Comhairle Contae Chill Mhantáin
Wicklow County Council

Pleanáil, Forbairt Eacnamaíochta agus Tuaithe
Planning, Economic and Rural Development

Áras An Chontae / County Buildings
Cill Mhantáin / Wicklow
Guthán / Tel (0404) 20148
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Rphost / Email plandev@wicklowcoco ie
Suíomh / Website www wicklow ie

Conor Auid
Fehily Timoney & Company
Core House
Pouladuff Road
Cork
T12 D773

9th Of February 2026

RE: Declaration in accordance with Section 5 of the Planning & Development Acts 2000 (As Amended) -EX08/2026

A Chara,

I enclose herewith Declaration in accordance with Article 5 (2) (A) of the Planning & Development Act 2000.

Where a Declaration is used under this Section any person issued with a Declaration under subsection (2) (a) may, on payment to An Coimisiún Pleanála of such fee as may be prescribed, refer a declaration for review by the Coimisiún within four weeks of the date of the issuing of the declaration by the Local Authority.

Is mise, le meas,

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
PLANNING DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT.

Comhairle Contae Chill Mhantáin
Wicklow County Council

Pleanáil, Forbairt Eacnamaíochta agus Tuaithe
Planning, Economic and Rural Development

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DECLARATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 5 (2) (A) OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 AS AMENDED

Applicant: BNRG (Ireland) Holdings

Location: Ballymoney, Arklow, Co. Wicklow

Reference Number: EX 08/2026

CHIEF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. CE/PERD/2026/146

A question has arisen as to whether *"the provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm"* at Ballymoney, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to the National grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation is or is not exempted development.

Having regard to:
A: The details within Section 5 application No. EX08/2026
B: Section 2, 3,4 of the Planning and Development Act 2000(as amended)
C: Articles 6 and 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001(as amended)
D: Class 26, of Part 1 Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 as amended

Main Reasons with respect to Section 5 Declaration:
1. The laying of cable involves operations of construction and excavation and is therefore works having regard to Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act
2. The works would be development under Section 3 of the Planning and Development Act.
3. The provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm in the townland of Ballymoney Co. Wicklow to the National grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation would accord with the provisions of Schedule 2, Part 1, Class 26 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).
4. Nothing within Article 9 would exclude the development from exemption.

The Planning Authority considers that *"the provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm" at* Ballymoney, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to the National grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation **is development and IS exempted development.**

Signed: Nicola Kenny
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
PLANNING DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT

Date: 09/02/2026

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 (As Amended)
SECTION 5

CHIEF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. CE/PERD/2026/146

Reference Number:	EX 08/2026
Name of Applicant:	BNRG (Ireland) Holdings
Nature of Application:	Section 5 Referral as to whether *"the provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm to the National grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation"* is or is not development and is or is not exempted development.
Location of Subject Site:	Ballymoney, Arklow, Co. Wicklow
Report from:	Lyndsey Blackmore, EP, Edel Bermingham, T/SP

With respect to the query under Section 5 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as to whether *"the provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm" at* Ballymoney, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to the National grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation Is or is not exempted development within the meaning of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended)

Having regard to:
A: The details within Section 5 application No. EX08/2026
B: Section 2, 3,4 of the Planning and Development Act 2000(as amended)
C: Articles 6 and 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001(as amended)
D: Class 26, of Part 1 Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 as amended

Main Reasons with respect to Section 5 Declaration:
1. The laying of cable involves operations of construction and excavation and is therefore works having regard to Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act
2. The works would be development under Section 3 of the Planning and Development Act.
3. The provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm in the townland of Ballymoney Co. Wicklow to the National grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation would accord with the provisions of Schedule 2, Part 1, Class 26 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).
4. Nothing within Article 9 would exclude the development from exemption.

Recommendation
The Planning Authority considers that *"the provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm" at* Ballymoney, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to the National grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation **is development and is exempted development** as recommended in the planning reports.

Signed: _____ Date: 25/02/26

ORDER:
I HEREBY DECLARE:
That *"the provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm" at* Ballymoney, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to the National grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation **is development and is exempted** development within the meaning of the Planning & Development Acts 2000 (as amended).

Signed: _____ Date: 9/2/2026

T/Senior Planner
Planning, Economic & Rural Development

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
Section 5 – Application for declaration of Exemption Certificate

REF:	**EX 08/2026**
NAME:	**BALLYMONEY SOLAR FARM**
DEVELOPMENT:	**UNDERGROUND DUCTING AND CABLING**
LOCATION:	**BALLYMONEY ARKLOW CO.WICKLOW**

Site:
Under ground cable double circuit route between Ballymoney Solar farm permitted under PRR19/627 ACP ref 305289_19 and the existing Arklow 220kw ubstation with a length of 950m

Relevant Planning History
19/627 - Ten year permission for the construction of solar farm within a site area of approx. 19 ha consisting of solar photovoltaic panels covering an area of up to 9.8 ha on ground mounted steel frames, 1 no on site substation, 3 no inverter / transformer stations, underground cables and ducts, boundary security fence, new internal tracks, CCTV cameras and all associated site services.

Question:
The applicant has applied to see whether or not the following is or is not development; and is or is not exempted development:

The provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm in the townland of Ballymoney Co.Wicklow to the national grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation in the townland of Killinskyduff Co. Wicklow

Relevant legislation:
Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)
Section 2: (1) In this Act, except where the context otherwise requires- "works" includes any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal and, in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes any act or operation involving the application or removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to or from the surfaces of the interior or exterior of a structure .

. *'structure': means any building, structure, excavation, or other thing constructed or made on, in or under and land, or any part of a structure so defined, and -*

(a) where the context so admits, includes the land on, in or under which the structure is situate, and ...
"statutory undertaker" means a person, for the time being, authorised by or under any enactment or instrument under an enactment to-

(a) construct or operate a railway, canal, inland navigation, dock, harbour or airport,

(b) provide, or carry out works for the provision of, gas, electricity or telecommunications services, or

(c) provide services connected with, or carry out works for the purposes of the carrying on of the activities of, any public undertaking;

Section 3:
3.-(1) In this Act, "development" means, except where the context otherwise requires, the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in the use of land of structures situated on the land.

Section 4(2) provides that the Minister may by regulations provide any class of development to be exempted development. The Regulations which are applicable in this case are the Planning and Development Regulations

Planning and Development Regulations 2001{as amended).
Article 6
(1) Subject to article 9, development of a class specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act, provided that such development complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 1 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1.

Article 9(1) - Note see Regulations for full Article
Development to which article 6 relates shall not be exempted development for the purposes of the Act

a) if the carrying out of such development would –

(i) contravene a condition attached to a permission under the Act or be inconsistent with any use specified in a permission under the Act,

(vii) consist of or comprise the excavation, alteration or demolition (other than peat extraction) of places, caves, sites, features or other objects of archaeological, geological, historical, scientific or ecological interest, the preservation, conservation or protection of which is an objective of a development plan or local area plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or local area plan, or the making of a new development plan or local area plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the local area plan or the draft development plan or draft local area plan

(viiB) comprise development in relation to which a planning authority or An Bord Pleanála is the competent authority in relation to appropriate assessment and the development would require an appropriate assessment

(viiC) consist of or comprise development which would be likely to have an adverse impact on an area designated as a natural heritage area by order made under section 18 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000.

Assessment:
The query under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) is whether the provision of 950m of 10kVunderground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm in the townland of Ballymoney Co.Wicklow to the national grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation in the townland of Killinskyduff Co. Wicklow is or is not exempted development.

The path of the proposed ducting cabling is from the Arklow 220kv substation, north within the footpath along the east of R772 for 700m before transitioning into the L21731. Then continues eastwards along the local road for 250m to the entrance of Ballymoney Solar Farm Lands.
Then a further 350m northwards on a private access track within the solar farm lands.

The applicant has submitted an AA screening report, which concludes that there are no likely significant effects on the qualifying interests, special conservation interests or conservation objectives of any designated European site.

The first assessment is to establish whether or not such works are development within the remit of Section 3 of the Planning and Development Act 2000(as amended). In this regard, Section 3 of the Planning and Development Act provides that:

"development" means, except where the context otherwise requires, the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in the use of land of structures situated on the land.

As per Section 2 of the Act:

"works" includes any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal and, in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes any act or operation involving the application or removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to or from the surfaces of the interior or exterior of a structure.
With regard to the above, it is considered that the provision of an underground electrical cable connection which would involve excavation/ trenching, would fall within the definition of works, and as such would constitute 'development' under the meaning of the Act.

The second stage of the assessment is to determine whether the works involved in the provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm in the townland of Ballymoney Co.Wicklow to the national grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation in the townland of Killinskyduff Co. Wicklow
is or is not exempted development.

In this regard it is noted that Class 26 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) provides an exemption for:

The carrying out by any undertaker authorized to provide an electricity service of development consisting of the laying underground of mains, pipes, cables or other apparatus for the purposes of the undertaking.

The submitted works for an underground connection by BNRG Ltd is considered to come within the description set out under Class 26. BNRG Ltd would, it is considered, come within the definition of undertaker having regard to the provisions of the Electricity Regulation Act 1999, and as they have been authorised by reference to PRR19/ 627 ACP ref 305289-19 to construct a solar farm for the provision of electricity.

Article 9 examination:
The most relevant exclusions identified under Article 9 restricting the Exemptions as set out in Schedule 2: Part 1 are examined below:

(viiA) consist of or comprise the excavation, alteration or demolition of any archaeological monument included in the Record of Monuments and Places,

The cabling is not within the 50m buffer for any recorded monuments.
The cabling will therefore not result in the excavation/ alteration or demolition of any archaeological monument.

(viiB) comprise development in relation to which a planning authority or An Bord Pleanala is the competent authority in relation to appropriate assessment and the development would require an appropriate assessment

A screening report was submitted with respect to the proposed development as part of this Exemption Declaration. The cabling/ ducting proposed is located on lands which are not within or adjacent to any Natura 2000 site. The closest Natura 2000 site is the Buckroney- Brittas Dunes and Fen (c. 3km north east), with the Slaney River Valley SAC at its closest point c. 14km to the south. From examination it is apparent that there is no direct link to either of these Natura 2000 sites.

It is considered that given the nature of the works that the provision of cabling will not give rise to any negative impacts on any Natura 2000 site and therefore the need to proceed to the Second Stage i.e. Appropriate Assessment is not considered necessary in this instance.

In light of the above, it is considered that the provisions of Article 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001(as amended) do not apply in this instance, and therefore the development would be exempted development.

Need for EIA:
The development of a solar farm and the provision of underground electric cabling would not come within any of the prescribed development as set out in Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Roads:
The Declaration would not abrogate the responsibility of the applicants to receive all other consents necessary to proceed with the works.

Recommendation:
With respect to the query under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as to whether:
The provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm in the townland of Ballymoney Co.Wicklow to the National grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation

is or is not development and is or is not exempted development

The Planning Authority considers that:
The provision of the provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm in the townland of Ballymoney Co.Wicklow to the national grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation

is development and **IS** exempted development

Main Considerations with respect to Section 5 Declaration:
A: The details within Section 5 application No. EX08/2026
B: Section 2, 3,4 of the Planning and Development Act 2000(as amended)
C: Articles 6 and 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001(as amended)
D: Class 26, of Part 1 Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 as amended

Main Reasons with respect to Section 5 Declaration:

1. The laying of cable involves operations of construction and excavation and is therefore works having regard to Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act
2. The works would be development under Section 3 of the Planning and Development Act.
3. The provision of 950m of 10kV underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to ink the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm in the townland of Ballymoney Co.Wicklow to the National grid via the existing Arklow 220kV substation would accord with the provisions of Schedule 2, Part 1, Class 26 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).
4. Nothing within Article 9 would exclude the development from exemption.

Lyndsey Blackmore
Executive Planner
05/02/26

5/2/2026

Comhairle Contae Chill Mhantáin
Wicklow County Council

Pleanáil, Forbairt Eacnamaíochta agus Tuaithe
Planning, Economic and Rural Development

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Suíomh / Website: www.wicklow.ie

MEMORANDUM

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

TO: **Lyndsey Blackmoare**
Executive Planner

FROM: **Nicola Fleming**
Staff Officer

RE:- EX08/2026 - Declaration in accordance with Section 5 of the Planning & Development Acts 2000 (as amended)

I enclose herewith for your attention application for Section 5 Declaration received 20/01/2026

The due date on this declaration is the 16/02/2026.

Staff Officer
Planning Development & Environment

Comhairle Contae Chill Mhantáin
Wicklow County Council

Pleanáil, Forbairt Eacnamaíochta agus Tuaithe
Planning, Economic and Rural Development

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Suíomh / Website www.wicklow.ie

Conor Auld
Fehily Timoney & Company
Core House
Pouladuff Road
Cork
T12 D773

20th January 2026

RE: Application for Certificate of Exemption under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 (as amended). – EX08/2026

A Chara

I wish to acknowledge receipt on 20/01/2026 full details supplied by you in respect of the above Section 5 application. A decision is due in respect of this application by 16/02/2026.

Mise, le meas

Nicola Fleming
Staff Officer
Planning, Economic & Rural Development

Wicklow County Council
County Buildings
Wicklow
0404-20100

23/01/2026 13 54 14

Receipt No L1/0/357834

KATE
CORE HOUSE
POULADUFF ROAD
CORK
T12 D773

PLANNING APPLICATION FEES	80 00
GOODS 80 00	
VAT Exempt/Non-vatable	
Total	80 00 EUR
Tendered	
Credit Card	80 00
Change	0 00

Issued By VANESSA PORTER
From Customer Service Hub
Vat reg No 0015233H

Nicola Fleming

From: Siobhan O'Brien
Sent: Tuesday 20 January 2026 10:32
To: Nicola Fleming
Subject: FW: Section 5 Declaration Application - Underground 10kV Cables
Attachments: Ballymoney SF S5 Declaration App.zip

From: Conor Auld <conor.auld@ftco.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 20 January 2026 10:13
To: Planning - Planning and Development Secretariat <plandev@wicklowcoco.ie>
Subject: Section 5 Declaration Application - Underground 10kV Cables

Dear Sir, Madam,

Please find attached an application for a declaration of exemption under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) [PDA] is submitted by Fehily Timoney & Company, Core House, Pouladuff Road, Cork on behalf of the applicant, BNRG (Ireland) Holdings Limited, of Level 3, Plaza 4, Custom House Plaza, Harbourmaster Place, Dublin 1, D01KP62, Ireland.

As the laying of underground cables is exempted development pursuant to Article 6 and Class 26 of Part 1 of the Second Schedule of the Planning Regulations. The applicant seeks confirmation pursuant to Section 5 of the PDA that c. 950 m of 10kV underground grid cables within the corridor of public roads are exempted development.

The attached folder contains the following files pertaining to this application:

- Section 5 Declaration Application Form;
- Cover Letter prepared by Fehily Timoney and Company;
- Appropriate Assessment Screening Report prepared by Fehily Timoney and Company;
- Outline Construction Methodology prepared by TLI Group;
- Section 5 Drawing pack prepared by TLI Group which includes the following:
    - DR-001 – Overall Site Location Map @ 1: 5000
    - DR-002 – Site Layout Plan (Sheet 1 of 3) @ 1:1000
    - DR-003 – Site Layout Plan (Sheet 2 of 3) @ 1:1000
    - DR-004 – Site Layout Plan (Sheet 3 of 3) @ 1:1000
    - DR-005 – Ducting Road Temp Reinstatement SD1 & 2 @ 1:10
    - DR-006 – Ducting Road Perm Reinstatement SD4 & 5 @ 1:10
    - DR-007 – Ducting Access Road @ 1: 10
    - DR-008 – Joint Bay Details @ 1: 20
    - DR-010 – Ducting Through Concrete Footways @ 1: 10
    - DR-011 – Double Circuit Service Crossing Details @ 1: 25, 1: 10

The €80 fee will be paid via phone call this morning.

I would be grateful if you could please confirm receipt of this email and the attached files.

Kind regards,

FEHILY TIMONEY

DESIGNING AND DELIVERING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Principal Planner
Unit 3/4, Northwood House, Northwood Crescent, Northwood, Dublin, D09 X899
T: +353 (0)1 658 3500
M: +353 (0 86 381 9160
fehilytimoney.ie

Wicklow County Council
County Buildings
Wicklow
Co Wicklow
Telephone 0404 20148
Fax 0404 69462

Office Use Only

Date Received _____

Fee Received _____

APPLICATION FORM FOR A DECLARATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 5 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000(AS AMENDED) AS TO WHAT IS OR IS NOT DEVELOPMENT OR IS OR IS NOT EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT

1. Applicant Details

(a) Name of applicant: BNRG (Ireland) Holdings
Address of applicant: Level 3, Plaza 4, Custom House Plaza,
Harbourmaster Pl,
Dublin 1, D01KP62, Ireland.

Note Phone number and email to be filled in on separate page.

2. Agents Details (Where Applicable)

(b) Name of Agent (where applicable) Conor Auld on behalf of
Fehily Timoney & Company

Address of Agent: Core House,
Pouladuff Road,
Cork, T12 D773

Note Phone number and email to be filled in on separate page.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL
23 JAN 2026
PLANNING DEPT.

3. Declaration Details

i. Location of Development subject of Declaration:

Within the R772 and L-21731 Public roads in the townlands of Templerainy, Killiniskyduff and Ballymoney, County Wicklow.

ii. Are you the owner and/or occupier of these lands at the location under i. above ? Yes/ No. NO

iii. If 'No' to ii above, please supply the Name and Address of the Owner, and or occupier

Works are proposed of approximately 950 metres within the R772 and L-21731 Public Roads between the Ballymoney Solar Farm site and Arklow 220kV substation.

iv. Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act provides that : If any question arises as to what, in any particular case, is or is not development and is or is not exempted development, within the meaning of this act, any person may, an payment of the prescribed fee, request in writing from the relevant planning authority a declaration on that question. You should therefore set out the query for which you seek the Section 5 Declaration:

Whether the provision of c. 950m of 10Kv underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to link the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm in the townland of Ballymoney County Wicklow to the national gird via the existing Arklow 220kV Substation in the townland of Killiniskyduff, Co. Wicklow is or is not development and is or is not exempted development.

Additional details may be submitted by way of separate submission.

v. Indication of the Sections of the Planning and Development Act or Planning Regulations you consider relevant to the Declaration:

Sections 2(1), 3(1), 4(4), 172(1) and 177U(9) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, and; Articles 3, 6 & 9 and Class 26, Part 1, Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended.

Additional details may be submitted by way of separate submission.

vi. Does the Declaration relate to a Protected Structure or is it within the curtilage of a Protected Structure (or proposed protected structure) ? NO

vii. List of Plans, Drawings submitted with this Declaration Application

Cover Letter prepared by Fehily Timoney and Company;

Appropriate Assessment Screening Report prepared by Fehily Timoney and Company;

Outline Construction Methodology prepared by TLI Group;

Section 5 Drawing pack prepared by TLI Group which includes the following:

- DR-001 – Overall Site Location Map @ 1: 5000
- DR-002 – Site Layout Plan (Sheet 1 of 3) @ 1:1000
- DR-003 – Site Layout Plan (Sheet 2 of 3) @ 1:1000
- DR-004 – Site Layout Plan (Sheet 3 of 3) @ 1:1000
- DR-005 – Ducting Road Temp Reinstatement SD1 & 2 @ 1:10
- DR-006 – Ducting Road Perm Reinstatement SD4 & 5 @ 1:10
- DR-007 – Ducting Access Road @ 1: 10
- DR-008 – Joint Bay Details @ 1: 20
- DR-010 – Ducting Through Concrete Footways @ 1: 10
- DR-011 – Double Circuit Service Crossing Details @ 1: 25, 1: 10

viii. Fee of € 80 Attached? YES paid via card over phone call

Signed: Dated: 19/01/2026

Additional Notes :

As a guide the minimum information requirements for the most common types of referrals under Section 5 are listed below :

A. Extension to dwelling - Class 1 Part 1 of Schedule 2

- Site Location Map
- Floor area of structure in question - whether proposed or existing.
- Floor area of all relevant structures e.g. previous extensions.
- Floor plans and elevations of relevant structures.
- Site Layout Plan showing distance to boundaries, rear garden area, adjoining dwellings/structures etc.

B. Land Reclamation -

The provisions of Article 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) now applies to land reclamation, other than works to wetlands which are still governed by Schedule 2, Part 3, Class 11. Note in addition to confirmation of exemption status under the Planning and Development Act 2000(as amended) there is a certification process with respect to land reclamation works as set out under the European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Agriculture) Regulations 2011 S.I. 456 of 2011. You should therefore seek advice from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Any Section 5 Declaration should include a location map delineating the location of and exact area of lands to be reclaimed, and an indication of the character of the land.

C. Farm Structures - Class 6 -Class 10 Part 3 of Schedule 2.

- Site layout plan showing location of structure and any adjoining farm structures and any dwellings within 100m of the farm structure.
- Gross floor area of the farm structure
- Floor plan and elevational details of Farm Structure and Full details of the gross floor area of the proposed structure.
- Details of gross floor area of structures of similar type within the same farmyard complex or within 100metres of that complex.

FEHILY TIMONEY

DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Planning Department,
Wicklow County Council
County Buildings
Wicklow
Co Wicklow

Our Ref: P24267-FT-EN-XX-RP-PL-0001

19 January 2026

Re: Section 5 Declaration Application:

Whether the provision of a circa. 950m of 10Kv underground grid connection cable within the corridor of public roads to link the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm in the townland of Ballymoney County Wicklow to the national gird via the existing Arklow 220kV Substation in the townland of Killiniskyduff, Co. Wicklow is or is not development and is or is not exempted development.

Dear Sir/Madam,

1.0 Introduction

This application for a declaration of exemption under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) [PDA] is submitted by Fehily Timoney & Company, Core House, Pouladuff Road, Cork on behalf of the applicant, BNRG (Ireland) Holdings Limited, of Level 3, Plaza 4, Custom House Plaza, Harbourmaster Place, Dublin 1, D01KP62, Ireland.

