Strategic Gas Emergency Reserve

Strengthening Ireland's Energy Security

Gas Networks Ireland

Public Information Event

12th November 2026

Event Information Boards

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Utilities required for the Strategic Gas Emergency Reserve (SGER)

The SGER will have its own water, fibre and electricity connections. Supplies of these utilities to the SGER **will not reduce supplies to homes, businesses and community services**.

Wastewater will be collected and treated on site and **will not affect the wastewater systems and treatment plants** in the area.

Electricity

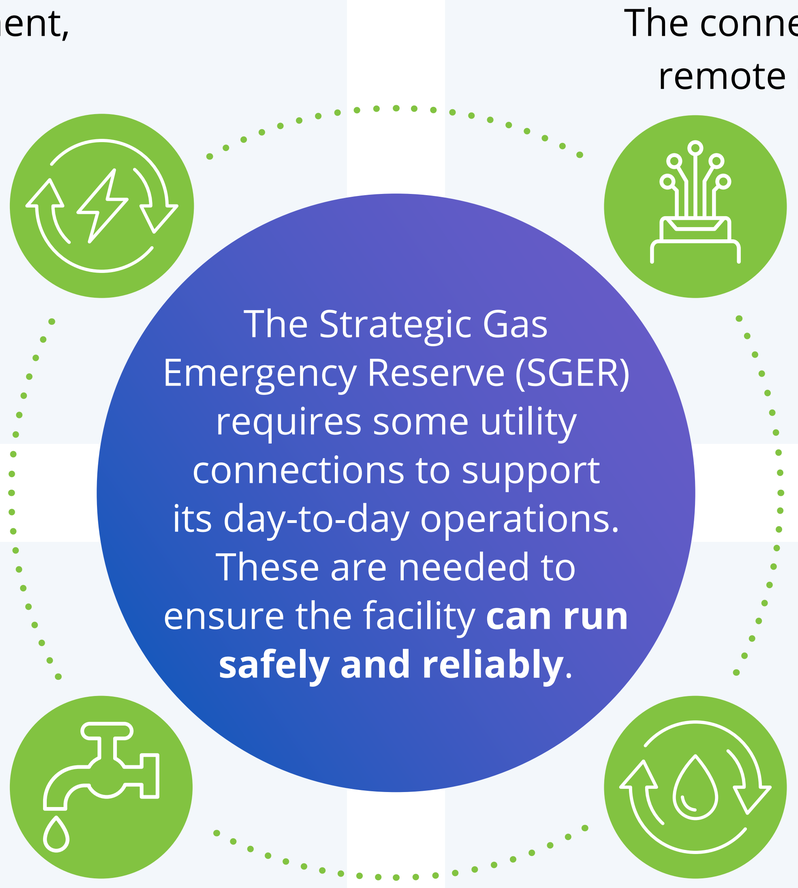
An Electricity Supply Board (ESB) network connection is required to power the SGER and associated infrastructure.

This includes pumps and equipment, monitoring and control systems, lighting, security systems and staff welfare facilities.

Fibre

A fibre connection is required for communications, monitoring and other digital systems essential for the operation of the SGER.

The connection enables safe data transfer, remote monitoring and communications between operators and teams.



Potable water

An Uisce Éireann connection is needed to provide water to the site.

The supply will be used for drinking water, handwashing and staff facilities, as well as limited operational uses such as cleaning and routine site maintenance.

Wastewater

Wastewater generated by the facility will be managed on site through a dedicated collection and treatment system.

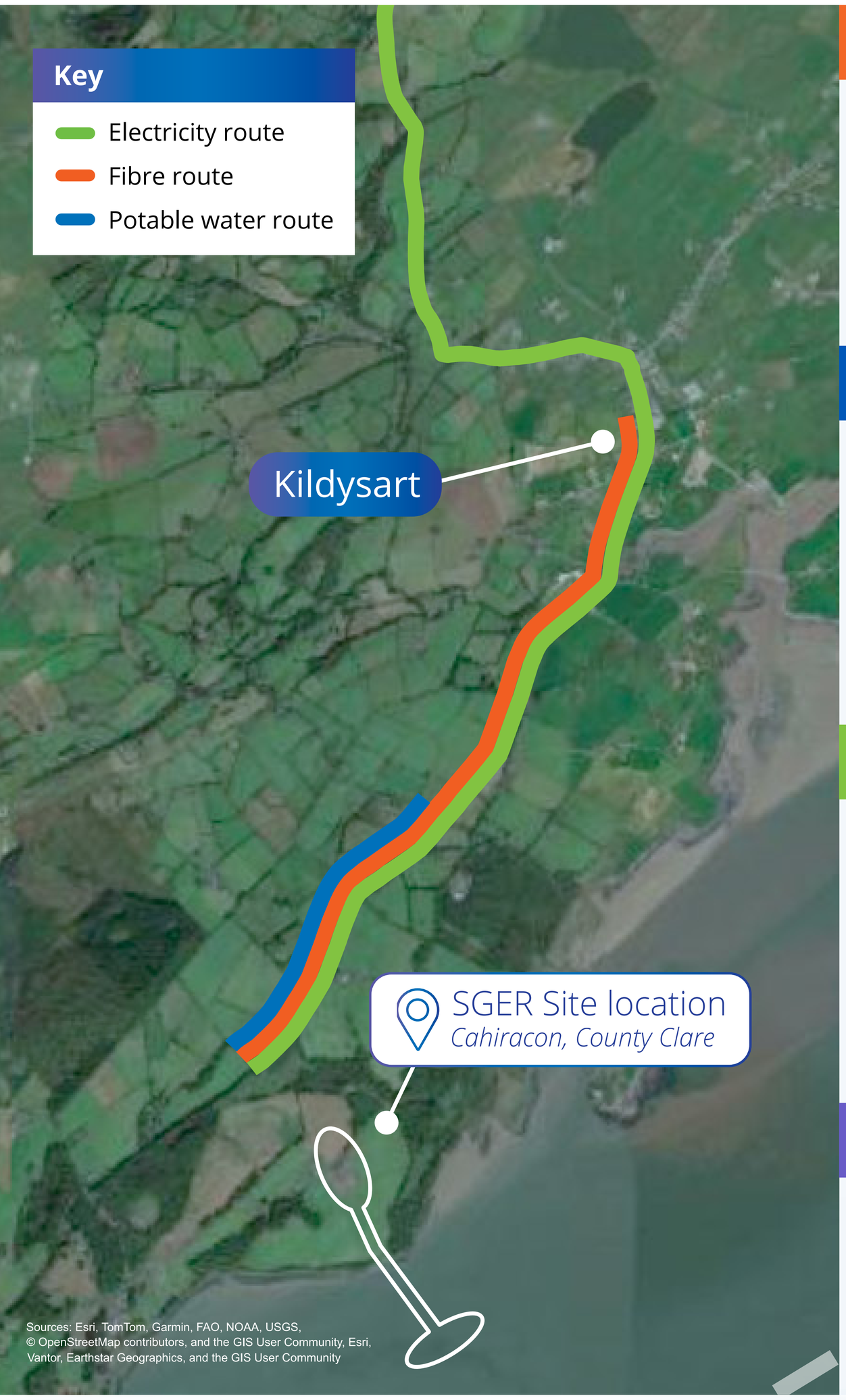
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Connecting the SGER utilities: Construction routes



