trees are felled or removed. A Felling Licence application form can be obtained from **Felling Section, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford**. Tel: 076-1064459, Web <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/tree-felling/>

A Felling Licence granted by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine provides authority under the Forestry Act 2014 to fell or otherwise remove a tree or trees and/or to thin a forest for silvicultural reasons. The Act prescribes the functions of the Minister and details the requirements, rights and obligations in relation to felling licences. The principal set of regulations giving further effect to the Forestry Act 2014 are the Forestry Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 191 of 2017).

The developer should take note of the contents of the **Felling and Reforestation Policy** document, which provide a consolidated source of information on the legal and regulatory framework relating to tree felling; <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/forestry/tree-felling/FellingReforestationPolicy240517.pdf>.

In order to ensure regulated forestry operations in Ireland accord with the principles of sustainable forest management (SFM), as well as fulfilling the requirements of other relevant environmental protection laws, the Department (acting through its Forest Service division) must undertake particular consultations and give certain matters full consideration during the assessment of individual Felling Licence applications. This includes consultation with relevant bodies, the application of various protocols and procedures (e.g. Forest Service Appropriate Assessment Procedure), and the requirement for applicants on occasion to provide further information (e.g. a Natura Impact Statement).

Consequently, when the Forest Service is considering an application to fell trees, the following applies:

1. The interaction of these proposed works with the environment locally and more widely, in addition to potential direct and indirect impacts on designated sites and water, is assessed. Consultation with relevant environmental and planning authorities may be required where specific sensitivities arise (e.g. local authorities, National Parks & Wildlife Service, Inland Fisheries Ireland, and the National Monuments Service);

2. Where a tree Felling Licence application is received, the Department will publish a notice of the application before making a decision on the matter. The notice shall state that any person may make a submission to the Department within 30 days from the date of the notice. The notices for 2019 are published online at:
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/publicconsultation/environmentalimpactassessmentenvironmentalco-ordinationforafforestationforestroaddconstructionandfellinglicences2019/>
3. Third parties that make a submission or observation will be informed of the decision to grant or refuse the licence, and on request, details of the conditions attached to the licence, the main reasons and considerations on which the decision to grant or refuse the licence was based, and where conditions are attached to any licence, the reasons for the conditions. Both third parties and applicants will be also informed of their right to appeal any decision within 28 days to the Forestry Appeals Committee. Felling Licence decisions for 2019 are published online at:
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/publicconsultation/environmentalimpactassessment-2019registerofdecisions/>

Kind regards

Cathy Hewitt

Executive Officer

An tAonad um Chomhordú Timpeallachta, An Rannóg um Athrú Aeráide agus Beartas Bithfhuinnimh,
Environmental Co-ordination Unit | Climate Change & Bioenergy Policy Division |

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Pailliún A, Páirc Gnó Grattan, Bóthar Átha Cliath, Port Laoise, Co Laoise, R32 K857

Pavilion A, Grattan Business Park, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co Laois, R32 K857

T +353 (0)57 868 9915 environmentalco-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie

www.agriculture.gov.ie

Disclaimer:

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

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An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Tá an t-eolais san ríomhphost seo, agus in aon ceanglái leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le h-agmaigh an seolaí amháin. D'fhéadfadh ábhar an seoladh seo bheith faoi phribhléid profisiúnta nó dlíthiúil. Mura tusa an seolaí a bhí beartaithe leis an ríomhphost seo a fháil, tá cosc air, nó aon chuid de, a úsáid, a chóipeál, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.



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An Roinn Cosanta
Department of Defence

Gaeltech Energy Services
Clondargan
Stradone
Co. Cavan
H12 NV06
FAO: Simon Carleton

10 March 2020

Re: Pre-Application Scoping Request : Proposed 110kV substation in County Laois

Dear Simon,

I write with regard to the above mentioned pre planning request and your letter to this office on the 20th February 2020.

