

14 August 2023

The Heritage Council
Áras na hOidhreachta
Church Lane,
Kilkenny,
R95 X264

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: Proposal: An Open Cycle Gas Turbine power plant (350MW) and associated infrastructure on land to the north of Tynagh Power Station, Derryfrench, Tynagh, Loughrea, Co. Galway.

On behalf of the applicant, EP Energy Developments Ltd.¹, we hereby submit this Strategic Infrastructure Development application to An Bord Pleanála in respect to an Open Cycle Gas Turbine ('OGCT') power plant and associated infrastructure on land to the north of the existing Tynagh Power Station facility in Derryfrench, Tynagh, Loughrea, Co. Galway.

The development description reads as follows:

The proposed development will include: Demolition of existing vacant shed structure on site; Installation of an Open Cycle Gas Turbine (OCGT) unit and associated plant [Including GT enclosure; air intake; stack (40m high) with Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS); circuit breaker; main, auxiliary and ancillary transformers; switchyard; acoustic barriers; electrical rooms; finfan coolers; skids (to include gas skid, distillate fuel skid, lube oil skid, CO2 fire-fighting skid); propane store; pump out kiosk; gantry; hardstanding maintenance area]; Lubrication oil and chemical stores [3 no. shed structures]; Secondary fuel storage area [1 no. bunded fuel oil storage tank; fuel treatment plant; fuel forwarding building; fuel unloading area]; Fuel pipe gantry; Demineralised water storage tank and pumphouse; Firewater storage tank and pumphouse; Emergency diesel generator; Above Ground Installation ('AGI') to facilitate connection to existing gas pipeline; A new 220 kV switchyard bay within the existing electricity substation; And all associated ancillary development, site works and services including underground pipework and cabling, upgraded wastewater treatment plant, drainage infrastructure, fencing, internal roadways, lighting, etc.

¹ 3rd Floor, The Crescent Building, Northwood Park, Santry, Dublin 9, D09 X8W3

The application relates to development for the purposes of an activity requiring a license from the Environmental Protection Agency under the Industrial Emissions Directive. It also relates to a Lower Tier COMAH establishment and therefore falls under the requirements of the Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) Regulations, 2015. An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) will be submitted with the application.

The proposed plant provides quick response electricity generation capability which will help to maintain security of supply while supporting Ireland in its transition to a low carbon economy in line with National Development Plan and Climate Action Plan objectives. It will also help to replace generation capacity that will be lost through the planned retirement of more carbon-intensive power stations in the coming years.

This application is being made directly to An Bord Pleanála² as 'Strategic Infrastructure Development'(SID) under the provisions of Section 37E the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Bord Pleanála have required that we directly consult the Heritage Council as a prescribed body. All documentation for this planning application can be found at www.tynaghnorthocgt.ie such as:

- ABP SID Planning Application Form and Appendices
- Cover Letter and Appendices
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)³
- Application Drawings

You are advised that the Board may in respect of an application for permission decide to:

- (a) (i) grant the permission/approval, or
(ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its decision and grant permission/approval in respect of the proposed development as so modified, or
(iii) grant permission/approval in respect of part of the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or
- (b) Refuse to grant the permission/approval.

Submissions or Observations may be made only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 relating to:

- i. The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and
- ii. The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
- iii. The likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be received by the Board no later than 5.30 p.m. on 10th October 2023.

Yours sincerely,

² An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1

³ Includes AA Screening and COMAH Land Use Planning Risk Assessment

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Barrett'.

Ed Barrett
Director, Planning