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An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

29th April 2022

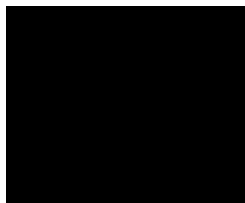
Re: FS006916 EirGrid Celtic Interconnector Electricity Cable

Foreshore Reference: FS006916

Please see below our responses to the public & prescribed body submissions received in relation to the public consultation period for the Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment

The original submissions are included in Appendix 1.

Yours sincerely,



**Project Manager,
Celtic Interconnector Project,
EirGrid PLC**

1. AA Submission – Public Submissions

a. Response to AA Submission 1 (Dated Wed 30th March 2022):

We note the comments regarding the construction methodology and will consider these in reviewing the detailed construction methodology from the selected Cable Supply & Installation contractor. Although the reference to the methodologies on land are outside the scope of the foreshore licence, we will again consider these in reviewing the detailed construction methodology from the selected Cable Supply & Installation contractor.

2. AA Submissions – Prescribed Bodies 2

a. Response to AA Submission from Marine Institute :

EirGrid acknowledges the comment that initialisms should be included in a glossary, and will establish this as a minimum requirement of future AA reporting in the marine environment.

However, EirGrid respectfully clarifies that the initialism 'LSE' (Likely Significant Effect) is in fact spelt out on first occurrence on page 5 of the AA Screening Report and NIS, contrary to the Marine Institute submission.

b. Response to AA Submission from Environmental Protection Agency :

Your comment is noted and we refer you to Section 3.5.3 of the NIS as well as Chapter 16 of Volume 3D2 Ireland Offshore EIAR where we consider these issues have been appropriately addressed.

c. Response to AA Submission from Met Eireann:

We note there are no further comments from Met Eireann.

d. Response to AA Submission from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications:

We note there are no further comments from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.

e. Response to AA Submission the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Marine Advisor:

We note there are no further comments from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Marine Advisor.

f. Response to AA Submission from Geological Survey Ireland:

We note there are no further comments from Geological Survey Ireland.

g. Response to AA Submission from Inland Fisheries Ireland:

We note there are no further comments from Inland Fisheries Ireland.

h. Response to AA Submission from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, NPWS/UAU:

We note there are no further comments from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, NPWS/UAU.

i. Response to AA Submission from the Marine Survey Office:

We note there are no further comments from the Marine Survey Office

j. Response to AA Submission from the Commissioners of Irish Lights:

We note there are no further comments from the Commissioners of Irish Lights.

k. Response to AA Submission from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine:

We note the comment and that the department has no objection to the application.

l. Response to AA Submission from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Marine Advisor Ecologist:

The comments in reference to the Ballymacoda Bay SPA, the Blackwater Estuary SPA, the Roaringwater Bay SAC & Saltee Island SAC are noted and we note that these are considered in the AA and that you have raised no objections.

m. Response to AA Submission from Bird Watch Ireland:

We note there are no comments from Bird Watch Ireland.

n. Response to AA Submission from the Health & Safety Authority :

We note there are no further comments from the HSA.