

An Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government

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Application date:	
Date of receipt.	
Date Validated:	

APPLICATION FOR A LEASE/LICENCE/CONSENT UNDER THE FORESHORE ACT 1933 (AS AMENDED)

- Applications for <u>Offshore renewable energy</u> (ORE) projects should use an ORE specific form.
- Please complete the form electronically. Type details in the boxes provided, space will expand as you type.
- The enclosures checklist should also be completed
- Tá an leagan Gaeilge den fhoirm seo ar fáil ar iarratas.

BEFORE FILLING OUT THIS FORM PLEASE READ THE DECLARATION AND CONSENT ON PAGE 9:

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT A CHANGE IN APPLICANT NAME WILL REQUIRE A NEW APPLICATION.

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Applicant Name and Address:

Fuil Name of Applicant (not Agent): EirGrid, as the licenced TSO, responsible for the development of the transmission system, is applying for a licence to be granted to ESB, the licenced TAO
Company/Organisation: EirGrid plc
Address: The Oval, 160 Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge Dublin 4
Eircode: DO4 FW28

Applicant Contact Details:

Phone No: +353 1 677 1700	in the second of			
E-mail address: info@eirgrid.com				
	4			

Agent (if any) Address/Contact Details:

Person/Agent acting on behalf of the Applicant:

Company: Mott MacDonald Ireland Ltd

Address: South Block, Rockfield, Dundrum, Dublin 16

Eircode: D16 R6V0

Phone No: +353 1 2916700

E-mail address:

Applicant's Legal Advisor:

Name:

Address: EirGrid Plc, The Oval, 160 Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4

Eircode: D16 R6V0

Phone No: +353 1 6771700

E-mail address:

Part 1: Proposal Details (Attach additional documents as required)

1.1 Description of proposed works/activity.

A proposed electricity transmission infrastructure development and associated works (known as the 'Cross Shannon Cable Project') generally comprising the laying of 400 kV underground cables (UGC) across the Lower Shannon Estuary, between the existing Moneypoint 400 kV Electricity Substation in the townland of Carrowdotia South Co. Clare and the existing Kilpaddoge 220/110 kV Electricity Substation in the townland of Kilpaddoge, Co. Kerry: The proposed development comprises 3 main elements:

Connection of a 400 kV UGC Installation at the Moneypoint 400 kV Electricity Substation (Co. Clare), including:

- the laying of 3 no. 400 kV UGC [approx. 1.8 kilometres (km) each] between the existing Moneypoint 400 kV Electricity Substation and 3 no. land-submarine transition joint bays located east of the existing Moneypoint Generation Station. The UGC will be installed by standard trenching and includes the provision of 3 no. joint bays along their length and the associated provision, upgrading and/or extension of existing internal access tracks to provide operational vehicular access.
- the provision of 4 no. land-submarine transition joint bays located east of the existing Moneypoint Generation Station to connect the land cables to submarine cables (this arrangement also includes a land-submarine transition joint bay for the spare submarine cable).

Laying of 400 kV Submarine Cables across the Lower Shannon Estuary, including:

- the laying of 4 no. 400 kV submarine cables (approx. 2.8 km each) from the proposed land-submarine transition bays located east of the existing Moneypoint Generation Station in Co. Clare across the Lower Shannon Estuary to the proposed 400 kV Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) Compound at the existing Kilpaddoge 220/110 kV Electricity Substation in Co. Kerry. The submarine cables will be installed by standard submarine installation techniques, which primarily involves them being buried in the seabed.
- the installation of communication links between both substations, this
 will take the form of a fibre optic cable that will be integrated into each of
 the proposed 400 kV cables.
- The installation of fibre optic cables for maintenance and cable monitoring, this will take the form of an armoured fibre cable wrapped helically around each of the proposed 400 kV cables.
- Associated works in the foreshore include the reinforcement of the ground beneath and around the cables by various methods including concrete ramps, concrete cable channels, infilling with gravel/concrete, articulated pipes, gabion wall and rock protections where required.

1.1 Contd.

Connection of a 400 kV UGC Installation and substation extension at the Kilpaddoge 220/110 kV Electricity Substation (Co. Kerry) including:

- the laying of the 4 no. 400 kV UGC [approx. 51 metres (m) in length] from the southern foreshore of the Lower Shannon Estuary, to a proposed extension (approx. 5,500 m2) to the north of the existing Kilpaddoge 220/110 kV Electricity Substation.
- o the provision, within the proposed substation extension, of a 400/220 kV AIS compound, containing electrical equipment and apparatus to connect the submarine cables to the existing Kilpaddoge 220/110 kV Electricity Substation including the following:
 - 9 no. surge arrestors (approx. 7.9 m high);
 - 6 no, cable sealing ends (approx. 7.4 m high);
 - 1 no. 400 / 220 kV transformer (approx. 8.9 m high);
 - 9 no. post insulators (approx. 9.8 m high);
 - 1 no. disconnector (approx. 8.6 m high);
 - 9 no. instrument transformers (approx. 7.6 m high);
 - 3 no. circuit breakers (approx. 7.5 m high);
 - 5 no. lightning protection masts (approx. 25 m high);
 - a control building (approx. 14.6m x 6.6m x 4.6m high);
 - an associated access track (approx. 155 m in length and 5 m in width);
 - 12 no lighting poles (approx. 9 m high);
 - 3 no. 220 kV UGC (approx. 151 m in length);
 - The AIS compound will be enclosed by a palisade fence (approx.
 2.6 m in height).

