

RECEIVED: 22/09/2023

Appendix 2-1

Carrig Renewables Wind Farm

EIAR Scoping Exercise Responses

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!



Jonny Fearon

From: Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>
Sent: 22 September 2022 15:43
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Eoin McCarthy; Johnny Evans; windfarms@rte.ie
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Hi Jonny,

We don't have any fixed links cross the proposed site.

There is a risk of interference to broadcast services in the are so we would like a protocol signed between 2rn and the developer should the site go ahead.

Regards

Matthew Craig

Project Engineer

Projects and Coverage Planning

2RN

Block B, Cookstown Court, Old Belgard Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24, Ireland D24 WK28

Phone: + 353 (0) 1 2082261 Mobile: + 353 (0) 87 7509955

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From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Thursday 22 September 2022 14:19
To: Johnny Evans <Johnny.Evans@2rn.ie>; Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Dear Mr. Johnny Evans,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 4 - 7 No. wind turbines, a 110kV substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound, and a permanent anemometry mast located in Co. Tipperary, and grid connection to Birr 110kV substation, located in Co. Offaly, via an underground grid connection route.

An application will be made to An Bord Pleanála (Board) seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed wind energy development. If the Board determine that the development is indeed SID, the planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. Should the project be of a scale lower than the SID thresholds, applications for planning permission will be made to Tipperary County Council.

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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Jonny Fearon

From: Roger Woods <rwoods@cnam.ie>
Sent: 09 May 2023 10:46
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

You don't often get email from rwoods@cnam.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi Jonny

Coimisiún na Meán does not perform an in-depth analysis of the effect of wind turbines on FM networks. However, we are not aware of any issues from existing windfarms into existing FM networks. Also, the proposed windfarms are not located close to any existing or planned FM transmission sites.

Regards

Roger

Senior Executive Engineer

My email address has now changed to rwoods@cnam.ie, please update your address book accordingly.

Tá mo sheoladh ríomhphoist athraithe anois go rwoods@cnam.ie, dá réir sin déan do leabhar seoltaí a uasdátú, le do thoil.

Coimisiún na Meán | 2-5 Plás Warrington, Baile Átha Cliath D02 XP29, Éire
Coimisiún na Meán | 2-5 Warrington Place, Dublin D02 XP29, Ireland
T: + 353 (0)1 644 1200 | rwoods@cnam.ie



Tá an ríomhphost seo agus aon iatán a ghabhann leis rúnda agus is leis an duine sin amháin a bhfuil siad seolta chuige/chuici a bhaineann siad. Muna duitse an ríomhphost seo, ní ceart é a léamh ná a scaoileadh chuig aon tríú páirtí. Iarrtar ort teachtaireacht a sheoladh chuig an seoltóir nó chuig info@cnam.ie, agus an ríomhphost seo a scrios.

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Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 2:37 PM

To: Roger Woods <rwoods@cnam.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Hi Roger,

I am following up on the on the below email which related to the EIA Scoping Document for a proposed wind energy development near Carrig, Co. Tipperary. Have you had a chance to examine the Scoping Document for the proposed Carrig Renewable Wind Farm (formerly called Sharragh Wind Farm) as per the email I sent out on 22nd September 2022? I have attached maps showing the turbine layout of the Proposed Development. We would appreciate any feedback you may have.

Kind Regards,
Jonny.

Jonny Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



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From: Roger Woods <rwoods@bai.ie>
Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2022 3:05 PM
To: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Hi Jonny

The BAI does not perform an in-depth analysis of the effect of wind turbines on FM networks. However, we are not aware of any issues from existing windfarms into existing FM networks. Also, the proposed windfarms are not located close to any existing or planned FM transmission sites.

Regards

Roger

Senior Executive Engineer
Broadcasting Authority of Ireland
2-5 Warrington Place
Dublin D02 XP29

Tel: 01 6441200
Fax: 01 6441299



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Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Thursday 22 September 2022 14:36

To: Roger Woods <rwoods@bai.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Dear Mr. Roger Woods,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 4 - 7 No. wind turbines, a 110kV substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound, and a permanent anemometry mast located in Co. Tipperary, and grid connection to Birr 110kV substation, located in Co. Offaly, via an underground grid connection route.

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As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

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RECEIVED: 22/09/2023

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!

Jonny Fearon

From: Tina Aughney <tinaa@batconservationireland.org>
Sent: 08 May 2023 14:49
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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To whom it may concern:

Bat Conservation Ireland is a small wildlife charity and do not have the administrative capacity to review documents relating to planning applications. Please ensure that all bat surveying is undertaken according to best practice guidelines pertaining to onshore wind farms and general bat survey guidelines.

Regards,
Bat Conservation Ireland

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 2:38 PM
To: Tina Aughney <tinaa@batconservationireland.org>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Hi Tina,

I am following up on the on the below email which related to the EIA Scoping Document for a proposed wind energy development near Carrig, Co. Tipperary. Have you had a chance to examine the Scoping Document for the proposed Carrig Renewable Wind Farm (formerly called Sharragh Wind Farm) as per the email I sent out on 22nd September 2022? I have attached maps showing the turbine layout of the Proposed Development. We would appreciate any feedback you may have.

Kind Regards,
Jonny.

Jonny Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
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From: Jonny Fearon

Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2022 2:26 PM

To: tinaa@batconservationireland.org

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Dear Dr. Tina Aughney,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

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As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

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Tuam Road, Galway
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+353 (0) 91 735611
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RECEIVED: 22/09/2023

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!

Jonny Fearon

From: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>
Sent: 09 May 2023 14:20
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary
Attachments: G Pre00245-2022 MKO 211016 Sharragh.pdf

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Good Afternoon

Apologies for the delay in response, I'm not 100% why the observations/comments were not issued until now. Please find attached Heritage Related recommendations for the above mentioned planning application.

Regards
Diarmuid

Diarmuid Buttimer
Executive Officer

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt
Development Applications Unit
Oifigi an Rialtais
Government Offices
Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman, Y35 AP90
Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford, Y35 AP90

Diarmuid.Buttimer@npws.gov.ie
Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 9 May 2023 09:26
To: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Hi Diarmuid,

I am following up on the on the below email which related to the EIA Scoping Document for a proposed wind energy development near Carrig, Co. Tipperary. Have you had a chance to examine the Scoping Document for the proposed Carrig Renewable Wind Farm (formerly called Sharragh Wind Farm) as per the email I sent out on 22nd September 2022? I have attached maps showing the turbine layout of the Proposed Development. We would appreciate any further feedback you may have.