We would highlight that this is the same company which submitted the original planning application for the consented Ballymoney Solar Farm (WCC Reg. Ref. 19/627, ACP Ref. 305289 -19). The name of the company has since been novated from BNRG Neoen Holdings Limited to BNRG (Ireland) Holdings Limited.

As the laying of underground cables is exempted development pursuant to Article 6 and Class 26 of Part 1 of the Second Schedule of the Planning Regulations. The applicant seeks confirmation pursuant to Section 5 of the PDA that c. 950 m of 10kV underground grid cables within the corridor of public roads is exempted development.

Correspondence on this application should be sent to Fehily Timoney at the address above. The fee for this Section 5 application of €80 has been made over phone call to Wicklow County Council.

FEHILY TIMONEY

2.0 Schedule of Documents

The following are included with this application:

- Cover Letter prepared by Fehily Timoney and Company (this document);
- Section 5 Application Form prepared by Fehily Timoney and Company;
- Appropriate Assessment Screening Report prepared by Fehily Timoney and Company;
- Outline Construction Methodology prepared by TLI Group;
- Section 5 Drawing pack prepared by TLI Group which includes the following:
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    - DR-004 – Site Layout Plan (Sheet 3 of 3) @ 1:1000
    - DR-005 – Ducting Road Temp Reinstatement SD1 & 2 @ 1:10
    - DR-006 – Ducting Road Perm Reinstatement SD4 & 5 @ 1:10
    - DR-007 – Ducting Access Road @ 1: 10
    - DR-008 – Joint Bay Details @ 1: 20
    - DR-010 – Ducting Through Concrete Footways @ 1: 10
    - DR-011 – Double Circuit Service Crossing Details @ 1: 25, 1: 10

3.0 Site Location and Context

The permitted Ballymoney solar farm site is located in the townlands of Ballymoney, Co. Wicklow.

The permitted Ballymoney solar farm lies approximately 2.8km north of the centre of Arklow and 1.5km from the most northern environs of the town. Approximately 6.2km to the northwest of the permitted Ballymoney solar farm is the town of Avoca. The permitted Ballymoney solar farm is bound to the west by the M11 Motorway which connects Wicklow and Dublin. To the south, the permitted Ballymoney solar farm is bordered by agricultural fields and a farmyard. To the east, the permitted Ballymoney solar farm is bordered by agricultural fields and isolated rural dwellings

It is now proposed to connect this permitted solar farm to the national grid via Arklow Substation. Connection for the proposed development to the national grid is intended to be provided via a c. 950 m 10kV underground cable connection to the Arklow 220kV Substation. The proposed 10kV UGC route comprises approximately 950 metres along public roads between the permitted solar farm and the Arklow 220kV substation.

The proposed grid connection route runs through the townlands of Killiniskyduff, Templerainy and Ballymoney.

Figure 1 appended to this letter shows the site location.

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4.0 Description of Proposed Development

The proposed development consists of a 10kV Underground Grid Cabling (UGC) route. The grid connection route is approximately 950 m long and will consist of approximately 950 metres within the public road corridor. Connection for the Ballymoney Solar Farm to the Arklow 220kV Substation is intended to be provided on site at a substation which will be built to ESB networks (ESBN) design specifications. Power generated by the solar farm will be exported via a buried grid connection cable connecting the on-site substation to an existing ESBN 220kV Substation at Arklow Substation.

The solar farm, consented under planning reference ACP- Ref. 305289 -19 was successful in the RESS-5 auction under the project name 'Ballymoney PV'. As such, the project has secured support from DCEE to be an offtaker for the energy supplied by the solar farm. This demonstrates the clear intent of the applicant to carry out the construction of this project, with construction intended to commence in 2026.

We further refer the Planning Authority to the relevant case in Millvale, Co. Wicklow Reg. Ref. 17601 and ABP Reg. Ref. PL.27.249025, relating to a solar farm and associated grid connection. In this case, the subject applicant applied for a Section 5 declaration for the associated grid connection, and the grid connection was deemed Exempted Development under Exemption Ref. No. 01/2020. It is of note that BNRG did construct the Millvale development and have previous experience of delivering a similar project of similar scale in Wicklow to that proposed now.

The proposed grid route comprises of the provision of an underground cable running within the majority of the public road corridor from the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm to the existing Arklow 220kV Substation. The proposed 10kV underground cable (UGC) is within public roads for c. 950 m.

All infrastructure associated with the proposed grid connection works shall be designed and constructed in accordance with ESBN specifications.

The Underground Cable (UGC) 10kV grid connection initially begins at the existing Arklow 220kV Substation. The UGC travels north within the footpath located east of the R772. The Underground Cable (UGC) 10kV grid connection travels for approximately 700m within the eastern footpath of the R772 and roundabout, before transitioning into the L-21731. The UGC then continues northeast along the L-21731 for approximately 250m toward the entrance to Ballymoney Solar Farm lands. The underground interconnector network cables within the corridor of the public roadway pass through the following townlands of Templerainy, Killiniskyduff and Ballymoney.

The route does not traverse any known watercourses, and the cable will be laid within the road hard surface or verge. The exact alignment will be subject to a Road opening licence.

Note that the Outline Construction Methodology prepared by TLI group also refers to the 350 m of grid connection cabling within the solar farm site, which is not subject to this Section 5 declaration application.

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4.1 Outline Construction Methodology

TLI Group have prepared an Outline Construction Methodology Report. The purpose of this document is to outline and explain the construction techniques and methodologies that will be implemented during the development of the proposed Ballymoney Solar Farm 10kV double circuit grid connection to the existing Arklow 220kV substation in County Wicklow.

The grid connection will comprise a fully underground cable (UGC) installation in a double circuit configuration. The UGC works will involve the installation of two ducts within an excavated trench to accommodate six power cables. These ducts will be laid across solar farm lands and sections of public road and footpath.

The Outline Construction Methodology Report is intended to serve as a guide to understanding the construction methodologies to be employed. It is important to note that this is an outline document and will be subject to revision and updates prior to the commencement of any construction activities. Detailed Method Statements will be prepared for each specific aspect of the proposed development.

The proposed UGC trench will typically consist of two 125mm diameter HDPE cable ducts installed within an excavated trench measuring approximately 600mm in width and 925mm in depth. Variations to this design will be implemented as required to accommodate bridge crossings, service crossings, and watercourse crossings.

All power cable duct installations and trench reinstatement works will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the local roads authority for public roads. Electrical cabling will be pulled through the installed ducts in sections of approximately 470 to 490 metres, with adjustments made to facilitate connection to the solar farm.

Construction methodologies and materials will be selected to ensure compliance with all relevant standards and stakeholder requirements, including those of the Council and private landowners.

Please refer to the accompanying Outline Construction Methodology Report, prepared by TLI Group, which documents further details in relation to construction methodologies.

5.0 Planning History

The proposed UGC seeks to connect the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm to the national grid at the Arklow 220kV Substation. The solar farm was approved by An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP) under ACP Ref. 305289 -19 on the 12th August 2020 with 12 no. conditions attached. The appeal was made by a 3rd Party Appellant following a favourable decision by Wicklow County Council to grant permission subject to compliance with conditions under Pl. Ref. 19/627.

In addition to the primary planning permission granted for the site, a subsequent planning application was submitted in connection with the original planning file. The purpose of the subsequent planning application was primarily to amend the design of the approved development (Planning Reference: 19/627 and ACP-305289-19). Proposed amendments include (1) relocation of part of the internal access track, and (2) a gate will be added along the access track. Wicklow County Council granted permission subject to compliance with conditions under Pl. Ref. 25/60313.

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6.0 Biodiversity

The cable is to traverse public roads only, therefore no impacts are expected on the biodiversity of the area. The attached Appropriate Assessment Screening prepared by Fehily Timoney and Company confirms that no direct, indirect or cumulative significant impacts are envisaged to European sites within the area.

7.0 Archaeology

The study area for this assessment is focused on a 40-metre-wide corridor centred on the cable route corridor.

The study area was assessed in terms of historic landscape, land use, vegetation cover, presence and potential for undetected archaeological and architectural heritage sites/features.

The Heritage Maps Viewer (https://heritagedata.maps.arcgis.com) was consulted to determine if there are any known archaeological features in the immediate area. Figure 2 below identifies the cable route in the context of known archaeological features.

There are no recorded archaeological sites situated within the lands comprising the proposed development area.

Figure 2 appended to this letter shows the sites and monuments in proximity to this development.

The general landscape around the proposed scheme contains a moderate number of recorded archaeological monuments. The closest recorded archaeological sites to the proposed development are two Cremation pits whose centre points are located c.50m (WI040-056----) and c.115m (WI040-058----) to the west of the northern boundary of the subject site.

Furthermore, towards the southern boundary of the subject site, the closest recorded archaeological site to the proposed development is a Ring-ditch whose centre points are located c.93m (WI040-047---) to the east of the southern boundary of the subject site.

Given that the cable will be installed in 'made' ground along an existing access road, the potential to impact on unrecorded archaeology is low.

While the proposed site for the solar energy farm and cable route extends over a relatively large area, and will entail extensive sub-surface ground disturbance, a review of available modern aerial imagery has shown that the entire footprint of the proposed development site has been subject to significant ground works and landscaping during the recent construction of the R772 has recently been resurfaced and enhanced to include a segregated cycle track and pedestrian footpath between the Knockmore roundabout and M11 Junction 20, as part of the National Transport Authority's Arklow North Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme and the cable route follows the alignment of an existing public road and on a private access track within the solar farm lands to the Solar Farm Substation.

The potential for previously unknown archaeological sub-surface remains to survive within the boundaries of the proposed site is therefore considered low. As such it is recommended that no further archaeological works be undertaken in relation to this development.

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8.0 Road, Traffic & Transportation

8.1.1 Potential Impacts - Construction Stage

The installation stage of grid cable will result in additional traffic on the roads in the vicinity of the development. This additional trafficking will include the following:

- Construction worker vehicle
- HGVs carrying conventional earthworks equipment such as an excavator, a roller, road paving equipment and a petrol/diesel generator
- Delivery vehicles carrying material for trench filling and removal of excavated material
- Delivery vehicles carrying electrical cabling

The estimated level of traffic generated is not considered to exceed local road network capacity or to give rise to local traffic obstruction.

The UGC installation works will allow for one side of the road to be open to traffic at all times by means of a 'Stop/Go' type traffic management system, where a minimum 2.5m roadway will be maintained at all times where appropriate. Temporary traffic signals will be implemented to allow road users safely pass through the works area by channelling them onto the open side of the road. Typically, the UGC will be installed in 100m sections, and no more than 100m will be excavated without the majority of the previous section being reinstated. Where the construction requires the crossing of a road, works on one carriageway will be completed before the second carriageway is opened, to maintain traffic flows.

Generally, it will take 1 day to lay 100m of 10 kV underground cable. On the basis of this, the works in the public road (c. 950 m) will take no longer than 10 days. Night time working will be deployed where necessary to minimise disruption to the public and road users.

Along the R772, c. 700 m of cabling is proposed. It is proposed to lay the cable in the footpath along the site of the road, as such there is considered to be no impact on road users aside from where works are in the verge of the roundabout, in this instance it is intended to keep one lane of the roundabout open.

Along the L-21731 the underground cable runs for c. 250 m, on this road there are 4no. Eircode receptors. Works will take place in 100 m sections, so no more than 2 and a half days (nights) would be required for works on this road, which would keep traffic disruption to a minimum. It is likely that portions of this road would need to be closed as works are carried out on the 100m sections. Flagmen will be positioned to allow access to local resident traffic only and to also enforce and divert unauthorised traffic accessing the works site.

All construction vehicles will be farmed within the works area so as not to cause additional obstruction or inconvenience to road users or residents. The traffic signals will be in place prior to the works commencing and will remain in place until after the works are completed. The public road will be checked regularly and maintained free of mud and debris. Road sweeping will be carried out as appropriate to ensure construction traffic does not adversely affect the local road condition.

In the event of emergency; steel plates, which will be available on site, can be put in place across the excavation to allow traffic to flow on both sides of the road.

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8.1.2 Potential Impacts - Operational Stage

During operation stage ground works are not anticipated, therefore no potential impacts during operation stage are likely to occur. Hence no mitigation measures are required.

Repair work which requires the excavation of a section of the grid connection route shall employ the same mitigation measures outlined in the Construction Section below / Outline Construction Methodology prepared by TLI Group for construction stage activities.

8.1.3 Potential Impacts - Decommissioning Stage

Ducting for the cables will be left in the ground and cables pulled through, therefore no potential impacts during decommissioning stage are likely to occur. Hence no mitigation measures are required.

8.1.4 Mitigation Measures

Reasonable access to local dwellings, farms and businesses will be maintained at all times during the cable works. The details of this will be agreed with the roads authority in advance of the works in consultation with the local residents in so far as is practicable.

9.0 Legislative Context

The Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended ('Planning Regulations'). have specified several works and use classes whereby if a proposal falls into the specified classifications, these works are normally considered exempted development.

Section 2(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended ('Planning Act') defines "works" as;

> *"works" includes any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal and, in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes any act or operation involving the application or removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to or from the surfaces of the interior or exterior of a structure.*

Further to this, Section 3(1) of the Planning Act states as follows:

> *"Development" in this Act means, except where the context otherwise requires, the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in use of any structures or other land.*

The relevant exemption for the proposed grid connection works is provided pursuant to **Article 6 and Class 26 of Part 1 of the Second Schedule of the Planning Regulations.** The exemption under Class 26 is in the following terms:

> *"The carrying out by any undertaker authorised to provide an electricity service or development consisting of the laying underground of mains, pipes, cables or other apparatus for the purposes of the undertaking" [Class 26, Column 1]*

No conditions (Column 2) attach to this class of exempt development.

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Article 3(3) of the Planning Regulations states that an electricity undertaking means

> *"an undertaker authorised to provide an electricity service" Section 2(1) of the Planning Act defines "statutory undertaker" as; "Statutory undertaker" means a person for the time being, authorised by or under any enactment or instruction under an enactment to (b) provide, or carry out works for the provision of gas, electricity or telecommunications services."*

It is acknowledged that an electricity generator qualifies as a statutory undertaker in the context of class 26 development.

We refer the Planning Authority to the relevant case in Johnstownbridge, Co Kildare Reg. Ref. ED00656 (PL09.302895) which ACP declared a grid connection for a solar farm as exempted development and which the Inspector found that the applicant (Power Capital Renewable Energy Ltd):

> *"...falls within the category of statutory undertaker on foot of its authorisation under the Planning Act to construct a solar farm that is a project for the provision of electricity."*

BNRG (Ireland) Holdings Ltd as the owner of the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm thus qualify as a statutory undertaker. It should be further noted that Class 26 allows for 'other apparatus' in addition to pipes and cables.

Article 6(1) of the Planning Regulations states the following:

> *"Subject to article 9, development of a class specified in column 1 of part 1 of Schedule 2 shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act, provided that such development complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 1 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1."*

There are no conditions or limitations on this exemption under column 2 of Class 26, other than those contained under Article 9 of the Planning Regulations which are looked in greater detail in section 6.0 below.

10.0 Compliance with Article 9 of the Planning Regulations

The relevant restrictions and responses to each under Article 9 of the Planning Regulations are outlined below:

9(1)(a)(i) Contravene a condition

The proposed development does not contravene any condition of the extant permission under the solar farm parent permission under ACP- 305289 -19 or any other conditions of Planning relevant to this permitted solar farm.

9(1)(a)(ii) Formation, Laying Cut or Materially Widening a means of Access to a public road which exceeds 4m in width.

The proposed development does not result in the creation of any new access or material widening of any roadway. The proposed underground cable is to be laid underneath the existing public road.

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9(1)(a)(iii) Traffic Hazard / Obstruction

The development, being an underground cable, would have no impact on traffic safety when operational. The development requires a road opening licence which will ensure that all matters related to construction of the development are managed to the highest standards.

The consent of the County Council will be required and the necessary road diversions together with the appropriate signage will be put in place pursuant to a Road Opening License.

It is proposed to maintain lane opening and local private access at all times during this element of the works. It is proposed that all access points (domestic, business, agricultural) are considered when finalising the temporary road closures and diversions.

9(1)(a)(iv) Construction of structure

Not relevant to the proposed development.

9(1)(a)(v) Works under public road

1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 applies

The proposed development relates to works under class 26 of column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Planning Regulations. As such, works are not restricted by Article 9(1)(a)(v).

9(1)(a)(vi) Character of landscape

The proposed development does not affect the character of the surrounding landscape or affect any views of areas of special amenity given the nature of the proposed development. The proposed development is primarily located under the existing public road.

The proposed development is to be located within the public local road for c. 950 m.

During the construction phase of the UGC route, there will be no stockpiling of excavated material. As a result there will be no impact to the character of the surrounding landscape or on any scenic route during the construction phase.

9(1)(a)(vii) A. Excavation

historical, scientific or

There are no recorded archaeological site or their associated ZON recorded on the RMP within 40m of the proposed cable route.

There are no Protected Structures listed on the Wicklow County Council Record of Protected Structures (RPS) within 40m of the proposed cable route.

No archaeological or heritage structures will be affected by the proposed development due to the nature of works within the existing road surface.

The nearest recorded archaeological sites to the proposed development include two cremation pits (WI040-056---- and WI040-058----), located approximately 50m and 115m respectively to the west of the northern site boundary. Additionally, a ring-ditch (WI040-047----) is situated approximately 93m to the east of the southern boundary of the subject site.

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9(1)(a)(viii) Work to unauthorised structure

The proposed development does not consist of any works to an unauthorised structure of unauthorised use.

9(1)(a)(ix) Use of building/Structure supported by Development Plan objective

The proposed development does not affect the use of any building or structure which is supported by an objective of the Wicklow County Development Plan. The works are to be located underground approximately 950 metres along public roads.

9(1)(a)(x) Fencing of land used by public during previous 10 years

The proposed development does not involve the fencing of lands which are normally used by the public.

9(1)(a)(xi) Public rights of way

The proposed development does not obstruct any public rights of way as it is to be placed underground along the existing public roadway and private access tracks. None of which block existing public rights of way.

9(1)(a)(xii) Architectural conservation areas

The proposed development and subject lands are not located within an area designated as an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA).

9(1)(b)(i-iv) Special Amenity Area

The proposed site is not located within an area designated with a Special Amenity Area Order.

9(1)(c) Change of Use

Not applicable to the proposed development.

9(1)(d) Major accident hazards

The proposed development will not have any repercussions on major accident hazards.

9(2) Sub-article (1)(a)(vi) not applicable where development consists of construction of Overhead line not exceeding 100m or conducting electricity from an existing line

Not applicable to the proposed development.

9(3) Sub-article (1)(a)(vii) not applicable which Minister of Government has granted consent

Not applicable to the proposed development.

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12.0 Environmental Impact Assessment

Section 4(4) of the Planning Act effectively de-exempts normal exemptions if a development requires Environmental Impact Assessment or Appropriate Assessment.

The requirement for EIA of certain types of proposed development (is transposed into Irish legislation under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). Section 172(1) of the Planning Act states that:

> *"An environmental impact assessment shall be carried out by a planning authority or the Board, as the case may be in respect of an application for consent for –*
>
> *(a) Proposed development of a class specified in Schedule 5 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 which exceeds a quantity area, or other limit specified in that Schedule, and,*
>
> *(b) Proposed development of a class specified in Schedule 5 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 which does not exceed a quantity, area or other limit specified in that Schedule but which the planning authority or the Board determines would be likely to have significant effects on the environment."*

The proposed development of approximately 950 m of 10kV underground cable would not result any significant effects on the environment due to the characteristics, location and lack of impact from the proposed development. This is in accordance with the criteria laid down in Schedule 7 of the Planning Regulations. The proposed development of the grid connection is similar in scale to other connections which also did not require EIA and were accordingly deemed exempted development.

We refer the planning Authority once again to the relevant case in Johnstownbridge, Co Kildare Reg. Ref. ED00656 (PL09.302895) whereby the Inspector found that:

> *"having regard to the limited nature and scale or works involved, the provision of the medium voltage grid connection between the solar farm development permitted under ref no. 16/1265 and the Dunfirth ESB substation is not likely to have significant effects on the environment"*

Having regard to Schedule 5 Part 1 & Part 2 and Article 103 of the Planning Regulations, the proposed development of approximately 950 m of 10kV underground cable does not require EIA to be undertaken.

In the context of the O'Grianna judgement (O'Grianna and others v ACP) it should be noted that the original solar farm was not subject to EIA and is not a prescribed class of development for the purposes of EIA.

Both the development of the solar farm and proposed grid connection in combination would not require EIA to be undertaken thus this judgement is not applicable.

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11.0 Appropriate Assessment Screening

As outlined in Section 6.0 above, Section 4 (4) of the Planning Act effectively de-exempts normal exemptions if a development requires Environmental Impact Assessment or Appropriate Assessment.

Section 177U(9) of the Planning Act states:

> *"In deciding upon a declaration or a referral under Section 5 of this Act a Planning Authority or the Board, as the case may be shall where appropriate, conduct a screening for appropriate assessment in accordance with the provisions of this section".*

In order to inform the planning authority in their determination on whether or not the installation of the proposed underground cable under the existing public roadway would have any negative impact on the surrounding area and in accordance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive, Fehily Timoney has carried out Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment in accordance with the Habitats Directive.

> *"It is concluded beyond reasonable doubt that there are not likely to be significant effects from the proposed development on the one European sites identified for consideration (or any other European site), either alone or in combination with other plans or projects".*

12.0 Conclusion

Having regard to:

- Sections 2(1), 3(1), 4(4), 172(1) and 177U(9) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, and;
- Articles 3, 6 & 9 and Class 26, Part 1, Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended.

The laying underground of approximately 950 m of 10kV underground cable forming part of the planned renewable energy solar farm at Ballymoney under an existing public road to the Arklow 220kV Substation is exempted development.

We request Wicklow County Council to confirm that this proposed development is acceptable and in accordance with the Planning and Development Regulations.