Fibre route

Approximately **3 km of new fibre cable** will be installed from the local exchange in Kildysart.

The connection will **operate independently of existing fibre services in the area**.

Potable water route

Approximately **1.2 km of new water pipeline** will be installed outside Kildysart to provide water for the SGER.

This supply **will not affect existing water supplies** in the area.

Electricity route

Approximately **21 km of new ESB Network power cables** will be installed to connect the SGER to the Booltiagh Substation.

This will provide a **dedicated electricity supply to the facility**.

Wastewater management

Wastewater will be managed on site.

This **will not impact wastewater systems** in the area.

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ESB Networks connection route

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Booltiagh 110-kV substation, Booltiagh

Furroor

Lissycasey

Frure

Glaun

Breaffa West

Leamnaleaha

Tonlegee

Derrylea

Ballyleaan

Liscormack

Kildysart

N68

N68

SGER Site location
Cahiracon, County Clare

Key

Electricity route

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors,
and the GIS User Community, Esri, Vantor, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community

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Why an electrical grid connection is needed

The SGER requires electricity for

Powering the FSRU

The FSRU will connect to onshore power (i.e. the electrical grid) when in standby mode minimising emissions and noise impacts

Supporting jetty and terminal infrastructure

Terminal utilities, lighting, control systems and other operational equipment across the facility

Safe operation of the facility

Safety systems, fire water system, monitoring equipment, communications and emergency response systems



Electricity to the onshore terminal and FSRU will be supplied via a **new ESB grid connection**.

A shoreside connection will supply electricity to the FSRU when it is in standby mode (i.e. when zero gas is being sent to the network).

If the FSRU is required to operate during the event of a gas supply disruption, it will generate its own power continuously.

This arrangement **minimises emissions and noise impacts from the FSRU** when it is in standby mode.

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Construction work to install the utilities

Construction on the utility route

Construction work will be carried out **in stages over approximately 15 to 24 months**, helping to reduce the area affected by works at any one time. **This work is likely to take place from 2028 to 2030**.

The timing of the work and traffic management plans will be developed in consultation with local authorities to **maintain access and minimise disruption for residents, businesses and road users**. This will include scheduling work in the village outside the school term, where possible.

Safety will be a key consideration, with traffic management measures in place to protect road users and other people.



Co-ordinating the works

To minimise disruption, we will **co-ordinate the installation of the utilities required for the SGER**. We are also working with Clare County Council to identify any opportunities to co-ordinate the SGER utility work with future Council work.

Completing this work together for each route section means **roads only need to be excavated once**, reducing disruption and construction activity while delivering the required infrastructure in the most efficient way.

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Connecting the SGER to the electrical grid



A new medium-voltage (MV) grid connection is required to deliver power to the SGER.

Following a Connection Application submitted by the SGER team, and subsequent assessment, ESB Networks (ESBN) identified **Booltiagh Substation as the most suitable connection point** for the SGER and presented the preferred cable route to the SGER site in Cahiracon.

The proposed grid connection is routed within the existing public road network so far as possible.

This helps reduce impacts on private land, farming activities, wildlife habitats, the landscape and other land uses.

It also limits the amount of land needed permanently for the project and helps limit disturbance to existing habitats and field boundaries.