Kind Regards,
Jonny.

Jonny Fearon
Environmental Scientist

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Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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From: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie>

Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2022 3:26 PM

To: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Our Ref: G Pre00245/2022 (Please quote in all related correspondence)

A Chara

I acknowledge receipt of your recent consultation.

In the event of observations, you will receive a co-ordinated heritage-related response by email from Development Applications Unit (DAU).

The normal target turnaround for pre-planning and other general consultations is six weeks from date of receipt. In relation to general consultations from public bodies under the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 to 2011, the Department endeavours to meet deadline dates, where requested.

If you have not heard from DAU and wish to receive an update, please email manager.dau@housing.gov.ie.

Regards
Diarmuid

Diarmuid Buttimer
Executive Officer

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt

Development Applications Unit

Oifigi an Rialtais

Government Offices

Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman, Y35 AP90

Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford, Y35 AP90

Diarmuid.Buttimer@housing.gov.ie

Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Thursday 22 September 2022 14:43

To: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Dear Sir/Madam,

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Yours sincerely,



Jonny Fearon

From: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>
Sent: 09 May 2023 14:20
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary
Attachments: G Pre00245-2022 MKO 211016 Sharragh.pdf

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Good Afternoon

Apologies for the delay in response, I'm not 100% why the observations/comments were not issued until now. Please find attached Heritage Related recommendations for the above mentioned planning application.

Regards
Diarmuid

Diarmuid Buttimer
Executive Officer

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
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Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie

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Sent: Tuesday 9 May 2023 09:26
To: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
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Kind Regards,
Jonny.

Jonny Fearon
Environmental Scientist

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From: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie>

Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2022 3:26 PM

To: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Our Ref: G Pre00245/2022 (Please quote in all related correspondence)

A Chara

I acknowledge receipt of your recent consultation.

In the event of observations, you will receive a co-ordinated heritage-related response by email from Development Applications Unit (DAU).

The normal target turnaround for pre-planning and other general consultations is six weeks from date of receipt. In relation to general consultations from public bodies under the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 to 2011, the Department endeavours to meet deadline dates, where requested.

If you have not heard from DAU and wish to receive an update, please email manager.dau@housing.gov.ie.

Regards
Diarmuid

Diarmuid Buttimer
Executive Officer

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt

Development Applications Unit

Oifigi an Rialtais

Government Offices

Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman, Y35 AP90

Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford, Y35 AP90

Diarmuid.Buttimer@housing.gov.ie

Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Thursday 22 September 2022 14:43

To: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 4 - 7 No. wind turbines, a 110kV substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound, and a permanent anemometry mast located in Co. Tipperary, and grid connection to Birr 110kV substation, located in Co. Offaly, via an underground grid connection route.

An application will be made to An Bord Pleanála (Board) seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed wind energy development. If the Board determine that the development is indeed SID, the planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. Should the project be of a scale lower than the SID thresholds, applications for planning permission will be made to Tipperary County Council.

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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RECEIVED: 22/09/2023

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!



Your Ref: 211016 Sharragh

Our Ref: G Pre00245/2022 (Please quote in all related correspondence)

9 May 2023

MKO
Tuam Road
Galway
H91 VW84

Via email: jfearon@mkoireland.ie

**Proposed Pre Planning Development: MKO for Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd :
investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at
Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary: Sharragh, County
Tipperary**

A chara

I refer to correspondence received in connection with the above. Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations co-ordinated by the Development Applications Unit under the stated headings.

Nature Conservation

The proposed development site is located between and close to a number of European and national conservation priority sites. If the same buffer was applied around these conservation sites as is being applied other sensitive receptors e.g. dwellings the site would be considerably smaller and possibly unviable.

The site is uncultivated land on deep peat or cutover peat and in the past was part of a large continuous raised bog complex including what are now the adjoining designated conservation sites of Ballyduff/Clonfinane Bog (SAC 0641), Killeen Bog (NHA 0648), Arragh More (Derrybreen) Bog (SAC 2207, NHA 0640) and Kilcarren-Firville Bog (SAC 0647). This is in addition to adjoining undesignated bogs which while having suffered damaging operations remain of ecological value. The proposed development site is part of an ecological corridor connecting a range of ecologically valuable sites which currently are separated by only small margins. The development of the site would reduce connectivity and damage future potential to restore habitats and improve ecological connectivity. The European Union's Biodiversity strategy for 2030 proposes that member states take effective restoration measures to restore degraded ecosystems. This Department owns a significant area of adjoining undesignated peatland at Sharragh and has already carried out habitat restoration measures there and intends carrying out further habitat restoration in the future. Some of these measures make the area attractive to wildfowl which could be impacted by the proposal. A development of



the type proposed and associated infrastructure would reduce the extent of natural habitat in the area and limit potential to restore wetland habitats there in the future.

Apart from reducing habitat and limiting potential restoration within the footprint of the site, the development and required works on this peat site may also impact hydrologically on nearby wetland habitats and designated sites, these potential hydrological impacts will need to be assessed fully. In particular any drainage or deep excavation proposals need to be fully assessed. While impacts on surface water may be obvious potential impacts on groundwater are less so and will require detailed examination. This Department is concerned that deep excavations could potentially damage a confining layer leading to loss of groundwater from the adjoining designated raised bog sites.

Consideration needs to be given as to whether it is appropriate to develop a peatland in this way with the inherent destruction of carbon storage and greenhouse gas release for the purpose of developing an energy source promoted to reduce carbon emissions. While the proposed development site is not in any designated area, it is apparent that it is located on an area of drained peatland. Peatlands are major carbon stores important for biodiversity and important for climate change adaptation and mitigation. Drained or damaged peatlands; however, emit large volumes of green-house gases to the atmosphere and it is likely that in the future such areas will be considered for rewetting to prevent this which would also restore important wetland habitats. If the development proceeds it will cause the direct destruction of significant volumes of peat and cause direct release of green-house gas but less directly it is likely to lead to further drainage of adjoining peat and be a barrier to future rewetting of the site that would stop carbon loss to the atmosphere and simultaneously create important habitat. The Department recommends that in addition to standard assessments the ecological assessment also considers whether if the development were to proceed it would limit future potential to rewet the area of peatland and what measures could be taken to prevent this. An assessment should be made of the green-house gases likely to be released by the proposed works and an assessment of the carbon release that could be prevented through rewetting of the site. The potential of the development to limit restoration of adjoining wetland sites through water retention measures should also be assessed.