The proposed development includes all associated and ancillary development, including communication links, temporary construction compounds, temporary construction tracks, site development, landscaping works and vegetation removal. Access to the existing electricity substations will be retained from their existing entrances onto the N67 Road in Co. Clare and the L1010 Tarbert Coast Road in Co. Kerry.

ESB Moneypoint Generation Station is licensed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under an Industrial Emissions (IE) Licence (Ref: P0605-04).

The proposed development includes works located within ESB Moneypoint Generation Station which is an Upper-tier establishment to which the Chemicals Act (Control of Major Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substances) Regulations 2015 (the COMAH Regulations) apply. Article 215 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) applies to this development

A Foreshore Licence is separately required to be obtained in respect of this proposed development.

A Natura Impact Statement has been prepared in respect of this application for Approval.

A full description of the entire project and installation process can be found in the accompanying Planning and Environmental Considerations Report (PECR). Please refer to Chapter 4 of the report. An outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (OCEMP) also accompanies the application. Please refer to Appendix G.

1.2 Describe the nature and scale of any structure to be erected on the foreshore. Is the structure proposed to be temporary or permanent?

The permanent installation of 4 no. 400 kV submarine cables (approx. 2.8 km each) from the proposed land-submarine transition bays located east of the existing Moneypoint Generation Station in Co. Clare across the Lower Shannon Estuary to the proposed 400 kV AIS Compound at the existing Kilpaddoge Electrical Substation in Co. Kerry;

Submarine Cables:

- These permanent submarine cables will be installed by standard trenching and submarine installation techniques. Where the seabed presents coarse sediments and rock-based conditions, consideration will also be given to mechanical cutters, ploughing and/or additional protection such as rock placement or installation of concrete mattresses.
 - The permanent installation of communications links between both substations, this will take the form of a fibre optic cable that will be integrated into each of the proposed 400 kV cables.
 - o The permanent installation of fibre optic cables for maintenance and cable monitoring, this will take the form of an armoured fibre cable wrapped helically around each of the proposed 400 kV cables..
- Temporary presence of vessels, including jack-up barge, associated with cable installation, repair and maintenance and eventual decommissioning.

Landfalls:

- The permanent installation of pre-cast troughs (underground) at the northern and southern landfall locations, located east of the existing Moneypoint Generation Station and within Glenclossagh Bay north of the existing Kilpaddoge Substation respectively.
- Transition joint bays (underground) (to connect the submarine cable to the land type cable); 400 kV cable trench on land approximately 1.8 kilometres which connects into the existing connection point at the 400 kV GIS Building at Moneypoint Electrical Substation.
- The 400 kV cable associated development includes the provision of four underground joint bays, and the provision, upgrading and/or extension of existing internal access tracks in Carrowdotia south, County Clare and Kilpaddoge, County Kerry to provide operational vehicular access to the proposed development.
- Temporary construction compound within Moneypoint Generation Station and at the northern landfall site in the townland of Carrowdotia South, County Clare and temporary construction track roads onto the N67 Road, in County Clare.
- Temporary construction compound and temporary construction track roads within ESB lands in the townland of Kilpaddoge County Kerry onto the L1010 Tarbert Coast Road in County Kerry

A full description of the entire project and installation process can be found in the accompanying Planning and Environmental Considerations Report. Please refer to Chapter 4 of the report.

1.3 Indicative timing of the works/activity: (i) Start date (ii) Duration (iii) Any other information relevant to timing.

Subject to the grant of statutory approvals, it is programmed that construction will commence in 2022, for it to become fully operational by the end of 2023.

Construction activities will gradually phase out from pre-construction to predominantly civil activities followed by commissioning and testing of the substations and equipment. It is expected that the number of construction workers required throughout the duration of the construction phase will peak at approximately 45 persons.

Construction will occur during normal construction working hours, with the exception of works associated with the submarine installation works within the Shannon Estuary. Normal construction hours are expected to be Monday to Friday 7 am to 7 pm and Saturday from 7 am to 2 pm. There may be instances where extended hours / days are required however should working outside these hours / days be required they will only be undertaken with prior agreement with the statutory authorities.

The submarine cable installation within the Shannon Estuary is expected to take approximately three weeks to complete. Each cable installation run is anticipated to take approximately three days to complete. The duration of the works is indicative only, safety requirements for the installation operations / procedures and weather condition may ultimately dictate the final programme. These works will be carried out seven days a week 24 hours a day.

The overall duration of the construction phase is expected to be approximately 12 months. Some of the activities will be carried out in parallel. The majority of the construction activities are not dependant on outages on the existing transmission system, however, activities associated with connection to the existing 220 kV network will be planned out in line with EirGrid's scheduled outage programme.

Further details on the proposed installation works and timing of works are set out in Chapter 4 of the accompanying Planning and Environmental Considerations Report and in the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan.