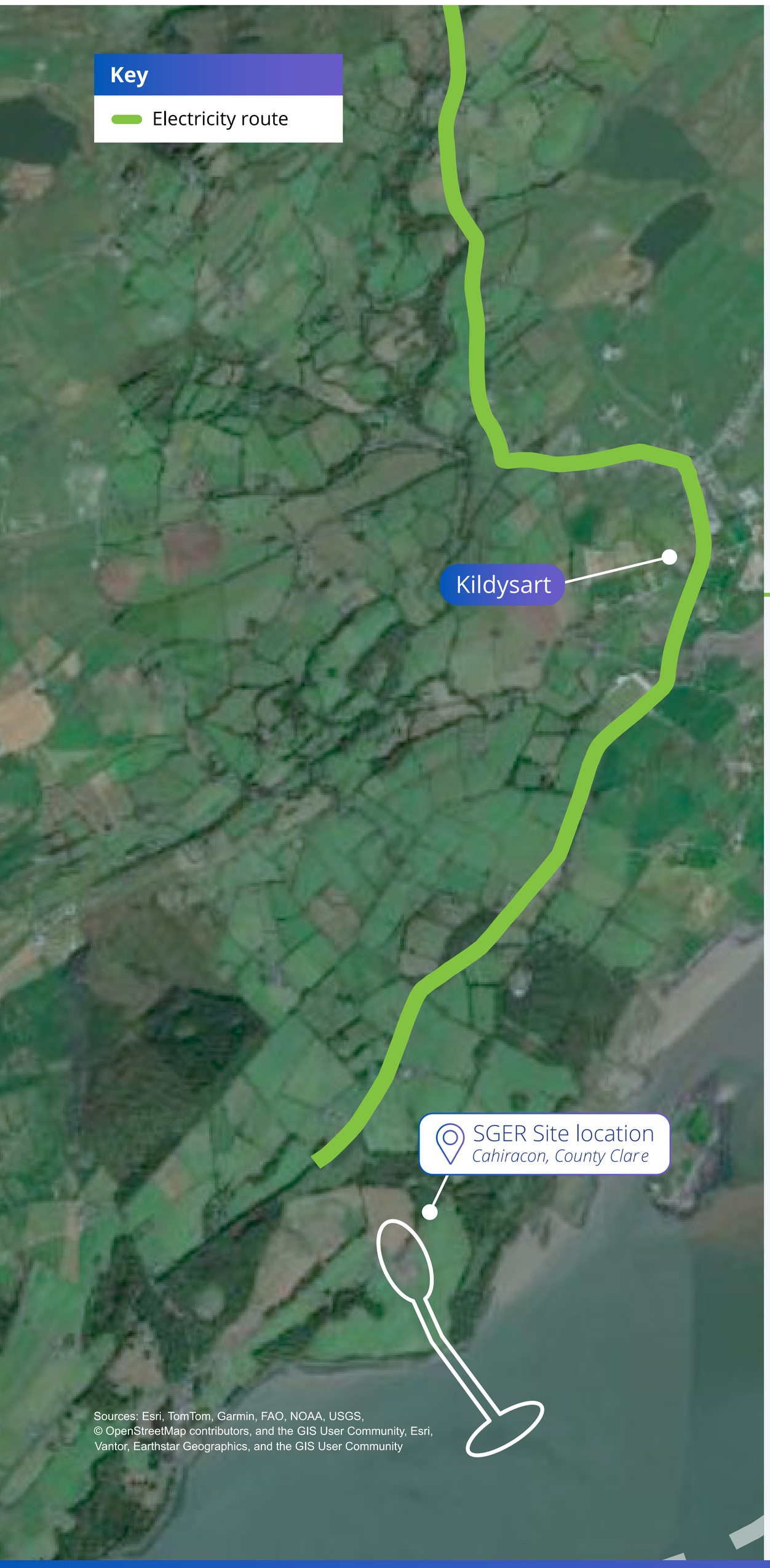
Gas Networks Ireland commissioned ecological surveys along all potential routes to ensure environmental considerations are fully assessed during the planning process.

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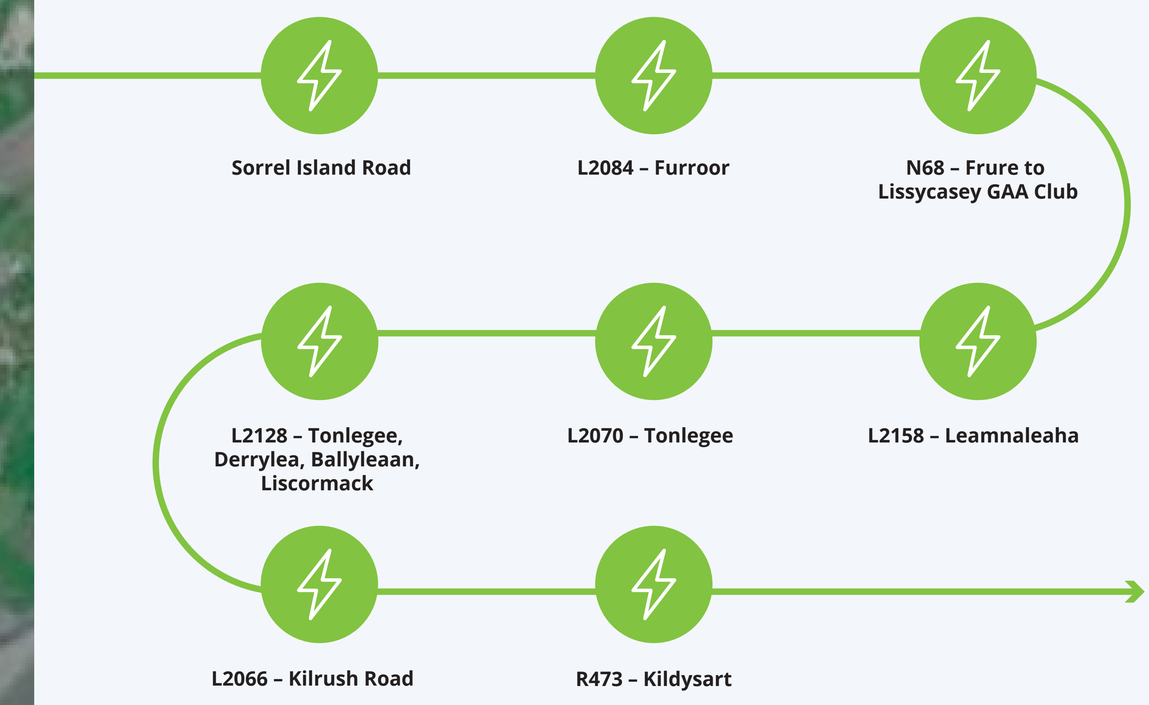
Construction on the ESB Networks connection route