In addition to peatlands and associated habitats, areas close to the proposed development site are known to contain wintering populations of wildfowl, in particular the Birds Directive Annex I species Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*) is known to feed on grasslands in the area and roost in wetlands closeby including on occasion NPWS owned lands adjoining the site. These birds may be associated with the Little Brosna Callows Special Protection Area (site code 004086) or Middle Shannon Callows SPA (site code 004096) and Appropriate Assessment will be required to consider whether this is ex-situ usage and whether the proposed development could adversely impact these European Sites. Flight lines between this area and the SPAs will require investigation and assessment. Of note is that NPWS staff have recorded collisions between whooper swan and powerlines in the area west of the proposed site between Kilcaren-Firville SAC and Liskeenan Fen SAC (site code 001883). Greenland White-fronted goose (*Anser albifrons flavirostris*) is also a qualifying interest of the Little Brosna Callows and Dovegrove Callows (site code 004137) and some of this flock historically used sites at the north-eastern portion of Lough Derg (Daggs Callow Slevoir Bay,



10km west of site) and at Lough Avan pNHA (site code 001995, 15km southwest of site). This flock has been in decline for several years; however, the assessment should consider any potential for the development to impact movement of this species from the SPAs to former feeding grounds. We note that the Conservation Objectives for these sites include insuring that the natural range of this species and in the case of the Little Brosna also the other species for which the site is selected is stable or increasing. The Little Brosna is also an important spring passage site for species such as Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*) (largest flock in the country) and any potential to impact on flight lines to this site or ex-situ impacts would be of concern.

The wetland at the northern section of Kilcaren-Firville Bog SAC (known as the Sluggary) is extensively used by a wide range of wintering wildfowl many of which are qualifying interest species for both the Little Brosna Callows and Middle Shannon Callows SPAs, these include but are not limited to whooper swan, wigeon (*Anas penelope*), teal (*Anas crecca*), pintail (*Anas acuta*), shoveler (*Anas clypeata*), golden plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*), lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*), Black-tailed Godwit and wintering curlew (*Numenius arquata*). The ecological impact assessment will need to consider potential impacts on this important wildfowl area. The Appropriate Assessment will need to establish whether there is movement between this and other potential ex-situ sites and the aforementioned SPAs and whether the proposed turbines could impact on movement between these sites.

Curlew have been recorded in the vicinity of the proposed site during the breeding season. Eurasian Curlew is on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and on the Red List of Birds of Conservation Concern in Ireland. No formal survey of the species has been carried out at the location but these are likely to at the very least be breeding attempts. The potential impact of the development on this species and future management of the area to conserve them as a breeding species should be assessed.

In summary while the exact proposed site itself is not specifically designated as a formal conservation area, it is very close to and in our view supporting nearby designated conservation areas. The physical and ecological nature of the site also makes it a likely ecological link between designated sites and it offers significant potential for future ecological connection and restoration in addition to carbon storage. The potential to impact on wildfowl movements in the area is also of concern. For these nature conservation reasons the Department considers this a poor choice of location for such a development.

The above observations/recommendations are based on the papers submitted to this Department on a pre-planning basis and are made without prejudice to any observations that the Minister may make in the context of any consultation arising on foot of any development application referred to the Minister, by the planning authority/ies, in the role as statutory consultee under the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.



RECEIVED: 22/09/2023

You are requested to send further communications to the Development Applications Unit (DAU) at manager.dau@housing.gov.ie.

Is mise le meas,

Diarmuid Buttimer
Development Applications Unit
Administration

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!

Jonny Fearon

From: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>
Sent: 28 September 2022 11:40
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: FW: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary
Attachments: Sharragh Wind Farm Co Tipperary.pdf

You don't often get email from environmental_co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good morning,

Please see comments attached from our Forestry Division.

Kind regards

Breeda

Breeda Hennebry | *Clerical Officer, An tAonad um Chomhordú Timpeallachta, An Rannóg um Athrú Aeráide agus Beartas Bithfhuinnimh,*

Environmental Co-ordination Unit | Climate Change & Bioenergy Policy Division | environmentalco-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Lárionad Gnó Grattan, Bóthar Bhaile Átha Cliath, Port Laoise, Co Laoise, R32 K857

Grattan Business Centre, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laoise, R32 K857

T +353 (0)57 868 9914

www.agriculture.gov.ie

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Thursday 22 September 2022 14:39

To: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental_Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Dear Sir or Madam,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 4 - 7 No. wind turbines, a 110kV substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound, and a permanent anemometry mast located in Co. Tipperary, and grid connection to Birr 110kV substation, located in Co. Offaly, via an underground grid connection route.

An application will be made to An Bord Pleanála (Board) seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed wind energy development. If the Board determine that the development is indeed SID, the planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. Should the project be of a scale lower than the SID thresholds, applications for planning permission will be made to Tipperary County Council.

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
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+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

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An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Tá an t-eolais san ríomhphost seo, agus in aon ceangláin leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le h-agaigh an seolaí amháin. D'fhéadfadh ábhar an seoladh seo bheith faoi phribhléid profisiúnta nó dlíthiúil. Mura tusa an seolaí a bhí beartaithe leis an ríomhphost seo a fháil, tá cosc air, nó aon chuid de, a úsáid, a chóipeál, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

RECEIVED: 22/09/2023

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!

MKO
Tuam Road
Galway
H91 VW84

27 September 2022

Re: Scoping Request for the proposed Sharragh Wind Farm at Sharragh in County Tipperary.

