



**An Roinn Cumarsáide,
Fuinnimh agus Acmhainní Nádurtha,
Baile Átha Cliath 2.**

**Department of Communications,
Energy and Natural Resources,
Dublin 2.**

26/03/09

Mr. Michael Tutty
Chairman
The Commission for Energy
Commission for Energy Regulation
The Exchange
Belgard Square North
Tallaght
Dublin 24

Approval for the East-West Interconnector

Dear Chairman,

I refer to your letter to the Minister dated 20 February 2009 setting out the progress on the East West Interconnector and requesting final approval to proceed with the project.

I can confirm that the Government has been briefed in detail on progress on the project to date and has endorsed the Minister's decision to grant the requisite consent to proceed.

Accordingly, I am writing to formally convey the Minister's consent, with the full approval of the Government, to secure the construction of the East West Interconnector.

I would be grateful if you would advise EirGrid plc of this decision and instruct them to proceed with the delivery of the East-West interconnector.

Yours sincerely

Sara White
Deputy Secretary General
Department of Communications,
Energy & Natural Resources