1.4 Primary usage for proposed development (please tick)

Use	
Industrial	
Commercial	
Within Fishery Harbour Centre	
Sea Fisheries	
Local Authority	
Community/Co Op scheme	
Other(specify) Electrical transmission	V
infrastructure	

1.5 Do the proposed works provide for public use, commercial use, restricted use or strictly private use? Provide Details

The proposed works provides for public use. High levels of renewable generation are currently being integrated into the south-west of Ireland. At times of medium to high wind generation output, it is expected that the south west of Ireland will export the excess generation to areas where it is needed. This will create, large power flows from the west and south-west towards the east coast. To be able to facilitate this, and to utilise the existing 400 kV network better, a system reinforcement across the Shannon is required, which is the Cross Shannon 400 kV cable circuit (Capital Project Reference CP0970).

This reinforcement forms part of the 'regional solution' consisting of a suite of reinforcement projects designed to maximise the capabilities of the existing network).

1.6 Might the proposed works restrict public use/enjoyment of the foreshore? Provide details.

Access to the foreshore within the proposed development boundary will be temporarily restricted for the duration of the works. There will be no long-term restrictions on public use or enjoyment of the foreshore in excess of those currently in place.

The PECR has considered the potential for effects on public amenity of the foreshore such as access and where appropriate project specific mitigation has been proposed.

1.7 Has the applicant held or does the applicant hold any previous Foreshore Licences, Leases or applications over the area sought or over any other area including pending applications? (Give details including Department's file reference number(s)).

Yes.

FS005791 Installation of the existing submarine cable across the River Shannon between Moneypoint in County Clare and Glencloosagh Bay in Co. Kerry (Determination 26/4/2010).

FS006760 Marine Survey Works (including bathymetric, geophysical, geotechnical and environmental marine survey works) of the Shannon Estuary between Moneypoint, Co. Clare and Kilpaddoge, Co. Kerry (Determination 1/6/2017).

FS 006722 Geophysical marine survey works at Ballinwilling Strand, Redbarn Beach and Claycastle Beach, Co. Cork (Determination 22/05/2017).

FS006811 Geotechnical and Environmental Marine Survey Works at Ballinwilling, Claycastle & Redbarn Beaches (Determination 21/12/2017).

FS006243 Geotechnical and environmental survey works at Ballinwilling Strand, Ballycrenane and Ballycroneen Beach, Ballrobin South, Cork (Determination 7/5/2014).

FS004527 Laying of an Ireland-UK submarine electricity interconnector, Rush (Determination 26/9/2008).

FS006446 Marine survey works for potential route for a high voltage submarine electricity cable at Ballinwilling Strand and Ballycroneen Beach, County Cork. (Determination 17/12/2014).

1.8 Status of planning permission application: Pending.

Consent Authority: An Bord Pleanála

Reference Number: Pending

(Please provide copies of consents granted) No consents have been granted to date

1.9 Are any other consents required for this proposal? Please detail.

Consent type Not Applicable

Consent Authority: Not Applicable Reference Number: Not Applicable Status of application: Not Applicable

(Please provide copies of consents granted Not Applicable

1.10	Employment Implications (if any)			
	The proposed development is estimated to employ approximately 45 persons during construction only. There are no employment implications associated with the operation of the submarine cable.			
1.11	Capital cost of proposed works (€ approx. 85million Euro)			
1.12 Do the proposed works involve the draw down of European Unfunding? If "Yes" give details, including any time restrictions, etc. apply				
	No. EirGrid Group revenue is primarily derived from regulated tariffs, specifically the Transmission Use of System (TUoS) charge.			

Part 2: Proposed Site. (Attach additional documents as required)

2.2		nearest townla	and name:			
		Between lands east of Moneypoint Generating Station, in the townland of Carrowdotia South, County Clare and Kilpaddoge Substation located in the to of Kilpaddoge, County Kerry.				
2.3	Geographic co-ordinates of the area under application in degrees min and seconds WGS84 for offshore developments and where the area of be identified on the Ordnance Survey map and /or is connected to the seashore/mainland, specify Ordnance Survey map no and Irish National Corodinates.					
				References 379408-MMD-01- 02 as provided in Appendix C		
		re area is outline d foreshore area.	d in red with c	Discovery Series Map Sheets 63 coordinates provided to assist in		
	104335.1259E		151194.86	573N		
	104662.4924E		151164.17			
	105350.9328E		148707.39			
	105386.0020E		148717.12			
	104335.1259E	151194.8673				
	104662.4924E		151164.17			
			ates of Locatio	on Points Displayed on Map;		
	Point	X	20	Υ		
	Point No1	504303.		651034.56		
	Point No2	504835.		649090.46		
	Point No3	505267.		648733.15		
	Point No4	505411.		648782.81		
	Point No5	505353.		648857.88		
	Point No6	505070.		650089.34		
	Point No7	504660.		650849.58		
	Point No8	504489.26		651087.76		
	Point No9 Point No10	504445.31 504295.83		651190.34 651213.33		

2.4	Please indicate the size of the Foreshore area (Ha²) or (M2) or (KM2) 0.737km² If offshore please indicate distance from shore (Km):				
2.5					
	Not Applicable				
2.6	Is any of the foreshore in the proposed site in private ownership? If yes please provide documentary evidence of same (e.g. folio)				
**	The foreshore is within the ownership of the State and no folio boundaries extend into the foreshore in the proposed development.				
	Landowner folios for adjacent lands were sourced from the Property Registration Authority of Ireland. Landowner folio drawings have been included in Appendix C Drawings/Mapping and are listed below;				
	CE50384F-ESB TELECOMS LIMITED CE2857-ESB TELECOMS LIMITED				
	CE17786F - ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD CE28033N - ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD				
	CE4728F - ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD CE57420F - ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD				
	CE15969F - PRIVATE OWNERSHIP CE6741N - PRIVATE OWNERSHIP				
	KY69424F - ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD KY4079N - PRIVATE OWNERSHIP				
	KY4133N - PRIVATE OWNERSHIP				
	KY67175F - PRIVATE OWNERSHIP KY73584F - PRIVATE OWNERSHIP				
2.7	Any other site details considered relevant:				
	The proposed development is located within;				
	 Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation, SAC (002165); and River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries Special Protection Area, SPA (004077) 				
i.e.					

