



07 February 2018

Dear Resident,

**Re: Proposed Battery Energy Storage Development at Kellis substation, County Carlow.**

I am writing to inform you that ENGIE Developments Ireland Limited is to submit a planning application for a battery storage project. The proposed development will be known as Kellistown East Battery Storage Project and its location, adjacent to the existing Kellistown substation, is shown on the attached plan. The installation comprises the following:

- A secure, fenced hardstand with an area of approximately 1ha
- Installation of 34 containers, measuring approximately 16m x 2.9m each containing lithium ion battery components. The maximum amount of Lithium Ion contained within the development is 13.2 tonnes
- Ancillary components including control room
- Safety equipment including fire suppression systems
- Associated underground cabling to connect to the adjacent existing substation
- Exterior landscape screening using trees planting

A copy of the site layout and detailed schematics of the containers are appended to this letter.

**Why Do We Need Battery Storage?**

Recent growth in renewable energy to meet National, EU and Global green energy targets has meant the electricity supply is increasingly delivered from intermittent sources such as wind and solar. This creates issues for the electricity network operators in balancing the demand from the consumer with the ability to generate electricity on demand. Put simply, the wind does not always blow when people need to use electricity.

Previously these issues were resolved by large thermal generators (coal, gas and peat) providing baseload energy supply, but with their closure balancing intermittency has become increasingly challenging. Battery systems are a proven solution, restoring network harmony and allowing further renewable energy deployment in the future.

The batteries ENGIE plans to install are similar to those used in mobile phones, watches, Electric Vehicles (EVs) and other battery operated devices and will be housed within shipping containers located adjacent to the substation. The containers will house all the necessary operation and safety equipment, including fire suppression equipment. The modular design will mean that the equipment is securely contained and therefore easier to maintain and remove. There will be no external moving parts and the system will operate with minimal noise.

The newly designed DS3 programme is expected to introduce a wide range of system services which will help better manage the electrical grid in the island of Ireland. Modelling done by both Transmission System Operators in the island of Ireland indicates the benefit to consumers to be €177 million per annum from 2020 onwards.

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### **Advantages of Battery Storage**

Energy storage using batteries is a compact, safe, and lower cost solution to ensuring the electricity network can function.

- ✓ Battery storage, as part of the DS3 programme used to manage the grid network, is anticipated to save Ireland's electricity consumers €177million from 2020 onwards.
- ✓ The small amount of land (1ha) and low height, plus the provision of a boundary planting scheme, will mean the visual impacts are minimised.
- ✓ The inclusion of environmental improvement measures including onsite habitat will result in net biodiversity enhancements.
- ✓ The project will ensure County Carlow is at the forefront of the transition to a low carbon Ireland, helping facilitate the deployment of renewable energy across the country.

### **The Planning Process**

We have been conducting environmental and technical studies over recent weeks at the site to ascertain the viability of the development on this land. These studies confirm that this site is viable to host a Battery Storage Project and so we will be submitting an application to Carlow County Council in the coming weeks.

The planning application will be accompanied by a number of technical environmental reports that consider a range of topics (for example ecology, visual impacts and archaeology). These have been completed by an established team of experts, and we have adopted their recommendations throughout the design of the battery storage project in order to reduce and mitigate any negative environmental effects. The planning application will be fully available to the public for review and comment over the coming weeks.

We consider the development to be a positive addition to the local area and we welcome any feedback you may have.

### **About ENGIE**

ENGIE is a global energy business and an expert operator in electricity, natural gas and energy services. The Group develops its businesses around a model based on responsible growth to tackle the major challenges of energy's transition to a low-carbon economy: access to sustainable energy, climate-change mitigation and adaptation, security of supply and the rational use of resources. ENGIE is currently developing several renewable energy sites in Ireland, as well as battery storage sites which are low/zero carbon projects to help the environment by the reduction of greenhouse gases and the production of clean, renewable energy.

Yours sincerely,

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**Project Manager**

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