

Mr. Peter Carey, Manager,  
Laois County Council,  
Áras an Chontae,  
Portlaoise,  
Co. Laois

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

Dear Mr. Carey,

EirGrid plc, with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for approval of proposed electricity transmission infrastructure, and associated works, in the townlands of Orchard Lower, Kyle, Coolnabacky, Money Lower, Loughteog, Carrigeen (E.D. Timogue), Esker, Ballygormill South, Cremorgan, Baunree, Raheenduff Big, Ballinaclogh Lower, Ballinaclogh Upper, Garryglass, Clarbarracum, Boleybeg, Knockardagur, Aghnacross, Boleybawn, Cloghoge and Ironmills or Kilrush in Co. Laois and the townlands of Loughill, Ballyoskill, Ballynalacken, Ballymartin, Tinnalintan, Sraleagh, Rathduff, Moatpark, Ballyragget, Donaghmore, Connahy, Foulksrath, Shanganny, Swiftsheath, Tullowglass, Gragara, Mohil, Ballyrafton, Bullockhill, Kilmademoge, Dunmorepark, Radestown South, Radestown North, Kyleroe, Brownstown, Kingsland (E.D. Kilkenny), Archersrath, Cellarstown West, Leggetsrath East, Cellarstown Lower, Cellarstown Upper, Higginstown, Templemartin (E.D. Clara), Rathbourn or Ratheenmore and Scart (E.D. Dunbell) in Co. Kilkenny.

The application, a copy of which is enclosed for your consideration, is comprised of three parts:

**Statutory Particulars** – includes the application form, copies of the site and newspaper notices, the drawings and schedules, the list of prescribed bodies consulted and letters of consent.

**Planning Report** – this report provides some background to the project and sets the proposal in its policy and environmental context. The report also gives a description of the study area and of the alternatives considered.

**Environmental Report** – this report assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development and proposes mitigation measures where appropriate.

The proposed Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project consists of 8 no. interrelated elements as follows:

**(i) A new 400/110kV GIS substation** comprising the construction of a new 400/110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation at Coolnaback and Esker townlands, north of Timahoe, Co. Laois. This substation, in a site area of approx. 7.6 hectares, will consist of: 2 no. Gas Insulated (GIS) substation buildings one operated at 400kV (building dimensions 64m x 15.5m x 13m) and the other operated at 110kV (building dimensions approx. 50m x 11.5m x 12.5m) within a 98m x 117m compound secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence; a 400kV gantry and associated line equipment required to divert the 400kV overhead lines into the 400kV GIS station; 2 no. 400/110kV, 500MVA transformers and 2 no. shunt reactors which will be positioned in transformer bunds between the two substation buildings; associated development including 8 no. separate sedimentation/attenuation ponds (average area 110m<sup>2</sup>); vehicular access to the substation is via a modification to the existing private road including the existing access point; foul holding tank; and all other ancillary site works.

**(ii) A new connection to the proposed Coolnaback substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnaback 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

**(iii) A new connection to the proposed Coolnaback substation from the existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** by replacing 2 no. existing intermediate polesets with 2 no. lattice steel line/cable interface masts both approx. 21m in height (both these structures are contained within the proposed Coolnaback substation site adjacent to the proposed site compound). Short lengths of underground cable (approx. 100m and 190m in length) will connect the new line/cable interface masts into the 110kV building within the proposed Coolnaback compound. Approximately 150m of existing overhead line will be removed between the 2 no. line/cable interface masts.

**(iv) A new 110kV / 38kV / MV substation in Moatpark, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny** in a site area of approx. 1.5 hectares constructed adjacent to the existing 38kV /MV Ballyragget substation. The proposed 110kV GIS substation (approx. dimensions 50m x 11.5m by 12m high) will be in a compound of 61m x 70m plan area secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence. The compound will also include: a 38kV / MV GIS substation building (approx. dimensions 24.5m x 8m by 7m high); 1 no. 31.5MVA 110/38kV transformer and 1 no. 5MVA 38/20kV transformer positioned in transformer bunds between the substation buildings; a new access road (60m long) from an existing entrance to

the substation; 2 no. lightning masts each approx. 14m in height; associated development of a septic tank and percolation area, soakaway pits and all other ancillary site works.

**(v) A new 110kV overhead line between the proposed Ballyragget substation and the proposed Coolnabacky substation** consisting of approx. 26km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at the approach to the proposed Ballyragget and Coolnabacky substations. The overhead line will consist of 143 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 17 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors and two earthwires. Approx. 160m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast within the Ballyragget substation site and approx. 190m of underground cable connects the proposed Coolnabacky 110kV building to the line/cable interface mast adjacent to the proposed Coolnabacky substation

**(vi) An uprate to the existing Ballyragget - Kilkenny 110kV overhead line** consisting of the replacement of all the structures along the existing line with similar structures along the same alignment except for the first 670m out of Ballyragget substation and the first 275m out of Kilkenny substation which are required to be realigned as well as uprated. The development comprises approx. 21.9km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at Ballyragget and Kilkenny substations. The overhead line will consist of 90 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 14 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors. Approx. 215m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast and approx. 50m of underground cable connects the line/cable interface mast to the electrical equipment in Kilkenny substation

**(vii) A new bay in the existing Kilkenny 110kV substation** of dimensions measuring approx. 20m x 6m x 5m high consisting of the installation of outdoor air insulated equipment including, circuit breaker, disconnects and instrument transformers mounted on concrete plinths; the removal of the existing end mast; and all other ancillary site works..

**(viii) Modifications to existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** comprising the replacement of existing structures along a portion of the existing Athy – Portlaoise 110kV line from the proposed Coolnabacky substation south-eastwards towards Athy for approx. 2.3km and from the proposed Coolnabacky substation north-westward towards Portlaoise for approx. 1.3km. The replacement structures, which will be of a generally similar form and character to those existing, will be fitted with earthwire. 1 no. existing poleset structure will be replaced with a lattice steel angle mast. The proposed replacement overhead line will thereby consist of 17 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 2 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m.

The application for approval includes all associated and ancillary site works.

The Board may in respect of an application for approval decide to:

- (a) (i) approve the proposed development,  
(ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its approval of the proposed development as so modified, or  
(iii) approve, in part only the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind,

and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or

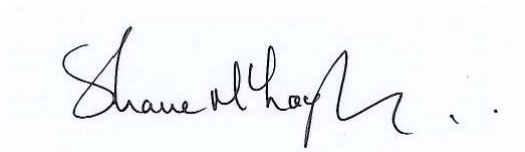
- (b) refuse to approve the proposed development.

Any submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to;

- the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development; and,
- the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be received by the Board no later than 5.30 pm on **21<sup>st</sup> March 2013**.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane McLoughney', written over a light blue rectangular background.

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**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**

Mr. Joe Crockett, Manager,  
Kilkenny County Council,  
County Hall,  
John Street,  
Kilkenny,  
Co. Kilkenny.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

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**Environmental Report** – this report assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development and proposes mitigation measures where appropriate.

The proposed Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project consists of 8 no. interrelated elements as follows:

ESB International is a trading name of ESBI Engineering & Facility Management Limited.

**Directors:** Gerry Tallon, John Redmond, Michael O'Brien, Oliver Brogan.  
**Registered Office:** Stephen Court, 18–21 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland.  
**Registered in Ireland No.** 155249



(i) **A new 400/110kV GIS substation** comprising the construction of a new 400/110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation at Coolnabacky and Esker townlands, north of Timahoe, Co. Laois. This substation, in a site area of approx. 7.6 hectares, will consist of: 2 no. Gas Insulated (GIS) substation buildings one operated at 400kV (building dimensions 64m x 15.5m x 13m) and the other operated at 110kV (building dimensions approx. 50m x 11.5m x 12.5m) within a 98m x 117m compound secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence; a 400kV gantry and associated line equipment required to divert the 400kV overhead lines into the 400kV GIS station; 2 no. 400/110kV, 500MVA transformers and 2 no. shunt reactors which will be positioned in transformer bunds between the two substation buildings; associated development including 8 no. separate sedimentation/attenuation ponds (average area 110m<sup>2</sup>); vehicular access to the substation is via a modification to the existing private road including the existing access point; foul holding tank; and all other ancillary site works.

