



Who are you:	State Body
Name:	EirGrid
Reference:	ARKLPF-162716
Submission Made	November 5, 2025 4:28 PM

Choose one or more categories for your submission. Please also select which settlement you wish to make a submission / observation about.

- Proposed Changes to Volume 1 of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028

Local Planning Framework PART A Strategy

- A.2 County Development Plan Strategy for Arklow

Maps:

Please see attached submission

Map

Site Description:

Upload a File (optional)

EirGrid Submission to Draft Arklow Local Planning Framework 2025 Proposed
Variation No. 5.pdf, 0.18MB



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Wicklow County Council
via Online Consultation Portal

5th November 2025

Re: Draft Arklow Local Planning Framework 2025 / Proposed Variation No. 5

Dear all,

EirGrid welcomes and acknowledges the undertaking to produce the Draft Arklow Local Planning Framework 2025/Proposed Variation No. 5.

EirGrid Context

EirGrid as Transmission System Operator (TSO) develops, manages and operates the transmission grid in Ireland. The grid transports power from where it is generated to where it is needed. EirGrid is also leading the secure transition of the electricity grid to a sustainable low-carbon future. The grid brings power to industry and businesses that use electricity. It also powers the distribution network, owned and operated by ESB Networks, which supplies the electricity used in homes, businesses, schools, hospitals and farms. EirGrid balances supply and demand every minute of the day, while also planning for Ireland's long-term electricity needs.

To prepare for and facilitate future development throughout Ireland, EirGrid must make the electricity grid more resilient and increase flexibility. The grid will need to carry more power and EirGrid will need to upgrade and add to existing grid infrastructure - primarily comprising underground cables and overhead lines and substations.

The European Communities (Internal Market in Electricity) Regulations 2000 (SI 445 of 2000) sets out the role and responsibilities of the TSO; Article 8(1) (a) gives EirGrid, as TSO, the exclusive function: *"To operate and ensure the maintenance of and, if necessary, develop a safe, secure, reliable, economical and efficient electricity transmission system, and to explore and develop opportunities for interconnection of its system with other systems, in all cases with a view to ensuring that all reasonable demands for electricity are met having due regard for the environment."* It is in this statutory context that EirGrid is undertaking the planning and development of grid infrastructure in the Eastern and Midland Region.

The EirGrid *Strategic Framework for Grid Development in the Eastern & Midlands Region*¹ provides a programme of grid development within the region. Powering Up Wicklow, a

¹ [Strategic Framework for Grid Development in the Eastern & Midlands Region](#)



critical programme of works will strengthen key electricity infrastructure in Wicklow and the surrounding areas, helping to make Ireland 'renewable ready' and provide a consistent and reliable supply of electricity for Wicklow.

Arklow 220/110 kV Station is a high critical transmission station and an important node along the south-east coastal corridor. The station is nearing end of life and requires redevelopment; originally commissioned in stages from late 1960s to early 1980s. In addition, it requires expansion as it has insufficient capacity for known future connection needs.

Submission Context

Arklow Physical Infrastructure Objectives, Energy & Electricity Objectives:

ARK 87 To support Eirgrid with the implementation of their Powering up Wicklow programme and facilitate the expansion and upgrading of electricity supply infrastructure serving the LPF and wider area

ARK 88 To require that the development of Public Utility lands on the eastern side of the Dublin Road to facilitate the expansion of the existing electricity substation comprise of high quality design and boundary treatments, include planting and landscaping proposals to mitigate their visual impact having regard to their prominent location along the northern gateway entrance to Arklow Town.

EirGrid welcomes Objectives ARK 87 and ARK 88, specifically the support for the Powering up Wicklow programme of works and the expansion of Arklow Substation.

Should you have any queries or require any additional information please do contact us.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Boyle". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Jennifer Boyle
Senior Planning and Consents Lead
EirGrid