

Appendix 6C

EIAR Consultation Responses – Summary Tracker

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## APPENDIX 6C: CONSULTATION RESPONSES – SUMMARY TRACKER

Table 1: Summary of Consultee Responses

CONSULTEE & CONTACT DETAILS	DATE CONSULTED	RESPONSE DATE	NATURE OF RESPONSE	APPLICANT RESPONSE (AND HOW CONSULTEE COMMENTS HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED IN EIAR)
<p><b>Offaly County Council (OCC)</b>            Olivia Hughes            Planning Section, OCC            +353 57 9357434  <a href="mailto:ohughes@offalycoco.ie">ohughes@offalycoco.ie</a>  <a href="mailto:planning@offalycoco.ie">planning@offalycoco.ie</a></p>	02 June 2023	30 June 2023	<p>The Applicant is requested to have regard to the following internal comments from sections of OCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roads Designs Section: the Applicant will be responsible for maintaining the road network for the duration of their works and must mitigate and remove any risks to the road user due to pavement deterioration or failure.</li> </ul> <p>The Applicant must ensure an assigned resource within their team inspects the road network on a weekly basis and any mitigation measures required must be actioned immediately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environment/ Water Services Section: in response to the Applicant's request for consultation on recommendations/ comments in relation to environmental assessment process, due to the limited amount of detail as part of this received scoping document, we have no comments.</li> </ul> <p>The Applicant was urged to refer to the historical SID application granted by ABP under reference ABP-306706-20 in their preparations, and to the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 &amp; the 'Climate Action Plan 2023' for any considerations deemed necessary for the Proposed Development.</p>	<p>Comments of the Offaly County Council (OCC) Response were incorporated in CEMP.</p> <p>The 'Climate Action Plan 2023' was considered in the Climate Chapter of the EIAR.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning Section: relevant sections of 'Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027'.</li> </ul>	
<b>Westmeath County Council</b> planning@westmeathcoco.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)</b> eiaplanning@epa.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Geological Survey Ireland (GSI)</b> Trish Smullen Geoheritage & Planning <a href="mailto:trish.smullen@gsi.ie">trish.smullen@gsi.ie</a> gsiplanning@gsi.ie	02 June 2023	13 June 2032	<p>GSI encouraged the use of and reference to their datasets where relevant, for which they provided a list.</p> <p>GSI also noted that they would appreciate being provided a copy of reports detailing any site investigation carried out, should development go ahead, to add this into GSI's national database of site investigation boreholes.</p>	GSI datasets where used in preparation of the EIAR where relevant.
<b>Health and Safety Authority (HSA)</b> consultation@hsa.ie LandUsePlanning@hsa.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Health Service Executive (HSE)</b> consumeraffairs.hsedne@hse.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC)</b> Minister.Ryan@decc.gov.ie CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie PlanningNotifications@decc.gov.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A

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<b>Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)</b> minister@housing.gov.ie Referrals@housing.gov.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>National Parks Wildlife Services (NPWS) under the Development Applications Unit (DAU)</b> Sinéad O' Brien Development Applications Unit Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie	02 June 2023	29 June 2023	The Applicant is requested to have regard to the following heritage-related observations/recommendations co-ordinated by the DAU: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation of an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) submitted as Further Information, by a suitably qualified archaeologist;</li> <li>• No sub-surface developmental work, including geotechnical test pits, should be undertaken until the AIA has been completed and commented on by their office;</li> <li>• The archaeologist shall submit a written report stating their recommendations to the Planning Authority and to their Department;</li> <li>• Where archaeological material/features are shown to be present, preservation in situ, preservation by record (excavation) or monitoring may be required.</li> </ul>	During preparation of the EIAR recommendations of DAU response were followed.
<b>National Monuments Service (NMS) under the DAU</b> nationalmonuments@housing.gov.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE)</b> minister@enterprise.gov.ie info@enterprise.gov.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A

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<b>Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)</b> info@agriculture.gov.ie Environmental_Coordination@agriculture.gov.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Minister for Rural and Community Development (DRCD)</b> info@drcd.gov.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (DTCAGSM)</b> ministers.office@tcagsm.gov.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Minister for Defence (respect of air ambulance re motorway routing)</b> info@defence.ie PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie	02 June 2023	04 August 2023	As a matter of practice, the Department of Defence does not provide observations or advice in the scoping process, except where the relevant parties have been directed by a planning authority to seek the Department's views. The Applicant has been requested to keep them informed on any progress relating to the proposed Development, in particular if it progresses to the planning stage.	Noted.
<b>Minister for the Transport</b> Jacqui Traynor Central Policy, Coordination and Reform, Department of Transport +353 (0)1 604 1177 gcu@transport.gov.ie minister@transport.gov.ie	02 June 2023	28 June 2023	The Applicant is requested to have regard to the following considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessing the potential for temporary car parks during the construction phase;</li> <li>Providing sustainable modes of travel, primarily with respect to the transport of construction staff.</li> </ul>	During preparation of the EIAR recommendations of response were followed.

