



**An Bille Foraoiseachta (Bonneagar Ríthábhachtach)
(Leasú), 2026**
Forestry (Critical Infrastructure Amendment) Bill 2026

Meabhrán Mínitheach
Explanatory Memorandum



**AN BILLE FORAOISEACHTA (BONNEAGAR
RÍTHÁBHACHTACH) (LEASÚ), 2026
FORESTRY (CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AMENDMENT)
BILL 2026**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Purpose of the bill

The purpose of this Bill is to amend the Forestry Act 2014 to provide for the management of critical infrastructure corridors within forestry lands.

The Bill provides for the insertion of a new subsection into section 10 of the Forestry Act 2014 to establish minimum corridor widths for specified categories of critical infrastructure as currently outlined under the Forestry Standards Manual. This critical infrastructure is defined as water mains, gas lines and electricity lines of varying voltage capacities. This bill also includes an increase for the minimum centre width corridor for power lines with a capacity of 10kV and 38kV from 20 meters to 55 meters.

The bill will provide statutory minimum clearance requirements to ensure the safe operation, maintenance and protection of critical infrastructure where such infrastructure traverses or adjoins forestry lands.

Provisions of the bill

Section 1 contains definitions.

Section 2 contains the new section to be inserted in the Forestry Act 2014 to provide statutory.

Section 3 contains the short title and commencement provisions.

*Martin Kenny, TD, Claire Kerrane, TD,
Meitheamh, 2026.*