Part 3. Maps and Drawings, Please refer to Guidance on map and drawing requirements.

3.1 Site location map attached? Please include reference no(s).

Drawing reference 379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1001 (Project Study Area – Discovery Mapping) and Drawing reference 379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1002 (Project Study Area – Orthophotography Mapping) are included in Appendix C Drawings/Mapping

3.2 Foreshore Lease/Licence map attached? Please include reference no(s).

Drawing reference 379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1009 (Foreshore Licence Map) is included in Appendix C Drawings/Mapping

3.3 Drawings of structures to be used and or layout (if required) attached? Please detail and include reference no(s).

Drawing reference 229379408-MMD-01-XX-DR-E-1120 and 229379408-MMD-01-XX-DR-E-1121 [Cable troughs (landfall)] are included in Appendix C Drawings/Mapping

3.4 Admiralty Chart attached?

Drawing reference 229379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1006 [Admiralty Chart (River Shannon –Ardmore Point to Rinealon Point Sheet No. 1548)] is included in Appendix D British Admiralty Chart

3.5 Other maps/drawings attached ?- please detail and include reference numbers

The following additional drawings have been included in Appendix C Drawings/Mapping.

As detailed above Drawing reference 229379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1006 (Admiralty Chart) is included in Appendix D British Admiralty Chart

Title Drawing Number		
Marine Survey Area (Discovery mapping)	379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1001	
Marine Survey Area (Orthophotography mapping)	379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1002	
Folio_Index_Map	379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1003	
Folios_North_Option	379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1004	
Folios_South_Option	379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1005	
Designated_Ecological_Sites	379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1007	
Aquaculture_and_Fisheries_Interest	379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1008	
Foreshore Licence Map	379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1009	

Part 4: Pre- application consultations

4.1 Describe briefly any consultations undertaken with the following bodies:

- National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs
- National Monuments Service (NMS) of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs
- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- Sea Fisheries Protection Authority
- Marine Institute
- Marine Survey Office

Please also provide copies of correspondence.

Full details of all engagement and consultation carried out are provided in Chapter 5 Consultation and Engagement of the accompanying Planning and Environmental Considerations Report.

A meeting was held with NPWS on the 25th April 2017. Direct consultation was carried out with the NPWS to discuss the proposed development process and the consultation process allowed the ecological constraints and sensitivities of the habitats and species in the area to be identified. A pre application consultation letter with respect to the proposed development was forwarded to Department in January 2020.

A meeting was arranged with NMS (Underwater Archaeology Unit) on 29th October 2019, which was subsequently held by telecon, to discuss the findings of the Archaeological Impact Assessment Subsequent to this telecon a consultation letter was issued to the NMU(UAU) in January 2020.

A meeting was held with the Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) on 22nd July 2019. The justification for the project and the progress to date was discussed. A pre application consultation letter was issued to the IFI in January 2020. Marine Survey Office was contacted and they advised that their remit of the Marine Survey Office relates to navigational safety for shipping and associated activities exclusively. They deal with each application presented to them by the relevant department. The MSO requirements are; The applicant is required to arrange the publication of (A) a local marine notice. This local marine notice should give a general description of operations and approximate dates of commencement and completion. An advertisement in a locally read newspaper will suffice, (B) a Port Marine Notice issued by the Shannon Foynes Port Company. Full consultation with Shannon Foynes Harbour Authority is required at all stages of development in this matter

Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) were contacted and they advised that the Cross-Shannon Cable project is not in their remit and directed the project team to IFI.

Pre application consultation was carried out with the Marine Institute in July 2019. The Marine institute queried whether there are dredging and / or dumping at sea elements to the proposed project. Following clarification in October 2019 that there are no planned dredging or dumping at sea elements to the project the Marine Institute noted no further need to discuss the project.

4.2 Describe briefly any consultations undertaken with other relevant authorities (e.g. Local Authority, Port/Harbour authority etc) or State Agencies.

EirGrid is on the Steering Group for the Shannon Integrated Framework Plan (SIFP). All members of the SIFP have been made aware of the proposals for the project and survey including Clare and Kerry County Councils, Industrial Development Authority, Shannon Foynes Port Authority, Fisheries Ireland, Marine Institute, Environmental Protection Agency, Shannon Airport, Office of Public Works and relevant Government Departments.

EirGrid has engaged with An Bord Pleanála under Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

Consultations have also been carried out to date with stakeholders including Atlantic Shellfish Limited, Clare County Council, Kerry County Council, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Shannon Dolphin and Wildlife foundation, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Marine Institute, National Monuments (Underwater Archaeology Unit) Department Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Full details of all engagement and consultation carried out are provided in Chapter 5 Consultation and Engagement of the accompanying Planning and Environmental Considerations Report.

