

<b>Item 9: Transboundary consultation from DFI regarding planning application LA11/2020/0255/TBA for removal of 25 existing wind turbines and replacement with up to 13 wind turbines with height up to 180 metres at Barnesmore, Co. Donegal</b>	<b>Officer Presenting: A McNee Principal Planning Officer</b>  <b>Author: A McNee</b>
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## **1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of receipt of a consultation from DFI Planning to Derry City and Strabane District Council (DCSDC) dated 18 June 2021 in relation to a planning application - LA11/2019/1000/F for proposed 33kv power line to serve Curraghinalt mine which is currently under consideration in planning application LA10/2017/1249/F. Both planning applications as referenced above are being processed and considered by Department for Infrastructure Strategic Planning Division.
- 1.2 Application LA11/2019/1000/F is accompanied by an Environmental Statement. The environmental statement relates to the project as a whole - 33kv connection c37.9 km in length, comprising of c26.9 km of overhead line supported by single and double wooden pole sets and c11km of underground cabling which spans Derry City and Strabane District Council Area (Application LA11/2019/1000/F) and the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Area (Application LA10/2019/1386/F).
- 1.3 DFI have consulted DCSDC to seek any comments they wish to make on the development proposal in relation to its Council area.

## **2 Background**

- 2.1 Planning application LA11/2019/1000/F has been submitted to DFI Strategic Planning for "33kv power line involving both construction of above ground 33kv overhead line supported by wooden poles and underground 33kv cable laid below ground level in ducts, to serve Curraghinalt mine (currently under consideration under planning application LA10/2017/1249/F). 33kv connection is c37.9 km in length, comprising of c26.9 km of overhead line supported by single and double wooden pole sets and c11 km of underground cabling. C22.8 km of the powerline is within the Derry City and Strabane District Council area comprising of 18.7 km of overhead line supported by single and double wooden pole sets and c4.1 km of underground cabling. The location of the application is adjoining 89 Woodend Road Ballymagorry through Townlands of Ballymagorry, Woodend, Milltown, Ballee, Holly-hill, Kennaghan, Owenreagh, Knockanbrack, Lagvittal, Knockinarvoer, Craignagapple, Lagavadder, Ballykeery, Craigtuke, Meendamp, Balix Upper, Letterbrat, Glencoppogagh, Aghalane and Lisnacraight ending at 681m NW of 24 Meenado Road, Culvacullion Gortin. The applicant is NIE Networks.
- 2.2 Derry City and Strabane District Council were consulted on the application by DFI on the 18 June 2021 with comments to be received within 30 days from the date of consultation. An extension of time to respond was requested and this was granted for a response to be received by 10 September 2021. DFI have also consulted with a number of statutory consultees in the normal processing of the application.

## **3 Key Issues**

- 3.1 On 18 June 2021, DCSDC received a consultation from DFI regarding planning application LA11/2019/1000/F. The application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement (ES). The ES contains a number of chapters including chapters on – Landscape and Visual, Cultural Heritage, Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology, Fisheries and Aquatic Ecology, Water Quality, Flood Risk, Population and Human Health, Air Quality, Climate and Greenhouse Gases, Noise and Vibration, Traffic, Waste Management, Major accidents and Disasters, and Interactions. There is also a map/drawing booklet which contains photomontages of the proposed development.
- 3.2 DFI are seeking any comments Council wish to make regarding the planning application which will be considered by DFI in their assessment/consideration and ultimate decision on the application. All details of the application and all associated plans, drawings and documents including the Environmental Impact Assessment and visual analysis of the proposed development and other details have been uploaded to the planning portal. This information can be viewed by Members via public access at [www.planningni.gov.uk](http://www.planningni.gov.uk) under application LA11/2019/1000/F. DFI request that DCSDC advise of any comments they wish to make in relation to the proposed development and respond to DFI by 10 September 2021.
- 3.3 A hard copy of the Environmental Statement has also been received by Council and is available to view in the Council offices.

#### **4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement, Rural Needs and other Implications**

- 4.1 DFI Strategic Planning are responsible for the processing of the planning application. There are no financial, equality, legal, HR, Improvement, Rural Needs and other implications.

#### **5 Recommendations**

- 5.1 That members note the contents of this paper and advise officers of the response they wish to be issued to DFI.

#### **Background Papers**

Appendix 15 – Copy of consultation letter from DFI

Appendix 16 - Copy of location map (from Environmental Statement)