(ii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

(iii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** by replacing 2 no. existing intermediate polesets with 2 no. lattice steel line/cable interface masts both approx. 21m in height (both these structures are contained within the proposed Coolnabacky substation site adjacent to the proposed site compound). Short lengths of underground cable (approx. 100m and 190m in length) will connect the new line/cable interface masts into the 110kV building within the proposed Coolnabacky compound. Approximately 150m of existing overhead line will be removed between the 2 no. line/cable interface masts.

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**(vi) An uprate to the existing Ballyragget - Kilkenny 110kV overhead line** consisting of the replacement of all the structures along the existing line with similar structures along the same alignment except for the first 670m out of Ballyragget substation and the first 275m out of Kilkenny substation which are required to be realigned as well as uprated. The development comprises approx. 21.9km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at Ballyragget and Kilkenny substations. The overhead line will consist of 90 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 14 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors. Approx. 215m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast and approx. 50m of underground cable connects the line/cable interface mast to the electrical equipment in Kilkenny substation

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The application for approval includes all associated and ancillary site works

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Yours sincerely,



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**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**



Minister Phil Hogan T.D.  
C/O Ms. Aisling Glynn, the Ministers Office  
Department of Environment Community  
and local Government,  
Custom House,  
Dublin 1.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

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**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**

The Manager,  
C/O Ms. Yvonne Nolan,  
Development Applications Unit,  
Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht,  
Newtown Road,  
Wexford.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

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**Environmental Report** – this report assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development and proposes mitigation measures where appropriate.

The proposed Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project consists of 8 no. interrelated elements as follows:

ESB International is a trading name of ESBI Engineering & Facility Management Limited.

**Directors:** Gerry Tallon, John Redmond, Michael O'Brien, Oliver Brogan.  
**Registered Office:** Stephen Court, 18–21 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland.  
**Registered in Ireland No.** 155249



(i) **A new 400/110kV GIS substation** comprising the construction of a new 400/110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation at Coolnabacky and Esker townlands, north of Timahoe, Co. Laois. This substation, in a site area of approx. 7.6 hectares, will consist of: 2 no. Gas Insulated (GIS) substation buildings one operated at 400kV (building dimensions 64m x 15.5m x 13m) and the other operated at 110kV (building dimensions approx. 50m x 11.5m x 12.5m) within a 98m x 117m compound secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence; a 400kV gantry and associated line equipment required to divert the 400kV overhead lines into the 400kV GIS station; 2 no. 400/110kV, 500MVA transformers and 2 no. shunt reactors which will be positioned in transformer bunds between the two substation buildings; associated development including 8 no. separate sedimentation/attenuation ponds (average area 110m<sup>2</sup>); vehicular access to the substation is via a modification to the existing private road including the existing access point; foul holding tank; and all other ancillary site works.

(ii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

(iii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** by replacing 2 no. existing intermediate polesets with 2 no. lattice steel line/cable interface masts both approx. 21m in height (both these structures are contained within the proposed Coolnabacky substation site adjacent to the proposed site compound). Short lengths of underground cable (approx. 100m and 190m in length) will connect the new line/cable interface masts into the 110kV building within the proposed Coolnabacky compound. Approximately 150m of existing overhead line will be removed between the 2 no. line/cable interface masts.

(iv) **A new 110kV / 38kV / MV substation in Moatpark, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny** in a site area of approx. 1.5 hectares constructed adjacent to the existing 38kV /MV Ballyragget substation. The proposed 110kV GIS substation (approx. dimensions 50m x 11.5m by 12m high) will be in a compound of 61m x 70m plan area secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence. The compound will also include: a 38kV / MV GIS substation building (approx. dimensions 24.5m x 8m by 7m high); 1 no. 31.5MVA 110/38kV transformer and 1 no. 5MVA 38/20kV transformer positioned in transformer bunds between the substation buildings; a new access road (60m long) from an existing entrance to the substation; 2 no. lightning masts each approx. 14m in height; associated development of a septic tank and percolation area, soakaway pits and all other ancillary site works.

**(v) A new 110kV overhead line between the proposed Ballyragget substation and the proposed Coolnabacky substation** consisting of approx. 26km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at the approach to the proposed Ballyragget and Coolnabacky substations. The overhead line will consist of 143 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 17 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors and two earthwires. Approx. 160m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast within the Ballyragget substation site and approx. 190m of underground cable connects the proposed Coolnabacky 110kV building to the line/cable interface mast adjacent to the proposed Coolnabacky substation

**(vi) An uprate to the existing Ballyragget - Kilkenny 110kV overhead line** consisting of the replacement of all the structures along the existing line with similar structures along the same alignment except for the first 670m out of Ballyragget substation and the first 275m out of Kilkenny substation which are required to be realigned as well as uprated. The development comprises approx. 21.9km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at Ballyragget and Kilkenny substations. The overhead line will consist of 90 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 14 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors. Approx. 215m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast and approx. 50m of underground cable connects the line/cable interface mast to the electrical equipment in Kilkenny substation

**(vii) A new bay in the existing Kilkenny 110kV substation** of dimensions measuring approx. 20m x 6m x 5m high consisting of the installation of outdoor air insulated equipment including, circuit breaker, disconnects and instrument transformers mounted on concrete plinths; the removal of the existing end mast; and all other ancillary site works..

**(viii) Modifications to existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** comprising the replacement of existing structures along a portion of the existing Athy – Portlaoise 110kV line from the proposed Coolnabacky substation south-eastwards towards Athy for approx. 2.3km and from the proposed Coolnabacky substation north-westward towards Portlaoise for approx. 1.3km. The replacement structures, which will be of a generally similar form and character to those existing, will be fitted with earthwire. 1 no. existing poleset structure will be replaced with a lattice steel angle mast. The proposed replacement overhead line will thereby consist of 17 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 2 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m.

The application for approval includes all associated and ancillary site works

The Board may in respect of an application for approval decide to:

- (a) (i) approve the proposed development,  
(ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its approval of the proposed development as so modified, or  
(iii) approve, in part only the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind,

and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or

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Any submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to;

- the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development; and,
- the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be received by the Board no later than 5.30 pm on **21<sup>st</sup> March 2013**.

Yours sincerely,



---

**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**



The Minister,  
Corporate Support Unit,  
Department of Communications Energy and Natural Resources,  
Elm House,  
Earlsvale Road,  
Cavan,  
County Cavan.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

Dear Minister,

EirGrid plc, with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for approval of proposed electricity transmission infrastructure, and associated works, in the townlands of Orchard Lower, Kyle, Coolnabacky, Money Lower, Loughteog, Carrigeen (E.D. Timogue), Esker, Ballygormill South, Cremorgan, Baunree, Raheenduff Big, Ballinaclogh Lower, Ballinaclogh Upper, Garryglass, Clarbarracum, Boleybeg, Knockardagur, Aghnacross, Boleybawn, Cloghoge and Ironmills or Kilrush in Co. Laois and the townlands of Loughill, Ballyoskill, Ballynalacken, Ballymartin, Tinnalintan, Sraleagh, Rathduff, Moatpark, Ballyragget, Donaghmore, Connahy, Foulksrath, Shanganny, Swiftsheath, Tullowglass, Gragara, Mohil, Ballyrafton, Bullockhill, Kilmademoge, Dunmorepark, Radestown South, Radestown North, Kyleroe, Brownstown, Kingsland (E.D. Kilkenny), Archersrath, Cellarstown West, Leggetsrath East, Cellarstown Lower, Cellarstown Upper, Higginstown, Templemartin (E.D. Clara), Rathbourn or Ratheenmore and Scart (E.D. Dunbell) in Co. Kilkenny.

