

## Screening Determination

In accordance with Section 23(6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, RPS, on behalf of the Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly, as the competent Authority for the Eastern and Midlands Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (EM RSES), undertook Screening for Appropriate Assessment in accordance with the requirements of Part XAB of the Act.

It has been determined that the EM RSES is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European Site. Furthermore, having regard to the following:

- The screening information prepared by RPS ecologists;
- The strategic nature of the plan which has been set at a regional level;
- The current stage of preparation which as yet does not include sufficient detail to allow for clear and precise conclusions to be drawn;
- The Potential for impact pathways to the European sites within and outside the region; and
- Uncertainties relating to the implementation and zone of influence of the strategy going forward,

It cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective scientific information and in view of best scientific knowledge, that the EM RSES, individually or in combination with another plan and project, will have a likely significant effect on a European site. As such, it has been determined that AA will move to Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment and a Natura Impact Report will be prepared.



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Jim Conway

Director

11<sup>th</sup> June 2018