4.3 Describe any consultations undertaken to date with other foreshore users.

Full details of all engagement and consultation carried out are provided in Chapter 5 *Consultation and Engagement* of the accompanying Planning and Environmental Considerations Report.

4.4 Describe any likely interactions with activities of the public or other foreshore users during the construction and operational phases of the works/activities (e.g. fishing, aquaculture, sailing, and surfing swimming, walking). Describe any measures proposed to minimise inconvenience to other users.

The Shannon Estuary is commercially active, with vessels travelling to Moneypoint Generating Station, Foynes Harbour, Aughinish, Limerick and Tarbert. According to Shannon Foynes Port Company approximately 1800 vessel movements are made within the estuary, equating to 900 different AIS (automatic identification system) tracked vessels travelling into the estuary annually.

A minority of vessels passing within the Shannon Estuary and the project area are fishing vessels, tug-boats or passenger ferries. The main recreational activities relate to dolphin watching, boat trips and shore angling.

A licensed aquaculture site (ID T08/004BO) is partially located within the proposed development boundary at Moneypoint. It is understood that this area has not been cultivated to date and there are no known future plans to cultivate this area. Discussions have been ongoing with the owners of the Oyster Fishery Order and will continue in advance of and during construction works.

Construction equipment and personnel will be present on the foreshore for the duration of the construction phase. It is possible that the works will result in localised disturbance to foreshore users and may be a minor inconvenience however this will be temporary in nature.

A Construction and Environmental Management Plan will be prepared and implemented during the construction phase in consultation with the consenting authorities. An outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) has been prepared and accompanies the application. This will form the basis for the CEMP when, assuming consent approval is given by the consenting authorities, all conditions of the approvals can be included in the detailed CEMP.

A comprehensive Health and Safety Programme will be put in place on the site prior to commencement of construction to minimise any risks to site personnel and visitors. The requirements of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013 (S.I. No. 291 of 2013) will be compiled with at all times.

Further detail is provided in the accompanying Planning and Environmental Considerations Report (including Chapter 6 *Population and Human Health* and Chapter 14 *Material Assets*) and the Outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan.

4.5 Have adjacent land owners, whose properties may be affected by these works been consulted? Please provide details/permissions as appropriate.

EirGrid's Agricultural and Community Liaison Officers (ALOs and CLOs) have since early May 2017 been meeting with stakeholders and landowners within the project study area. The engagement typically involved door to door visits and follow up meetings as necessary.

Public events were held at key stages of the project to provide updates and seek feedback from the public to feed into the EirGrid project development process.

Two public events were held in Tarbert Co. Kerry and Killimer Co. Clare in June 2019 to raise awareness of the project and seek feedback from the public to feed into the EirGrid project development process.

Landowner consents have been obtained from those who will have the cable permanently on their lands. See copies of same attached in Appendix H

Part 5: Environmental Considerations (your consultations with National Parks and Wildlife Service and National Monuments Service may inform your answers. Attach additional reports as required and mark under the R column)

www.epa.ie/downloads/advice/ea/guidelines/

www.environ.ie/en/DevelopmentHousing/PlanningDevelopment/EnvironmentalAss essment/

http://www.npws.ie/protectedsites/appropriateassessment/

http://webgis.npws.ie/npwsviewer/

	Environmental legislative requirements	Yes	No	R
5.1	Is an Environmental Impact Statement required for this proposal?		1	See Appendix B
	An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) is not required.		35	
	A Planning and Environmental Considerations Report is included in Appendix B			
5.2	Is a Natura Impact Statement required for this proposal?	√		See Appendix F
	A Natura Impact Statement has been completed for the proposed development. The report considered whether it can be objectively concluded that these effects will not be significant on European Designated Sites.			
	This assessment shows that there will be no significant impact on the Lower River Shannon cSAC or River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA as a result of the proposed development. As recommended in the report a qualified and experienced marine mammal observer (MMO) will be onboard the survey vessel who will instruct and supervise the 'soft-start' procedure. It is concluded that the conservation objectives and integrity of the cSAC and SPA will not be compromised by the proposed development.			
	The Natura Impact Statement is included in Appendix F.			

5.3	Is the area within or adjacent to a NHA, pNHA, SAC, SPA, or National Park? Specify site names and code(s).	√	See Appendices B & C & F
	The proposed development is located within; o Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation, SAC (002165); and o River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries Special		
	Protection Area, SPA (004077) Full details of the locations of NHA, pNHA, SAC, SPA & National Park sites are described in Appendix B (Chapter 7 Biodiversity) and Appendix F (NIS) and are depicted in Drawing reference 379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1007 (Designated Ecological Sites) as included in Appendix C Drawings/Mapping.		
5.4	Describe any other projects or plans for the area, anticipated or developed, that in combination with this proposal, may have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site: Please list with planning reference numbers (where available).	√	See Appendix F
	In-combination effects have been fully considered in the Natura Impact Statement included in Section 2.3.2 Plans or Projects That Might Act In Combination of the Natura Impact Statement included in Appendix F		

