

**Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2007**

**NOTICE OF SPECIFIED ALTERATIONS IN RELATION TO A DIRECT PLANNING APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA IN RESPECT OF A STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AN BORD PLEANÁLA REFERENCE NUMER 17.VA0002.**

**County Fingal & County Meath**

In accordance with Section 182A(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended by the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act, 2006, Eirgrid plc made an application for approval to An Bord Pleanála on the 18th November, 2008 in relation to the following proposed development:

Proposed high voltage direct current (HVDC) East West Interconnector between Ireland and Great Britain.

The proposed development will consist of the following:

- I. A submarine cable installed beneath the Irish seabed from the 12 nautical mile limit to an underground transition joint to be located in the car park at North Beach, Rush, Co. Dublin. The circuit will consist of two power cables installed at a depth of 1.5m to 3m within a route corridor 50m wide. The power cables will each be up to 150mm in diameter and weigh 50kg/m approximately. A fibre optic cable will also be installed primarily to control operation of the interconnector.
- E. Underground electric HVDC cables installed between the underground transition joint to be located at North Beach, Rush, Co. Dublin and a converter station to be located adjacent to an existing ESB 400kV Station in the townland of Woodland, west of Ballyestown, Co. Meath.

The proposed underground HVDC cables will be installed within a route corridor following the existing public road network where possible in the following townlands:

Townlands in County Fingal: Rush, Whitestown, Rogerstown, Bellealy East, Ballyally West, Newbaggard, Corruff Common, Corruff Hill, Corruff (part of Coldwinters), Thomondown, Richardstown, Grasslake, Rossell, Meisceort, Grange, Ballyboghil, Murnagh, Westpeinstown, Leacstown, Oldtown, Wyandown, Brownstown, Cottrisham, Mulstown, Wycroftown, Ballymadon and Glebe.  
 Townlands in County Meath: Rath, Cookstown, Hammanstown, Crickstown, Kilbray, Loughlinstown, Bodeen, Caberhill, Flamingtown, Twentygarr, Lagore Little, Brownstown, Ballymore, Brackstown, Eganstown, Curkees, Commons, Wilkinstown, Powderlough, Roystown, Rathrogan, Portan, Ribstown and Meeklane.

The underground cable section from Rush to Woodland will be 46.2km in length and will consist of two power cables installed in ducts laid in a trench approximately 1.2m deep and 1.8 wide. The trench will also contain a third duct which will contain a fibre optic cable to primarily control the operation of the interconnector. Lengths of underground power cable will be joined along the route at distances of 500m to 700 m approximately apart in underground joint pit. Each joint will be up to 3m wide, 15m long and 2 m deep.

- II. A converter station located adjacent to an existing ESB 400kV substation in the townland of Woodland in County Meath. The converter station will consist of a building to house converter valves, a converter reactor and switch gear. Ancillary buildings to house amenities, control room, store room, workshop, office, meeting room and medium voltage switch gear. The maximum height of any building on site will be 24m. The converter station compound will also contain the following outdoor high voltage equipment: converter transformer, AC filter capacitors and reactors, AC switchyard, AC rail station, diesel generator, auxiliary transformer, AC current and voltage transformers and the station earthing system.
- III. A new 400kV cable bay is to be constructed in the existing ESB Woodland 400kV station in the townland of Woodland. The cable bay consists of the following high voltage equipment: electrical disconnects, a circuit breaker, current transformers, voltage transformers and surge arrestors and will connect the station's busbar with the new converter station via an underground electric cable.

Details of the converter station, underground land cable route corridor and marine cable route corridor are shown on maps and drawings submitted with the application.

Specified alterations in relation to the application were lodged with An Bord Pleanála on the 9th day of July, 2009 on foot of a notice issued by the Board under section 182A(3)(b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended. These alterations, together with the original planning application documentation and the environmental report, may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee during public opening hours for a period of three weeks commencing on the 28th of July, 2009 at the following locations:

The Offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1  
 The Offices of Fingal County Council, PO Box 174, County Hall, Swords, Co. Dublin  
 The Offices of Meath County Council, County Hall, Navan, Co. Meath

The documentation may also be viewed/downloaded on the following website:  
[www.eirgrid.com/interconnector](http://www.eirgrid.com/interconnector)

Details of the specified alterations include the following:

An alteration to the cable route is proposed in the vicinity of Ballyally Landfill operated by Fingal County Council. An Bord Pleanála has asked that the route be revised at this location to prevent leachate from the landfill from having any adverse effects on the integrity of Rogerstown Estuary.

Two alternate route options have been identified.

Option A is through fields to the north of the vulnerable section of Ballyally Landfill i.e. from the railway underpass to the entrance to the landfill. The route rejoins the originally proposed route at a point along Ballyally Lane west of the entrance to Ballyally Landfill. The revised route is approximately 717m long.

Option B is a longer alternative route which extends option A further through fields to the west to a point on Ballyally Lane entirely beyond the curtilage of the landfill. The alternative route continues through fields from the end of route option A, following existing boundaries where possible. The alternative route is approximately 1583m long.

Submissions or observations in relation to the specified alterations only may be made solely to An Bord Pleanála (The Board), 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 during the above mentioned period of three weeks.

Any submissions/observations must be accompanied by a fee of €30 (except for certain prescribed bodies). There is no fee required to make a submission in relation to those parties/individuals who have already made a valid written submission to the Board regarding the application. Submissions or observations must be received by the Board not later than 8.30 p.m. on the 16th of August, 2009. Such submissions/observations must also include the following information:

- (i) The name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent.
- (ii) The subject matter of the submission or observation and
- (iii) The reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full.

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Board.

Any enquiries relating to the application or additional information should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Section of An Bord Pleanála (Tel: 01 8583100)  
 Date: 20th July 2009