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**Environmental Report** – this report assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development and proposes mitigation measures where appropriate.

The proposed Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project consists of 8 no. interrelated elements as follows:

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**(i) A new 400/110kV GIS substation** comprising the construction of a new 400/110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation at Coolnabacky and Esker townlands, north of Timahoe, Co. Laois. This substation, in a site area of approx. 7.6 hectares, will consist of: 2 no. Gas Insulated (GIS) substation buildings one operated at 400kV (building dimensions 64m x 15.5m x 13m) and the other operated at 110kV (building dimensions approx. 50m x 11.5m x 12.5m) within a 98m x 117m compound secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence; a 400kV gantry and associated line equipment required to divert the 400kV overhead lines into the 400kV GIS station; 2 no. 400/110kV, 500MVA transformers and 2 no. shunt reactors which will be positioned in transformer bunds between the two substation buildings; associated development including 8 no. separate sedimentation/attenuation ponds (average area 110m<sup>2</sup>); vehicular access to the substation is via a modification to the existing private road including the existing access point; foul holding tank; and all other ancillary site works.

**(ii) A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

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**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**

**ESB International**, Stephen Court, 18–21 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland.

**Tel:** +353 (0) 1 703 8000 **Fax:** +353 (0) 1 703 8088 **Email:** [marketing@esbi.ie](mailto:marketing@esbi.ie) **Web:** [www.esbi.ie](http://www.esbi.ie)

Ms. Tara Spain,  
National Roads Authority,  
St. Martin's House,  
Waterloo Road,  
Dublin 4

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

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**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**



Mr. Ian Lumney  
An Taisce,  
Heritage & Planning Office,  
Tailor's Hall,  
Back lane,  
Dublin 8.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

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(ii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

(iii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** by replacing 2 no. existing intermediate polesets with 2 no. lattice steel line/cable interface masts both approx. 21m in height (both these structures are contained within the proposed Coolnabacky substation site adjacent to the proposed site compound). Short lengths of underground cable (approx. 100m and 190m in length) will connect the new line/cable interface masts into the 110kV building within the proposed Coolnabacky compound. Approximately 150m of existing overhead line will be removed between the 2 no. line/cable interface masts.

(iv) **A new 110kV / 38kV / MV substation in Moatpark, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny** in a site area of approx. 1.5 hectares constructed adjacent to the existing 38kV /MV Ballyragget substation. The proposed 110kV GIS substation (approx. dimensions 50m x 11.5m by 12m high) will be in a compound of 61m x 70m plan area secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence. The compound will also include: a 38kV / MV GIS substation building (approx. dimensions 24.5m x 8m by 7m high); 1 no. 31.5MVA 110/38kV transformer and 1 no. 5MVA 38/20kV transformer positioned in transformer bunds between the substation buildings; a new access road (60m long) from an existing entrance to the substation; 2 no. lightning masts each approx. 14m in height; associated development of a septic tank and percolation area, soakaway pits and all other ancillary site works.

**(v) A new 110kV overhead line between the proposed Ballyragget substation and the proposed Coolnabacky substation** consisting of approx. 26km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at the approach to the proposed Ballyragget and Coolnabacky substations. The overhead line will consist of 143 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 17 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors and two earthwires. Approx. 160m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast within the Ballyragget substation site and approx. 190m of underground cable connects the proposed Coolnabacky 110kV building to the line/cable interface mast adjacent to the proposed Coolnabacky substation

**(vi) An uprate to the existing Ballyragget - Kilkenny 110kV overhead line** consisting of the replacement of all the structures along the existing line with similar structures along the same alignment except for the first 670m out of Ballyragget substation and the first 275m out of Kilkenny substation which are required to be realigned as well as uprated. The development comprises approx. 21.9km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at Ballyragget and Kilkenny substations. The overhead line will consist of 90 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 14 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors. Approx. 215m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast and approx. 50m of underground cable connects the line/cable interface mast to the electrical equipment in Kilkenny substation

**(vii) A new bay in the existing Kilkenny 110kV substation** of dimensions measuring approx. 20m x 6m x 5m high consisting of the installation of outdoor air insulated equipment including, circuit breaker, disconnects and instrument transformers mounted on concrete plinths; the removal of the existing end mast; and all other ancillary site works..

**(viii) Modifications to existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** comprising the replacement of existing structures along a portion of the existing Athy – Portlaoise 110kV line from the proposed Coolnabacky substation south-eastwards towards Athy for approx. 2.3km and from the proposed Coolnabacky substation north-westward towards Portlaoise for approx. 1.3km. The replacement structures, which will be of a generally similar form and character to those existing, will be fitted with earthwire. 1 no. existing poleset structure will be replaced with a lattice steel angle mast. The proposed replacement overhead line will thereby consist of 17 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 2 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m.

The application for approval includes all associated and ancillary site works

The Board may in respect of an application for approval decide to:

- (a) (i) approve the proposed development,  
(ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its approval of the proposed development as so modified, or  
(iii) approve, in part only the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind,

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Any submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to;

- the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development; and,
- the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be received by the Board no later than 5.30 pm on **21<sup>st</sup> March 2013**.

Yours sincerely,



---

**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**

Ms. Alison Harvey  
Planning and Development Officer,  
The Heritage Council,  
Church Lane,  
Kilkenny.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

Dear Ms. Harvey,

EirGrid plc, with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for approval of proposed electricity transmission infrastructure, and associated works, in the townlands of Orchard Lower, Kyle, Coolnabacky, Money Lower, Loughteog, Carrigeen (E.D. Timogue), Esker, Ballygormill South, Cremorgan, Baunree, Raheenduff Big, Ballinaclogh Lower, Ballinaclogh Upper, Garryglass, Clarbarracum, Boleybeg, Knockardagur, Aghnacross, Boleybawn, Cloghoge and Ironmills or Kilrush in Co. Laois and the townlands of Loughill, Ballyoskill, Ballynalacken, Ballymartin, Tinnalintan, Sraleagh, Rathduff, Moatpark, Ballyragget, Donaghmore, Connahy, Foulksrath, Shanganny, Swiftsheath, Tullowglass, Gragara, Mohil, Ballyrafton, Bullockhill, Kilmademoge, Dunmorepark, Radestown South, Radestown North, Kyleroe, Brownstown, Kingsland (E.D. Kilkenny), Archersrath, Cellarstown West, Leggetsrath East, Cellarstown Lower, Cellarstown Upper, Higginstown, Templemartin (E.D. Clara), Rathbourn or Ratheenmore and Scart (E.D. Dunbell) in Co. Kilkenny.

The application, a copy of which is enclosed for your consideration, is comprised of three parts:

**Statutory Particulars** – includes the application form, copies of the site and newspaper notices, the drawings and schedules, the list of prescribed bodies consulted and letters of consent.

**Planning Report** – this report provides some background to the project and sets the proposal in its policy and environmental context. The report also gives a description of the study area and of the alternatives considered.

**Environmental Report** – this report assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development and proposes mitigation measures where appropriate.

The proposed Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project consists of 8 no. interrelated elements as follows:

ESB International is a trading name of ESBI Engineering & Facility Management Limited.