Dear Sir/Madam,

The following are the comments from this Division in relation to the proposed development:

If the proposed development will involve the felling or removal of any trees, the developer must obtain a Felling License from this Department before trees are felled or removed. A Felling Licence application form can be obtained from **Felling Section, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford**. Email: felling.forests@agriculture.gov.ie or Web gov.ie - www.gov.ie - [Tree Felling Licences \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

A Felling Licence granted by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine provides authority under the Forestry Act 2014 to fell or otherwise remove a tree or trees and/or to thin a forest for silvicultural reasons. The Act prescribes the functions of the Minister and details the requirements, rights and obligations in relation to felling licences. The principal set of regulations giving further effect to the Forestry Act 2014 are the Forestry Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 191 of 2017).

The developer should take note of the contents of **Felling and Reforestation Policy** document which provide a consolidated source of information on the legal and regulatory framework relating to tree felling; [gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) - [Tree Felling Licences \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie) As this development is within forest lands, particular attention should be paid to deforestation, turbulence felling and the requirement to afforest alternative lands.

In order to ensure regulated forestry operations in Ireland accord with the principles of sustainable forest management (SFM), as well fulfilling the requirements of other relevant environmental protection laws, the Department (acting through its Forest Service division) must undertake particular consultations, and give certain matters full consideration during the assessment of individual Felling Licence applications. This includes consultation with relevant bodies, the application of various protocols and procedures (e.g. Forest Service Appropriate Assessment Procedure), and the requirement for applicants on occasion to provide further information (e.g. a Natura Impact Statement).

Consequently, when the Forest Service is considering an application to fell trees, the following applies:

1. The interaction of these proposed works with the environment locally and more widely, in addition to potential direct and indirect impacts on designated sites and water, is assessed. Consultation with relevant environmental and planning authorities may be required where specific sensitivities arise (e.g. local authorities, National Parks & Wildlife Service, Inland Fisheries Ireland, and the National Monuments Service);
2. Where a tree Felling Licence application is received, the Department will publish a notice of the application before making a decision on the matter. The notice shall state that any person may make a submission to the Department within 30 days from the date of the notice. The notices are published online at: [gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) - [Felling Licence Applications \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

3. Third parties that make a submission or observation will be informed of the decision to grant or refuse the licence, and on request, details of the conditions attached to the licence, the main reasons and considerations on which the decision to grant or refuse the licence was based, and where conditions are attached to any licence, the reasons for the conditions. Both third parties and applicants will be also informed of their right to appeal any decision within 14 days to the Forestry Appeals Committee. Felling Licence decision are published online at: gov.ie - [Felling Licence Decisions \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

It is important to note that when applying to a **Local Authority**, or **An Bord Pleanála**, for planning permission where developments are:

- a) subject to an EIA procedure (including screening in the case of a sub-threshold development) and any resulting requirement to produce an EIAR; and/or
- b) subject to an Appropriate Assessment procedure (including screening) and any resulting requirement to a Natura Impact Statement (NIS); and
- c) the proposed development in its construction or operational phases, or any works ancillary thereto, would directly or indirectly involve the felling and replanting of trees, deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use, or replacement of broadleaf high forest by conifer species,
 1. that there is a requirement inter alia under the EIA Directive for an overall assessment of the effects of the project or the alteration thereof on the environment to be undertaken, including the direct and indirect environmental impact of the project;

and
 2. pursuant to Article 2(3) of the EIA Directive, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine strongly recommends that, notwithstanding the fact that a parallel consent in the form of felling licence may also have to be applied for, any EIAR and/or NIS produced in connection with the application for planning permission to the Local Planning Authority or An Bord Pleanála, should include an assessment of the impact of and measures, as appropriate, to prevent, mitigate or compensate for any significant adverse effects direct or indirect identified on the environment arising from such felling and replanting of trees, deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use, or replacement of broadleaf high forest by conifer species.

Yours sincerely,

Tara Hendley

Catherine Boyce
Felling Section
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Johnstown Castle
Co Wexford

Jonny Fearon

From: Defence Property Management Planning
<PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie>
Sent: 11 May 2023 08:58
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Jason Kearney (Defence); Gareth O'Flaherty (Defence)
Subject: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Without Prejudice

Dear Mr. Fearon,

I refer to your e-mail below, relating to the proposed Carrig Renewable Windfarm (formerly called Sharragh Windfarm) near Carrig, Co. Tipperary.

I wish to advise at the outset that any determination in relation to a planning consent is solely a matter for the planning authorities and/or ABP, as appropriate. Therefore, the following observations are made on a non-prejudicial basis, and are not intended to be used to rely on for a prospective planning application, nor are these observations to be relied on in the event of any commercial transaction pertaining to such lands and they are not to be relied on in the event of any contract exchange pertaining to same.

As a matter of practice, the Department of Defence does not provide observations or advice in the scoping process, except where the relevant parties have been directed by a planning authority to seek the Department's views. The following observations are based solely on the material provided by you and should be read in that context only. It should be noted that additional or supplemental observations may be made at the formal planning process.

Based on the information provided by MKO Ltd and having consulted with the subject matter experts in the Irish Air Corps, the Department of Defence wishes to make the following observations:

- The Minister for Defence is responsible for the regulation of military aviation, whereas the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) is responsible for the safety regulation of civil aviation including aerodromes. The IAA does not have remit for military aviation or installations. Safeguarding of military flight operations and installations is intended to protect both current and future aircraft operations and also to take account of the security requirements associated with some of those operations.
- Single turbines, structures, or turbines delineating the windfarm should be illuminated by Type C, Medium intensity, Fixed Red obstacle lighting with a minimum output of 2,000 candela to be visible in all directions of azimuth and to be operational H24/7 days a week. Obstacle lighting should be incandescent or of a type visible to Night Vision equipment. Obstacle lighting must emit light at the near Infra-Red (IR) range of the electromagnetic spectrum, specifically at or near 850 nanometres (nm) of wavelength. Light intensity to be of similar value to that emitted in the visible spectrum of light.
- Any Irish Air Corps (IAC) requirements are separate to Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) requirements.

Nothing in the above observations shall be taken as a binding response by the Minister for Defence in the event that a planning application is made. The Minister reserves the right to comment on an actual planning application as and when it is submitted in accordance with the provisions of the planning regulatory code.

We would appreciate if you could keep us informed on any progress relating to this proposed development, in particular if this development was to progress to the planning stage.

Please contact me if you have any queries in this regard.

Best regards
Don

Don Watchorn

Property Management Branch

An Roinn Cosanta

Department of Defence

Bóthar an Stáisiúin, An Droichead Nua, Contae Chill Dara, W12 AD93.