Yours sincerely,

Conor Auld
for and on behalf of **Fehily Timoney and Company**

Legend

- Site Boundary
- Permitted Solar Farm Boundary
- Arklow 220kV Substation
- Solar Farm Substation
- 10kV UGC Grid Connection

TITLE: Site Location			
PROJECT: Ballymoney Solar Farm			
FIGURE NO:	1		
CLIENT:	BNRG (Ireland) Holdings Limited		
SCALE:	1:6,000	**REVISION:**	0
DATE:	07/01/2026	**PAGE SIZE:**	A3

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WI02021
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WI01799
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WI02821
WI02820
WI02795

Meters
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Legend

- Site Boundary
- Permitted Solar Farm Boundary
- Arklow 220kV Substation
- Solar Farm Substation
- 10kV UGC Grid Connection
- Sites and Monuments

TITLE: Sites and Monuments within Proximity of the Development			
PROJECT: Ballymoney Solar Farm			
FIGURE NO:	3		
CLIENT:	BNRG (Ireland) Holdings Limited		
SCALE:	1:15,000	**REVISION:**	0
DATE:	07/01/2026	**PAGE SIZE:**	A3

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OUTLINE CONSTRUCTION METHODOLOGY

Ballymoney Solar Farm – 10kV Grid Connection

Document No: 051082-R01-03
Client: **BNRG Ltd**

Revision:	Author:	Checked:	Date:	Notes:
00	CK	DB	17.01.2025	Issued for Section 5 Application
01	CK	DB	23.09.2025	Issued for Section 5 Application
02	CK	DB	10.12.2025	Issued for Section 5 Application
03	CK	DB	18.12.2025	Issued for Section 5 Application

Table of Contents

Table of Figures

1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this document is to outline and explain the construction techniques and methodologies which will be implemented during the construction of the proposed Ballymoney Solar Farm 10kV double circuit grid connection to the existing Arklow 220kV substation in Co. Wicklow.

The grid connection will consist entirely of underground cable (UGC) in a double circuit arrangement. The UGC works will consist of an installation with 2 no. ducts in an excavated trench to accommodate 6 no. power cables with the ducts to be installed within solar farm lands and within the public road and footpath.

This document is intended to be used as an aid to understand the methodologies to be employed during construction and should be read in conjunction with all other specialist reports which accompany the Section 5 Application. In addition, this document is in outline form only and will be revised and updated prior to the commencement of any construction activities. Detailed Method Statements will be prepared in respect of each aspect of the proposed development.

2.0 Proposed Interconnection Route

The proposed UGC grid connection is approximately 1.3km in length and travels in a northeastern direction from the Arklow 220kV substation towards the proposed Ballymoney Solar Farm. The proposed route is located within the regional road network, adjacent footpath, local roads and within the solar farm site access tracks.

The exact location of the UGC is subject to minor modification following a further detailed assessment to be undertaken prior to construction and following consultation with Wicklow County Council and all other relevant stakeholders, having regard to all environmental protection measures outlined in the planning application and accompanying technical reports.

The proposed 10kV UGC grid connection route, which is approximately 1.3km, in length is shown in figure 1 below. A summary of the route can be seen in Table 1.

The Overall Site Location Map and Site Layout Plans can be viewed in drawings 051082-DR-001,002,003,004 respectively.

Table 1 of this report summaries the route location for the proposed UGC route, features of the underground cable connection and proposed route.

Table 1 – Proposed 10kV UGC Route Location Summary	
Public Roads	**Solar Farm Site**
950m	350m

Table 1: Arklow 220kV Substation to Ballymoney Solar Farm Substation – UGC Route Location Summary

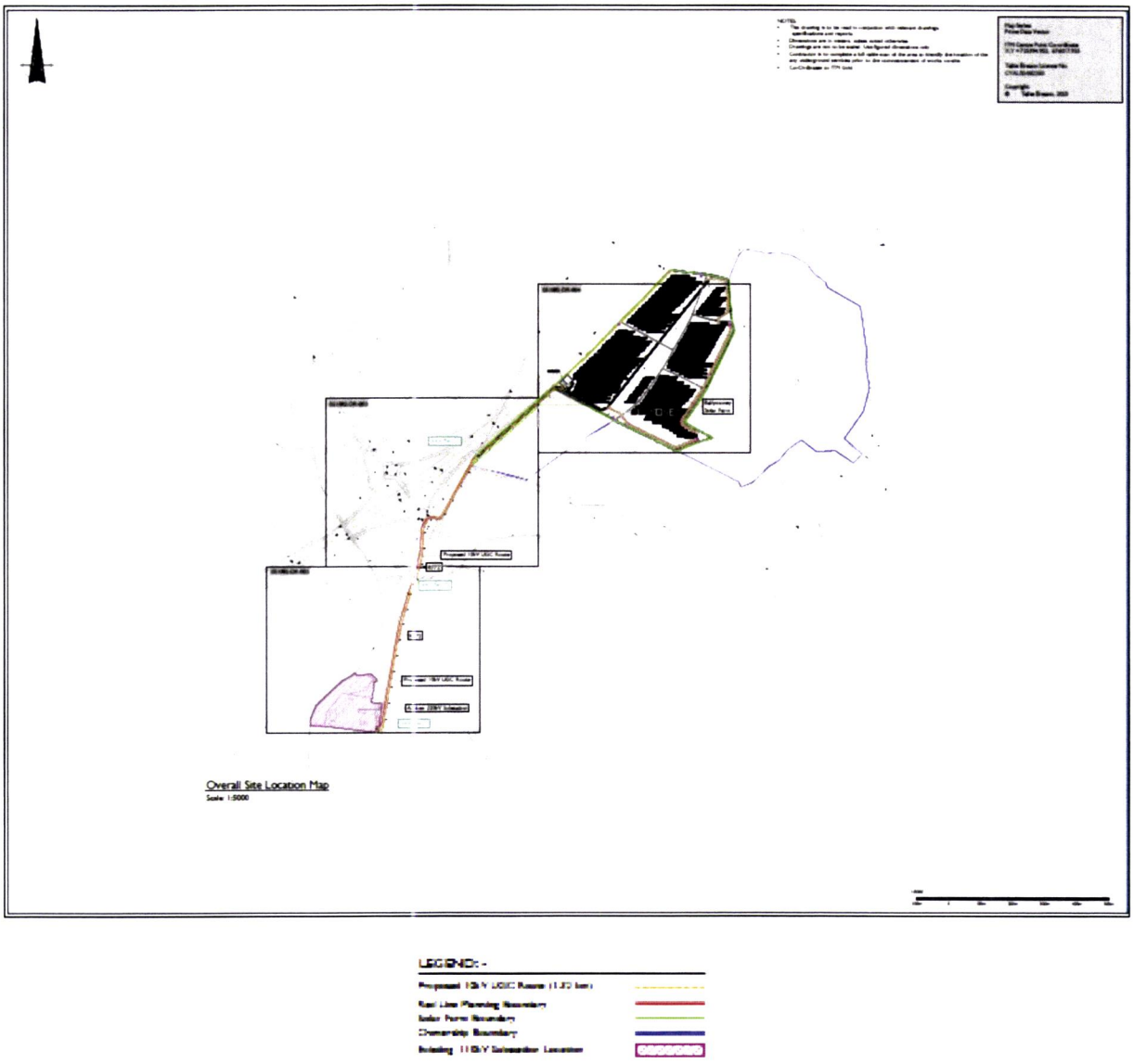


Figure 1 – Proposed Grid Connection Route

Table 2 describes the specific construction requirements and identifies access routes to the work areas. All plant and equipment employed on the proposed works will be subject to good site organisation and hygiene, particularly during construction activities.

Table 2 - Summary of Proposed Grid Connection Design Route	
Section	**Description-Proposed Route**
Section 1 1300m UGC Route	**Arklow 220kV Substation to Ballymoney Solar Farm** The Underground Cable (UGC) 10kV grid connection initially begins at the existing Arklow 220kV Substation. The UGC travels north within the footpath located east of the R772. The Underground Cable (UGC) 10kV grid connection travels for approximately 700m within the eastern footpath of the R772 and roundabout, before transitioning into the L-21731. The UGC then continues northeast along the L-21731 for approximately 250m toward the entrance to

	Ballymoney Solar Farm lands. The UGC continues northeast for approximately 350m, on a private access track within the solar farm lands to the Solar Farm Substation. **Features:** The UGC Route within this section contains 3 no. joint bay. Joint Bays will be located below ground and finished/reinstated to the required Local Authorities/landowner specification. • Joint Bay 01 (JB01) will be located close to the entrance gate to Arklow 220kV substation. • Joint Bay 02 (JB02) will be located approximately 480m subsequent to JB01 within the footpath east of the R772 regional road carriageway. • Joint Bay 03 (JB03) will be located approximately 470m subsequent to JB02 at the entrance gate to the solar farm lands.

Table 2: Summary of Proposed UGC Route

3.0 Preliminary Site Investigations

It would be proposed to carry out Preliminary site investigations along the cable route prior to construction to confirm design assumptions.

The following items may be carried out:

3.1 UGC Route:

2 No. trial holes along the route to ascertain ground conditions and thermal resistivity of the soil.

Traffic Management – Road Closure with Stop/Go, Local access system in place.

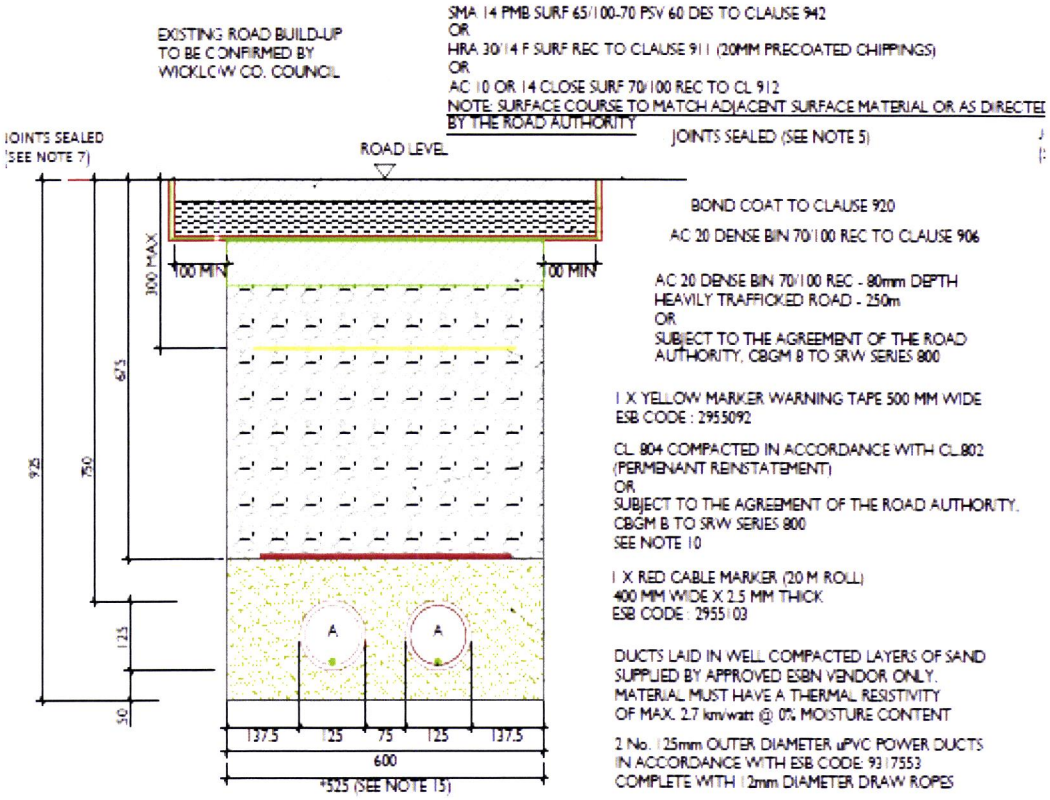
Equipment:

- 4x4 vehicle
- Concrete vibrator
- Wheeled dumper
- Soil compactor
- 360° tracked excavator (only rubber tracked machines will be allowed on public roads)

4.0 UGC Construction Methodology

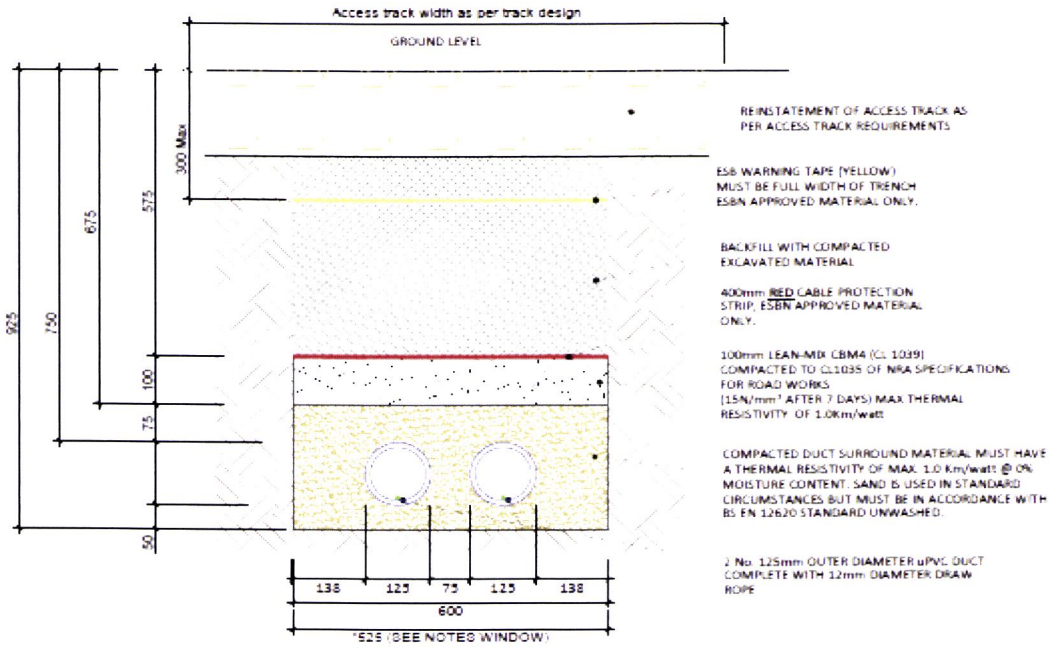
The proposed UGC trench will consist of 2 no. 125mm diameter HDPE cable ducts to be installed in an excavated trench, typically 600mm wide by 925mm deep, with variations on this design to adapt to bridge crossings, service crossings and watercourse crossings. The power cable duct installations and the trench reinstatement will be in accordance with the local road's authority within Wicklow County Council, where installed in public roads and reinstated in accordance with the landowners' requirements were installed in private lands. The installation of the electrical cabling is pulled through the installed ducts in approximately 470/490m sections typically and a

variation to allow connection to the Solar Farm. Construction methodologies to be implemented and materials to be used will ensure that the UGC is installed in accordance with the requirements of the Council and private landowners.



* Dimensions in mm

Figure 2 - Typical Trench in Roadway



*Dimensions in mm

Figure 3 - Typical Trench in Access Road Section

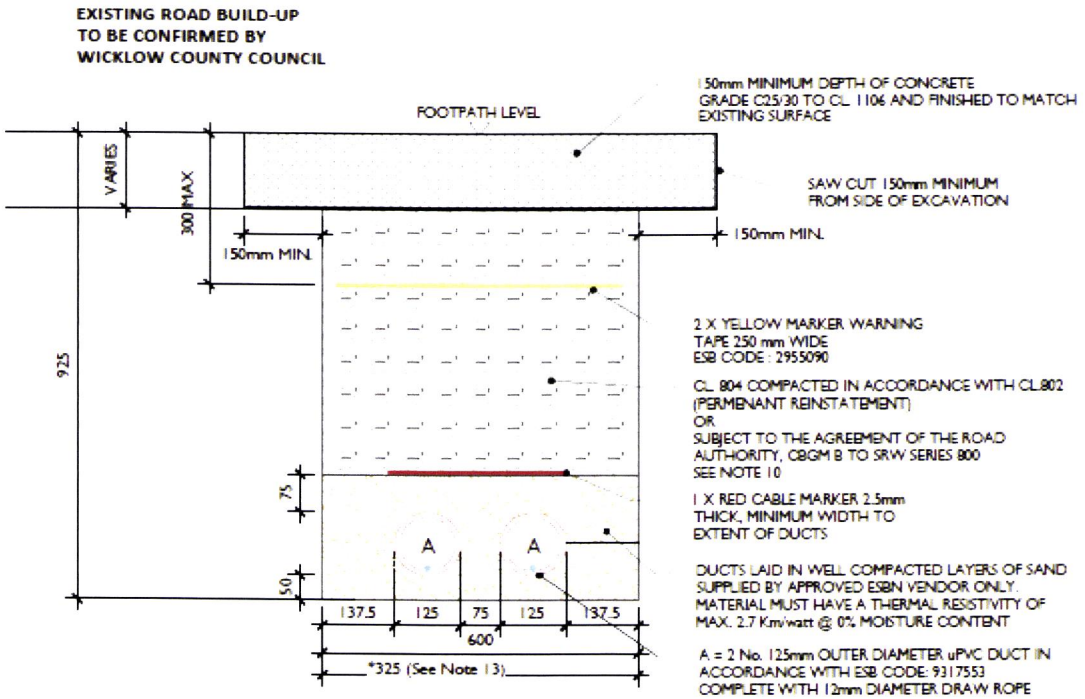


Figure 4 – Typical Trench through Concrete Footpath

Surface cable markers will be placed along the route where cable depth is unavoidably shallow, due to constraints such as existing services, to indicate the precise location of the UGC. These markers will be metallic plates.

Tubular marker posts will be used on non-roadway routes to delineate the duct route. Corrosion proof aluminium triangular danger signs, with a 700mm base, and with centred lightning symbol, on fluorescent yellow background shall be installed in adequately sized concrete foundations. Marker posts shall also be placed in the event that burial depth is not to standard.

Figure 5 - Tubular Marker Posts

4.1 Trenching Methodology

The following section outlines the methodology to be followed during trenching works:-

- The Contractor, and their appointed Site Manager, will prepare a targeted Method Statement concisely outlining the construction methodology and incorporating all mitigation and control measures included within the section 5 application and accompanying reports and as required by conditions where relevant;
- All existing underground services shall be identified on site prior to the commencement of construction works.
- Where the cable route intersects with culverts, the culvert will remain in place (where possible) and the ducting will be installed above the culvert to provide minimum separation distances in accordance with ESBN specifications.
- Traffic management measures will be implemented in accordance with those included in the Traffic Management Report, and a detailed Traffic Management Plan will be prepared and agreed with Wicklow County Council.
- The excavated trench will be approximately 600mm in width and approximately 925mm deep both within the public road network and within solar farm lands.
- The base of the excavated trench will be lined with sand bedding to be imported to site from a local licensed supplier. The 125mm diameter HDPE cable ducts will be placed into the prepared trench, inspected and backfilled as per Figures 2 & 3.
- Excavated material will be temporarily stockpiled onsite for re-use during reinstatement. Stockpiles will be restricted to less than 2m in height. Stockpiles will be located a minimum of 50m from surface water

features and all stockpiling locations will be subject to approval by the Site Manager and Project Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW).

- Excavated material shall be employed to backfill the trench where appropriate and any surplus material will be transported off site and disposed of at a fully authorised soil recovery site.
- Any earthen (sod) banks to be excavated will be carefully opened with the surface sods being stored separately and maintained for use during reinstatement.
- The excavated trench will be dewatered if required, from a sump installed within the low section of the opened trench. Where dewatering is required, dirty water will be fully and appropriately attenuated, through silt bags, before being appropriately discharged to vegetation or surface water drainage feature.
- Where required, grass will be reinstated by either seeding or by replacing with grass turves.
- No more than a 100m section of trench will be opened at any one time. The second 100 metres will only be excavated once the majority of reinstatement has been completed on the first.
- The excavation, installation and reinstatement process will take on average of 1 no. day to complete a 100m section.
- Where the cable is being installed in a roadway, temporary reinstatement may be provided to allow larger sections of road to be permanently reinstated together.
- Works will only be conducted in normal working hours of Monday to Friday 08:00 to 20:00 and Saturday 08:00 to 18:00, with no works on Sundays or Bank Holidays except in exceptional circumstances or in the event of an emergency.
- Following the installation of ducting, pulling the cable will take approximately 1 no. day between each joint bay, with the jointing of cables taking approximately 1 no. day.

Equipment:

- 2-3 General Operatives.
- 1 Excavator Operator.
- 1 no. tracked excavator (only rubber tracked machines will be allowed on public roads).
- 1 no. dumper or tractor and trailer.

Materials:

- Sand for pipe bedding.
- Ready-mix Concrete where necessary (delivered to site).
- Trench backfilling material (excavated material and aggregates) to relevant specifications.
- 125mm diameter HDPE ducting.
- Temporary Surface Reinstatement Materials.

Figure 6 - Typical Underground Duct Installation

4.2 Managing Excess Material from Trench

All excavated material will be temporarily stored adjacent to the trench prior to re-use in the trench reinstatement (where applicable). Stockpiles will be restricted to less than 2m in height. Where excess material exists, it will be disposed of to a licensed facility.

4.3 Storage of Plant and Machinery

All plant, machinery and equipment will be stored on site within the works area or within the temporary construction compound to be located within the proposed solar farm site. Oils and fuels will not be stored on site and will be stored in an appropriately bunded area within the temporary storage compound.

4.4 Joint Bays

Joints Bays are to be provided approximately every 470m – 490m along the UGC route to facilitate the jointing of 2 no. lengths of UGC. Joint Bays are typically 2.9m x 1.6m x 1.56m precast concrete structure installed 1.885m below finished ground level to facilitate the jointing of the cable. Where installed in public roads joint bays will be located in the non-wheel bearing strip of the carriageway.

A typical plan and elevation of a joint bay showing single circuit cable, is shown in figure 6 and 7 below. The precise siting of all Joint Bays is subject to detailed design. Marker posts will be used on non-roadway routes to delineate the duct route and joint slab positions. Detailed Joint Bay drawings can be viewed in drawing 051082-DR-007.

Equipment:

- 2-3 General Operatives.
- 1 Excavator Operator.
- 360° tracked excavator (only rubber tracked machines will be allowed on public roads).
- 1 no. tracked dumper or tractor and trailer.

Materials:

- Sand for pipe bedding.
- Ready-mix Concrete where necessary (delivered to site).
- Trench backfilling material (excavated material and aggregates) to relevant specifications.

- 125mm diameter HDPE ducting.
- Precast Chamber Structures.

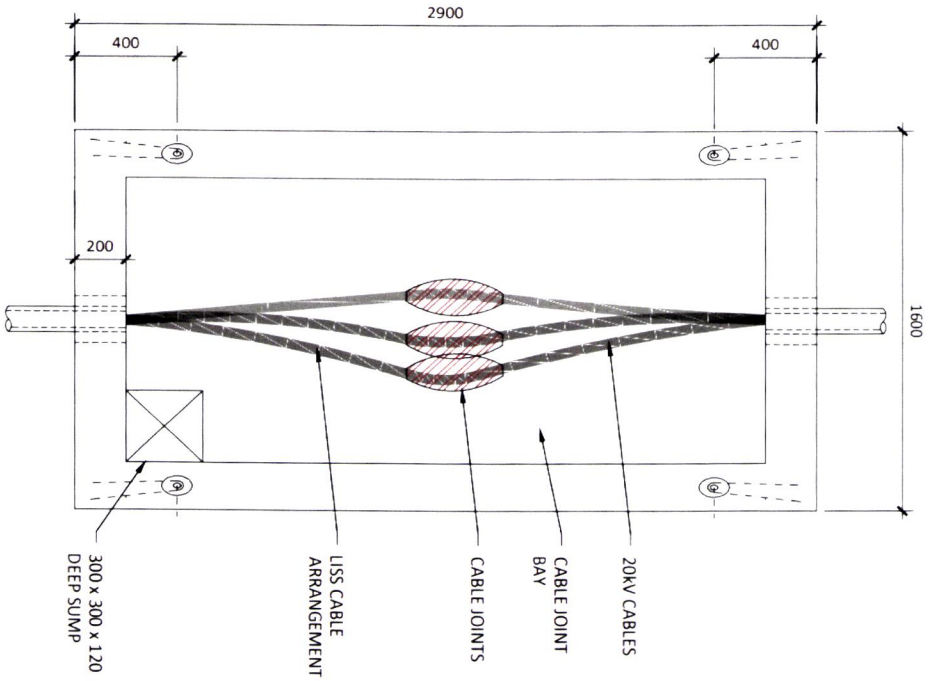


Figure 7 - Typical Joint Bay Plan Details

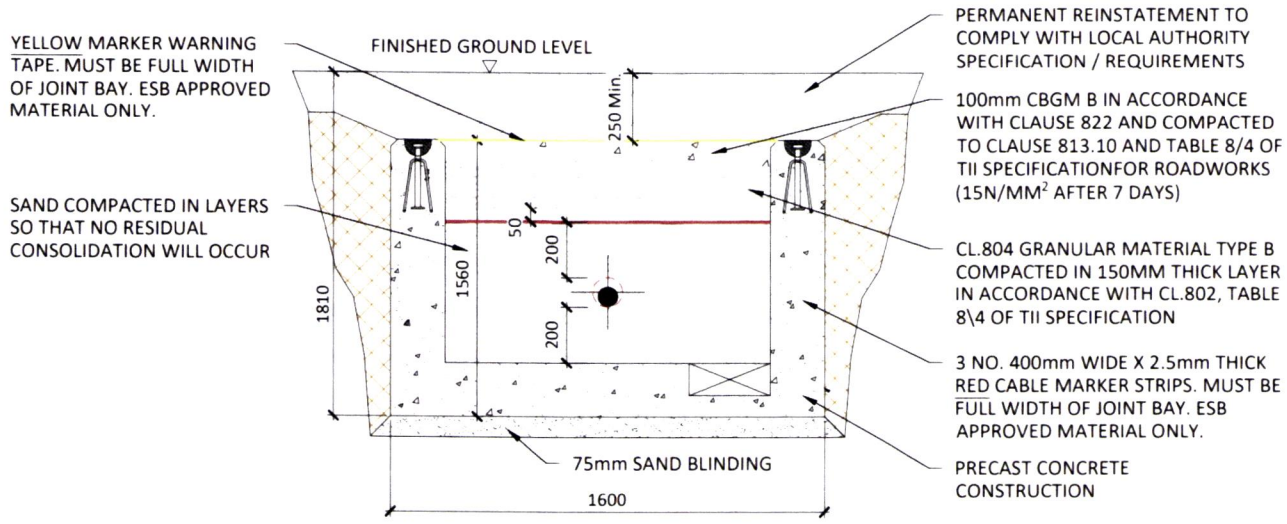


Figure 8 - Typical Elevation of Joint Bay installed in Roadway

5.0 Traffic Management

Traffic management and road signage will be in accordance with the Department of Transport: Traffic Signs Manual - Chapter 8: Temporary Traffic Measures and Signs for Road Works and in agreement with Wicklow County Council. All work on public roads will be subject to the approval of a road opening license application.

The contractor will prepare detailed traffic management plans for inclusion as part of the road opening applications.

Where road widths allow, the UGC installation works will allow for one side of the road to be open to traffic at all times by means of a 'Stop/Go' type traffic management system, where a minimum 2.5m roadway will be maintained at all times. Temporary traffic signals will be implemented to allow road users safely pass through the works area by channelling them onto the open side of the road. Typically, the UGC will be installed in 100m sections, and no more than 100m will be excavated without the majority of the previous section being reinstated. Where the construction requires the crossing of a road, works on one carriageway will be completed before the second carriageway is opened, to maintain traffic flows.

The priority shall be to minimise traffic disruption during the construction phase and maintain traffic flow at all times. Night time working will be deployed where necessary to minimise disruption to the public and road users.

Some work areas will require a road closure, particularly on the local tertiary roads where it is not possible to safely implement a Stop/Go system. Where road closures are necessary, a suitable diversion will be implemented using appropriate signage, following consultation with Wicklow County Council.

All construction vehicles will be farmed within the works area so as not to cause additional obstruction or inconvenience to road users or residents. The traffic signals will be in place prior to the works commencing and will remain in place until after the works are completed. The public road will be checked regularly and maintained free of mud and debris. Road sweeping will be carried out as appropriate to ensure construction traffic does not adversely affect the local road condition.

In the event of emergency; steel plates, which will be available on site, can be put in place across the excavation to allow traffic to flow on both sides of the road.

All traffic management measures will comply with those incorporated into a detailed Traffic Management Plan to be prepared, in consultation with Wicklow County Council, prior to the commencement of development.

6.0 Road Opening Licence

The proposed UGC works will require a road opening licence under Section 254 of the Planning and Development Act 2000-2015 from Wicklow County Council. A Traffic Management Plan (TMP) will be agreed with Wicklow County Council prior to the commencement of the development. This TMP will outline the location of traffic management signage, together with the location of any necessary road closures and the routing of appropriate diversions. Where diversions are required, these will be agreed with Wicklow County Council in advance of the preparation of the TMP.

7.0 Identification of Existing Services

In order to facilitate the installation of the proposed underground ducts, it may be necessary to relocate existing underground services such as water mains or existing cables (if feasible). As mentioned above in "3.0 Preliminary Site Investigations", in advance of any construction activity, the contractor will undertake a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey of the proposed route to confirm the presence or otherwise of any services. If found to be present, the relevant service provider will be consulted to determine the requirement for specific excavation or relocation methods and to schedule a suitable time to carry out works.

7.1 Underground Cables

If existing underground cables are found to be present, a trench will be excavated, and new ducting and cabling will be installed along the new alignment and connected to the network on either end. The trench will be backfilled with suitable material to the required specification. Warning strip and marking tape will be laid at various depths over the cables as required. Marker posts and plates will be installed at surface level to identify the new alignment of the underground cable, and the underground cables will then be re-energised.

7.2 Water Mains

Uisce Éireann Ltd will need to be consulted and advised on details of the project proposals in the form of a completed Building-Over or Near an Uisce Éireann Asset Application Form and associated technical information largely comprising drawings and schedules with details of proposed crossings etc with as much available information as possible. Uisce Eireann will be involved in the early engagement on projects that may involve any infrastructure which may be located near their assets with the intention of identifying as early as possible, if bespoke design measures or diversions are necessary.

The water supply will be turned off by the utility so work can commence on diverting or crossing the service. The section of the existing pipe will be removed and will be replaced with a new pipe along the new alignment of the service. The works will be carried out in accordance with the utility standards.

8.0 Cable Pulling

Once the ducting is installed the electrical cables (situated on a drum) are pulled through the ducting by a specialised mechanical winch. The winch will also monitor the tension on the cables being pulled so as not to damage the cables. A guide rope is installed with the ducting to assist in the cable pulling process. The guide rope also is used for proving the ducts by attaching a mandrel, a sponge, or brush, for cleaning the duct installed. Cable lubricant is applied to the outside of the cables being pulled through the duct. The lubricant assists in the pulling process by removing friction between the cable and the rollers. This not only speeds up the process but also prevents snagging and therefore damage to the cable.

9.0 Emergency Response Plan

All site personnel as part of their site induction shall be made aware of the Emergency Response Plan. The following outlines some of the information, on the types of emergency, which must be communicated to site staff (list not exhaustive);

- Release of hazardous substance - Fuel or oil spill
- Concrete spill or release of concrete
- Flood event – extreme rainfall event
- Environmental buffers and exclusion zones breach
- Housekeeping of materials and waste storage areas breach
- Stop Works order due to environmental issue or concern.

The Emergency Response Plan must be completed by the appointed contractor before the project begins.

10.0 Design and Construction & Environmental Management Methodology

Prior to commencement of construction works the contractor will draw up detailed Method Statements which will be informed by this Outline Construction Methodology and any environmental protection measures identified or measures proposed within the CEMP, and the guidance documents and measures listed below.

These method statement will be adhered to by the contractors and will be overseen by the Project Manager, Environmental Manager and ECoW where relevant.

The following documents will contribute to the preparation of the method statements in addition to those measures proposed below:-

- Inland Fisheries Ireland (2016) *Guidelines on Protection of Fisheries during Construction Works in and Adjacent to Waters*. Inland Fisheries Ireland, *Dublin,*
- *National Roads Authority (2008) Guidelines for the Crossing of Watercourses during the Construction of National Road Schemes*. National Roads Authority, Dublin;
- E. Murnane, A. Heap and A. Swain. (2006) *Control of water pollution from linear construction projects.* Technical guidance (C648). CIRIA;
- E. Murnane et al., (2006) *Control of water pollution from linear construction projects*. Site guide (C649). CIRIA.
- Murphy, D. (2004) Requirements for the Protection of Fisheries Habitat during Construction and Development Works at River Sites. Eastern Regional Fisheries Board, Dublin;
- H. Masters-Williams et al (2001) *Control of water pollution from construction sites. Guidance for consultants and contractors* (C532);
- Enterprise Ireland (unknown). *Best Practice Guide (BPGCS005) Oil storage guidelines;*
- Law, C. and D'Aleo, S. (2016) *Environmental good practice on site pocket book*. (C762) 4th edition. CIRIA;
- CIRIA *Environmental Good Practice on Site (fourth edition) (C741) 2015*.

The proposed works will be carried out by employing accepted good work practices during construction, and environmental management measures such as those discussed below. Please note that the following measures will be supplemented by further specific environmental protection measures that will be included in method statements prepared for specific tasks during the works and will form part of the detailed CEMP.

- All materials shall be stored at the temporary compound within the Solar Farm sites and transported to the works zone immediately prior to construction;
- Where drains and watercourses are crossed with underground cables, the release of sediment will be prevented through the implementation of best practice construction methodologies;
- Weather conditions will be considered when planning construction activities to minimise risk of run off from site;
- Provision of 50m exclusion zones and barriers (silt fences) between any excavated material and any surface water features to prevent sediment washing into the receiving water environment;
- If dewatering is required as part of the proposed works e.g. in trenches for underground cabling or in wet areas, water must be treated prior to discharge;
- The contractor shall ensure that silt fences are regularly inspected and maintained during the construction phase;
- If very wet ground must be accessed during the construction process bog mats/aluminium panel tracks will be used to enable access to these areas by machinery. However, works will be scheduled to minimise access requirements during winter months;
- The contractor shall ensure that all personnel working on site are trained in pollution incident control response. A regular review of weather forecasts of heavy rainfall is required, and the Contractor is required to prepare a contingency plan for before and after such events;
- The contractor will carry out visual examinations of local watercourses from the proposed works during the construction phase to ensure that sediment is not above baseline conditions. In the unlikely event of water quality concerns, the Environmental Manager and ECoW will be consulted;

- Excavations will be left open for minimal periods to avoid acting as a conduit for surface water flows.
- Only emergency breakdown maintenance will be carried out on site. Emergency procedures and spillage kits will be available and construction staff will be familiar with emergency procedures.
- Appropriate containment facilities will be provided to ensure that any spills from vehicles are contained and removed off site. Adequate stocks of absorbent materials, such as sand or commercially available spill kits shall be available;
- Concrete or potential concrete contaminated water run-off will not be allowed to enter any watercourses. Any pouring of concrete (delivered to site ready mixed) will only be carried out in dry weather. Washout of concrete trucks shall be strictly confined to a designated and controlled wash-out area within the solar farm sites; remote from watercourses, drainage channels and other surface water features;
- Entry by plant equipment, machinery, vehicles and construction personnel into watercourses or wet drainage ditches shall not be proposed. All routes used for construction traffic shall be protected against migration of soil or waste water into watercourses;

Cabins, containers, workshops, plant, materials storage and storage tanks shall not be located near any surface water channels and will be located beyond the 50m hydrological buffer at all times.

11.0 Implementation of Environmental Protection Measures

All environmental protection measures contained with the screening reports which accompanies the Section 5 Application will be incorporated into a detailed CEMP and construction method statements prior to the commencement of development and will be implemented in full during the construction phase. The Project Manager and Site Manager will be responsible for the implementation of measures following consultation with the Environmental Manager and ECoW where necessary.

12.0 Invasive Species Best Practice Measures

Invasive species can be introduced into a location by contaminated vehicles and equipment, in particular tracked vehicles, which were previously used in locations that contained invasive species. Good site organisation and hygiene shall be maintained at all times on a site, particularly during construction activities. The following best practice measures form part of the construction methodology and will help to contain and/or prevent the introduction of invasive species on the site as follows:

- When deemed necessary, all plant and equipment employed on the proposed works (e.g. diggers, tracked machines, footwear etc.) will be thoroughly cleaned down using a power washer unit, and washed into a dedicated and contained area prior to arrival on site and on leaving site to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic / riparian species such as Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* and Himalayan Balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*. A sign off sheet will be maintained by the contractor to confirm cleaning.
- Material gathered in the dedicated and contained clean down area will need to be appropriately treated as contaminated material on site.
- For any material entering the site, the supplier must provide an assurance that it is free of invasive species.
- Ensure all site users are aware of invasive species management plan and treatment methodologies. This can be achieved through "toolbox talks" before works begin on the site.
- Adequate site hygiene signage should be erected in relation to the management of non-native invasive material.

13.0 Waste Management

All waste products (general waste, plastic, timber, etc.) arising during the construction phase will be managed and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Waste Management Act 1996 and associated amendments and regulations, and a Waste Management Plan will be prepared by the contractor prior to the commencement of construction. All waste material will be disposed of at a fully licensed facility.

FEHILY TIMONEY

DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

BALLYMONEY SOLAR FARM GRID CONNECTION

Appropriate Assessment Screening Report

BNRG (Ireland) Holdings Limited

January 2026

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Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the Ballymoney Solar Farm Grid Connection, Co Wicklow

REVISION CONTROL TABLE, CLIENT, KEYWORDS AND ABSTRACT

User is responsible for Checking the Revision Status of This Document

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Abstract: This document is the Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment report for the grid connection associated with the Ballymoney Solar Farm in County Wicklow.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Fehily Timoney and Company (FT) was commissioned by BNRG (Ireland) Holdings Limited to prepare an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the proposed grid connection route connecting the permitted Ballymoney Solar Farm. Co. Wicklow (Reg. Ref. 19/627 and ACP Ref. 305289-19, amended by Reg. Ref. 25/60313).

This report presents an examination of whether the proposed development is likely to have a significant effect on a European site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) and is based on best available scientific knowledge. This report has been prepared to inform the competent authority in completing their statutory obligations in relation to Appropriate Assessment, as required by Article 6(3) under Council Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive).

1.1 Legislative Context

Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The Directive requires that where a plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site, while not directly connected with or necessary to the nature conservation management of the site, it will be subject to 'Appropriate Assessment' to identify any implications for the European site in view of the site's Conservation Objectives. Specifically, Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states:

> *"6(3) Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (Natura 2000 sites) but likely to have significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public."*

The competent authority must carry out a screening for appropriate assessment to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if the Proposed Project, individually or in combination with another plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a European site. If it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the proposed project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site, an appropriate assessment of its implications for the European Site(s) in view of the Site's conservation objectives is required to be carried out.

The provisions of Article 6(3) do not apply where the proposed plan or project is 'connected with or necessary to the management of the site'. In this case, the proposed project is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site(s).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Guidance

This assessment was conducted in accordance with the following guidance:

- European Commission. (2021). Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites - Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Commission Notice (2021) Brussels, 28.9.2021 C (2021) 6913 final.
- Environment Heritage and Local Government. (2009, updated 2010). Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. Dublin: National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.
- European Commission. (2019). Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Brussels, (2019/C 33/01). OJ C 33, 25.1.2019.
- Office of the Planning Regulator. (2021). OPR Practice Note PN01 Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management.

2.2 Process

The process of determining the likelihood of significant effects from the proposed project on European sites is an iterative process centred around a Source-Pathway-Receptor (S-P-R) model. In order for an effect to be established, all three elements of this S-P-R mechanism must be in place. The absence of one of the elements of the mechanism is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect cannot occur.

- Source(s) – e.g., pollutant run-off, noise, removal of vegetation, etc.
- Pathway(s) – functional link, or ecological pathway e.g., groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and,
- Receptor(s) – the qualifying habitats and species of European sites and ecological resources supporting those habitats/species which are sensitive to biophysical changes that result from the source of impact.

In the context of this report, a source is any identifiable element of the continued operation of the project that is known to interact with the receiving environment. A receptor is the Qualifying Interests (QI) for an SAC or Special Conservation Interests (SCI) for an SPA or an ecological feature that is known to be utilised by the QI/SCI. In practice, the term Qualifying Interests also applies to SCIs (and is used in this document for simplicity). A pathway is any connection or link between the source and the receptor.

The assessment commences with a description of the project, along with a description of the receiving environment and the associated sources for impacts to the receiving environment. All elements of the project are presented including the project location and existing baseline environment. The type of impacts that are likely due to the project (Source) are identified having regard to the spatial and temporal scale of the proposed project, resource requirements and likely emissions. These sources are then used to define the zone of influence (ZoI) of the project.

The European Commission Notice (2021) on the 'Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites – Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, states that in identifying European sites (Natural 2000 sites), which may be affected by the project, the following should be identified:

- Any European sites geographically overlapping with any of the actions or aspects of the plan or project in any of its phases, or adjacent to them;
- Any European sites within the likely zone of influence of the plan or project. European sites located in the surroundings of the plan or project (or at some distance) that could still be indirectly affected by aspects of the project, including as regards the use of natural resources (e.g., water) and various types of waste, discharge or emissions of substances or energy;
- European sites whose connectivity or ecological continuity can be affected by the plan or project.

The zone of influence of a project is the geographical area over which it could affect the receiving environment in a way that could have potential effects on the Qualifying Interests of a European site. The OPR (2021) practice note states that the Zone of Influence must be established on a case-by-case basis using the Source-Pathway-Receptor (S-P-R) framework and not by arbitrary distances (such as 15 km). An assessment is undertaken with respect to potential connectivity (Pathways) to European Sites and their qualifying interests/special conservation interests are identified.

The potential for in-combination effects with other plans and projects is examined having regard to the identified impacts of the project along the ecological pathways identified to European sites.

The likelihood of significant effects of the European Sites within the ZoI is examined having regard to the sensitivity of the site with pathways for impacts associated with the project on its own and in combination with other plans and projects.

Having regard to the European Commission Communication on the Precautionary Principle (European Commission, 2021) the:

> *"absence of scientific evidence on the significant negative effect of an action cannot be used as justification for approval of this action. When applied to Article 6(3) procedure, the precautionary principle implies that the absence of a negative effect on Natura 2000 sites has to be demonstrated before a plan or project can be authorised. In other words, if there is a lack of certainty as to whether there will be any negative effects, then the plan or project cannot be approved."*

Where significant effects are determined to be likely, or where there is uncertainty regarding the likelihood of significant effects, the project will be required under law to be subjected to Appropriate Assessment.

This AA screening is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife Website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

The proposed development consists of an Underground Grid Cabling (UGC) route. The grid connection route is approximately 950 m long and will consist of 10 kV cabling within public roads between the Ballymoney Solar Farm site and the Arklow 220 kV substation. Connection for the Ballymoney Solar Farm to the Arklow 220kV Substation is intended to be provided on site at a substation which will be built to ESB networks (ESBN) design specifications. Power generated by the solar farm will be exported via a buried grid connection cable connecting the on-site substation to an existing ESBN 220kV Substation at Arklow Substation.

All infrastructure associated with the proposed grid connection works shall be designed and constructed in accordance with ESBN specifications.

The Underground Cable (UGC) 10kV grid connection initially begins at the existing Arklow 220kV Substation. The UGC travels north within the footpath located east of the R772. The Underground Cable (UGC) 10kV grid connection travels for approximately 700m within the eastern footpath of the R772 and roundabout, before transitioning into the L-21731. The UGC then continues northeast along the L-21731 for approximately 250m toward the entrance to Ballymoney Solar Farm lands. The underground interconnector network cables within the corridor of the public roadway pass through the following townlands of Templerainy, Killiniskyduff and Ballymoney. The Overall Site Location Map and Site Layout Plans can be viewed in drawings 051082-DR-001,002,003,004 prepared by TLI and enclosed with this submission.

3.1.1 Construction Methodology

Prior to commencement of construction works the contractor will draw up detailed Method Statements which will be informed by the Construction Methodology that accompanies this Section 5 declaration application and any environmental protection measures identified or measures proposed within the CEMP.