**(i) A new 400/110kV GIS substation** comprising the construction of a new 400/110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation at Coolnabacky and Esker townlands, north of Timahoe, Co. Laois. This substation, in a site area of approx. 7.6 hectares, will consist of: 2 no. Gas Insulated (GIS) substation buildings one operated at 400kV (building dimensions 64m x 15.5m x 13m) and the other operated at 110kV (building dimensions approx. 50m x 11.5m x 12.5m) within a 98m x 117m compound secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence; a 400kV gantry and associated line equipment required to divert the 400kV overhead lines into the 400kV GIS station; 2 no. 400/110kV, 500MVA transformers and 2 no. shunt reactors which will be positioned in transformer bunds between the two substation buildings; associated development including 8 no. separate sedimentation/attenuation ponds (average area 110m<sup>2</sup>); vehicular access to the substation is via a modification to the existing private road including the existing access point; foul holding tank; and all other ancillary site works.

**(ii) A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

**(iii) A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** by replacing 2 no. existing intermediate polesets with 2 no. lattice steel line/cable interface masts both approx. 21m in height (both these structures are contained within the proposed Coolnabacky substation site adjacent to the proposed site compound). Short lengths of underground cable (approx. 100m and 190m in length) will connect the new line/cable interface masts into the 110kV building within the proposed Coolnabacky compound. Approximately 150m of existing overhead line will be removed between the 2 no. line/cable interface masts.

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Yours sincerely,

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**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**



Mr. Patrick Kilfeather,  
Inland Fisheries Ireland,  
Anglesea Street,  
Clonmel,  
Co. Tipperary.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

Dear Mr. Kilfeather,

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**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**

Ms. Deirdre Forrest,  
Irish Aviation Authority,  
The Times Building,  
11-12 D'Olier Street,  
Dublin 2.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

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(ii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

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(iv) **A new 110kV / 38kV / MV substation in Moatpark, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny** in a site area of approx. 1.5 hectares constructed adjacent to the existing 38kV /MV Ballyragget substation. The proposed 110kV GIS substation (approx. dimensions 50m x 11.5m by 12m high) will be in a compound of 61m x 70m plan area secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence. The compound will also include: a 38kV / MV GIS substation building (approx. dimensions 24.5m x 8m by 7m high); 1 no. 31.5MVA 110/38kV transformer and 1 no. 5MVA 38/20kV transformer positioned in transformer bunds between the substation buildings; a new access road (60m long) from an existing entrance to the substation; 2 no. lightning masts each approx. 14m in height; associated development of a septic tank and percolation area, soakaway pits and all other ancillary site works.

**(v) A new 110kV overhead line between the proposed Ballyragget substation and the proposed Coolnabacky substation** consisting of approx. 26km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at the approach to the proposed Ballyragget and Coolnabacky substations. The overhead line will consist of 143 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 17 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors and two earthwires. Approx. 160m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast within the Ballyragget substation site and approx. 190m of underground cable connects the proposed Coolnabacky 110kV building to the line/cable interface mast adjacent to the proposed Coolnabacky substation

**(vi) An uprate to the existing Ballyragget - Kilkenny 110kV overhead line** consisting of the replacement of all the structures along the existing line with similar structures along the same alignment except for the first 670m out of Ballyragget substation and the first 275m out of Kilkenny substation which are required to be realigned as well as uprated. The development comprises approx. 21.9km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at Ballyragget and Kilkenny substations. The overhead line will consist of 90 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 14 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors. Approx. 215m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast and approx. 50m of underground cable connects the line/cable interface mast to the electrical equipment in Kilkenny substation

**(vii) A new bay in the existing Kilkenny 110kV substation** of dimensions measuring approx. 20m x 6m x 5m high consisting of the installation of outdoor air insulated equipment including, circuit breaker, disconnects and instrument transformers mounted on concrete plinths; the removal of the existing end mast; and all other ancillary site works..

**(viii) Modifications to existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** comprising the replacement of existing structures along a portion of the existing Athy – Portlaoise 110kV line from the proposed Coolnabacky substation south-eastwards towards Athy for approx. 2.3km and from the proposed Coolnabacky substation north-westward towards Portlaoise for approx. 1.3km. The replacement structures, which will be of a generally similar form and character to those existing, will be fitted with earthwire. 1 no. existing poleset structure will be replaced with a lattice steel angle mast. The proposed replacement overhead line will thereby consist of 17 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 2 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m.

The application for approval includes all associated and ancillary site works

The Board may in respect of an application for approval decide to:

- (a) (i) approve the proposed development,  
(ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its approval of the proposed development as so modified, or  
(iii) approve, in part only the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind,

and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or

- (b) refuse to approve the proposed development.

Any submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to;

- the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development; and,
- the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be received by the Board no later than 5.30 pm on **21<sup>st</sup> March 2013**.

Yours sincerely,



---

**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**



Ms. Aisling McKone,  
The Arts Council,  
70 Merrion Square,  
Dublin 2.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

Dear Ms. McKone,

EirGrid plc, with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for approval of proposed electricity transmission infrastructure, and associated works, in the townlands of Orchard Lower, Kyle, Coolnabacky, Money Lower, Loughteog, Carrigeen (E.D. Timogue), Esker, Ballygormill South, Cremorgan, Baunree, Raheenduff Big, Ballinaclogh Lower, Ballinaclogh Upper, Garryglass, Clarbarracum, Boleybeg, Knockardagur, Aghnacross, Boleybawn, Cloghoge and Ironmills or Kilrush in Co. Laois and the townlands of Loughill, Ballyoskill, Ballynalacken, Ballymartin, Tinnalintan, Sraleagh, Rathduff, Moatpark, Ballyragget, Donaghmore, Connahy, Foulksrath, Shanganny, Swiftsheath, Tullowglass, Gragara, Mohil, Ballyraftern, Bullockhill, Kilmademoge, Dunmorepark, Radestown South, Radestown North, Kyleroe, Brownstown, Kingsland (E.D. Kilkenny), Archersrath, Cellarstown West, Leggetsrath East, Cellarstown Lower, Cellarstown Upper, Higginstown, Templemartin (E.D. Clara), Rathbourn or Ratheenmore and Scart (E.D. Dunbell) in Co. Kilkenny.

The application, a copy of which is enclosed for your consideration, is comprised of three parts:

**Statutory Particulars** – includes the application form, copies of the site and newspaper notices, the drawings and schedules, the list of prescribed bodies consulted and letters of consent.

**Planning Report** – this report provides some background to the project and sets the proposal in its policy and environmental context. The report also gives a description of the study area and of the alternatives considered.

**Environmental Report** – this report assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development and proposes mitigation measures where appropriate.

The proposed Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project consists of 8 no. interrelated elements as follows:

ESB International is a trading name of ESBI Engineering & Facility Management Limited.

**Directors:** Gerry Tallon, John Redmond, Michael O'Brien, Oliver Brogan.

**Registered Office:** Stephen Court, 18–21 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland.

**Registered in Ireland No.** 155249



**(i) A new 400/110kV GIS substation** comprising the construction of a new 400/110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation at Coolnabacky and Esker townlands, north of Timahoe, Co. Laois. This substation, in a site area of approx. 7.6 hectares, will consist of: 2 no. Gas Insulated (GIS) substation buildings one operated at 400kV (building dimensions 64m x 15.5m x 13m) and the other operated at 110kV (building dimensions approx. 50m x 11.5m x 12.5m) within a 98m x 117m compound secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence; a 400kV gantry and associated line equipment required to divert the 400kV overhead lines into the 400kV GIS station; 2 no. 400/110kV, 500MVA transformers and 2 no. shunt reactors which will be positioned in transformer bunds between the two substation buildings; associated development including 8 no. separate sedimentation/attenuation ponds (average area 110m<sup>2</sup>); vehicular access to the substation is via a modification to the existing private road including the existing access point; foul holding tank; and all other ancillary site works.