Station Road, Newbridge, Co.Kildare, W12 AD93.

T +353 (0)45 452199
E-mail don.watchorn@defence.ie

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Monday 8 May 2023 15:01

To: Defence Property Management Planning <PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie>

Cc: Gareth O'Flaherty (Defence) <Gareth.OFlaherty@defence.ie>; Sarah Zacharia (Defence) <Sarah.Zacharia@defence.ie>; Don Watchorn (Defence) <Don.Watchorn@defence.ie>

Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Dear Sir/Madam

I am following up on the below email which related to the EIA Scoping Document for a proposed wind energy development near Carrig, Co. Tipperary. Have you had a chance to examine the Scoping Document for the proposed Carrig Renewable Wind Farm (formerly called Sharragh Wind Farm) as per the email I sent out on 22nd September 2022? I have attached maps showing the turbine layout of the Proposed Development. We would appreciate any further feedback you may have.

Kind Regards,
Jonny.

Jonny Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



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From: Defence Property Management Planning <PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie>

Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2022 4:24 PM

To: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Cc: Gareth O'Flaherty (Defence) <Gareth.OFlaherty@defence.ie>; Sarah Zacharia (Defence) <Sarah.Zacharia@defence.ie>

Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Dear Mr. Fearon,

The Department of Defence wishes to acknowledge receipt of your e-mail below and attached documentation re. proposed windfarm at Sharragh, Co. Tipperary.

We will consult with our Military colleagues and revert in due course.

Best regards
Don

Don Watchorn

Property Management Branch

An Roinn Cosanta

Department of Defence

Bóthar an Stáisiúin, An Droichead Nua, Contae Chill Dara, W12 AD93.

Station Road, Newbridge, Co.Kildare, W12 AD93.

T +353 (0)45 452199

E-mail don.watchorn@defence.ie

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Thursday 22 September 2022 14:41

To: Don Watchorn (Defence) <Don.Watchorn@defence.ie>; Defence Property Management Planning <PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie>; Gareth O'Flaherty (Defence) <Gareth.OFlaherty@defence.ie>; Sarah Zacharia (Defence) <Sarah.Zacharia@defence.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been

appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 4 - 7 No. wind turbines, a 110kV substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound, and a permanent anemometry mast located in Co. Tipperary, and grid connection to Birr 110kV substation, located in Co. Offaly, via an underground grid connection route.

An application will be made to An Bord Pleanála (Board) seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed wind energy development. If the Board determine that the development is indeed SID, the planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. Should the project be of a scale lower than the SID thresholds, applications for planning permission will be made to Tipperary County Council.

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!

Jonny Fearon

From: Planning Notifications <PlanningNotifications@DECC.gov.ie>
Sent: 08 May 2023 19:17
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: Auto-Reply

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We acknowledge receipt of your email.

The Planning Advisory Division acts on behalf of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications with respect to its function as a statutory consultee within the planning system.

The Department provides observations in relation to County Development Plans, Local Area Plans and Strategic Environmental Assessments.

The Department does not provide observations for individual projects and developments.

As such, the Department will not provide observations on individual planning applications, Environmental Impact Assessments or any notification relating to an individual development.

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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó biodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar sheol an teachtaireacht ar an eolas láithreach. Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aims odh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.

Jonny Fearon

From: Customer Service <Customer.Service@tcagsm.gov.ie>
Sent: 30 September 2022 16:05
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie; pleanailteanga
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary - Updated Consultee List

Dear Mr. Fearon,

Thank you for contacting Customer Service in the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

Planning matters in general fall within the remit of [the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage](#). Please note that following the coming into force of the [Planning and Development, Heritage and Broadcasting \(Amendment\) Act 2021 \(Act 11 of 2021\)](#) all Heritage functions previously held by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht are now held by that Department.

The **Development Applications Unit** may be contacted at Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie (copied above).

Gaeltacht Areas

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media is a notice party under section 28(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 in relation to any planning application in a area where the proposed development could – in the view of the local Planning Authority – have a material impact on the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht, including the promotion of Irish as the community language. Such developments must be brought to the attention of the Department. Relevant documentation in relation to such planning applications should be submitted to pleanailteanga@tcagsm.gov.ie (copied above).

Thank you,

Customer Service,
Department for Tourism, Culture Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

From: Jonny Fearon [mailto:jfearon@mkoireland.ie]

Sent: Thursday 29 September 2022 12:27

Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary - Updated Consultee List

Good afternoon,

Please see attached the updated consultee in relation to the EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.

Yours sincerely,


Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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Tá an t-eolas sa ríomhphost seo faoi rún, chomh maith le gach comhad atá ceangailte leis, agus i gcomhair úsáid an duine nó an chórais a bhfuil sé dírithe air amháin. Má fhaigheann tú an ríomhphost seo trí bhotún, cuir scéal chugainn ag webmaster@tcagsm.gov.ie. Tá an ríomhphost seo arna sheiceáil ag scanóir víreas agus dealramh air go bhfuil sé glan.

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Jonny Fearon

From: Transport GCU <GeneralCo-OrdinationUnit@transport.gov.ie>
Sent: 24 May 2023 12:28
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary
Attachments: 20230523 DoT replyCarrig Wind Farm.docx

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Good afternoon,

Thank you for contacting Department of Transport in relation to this proposed development.

Please find attached for your attention the department's response.

Kind regards
Jacqui

Jacqui Traynor
Central Policy, Coordination and Reform
An Roinn Iompair
Department of Transport
Lána Líosain, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 TR60
Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60
T +353 (0)1 604 1177
gcu@transport.gov.ie www.gov.ie/transport

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Thursday 11 May 2023 17:00
To: Transport GCU <GeneralCo-OrdinationUnit@transport.gov.ie>
Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Dear Sir/Madam,

In September 2022, a scoping exercise for the proposed Carrig Wind Farm (at the time it was named Sharragh Wind Farm) setting out the project details that were known at the time. An oversight resulted in the Dept. of Transport being left out of the listed consultees. This oversight was realised once we began the second round of scoping for the now named (proposed) Carrig Renewable Wind Farm project. To rectify this, I am attaching to this email the original scoping document that issued in September 2022. In the intervening months, the project has been renamed and the layout subsequently has changed. The following details list some of the changes to the project since the issuing of the September 2022 scoping document:

- The proposed site boundary is 315 hectares.
- The proposed project is now a 7-turbine project with a tip height of 185m and a rotor diameter of 162m.