What it means for you

The SGER will have a dedicated MV ESBN grid connection. This means that the facility's electricity will be supplied independently and **will not impact the power supplied to nearby homes, businesses and community services**.

The installation of utilities and connections will require a schedule of construction works along the routes identified. The proposed route will start at Booltiagh Substation and carry on along the following local and national roads towards the SGER site at Cahiracon:



To minimise disruption for residents and road users, the **installation of the power connection will be carried out in parallel with other utilities works**, including the laying of fibre cables and water pipe installation. Where feasible, construction within the villages of Kildysart and Lissycasey will be timed to take place outside the school term to minimise impact to communities.

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Road reinstatement

Affected roads will be reinstated to the requirements of Clare County Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland, as applicable. This could result in an overall improvement to the condition of the road surface and associated infrastructure.

We are working with the Council to **co-ordinate road reinstatement work with planned road maintenance and resurfacing programmes** along the utility routes. All reinstatement work will adhere to guidelines established by the Department of Transport.



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What happens next?



Electrical grid connection route consultation

We are **working with ESB Networks, Uisce Éireann and local authorities** regarding the proposed construction and operation of the new electrical and utility infrastructure associated with the project.

We are **actively seeking ways to minimise impacts** on the community and local infrastructure, and we want to hear from you.

Get in touch with us today

If you have any queries relating to the project, feedback on any local points of interest along the route, any key times of year or important events that we should be aware of, please complete the consultation form provided or reach out via our dedicated contact lines below by **Friday, 20 November 2026**. We will review all feedback and share it with ESB Networks and relevant authorities.

email **SGER@gasnetworks.ie**

or call **1800 430 500**

To learn more and stay up to date with the latest information, visit: **www.gasnetworks.ie**

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Assessing environmental impacts

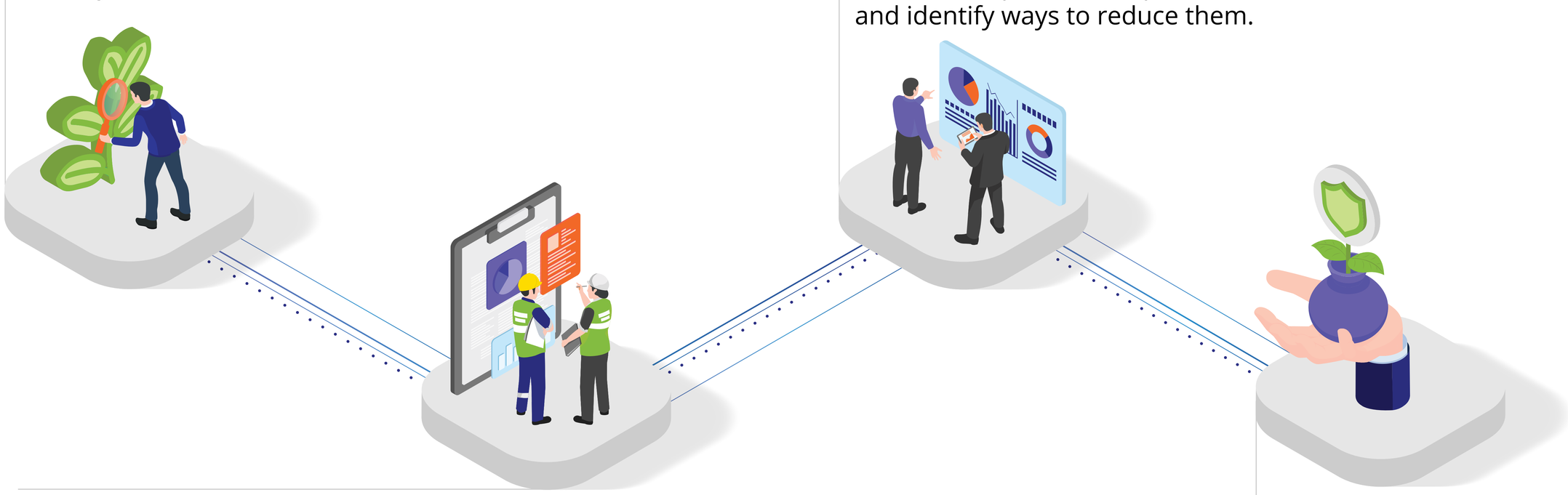
Understanding an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

What is an EIA?

Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) help understand how a project could affect people, communities and the environment before planning decisions are made.

Why is it important?

An EIA helps identify opportunities to avoid, reduce or manage potential impacts and achieve better outcomes for communities and the environment.



1

Understand
Identify what needs to be studied.

2

Study
Collect information about the environment, local area and communities.