	Environmental Considerations	Yes	No	R
5.5	Will the proposal have any potential environmental impacts? If yes, please describe	1		See Appendices B & F
	A Planning and Environmental Considerations Report, which considers the potential for environmental impacts under the following headings, is included in Appendix B; o Population and Human Health (Chapter 6) o Biodiversity (Chapter 7) o Marine Aspects (Chapter 8) o Land, Sediment and Geology (Chapter 9) o Water, including Flood Risk (Chapter 10) o Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (Chapter 11) o Noise and Air (Chapter 12) o Landscape and Visual (Chapter 13) o Materials Assets, including Traffic (Chapter 14) A Natura Impact Statement is included in Appendix F.			
5.6	Are you proposing any measures to mitigate the potential environmental impacts? If yes, please describe	1		See Appendices B & F & G
	A summary of proposed mitigation measures is included in Appendix B <i>Planning and Environmental Considerations Report</i> (Chapter 15).			
	Proposed mitigation measures are also detailed in the Natura Impact Statement included in Appendix F and the Outline Construction Management Plan included in Appendix G.			
5.7	Are there public health/safety implications arising from the proposed works? (e.g. effluent disposal, removal of derelict or dangerous structures etc.) If yes, please describe		√	

5.8	Will the works involve the storage and/or disposal of waste? If "Yes" please give details of the type of waste and the proposed method of storage and/or disposal (including location) Similar to any civil works project, the proposed activities will generate waste. There will however be no planned 'Dumping at Sea' element conducted throughout the construction phase of the project.	-	See Appendix B
	Prior the commencement of development, the nominated contractor appointed by ESB to undertake the works will prepare a Construction Waste Management Plan (CWMP)which will provide for the segregation of all construction wastes into recyclables, biodegradable and residual waste to facilitate optimum levels of re-use, recovery and recycling operations. The CWMP will be prepared in accordance with waste management guidance and principles as outlined in <i>Design Out Waste: A design team guide to waste reduction in construction and demolition projects</i> (EPA, 2015) and <i>Best Practice Guidelines on the preparation of waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects</i> , Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG, June 2005).		
	Further details on waste management are provided in Appendix B <i>Planning and Environmental Considerations Report</i> .		
5.9	Any other Environmental Considerations? If yes, please specify.	√	See Appendix B
	The proposals will facilitate the flow of excess electricity generation from areas of high renewable generation in the south west of Ireland to areas where it is needed. This and other environmental considerations are detailed in Appendix B Planning and Environmental Considerations Report		

	Built Heritage Considerations	Yes	No	R
5.10	Does the area contain an archaeological site or feature? If yes, please specify.	-		See Appendix B
	An archaeological assessment of the area has been completed by the Archaeological Diving Company including interpretation of marine geophysical data obtained during the geophysical survey / magnetometry survey for the installation of the 220 kV submarine cable and data obtained during the geophysical survey carried out to inform the proposed development (foreshore licence reference FS005791).			
	In addition, the Archaeological Diving Company completed a survey at each landfall under consideration			
	This survey uncovered nine separate archaeological sites across 3295 linear metres (excavated under licenses 13E0350; 13E0465; 14E0039; 14E0233; 14E0234; 14E0240 and 14E0241).			
5.11	Does the area contain or adjoin a listed archaeological site or monument? If yes, please specify.		1	
5.12	Will the proposal have any potential impacts on the archaeological integrity of the site? If yes please describe		1	See Appendix B
	No. Mitigation by avoidance is proposed, as detailed in Chapter 11 Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report (Appendix B)			
5.13	Are you proposing any measures to mitigate potential archaeological impacts? If yes, please describe?	*		See Appendix B
	Specific mitigation measures are detailed in Chapter 11 Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report (Appendix B)			

Part 6: Navigational Safety Considerations. (Your consultations with relevant stakeholders may inform your answers. Attach additional documents as required and mark under the R column)

	Navigational Safety Considerations.	Yes	No	R
6.1	Are there public navigational safety implications arising from the proposed works?	1		See Appendix B
	Vessels will be required in different positions across the Shannon Estuary during the cable installation works and move up and down the estuary as required to facilitate safe and efficient installation of the submarine cables. The installation period for each submarine cable is in the order of hours to days with the vessels moving along the cable route during installation. With approximately 900 vessel passages annually in the proposed development location (equates to less than three vessel daily passages) and a wide navigational channel, the impact on navigation is considered low.			
	Navigational implications will be minimised further through consultation with the Shannon Foynes Port Company and other stakeholders during the planning and programming of the works. Contractual restrictions will be imposed on the nominated contractor regarding communication / liaison with stakeholders.			
	Further detail, informed by consultations with Shannon Foynes Port Company, is provided in Chapter 14 <i>Materials Assets, including Traffic</i> of the of the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report (Appendix B).			

6.2	What marine activity is there in the area?	1		See Appendix B
	The Shannon Estuary is commercially active, with vessels travelling to Moneypoint Generating Station, Foynes Harbour, Aughinish, Limerick and Tarbert. According to Shannon Foynes Port Company approximately 1800 vessel movements are made within the estuary, equating to 900 different AIS (automatic identification system) tracked vessels travelling into the estuary annually.			, and the second
	A minority of vessels passing within the Shannon Estuary and the project area are fishing vessels, tug boats or passenger ferries.			
	Further detail, informed by consultations with Shannon Foynes Port Company, is provided in Chapter 14 Materials Assets, including Traffic of the of the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report (Appendix B).			
6.3	How will the marine activity be affected by the proposed works?	1	-	
	There is no defined navigational channel for vessels along the section of the Shannon Estuary where the proposed development is located. Marine vessel movements are relatively sporadic, and the Shannon Estuary does not have a defined high season for vessel movements.			
	During installations works there will be very limited impact on marine activity in the area.			
	Some small areas of the foreshore will be temporarily inaccessible to members of the public due to the presence of construction equipment/machinery within the proposed development boundary area.			