The Department of Defence has no observations, based on the information given, to make on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond Myles
Planning and Disposals
Property Management
Ph : 045-492036
E mail : Raymond.myles@defence.ie

Simon Carleton

From: John Bagnall [john.bagnall@eir.ie]
Sent: Tuesday 25 February 2020 09:09
To: simon@galetechenergy.com
Cc: Mobile Networks TXN
Subject: Re: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois

Hi Simon,

We have no transmission services that will be affected by these works. Best of luck with your proposal.

Please keep sending future windfarm development analysis and large infrastructure project request to MobileNetworksTXN@eir.ie for Eir Mobile (formerly Meteor) network analysis.

Kind regards,



John Bagnall

Transmission Design & Engineering

M: +353 85 1053746

E: john.bagnall@eir.ie

Address: EirCode - D24 HX03

On Thu, 20 Feb 2020 at 11:59, Simon Carleton <simon@galetechenergy.com> wrote:

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois.

Kind Regards

Simon

Simon Carleton | Senior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +353 86 365 1619 | simon@galetechenergy.com

Galetech Energy Services Limited

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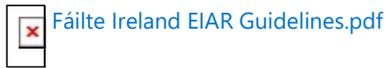


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Simon Carleton

From: planning applications [planning.applications@failteireland.ie]
Sent: Wednesday 18 March 2020 11:02
To: Simon Carleton
Subject: Re: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois

planning applications has shared a OneDrive for Business file with you. To view it, click the link below.



Hello Simon,

Thank you for your email regarding the Pre-Application Scoping Request for the proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois.

Please see attached a copy of Fáihte Ireland's Guidelines for the Treatment of Tourism in an EIS, which we recommend should be taken into account in preparing the EIAR. The purpose of this report is to provide guidance for those conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and compiling an Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR), or those assessing EIARs, where the project involves tourism or may have an impact upon tourism. These guidelines are non-statutory and act as supplementary advice to the EPA EIAR Guidelines outlined in section 2.

Regards,

Yvonne

Yvonne Jackson

Product Development- Environment & Planning Support | Fáihte Ireland
Áras Fáihte, 88/95 Amiens Street, Dublin 1. D01WR86
T +353 (0)1 884 7224 | www.failteireland.ie



From: Simon Carleton <simon@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Thursday 20 February 2020 11:51
To: planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>
Subject: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois

[ATTENTION] This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois.

Kind Regards

Simon

Simon Carleton | Senior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +353 86 365 1619 | simon@galetechenergy.com

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Simon Carleton

From: Donncha O'Sullivan [Donncha.OSullivan@gasnetworks.ie]
Sent: Thursday 20 February 2020 13:29
To: 'Simon Carleton'
Subject: RE: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois

Simon,

We have reviewed the above referenced Scoping Report. There is no GNI infrastructure in the subject vicinity. As such, we are pleased to advise you we have no comment to make in regard to it.

Regards,

Donncha

Donncha Ó Sullivan BE CEng MIEI MIGEM
Development Liaison Engineer

Gas Networks Ireland
P.O. Box 51, Gasworks Road, Cork, Ireland

T +353 21 453 4613 | **M** +353 87 982 2437
E donncha.osullivan@gasnetworks.ie

gasnetworks.ie | Find us on [Twitter](#)

You are reminded that all work in the vicinity of Gas Networks Ireland Pipelines and Installations must be completed to comply fully with the relevant guidelines to be found in the current editions of the Health & Safety Authority publications, 'Code Of Practice For Avoiding Danger From Underground Services' and 'Guide To Safety In Excavations'. Both documents are available free of charge from The Health And Safety Authority. www.hsa.ie, 1890-28 93 89.

From: Simon Carleton [mailto:simon@galetechenergy.com]
Sent: 20 February 2020 11:53
To: Donncha O'Sullivan <Donncha.OSullivan@gasnetworks.ie>
Subject: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois

Dear Donncha,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois.

