



Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

CP1152 Arva and connected stations 110 kV protection upgrade [Exempted Development] (Counties Cavan and Meath).

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 Arva and connected stations 110 kV protection upgrade [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 renewing and altering protection equipment:

- Busbar (Gortawee 110 kV station)
- Bus-couplers (Gortawee 110kV Air Insulated Station (AIS), Rathrussan 110kV AIS)
- 110kV Circuits between (between Arva – Gortawee 110kV; Arva – Navan110kV; Arva - Shankill No. 1 110kV; Shankill - Rathrussan 110 kV)
- Transformer Bays (Gortawee T101, T102; Shankill T141 & T142)
- Circuit Breaker Replacement (Shankill T141)
- CT/VT (Shankill T141 & T142)
- Pre-Switching Siren (Arva 110kV ; Shankill 110kV)

The proposed development is entirely within the fencelines of existing substations. The proposed development is not located within or near any European site; the closest such site is Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC Special Area of Conservation (SAC; site code 0007)¹ located c. 2.6 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:

Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

08 November 2021

¹NPWS (2021) Conservation objectives for Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC [000007]. Generic Version 8.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage