



Co. Laois
Ireland

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Regulation of transmission connecting non-GB generation to the GB electricity transmission system.

I, XXXXXXXX as a resident of County Laois in the Republic of Ireland am making this submission in my capacity as a stakeholder in any project that has the capacity to directly affect my rights, my environment, my health , and my asset value. I am an ordinary member of the public, with no vested interest in the proposed development of energy trading between the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

In the event of these projects progressing beyond this stage, we as Irish citizens, who will have to bear the infrastructure imposed on our environment and all the attendant risks, demand that we, at the very least, be afforded the same protection and consultation rights as are available to UK citizens under UK law. We also demand that our rights under the Aarhus Convention be strictly observed: the right to participation at a point before any decisions were made.

Article 1 of the Aarhus Convention contains the following objective:

“In order to contribute to the protection of the right of every person of present and future generations to live in an environment adequate to his or her health and well-being, each Party shall guarantee the rights of access to information, public participation in decision-making, and access to justice in environmental matters in accordance with the provisions of this Convention”

Only considering ‘public consultation’ is not adequate to comply with the provisions of the Aarhus Convention and several European Directives, which require for early effective public participation. Public Participation, is a process in which the public and in particular, the public concerned should be fully engaged in decision-making processes at the early stages (screening, scoping). No public participation has taken place with the citizens of Ireland in the interconnection programme. The language and technical matters in the consultation actually exclude Irish and British citizens from engaging in this process.

We request that the British and Irish governments review their legal obligations to public participation before any more technical consultations take place.

Yours Sincerely,

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