



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

FAO Planning Inspectorate
xlinks@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

14th April 2025

Re: Transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment Public Consultation Xlinks Morocco-UK Power Project

Dear Sir/Madam

This correspondence is in response to notification in accordance with the provisions of the 1991 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context ("the Espoo Convention") relating to the proposed development consent application for the proposed Xlinks Morocco-UK Power Project development that is now in the pre-examination stage of their development consent order process.

It is noted that the proposed development is comprised of (but not limited to) a subsea electrical cable to be installed from the boundary of the UK Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) to a proposed landfall site at Cornborough Range in Devon, UK. The cable comprises approximately 370km of High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) cables in two bundled pairs.

It is also noted that EIA screening identified transboundary issues for Ireland due to the impact on commercial fisheries, marine mammals and turtles, other marine users, and shipping and navigation and that a second transboundary screening concluded that the transboundary environmental impacts would not be significant impacts.

Louth County Council, having regard to the location, nature and scale of the proposed development considers that there are no likely significant transboundary impacts on County Louth and, therefore, has no specific comments to make.

Louth County Council trusts that the competent authority will fully assess the transboundary impacts associated with the proposed development and that, in parallel, with the Environmental Impact Assessment, and Habitat Regulations Assessment and an Appropriate Assessment in accordance with the requirements of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) is carried out.

Yours faithfully

Louth County Council

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Cuirfear fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras Gaeilge - Correspondence in Irish is welcome