

## Tyrone to Cavan Interconnector



# Community Update

July 2015



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## Proposed Interconnector

The Tyrone to Cavan Interconnector is part of a strategic cross-border electricity transmission infrastructure scheme undertaken jointly by System Operator Northern Ireland (SONI) and EirGrid.

The application for that portion of the proposed interconnector in Northern Ireland (from the border to a planned substation on the transmission network, in Turleenan, County Tyrone), is currently being considered by the DOE Planning Service.

The application for planning approval by EirGrid to An Bord Pleanála relates to that portion of the overall proposed interconnector that runs through counties Monaghan, Cavan and Meath.

## Project History

In December 2009 Northern Ireland Electricity (NIE) submitted a planning application seeking consent to construct a new 275/400kV substation near Moy, County Tyrone and 33.9km of 400kV overhead line from there to a crossing point on the Armagh-Monaghan border.

The Environment Minister referred the application to the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) and the inquiry opened in March 2012. The inquiry was subsequently adjourned. NIE resubmitted a Consolidated Environmental Statement to Planning Service in April 2013.

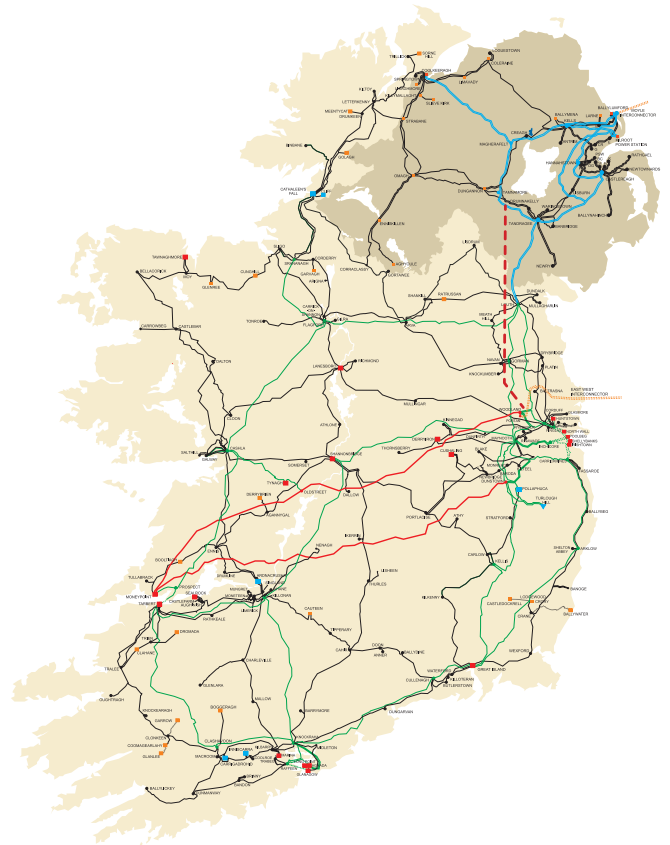
The statement outlines the assessment of the proposed development, which has been formally submitted to DOE as two separate planning applications:

- O/2009/0792/F - the original planning application for the Proposed Development including the substation, towers, overhead lines and associated development;
- O/2013/0214/F - a second application relating specifically to the works associated with the construction of the overhead lines and towers.

With effect from 1st May 2014, SONI has taken over responsibility as the "applicant" for the requested planning consent.

## SONI Submits Addendum to DOE

On 1st June 2015, SONI submitted a Consolidated Environmental Statement Addendum to the DOE. The Addendum completes the information required for commencement of the Public Inquiry.



The DOE has advertised receipt of the submission of the Addendum. This includes notification of where copies are available to the public.

In order to provide the public with information on the Tyrone-Cavan Interconnector project, SONI has opened an information office in the Armagh City Hotel, Friary Road, Armagh City, County Armagh. This office is open between 12.00 noon and 7.00pm on the following days:

- Every Tuesday and Thursday from 23rd June to Thursday 30th July.
- Every day from Monday 3rd to Friday 7th August.

Members of the public can drop in and view a copy of the planning documents and speak with a member of the SONI project team.

In parallel with the Northern Ireland planning application, a new full planning application for the Republic of Ireland section of the North-South Interconnector was submitted by EirGrid to An Bord Pleanála on Tuesday 9th June.

## Mitigation Measures

The proposed mitigation measures are extensive. The Consolidated Environmental Statement should be reviewed for a full understanding of the measures proposed in relation to the development. By way of example, these include a Construction Environmental Management Plan; Traffic Management Plan; appointment of a wayleave agent; appointment of an ecological clerk of works; temporary silt screens; controlling work practices; supervision of construction works; and appointment of a project archaeologist.