- The proposed access is from the L5040 Local Road which is located to the south of the site boundary.
- The on-site substation is now a 38kV substation which will connect into the existing 110kV Dallow substation (north of Birr) via an underground 38kV grid connection to be laid within the public road network.

It is envisaged that from the M7 motorway (Junction 21), turbine components will be transported to the site along the R435 and R445 regional roads to Roscrea before joining the N62 national secondary road and travelling northwest to Birr and then turning southwest onto the N52 and continuing to the site entrance which is located on the L5040 local road.

Apologies for this oversight. We would greatly appreciate any feedback the Dept. of Transport may have, thank you.

Kind Regards,
Jonny.

Jonny Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



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Mr. Jonny Fearon
MKO
Tuam Road
Galway
H91 VW84
24th May 2023

Re: Carrig Wind Farm development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Dear Jonny,

The Department of Transport makes the following comments on the Carrig Wind Farm development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.

It should be noted that the Department considers the construction involved in providing this development and especially, the connection cables to the national grid may have effects on both the environment and the Regional and Local Road network.

Where the developer proposes the placement of any cables (or additional cables) in one or more trenches within the extents of the (regional and local) public road network, it is necessary to consider the following:

- Their presence within the public road could significantly restrict the Road Authority in carrying out its function to construct and maintain the public road and will likely add to the costs of those works.
- Their installation within the lands associated with the public road may affect the stability of the road. In particular where the road is a “legacy road” (where there is no designed road structure, and the subgrade may be poor or poorly drained) the design needs to take account of all the variable conditions and not be based on a sample of the general conditions.
- The possible effect on the remaining available road space (noting that there may be need to accommodate other utilities within the road cross-section in the future).



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- The necessity to have the power in the cables switched off where the Road Authority considers this necessary in order to carry out its function to construct and maintain the public road.

The Department consider it important that the examination of the proposal should include consideration of the following:

- Examination of options other than the routing of cables along the public road,
- Examination of options for connection to the national grid network at a point closer to the wind farm in order to reduce the adverse impact on public roads.
- Details of where within the road cross section cables are to be placed so as to minimise the effect on the Roads Authority in its role of construction and maintenance,
- Examination of details of any chambers proposed within the public road cross section so as to minimise the effect on the Roads Authority in its role of construction and maintenance,
- Examine the elimination of jointing bays and use of temporary removable jointing bays to protect the integrity of the road structure for the safety of those driving on the public road by eliminating hard spots and also preserve the road width for other utilities and,
- Rationalisation of the number of cables involved (including existing electric or possible future cables) and their diversion into one trench, in order to minimise the impacts on the road network and the environment along the road boundary (hedgerows).

The Department considers the following should be considered when applying conditions to any approval.

1. A condition requiring the specific approval of the local authority to the detail of the final route of cables through the public road space. If during construction there is a need to deviate from the detailed design then the approval of the local authority would again be sought. This would assist in minimising the impact on the public road.



2. A condition requiring the developer to comply with all appropriate standards and, inter alia the Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads, 2017 in order to ensure orderly development.
3. A condition requiring that the location of the cables would be recorded as exactly as possible (maybe using BIM type technology) so as to facilitate the further use of road space for utilities and the maintenance/construction of the public road by the Roads authority. This record should be lodged with the local authority and with the ESB Networks for retention on their records.
4. A condition to require the elimination of jointing bays and the use of temporary removable jointing bays instead, to protect the integrity of the road structure, thereby improving safety for those driving on the public road by eliminating hard spots and preserving the road width for other utilities.
5. A condition requiring the developer to route cables away from bridge structures and specifically preventing the developer from attaching cables to road bridges. This would allow for the future maintenance of bridges without interruption of the electricity supply along the cables.
6. A condition requiring the developer to notify the Roads Authority of the owner of the cables (Owner) and the controller (Power Controller) of the power transmitted along the cables. In addition, the condition should require Owner and Power Controller to notify the Roads Authority of any change in ownership of the cables or change of Power Controller transmitting power along the cables. In all instances the Owner and Power Controller should be required to maintain an agreed contacts list with the Roads Authority.

Central Policy, Coordination and Reform

An Roinn Iompair

Department of Transport

Lána Liosain, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 TR60

Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60

T +353 (0)1 604 1177

gcu@transport.gov.ie www.gov.ie/transport

Jonny Fearon

From: Dominic Crudden <dominic.crudden@emrsolutions.com>
Sent: 10 October 2022 16:28
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Jonathan,

We have assessed this proposal and would have no objection to it as it would not impact any of our existing telecommunications links.

<https://emrsolutions.com/industries/renewable-energy>

Regards,



Dominic Crudden
Business Development Manager
at EMR Integrated Solutions



Phone: +353-1-801 3131
Direct: +353-1-255 2056
Mobile: +353-86-771 2819
Web: www.emrsolutions.com

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From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Thursday 22 September 2022 14:50
To: General Info <info@emrsolutions.com>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 4 - 7 No. wind turbines, a 110kV substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound, and a permanent anemometry mast

located in Co. Tipperary, and grid connection to Birr 110kV substation, located in Co. Offaly, via an underground grid connection route.

An application will be made to An Bord Pleanála (Board) seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed wind energy development. If the Board determine that the development is indeed SID, the planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. Should the project be of a scale lower than the SID thresholds, applications for planning permission will be made to Tipperary County Council.

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

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+353 (0) 91 735611
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Jonny Fearon

From: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: 22 September 2022 16:10
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Hi Jonny,

These proposed turbines won't affect our current network,

Regards,
Peter

Peter O'Brien | Licensed Link planner

A: Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V946P52

M: +353867744313 | **W:** www.enet.ie



Registered in Ireland, Registration No. 332982

Registered Offices: Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V94 6P52

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From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2022 2:55 PM

To: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Dear Mr. Peter O'Brien,

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If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

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Jonny Fearon

From: planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>
Sent: 07 October 2022 15:31
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary
Attachments: Fáilte Ireland EIAR Guidelines.pdf

Jonny,

Thank you for your email regarding the proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary.