The proposed works will be carried out by employing accepted good work practices during construction, and environmental management measures..

3.1.1.1 Construction Compounds

All plant, machinery and equipment will be stored on site within the works area or within the temporary construction compound to be located within the proposed solar farm site. Oils and fuels will not be stored on site and will be stored in an appropriately bunded area within the temporary storage compound. Facilities to be provided in the temporary site compound will typically include the following:

- Site office, of portacabin type construction
- First aid facilities
- Toilets (Temporary 'Portaloo' style)
- Employee parking
- Potable water supply
- Bunded fuel storage area
- Water tanker
- Contractor lock-up facility
- Wheel wash facility if necessary
- Diesel generator

3.1.1.2 Joint Bays

The proposed grid connection route contains 3 no. joint bay. Joint Bays will be located below ground and finished/reinstated to the required Local Authorities/landowner specification.

- Joint Bay 01 (JB01) will be located close to the entrance gate to Arklow 220kV substation.
- Joint Bay 02 (JB02) will be located approximately 480m subsequent to JB01 within the footpath east of the R772 regional road carriageway.
- Joint Bay 03 (JB03) will be located approximately 470m subsequent to JB02 at the entrance gate to the solar farm lands.

3.1.1.3 Invasive Species Management

Invasive species can be introduced into a location by contaminated vehicles and equipment, in particular tracked vehicles, which were previously used in locations that contained invasive species. Good site organisation and hygiene shall be maintained at all times on a site, particularly during construction activities. The following best practice measures form part of the construction methodology and will help to contain and/or prevent the introduction of invasive species on the site as follows:

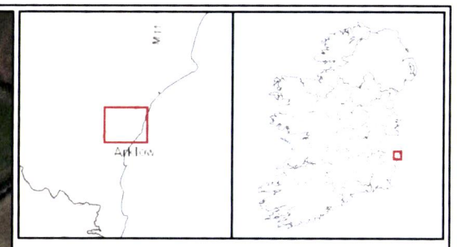
- When deemed necessary, all plant and equipment employed on the proposed works (e.g. diggers, tracked machines, footwear etc.) will be thoroughly cleaned down using a power washer unit, and washed into a dedicated and contained area prior to arrival on site and on leaving site to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic / riparian species such as Japanese knotweed Fallopia japonica and Himalayan Balsam Impatiens glandulifera. A sign off sheet will be maintained by the contractor to confirm cleaning.
- Material gathered in the dedicated and contained clean down area will need to be appropriately treated as contaminated material on site.
- For any material entering the site, the supplier must provide an assurance that it is free of invasive species.
- Ensure all site users are aware of invasive species management plan and treatment methodologies. This can be achieved through "toolbox talks" before works begin on the site.
- Adequate site hygiene signage should be erected in relation to the management of non-native invasive material.

3.1.1.4 Waste Management

All waste products (general waste, plastic, timber, etc.) arising during the construction phase will be managed and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Waste Management Act 1996 and associated amendments and regulations, and a Waste Management Plan will be prepared by the contractor prior to the commencement of construction. All waste material will be disposed of at a fully licensed facility.

3.1.2 Reinstatement

Once all construction works are complete, the work areas will be reinstated with excavated soil and either seeded out with native species, allowed to vegetate naturally, or reinstated with excavated grass turves and will be restored to their original condition. This work will be carried out in consultation with the landowner and in line with any relevant measures outlined in the CEMP and associated conditions.



Legend

- Site Boundary
- Permitted Solar Farm Boundary
- Arklow 220kV Substation
- Solar Farm Substation
- 10kV UGC Grid Connection

N
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0 100 200 400 Meters

TITLE: Site Location and Indicative Grid Route			
PROJECT: Ballymoney Solar Farm			
FIGURE NO:	1.1		
CLIENT:	BNRG (Ireland) Holdings Limited		
SCALE:	1:10,000	**REVISION:**	0
DATE:	14/01/2026	**PAGE SIZE:**	A3

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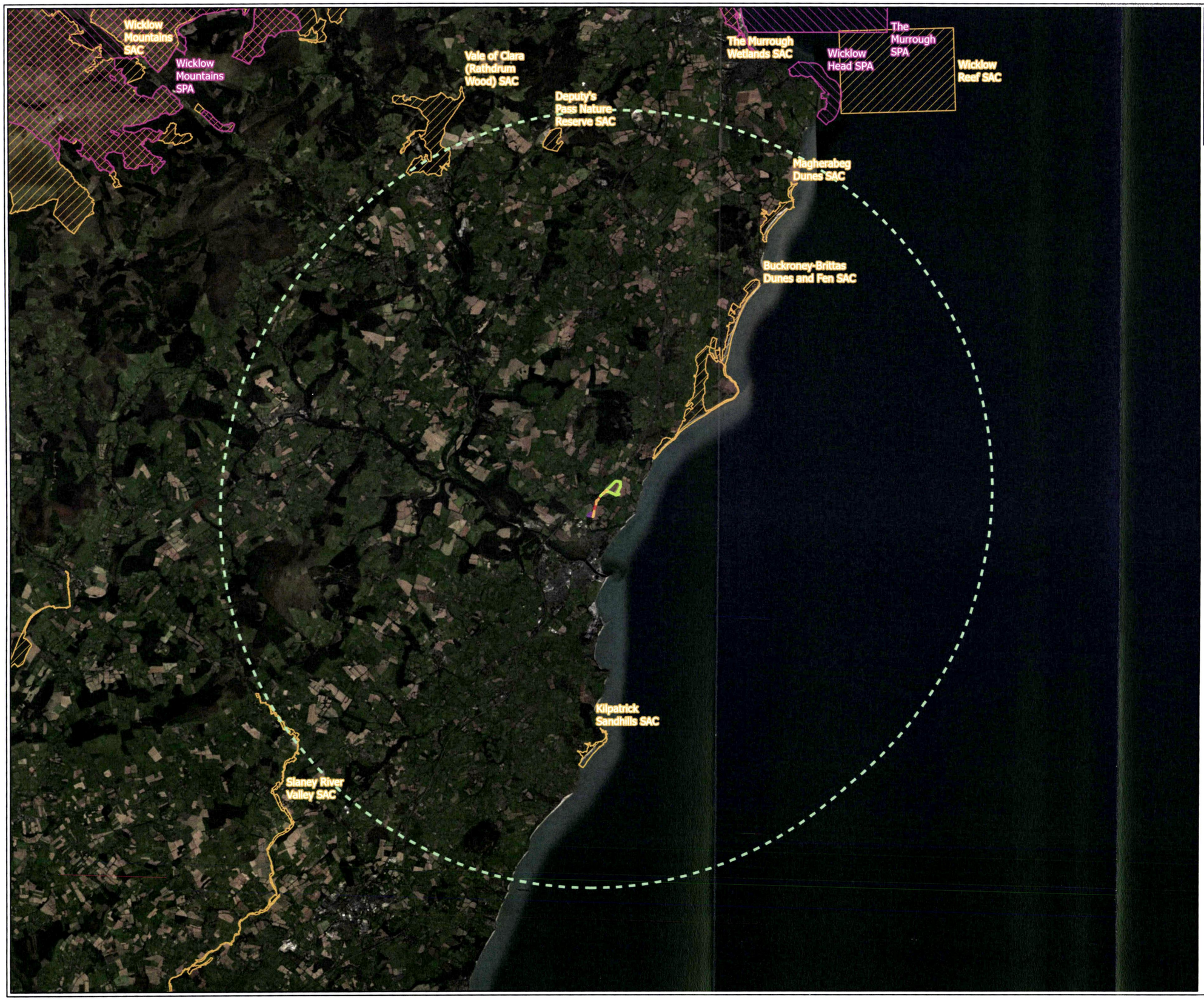

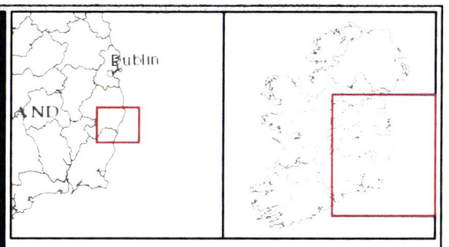

Legend

- Site Boundary
- Permitted Solar Farm Boundary
- 15km
- Arklow 220kV Substation
- Solar Farm Substation
- Special Area of Conservation
- Special Protection Areas
- 10kV UGC Grid Connection

TITLE: European Sites within 15km of the Proposed Development			
PROJECT: Ballymoney Solar Farm			
FIGURE NO:	1.2		
CLIENT:	BNRG (Ireland) Holdings Limited		
SCALE:	1:150,000	**REVISION:**	0
DATE:	07/01/2026	**PAGE SIZE:**	A3

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4. STAGE ONE - SCREENING REPORT

4.1 Brief Description of Existing Site

A desk study was carried out to collate available information on the existing natural environment at the proposed project location. This comprised a review of the following publications, data and datasets:

- Tailte Éireann Aerial photography and 1:50000 mapping;
- National Biodiversity Data Centre (https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/ accessed August 2024)
- National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)
- Sensitive Data Request submitted on 19/09/2024. No reply received at time of compiling this report in December 2024;
- Irish Red Data Lists
- Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) area maps (https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx accessed August 2024);
- EPA website datasets (soil, surface water quality, ground water quality, designated sites) (https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/ accessed August 2024);
- The EPA Geotool (EPA Maps);
- Bat Conservation Ireland (BCI); and
- Wexford County Development Plan

The cable route travels along private access track and along the R772 for c. 0.9km before reaching the existing Arklow substation. The private access track, public L-21731 local road and public R772 regional road are categorised as Buildings and Artificial Surfaces (BL3) which are of *Locally Important (low value)* to local wildlife. Improved Agricultural grassland (GA1) is of limited value to local wildlife and as such is of *Locally Important (low value).* The R772 is bounded by a combination of native Hedgerows (WL1) and some ornamental front garden hedging. Hedgerows provide corridors for commuting fauna as well as providing foraging and breeding habitat for birds. As such Hedgerows are deemed to be *Locally Important (higher value).*

No invasive species were observed during the site walkover of the cable route. There are also no hydrological features, including rivers or drains traversing the route.

4.1.2 Potential Interaction of the Proposed Project on the Receiving Environment.

Having regard to the European Commission (2021) guidance document and the OPR (2021) practice note, the potential impacts of the project on the receiving environment at source are set out relative to the following criteria:

- Habitat destruction/fragmentation/deterioration;
- Surface water run-off carrying suspended silt and contaminants, into local watercourses;
- Changes to groundwater quality, yield and/or flow paths associated with the proposed project;
- Project related activities (noise, vibration, lighting, human presence, structures, etc) leading to disturbance / displacement of species;
- Project related activities leading to a reduction in species populations / density;
- Air pollution due to dust and other airborne emissions; and
- Disturbance and potential spread of invasive species during the proposed works.

These impacts are further examined in defining the Zone of Influence (ZoI) of the project to identify likely significant effects through the Source-Pathway-Receptor assessment (Section 4.2)

4.2 Source-Pathway-Receptor Assessment

The OPR practice note on appropriate assessment screening (Office of the Planning Regulator, 2021) states that the Zone of Influence (ZoI) of a project must be established on a case-by-case basis using the Source-Pathway-Receptor model. In this regard, consideration is given to the nature and extent of the proposed development and the characteristics of the immediate environment along with the consideration of potential pathways for connectivity to European sites.

CIEEM guidelines (2018)[6] defines the zone of influence (ZoI) of a project as the spatial and temporal scale of potential biophysical changes in the environment which might occur as a result of the development and throughout its lifetime. Consideration must therefore be given to how changes in the environment due to the project could have potential direct and indirect links to sensitive receptors of European sites. These potential direct and indirect links are established using the source-pathway-receptor model (S-P-R) in accordance with the recommendations of OPR guidance note. In this regard, consideration is given to the nature and extent proposed Ballymoney solar farm grid connection, and the characteristics of the surrounding environment along with the consideration of potential pathways for connectivity to European sites. An assessment is made as to whether there could be landscape[7] or ecological connectivity[8] to any European site. In determining the potential impact zone and S-P-R connectivity the following was considered:

6 CIEEM (2018) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine version 1 2 Chartered Institute of Ecology and Management, Winchester

7 Landscape connectivity is a combined product of structural and functional connectivity, i e the effect of physical landscape structure and the actual species use of the landscape (Kettunen et al 2007)

8 Ecological connectivity is defined as a measure of the functional availability of the habitats needed for a particular species to move through a given area Examples include the flight lines used by bats to travel between roosts and foraging areas, or the corridors of appropriate habitat needed by some slow colonising species if they are to spread (CIEEM, 2018)

The potential zone for biophysical change by disturbance/degradation/loss of habitat during construction and operation is taken as the lands within the footprint of the works (including any temporary works) plus 20m beyond (based on Office of Public Works, 2014)[9]. There are no European site's within this ZoI and the habitats surrounding the project are intensively managed agricultural lands and as such have limited potential to support mobile species of any SAC/SPA.

Consideration is given to European sites potentially hydrologically connected to the project, i.e. whereby there is potential for surface water from the project site to runoff into a watercourse or drain which flows into a European Site. In this regard, there are no drains or watercourses within or adjacent to the project which could act as a pathway.

The potential disturbance zone for mammals is taken as 150m having regard to the NRA (2008) Guidelines for the Treatment of Otters prior to the Construction of National Road Schemes. The project site and lands within 150m does do not host any habitats suitable to support otter.

The potential disturbance zone for birds is taken as directly within the works areas plus a 500m distance thereof having regard to Cutts et al (2013)[10]. There are no European sites designated for the protection of birds within 500m of the project.

Consideration must also be given to potential landscape and ecological connectivity. As such, the core foraging ranges of SPA birds and their dominant feeding and roosting habitat associations are considered to determine the potential for the habitats within the 500m disturbance distance of the project to support SPA species. In this regard reference is made to the Scottish Natural Heritage (2016) 'Guidance on Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas (SPAs)' for core foraging ranges of SPA birds and conservation backing documents are interrogated for habitat associations which support such birds. A core foraging range of 20km is used for the purpose of this assessment. Having regard to NPWS protected area maps, there is two Special Protection Areas (SPA) designed for the protection of bird, within 20km of the project: The Murrough SPA (site code 004186) 19.29km from project and The Wicklow Head SPA (site code 004127) 17.24km from the project.

All SAC's designated for Lesser Horseshoe bats within 10km of a project should be considered. The Project is located more than 10km from any SAC designated for Lesser Horseshoe bats.

The findings of the ZOI assessment are presented in Table 3.1.

9 Office of Public Works (2014) Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening Methodology for the Maintenance of Arterial Drainage Schemes Prepared by Ryan Hanley Consulting Engineers on behalf of the Office of Public Works

10 Cutts N Hemingway K and Spencer J (2013) The Waterbird Disturbance Mitigation Toolkit Informing Estuarine Planning and Construction Projects Produced by the Institute of Estuarine and Coastal Studies (IECS) Version 3 2

Table 3.1 Summary of the European Sites within 15km of the Proposed Development site and SPR

Designated Site	Site Code	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives	Threats*	Distance from Site	Is SPR (Source Pathway Receptor) connectivity confirmed?
Buckroney-Brittas Dunes and Fen SAC	000729	Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220] Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) [1410] Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes) [2120] Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130] Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (*Calluno-Ulicetea*) [2150] Dunes with *Salix repens ssp. argentea* (*Salicion arenariae*) [2170] Humid dune slacks [2190] Alkaline fens [7230]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitats for which the SAC has been selected	• I01 invasive non-native species (medium) (inside) • H02.07 diffuse groundwater pollution due to non-sewered population (medium) (both) • G02.08 camping and caravans (medium) (both) • A04.01.01 intensive cattle grazing (low) (inside) • G01.02 walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles (medium) (both) • K01.01 Erosion (medium) (inside) • A05.02 stock feeding (medium) (inside) • J02 human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (high) (both) • G02.01 golf course (medium) (both) • D04.01 airport (low) (outside) • F03.01 Hunting (low) (inside) • J01 fire and fire suppression (high) (both) • E01.02 discontinuous urbanisation (low) (both) • G05.04 Vandalism (medium) (both) • G01.02 walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles (medium) (both) • G05.01 Trampling, overuse (high) (both) • A08 Fertilisation (medium) (both)	ca. 1.6km to the northeast of the proposed development site	No connectivity identified between the proposed grid connection route and the Buckroney Brittas Dunes and Fen SAC. . As no hydrological connection exists, there are no potential impacts which may have a significant effect on the conservation objectives of this site.

Designated Site	Site Code	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives	Threats*	Distance from Site	Is SPR (Source Pathway Receptor) connectivity confirmed?
				• K02.01 species composition change (succession) (high) (both) • E03.01 disposal of household / recreational facility waste (low) (both) • A04.02 non-intensive grazing (high) (inside)		
Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC	001742	Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes) [2120] Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130] Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (*Calluno-Ulicetea*) [2150]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitats for which the SAC has been selected	• I01 invasive non-native species (medium) (inside) • J01.01 burning down (low) (inside) • K01.01 Erosion (high) (both) • G01 Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities (medium) (inside)	ca. 9.4km to the south of the proposed development site.	No connectivity identified between the proposed grid connection route and the Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC. As no hydrological connection exists, there are no potential impacts which may have a significant effect on the conservation objectives of this site.

Designated Site	Site Code	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives	Threats*	Distance from Site	Is SPR (Source Pathway Receptor) connectivity confirmed?
Magherabeg Dunes SAC	001766	• Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] • Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] • Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes) [2120] • Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130] • Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (*Calluno-Ulicetea*) [2150] • Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitats for which the SAC has been selected	• K01.01 Erosion (low) (both) • G05.07 missing or wrongly directed conservation measures (high) (both) • H01.04 diffuse pollution to surface waters via storm overflows or urban run-off (low) (outside) • H01.01 pollution to surface waters by industrial plants (low) (outside) • G01.02 walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles (high) (both) • A04.03 abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing (high) (both) • K02.01 species composition change (succession) (high) (both) • A04.02 non intensive grazing (high) (inside) • G05.04 Vandalism (low) (both)	ca. 11.3km to the north east of the proposed development site.	No connectivity identified between the proposed grid connection route and the Magherab Dunes SA. As no hydrological connection exists, there are no potential impacts which may have a significant effect on the conservation objectives of this site.

Designated Site	Site Code	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives	Threats*	Distance from Site	Is SPR (Source Pathway Receptor) connectivity confirmed?
Deputy's Pass Nature Reserve SAC	000717	Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles [91A0]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat for which the SAC has been selected	• B06 grazing in forests/ woodland (high) (inside) • E03.01 disposal of household / recreational facility waste (high) (inside) • A04 grazing (low) (inside) • G05.04 Vandalism (high) (inside) • G01.02 walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles (high) (inside) • G02.06 attraction park (low) (inside) • B Sylviculture, forestry (low) (outside) • I01 invasive non-native species (high) (both)	ca. 13.5km to the north of the proposed development site.	No connectivity identified between the proposed grid connection route and the Deputy's Pass SAC. As no hydrological connection exists, there are no potential impacts which may have a significant effect on the conservation objectives of this site.

Designated Site	Site Code	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives	Threats*	Distance from Site	Is SPR (Source Pathway Receptor) connectivity confirmed?
Vale of Clara (Rathdrum Wood) SAC	000733	Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles [91A0]	To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat for which the SAC has been selected	• G01.02 walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles (high) (inside) • E01.03 dispersed habitation (medium) (outside) • F03.01.01 damage caused by game (excess population density) (high) (inside) • F05.04 poaching (medium) (inside) • B04 use of biocides, hormones and chemicals (forestry) (high) (both) • F04.02 collection (fungi, lichen, berries etc.) (high) (inside) • E01.03 dispersed habitation (high) (outside) • I01 invasive non-native species (medium) (both)	ca. 14.2km to the northwest of the proposed developme nt site.	No connectivity identified between the proposed grid connection route and the Vale of Clara SAC. As no hydrological connection exists, there are no potential impacts which may have a significant effect on the conservation objectives of this site.

Designated Site	Site Code	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives	Threats*	Distance from Site	Is SPR (Source Pathway Receptor) connectivity confirmed?
The Murrough SPA	004186	• Red-throated Diver (Gavia stellata) [A001] • Greylag Goose (Anser anser) [A043] • Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046] • Teal (Anas crecca) [A052] • Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179] • Herring Gull (Larus argentatus) [A184] • Wigeon (Mareca penelope) [A855] • Little Tern (Sternula albifrons) [A885] • Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	• To maintain the Favourable conservation condition of Red-throated Diver in The Murrough SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets • To restore the Favourable conservation condition of Greylag Goose in The Murrough SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:	• A08 Mowing or cutting of grasslands. (High) • D01.04 Railway lines. (High) • G01.02 Walking, horse riding, non- motorised vehicles. (High)	19.29km	No. The proposed UGC cable route are wholly outside of any European site and are not located within close proximity to any designated sites . . The proposed site consists of public road and therefore does not contain suitable nesting/roosting habitats for birds . Therefore, given the intervening distance between the proposed site and SPA potential effects on the SCI can be ruled out.

Designated Site	Site Code	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives	Threats*	Distance from Site	Is SPR (Source Pathway Receptor) connectivity confirmed?
			• To restore the Favourable conservation condition of Light-bellied Brent Goose in The Murrough SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets: • To maintain the Favourable conservation condition of Wigeon in The Murrough SPA, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:			

Designated Site	Site Code	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives	Threats*	Distance from Site	Is SPR (Source Pathway Receptor) connectivity confirmed?
			To maintain the Favourable conservation condition of Wetland habitats in The Murrough SPA as a resource for the regularly-occurring migratory waterbirds that utilise these areas. This is defined by the following list of attributes and targets: Attribute Measure Target Note			

Designated Site	Site Code	Qualifying Interests	Conservation Objectives	Threats*	Distance from Site	Is SPR (Source Pathway Receptor) connectivity confirmed?
The Wicklow Head SPA	004127	Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]	• To restore the • Favourable • conservation • condition of • Kittiwake in • Wicklow Head • SPA, which is • defined by the • following list of • attributes and • targets:	• G01.02 Walking, horse riding, non- motorised • vehicles. (Medium)	17.24km	No. The proposed UGC cable route are wholly outside of any European site and are not located within close proximity to any designated sites . The proposed site consists of public road and therefore does not contain suitable nesting/roosting habitats for birds .Therefore, given the intervening distance between the proposed site and SPA potential effects on the SCI can be ruled out.