Kind Regards
Simon

Simon Carleton | Senior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +353 86 365 1619 | simon@galetechenergy.com

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Tá an fhaisnéis á seachadadh dírithe ar an duine nó ar an eintiteas chuig a bhfuil sí seolta amháin agus féadfar ábhar faoi rún, faoi phribhléid nó ábhar atá íogair ó thaobh tráchtála de a bheith mar chuid de. Tá aon athsheachadadh nó scaipeadh den fhaisnéis, aon athbhreithniú ar nó aon úsáid eile a bhaint as, nó aon ghníomh a dhéantar ag brath ar an bhfaisnéis seo ag daoine nó ag eintitis nach dóibh siúd an fhaisnéis seo, toirimisceithe agus féadfar é a bheith neamhdhleathach. Níl Líonraí Gáis Éireann faoi dhliteanas maidir le seachadadh iomlán agus ceart na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo nó maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann léi. Ní ghlacann Líonraí Gáis Éireann le haon dliteanas faoi ghníomh nó faoi iarmhairtí bunaithe ar úsáid thoirmisceithe na faisnéise seo. Níl Líonraí Gáis Éireann faoi dhliteanas maidir le seachadadh ceart agus iomlán na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo nó maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann léi. Má fuair tú an teachtaireacht seo in earráid, más é do thoil é, déan teagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó gach aon ríomhaire.

Féadfar ríomhphost a bheith soghabhálach i leith truailithe, idircheaptha agus i leith leasaithe neamhúdaraith. Ní ghlacann Líonraí Gáis Éireann le haon fhreagracht as athruithe nó as idircheapadh a rinneadh ar an ríomhphost seo i ndiaidh é a sheoladh nó as aon dochar do chórais na bhfaighteoirí déanta ag an teachtaireacht seo nó ag a ceangaltáin. Más é do thoil é, tabhair faoi deara chomh maith go bhféadfar monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar theachtairreachtaí chuig nó ó Líonraí Gáis Éireann chun comhlíonadh le polasaithe agus le caighdeáin Líonraí Gáis Éireann a chinntiú agus chun ár ngnó a chosaint. Líonraí Gáis Éireann cuideachta ghníomhaíochta ainmnithe, faoi theorainn scaireanna, atá corpraithe in Éirinn leis an uimhir chláráithe 555744 agus a tá hoifig chláráithe ag Bóthar na nOibreacha Gáis, Corcaigh, T12 RX96.

Go raibh maith agat as d'aird a thabhairt.

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Thank you for your attention.



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Simon Carleton
Galetech Energy Services
Greaghcrottagh
Cootehill
Co. Cavin

18 March 2020

Re: Pre-application scoping request: proposed 110kV substation, Co. Laois

Your Ref: N/A

Our Ref: 20/50

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and has datasets on Bedrock Geology, Quaternary Geology, Geological Heritage Sites, Mineral deposits, Groundwater Resources and the Irish Seabed. These comprise maps, reports and extensive databases that include mineral occurrences, bedrock/mineral exploration groundwater/site investigation boreholes, karst features, wells and springs. Please see our [website](#) for data availability and we recommend using these various data sets, when undergoing the EIAR, planning and scoping processes. Geological Survey Ireland should be referenced to as such and should any data or geological maps be used, they should be attributed correctly to Geological Survey Ireland.

Dear Simon

With reference to your correspondence of 20 February 2020, concerning the proposed development by Pinewood Limited of the substation at Knockardagur, Co. Laois, Geological Survey Ireland would like to make the following comments in relation to the Galetech EIAR scoping assessment:

Geoheritage

Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) is in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs) to identify and select important geological and geomorphological sites throughout the country for designation as geological NHAs (Natural Heritage Areas). This is addressed by the Irish Geoheritage Programme (IGH) of GSI, under 16 different geological themes, in which the minimum number of scientifically significant sites that best represent the theme are rigorously selected by a panel of theme experts.

County Geological Sites (CGS), as adopted under the National Heritage Plan are now included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#).

The audit for Co. Laois was published 2016. The full report is available via the geoheritage page of Geological Survey Ireland website which can be found [here](#).

Our records show that there are no CGSs in the vicinity of the proposed development.

Therefore, with the current plan, there are no envisaged impacts on the integrity of current CGSs by the proposed development. However, if the proposed development plan is altered, please contact Clare Glanville (Clare.Glanville@gsi.ie) for further information and possible mitigation measures if applicable.