- Land & soil
- Air quality
- Climate
- Biodiversity
- People & health
- Noise & vibration
- Landscape & views
- Water and marine environments

3

Assess
Understand potential impacts and identify ways to reduce them.

4

Share & Refine
Share findings, seek feedback and help shape the project.

EIA and the Strategic Gas Emergency Reserve (SGER)

The EIA will help shape the proposed SGER by identifying potential impacts and considering ways these could be avoided, reduced or managed. The findings will be shared publicly, and communities and stakeholders will have an opportunity to share their views.

EIAs and planning law

An EIA is required for major projects under Irish and European legislation.

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EIA process for the SGER

Where we are in the EIA process

To inform the design of the project and EIA, a range of surveys and investigations have been underway for several months and are **nearing completion**.

Project inception

Preparation of EIAR

Completion of EIA

EIA

- Screening
- Scoping
- Consideration of alternatives
- Project description
- Environmental studies — **We are here**
- Assessment of impacts
- Mitigation and monitoring proposals

EIAR

- Consenting process
- Enforcement and monitoring

Is an EIAR required?

What should an EIAR cover?

Environmental factors surveyed

- Noise
- Traffic
- Biodiversity
- Land
- Soil
- Water
- Air
- Climate
- Material Assets
- Cultural Heritage
- Visual and Landscape

Consultation

Determining significant issues and acceptability of impacts

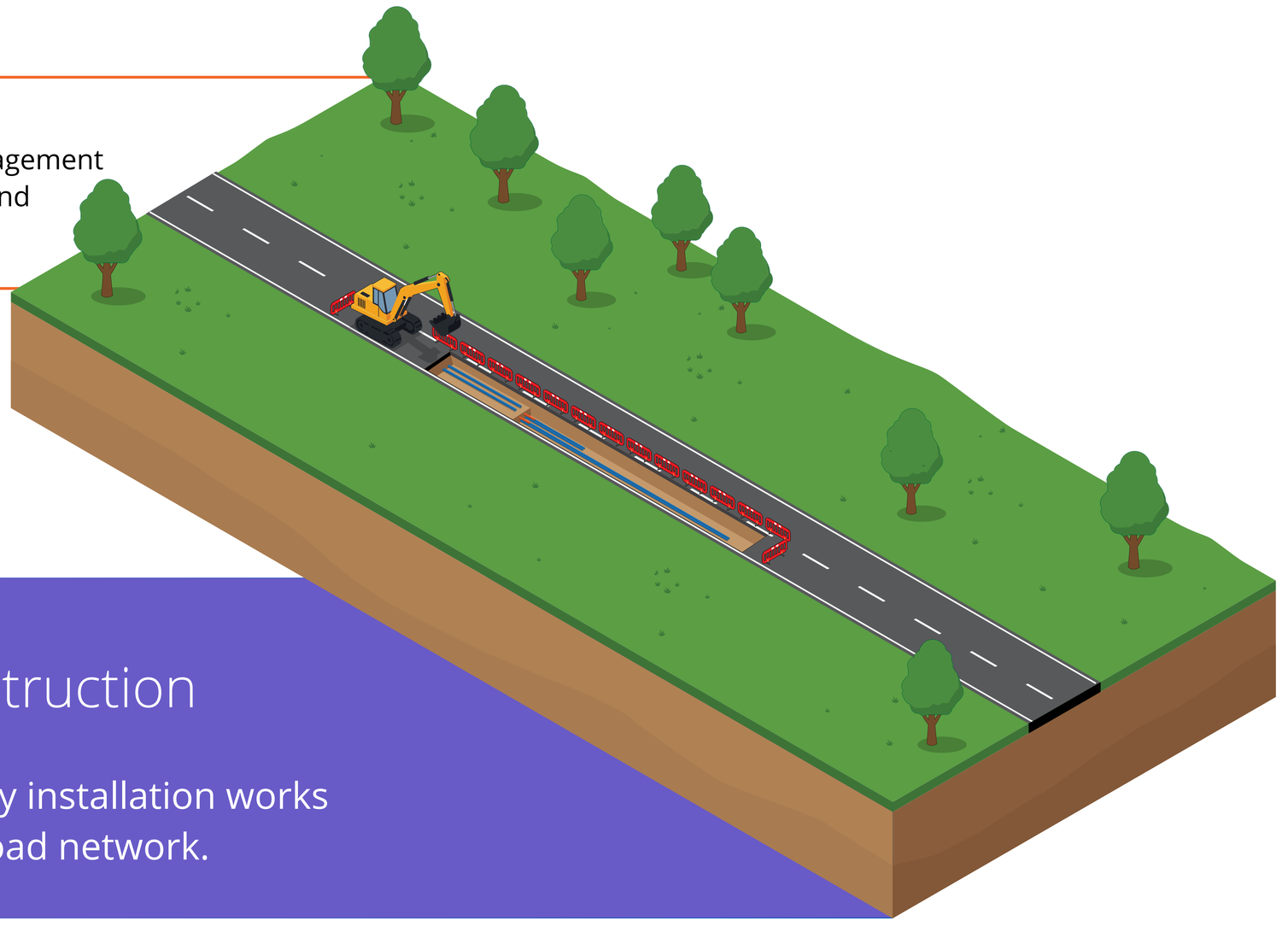
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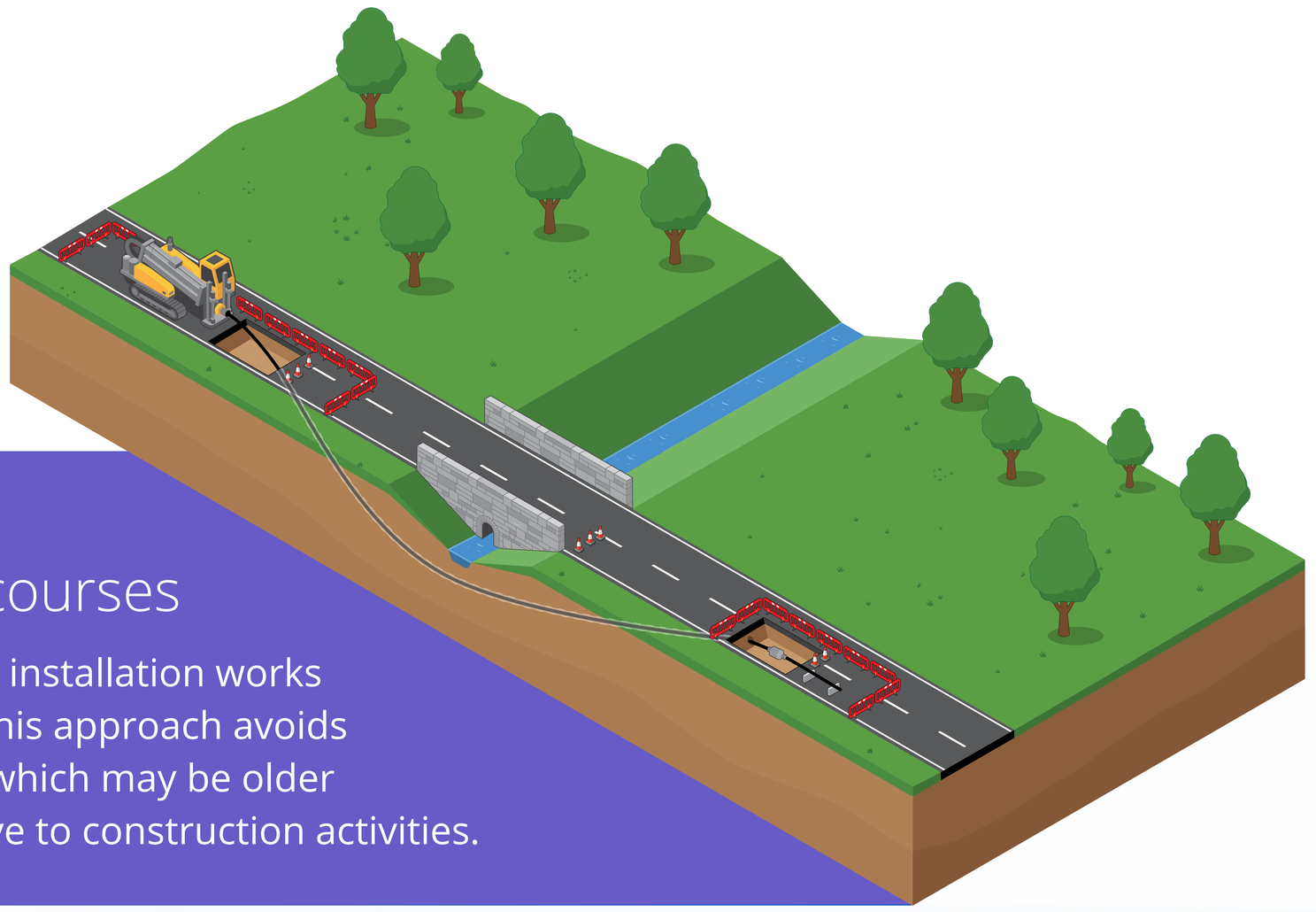
Installing the utility connections: Construction approach

