Cathaoirleach and each Member of Westmeath County Council

16th March 2016

Re: Section 85 Agreement between Meath County Council and Westmeath County Council and EirGrid PLC

A Chathaoirligh is a Chomhairleoiri,

EirGrid, the national state owned company that manages and operates the electricity transmission grid across the island of Ireland, is currently constructing the Mullingar Grid Reinforcement Project. This consists of a new 110 kv link between Irishtown in Mullingar and Killaskillen, County Meath and is essential to improve the security of electricity supply to the Mullingar area.

In accordance with Government policy, EirGrid is establishing a Community Gain Fund for the benefit of communities in proximity to the new transmission lines and rural transmission stations. The fund amounts to €360,000, and EirGrid intends that half of this fund would be administered by Westmeath County Council and that the other half would be administered by the Community Foundation for Ireland, which is a not-for-profit organisation that distributes philanthropic funds to suitable community organisations.

In accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001, the administration of this fund on behalf of EirGrid and Meath County Council requires your approval and a Section 85 Agreement is attached in this regard.

Subject to your approval, the Council will establish an Evaluation Committee to assess all applications for funding and I propose that two Members of the Mullingar Municipal District would be nominated to sit on this Committee.

I submit for your approval.

Signed

Pat Gallagher

Príomh Fheidhmeannach