Geohazards

Geohazards can cause widespread damage to landscapes, wildlife, human property and human life. In Ireland, landslides are the most prevalent of these hazards. Geological Survey Ireland has information available on past



landslides for viewing as a layer on our [Map Viewer](#). Geological Survey Ireland also engages in national projects such as Landslide Susceptibility Mapping and GW Flood Groundwater Flooding. We recommend that geohazards be taken into consideration, especially when developing areas where these risks and susceptibility are prevalent, and we encourage the use of our data when doing so.

Groundwater

Groundwater is important as a source of drinking water, and it supports river flows, lake levels and ecosystems. It contains natural substances dissolved from the soils and rocks that it flows through, and can also be contaminated by human actions on the land surface. As a clean, but vulnerable, resource, groundwater needs to be understood, managed and protected. Through our [Groundwater Programme](#), Geological Survey Ireland provides advice and maps to members of the public, consultancies and public bodies about groundwater quality, quantity and distribution.

Geological Survey Ireland monitors groundwater nationwide by characterising aquifers, investigating karst landscapes and landforms and by helping to protect public and group scheme water supplies. With regard to Flood Risk Management, there is a need to identify areas for integrated constructed wetlands. We recommend using the GSI's National Aquifer and Recharge maps on our [Map viewer](#) to this end.

Geotechnical Database Resources

Geological Survey Ireland continues to populate and develop our national geotechnical database and viewer with site investigation data submitted voluntarily by industry. The current database holding is over 7500 reports with 134,000 boreholes; 31,000 of which are digitised which can be accessed through downloads from our [Geotechnical Map Viewer](#). We would strongly recommend that this database be consulted as part of any baseline geological assessment of the proposed development as it can provide invaluable baseline data for the region or vicinity of the proposed development area. This information may be beneficial and cost saving for any site specific investigations that may be designed as part of the development.

Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. Should any significant bedrock cuttings be created, we would ask that they will be designed to remain visible as rock exposure rather than covered with soil and vegetated, in accordance with safety guidelines and engineering constraints. In areas where natural exposures are few, or deeply weathered, this measure would permit on-going improvement of geological knowledge of the subsurface and could be included as additional sites of the geoheritage dataset, if appropriate. Alternatively, we ask that a digital photographic record of significant new excavations could be provided. Potential visits from Geological Survey Ireland to personally document exposures could also be arranged. The data would be added to GSI's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to Beatriz Mozo, Geological Mapping Unit, at Beatriz.Mozo@gsi.ie, 01-678 2795.

Other Comments

We look forward to receiving a copy of the environmental impact assessment report in due course for statutory consultation.

In the meantime if you have any questions in relation to our data sets please or if we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me, Emily Murray-Farrugia (EmilyMurray.Farrugia@dcae.gov.ie) or my colleague, IGH Programme Lead, Dr. Clare Glanville (clare.glanville@dcae.gov.ie)

Yours sincerely

Emily Murray Farrugia
Planning and Geoheritage Programmes

Simon Carleton

From: Tara Horigan [Tara_Horigan@hsa.ie]
Sent: Wednesday 4 March 2020 12:56
To: simon@galetechenergy.com
Subject: RE: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois

Flag Status: Flagged

Good Afternoon Simon,

The Health & Safety Authority does not have any comments to make in relation to this Pre-Application scoping request,

Kind Regards,

Tara Horigan

From: Simon Carleton <simon@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Thursday 20 February 2020 11:54
To: WCU <wcu@hsa.ie>
Subject: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois.

Kind Regards
Simon

Simon Carleton | Senior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +353 86 365 1619 | simon@galetechenergy.com

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Our Ref: 20_IW_EIAR_2

Galetech Energy Service,
Clondargan,
Stradone,
Co. Cavan
H12 NV06

Uisce Éireann
Bosca OP 6000
Baile Átha Cliath 1
Éire

Irish Water
PO Box 6000
Dublin 1
Ireland

T: +353 1 89 25000
F: +353 1 89 25001
www.water.ie

24th March 2020

Re: EIAR scoping request – Proposed 110KV Substation in Laois

Dear Sir/Madam,

Irish Water (IW) acknowledges receipt of your letter on the 20th February 2020 regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) scoping for the proposed 110KV substation and all ancillary infrastructure on lands in the townland of Knockardagur, approx. 4km north east of Ballinakill and approx. 8km south east of Abbeyleix, Co. Laois.