6.4	What mitigating measures will be put in place?	1		See Appendix
	Navigational implications will be minimised through consultation with the Shannon Foynes Port Company and other stakeholders during the planning and programming of the works. Contractual restrictions will be imposed on the nominated contractor regarding communication / liaison with stakeholders. Marine Survey Office was contacted and they advised that their remit of the Marine Survey Office relates to navigational safety for shipping and associated activities exclusively. They deal with each application presented to them by the relevant department. The MSO requirements are; The applicant is required to arrange the publication of (A) a local marine notice. This local marine notice should give a general description of operations and approximate dates of commencement and completion. An advertisement in a locally read newspaper will suffice, (B) a Port Marine Notice issued by the Shannon Foynes Port Company. Full consultation with Shannon Foynes Harbour Authority is required at all stages of development in this matter			В
	Appropriate notices will be issued to all stakeholders in accordance with any requirements specified in the Foreshore Licence.			
	The Contractor will consider the safety of users of the foreshore when preparing and carrying out the investigation works. Temporary safety measures restricting access to landfall locations on the foreshore may be required in order to safely complete the works. Works on the foreshore will be coordinated to minimise impact.			
	Further detail, informed by consultations with Shannon Foynes Port Company, is provided in Chapter 14 <i>Materials Assets, including Traffic</i> of the of the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report (Appendix B).			
6.5	How will the proposed works affect Marine Navigation in the future?		1	
	There will be no permanent negative effects to marine navigation as a result of the works.			

Part 7: Fishing/Aquaculture considerations (your consultations with IFI, SFPA, DAFM may inform your answers. Attach additional documents as required and mark under the R column)

	Fishing/Aquaculture considerations	Yes	No	R
7.1	Is the proposal located in proximity to any of the following: • aquaculture operation • designated Shellfish Growing Waters • fish spawning ground • other sensitive fisheries location	✓		See Appendices B & C
	Please Illustrate on appropriate chart including distance in Km.			
	The estuary is an important area for commercial aquaculture, the majority of current licensed activities focus on the cultivation of shellfish (in particular Pacific oysters) centred in locations outside of the project area in / near Rinvella, Carrigaholt, Poulnasherry Bay, Ballylongford Bay, Bunnaclugga Bay and adjacent to Aughinish Island.			
	There are a range of designated aquaculture sites within the wider lower estuary. These include the West Shannon Ballylongford Designated Shellfish Waters and the West Shannon Poulnasherry Designated Shellfish Waters. The oysters are produced by bag and trestle.			
	Licensed Site ID T08/004BO is partially located at the western extent of the study area adjacent to Moneypoint and relates to an Oyster Fishery Order issued in 1961 to SO Limited. It is understood that this area has not been cultivated to date and there are no known future plans to cultivate this area. Discussions have been ongoing with the owners of the Oyster Fishery Order and will continue in advance of and during construction works.			
	A number of rivers that flow into the Shannon Estuary are fished for salmon. These include the River Fergus, Castleconnell Salmon Fishery, the River Mulchair, the River Maigue, the River Deel and the River Feale/Cashen			
	Details of aquaculture and Fisheries interests in the area are shown in Drawing No. 379408-MMD-01-XX-GIS-N-1008_Aquaculture_and_Fisheries_Interest in Appendix C Drawings and Mapping. Fish species in the study area are discussed in Chapter 7 <i>Biodiversity</i> of the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report provided in Appendix B.			

7.2	Are there other potential impacts of the proposal on fishing/aquaculture in the area? If yes, please describe.	7	See Appendices B and F
	There will be no permanent negative effects to fishing/aquaculture in the area as a result of the works.		
	The vibrations caused by cable laying will cause infaunal or tube dwelling species such as anemones, annelids, crustaceans, molluscs or echinoderms to react by retracting into the riverbed or tube. This reaction will be temporary and will cease once the activities cease. The minor disturbances to the seabed will have no measurable impacts on this habitat and no mitigation measures are required.		
	The works will commence with a 'soft-start' procedure to allow lamprey, salmon and marine mammals to vacate the works area.		
	Fish species in the study area are discussed in Chapter 7 Biodiversity of the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report provided in Appendix B. Detail is also provided in the Natura Impact Statement provided in Appendix F.		
1			

7.3 Are there any measures proposed to mitigate potential impacts on fisheries or aquaculture? If yes, please describe.

See Appendices B and F

EirGrid and the survey operators will adhere to DAHG Guidance to Manage the Risk to Marine Mammals from Man-made Sound Sources in Irish Waters (DAHG, 201423). guidance on mitigation measures and monitoring to be implemented for geophysical acoustic surveys and will consult with Irish Whale and Dolphin Group. This includes the use of marine mammal observers (MMOs) and operational protocols. The implementation of these measures will minimise potential impacts to marine mammals from the proposed development.