**(ii) A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

**(iii) A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** by replacing 2 no. existing intermediate polesets with 2 no. lattice steel line/cable interface masts both approx. 21m in height (both these structures are contained within the proposed Coolnabacky substation site adjacent to the proposed site compound). Short lengths of underground cable (approx. 100m and 190m in length) will connect the new line/cable interface masts into the 110kV building within the proposed Coolnabacky compound. Approximately 150m of existing overhead line will be removed between the 2 no. line/cable interface masts.

**(iv) A new 110kV / 38kV / MV substation in Moatpark, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny** in a site area of approx. 1.5 hectares constructed adjacent to the existing 38kV /MV Ballyragget substation. The proposed 110kV GIS substation (approx. dimensions 50m x 11.5m by 12m high) will be in a compound of 61m x 70m plan area secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence. The compound will also include: a 38kV / MV GIS substation building (approx. dimensions 24.5m x 8m by 7m high); 1 no. 31.5MVA 110/38kV transformer and 1 no. 5MVA 38/20kV transformer positioned in transformer bunds between the substation buildings; a new access road (60m long) from an existing entrance to the substation; 2 no. lightning masts each approx. 14m in height; associated development of a septic tank and percolation area, soakaway pits and all other ancillary site works.

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**(vi) An uprate to the existing Ballyragget - Kilkenny 110kV overhead line** consisting of the replacement of all the structures along the existing line with similar structures along the same alignment except for the first 670m out of Ballyragget substation and the first 275m out of Kilkenny substation which are required to be realigned as well as uprated. The development comprises approx. 21.9km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at Ballyragget and Kilkenny substations. The overhead line will consist of 90 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 14 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors. Approx. 215m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast and approx. 50m of underground cable connects the line/cable interface mast to the electrical equipment in Kilkenny substation

**(vii) A new bay in the existing Kilkenny 110kV substation** of dimensions measuring approx. 20m x 6m x 5m high consisting of the installation of outdoor air insulated equipment including, circuit breaker, disconnects and instrument transformers mounted on concrete plinths; the removal of the existing end mast; and all other ancillary site works..

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The Board may in respect of an application for approval decide to:

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and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or

- (b) refuse to approve the proposed development.

Any submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to;

- the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development; and,
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Any submissions/observations must be received by the Board no later than 5.30 pm on **21<sup>st</sup> March 2013**.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane McLoughney', written over a light blue rectangular background.

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**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**

Mr. Paul Brandon,  
(C/O Ms. Aoife Crowe)  
Generation Team,  
Commission for Energy Regulation,  
The Exchange,  
Belgard Square North,  
Tallaght, Dublin 24

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

Dear Mr. Brandon,

EirGrid plc, with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for approval of proposed electricity transmission infrastructure, and associated works, in the townlands of Orchard Lower, Kyle, Coolnabacky, Money Lower, Loughteog, Carrigeen (E.D. Timogue), Esker, Ballygormill South, Cremorgan, Baunree, Raheenduff Big, Ballinaclogh Lower, Ballinaclogh Upper, Garryglass, Clarbarracum, Boleybeg, Knockardagur, Aghnacross, Boleybawn, Cloghoge and Ironmills or Kilrush in Co. Laois and the townlands of Loughill, Ballyoskill, Ballynalacken, Ballymartin, Tinnalintan, Sraleagh, Rathduff, Moatpark, Ballyragget, Donaghmore, Connahy, Foulksrath, Shanganny, Swiftsheath, Tullowglass, Gragara, Mohil, Ballyrafton, Bullockhill, Kilmademoge, Dunmorepark, Radestown South, Radestown North, Kyleroe, Brownstown, Kingsland (E.D. Kilkenny), Archersrath, Cellarstown West, Leggetsrath East, Cellarstown Lower, Cellarstown Upper, Higginstown, Templemartin (E.D. Clara), Rathbourn or Ratheenmore and Scart (E.D. Dunbell) in Co. Kilkenny.

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**Planning Report** – this report provides some background to the project and sets the proposal in its policy and environmental context. The report also gives a description of the study area and of the alternatives considered.

**Environmental Report** – this report assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development and proposes mitigation measures where appropriate.

The proposed Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project consists of 8 no. interrelated elements as follows:

**(i) A new 400/110kV GIS substation** comprising the construction of a new 400/110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation at Coolnabacky and Esker townlands, north of Timahoe, Co. Laois. This substation, in a site area of approx. 7.6 hectares, will consist of: 2 no. Gas Insulated (GIS) substation buildings one operated at 400kV (building dimensions 64m x 15.5m x 13m) and the other operated at 110kV (building dimensions approx. 50m x 11.5m x 12.5m) within a 98m x 117m compound secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence; a 400kV gantry and associated line equipment required to divert the 400kV overhead lines into the 400kV GIS station; 2 no. 400/110kV, 500MVA transformers and 2 no. shunt reactors which will be positioned in transformer bunds between the two substation buildings; associated development including 8 no. separate sedimentation/attenuation ponds (average area 110m<sup>2</sup>); vehicular access to the substation is via a modification to the existing private road including the existing access point; foul holding tank; and all other ancillary site works.

**(ii) A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

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The application for approval includes all associated and ancillary site works

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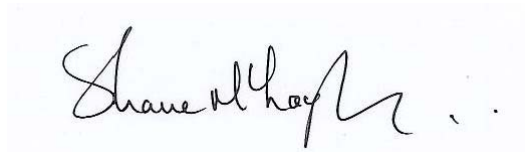
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Yours sincerely,



---

**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**



**ESB International**, Stephen Court, 18–21 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland.

**Tel:** +353 (0) 1 703 8000 **Fax:** +353 (0) 1 703 8088 **Email:** [marketing@esbi.ie](mailto:marketing@esbi.ie) **Web:** [www.esbi.ie](http://www.esbi.ie)

Ms. Fiona McCormack,  
PA to Mr. Gavin Maguire, Assistant National Director  
for Environmental Health & Emergency Management,  
Health Service Executive,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Oak House,  
Lime Tree Avenue,  
Millennium Park,  
Naas,  
County Kildare.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

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**Directors:** Gerry Tallon, John Redmond, Michael O'Brien, Oliver Brogan.

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**(ii) A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

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**(iv) A new 110kV / 38kV / MV substation in Moatpark, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny** in a site area of approx. 1.5 hectares constructed adjacent to the existing 38kV /MV Ballyragget substation. The proposed 110kV GIS substation (approx. dimensions 50m x 11.5m by 12m high) will be in a compound of 61m x 70m plan area secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence. The compound will also include: a 38kV / MV GIS substation building (approx. dimensions 24.5m x 8m by 7m high); 1 no. 31.5MVA 110/38kV transformer and 1 no. 5MVA 38/20kV transformer positioned in transformer bunds between the substation buildings; a new access road (60m long) from an existing entrance to

the substation; 2 no. lightning masts each approx. 14m in height; associated development of a septic tank and percolation area, soakaway pits and all other ancillary site works.

**(v) A new 110kV overhead line between the proposed Ballyragget substation and the proposed Coolnabacky substation** consisting of approx. 26km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at the approach to the proposed Ballyragget and Coolnabacky substations. The overhead line will consist of 143 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 17 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors and two earthwires. Approx. 160m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast within the Ballyragget substation site and approx. 190m of underground cable connects the proposed Coolnabacky 110kV building to the line/cable interface mast adjacent to the proposed Coolnabacky substation

**(vi) An uprate to the existing Ballyragget - Kilkenny 110kV overhead line** consisting of the replacement of all the structures along the existing line with similar structures along the same alignment except for the first 670m out of Ballyragget substation and the first 275m out of Kilkenny substation which are required to be realigned as well as uprated. The development comprises approx. 21.9km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at Ballyragget and Kilkenny substations. The overhead line will consist of 90 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 14 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors. Approx. 215m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast and approx. 50m of underground cable connects the line/cable interface mast to the electrical equipment in Kilkenny substation

**(vii) A new bay in the existing Kilkenny 110kV substation** of dimensions measuring approx. 20m x 6m x 5m high consisting of the installation of outdoor air insulated equipment including, circuit breaker, disconnects and instrument transformers mounted on concrete plinths; the removal of the existing end mast; and all other ancillary site works..

**(viii) Modifications to existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** comprising the replacement of existing structures along a portion of the existing Athy – Portlaoise 110kV line from the proposed Coolnabacky substation south-eastwards towards Athy for approx. 2.3km and from the proposed Coolnabacky substation north-westward towards Portlaoise for approx. 1.3km. The replacement structures, which will be of a generally similar form and character to those existing, will be fitted with earthwire. 1 no. existing poleset structure will be replaced with a lattice steel angle mast. The proposed replacement overhead line will thereby consist of 17 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 2 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m.

The application for approval includes all associated and ancillary site works

The Board may in respect of an application for approval decide to:

- (a) (i) approve the proposed development,  
(ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its approval of the proposed development as so modified, or  
(iii) approve, in part only the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind,

and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or

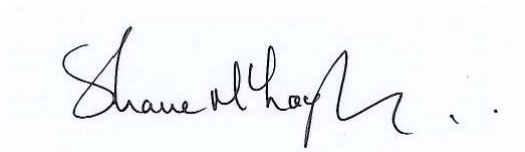
- (b) refuse to approve the proposed development.

Any submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to;

- the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development; and,
- the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be received by the Board no later than 5.30 pm on **21<sup>st</sup> March 2013**.

Yours sincerely,



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**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**

Mr. Paddy Matthews  
Manager of Environment  
and Planning,  
Fáilte Ireland,  
Amiens Street,  
Dublin 1.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

Dear Mr. Matthews,

EirGrid plc, with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for approval of proposed electricity transmission infrastructure, and associated works, in the townlands of Orchard Lower, Kyle, Coolnabacky, Money Lower, Loughteog, Carrigeen (E.D. Timogue), Esker, Ballygormill South, Cremorgan, Baunree, Raheenduff Big, Ballinaclogh Lower, Ballinaclogh Upper, Garryglass, Clarbarracum, Boleybeg, Knockardagur, Aghnacross, Boleybawn, Cloghoge and Ironmills or Kilrush in Co. Laois and the townlands of Loughill, Ballyoskill, Ballynalacken, Ballymartin, Tinnalintan, Sraleagh, Rathduff, Moatpark, Ballyragget, Donaghmore, Connahy, Foulksrath, Shanganny, Swiftsheath, Tullowglass, Gragara, Mohil, Ballyrafton, Bullockhill, Kilmademoge, Dunmorepark, Radestown South, Radestown North, Kyleroe, Brownstown, Kingsland (E.D. Kilkenny), Archersrath, Cellarstown West, Leggetsrath East, Cellarstown Lower, Cellarstown Upper, Higginstown, Templemartin (E.D. Clara), Rathbourn or Ratheenmore and Scart (E.D. Dunbell) in Co. Kilkenny.

The application, a copy of which is enclosed for your consideration, is comprised of three parts:

**Statutory Particulars** – includes the application form, copies of the site and newspaper notices, the drawings and schedules, the list of prescribed bodies consulted and letters of consent.

**Planning Report** – this report provides some background to the project and sets the proposal in its policy and environmental context. The report also gives a description of the study area and of the alternatives considered.

**Environmental Report** – this report assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development and proposes mitigation measures where appropriate.

The proposed Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project consists of 8 no. interrelated elements as follows:

ESB International is a trading name of ESBI Engineering & Facility Management Limited.

**Directors:** Gerry Tallon, John Redmond, Michael O'Brien, Oliver Brogan.  
**Registered Office:** Stephen Court, 18–21 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland.  
**Registered in Ireland No.** 155249



(i) **A new 400/110kV GIS substation** comprising the construction of a new 400/110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation at Coolnabacky and Esker townlands, north of Timahoe, Co. Laois. This substation, in a site area of approx. 7.6 hectares, will consist of: 2 no. Gas Insulated (GIS) substation buildings one operated at 400kV (building dimensions 64m x 15.5m x 13m) and the other operated at 110kV (building dimensions approx. 50m x 11.5m x 12.5m) within a 98m x 117m compound secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence; a 400kV gantry and associated line equipment required to divert the 400kV overhead lines into the 400kV GIS station; 2 no. 400/110kV, 500MVA transformers and 2 no. shunt reactors which will be positioned in transformer bunds between the two substation buildings; associated development including 8 no. separate sedimentation/attenuation ponds (average area 110m<sup>2</sup>); vehicular access to the substation is via a modification to the existing private road including the existing access point; foul holding tank; and all other ancillary site works.

(ii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

(iii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** by replacing 2 no. existing intermediate polesets with 2 no. lattice steel line/cable interface masts both approx. 21m in height (both these structures are contained within the proposed Coolnabacky substation site adjacent to the proposed site compound). Short lengths of underground cable (approx. 100m and 190m in length) will connect the new line/cable interface masts into the 110kV building within the proposed Coolnabacky compound. Approximately 150m of existing overhead line will be removed between the 2 no. line/cable interface masts.

(iv) **A new 110kV / 38kV / MV substation in Moatpark, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny** in a site area of approx. 1.5 hectares constructed adjacent to the existing 38kV /MV Ballyragget substation. The proposed 110kV GIS substation (approx. dimensions 50m x 11.5m by 12m high) will be in a compound of 61m x 70m plan area secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence. The compound will also include: a 38kV / MV GIS substation building (approx. dimensions 24.5m x 8m by 7m high); 1 no. 31.5MVA 110/38kV transformer and 1 no. 5MVA 38/20kV transformer positioned in transformer bunds between the substation buildings; a new access road (60m long) from an existing entrance to the substation; 2 no. lightning masts each approx. 14m in height; associated development of a septic tank and percolation area, soakaway pits and all other ancillary site works.

**(v) A new 110kV overhead line between the proposed Ballyragget substation and the proposed Coolnabacky substation** consisting of approx. 26km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at the approach to the proposed Ballyragget and Coolnabacky substations. The overhead line will consist of 143 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 17 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors and two earthwires. Approx. 160m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast within the Ballyragget substation site and approx. 190m of underground cable connects the proposed Coolnabacky 110kV building to the line/cable interface mast adjacent to the proposed Coolnabacky substation

**(vi) An uprate to the existing Ballyragget - Kilkenny 110kV overhead line** consisting of the replacement of all the structures along the existing line with similar structures along the same alignment except for the first 670m out of Ballyragget substation and the first 275m out of Kilkenny substation which are required to be realigned as well as uprated. The development comprises approx. 21.9km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at Ballyragget and Kilkenny substations. The overhead line will consist of 90 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 14 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors. Approx. 215m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast and approx. 50m of underground cable connects the line/cable interface mast to the electrical equipment in Kilkenny substation

**(vii) A new bay in the existing Kilkenny 110kV substation** of dimensions measuring approx. 20m x 6m x 5m high consisting of the installation of outdoor air insulated equipment including, circuit breaker, disconnects and instrument transformers mounted on concrete plinths; the removal of the existing end mast; and all other ancillary site works..

**(viii) Modifications to existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** comprising the replacement of existing structures along a portion of the existing Athy – Portlaoise 110kV line from the proposed Coolnabacky substation south-eastwards towards Athy for approx. 2.3km and from the proposed Coolnabacky substation north-westward towards Portlaoise for approx. 1.3km. The replacement structures, which will be of a generally similar form and character to those existing, will be fitted with earthwire. 1 no. existing poleset structure will be replaced with a lattice steel angle mast. The proposed replacement overhead line will thereby consist of 17 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 2 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m.

The application for approval includes all associated and ancillary site works

The Board may in respect of an application for approval decide to:

- (a) (i) approve the proposed development,  
(ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its approval of the proposed development as so modified, or  
(iii) approve, in part only the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind,

and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or

- (b) refuse to approve the proposed development.

Any submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to;

- the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development; and,
- the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be received by the Board no later than 5.30 pm on **21<sup>st</sup> March 2013**.

Yours sincerely,



---

**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**



Ms. Aoife Moore,  
Midlands Regional Authority, Bridge Centre,  
Bridge Street,  
Tullamore,  
County Offaly.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

Dear Ms. Moore,

EirGrid plc, with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for approval of proposed electricity transmission infrastructure, and associated works, in the townlands of Orchard Lower, Kyle, Coolnabacky, Money Lower, Loughteog, Carrigeen (E.D. Timogue), Esker, Ballygormill South, Cremorgan, Baunree, Raheenduff Big, Ballinaclogh Lower, Ballinaclogh Upper, Garryglass, Clarbarracum, Boleybeg, Knockardagur, Aghnacross, Boleybawn, Cloghoge and Ironmills or Kilrush in Co. Laois and the townlands of Loughill, Ballyoskill, Ballynalacken, Ballymartin, Tinnalintan, Sraleagh, Rathduff, Moatpark, Ballyragget, Donaghmore, Connahy, Foulksrath, Shanganny, Swiftsheath, Tullowglass, Gragara, Mohil, Ballyrafton, Bullockhill, Kilmademoge, Dunmorepark, Radestown South, Radestown North, Kyleroe, Brownstown, Kingsland (E.D. Kilkenny), Archersrath, Cellarstown West, Leggetsrath East, Cellarstown Lower, Cellarstown Upper, Higginstown, Templemartin (E.D. Clara), Rathbourn or Ratheenmore and Scart (E.D. Dunbell) in Co. Kilkenny.

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**Statutory Particulars** – includes the application form, copies of the site and newspaper notices, the drawings and schedules, the list of prescribed bodies consulted and letters of consent.

**Planning Report** – this report provides some background to the project and sets the proposal in its policy and environmental context. The report also gives a description of the study area and of the alternatives considered.

**Environmental Report** – this report assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development and proposes mitigation measures where appropriate.

The proposed Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project consists of 8 no. interrelated elements as follows:

ESB International is a trading name of ESBI Engineering & Facility Management Limited.

**(i) A new 400/110kV GIS substation** comprising the construction of a new 400/110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation at Coolnabacky and Esker townlands, north of Timahoe, Co. Laois. This substation, in a site area of approx. 7.6 hectares, will consist of: 2 no. Gas Insulated (GIS) substation buildings one operated at 400kV (building dimensions 64m x 15.5m x 13m) and the other operated at 110kV (building dimensions approx. 50m x 11.5m x 12.5m) within a 98m x 117m compound secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence; a 400kV gantry and associated line equipment required to divert the 400kV overhead lines into the 400kV GIS station; 2 no. 400/110kV, 500MVA transformers and 2 no. shunt reactors which will be positioned in transformer bunds between the two substation buildings; associated development including 8 no. separate sedimentation/attenuation ponds (average area 110m<sup>2</sup>); vehicular access to the substation is via a modification to the existing private road including the existing access point; foul holding tank; and all other ancillary site works.

**(ii) A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

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Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane McLoughney', written over a light blue rectangular background.

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**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**

Mr. Tom Byrne, Director,  
South East Regional Authority,  
1 Gladstone Street,  
Clonmel,  
Co. Tipperary.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

Dear Mr. Byrne,

EirGrid plc, with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for approval of proposed electricity transmission infrastructure, and associated works, in the townlands of Orchard Lower, Kyle, Coolnabacky, Money Lower, Loughteog, Carrigeen (E.D. Timogue), Esker, Ballygormill South, Cremorgan, Baunree, Raheenduff Big, Ballinaclogh Lower, Ballinaclogh Upper, Garryglass, Clarbarracum, Boleybeg, Knockardagur, Aghnacross, Boleybawn, Cloghoge and Ironmills or Kilrush in Co. Laois and the townlands of Loughill, Ballyoskill, Ballynalacken, Ballymartin, Tinnalintan, Sraleagh, Rathduff, Moatpark, Ballyragget, Donaghmore, Connahy, Foulksrath, Shanganny, Swiftsheath, Tullowglass, Gragara, Mohil, Ballyrafton, Bullockhill, Kilmademoge, Dunmorepark, Radestown South, Radestown North, Kyleroe, Brownstown, Kingsland (E.D. Kilkenny), Archersrath, Cellarstown West, Leggetsrath East, Cellarstown Lower, Cellarstown Upper, Higginstown, Templemartin (E.D. Clara), Rathbourn or Ratheenmore and Scart (E.D. Dunbell) in Co. Kilkenny.

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**Directors:** Gerry Tallon, John Redmond, Michael O'Brien, Oliver Brogan.  
**Registered Office:** Stephen Court, 18–21 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland.  
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(ii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

(iii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** by replacing 2 no. existing intermediate polesets with 2 no. lattice steel line/cable interface masts both approx. 21m in height (both these structures are contained within the proposed Coolnabacky substation site adjacent to the proposed site compound). Short lengths of underground cable (approx. 100m and 190m in length) will connect the new line/cable interface masts into the 110kV building within the proposed Coolnabacky compound. Approximately 150m of existing overhead line will be removed between the 2 no. line/cable interface masts.

(iv) **A new 110kV / 38kV / MV substation in Moatpark, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny** in a site area of approx. 1.5 hectares constructed adjacent to the existing 38kV /MV Ballyragget substation. The proposed 110kV GIS substation (approx. dimensions 50m x 11.5m by 12m high) will be in a compound of 61m x 70m plan area secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence. The compound will also include: a 38kV / MV GIS substation building (approx. dimensions 24.5m x 8m by 7m high); 1 no. 31.5MVA 110/38kV transformer and 1 no. 5MVA 38/20kV transformer positioned in transformer bunds between the substation buildings; a new access road (60m long) from an existing entrance to the substation; 2 no. lightning masts each approx. 14m in height; associated development of a septic tank and percolation area, soakaway pits and all other ancillary site works.

**(v) A new 110kV overhead line between the proposed Ballyragget substation and the proposed Coolnabacky substation** consisting of approx. 26km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at the approach to the proposed Ballyragget and Coolnabacky substations. The overhead line will consist of 143 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 17 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors and two earthwires. Approx. 160m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast within the Ballyragget substation site and approx. 190m of underground cable connects the proposed Coolnabacky 110kV building to the line/cable interface mast adjacent to the proposed Coolnabacky substation

**(vi) An uprate to the existing Ballyragget - Kilkenny 110kV overhead line** consisting of the replacement of all the structures along the existing line with similar structures along the same alignment except for the first 670m out of Ballyragget substation and the first 275m out of Kilkenny substation which are required to be realigned as well as uprated. The development comprises approx. 21.9km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at Ballyragget and Kilkenny substations. The overhead line will consist of 90 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 14 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors. Approx. 215m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast and approx. 50m of underground cable connects the line/cable interface mast to the electrical equipment in Kilkenny substation

**(vii) A new bay in the existing Kilkenny 110kV substation** of dimensions measuring approx. 20m x 6m x 5m high consisting of the installation of outdoor air insulated equipment including, circuit breaker, disconnects and instrument transformers mounted on concrete plinths; the removal of the existing end mast; and all other ancillary site works..

**(viii) Modifications to existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** comprising the replacement of existing structures along a portion of the existing Athy – Portlaoise 110kV line from the proposed Coolnabacky substation south-eastwards towards Athy for approx. 2.3km and from the proposed Coolnabacky substation north-westward towards Portlaoise for approx. 1.3km. The replacement structures, which will be of a generally similar form and character to those existing, will be fitted with earthwire. 1 no. existing poleset structure will be replaced with a lattice steel angle mast. The proposed replacement overhead line will thereby consist of 17 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 2 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m.

The application for approval includes all associated and ancillary site works

The Board may in respect of an application for approval decide to:

- (a) (i) approve the proposed development,  
(ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its approval of the proposed development as so modified, or  
(iii) approve, in part only the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind,

and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or

- (b) refuse to approve the proposed development.

Any submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to;

- the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development; and,
- the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be received by the Board no later than 5.30 pm on **21<sup>st</sup> March 2013**.

Yours sincerely,



---

**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**



Mr. Michael Donaher,  
Infrastructure Manager  
Iarnród Éireann,  
Pearse Station,  
Westland Row,  
Dublin 2.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Reference: Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Application (SID)**

Dear Mr. Donaher,

EirGrid plc, with the consent and approval of the Electricity Supply Board gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Bord Pleanála for approval of proposed electricity transmission infrastructure, and associated works, in the townlands of Orchard Lower, Kyle, Coolnabacky, Money Lower, Loughteog, Carrigeen (E.D. Timogue), Esker, Ballygormill South, Cremorgan, Baunree, Raheenduff Big, Ballinaclogh Lower, Ballinaclogh Upper, Garryglass, Clarbarracum, Boleybeg, Knockardagur, Aghnacross, Boleybawn, Cloghoge and Ironmills or Kilrush in Co. Laois and the townlands of Loughill, Ballyoskill, Ballynalacken, Ballymartin, Tinnalintan, Sraleagh, Rathduff, Moatpark, Ballyragget, Donaghmore, Connahy, Foulksrath, Shanganny, Swiftsheath, Tullowglass, Gragara, Mohil, Ballyrafton, Bullockhill, Kilmademoige, Dunmorepark, Radestown South, Radestown North, Kyleroe, Brownstown, Kingsland (E.D. Kilkenny), Archersrath, Cellarstown West, Leggetsrath East, Cellarstown Lower, Cellarstown Upper, Higginstown, Templemartin (E.D. Clara), Rathbourn or Ratheenmore and Scart (E.D. Dunbell) in Co. Kilkenny.

The application, a copy of which is enclosed for your consideration, is comprised of three parts:

**Statutory Particulars** – includes the application form, copies of the site and newspaper notices, the drawings and schedules, the list of prescribed bodies consulted and letters of consent.

**Planning Report** – this report provides some background to the project and sets the proposal in its policy and environmental context. The report also gives a description of the study area and of the alternatives considered.

**Environmental Report** – this report assesses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development and proposes mitigation measures where appropriate.

The proposed Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project consists of 8 no. interrelated elements as follows:

ESB International is a trading name of ESBI Engineering & Facility Management Limited.

**Directors:** Gerry Tallon, John Redmond, Michael O'Brien, Oliver Brogan.  
**Registered Office:** Stephen Court, 18–21 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland.  
**Registered in Ireland No.** 155249



(i) **A new 400/110kV GIS substation** comprising the construction of a new 400/110kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation at Coolnabacky and Esker townlands, north of Timahoe, Co. Laois. This substation, in a site area of approx. 7.6 hectares, will consist of: 2 no. Gas Insulated (GIS) substation buildings one operated at 400kV (building dimensions 64m x 15.5m x 13m) and the other operated at 110kV (building dimensions approx. 50m x 11.5m x 12.5m) within a 98m x 117m compound secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence; a 400kV gantry and associated line equipment required to divert the 400kV overhead lines into the 400kV GIS station; 2 no. 400/110kV, 500MVA transformers and 2 no. shunt reactors which will be positioned in transformer bunds between the two substation buildings; associated development including 8 no. separate sedimentation/attenuation ponds (average area 110m<sup>2</sup>); vehicular access to the substation is via a modification to the existing private road including the existing access point; foul holding tank; and all other ancillary site works.

(ii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Moneypoint - Dunstown 400kV line** by way of a 400kV overhead line in 2 no. new single circuit spans (approx. 280m and 295m respectively) connecting to approx. 1.2km of 400kV double circuit line which brings the 400kV circuits to the proposed gantry in Coolnabacky 400/110kV substation. The proposal includes: 2 no. new 400kV single circuit angle masts of heights up to approx. 37.3m and 32.3m; 2 no. new 400kV double circuit angle masts both up to approx. 55.5m in height; and 3 no. new 400kV intermediate masts all up to approx. 57.8m in height. An existing 400kV intermediate mast on the existing 400kV line and approx. 150m of existing 400kV overhead line between the two connection points to the Moneypoint – Dunstown 400kV line will be removed.

(iii) **A new connection to the proposed Coolnabacky substation from the existing Athy - Portlaoise 110kV line** by replacing 2 no. existing intermediate polesets with 2 no. lattice steel line/cable interface masts both approx. 21m in height (both these structures are contained within the proposed Coolnabacky substation site adjacent to the proposed site compound). Short lengths of underground cable (approx. 100m and 190m in length) will connect the new line/cable interface masts into the 110kV building within the proposed Coolnabacky compound. Approximately 150m of existing overhead line will be removed between the 2 no. line/cable interface masts.

(iv) **A new 110kV / 38kV / MV substation in Moatpark, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny** in a site area of approx. 1.5 hectares constructed adjacent to the existing 38kV /MV Ballyragget substation. The proposed 110kV GIS substation (approx. dimensions 50m x 11.5m by 12m high) will be in a compound of 61m x 70m plan area secured by a 2.6m high palisade fence. The compound will also include: a 38kV / MV GIS substation building (approx. dimensions 24.5m x 8m by 7m high); 1 no. 31.5MVA 110/38kV transformer and 1 no. 5MVA 38/20kV transformer positioned in transformer bunds between the substation buildings; a new access road (60m long) from an existing entrance to the substation; 2 no. lightning masts each approx. 14m in height; associated development of a septic tank and percolation area, soakaway pits and all other ancillary site works.

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**(vi) An uprate to the existing Ballyragget - Kilkenny 110kV overhead line** consisting of the replacement of all the structures along the existing line with similar structures along the same alignment except for the first 670m out of Ballyragget substation and the first 275m out of Kilkenny substation which are required to be realigned as well as uprated. The development comprises approx. 21.9km of overhead line and 2 no. short lengths of cable at Ballyragget and Kilkenny substations. The overhead line will consist of 90 no. double wood polesets up to a maximum height of approx. 22m and 14 no. lattice steel angle masts up to a maximum height of approx. 25m supporting three electrical conductors. Approx. 215m of underground cable connects the proposed Ballyragget 110kV building to a proposed line/cable interface mast and approx. 50m of underground cable connects the line/cable interface mast to the electrical equipment in Kilkenny substation

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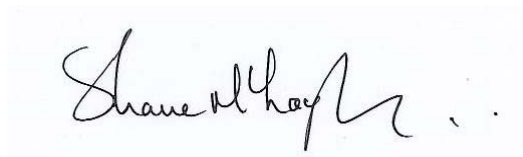
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Yours sincerely,

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**Shane McLoughney**  
**ESB International**

Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine,  
Agriculture House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

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