Please see attached our suggested scope in relation to Water Services.

Yours sincerely,

Maria O'Dwyer
Connections and Development Services

Response to EIAR Scoping Report Requests

IW currently does not have the capacity to advise on scoping of individual projects. However, in general we would like the following aspects of Water Services to be considered in the scope of an EIAR where relevant;

- a) Impacts of the development on the capacity of water services (do existing water services have the capacity to cater for the new development if required).
- b) Any up-grading of water services infrastructure that would be required to accommodate the development.
- c) In relation to a development that would discharge trade effluent – any upstream treatment or attenuation of discharges required prior to discharging to an IW collection network
- d) In relation to the management of surface water; the potential impact of surface water discharges to combined sewer networks & potential measures to minimise/stop surface waters from combined sewers
- e) Any physical impact on IW assets – reservoir, treatment works, pipes, pumping stations, discharges outfalls etc. including any relocation of assets
- f) Any potential impacts on the assimilative capacity of receiving waters in relation to IW discharge outfalls including changes in dispersion /circulation characterises
- g) Any potential impact on the contributing catchment of water sources either in terms of water abstraction for the development (and resultant potential impact on the capacity of the source) or the potential of the development to influence/ present a risk to the quality of the water abstracted by IW for public supply.
- h) Where a development proposes to connect to an IW network and that network either abstracts water from or discharges waste water to a “protected”/sensitive area, consideration as to whether the integrity of the site/conservation objectives of the site would be compromised.
- i) Mitigation measures in relation to any of the above

This is not an exhaustive list.

Please note

- If a development requires a connection to either a public water supply or sewage collection system the developer is advised to submit a Pre Connection Enquiry to assess feasibility of connection prior to applying for planning permission.
- Irish Water will not normally accept new surface water discharges to combined sewer networks

Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

Halla an Chontae, Sráid Eoin, Cill Chainnigh, R95 A39T.

Pobal agus Áiteanna Inbhuanaithe a Chruthú

Kilkenny County Council

County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny, R95 A39T.

Creating Sustainable Communities and Places



Our Ref: IR: 534

Gaeltech Energy Services

Clondargan,
Stradone,
Co. Cavan

07.04.2020

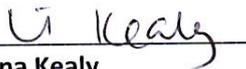
Re: Pre-application Scoping Request; Proposed 110kV substation Co.Laois

A Chara,

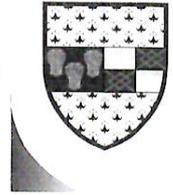
I refer to your letter dated 20.02.2020 in relation to the above.

Please find attached response from our Road Design section in relation to the above.

Is mise le meas,


Úna Kealy,
Administrative Officer,
Planning Section.



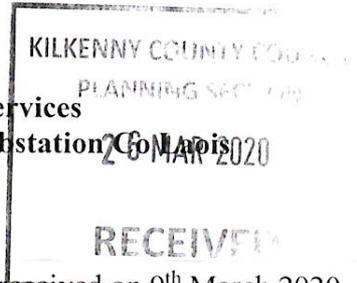


25th March 2020

Our Ref.
Your Ref. IR 534

Ms. Úna Kealy
Administrative Officer
Planning

**Re: IR 534 Galetch Energy Services
Scoping Request 110kv Substation Co. Laois**



A Chara,

I refer to your letter and enclosures received on 9th March 2020.

With respect to the proposed Pre-Application Scoping Request for a 110Kv Substation in Co. Laois, it is noted that the proposed development is associated with Planning Application P17/62 (Kilkenny) relating to a Wind Farm development and that there is potential that the development could be accessed via a forestry track of the L1828 local road within Co. Kilkenny even though the development also has primary access through the road network in Co. Laois.