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GeneralCo-OrdinationUnit@transport.gov.ie				
<b>Irish Water / Uisce Éireann</b> Cillian Claffey Development Management Planning +353 89 260 3904 <a href="mailto:cillian.claffey@water.ie">cillian.claffey@water.ie</a> <a href="mailto:planning@water.ie">planning@water.ie</a>	02 June 2023	07 June 2023	Irish Water does not have the capacity to advise on the scoping of individual projects but has provided a list of general aspects to be considered in the scope of an EIA, as relevant.  Irish Water has also requested to be notified upon submission of the Proposed Development application.	Noted.
<b>Office of Public Works (OPW)</b> superintendent.park@opw.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)</b> Michael McCormack <a href="mailto:LandUsePlanning@tii.ie">LandUsePlanning@tii.ie</a> information@tii.ie	02 June 2023	14 June 2023	With respect to EIAR scoping issues, the TII has provided a non-exhaustive list of recommendations which provide only general guidance for the preparation of an EIAR which may affect the National Roads Network. In addition, TII has brought attention to National Strategic Outcome 2 of the National Planning Framework which includes the objective to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the national roads network; and Chapter 7 'of the National Development Plan 2021 – 2030, which sets out the key sectoral priority of maintaining Ireland's existing national road network to a robust and safe standard for users.  It was also noted that, in the event that proposals regarding the grid connection to the national grid are altered, any grid connection and cable routing proposals	During preparation of the EIAR recommendations of response were followed.

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			<p>should be developed to safeguard proposed road schemes and consider consideration routing options, use of existing crossings, depth of cable laying, etc. Grid connection cable routing should reflect the provisions of official policy and avoid grid connection routing proposals along national roads. Cable routing should avoid all impacts to existing TII infrastructure.</p> <p>Other consents or licences may be required from the road authority for any trenching or cabling proposals crossing the national road. Separate approvals may be required for works traversing the national road network. The Authority requests referral of all proposals agreed and licensed between the road authority and the applicant which affect the national road network.</p>	
<b>National Transport Authority (NTA)</b> info@nationaltransport.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>An Taisce</b> info@antaisce.org planningreferrals@antaisce.org	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU)</b> info@cru.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI)</b> info@fisheriesireland.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A

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<b>The Heritage Council</b> planning@heritagecouncil.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Faite Ireland</b> Yvonne Jackson Product Development - Environment & Planning Support +353 (0)86 0357590 planning.applications@faiteireland.ie	02 June 2023	20 June 2023	Faite Ireland has brought attention to Fáilte Ireland's Guidelines for the Treatment of Tourism in an EIA which provides guidance for those conducting EIA and compiling an EIAR for projects related to tourism or that may have an impact upon tourism.	Noted, the recommendation was followed when preparing Chapter 15 of the EIAR.
<b>Arts Council</b> onlineservices@artscouncil.ie reception@artscouncil.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Waterways Ireland</b> info@waterwaysireland.org	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Eastern River Basin District (ERBD)</b> Noel McGloin +353 (0)1 8842 600 environmentalplanning@fisheriesireland.ie Noel.McGloin@fisheriesireland.ie	02 June 2023	06 June 2023 07 June 2023	ERBD has expressed concern regarding potential effects on fisheries habitat associated with any proposed abstraction from and discharge to the Yellow (Castlejordan) River which contains stocks of Atlantic Salmon, Brown Trout, lamprey and eels.  ERBD has requested to receive more information regarding the Proposed Development in due course, particularly in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of cooling water;</li> <li>• Abstraction figures; and</li> <li>• Discharge flows.</li> </ul>	Details on potential impacts to fisheries has been addressed in Chapter 9: Biodiversity of the EIAR.  The Applicant will engage with ERBD at a later date with further details on the plant design and operating systems.

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<b>South-Eastern River Basin District (SERBD)</b> clonmel@fisheriesireland.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly</b> info@emra.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Bat Conservation Ireland</b> Dawn Quinn admin@batconservationireland.org info@batconservationireland.org	02 June 2023	14 June 2023 10 July 2023	Bat Conservation Ireland does not have the capacity to get involved in planning issues and does not provide opinions or comments on developments.	Noted.
<b>Bird Watch Ireland (BWI)</b> info@birdwatchireland.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Butterfly Conservation Ireland</b> conservation.butterfly@gmail.com	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Irish Peatland Conservation Council (IPCC)</b> bogs@ipcc.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Irish Red Grouse Association</b> Merlin Becker +353 083 081 7554 info@irgct.com	02 June 2023	30 June 2023	The Applicant is advised and encouraged to adopt conservation measures for the protection and preservation of natural environments through meaningful and practical land management, both during and after the development of the Applicant's sites, with an emphasis on red-listed species that reside on or around the Derrygreenagh bog, such as red grouse, curlew, and lapwing.	Noted.
<b>Irish Raptor Study Group (IRSG)</b> secretary@irsg.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A