Please see attached a copy of Fáilte Ireland's Guidelines for the Treatment of Tourism in an EIA, which you may find informative for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed project. The purpose of this report is to provide guidance for those conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and compiling an Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR), or those assessing EIARs, where the project involves tourism or may have an impact upon tourism. These guidelines are non-statutory and act as supplementary advice to the EPA EIAR Guidelines outlined in section 2.

Regards,

Yvonne

Yvonne Jackson

Product Development-Environmental & Planning Support | Fáilte Ireland

88-95 Amiens Street, Dublin 1, D01 WR86
M +353 (0)86 0357590



[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Facebook](#)



From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Thursday 22 September 2022 14:58
To: planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Yours sincerely,


Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
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Fáilte Ireland
National Tourism Development Authority

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EIAR Guidelines for the Consideration of Tourism and Tourism Related Projects



An tÚdarás Náisiúnta Forbartha Turasóireachta
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1. Introduction

Tourism is a growing sector and substantial part of the Irish Economy. It contributes to both urban and rural economies in every part of the country. The impact and interaction of tourism with the environment is complex and the assessment of environmental impacts is of utmost importance to creating a sustainable tourism economy and protecting the natural resources that are so often a tourism attraction.

The purpose of this report is to provide guidance for those conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and compiling an Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR), or those assessing EIARs, where the project involves tourism or may have an impact upon tourism. These guidelines are non-statutory and act as supplementary advice to the EPA EIAR Guidelines outlined in section 2.

This guidance document has been prepared by Cunnane Stratton Reynolds on behalf of Fáilte Ireland to update their EIA guidelines in line with changes in legislative requirements.

2. Background to this Document

Tourism is one of the largest and most important sectors of the economy, providing employment for approximately **260,000 people**, an economic contribution of **€8.4 billion**, and exchequer revenue of **€1.78 billion** in 2018, which helps fund other key public services.

In 2018 Ireland welcomed **10.6 million overseas visitors**.

Fáilte Ireland is the National Tourism Development Authority. Fáilte Irelands role is to support the tourism industry and work to sustain Ireland as a high-quality and competitive tourism destination. They provide a range of practical business supports to help tourism businesses better manage and market their products and services.

Fáilte Ireland also work with other state agencies and representative bodies, at local and national levels, to implement and champion positive and practical strategies that will benefit Irish tourism and the Irish economy.

Fáilte Ireland promotes Ireland as a holiday destination through a domestic marketing campaign (DiscoverIreland.ie) and manage a network of nationwide tourist information centres that provide help and advice for visitors to Ireland.

Tourism related projects cover a broad range of plans, programmes and developments, from the Wild Atlantic Way to a single hotel conversion. These guidelines apply to projects involving or impacting upon tourism. A tourism plan, strategy or programme where it is part of the statutory plan making process under the Planning and Development Acts (as amended), may be more appropriately assessed by a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as discussed in the next section.

It should be borne in mind that EIA is required where there is anticipated to be a significant impact on the environment, where tourism projects are of a prescribed type or meet thresholds identified below.

Where Natura 2000 Designated Sites are potentially affected by tourism development Appropriate Assessment must be carried out by the appropriate authority in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive.

3. Legislation and Statutory Guidance

Environmental Impact Assessment is a procedure that ensures that the environmental implications of decisions are taken into account before planning based decisions are made. The assessment results in a report, called an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

Legislation

These guidelines are produced under current EIAR legislative requirements, having regard to Directive 2011/92/EU (known as 'Environmental Impact Assessment' – EIA Directive), as amended by Directive EU 2014/52 which came into effect in May of 2017. These requirements were transposed into Irish Law on 1 September 2018 as most of the provisions of the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018) came into effect. The principle of both Directives is to ensure that plans, programmes and projects likely to have significant effects on the environment are made subject to an environmental assessment, prior to their approval or authorisation.

Statutory Guidance

In response to the changes to the EIAR requirements under Directive EU 2014/52, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed Draft guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports in August 2017. At the time of this document the guidelines have not been adopted from draft.

In addition to the EPA statutory guidance, the Department of Housing has produced Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment in August 2018.

The process of EIA is set out in the EPA EIAR Guidelines, which this document should be read in conjunction with and used as supplementary guidance to. The process for ascertaining whether an EIAR is required is known as 'screening' and the process to determine the breadth and scope of an EIAR is known as 'scoping'. Guidance on this can be found in Section 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines.