Specifically, the contractor will implement the measures and protocols described in Section 4.3.4 of the guidance. In summary, trenching and cable laying activity will not commence until after the successful completion of prestart visual monitoring, undertaken by MMOs as per DAHG guidance, with no marine mammals observed over the required monitoring period in the monitored zone. In addition, having regard to consultation with the NPWS advised that this would provide adequate protection, but in addition no works will occur during the month of August which coincides with the peak calving/breeding period for the species.

Biosecurity measures must be employed during the construction phase. The biosecurity measures will have regard to IFI Biosecurity Protocols including:

- IFI Biosecurity Protocol for Field Survey Work (December 2010);
- IFI Invasive Species Biosecurity Guidelines for Anglers – leaflet (2011);
- IFI Invasive Species Biosecurity Guidelines for Boaters – leaflet (2011); and
- IFI Invasive Species Biosecurity Guidelines for Scuba Diving (2012).

Further detail is provided in Chapter 7 *Biodiversity* of the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report provided in Appendix B and the Natura Impact Statement provided in Appendix F.

Part 8 - Additional information

8.1 Please detail any additional relevant information.

National, regional and local policy and planning documents are discussed in Chapter 2 *Planning and Land use Considerations* of the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report included in Appendix B, including the Strategic Integrated Framework Plan for the Shannon Estuary (2013-2020).

The Strategic Integrated Framework Plan for the Shannon Estuary (SIFP) was commissioned by Clare County Council, Kerry County Council, Limerick City and County Councils, Shannon Development and the Shannon Foynes Port Company. SIFP is overseen by a multi-agency steering group comprised of a number of local authorities and other key stakeholders, including EirGrid, with an interest in the Estuary.

The SIFP identifies Moneypoint Power Plant and Tarbert Power Plant as having created a strategic energy hub within the Shannon Estuary, identifying the area of Moneypoint Power Plant in County Clare and the area between Ballylongford and Tarbert Power Plant in County Kerry as Strategic Development Locations (SDLs).

The Plan states

"There is a growing network of wind powered electricity generators in both Cork and Kerry and significant potential exists for additional electricity generation by sustainable wind, wave and tidal energy sources. However, many of these sources of renewable energy are not served by existing electricity transmission routes. Significant reinforcement of the electricity grid would be required to cater for the new power flows from renewable generation".

The Plan also notes that there are a number of pockets of deep water in the Shannon Estuary area, and it has identified Areas of Opportunity for Tidal Energy.

One opportunity area is located just off the coast at the Moneypoint strategic energy site and the proposed development is partially located within this Area of Opportunity.

There is potential risk of damage to the cables from any anchorage of potential future renewable energy development. The route of the proposed cable project will be set out within a defined route corridor and will be clearly identified to potential future renewable development within this area.

Declaration and Consent:

The details provided here are correct to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that no works will be commenced, by me or my agents on the proposed site, without the prior written consent of the Minister.

By submitting this application form, I agree that the details provided (with personal contact details redacted) are to be published on the Department of Housing website and also that the full information provided including contact details are to be processed and retained by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and shared with all appropriate Prescribed Bodies (as part of the Prescribed Bodies Consultation process) in furtherance of consideration for a foreshore Consent under the Foreshore Act 1933 (and Foreshore Amendment Act 2011).

I give consent to the Minister and his servants to copy this application and to make (a redacted) copy available for inspection and copying by the public. This consent relates to this application, to any further information, or submission provided by me or on my behalf and to the publication of the licence document.

Signature of Applicant (or his or her Agent):	
Name of above Signatory (block letters):	
Position Held:	
Senior Environmental Scientist	
Date:30 th July 2020	

Return completed applications to:

Marine Environment and Foreshore Section Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government Newtown Road Wexford Y35 AP90

Enquiries to: Foreshore@housing.gov.ie (Other contact details to be included in Guidance materials)

Email a copy of application documents: Foreshore@housing.gov.ie

Enclosures Checklist

One hard copy of every document is required unless otherwise stated. Electronic versions of documentation must also be provided in searchable PDF format (no single file to be greater than 30mb) so that the Department can make them available on its website.

Item No.	Description	No. of copies Required	
1	Application Form. With original signature	4	
2	Mapping (see guidelines document)		
	(i) Site Location map (ii)Foreshore Lease/licence map	4 4	
3	British Admiralty Chart (largest available scale)	1	
4	Drawings of the structures to be used and/or layout	4	
5	Pre-application correspondence with stakeholders.	. 1	
6	Other statutory permissions:		
	(i) Planning permission	1	
	(ii) Effluent Discharge Licence	1	
	(iii) Other consent (Please specify)	1	
7	Company documentation (1): Certified copy of the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association	1	
8	Company documentation (2) Certificate of Incorporation of a Limited Liability, or Company/Rule Book/Constitution for a Club or Co- Operative Society as appropriate	1	
9	Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). (i) Hard copy (ii) CDs	5 25	
10	Natura Impact Statement (NIS) (i) Hard copy (ii) CDs	5 4	
11	Property-related owner permissions/wayleaves (i) Folio – (or other evidence of private ownership) (ii) Wayleave/consent from other property owners (iii) Other (Please specify)	2 1 1	
12	Other - Please specify	1	