

MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT - M/20/005

Proposed joint venture between the Electricity Supply Board and Coillte Cuideachta Ghníomhaíochta Ainmnithe

10 December 2020

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (“CCPC”) has decided to carry out a full (Phase 2) investigation into the proposed joint venture between the Electricity Supply Board (“ESB”) and Coillte Cuideachta Ghníomhaíochta Ainmnithe (“Coillte”) (the “Proposed Transaction”).

Following a preliminary investigation, the CCPC has determined that a full investigation is required to establish whether or not the Proposed Transaction will lead to a substantial lessening of competition in any market for goods or services in the State. The CCPC will publish its Phase 1 determination no later than 60 working days after the date of the determination and after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information be removed from the published version.

Interested parties are invited to make submissions no later than 4.30pm on 31 December 2020, by email to mergers@ccpc.ie.

Additional Information

The Electricity Supply Board is a vertically-integrated energy corporation established by statute with operations at all levels of the energy sector (including power generation, electricity transmission, electricity distribution, and retail supply) in the State.

Coillte Cuideachta Ghníomhaíochta Ainmnithe is a commercial semi-State company, which is majority owned by the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform along with a small shareholding by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine. Coillte's core business is commercial forestry and associated forestry management and forest activities. It is also engaged in the manufacturing and sale of wood panel products through its Medite and Smartply brands. Coillte is also involved in the purchase, sale, and leasing of land, and the development and construction of renewable energy generation facilities.