Note: For illustration purposes only. Detailed construction and traffic management plans are currently being developed and may differ from what is shown.



In road construction

Illustrative example of utility installation works within the existing public road network.



Construction under watercourses

Illustrative example of utility installation works at a watercourse crossing. This approach avoids disturbing existing bridges, which may be older structures and more sensitive to construction activities.

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SGER consent application

Application requirements

The application submitted for the SGER must include several assessments and specified requirements, including:

- Natura Impact Statement (NIS)
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)
- Flood Risk assessment
- Water Framework Directive compliance assessment
- Seveso III Directive submission to the Health and Safety Authority
- A five-week public consultation period
- Applicant details
- Project description
- Maps, plans and drawings of the proposed development.

1

Pre-application consultation

Pre-application **consultation and stakeholder engagement**, including consultation with An Coimisiún Pleanála, statutory bodies and agencies, local authorities, community representatives, environmental organisations and other stakeholders, together with ongoing community engagement and project development.



2

Application submission

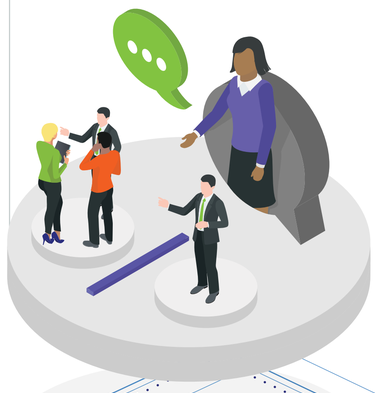
Gas Networks Ireland **submits SGER consent application** to the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment, alongside the required assessments and technical information.



3

Consultation period

A five-week consultation period during which **members of the public and designated bodies may submit observations** to the Commission, if they relate to environmental impacts, or the Minister, if they relate to anything else.



4

Commission review

An Coimisiún Pleanála is required to complete its **assessment within 18 weeks** of receiving the application, unless the Commission requests further information, a revised EIAR, a revised Natura Impact Statement (NIS), or other additional material, in which case the assessment period may be extended.