Accordingly, it is recommended that access to the proposed development via the L1828 local road within County Kilkenny is prohibited and is further recommended that this local route would not be used for construction traffic nor heavy goods vehicles associated with this development due to the nature and condition of this local road.

The above recommendation shall be taken into consideration under the Transport and Access section of the proposed EIA.

Mise, le meas,

Owen Shine
Executive Engineer
Road Design

Seamus Foley
Senior Executive Engineer
Road Design





19 MAR 2020

Gaeltech Energy Services

Clondargan,
Stradone,
Co. Cavan

18.03.2020

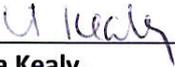
Re: Pre-application Scoping Request; Proposed 110kV substation Co.Laois

A Chara,

I refer to your letter dated 20.02.2020 in relation to the above.

The Planning Authority wishes to advise that the application should address all standard protection of watercourses, and the Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to address all environmental risks.

Is mise le meas,



Úna Kealy,
Administrative Officer,
Planning Section.

Simon Carleton

From: Matthew Craig [matthew.craig@2rn.ie]
Sent: Monday 24 February 2020 12:14
To: simon@galetechenergy.com
Cc: Johnny Evans; windfarms@rte.ie
Subject: RE: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois

Hi Simon,

There is a very low risk that the 110kV substation proposed in this application will interfere with 2rn's linking or transmission services.

Regards

Matthew Craig

Project Engineer
Projects and Coverage Planning
2RN
Block B, Cookstown Court, Old Belgard Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24, Ireland
D24 WK28
Phone: + 353 (0) 1 2082261
Mobile: + 353 (0) 87 7509955

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From: Simon Carleton
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2020 12:05:22 PM (UTC+00:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London
To: windfarms
Subject: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois.

Kind Regards

Simon

Simon Carleton | Senior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondorgan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +353 86 365 1619 | simon@galetechenergy.com

Galetech Energy Services Limited
Registered in Ireland No. 352304 | Registered Office: Greaghcrottagh, Cootehill, Co. Cavan, H12 NV06

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Simon Carleton

From: Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland [info@seai.ie]
Sent: Thursday 20 February 2020 13:37
To: Simon Carleton
Subject: RE: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois CRM:00350001615

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Simon,

Thank you for contacting the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI).

We recommend you contact your Local County Council in relation to this query.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards,

Orla.

----- Original Message -----

From: Simon Carleton;
Received: Thu Feb 20 2020 12:06:14 GMT+0000 (Greenwich Mean Time)
To: Reception;
Subject: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois.

Kind Regards
Simon

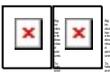
Simon Carleton | Senior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +353 86 365 1619 | simon@galetechenergy.com

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**** Please note, SEAI Dublin Office has relocated to 3 Park Place, Upper Hatch Street, Dublin 2****



***The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) works with the public, businesses, government and communities to achieve a cleaner energy future.
SEAI is funded by the Government of Ireland through the Department of Communications, Climate***

Action and Environment.



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13 MAR 2020

Mr. Simon Charleton
Galetech Energy Services
Clondargan
Stradone
Co. Cavan
H12 NV06

Dáta | Date
11 March 2020

Ár dTag | Our Ref.
TII20-108991

Bhur dTag | Your Ref.

Re: EIAR Scoping Request: Proposed 110kV substation development in County Laois on behalf of Pinewood Wind Ltd.

Dear Mr. Charleton,

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) acknowledges receipt of your EIAR Scoping request in respect of the above proposed project, received by email 20 February 2020.

National Strategic Outcome 2 of the National Planning Framework includes the objective to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the national roads network. It is also an investment priority of the National Development Plan, 2018 – 2027, to ensure that the extensive transport networks which have been greatly enhanced over the last two decades, are maintained to a high level to ensure quality levels of service, accessibility and connectivity to transport users.

The issuing of this correspondence is provided as best practice guidance only and does not prejudice TII's statutory right to make any observations, requests for further information, objections or appeals following the examination of any valid application referred.

The approach to be adopted by TII in making such submissions or comments will seek to uphold official policy and guidance as outlined in the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2012). Regard should also be had to other relevant guidance available at www.TII.ie.

