

GRID25

Grid25 is a long term strategy for the development of the transmission networks to provide a safe, secure and affordable electricity supply throughout Ireland. Work is continuing on many different Grid25 projects and the highlights for the quarter are outlined below.

GRID25 PROGRAMME MILESTONES ACHIEVED

The tables below show key recent milestones achieved:

Recent Planning Lodgements

• Finglas 110kV Station Redevelopment	November 2010
• Clashavoon extension – Wind	October 2010
• Tralee 110kV station - New Coupler	October 2010

Recent Energisations

• Drumline 110kV Station	
- Installation of shunt capacitor 1*15 MVAR	November 2010
• Lodgewood 220kV Station & loop in to Arklow	
- Great Island 220kV line	November 2010
• Killeel 110kV Station	
- Reactive Compensation 1*30 MVAR	October 2010
• Louth 220kV Station - Reactive Compensation	October 2010
• Cushaling - Newbridge 110kV line	September 2010
• Blake - Maynooth - Newbridge 110kV line	September 2010

Recent Circuit Updatings / Refurbishments

• Cathaleen's Fall - Corraclassy 110kV line uprate	November 2010
• Ikerrin T - Shannonbridge 110kV line uprate	November 2010
• Gorman - Maynooth 220kV line refurbishment	October 2010
• Great Island - Waterford No.1 110kV line uprate	October 2010
• Dallow - Portlaoise - Shannonbridge 110kV line uprate	October 2010
• Carrigadrohid - Kilbarry 110kV line uprate	October 2010
• Booltiagh - Moneypoint/Tullabrack 110kV line refurbishment	October 2010
• Booltiagh - Ennis 110kV line refurbishment	September 2010



PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT OFFICE (PMO)

The Planning and Environment Section of the PMO is now established, with Des Cox and Gael Gibson as Public Planners, and Maeve Flynn as Ecologist. All have extensive experience in the key processes that EirGrid will be involved with as it continues the roll-out of transmission infrastructure, including the planning process for strategic infrastructure development, environmental assessment, the approach of planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála for development.

In addition to providing ongoing expert planning and environmental input into the various TAM projects, the team are preparing a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) report and an appropriate assessment for the Grid25

implementation programme, as well as initiating a programme of evidence-based environmental studies.



WAYLEAVE AND LEGAL UPDATE

The wayleave team is responsible for managing the overall wayleave process for capital projects in conjunction with EirGrid's legal team thereby supporting the regional project teams. William Mongey, senior consultant and team leader, is supported by solicitor Deirdre Nagle and Seán Kenny, wayleave coordinator, the latest addition to the team. Seán previously worked for Teagasc and Irish Sugar and brings considerable landowner engagement expertise to this area.



Newbridge 110kV circuit - braced wood pole set visible

A substantial amount of important new electricity infrastructure has successfully been constructed this year, for example, the Newbridge 110kV Project in Co. Kildare and the Lodgewood 220kV/110kV project in Co. Wexford which have recently been completed.

Construction is progressing on many other projects.

- Access has been granted by 100% of landowners:
 - Tarbert – Tralee 2 110kV line, Co. Kerry
- Over 90% of landowners have granted access:
 - Flagford – Srananagh 220kV line, in Counties Leitrim, Roscommon and Sligo.
 - Dalton – Galway 110kV line, Co. Galway.
 - Athy 110kV Loop, Co. Kildare.
 - Cushaling – Thornsberry 110kV line, Co. Offaly.



GRID25 PROJECT UPDATES

Finglas 110kV Station Redevelopment



Photomontage of the Finglas 110kV GIS station

The redevelopment of Finglas will see the existing air insulated switchgear (AIS) replaced with new gas insulated switchgear (GIS). The planning application was submitted to Fingal County Council on 29th November 2010 with a decision expected from the council in March 2011.

Project Manager John Egan comments that "the redevelopment of Finglas Station is a €60 million investment in the transmission system which will provide Dublin City and North County Dublin with a safe, secure and reliable electricity supply. This investment will allow for continuing load growth and future expansion of Finglas station".

Millstreet 220kV Project

EirGrid's South West projects involve the upgrading of the existing network and grid reinforcements to connect significant amounts of wind generated energy to the national grid and to strengthen the grid in this region to accommodate future growth in demand for electricity.

Project Manager Edel Campbell outlined the background to and scope of the Millstreet 220kV project which "includes a new 220/110kV station which will connect into the existing Clashavoon-Tarbert 220kV line approximately 3km south of Millstreet. In order to connect the proposed new 220/110kV station to the existing Garrow 110kV station, a new 110kV circuit will initially be required between both stations. A second 110kV circuit may

be required between both stations depending on the acceptance of Gate 3 Connection Offers in 2011."

EirGrid held public consultation days in Macroom on 29th and 30th June and in Millstreet on 15th September 2010 and the Phase One Lead Consultant's Site and Corridor Identification Report was published on the EirGrid website in November 2010.

EirGrid has entered into pre-application consultations with An Bord Pleanála and as the project has been deemed strategic, the planning application will be lodged directly to An Bord Pleanála in April 2011. This project represents an investment of €35 million in the region.

Clashavoon – Dunmanway 110kV New Overhead Line

The project consists of a new 110kV line from Clashavoon 110kV station to Dunmanway 110kV station which will strengthen the transmission system and facilitate the export of power from a large number of wind farms in the region.

A second public open day was held on Wednesday 13th October in the Castle Hotel, Macroom, to brief the public and to seek submissions/comments on the emerging preferred corridor. The first phase of public consultation closed on 12th November 2010. Project Manager John Egan noted that phase two will be completed by December 2010 and expects that planning permission will be lodged in Quarter 3 2011.



Project Open Day

Glanagow – Raffeen 220kV sub marine cable



Excavation of GIS basement

This project is the latest Cork Harbour project which is required to strengthen the Cork region and to facilitate the export of power from two new CCGT power plants in the Aghada region.

The Glanagow – Raffeen 220kV circuit will consist of approximately 7km of underground cable between Glanagow GIS 220kV station and Raffeen 220kV station and a section of subsea cable across Cork Harbour. A decision on the foreshore license application is expected shortly. Factory acceptance testing will be held in Cologne in January 2011 and

a TEM (Transmission Engineering and Maintenance) member will be in attendance on behalf of EirGrid. The project is due for completion in 2011.

The Glanagow 220kV GIS station will reinforce the Cork area by connecting Aghada station and the new Board Gais CCGT at Whitegate to Raffeen station. The new CCGT received its operational certificate from EirGrid in December 2010. Construction of the GIS building is approximately 90% complete with the GIS switchgear due to arrive shortly on site from Areva. Pre-commissioning will start in April 2011. These projects are part of a larger transmission investment of €160 million in the Cork Harbour area.



Building steel structure

Final metal clad finish

GRID25 REGIONAL STAKEHOLDER FORUMS

There was excellent attendance at a number of recent Grid25 Regional Forums which were held in Castlebar, Co Mayo, Waterford and Carlow in October and November 2010. EirGrid staff welcomed representatives from political, business, planning and development sectors in those regions who engaged in wide-ranging debates covering topics such as:

- The future ambitions for the area in relation to energy.
- How can we work together to deliver the infrastructure that meets the area's needs?
- How should Public Consultation be carried out?
- How do we ensure balance between environment, society, reliability and cost?

A further programme of regional stakeholder forums is being developed for 2011.

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