



Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

CP1149 Newbridge - Cushaling 110kV line, Stations bay conductors and lead-in conductor uprate [Exempted Development] (Counties Kildare and Offaly).

In accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended ('The Regulations'), EirGrid has undertaken Appropriate Assessment (AA) screening to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of relevant European sites, if the proposed Newbridge - Cushaling 110kV line, Stations bay conductors and lead-in conductor uprate [Exempted Development] ('the proposed development') individually or in combination with other plans or projects would be likely to have a significant effect (s) on a European site(s).

The proposed development consists of Works for the purpose of uprating the bay conductor and lead-in conductor equipment associated with the Cushaling – Newbridge 110kV line, including the:

- Newbridge 110 kV bay conductor, in Cushaling 110 kV station
- Cushaling 110 kV bay conductor, in Newbridge 110 kV station; and,
- Cushaling 110 kV lead-in conductor, in Newbridge 110 kV station.

All works will be carried out wholly within the existing substation compound.

The proposed development is not located within or near any European site; the closest such site is Pollardstown Fen¹ and Mouds Bog² Special Areas of Conservation (SAC; site codes 396 and 2331) respectively located c.0.5 and 1.0 km from the proposed development site. This determination has had regard for these and any other relevant European sites.

In accordance with Regulation 42(7) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 SI 477 as amended, EirGrid has made a determination following screening that an Appropriate Assessment is not required as the project individually or in combination with other plans or projects is not likely to have a significant effect on any European sites. The risk of likely significant effects on European sites can be excluded on the basis of objective evidence.

This determination is based on the location, scale, extent and duration of the proposed development, including temporary works, and has not taken account of measures intended to avoid or reduce significant effects on European sites.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Fennelly".

Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

08 November 2021

¹NPWS (2021) Conservation objectives for Pollardstown Fen SAC [000396]. Generic Version 8.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

² NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: Mouds Bog SAC 002331. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht