



Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

CP1197 Proposed AEG Circuit Breaker Replacement [Exempted Development] (Counties Meath and Kildare).

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 AEG Circuit Breaker Replacement [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 replacing no. 20 circuit breakers (CB), current transformers (CT) and voltage transformers (VT) and associated works for that purpose at the Dunstown 400 kV Station (Co. Kildare) and Woodland 400 kV (Co. Meath).

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 the Rye Water Valley/Carton Special Area of Conservation (SAC; site code 4063)¹ located c. 9 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 "RF", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Robert Fennelly CEcol MCIEEM Lead Senior Ecologist

13 October 2021

¹NPWS (2021) Conservation objectives for Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC [001398]. Generic Version 8.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage