

09th August 2024

[By e-mail]

Dear Madam / Sir,

Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended

Proposed development of a 110kV substation and grid connection to the adjacent 220kV Knockraha Substation, on lands at Ballyvatta, Co. Cork

We write on behalf of Ballyvatta Solar Farm Limited to provide notice that a Strategic Infrastructure Development application has been submitted to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) relating to the development of a new tail-fed 110kV substation and grid connection to Knockraha 220kV substation at Ballyvatta, Co. Cork.

In their letter dated 21 June 2024, An Bord Pleanála (ABP) has determined, in accordance with Section 182A of the Act, that notice must be given to Prescribed Bodies relating to the proposal.

A copy of the published notice is enclosed. Submissions or observations in relation to the proposed development may be made in writing to the Board by **30 September 2024**.

We would be happy to clarify any issues arising from the above.

Yours sincerely,



Director
Tom Phillips + Associates

Enc.

- A copy of the Notice in accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

TOWN PLANNING CONSULTANTS



1.0 LIST OF PRESCRIBED BODIES CONSULTED ON THE PROPOSAL

- Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government
- Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications
- Cork County Council
- Commission for Regulation of Utilities, Water and Energy
- Health and Safety Authority

Planning and Development Acts 2000 (as Amended)
Notice of Direct Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development
Cork County Council

In accordance with section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Ballyvatta Solar Farm Ltd. gives notice of its intention to make an application for a period of ten years for approval to An Bord Pleanála in relation to the following proposed development of electricity transmission infrastructure, and associated works in the townlands of Knockraha East, Ballynanelagh, and Killeena, Co. Cork.

The proposed development will consist of a 10 year permission for a 110kV electrical substation and associated 110kV infrastructure required to connect a solar farm (permitted under Cork County Council Reg. Ref: 23/4564; which amended previous permission Reg. Ref: 17/5370 and ABP-300434-17) to the existing Knockraha 220kV substation.

- The substation compound will include 2 No. single storey control buildings: An EirGrid control building (comprising relay room, battery room, workshop / store, mess room and W.C, and generator room); and,
- An Independent Power Producer control building (comprising control room, switchgear room, office, store and W.C);

The proposal also includes:

- 110kV grid transformer and two-house transformers within bunded enclosures (height approximately 6m) and associated infrastructure;
- MV switchgear containers;
- Lightning protection masts;
- Perimeter security fencing and entrance gates;
- Security lighting;
- Telecommunication dishes;
- Underground cabling;
- Site drainage infrastructure;
- Proposed access from the L6989 to the south;
- Temporary construction compound; and,
- All associated development works above and below ground including landscaping.

A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) is submitted with this application.

The planning application may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making a copy) during the public opening hours for a period of 6 weeks commencing 19th August 2024 at the following locations:

- The offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1; and
- The offices of Cork County Council, Cork County Council, Planning Department, Ground Floor, Carrigrohane Road, Cork, T12 R2NC

The planning application may also be viewed/downloaded at the following website once the application is lodged.

www.ballyvattasolarsid.ie

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála (“the Board”), 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 during the above mentioned six weeks relating to:

- I. The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development;
- II. The likely effects on the environment of the Proposed Development; and
- III. The likely significant effects of the Proposed Development on the integrity of a European site if carried out.

Any submissions or observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received by the Board not later than 5.30pm on 30th September 2024. Such submissions/observations must also include the following information:

- The name of the person making the submission/observation, the name of the person acting on his/her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent;
- The subject matter of the submission or observation; and
- The reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full. (Article 217 of the Planning and Development Regulations refers).

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Board. Submissions can be made in person, via post, and via the Board’s online portal <https://online.pleanala.ie/en-ie/sid/observation>

The Board may at its absolute discretion hold an oral hearing on the application. (For further details see: “A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development” on the Board’s website www.pleanala.ie)

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

- a) (i) grant the permission, or (ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its decision and grant permission in respect of the Proposed Development as so modified, or (iii) grant permission in respect of part of the Proposed Development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind); or
- b) refuse to grant the permission.

A decision to grant permission under paragraph (a)(i), (ii) or (iii) may be subject to or without condition.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Development Section of An Bord Pleanála (Tel. 01-8588100).

Any person may question the validity of any such decision of the Board by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986, as amended by S.I. No. 691 of 2011), in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended.

Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed under the heading ‘information on cases/weekly lists – Judicial Review of Planning Decisions’ on the Board’s website, www.pleanala.ie or on the Citizens Information Service website www.citizensinformation.ie.