TII notes that the consultation documentation relates to a proposed 110kV substation to service a permitted windfarm identified as 'Pinewoods' (permitted under Laois County Council Reg. Ref. 16/260, appeal ref. PL11.248518 and Kilkenny County Council Reg. Ref. 17/62, appeal ref. PL10.248392). The Authority notes that the scoping request includes intention; *"The assessment of traffic and roads will include an examination of the existing road network surrounding the site, as well as reviewing the likely haul route for the delivery of the wind turbine components and construction materials to the proposed development site."* With respect to EIAR Scoping issues, the

Próiseálann BIÉ sonraí pearsanta a sholáthraítear dó i gcomhréir lena Fhógra ar Chosaint Sonraí atá ar fáil ag www.tii.ie.
TII processes personal data in accordance with its Data Protection Notice available at www.tii.ie.

recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of EIAR, which may affect the national road network. The developer should have regard, *inter alia*, to the following;

1. As set down in the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines (2012), the primary purpose of the national road network is to provide strategic transport links between the main centres of population and employment, including key international gateways such as the main ports and airports, and to provide access between all regions. The EIAR should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network in order to demonstrate that the development can proceed complementary to safeguarding the capacity, safety and operational efficiency of that network.
2. In relation to the proposed development site, the scheme promoter should note locations of existing and future national road schemes and develop proposals to safeguard proposed road schemes. Consultations should be had with the relevant local authority/National Roads Design Office with regard to locations of existing and future national road schemes.
3. In relation to grid connection and cable routing, proposals should be developed to safeguard proposed road schemes as TII will not be responsible for costs associated with future relocation of cable routing where proposals are catered for in an area of a proposed national road scheme. In that regard, consideration should be given to routing options, use of existing crossings, depth of cable laying, etc.

In the context of existing national roads, alternatives to the provision of cabling along the national road network, such as alternative routing or the laying of cabling in private lands adjoining the national road, should be considered in the interests of safeguarding the investment in and the potential for future upgrade works to the national road network. The cable routing should avoid all impacts to existing TII infrastructure such as traffic counters, weather stations, etc. and works required to such infrastructure shall only be undertaken in consultation with and subject to the agreement of TII, any costs attributable shall be borne by the applicant/developer. The developer should also be aware that separate approvals may be required for works traversing the national road network.

4. Clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. Separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route. Consultation with relevant PPP Companies and MMaRC Contractors may also be required. All structures on the haul route should be checked by the applicant/developer to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal load proposed.
5. Where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment (TTA) be carried out in accordance with relevant guidelines, noting traffic volumes attending the site and traffic routes to/from the site with reference to impacts on the national road network and junctions of lower category roads with national roads. TII's TTA Guidelines (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the national road network. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of the TII TTA Guidelines which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA.
6. TII Standards should be consulted to determine the requirement for Road Safety Audit (RSA) and Road Safety

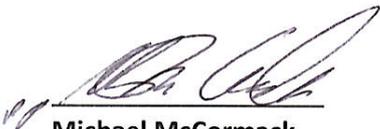
Impact Assessment (RSIA).

7. Assessments and design and construction and maintenance standards and guidance are available at [TII Publications](#) that replaced the NRA Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) and the NRA Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works (MCDRW).
8. The developer, in conducting Environmental Impact Assessment, should have regard to TII Environment Guidelines that deal with assessment and mitigation measures for varied environmental factors and occurrences. In particular;
 - a. TII's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, including the *Guidelines for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes* (National Roads Authority, 2006),
 - b. The EIAR should consider the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 (SI 140 of 2006) and, in particular, how the development will affect future action plans by the relevant competent authority. The developer may need to consider the incorporation of noise barriers to reduce noise impacts (see *Guidelines for the Treatment of Noise and Vibration in National Road Schemes* (1st Rev., National Roads Authority, 2004)).

Notwithstanding, any of the above, the developer should be aware that this list is non-exhaustive, thus site and development specific issues should be addressed in accordance with best practice.

I hope that the above comments are of use in your EIAR preparation.

Yours sincerely,



Michael McCormack
Senior Land Use Planner