



The Secretary,
An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1

4 January 2023

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála for Proposed 220kV substation, associated 220kV underground grid connection, cabling and associated works on a site of 1.8 hectares at Toomes and Monvallet, County Louth.

Introduction

On behalf of Strategic Power Projects Limited and further to a determination of An Bord Pleanála on 28th October 2022 confirming the proposed development constitutes Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) pursuant to Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), we hereby submit this planning application in respect of the proposed 220kV substation, associated 220kV underground grid connection, cabling and associated works on a site of 1.8 hectares at Toomes and Monvallet, County Louth.

Five hard copies of the documents listed below have been sent to the Chief Executive of Louth County Council plus two electronic copies. Two hard and eight electronic copies are enclosed herewith for the Board, as requested.

The application website address is <https://monvalletsolar.info>

Update since 28th October 2022

During our SID Consultation meeting it was advised that permission had been granted in Phases 1 and 2 of the solar and battery storage, and that there was a proposal for a 3rd phase of solar which was the subject of a further information request (application ref:22/534). Regarding the latter, a Notification of Decision to Grant was recently issued by Louth County Council for this proposed development on the 14th December 2022.

Also, during the SID Consultation meeting, the Board representatives responded to a question raised in respect of possible timeframes for considering the SID application. In response it was advised that the Applicant should submit a robust application and NIS to reduce the likelihood of a further information request. It is hoped the Board considers the enclosed application and NIS to be robust and that a request for further information will not be necessary.

The view was also expressed at this meeting that, given the background history on the site, which includes an extant permission for 2 no. 37kV substations, permission for two phases of a solar farm and battery storage on adjoining land and a 3rd phase of solar under consideration (now determined with a Notice of Decision to Grant

having issued), an SID application should be relatively straightforward to determine. The permissions received to-date have all been from Louth County Council and have not involved third party appeals. It is considered this is reflective of the positive engagement of the Applicant with the local community.

With a positive outcome to this SID application, it is hoped to progress this development on-site by the summer 2023. To this end and having regard to the positive views expressed at the SID Consultation meeting by the Board representatives, it is hoped as per the discussion at the SID Consultation meeting that the Board will be in a position to issue its determination within the target eighteen-week period following the public consultations.

Site Access -

Site access can be arranged for the Board Inspector by contacting myself (086 819 6856) or Ryan McBirney (00447841469312).

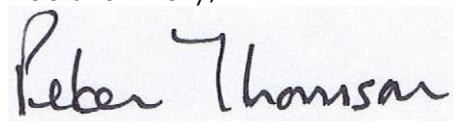
Documents

The following documentation accompanies this application:

- 2 no. copies of the completed planning application form;
- 2 no. copies of the site notice;
- 2 no. copies of each newspaper notice (2 no.);
- 2 no. copies of the letter from the Applicant confirming Statutory Undertaker status authorised to carry out works for the supply of electricity under the public road.
- 2 no. copies of the letter of consent from the landowner;
- 2 no. copies of Planning Application Notification Letter to Louth County Council;
- 2 no. copies of sample Planning Application Notification Letter to the prescribed bodies and the schedule of prescribed bodies notified;
- 2 no. copies of each of the Notification Letter sent to the prescribed bodies;
- 2 no. copies of the Planning Application Drawings (see Schedules of Drawings attached to Planning Application Form);
- 2 no. copies of the Natura Impact Statement;
- 2 no. copies of the Environmental Report Vol.1;
- 2 no. copies of the Environmental Report – Appendices Vol.2;
- 2 no. copies of the Decommissioning Plan;
- 2 no. copies of the Engineering Planning Report; and
- 2 no. copies of the Preliminary Construction Environmental Management Plan.

If you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Thomson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a light grey rectangular background.

Peter Thomson, MSc, MIPI