4.3 Consideration of in-combination Effects with other plans or projects

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires that:

> "Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives".

It is therefore required that potential impacts of the project are considered in-combination with any other plans or projects within the zone of influence

The consideration of in-combination effects with other plans or projects, focuses on the sources of impacts identified for the proposed project and any ecological pathways to European Sites as per the S-P-R assessment.

No connectivity between the proposed grid route connection and any European Sites could be identified. Similarly, no Source-Pathway-Receptor connectivity was identified between the permitted Solar Farm and any European sites in the AA-screening associated with the permitted solar farm.. Therefore, it can be concluded that there is no potential for in-combination effects between the proposed grid route connection and any other plans or projects on European sites.

4.4 Stage One Screening Conclusion

The results of the s-p-r modelling process identified that - given the scale and nature of the potential sources identified in Table 2.1 - there are no likely significant effects identified to any European sites. The AA screening process has considered potential effects which may arise during all phases of the proposed project. Through an assessment of the pathways for effects and an evaluation of the sources for impacts, taking account of the processes involved and the distance of separation from European sites, it has been evaluated that there are no likely significant effects on the qualifying interests, special conservation interest or the conservation objectives of any designated European site.

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APPENDIX 1

Finding of No Significant Effects Report

In accordance with the EC (2001) guidance document, Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites – Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, A Finding of No Significant Effects Report has been completed for the proposed Ballymoney Solar Farm grid connection development in relation to five European (Natura 2000) sites located within 15km of the proposed development (see below for more information).

The standard matrix for this report provided in Annex 2 of the guidance document was followed. Line items in italics are taken directly from the guidance document.

Finding of No Significance Effects Report	
Name and location of the Natura 2000 sites	• Buckroney-Brittas Dunes and Fen SAC* (site code: 000729) ca. 1.6km to the northeast of the proposed development site • Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC (site code: 001742) ca. 9.4km to the south of the proposed development site. • Magherabeg Dunes SAC (site code: 001766) ca. 11.3km to the north east of the proposed development site. • Deputy's Pass Nature Reserve SAC (site code: 000717) ca. 13.5km to the north of the proposed development site. • Vale of Clara (Rathdrum Wood) SAC (site code: 000733) ca. 14.2km to the northwest of the proposed development site.
Description of the project or plan	The proposed development consists of a 10kV Underground Grid Cabling (UGC) route. The grid connection route is approximately 950 m long along public roads.
Is the Project or Plan directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (provide details)?	No
Are there other projects or plans that together with the project of plan being assessed could affect the site (provide details)?	No
The Assessment of Significant Effects	
Describe how the project or plan (alone or in combination) is likely to affect the Natura 2000 site	The following sites (five of five within 15km of the site) are not in close proximity (1.6km or greater) to the proposed development site and have no direct or indirect hydrological links to the proposed development site. In addition, they are designated only for habitats which occur within their boundaries. As such, no impacts to these sites in terms of their qualifying interests are envisaged. 1. **Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC (site code: 001742)** 2. **Magherabeg Dunes SAC (site code: 001766)** 3. **Deputy's Pass Nature Reserve SAC (site code: 000717)** 4. **Vale of Clara (Rathdrum Wood) SAC (site code: 000733)** 5. **Buckroney-Brittas Dunes and Fen SAC (000729)***

Finding of No Significance Effects Report	
	While **Buckroney-Brittas Dunes and Fen SAC (000729)** does contain Alkaline fens [7230] as a qualifying interest, due to distance (ca. 1.6km) lack of a hydrological link and the limited size of the proposed development and limited changes in hydrology no impact is envisaged. There is no hydrological link between the proposed cable route which runs predominantly along the R772 and the closest European site is ca. 1.6km away; **Buckroney-Brittas Dunes and Fen SAC (000729)**. The cable will be laid within road or margins of road. No impact is envisaged from the cable route on any European site.
Explain why these effects are not considered significant	As stated above, no impacts are envisaged from the proposed solar farm or cable route on any European site either alone or with other developments.
Name of Agency or Body Consulted	**Summary of Response**
National Parks and Wildlife Service	A letter was emailed to the Development Applications Unit (DAU) re. the solar farm and grid route on 23rd of November 2018. No reply has been received to date.

Data Collected to Carry out the Assessment			
Who carried out the assessment	*Sources of Data*	*Level of assessment completed*	*Where can the full results of the assessment be accessed and viewed*
This evaluation was completed by Fehily Timoney & Company	• Information on the designated nature conservation sites within 15 km of the study area was obtained from the NPWS website and metadata available online from the NPWS mapping system (http://webgis.npws.ie/npwsviewer/). • Information on the waterbody catchments in the development area was obtained from the EPA's online Mapping Information System http://gis.epa.ie/Envision • OSI Aerial photography and 1:50000 mapping.	Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening	Wicklow County Council

	• Wicklow County Council online planning database http://www.wicklow.ie/online-enquiries • Data collected during site visits		

Document / Drawing Issue Sheet

Project Title	Ballymoney Solar Park 10kV Grid Connection

Project No.	05-1082

Title	Drawing/ Doc Number	Size	Revision								
Overall Location Map	051082-DR-001	A1	P1	P2	P3	P4					
Site Layout Plan (Sh 1 of 3)	051082-DR-002	A1	P1	P2	P3	P4					
Site Layout Plan (Sh 2 of 3)	051082-DR-003	A1	P1	P2	P3	P4					
Site Layout Plan (Sh 3 of 3)	051082-DR-004	A1	P1	P2	P3	P4					
Ducting Road Temp Reinstatement SD1 & 2	051082-DR-005	A3	P1	P2		P3					
Ducting Road Perm Reinstatement SD4 & 5	051082-DR-006	A3	P1	P2		P3					
Ducting Access Road	051082-DR-007	A3	P1	P2		P3					
Joint Bay Details	051082-DR-008	A3	P1	P2		P3					
Ducting Through Concrete Footways	051083-DR-010	A3		P1		P2					
Double Circuit Service Crossing Details	051083-DR-011	A1		P1		P2					
Outline Construction Methodology	051082-R01-02	A4			2	3					

Issue Date										
	D	17	23	11	18					
	M	01	09	12	12					
	Y	25	25	25	25					

Distribution List	Number of copies								
BNRG	1	1	1	1					

Status	PL	PL	PL	PL					

Method	E	E	E	E					

Status:
P = Preliminary, A = Approval, T = Tender, C= Construction, R = Record, I = Information, PL = Plannning

Issue Method:
C = CD, E = Email, P = Paper

Designed by Eric Moura

Approved by Cecilia Kirwan

Issued by Damien Browne

For & on behalf of TLI Group

ISO A1 594mm x 841mm

NOTES:
- This drawing is to be read in conjuction with relevant drawings, specifications and reports.
- Dimensions are in meters, unless noted otherwise.
- Drawings are not to be scaled. Use figured dimensions only
- Contractor is to complete a full cable scan of the area to identify the location of the any underground services prior to the commencement of works on-site.
- Co-Ordinates to ITM Grid.

Map Series:
Prime Data Vector

ITM Centre Point Co-ordinate:
X,Y = 725394.952, 676017.955

Tailte Éireann Licence No.
CYAL50492393

Overall Site Location Map

Scale: 1:5000

1:5000
100m 0 100m 200m 300m 400m 500m

Project Management Initals: Designer: CH Checked: CK Approved: DB

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PROJECT

Ballymoney Solar Farm
10kV Grid Connection

CLIENT

BNRG RENEWABLES

CONSULTANTS

NOTES: -
- This drawing is to be used only for the purpose of the planning application and is subject to detailed design.
- Position of underground cable and location of joint bays, links boxes and comms chambers may vary depending on site conditions.
- Position of link boxes and comms chambers is to be agreed onsite with EirGrid/ESB.
- Other services may be encountered on the route.
- Position of HDD launch/reception shown points are indicative only and will be subject to site investigation works and detailed design.

LEGEND: -
- Proposed 10kV UGC Route (1.32 km)
- Red Line Planning Boundary
- Solar Farm Boundary
- Ownership Boundary
- Existing 110kV Substation Location

ISSUE/REVISION

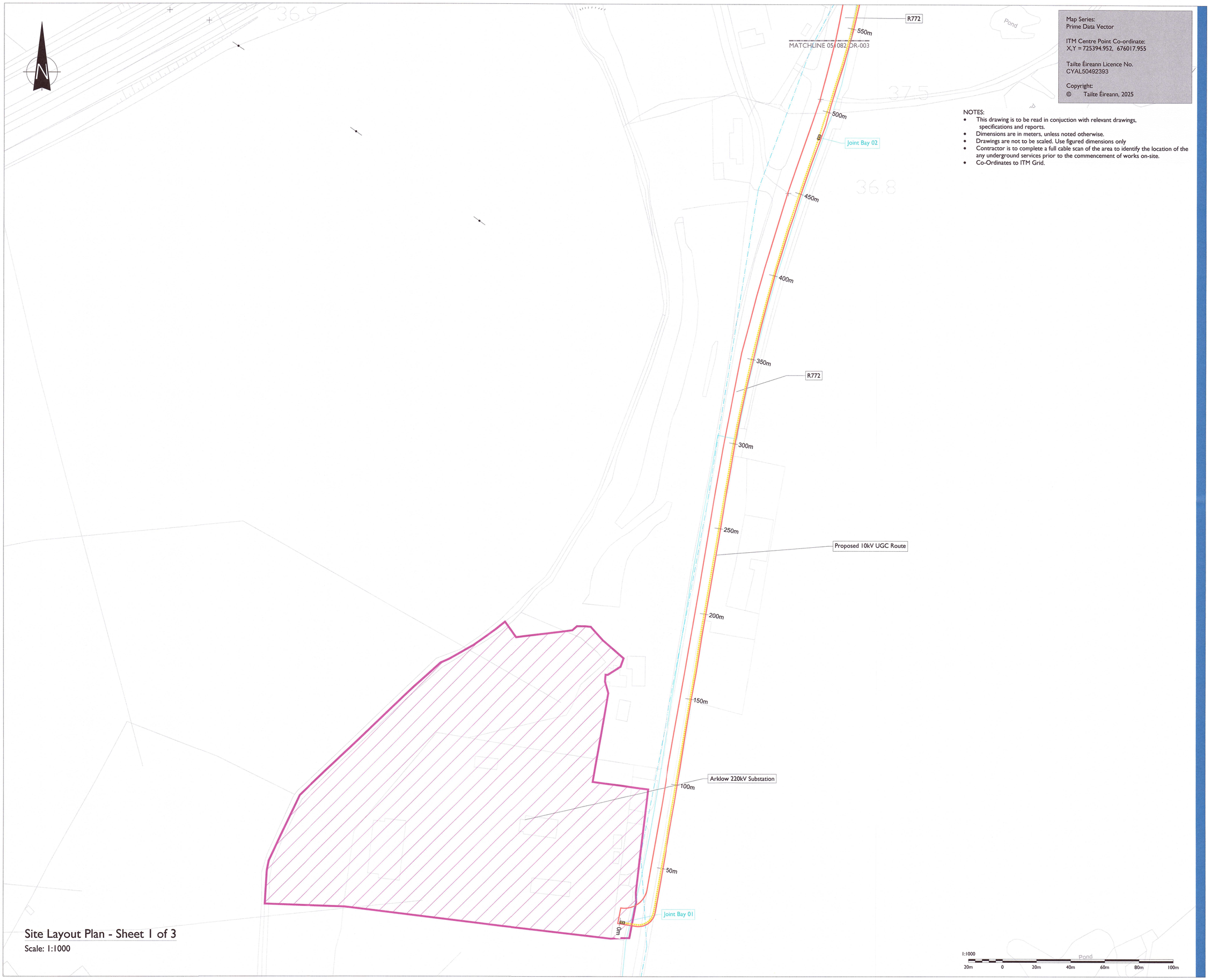
I/R	DATE	DESCRIPTION
P5	19.01.26	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P4	18.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P3	11.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P2	19.09.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P1	13.10.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning

PROJECT NUMBER
05-1082

SHEET TITLE
Overall Site Location Map

SHEET NUMBER
05-1082-DR-001

ISO A1 594mm x 841mm



Site Layout Plan - Sheet 1 of 3

Scale: 1:1000

1:1000

20m 0 20m 40m 60m 80m 100m

Map Series:
Prime Data Vector

ITM Centre Point Co-ordinate:
X,Y = 725394.952, 676017.955

Tailte Éireann Licence No.
CYAL50492393

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NOTES:
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- Dimensions are in meters, unless noted otherwise.
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- Co-Ordinates to ITM Grid.

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PROJECT

Ballymoney Solar Farm
10kV Grid Connection

CLIENT

BNRG RENEWABLES

CONSULTANTS

NOTES: -

LEGEND: -

- Proposed 10kV UGC Route (1.32 km)
- Red Line Planning Boundary
- Irish Water Infrastructure shown thus
- Existing MP Gas
- Existing 110kV Substation Location

ISSUE/REVISION

I/R	DATE	DESCRIPTION
P4	18.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P3	11.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P2	19.09.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P1	13.01.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning

PROJECT NUMBER

05-1082

SHEET TITLE

Site Layout Plan
Sheet 1 of 3

SHEET NUMBER

05-1082-DR-002

Project Management Initials: Designer: CH Checked: CK Approved: DB

ISO A1 594mm x 841mm

NOTES:
- This drawing is to be read in conjuction with relevant drawings, specifications and reports.
- Dimensions are in meters, unless noted otherwise.
- Drawings are not to be scaled. Use figured dimensions only
- Contractor is to complete a full cable scan of the area to identify the location of the any underground services prior to the commencement of works on-site.
- Co-Ordinates to ITM Grid.

Map Series:
Prime Data Vector

ITM Centre Point Co-ordinate:
X,Y = 725394.952, 676017.955

Tailte Éireann Licence No.
CYAL50492393

Solar Farm Substation

1250m

1200m

Internal Gate

Ballymoney Solar Farm

Internal Gate

MATCHLINE 05-1082-DR-003

1:1000
20m 0 20m 40m 60m 80m 100m

Site Layout Plan - Sheet 3 of 3

Scale: 1:1000

Project Management Initials:
Designer: CH
Checked: CK
Approved: DB

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PROJECT

Ballymoney Solar Farm 10kV Grid Connection

CLIENT

BNRG RENEWABLES

CONSULTANTS

NOTES: -

LEGEND: -

- Proposed 10kV UGC Route (1.32 km)
- Solar Farm Boundary
- Ownership Boundary
- Existing MP Gas

ISSUE/REVISION

I/R	DATE	DESCRIPTION
P5	19.01.26	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P4	18.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P3	11.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P2	19.09.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P1	13.01.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning

PROJECT NUMBER

05-1082

SHEET TITLE

Site Layout Plan
Sheet 3 of 3

SHEET NUMBER

05-1082-DR-004

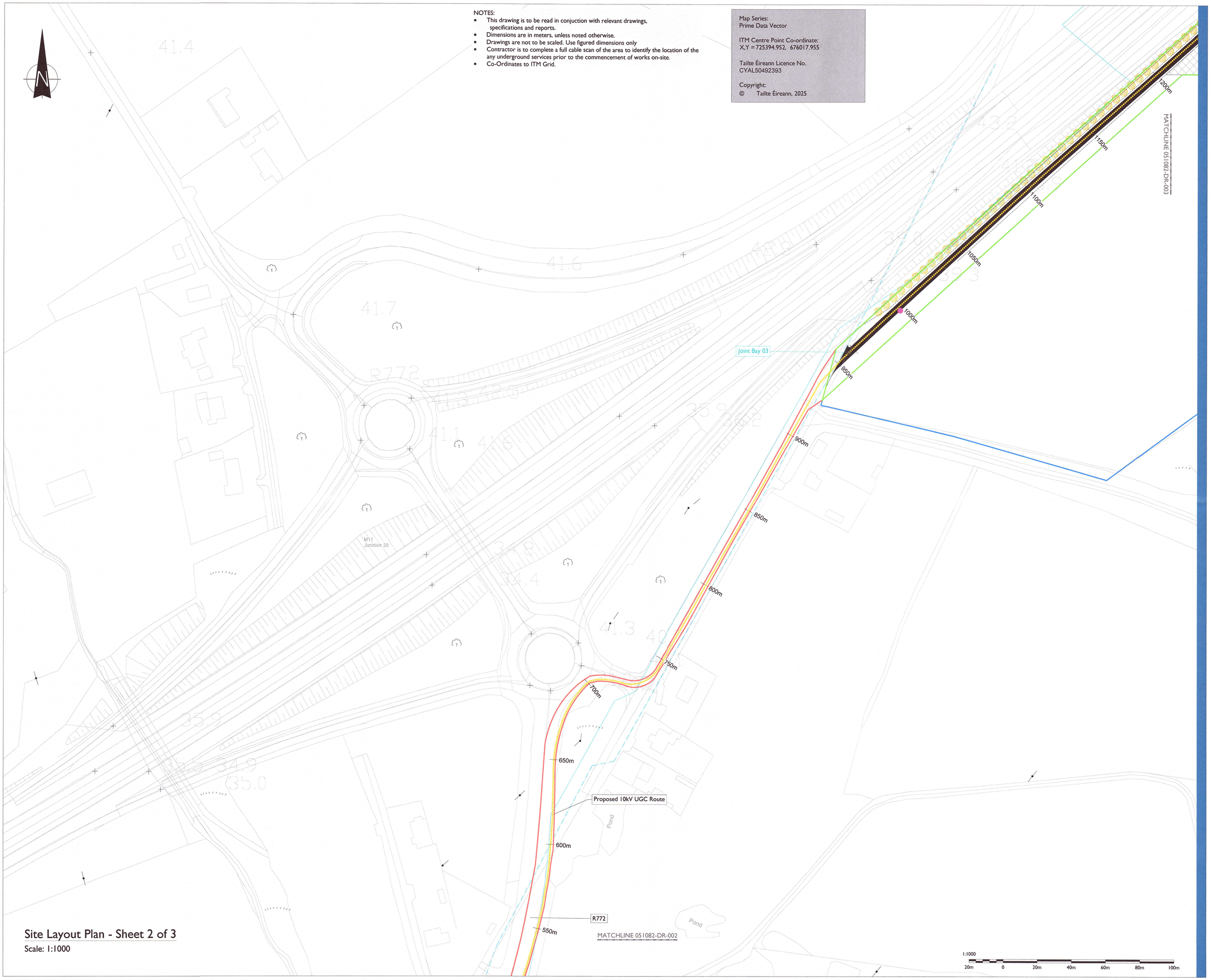
ISO A1 594mm x 841mm

NOTES:
- This drawing is to be read in conjuction with relevant drawings, specifications and reports.
- Dimensions are in meters, unless noted otherwise.
- Drawings are not to be scaled. Use figured dimensions only
- Contractor is to complete a full cable scan of the area to identify the location of the any underground services prior to the commencement of works on-site.
- Co-Ordinates to ITM Grid.