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<b>Irish Wildlife Trust</b> info@iwt.ie	02 June 2023	06 June 2023 29 June 2023	Irish Wildlife Trust does not have the capacity to respond to this consultation at the moment.	Noted.
<b>Commission for Communications Regulation</b> industry@comreg.ie businessconsumers@comreg.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)</b> info@seai.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>EirGrid</b> info@Eirgrid.com	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Gas Networks Ireland (GNI)</b> Daniel Goulding Tx New Connections +353 087 709 7242 networksinfo@gasnetworks.ie Daniel.Goulding@gasnetworks.ie	02 June 2023	30 June 2023	High-level commentary from GNI's perspective in relation to the Proposed Derrygreenagh was provided for the following elements of work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary construction works: a construction compound will be required for the construction of the Above Ground Installation (AGI) within the Applicant's site; GNI provided recommendations on location, size, and elements to be contained. GNI requested to, if possible, at this stage, agree on the construction compound's size and location.</li> <li>• Cumulative assessment: GNI made suggestions regarding the location of the AGI and GNI pipeline within the Proposed Development's drawings and how to describe these within the EIAR. GNI also offered assistance with the relevant information.</li> </ul>	The Applicant has continuously engaged with GNI throughout the design and planning process for the Proposed Development. GNI's suggestion on the proposed Derrygreenagh AGI have been incorporated into the design and the approach to the cumulative assessment has been agreed.

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			<p>GNI suggested the Applicant and GNI share the construction timelines of their respective works to assist each other in the completion of EIARs for both parties.</p> <p>GNI also informed the Applicant that there are a number of other potential gas transmission pipelines to be constructed in the area in the coming years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Avoiding Duplication of Assessments:</b> GNI recommends that the Applicant and GNI continue their communication on scoping and sharing of assessment outputs throughout the environmental assessment process in order to avoid duplication of any assessments and to focus resources efficiently, and provided examples for how that could be achieved.</li> <li>• <b>Biodiversity &amp; Carbon Offsetting:</b> in relation to the Derrygreenagh pipeline project, GNI expressed their interest in discussing with the Applicant any proposals they might have to work together on a joint venture that aims to protect or restore biodiversity and reduce carbon emissions.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Three Ireland</b> customer.care@three.ie Estates@three.ie</p>	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<p><b>Vodafone Ireland</b> Fiona Byrne Converged Transmission +353857350836 fiona.byrne3@vodafone.com gavin.byrne@vodafone.com</p>	02 June 2023	06 June 2023 29 June 2023	<p>Vodafone Ireland confirmed that the Proposed Development will impact three microwave links on their network and provided further details about their location, link strength, height, etc.</p> <p>The Applicant was requested to provide height details and coordinates of the</p>	Telecommunication Impact Study was prepared as part of the EIAR documentation.

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			proposed overhead power lines, given that they have links traversing the route.	
<b>EIR Mobile</b> customersupport@fonua.com	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Imagine</b> Paul Brunel +353 086 388 1962 Paul.Brunel@imaginegroup.ie Ronnie.ONeill@imaginegroup.ie	02 June 2023	28 June 2023	Image provided details of a tower within the boundary of the Proposed Development and another tower approximately 4km south of the Proposed Development. Image also noted that they require a 50m set-back from their central path.	Telecommunication Impact Study was prepared as part of the EIAR documentation
<b>Virgin Media</b> enterprise@virginmedia.ie	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A
<b>Irish Aviation Authority (IAA)</b> Christophe O'Brien +353 (0) 86 33 22022 obrienc@iaa.ie planning@iaa.ie	02 June 2023	09 June 2023	Initially, the IAA requested further details of the proposed emission stacks' height above ground level and confirmation on whether these will be the tallest structures on site. Once this information was provided, the IAA stated they do not have specific requirements for incorporation into the EIA. In the event of a formal planning application being progressed, it is likely that the Authority will furnish the following general observations: <i>"In the event of planning consent being granted, the applicant should be conditioned to contact the IAA to agree an aeronautical obstacle warning light specification for the flue stacks and notify the Authority of intention to commence crane operations with at least 30 days prior notification of their erection."</i>	Telecommunication Impact Study was prepared as part of the EIAR documentation

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			They also noted the separation of the IAA and Air Navigation Ireland (ANI) (the IAA ANSP) on the 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2023. ANI has responsibility for the maintenance and safeguarding of enroute communications and navigation surveillance equipment in Ireland; IAA advised the Applicant to forward reports of the Proposed Development to ANI for review to: <a href="mailto:planning@airnav.ie">planning@airnav.ie</a>	
<b>Irish Rail</b> Jamie Lawlor <a href="mailto:Jamie.Lawlor@irishrail.ie">Jamie.Lawlor@irishrail.ie</a>	02 June 2023	06 July 2023	Irish Rail requested to know if any kind of radio signals will be broadcasted from the site; Irish Rail has two trackside radios systems, so it would be useful for them to know what frequencies will be used.  They noted that, looking at the map the site, it does not appear to encroach on the track.	Detail on potential transmission signals and associated frequencies is not known at this time as the telecommunications towers at the 220kV and 400kV substations will be under the management of ESB Networks once operational.
<b>Córas Iompair Éireann (CIE)</b> <a href="mailto:Postmaster@cie.ie">Postmaster@cie.ie</a>	02 June 2023	No response	N/A	N/A