



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Ms Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee
Palais des Nations, Room 429-4
CH-1211 GENEVA 10
Switzerland

16 April 2021

Ref: ACCC/C/2015/132

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning
compliance by Ireland with the Convention in connection with the Laois-Kilkenny
Reinforcement (electrical substation) Project (ACCC/C/2015/132)**

Dear Ms Marshall,

I refer to above communication and the Committee's letter dated 19 March 2021 which enclosed a series of question for the parties in lieu of a hearing in relation to this matter.

Ireland's response to those questions is set out in the attached.

The following documents, referred to in the substantive response, are also attached:

1. Section 33 of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act (2010), inserting section 50B in the principal act.
2. Section 29 of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act (2018), amending section 50B
3. North East Pylon Pressure Campaign Ltd. v An Bord Pleanála (No. 5) [2018] IEHC 622 (Humphreys J)
4. Heather Hill Management Company CLG v An Bord Pleanála [2019] IEHC 186 (Simons J)
5. Extract - Part 18 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, illustrating the amendments made between 12th June 2009 and 23 April 2014.
6. Grid Implementation Programme 2011 – 2016
7. Environmental Report for the Grid Implementation Programme 2011 - 2016
8. Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project – Phase 1 – Lead Consultant's Report, May 2011



9. Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project – Phase 2 – Lead Consultant’s Report Planning Report, February 2012
10. Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project - Application for Planning Approval - Planning Report, January 2013
(see <http://www.eirgridlaoiskilkenny.ie/planning.html> for appendices to the above three reports)
11. Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project Technical Comparison of AIS v GIS Substation Options, January 2011
12. Drawing of the final substation sizing
13. Assessment of Alternative 400/110kV Substation Study Areas, May 2011
14. 2004 An Bord Pleanála Costs Policy (CPO)
15. 2016 An Bord Pleanála Costs Policy (37H, 182B and 182D PDA)
16. Harrington v. Bord Pleanala, (O’Neill J, 2013 No. 276 JR) [2014] IEHC 232
17. High Court Final Order, 4 June 2014, Harrington v. ABP
18. Supreme Court Order, 21 June 2019, Harrington v. ABP
19. McCallig v. Bord Pleanala, (Herbert J, 2011 No. 291 JR) [2014] IEHC 353

I would be grateful if you could confirm receipt.

Yours sincerely,

Aoife Joyce
National Focal Point –Ireland- Aarhus