Map Series:
Prime Data Vector

ITM Centre Point Co-ordinate:
X,Y = 725394.952, 676017.955

Tailte Éireann Licence No.
CYAL50492393



Site Layout Plan - Sheet 2 of 3

Scale: 1:1000

Project Management Initials: Designer: CH Checked: CK Approved: DB

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PROJECT

Ballymoney Solar Farm
10kV Grid Connection

CLIENT

BNRG RENEWABLES

CONSULTANTS

NOTES: -

LEGEND: -

- Proposed 10kV UGC Route (1.32 km)
- Red Line Planning Boundary
- Solar Farm Boundary
- Ownership Boundary
- Irish Water Infrastructure shown thus
- Existing MP Gas

ISSUE/REVISION

I/R	DATE	DESCRIPTION
P4	18.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P3	11.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P2	19.09.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P1	13.01.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning

PROJECT NUMBER

05-1082

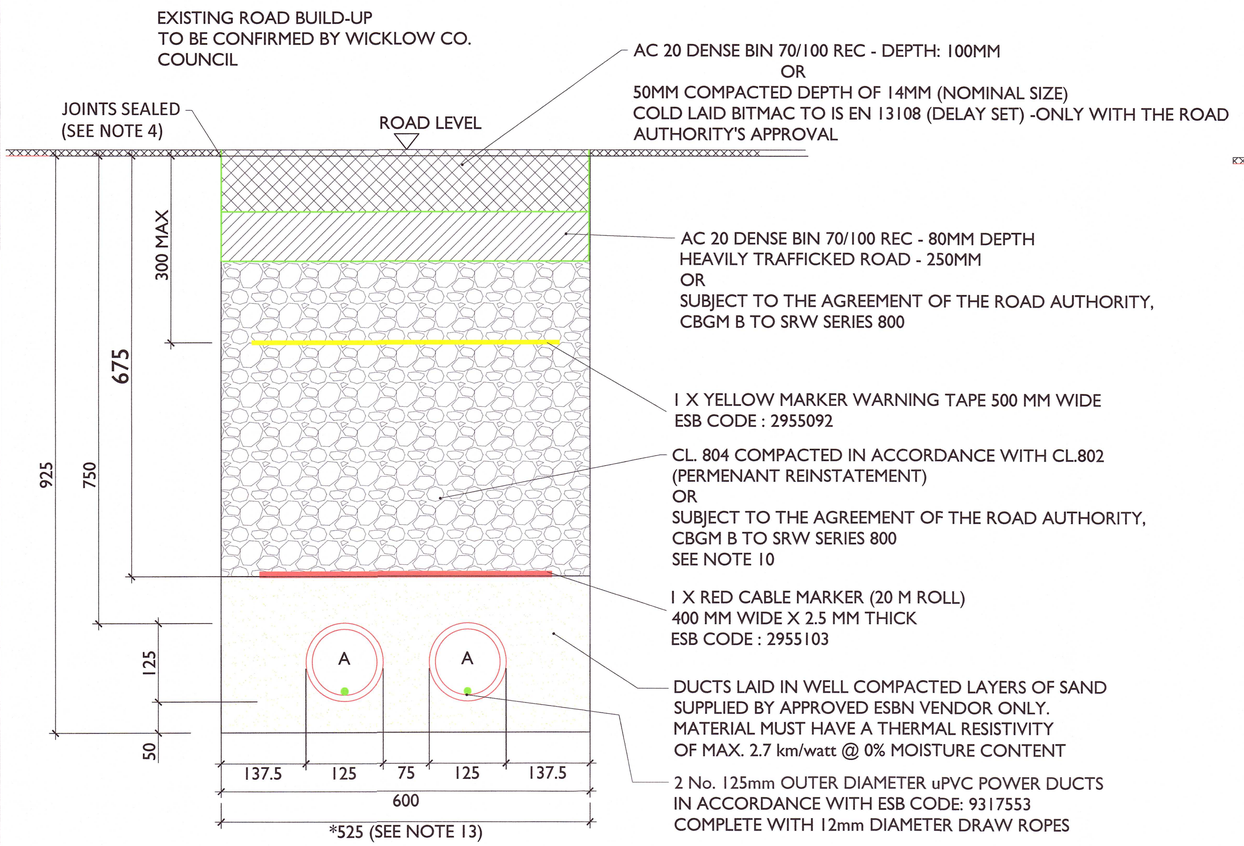
SHEET TITLE

Site Layout Plan
Sheet 2 of 3

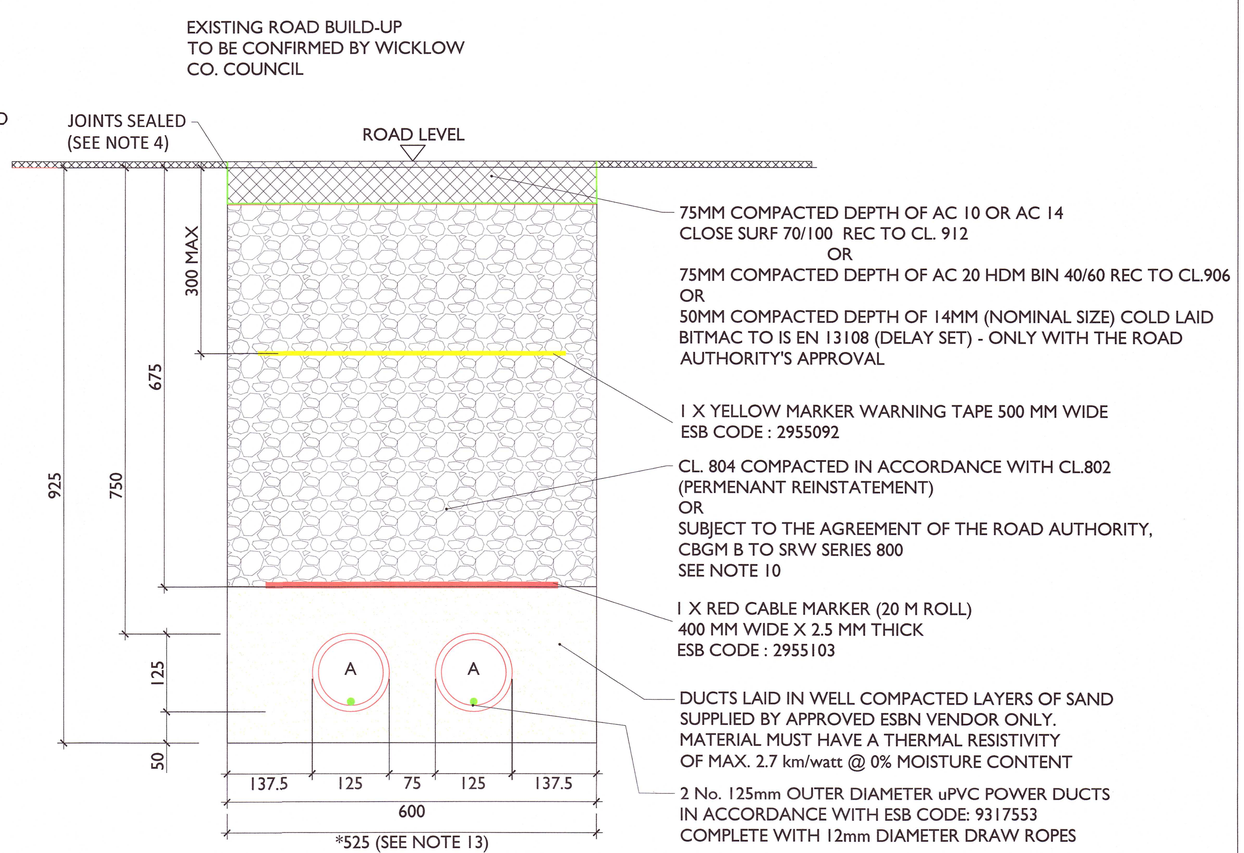
SHEET NUMBER

05-1082-DR-003

Reinstatement details based on Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads - SD1



Reinstatement details based on Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads - SD2



Typical Section Through Temporary Reinstatement of Longitudinal Opening in Roadway

SCALE 1:10

Typical Section Through Temporary Reinstatement of Longitudinal Opening in Dressed Rural Unbound Roadway

SCALE 1:10

Notes:

1. Refer to 'Guidelines for managing Openings in Public Roads (Purple Book - April 2017)', Chapter 6 'Specifications' for guidance on Duct type / colour and Marker Tape type / colour.
2. All bound edges shall be saw cut to expose the full vertical thickness of each layer prior to excavation. All edges shall be essentially straight, smooth and vertical.
3. Clause 808 surface to be sprayed per clause 920 prior to application of Asphalt Concrete Layer.
4. Joint sealer shall be a hot 50 pen bitumen binder or cold thixotropic bitumen 50-70 pen to be applied to all vertical cuts in accordance with B.S. 594987 prior to application of bituminous materials.
5. Licence holder must maintain temporary reinstatement to a safe and acceptable standard.
6. Any damaged area adjacent to the opening and resulting from the excavation operation shall be included within the area to be reinstated.
7. Temporary Road Surface warning signs must be used in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual (Chaper 8 - Temporary Traffic Measures and Signs for Roadworks).
8. Refer to detail Permanent Reinstatement of Road for advice on permanent reinstatement - all permanent reinstatement shall be carried out when adequate settlement has occurred as determined by the Road Authority.
9. This drawing is to be read in conjunction with relevant drawings, specifications and reports.
10. Dimensions are in millimeters, unless noted otherwise.
11. Drawings are not to be scaled use figured dimensions only.
12. All reinstatement works are to be in accordance with local area engineers requirements and guidelines for managing openings in public roads.
13. 525 mm trench width is also acceptable to ESBN provided trench compaction measures are in accordance with the DDTAS Purple Book Section 6.3.5 requirements (guidelines for managing openings in public roads) or TII specification CC-PAV 04-007 (2019) guidelines for reinstatement of openings in National roads, as appropriate.

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CLIENT
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PROJECT
Ballymoney Solar Farm
10kV Grid Connection

PROJECT NUMBER
05-1082

SHEET NUMBER
051082-DR-005

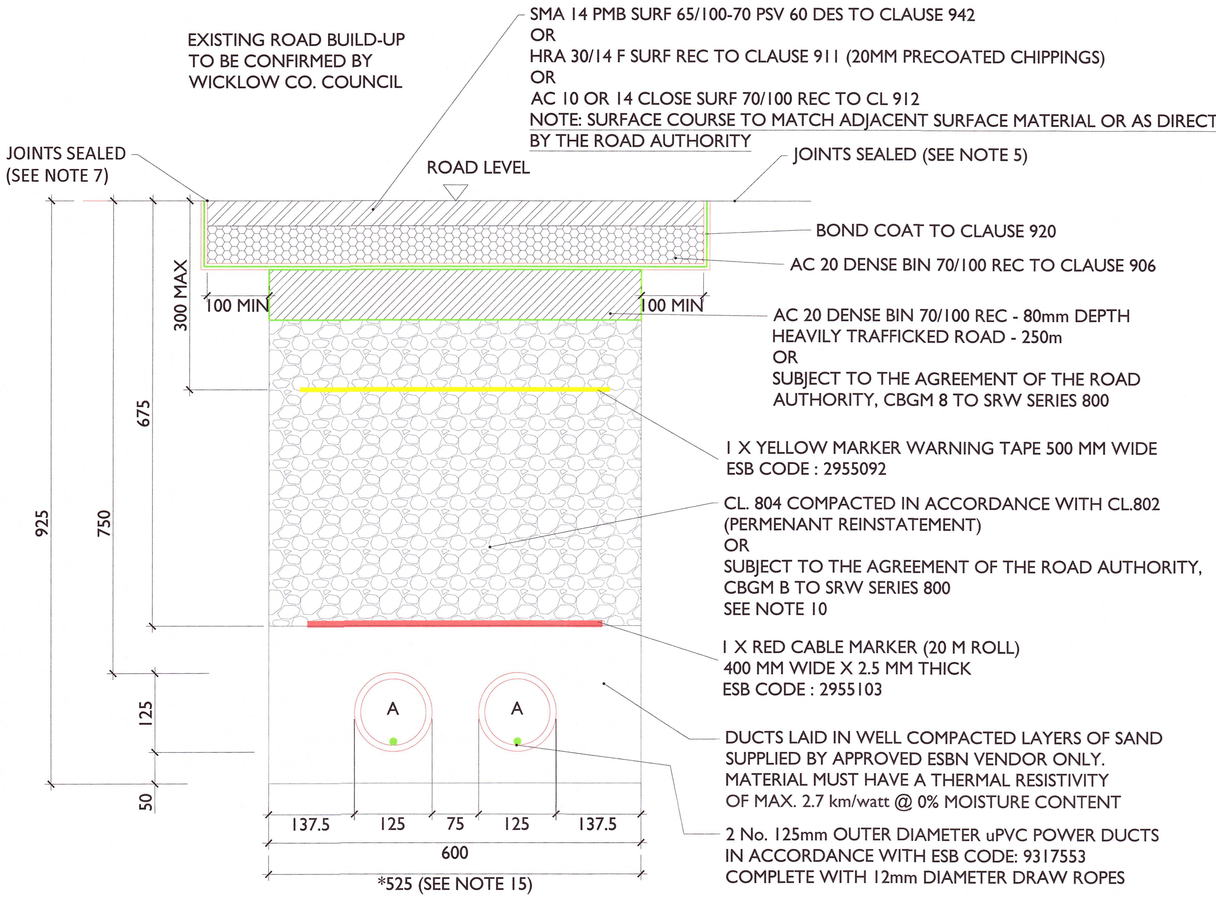
SHEET TITLE
10kV Ducting through Roadway (Temporary Reinstatement)

DRAWING STATUS
For Planning

ISSUE/REVISION

I/R	DATE	DESCRIPTION
P3	18.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P2	19.09.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P1	13.01.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning

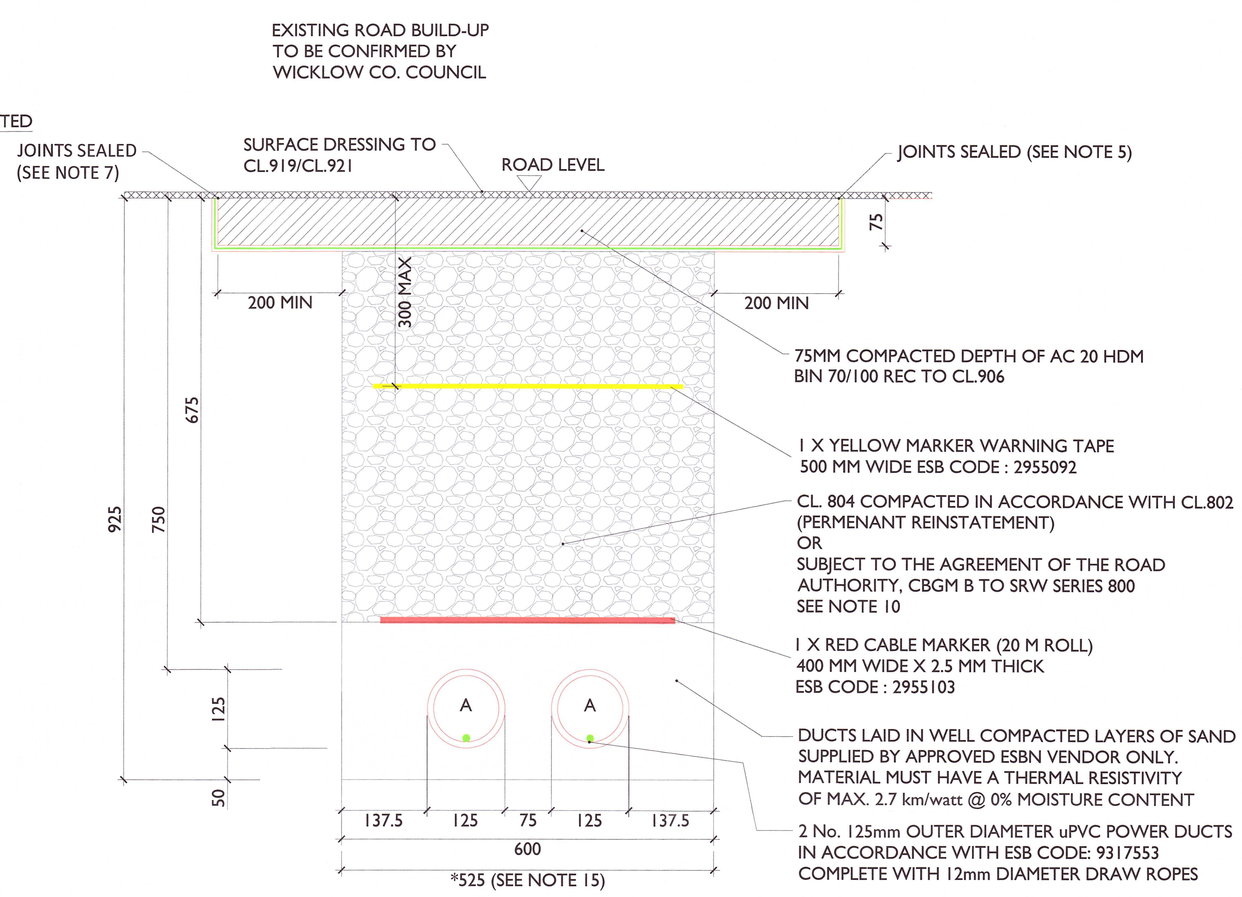
Reinstatement details based on Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads - SD4



Typical Section Through Permanent Reinstatement of Longitudinal Opening in Roadway

SCALE: 1:10

Reinstatement details based on Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads - SD5



Typical Section Through Permanent Reinstatement of Longitudinal Opening in Dressed Rural Unbound Roadway

SCALE: 1:10

Notes:

1. Refer to Guidelines for managing Openings in Public Roads (Purple Book - April 2017), Chapter 6 'Specifications' for guidance on Duct type / colour and Marker Tape type / colour.
2. All bound edges shall be saw cut to expose the full vertical thickness of each layer prior to excavation. All edges shall be essentially straight, smooth and vertical.
3. Where a temporary surface has been used, material shall be planed out to the depth specified in this drawing. The new permanent surface shall be machined laid and mechanically compacted with a vibrating roller.
4. Where the trimmed edge of excavation is within 400mm* of a joint / edge, ironwork or other reinstatement, this trimmed edge shall be extended to include same and the area of reinstatement shall be extended accordingly (* increase to 800mm where this is pre-existing practice).
5. Any damaged area adjacent to the opening and resulting from the excavation operation shall be included within the area to be reinstated.
6. Clause 808 or Cement Bound Granular Material surface to be sprayed per clause 920 prior to application of Asphalt Concrete Layer.
7. Joint sealer shall be a hot 50 pen bitumen binder or cold thixtropic bitumen 50 -70 pen to be applied to all vertical cuts in accordance with B.S.594987 prior to application of bituminous materials.
8. For roads without asphalt concrete surface (e.g. may be Cl.804 with double surface dressing), the road authority may as its discretion permit the temporary reinstatement surface of asphalt concrete to be regulated in lieu of excavation and reinstatement; and subsequently surface dressed.
9. On highly trafficked roads services must have a minimum cover of 750mm.
10. Where required by the Road authority the trench may be reinstated with a Cement Bound Granular Material.
11. All reinstatement works are to be in accordance with local area engineers requirements and guidelines for managing openings in public roads
12. This drawing is to be read in conjunction with relevant drawings, specifications and reports.
13. Dimensions are in millimeters, unless noted otherwise.
14. Drawings are not to be scaled use figured dimensions only.
15. 525 mm trench width is also acceptable to ESBN provided trench compaction measures are in accordance with the DDTAS Purple Book Section 6.3.5 requirements (guidelines for managing openings in public roads) or TII specification CC-PAV 04-007 (2019) guidelines for reinstatement of openings in National roads, as appropriate.

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PROJECT
Ballymoney Solar Farm
10kV Grid Connection

PROJECT NUMBER
05-1082

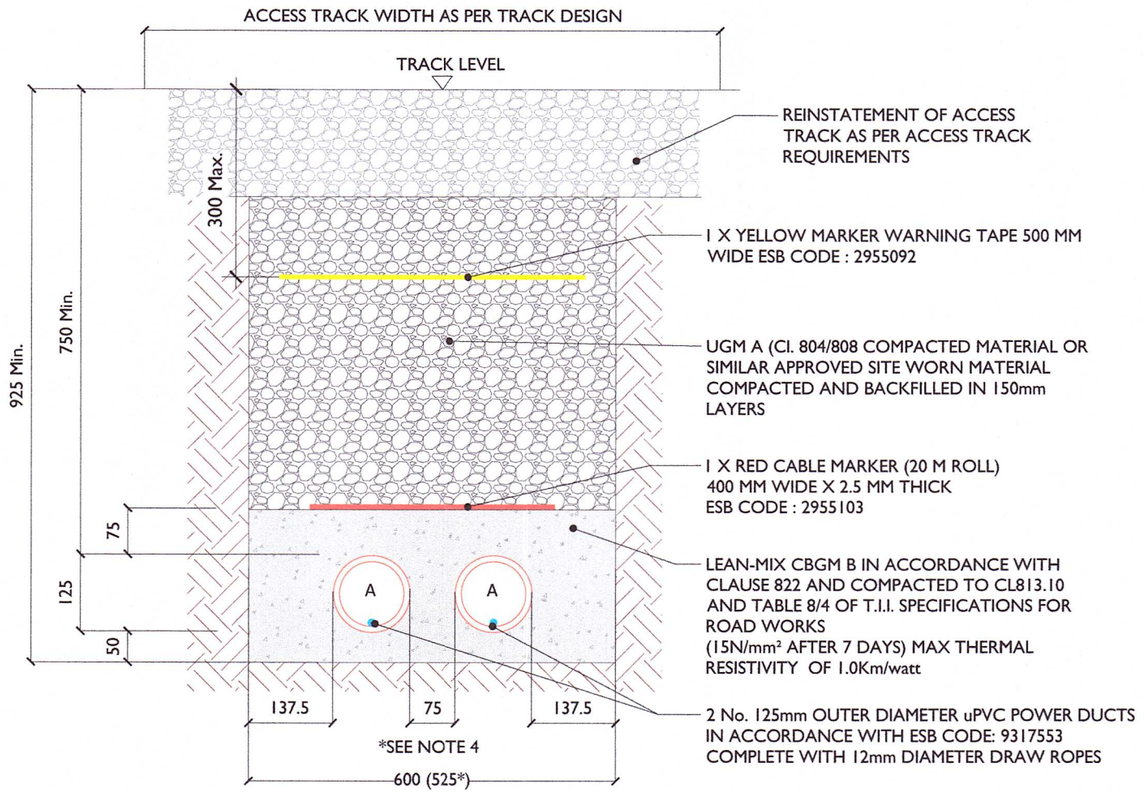
SHEET NUMBER
051082-DR-006

SHEET TITLE
10kV Ducting through Roadway
(Permanent Reinstatement)

DRAWING STATUS
For Planning

ISSUE/REVISION

I/R	DATE	DESCRIPTION
P3	18.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P2	19.09.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P1	13.01.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning



Notes:

1. This drawing is to be read in conjunction with relevant drawings, specifications and reports.
2. Dimensions are in millimeters, unless noted otherwise.
3. Drawings are not to be scaled, use figured dimensions only.
4. 525 mm trench width is also acceptable to ESBN .
5. Minimum 3.7m wide access track to be installed over cable for longer off-road sections where there is no existing access track in place.