5

Environmental assessment

The Minister decides **whether to approve the application**, taking into account the Commission's Environmental Impact Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and recommendations, and may attach conditions to any approval granted.



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Submitting your observations

How to submit your observations

During the five-week consultation period, you will have the opportunity to submit your observations as follows:

1 Watch for the public notice

- Gas Networks Ireland will make a public announcement via local and national media, two weeks prior to consent submission.
- A formal statutory public notice will be issued and a site notice will be erected within three days of submission.

2 Review the project information

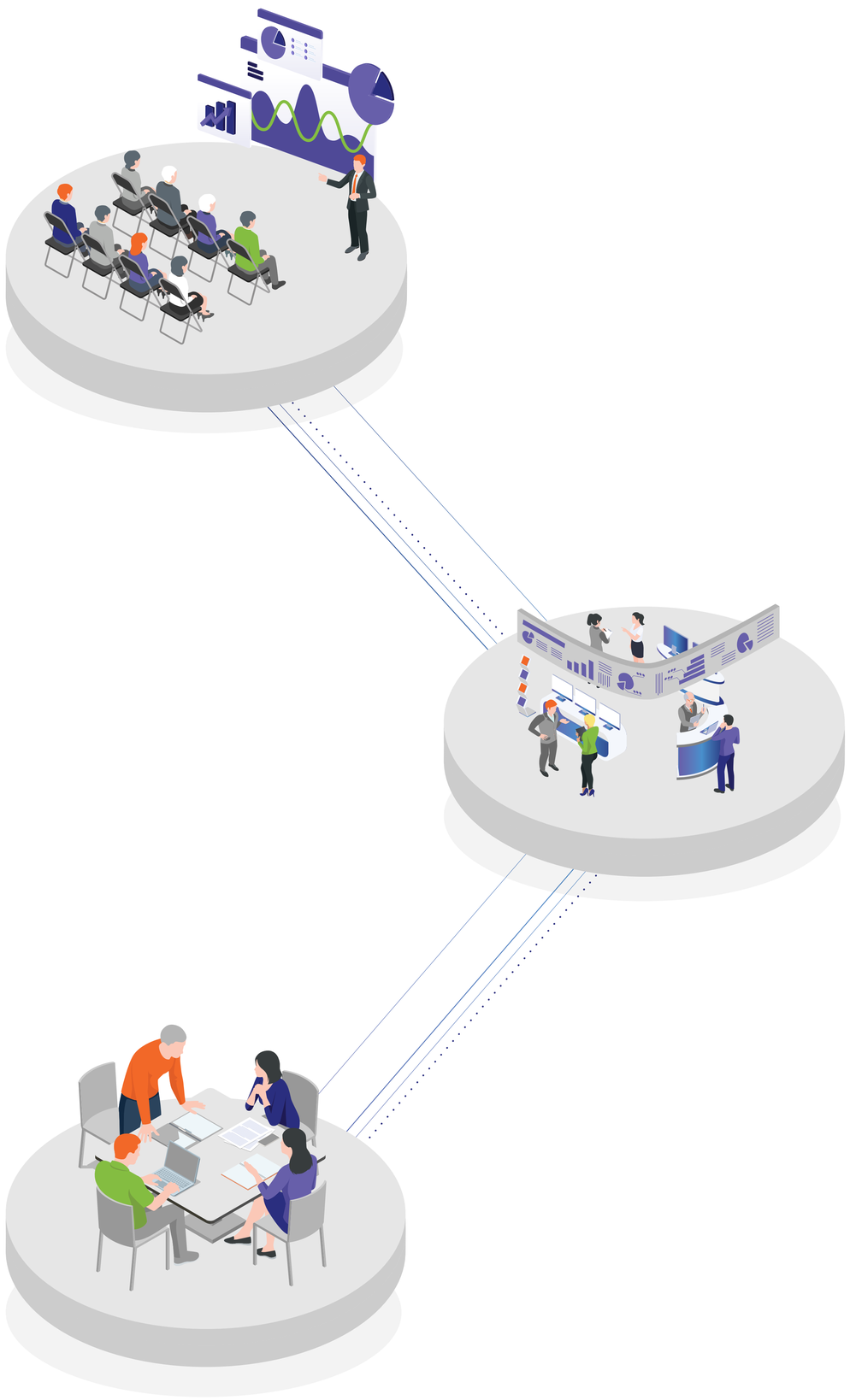
- The five-week consultation period opens the day the statutory notice is published.
- All project documents will be available on the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment (DCEE) website.

3 Attend our public consultation events

- We will hold events at Kildysart and Ennis to provide you with an opportunity to view key project information and ask the project team questions.

4 Submit your observations

- You can submit your observations and feedback using the online form or email address provided on the DCEE website.
- All observations must be submitted within the five-week window to be considered.



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SGER consent process

The Development (Strategic Gas Reserve) Act 2026 was enacted into Irish law in July 2026. The Act establishes a bespoke **consenting process for the Strategic Gas Emergency Reserve** (SGER) project. It is intended to **expedite the delivery** of this critical national infrastructure by streamlining statutory planning and consenting pathways, while maintaining full Environmental Impact Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and public consultation procedures.

What does this mean?