# Guide to the Tyrone-Cavan Interconnector Environmental Assessment Documents

## Consolidated Environmental Statement - submitted April 2013

<b>Volume 1</b>	Non Technical Summary	
<b>Volume 2</b>	Main text	
	- 01 Introduction	- 12 Cultural Heritage
	- 02 Need	- 13 Landscape and Visual
	- 03 Planning & Development Context	- 14 Community Amenity and Land use
	- 04 Alternatives	- 15 Socio-economics
	- 05 Proposed Development	- 16 Telecommunications and Aviation Assets
	- 06 Scoping and Consultation	- 17 Flood Risk assessment
	- 07 EMF	- 18 Transport
	- 08 Water Environment	- 19 Cumulative and Interactions of Impacts
	- 09 Soils, Geology and groundwater	- 20 Transboundary Impacts
	- 10 Ecology	- 21 Mitigation Summary and Conclusions
	- 11 Noise	- 22 Abbreviations and Terms
<b>Volume 3</b>	Appendices	
<b>Volume 4</b>	Figures	

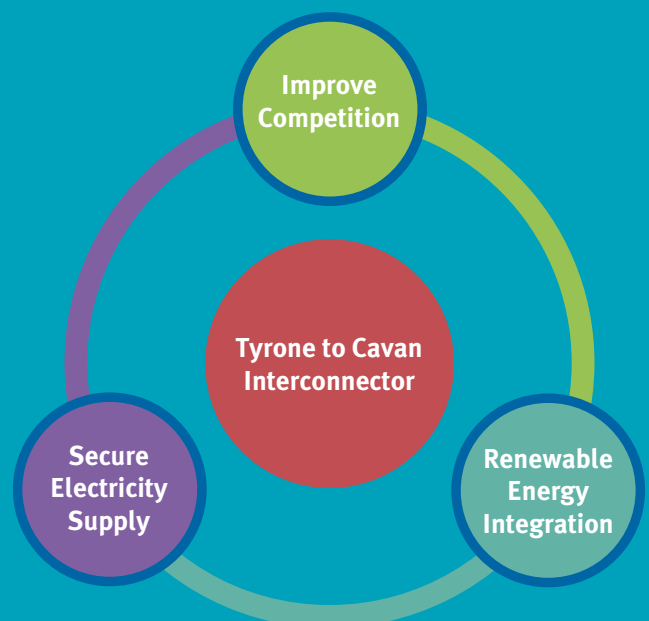
## Consolidated Environmental Statement Addendum - submitted June 2015

<b>Volume 1</b>	Non Technical Summary	
<b>Volume 2</b>	Main text	
	- 01 Introduction	- 07 Haulage Route Assessment
	- 02 Joint environmental report	- 08 Ecology
	- 03 Need	- 09 Air Quality and Climate
	- 04 Planning and Development Context	- 10 Technology Alternatives
	- 05 Cumulative Impact Assessment	- 11 Noise Assessment
	- 06 Transboundary Impact Assessment	- 12 Erratum
<b>Volume 3</b>	Appendices	
<b>Volume 4</b>	Figures	

## Project Drivers

The project will provide a second high-capacity interconnector between the two transmission systems on the island of Ireland, delivering benefits to householders, communities, businesses and the economy.

- Improve competition – the proposed interconnector will improve the efficiency of the all-island single electricity market.
- Secure supply of electricity – enhance the security of the electricity supply which is essential for economic growth, the creation of jobs and improving the standard of living and quality of life for all.
- Help Northern Ireland meet its renewable electricity targets – allow more renewable energy to be connected to the electricity network, reducing our production of greenhouse gases and our reliance on imported fossil fuels.



We invest in and improve your grid for reliability, to support economic growth, to enable competition, and to connect more renewable energy.



## About SONI

SONI is the electricity system operator for Northern Ireland. We are responsible for the consistent and reliable transmission of electricity on our high-voltage grid, matching supply and demand for power across Northern Ireland, every second of every day.

From our control centre in Belfast, we ensure that power is seamlessly transmitted from generation, through the high-voltage grid, and then onto Northern Ireland Electricity's distribution network - which connects to individual homes, farms and businesses.

We work in co-operation with NIE to develop the electricity grid infrastructure for Northern Ireland. We invest in and improve your grid for reliability, to support economic growth, to enable competition, and to connect more renewable energy.

Our work to match supply with demand uses the latest smart grid technology. We support the development of innovative technologies and systems to keep your grid reliable and efficient, 24 hours a day and 365 days a year.

SONI also operates the all-island wholesale electricity market with EirGrid through the Single Electricity Market Operator (SEMO) which has been in operation since November 2007.

## Contact Details

**SONI Ltd.** Castlereagh House,  
12 Manse Road, Belfast, BT6 9RT  
Tel: 028 90794336  
Email: [enquiries@soni.ltd.uk](mailto:enquiries@soni.ltd.uk)  
Web: [www.soni.ltd.uk](http://www.soni.ltd.uk)