ALL REINSTATEMENT WORKS ARE TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACCESS TRACK DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

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PROJECT
Ballymoney Solar Farm
10kV Grid Connection

PROJECT NUMBER
05-1082

SHEET NUMBER
051082-DR-007

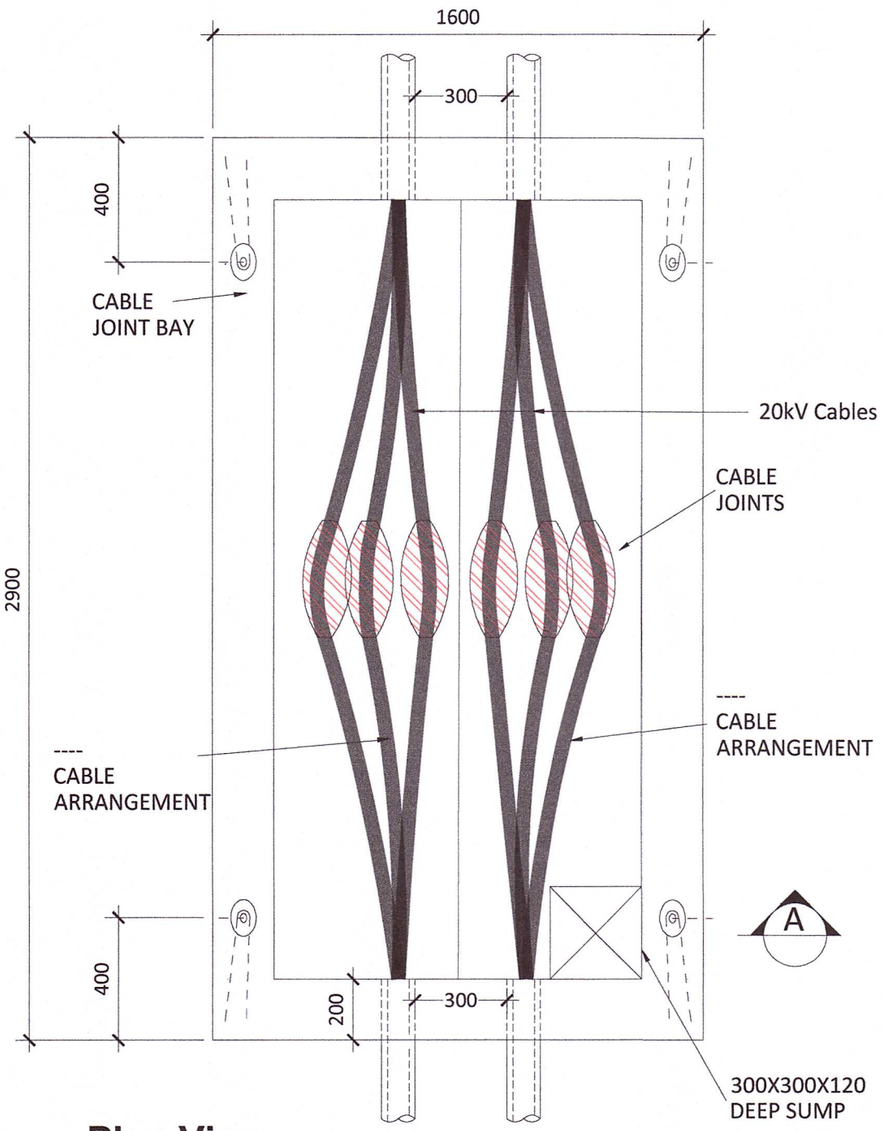
SHEET TITLE
Typical 10kV Ducting Access Road and Off Road Sections

DRAWING STATUS
For Planning

ISSUE/REVISION

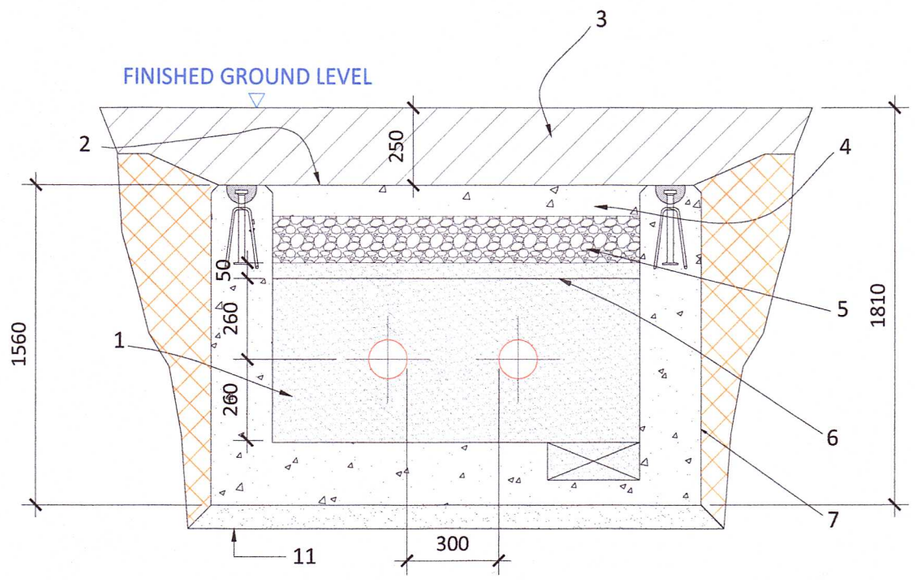
I/R	DATE	DESCRIPTION
P3	18.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P2	25.09.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P1	13.01.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning

Typical Precast Concrete Joint Bay Details



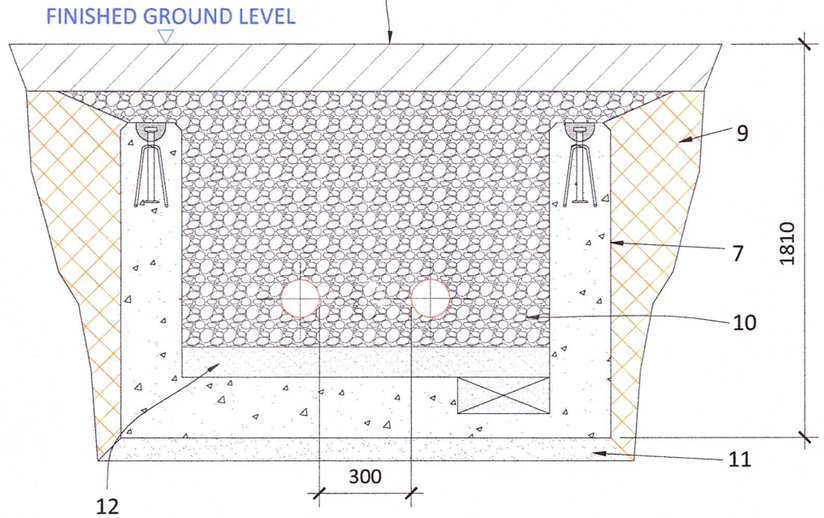
Plan View

SCALE 1:20



Section A-A Permanent Reinstatement

SCALE 1:20



Section A-A Temporary Reinstatement

SCALE 1:20

NOTES:

1. SAND COMPACTED IN LAYERS SO THAT NO RESIDUAL CONSOLIDATION WILL OCCUR
2. 3 NO. 500MM WIDE YELLOW MARKER WARNING TAPE ESB CODE 2955092
3. PERMENANT REINSTATEMENT TO COMPLY WITH LOCAL AUTHORITY SPECIFICATION / DRAWINGS
4. 100mm THICK RED CBGM B IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLAUSE 822 AND COMPACTED TO CLAUSE 813.10 AND TABLE 8/4 OF NRA SPECIFICATION FOR ROADWORKS (15N/MM^2 AFTER 7 DAYS)
5. CL.804 GRANULAR MATERIAL TYPE B COMPACTED IN 150MM THICK LAYER IN ACCORDANCE WITH CL.802, TABLE 8\4 OF NRA SPECIFICATION
6. 3 NO. 400MM WIDE X2.5MM THICK RED CABLE MARKER STRIPS ESB CODE 2955103
7. PRECAST CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION
8. DENSE BITUMEN MACADAM OR CONCRETE TO MATCH THE THICKNESS OF ADJACENT PAVED SURFACE OR TOPSOIL TO SUIT LOCATION
9. GRANULAR BACKFILL TO CL.610 CLASSES 6N OR 6P COMPACTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CL.612 AND TABLE 6/1 OF NRA SPECIFICATION
10. CL.804 GRANULAR MATERIAL TYPE B. COMPACTED IN LAYERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CL.802, TABLE 8/4 OF NRA SPECIFICATION OR SUITABLE BACKFILL MATERIAL COMPACTED IN 150MM THICK LAYERS, IN GRASSED AREAS
11. 75MM BLINDING
12. 100MM THICK LAYER OF COMPACTED SAND

GENERAL NOTES:

- THIS DRAWING IS TO BE READ IN CONJUCTION WITH RELEVANT DRAWINGS, SPECIFICATIONS AND REPORTS
- DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETRES, UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
- DRAWINGS ARE NOT TO BE SCALED USE FIGURED DIMENSIONS ONLY
- PRECAST JOINT BAY SUPPLIER TO BE APPROVED BY ESBN

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PROJECT
Ballymoney Solar Farm
10kV Grid Connection

PROJECT NUMBER
05-1082

SHEET NUMBER
051082-DR-008

SHEET TITLE
Typical Precast Joint Bay
10kV Twin Circuit Details

DRAWING STATUS
For Planning

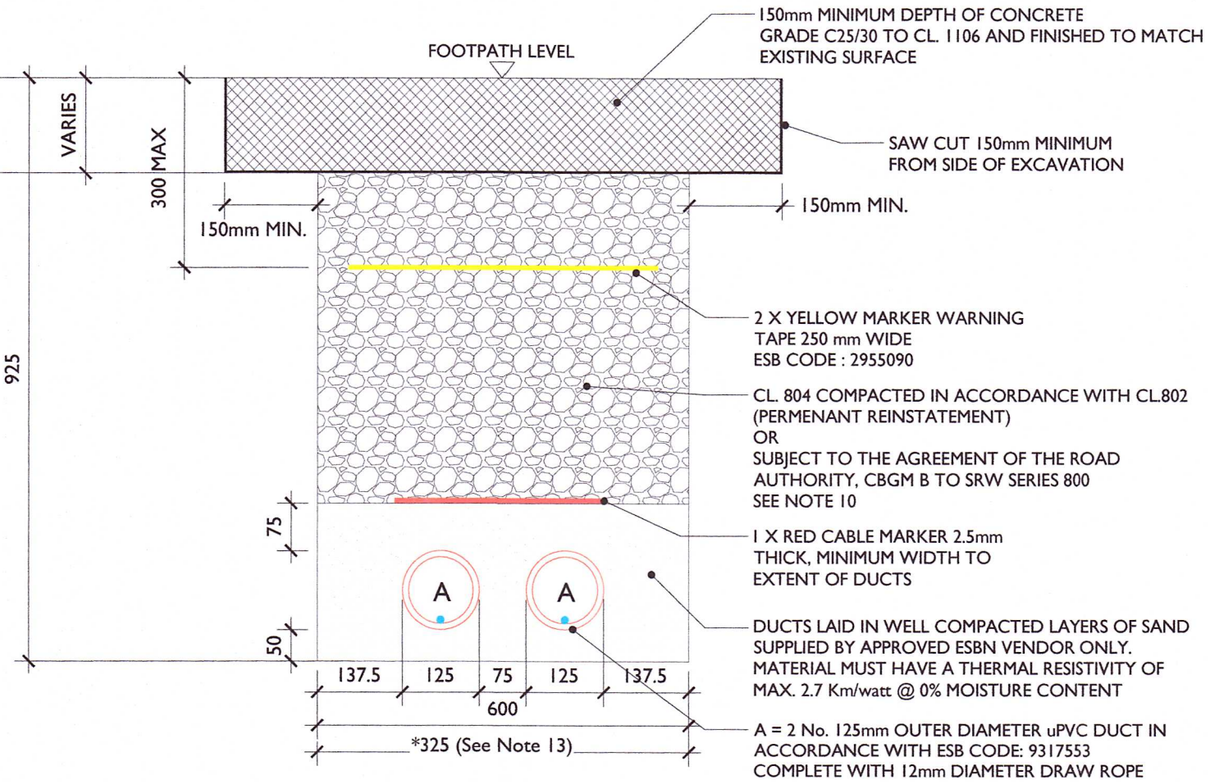
ISSUE/REVISION

I/R	DATE	DESCRIPTION
P3	18.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P2	19.09.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P1	13.01.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning

Reinstatement details based on Guidelines for Managing Openings in Footways: **Concrete** - SD12

ALL REINSTATEMENT WORKS ARE TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL AREA ENGINEERS REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES FOR MANAGING OPENINGS IN PUBLIC ROADS

EXISTING ROAD BUILD-UP TO BE CONFIRMED BY WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL



Typical Section Through Permanent Reinstatement of Footways: Concrete

SCALE 1:10

Note:

1. Refer to 'Guidelines for managing Openings in Public Roads (Purple Book - April 2017)', Chapter 6 'Specifications' for guidance on Duct type / colour and Marker Tape type / colour.
2. Reinforcement mesh (A142 or similar approved) shall be used at the discretion of the road authority.
3. Apron to be 150mm thick at driveways and 300mm thick at commercial access areas or where the footway may be subject to wheel loads.
4. Minimum concrete depth of 150mm may be reduced to 100mm where footway is separated from carriageway by grass verge or bollards.
5. With footways 1.4m wide or less, full width reinstatement is required. In footways exceeding 1.4m wide, the road authority may approve one additional longitudinal joint.
6. For transverse openings, additional area of reinstatement is required to the nearest bay joint. A complete bay shall be reinstated where specified by the road authority.
7. Surface finish to be similar to adjoining areas e.g. Soft brushed, printed pattern etc.
8. Expansion joints in accordance with Clause 1106 to be neatly formed in straight lines, at not greater than 3m centres & arranged to coincide with joints in kerbs. Joints shall be formed by inserting a double layer or roofing felt or other approved material, which shall extend for the full depth of the slab & finished off neatly at the surface.
9. Where the footway is recently constructed (i.e. less than 10 years), the full bay must be replaced.
10. Where the trimmed edge of an excavation is within 400mm of a joint/edge, ironwork or other reinstatement, this trimmed edge shall be extended to include same and the area of reinstatement shall be extended accordingly.All bound edges shall be saw cut to expose the full vertical thickness of each layer prior to excavation. All edges shall be essentially straight, smooth and vertical.
11. Any damaged area adjacent to the opening and resulting from the excavation operation shall be included within the area to be reinstated.
12. Temporary Road Surface warning signs must be used in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual (Chaper 8 - Temporary Traffic Measures and Signs for Roadworks).
13. Refer to detail Permanent Reinstatement of Road for advice on permanent reinstatement - all permanent reinstatement shall be carried out when adequate settlement has occurred as determined by the Road Authority.
14. This drawing is to be read in conjunction with relevant drawings, specifications and reports.
15. Dimensions are in millimeters, unless noted otherwise.
16. Drawings are not to be scaled use figured dimensions only.
17. All reinstatement works are to be in accordance with local area engineers requirements and guidelines for managing openings in public roads.
18. Where works are in close proximity to trees/tree roots compliance with BS 5837:2012 is required.

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CLIENT: BNRG RENEWABLES

PROJECT: Ballymoney Solar Farm 10kV Grid Connection

PROJECT NUMBER: 05-1082

SHEET NUMBER: 051082-DR-010

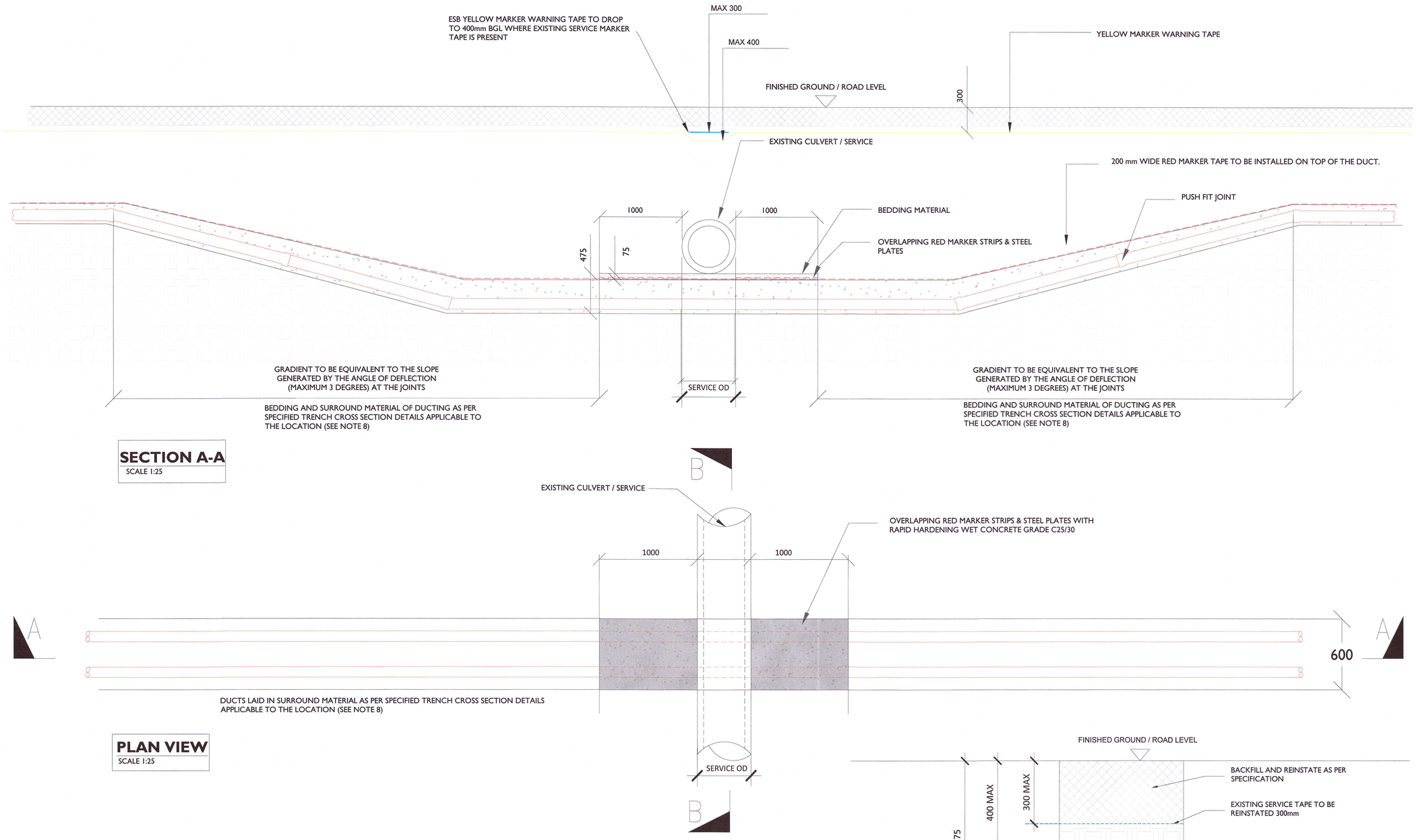
SHEET TITLE: Ducting through Concrete Footpaths Permanent Reinstatement

DRAWING STATUS: Issued for Information

ISSUE/REVISION

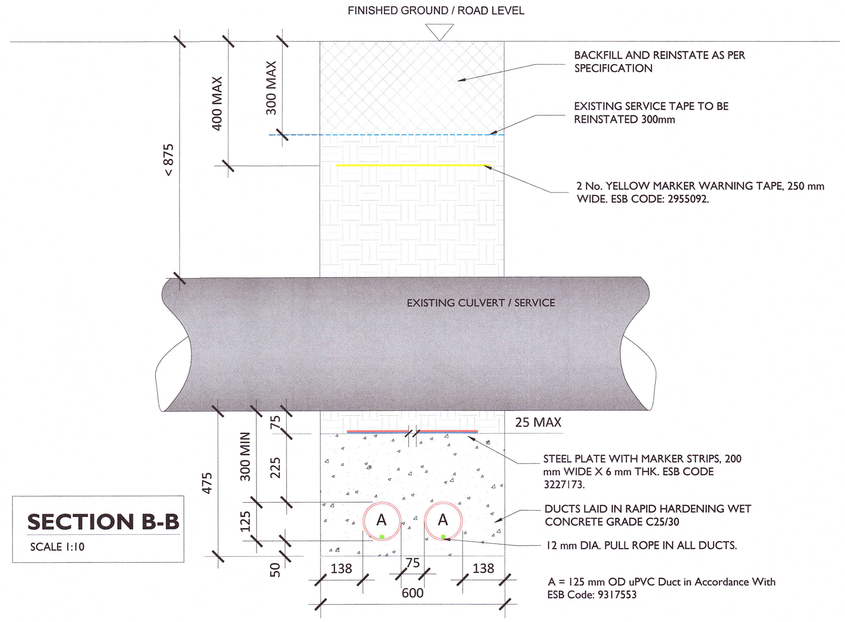
I/R	DATE	DESCRIPTION
P2	18.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P1	25.09.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning

ISO A1 594mm x 841mm



SECTION A-A
SCALE 1:25

PLAN VIEW
SCALE 1:25



SECTION B-B
SCALE 1:10

NOTES:

1. THIS DRAWING IS SUBJECT TO ESB DESIGN APPROVAL AND IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION.
2. THIS DRAWING IS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALL OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION.
3. DO NOT SCALE FROM THIS DRAWING, USE ONLY PRINTED DIMENSIONS.
4. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETRES. ALL CHAINAGES, LEVELS AND COORDINATES ARE IN METRES UNLESS DEFINED OTHERWISE.
5. NO EXCAVATION SHALL COMMENCE UNTIL THE CONTRACTOR HAS CONSULTED UP TO DATE SERVICES DRAWINGS AND CARRIED OUT AN ELECTROMAGNETIC LOCATOR (EML) SCAN.
6. HAND DIG ONLY WITHIN 500mm OF EXISTING SERVICES.
7. IF COMPACTING CBGM B COULD CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE CULVERT / SERVICE BELOW, USE RAPID HARDENING CEMENT GRADE C25 / 30 FOLLOWING ENGINEERS PRIOR APPROVAL.
8. WHERE DEPTHS EXCEED 3000mm TO THE TOP OF THE DUCT, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL CONSULT THE CABLE SYSTEM DESIGN ENGINEER.
9. BACKFILL AS PER GUIDELINES FOR THE OPENING, BACKFILLING AND REINSTATEMENT OF OPENINGS IN THE PUBLIC ROADS.
10. ESB'S PREFERENCE IS TO CROSS UNDER ALL SERVICES WHERE IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN STANDARD COVER WHEN CROSSING OVER THE SERVICE.
11. THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF ALL TEMPORARY WORKS REQUIRED. THE CONTRACTOR WILL APPOINT AN APPROVED TEMPORARY WORKS DESIGNER AND SUBMIT PROPOSED TEMPORARY WORKS DESIGNS TO THE PSDP.

Project Management Initials: Designer: EM Checked: CK Approved: DB

tli GROUP

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PROJECT

Ballymoney Solar Farm 10kV Grid Connection

CLIENT

BNRG RENEWABLES

CONSULTANTS

NOTES: -

LEGEND: -

- 125mm Ø HDPE DUCT WITH 12mm DIAMTER PULL ROPE
- RED MARKER STRIP WITH STEEL PLATES
- YELLOW MARKER WARNING TAPE
- EXSITING SERVICES MARKER TAPE

ISSUE/REVISION

P2	18.12.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
P1	19.09.25	Issued for Section 5 Planning
I/R	DATE	DESCRIPTION

PROJECT NUMBER

05-1082

SHEET TITLE

Double Circuit Service/Culvert Undercrossing Details

SHEET NUMBER

051082-DR-011