



Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

The Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government (“the Minister”) hereby gives notice that he has determined an application dated 27 September 2010 for a licence under Section 3 of the Foreshore Act, 1933 (as amended) (“Foreshore Licence”) made by Bord Gais Networks Limited (“the Applicant”) to permit the applicant to install a gas pipeline under the Barrow Estuary to connect the national gas network to the Great Island power station in County Wexford.

DETERMINATION

The Minister has determined pursuant to the provisions of the Foreshore Act, 1933 (as amended) to grant a Foreshore Licence to the Applicants in respect of the development described in the application, subject to the conditions set out in the Foreshore Licence, and has affixed his seal thereto.

MAIN REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

The Minister has had regard to the following matters in determining the application for a Foreshore Licence:

- the application for a Foreshore Licence together with accompanying materials;
- The public consultation procedure carried out in respect of the application.
- the submissions received from prescribed bodies in respect of the application;
- the screening for appropriate assessment of the proposed development under domestic and EU law, including the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive, and its conclusions and recommendations in this regard;
- the screening for environmental impact assessment of the proposed development by the Marine Institute under domestic and EU law, including the EIA Directive, and its conclusions and recommendations in this regard;
- the environmental assessment of the proposed development by the Marine Licence Vetting Committee (“MLVC”) under domestic and EU law, including the EIA Directive, and its conclusions and recommendations in this regard; and
- the advice of the Marine Planning and Foreshore Section of the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.

Having had regard to the foregoing, and in particular having regard to the consent conditions attached to the Foreshore Licence, and having agreed with the recommendation of the MLVC, the Minister is satisfied that the proposed development on the foreshore would not have a significant negative impact on the marine environment, would not adversely impact on marine European sites, and that it is in the public interest to grant the Foreshore Licence having regard to the nature of the proposal and its objective of improving energy infrastructure.

The following information is available on the website of Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government at:

<http://www.environ.ie/en/Foreshore/ApplicationsandDeterminations/>

- (i) Notice of Determination;
- (ii) MLVC Report and Appendix thereto;
- (iii) Information on the public participation process, including copies of all submissions received;
- (iv) Submissions made by prescribed bodies;
- (v) Application for a Foreshore Licence together with supporting materials.

This material may also be inspected free of charge at the following office of the Department:

Marine Planning and Foreshore Section
Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government
Newtown Road
Wexford

Tel: 1890 20 20 21

Email: foreshore@environ.ie.

REVIEW PROCEDURE

A review procedure is available before the High Court whereby the substantive or procedural legality of the Minister's determination may be challenged. The review procedure is governed by Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts, 1986 (S.I. 15 of 1986, as amended by S.I. 691 of 2011). A person wishing to avail of the review procedure must first file (i) a statement of grounds; and (ii) a verifying affidavit, in the Central Office of the High Court. It is then necessary to make an *ex parte* application for leave to a judge of the High Court.

An application for leave to apply for judicial review is required to be made promptly and in any event within three months from the date when grounds for the application first arose, unless the Court considers, among other things, that there is good and sufficient reason for extending the period within which the application shall be made. The time-limit for such a review begins to run from the date of the grant of the Foreshore Licence, being 25th March 2013. Practical information on the review mechanism can be obtained from the Citizens Information Board, Ground Floor, George's Quay House, 43 Townsend Street, Dublin 2.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 50B of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as inserted by the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act, 2010), the special rules that apply in respect of the legal costs of judicial review proceedings based on European Environmental Law may apply to the judicial review proceedings. The general rule is that each party bears its own costs, irrespective of the outcome of the judicial review proceedings. The High Court retains discretion, however, to award costs in certain cases. The full text of Section 50B is available at:

<http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/2010/en/act/pub/0030/sec0033.html#sec33>

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNITY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
27 March 2013