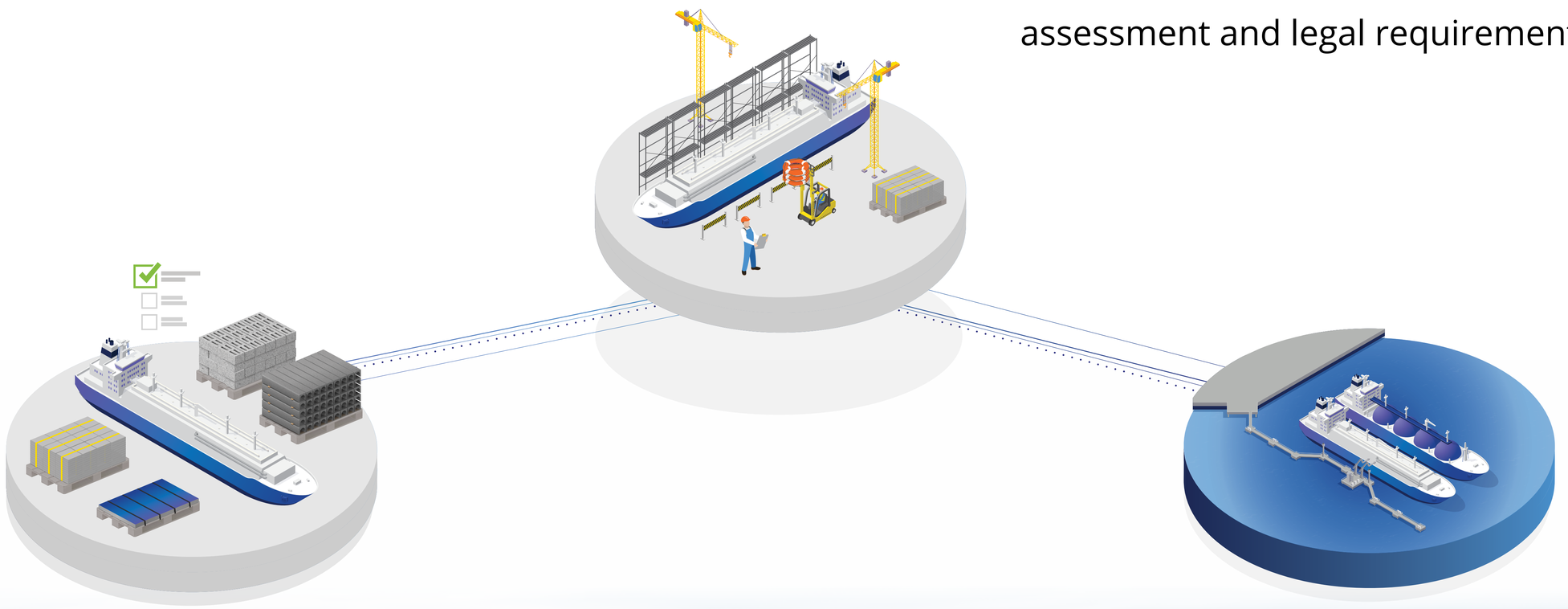
The Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment will **determine the outcome** of the SGER application.

An Coimisiún Pleanála (the Commission) is responsible for **carrying out the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA)** of the proposed designated development and for reporting the results of those assessments to the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment, who will decide whether to grant approval for the development.

A public consultation period will give individuals, communities and designated authorities the chance to formally submit their observations to both the Minister and the Commission.

Detailed environmental studies, including EIA and AA, are underway as part of the application for approval of the designated development under the Development (Strategic Gas Reserve) Act 2026.

Approval can only be granted by the Minister following confirmation that the proposed development complies with all relevant environmental assessment and legal requirements.



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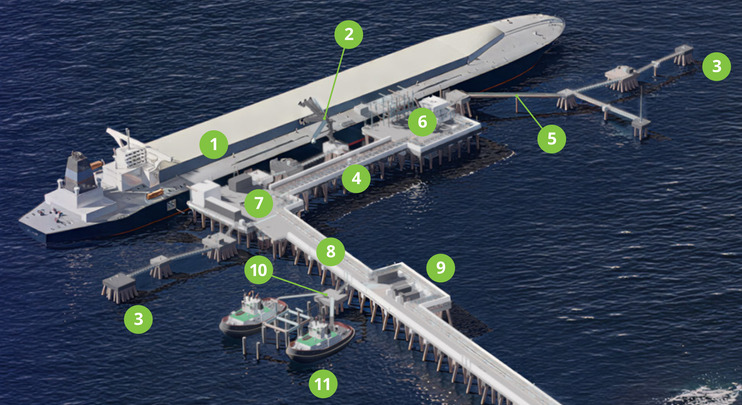
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Key

1	Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU)
2	Gangway tower
3	Mooring dolphin
4	Jetty access trestle
5	Walkway
6	Process platform
7	Utilities platform
8	Jetty access trestle and access track
9	Fire water pump platform
10	Tug boat berthing structure
11	Tug boat
12	Secure access to trestle
13	Trestle access track
14	Underground pipeline connecting FSRU to the onshore terminal
15	Attenuation pond
16	Onshore terminal vent stack
17	Fire water tank
18	Electrical substation
19	Potable water storage tank
20	Terminal gas process area
21	Inner access tracks
22	Sewage Treatment Package
23	Above Ground Installation (AGI)
24	Telecomms room
25	Security gatehouse
26	Security fencing
27	ESB substation
28	Car parking
29	Onshore terminal entrance
30	AGI entrance
31	Underground gas pipeline connecting onshore terminal to National Gas Network
32	Main onshore terminal access track





This image of the proposed Strategic Gas Emergency Reserve project is provided for illustrative purposes only. The design is subject to change and no consent for the project has been granted.

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