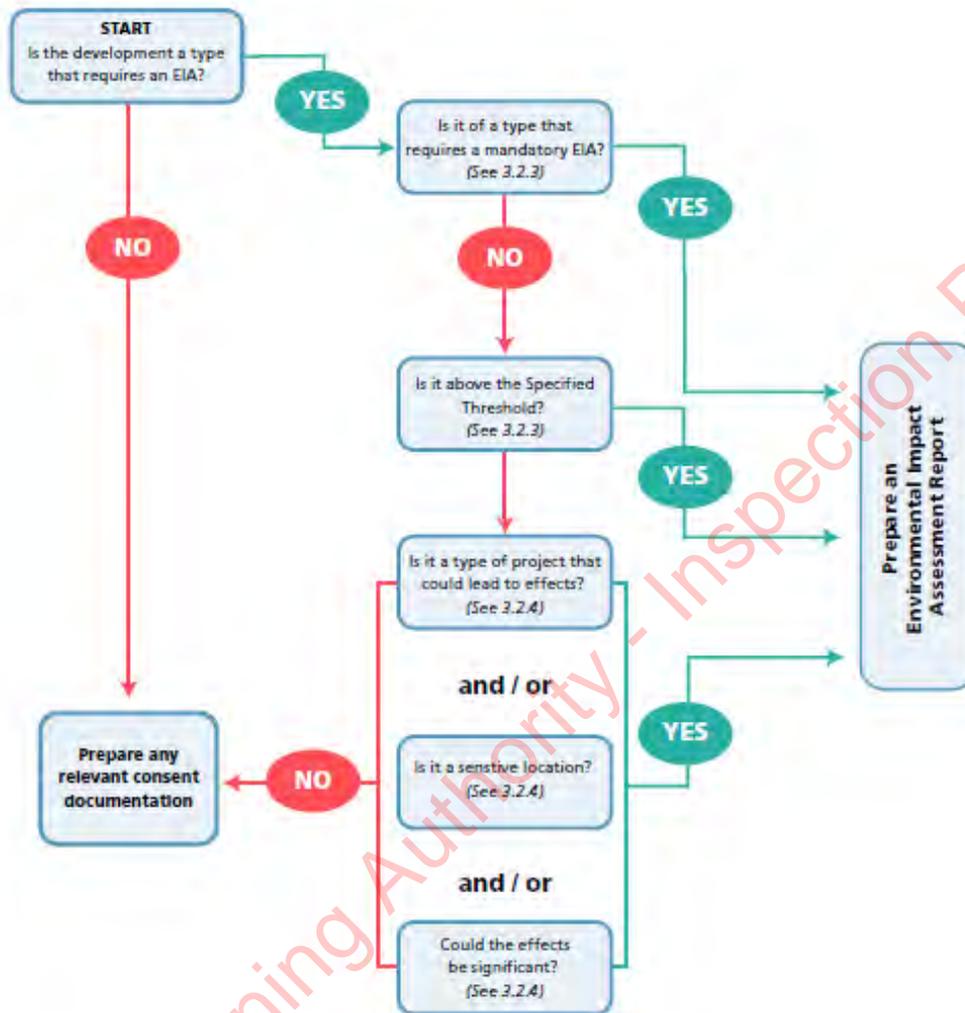
Screening

Through EIAR Screening, developments are either considered as requiring an EIAR due to the project type or because they exceed a threshold level. The screening process begins by establishing whether the proposal is a 'project' as understood by the Directive (as amended).

The prescribed development types and thresholds are set out in Annex I and II of the EIA Directive as transposed into Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2010-2018 (as amended). Development which do not exceed these thresholds but may require an EIAR are called sub threshold. Sub-Threshold considerations are outlined in Schedule 7 of European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018) as transposed from Annex III of the Directive. The Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment Reports note that projects at first glance may not appear to come under the Schedule

but on closer examination when the process is further examined, they may do so because of the sensitivity or significance of the receiving environment etc. Sub threshold developments require an EIAR if they are likely to have significant environmental impacts and must undergo assessment for likely significant impacts through an EIAR screening report. The contents of a screening report for subthreshold development are contained in Annex III of the EIA Directive.

Figure 1: EIAR Screening Process



(Taken from Fig 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines)

Tourism locations should be identified as sensitive receptors in screening assessments for particular impacts, depending on scale and sensitivity, as they would in a full EIAR. Section 6 below can act as guidance for Screening Reports as well as for full EIAR.

The screening process for considering where an EIAR is necessary, is summarised below in Figure 1 (excerpted from Figure 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines).

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a more strategic level of environmental assessment that examines plans, policies, objectives and programmes specifically rather than projects. For some tourism developments it may be more appropriate that they be examined through SEA, while individual projects or specific proposals are likely to be more assessed through EIAR. If a project is part of a plan, programme or policy/objective assessed by SEA there will still be a requirement for an EIAR for that development.

EIAR Scoping

Scoping an EIAR is an opportunity to look at the breadth of issues and ensure that any areas of possible significant impact are assessed. Identifying sensitivities and stakeholders should take account of tourism facilities and consider Fáilte Ireland in scoping requests where necessary.

4. Assessing Tourism

There is no legal definition of 'tourism' in Irish legislation. The UNWTO definition of sustainable tourism is *"Tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities"*. This is widely accepted as a key definition of tourism as we move to a more sustainable future.

Tourism assessments are frequently carried out by economic consultants and by specific tourism consultants. It is always advisable, particular for tourism projects, that suitably qualified and experienced personnel are used to determine the impact of tourism related projects or to assess the impact of more general proposals on a tourism asset identified in a particular location. There is a requirement for EIAR under current legislation to contain a statement of competency within all EIAR documents, including screening and scoping reports.

Projects which involve a tourism element

Tourism projects are wide ranging and diverse. While there are some projects which cater to tourism and are easily identified as such - Hotels, Museums, etc. there are other projects where tourism is a key service or element, but which may not be immediately obvious - forest trails, community facilities and others. EIAR conducted for developments containing tourist elements should be completed in accordance with the current guidance from the EPA.

Projects which include a tourism element have potential particular environmental effects which differ from a non-tourism development. These impacts can be intermittent, event related, inconsistent, dependent on weather, temporal, temporary or seasonal. This is considered within the prescribed environmental topics for EIAR outlined in Section 7 below.

Projects which may have an impact upon tourism

While tourism projects may be diverse, the projects which can impact tourism are considerably more wide ranging, from large infrastructural developments to local energy developments. Disruption to or suppression of a tourist resource or amenity can have very local or more strategic impacts, directly or indirectly- for example energy projects in a rural area can have both a negative and positive impact in different regards. There can be temporary, periodic or even seasonal impacts occurring during construction or operational periods.

According to the Fáilte Ireland Tourism Facts 2018 Report, the most important factors in determining the attractiveness of tourism destinations for visitors to Ireland are;

- Beautiful Scenery and Unspoiled Environment
- Hospitality
- Safety
- Nature, Wildlife and Natural Attractions
- History and Culture
- Pace of Life

These factors used for the promotion of tourism in Ireland are also barometers of sensitivity to change in tourism sensitive or dominant locations where development may have an impact upon the tourism asset. The potential for development to impact these sensitivities, and the environmental criteria under which they can be considered, are identified in section 7 of the guidelines.

5. Guiding Principles of EIAR

As outlined in the EPA Draft EIAR Guidelines, the fundamental principles to be followed when preparing an EIAR, including screening and scoping, are:

- Anticipating, avoiding and reducing significant effects
- Assessing and mitigating effects
- Maintaining objectivity
- Ensuring clarity and quality
- Providing relevant information to decision makers
- Facilitating better consultation.

Environmental assessment should be undertaken in accordance with the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018.

6. Consideration of Competency and Qualifications

As per Section 2.5 of the EPA Guidelines, EIAR is required to be completed by 'competent experts'.

Contributors to the preparation of environmental impact assessment reports, including screening and scoping assessments, should be qualified and competent. Sufficient expertise, in the relevant field of the project concerned, is required for the purpose of its examination by the competent authorities in order to ensure that the information provided by the developer is complete and of a high level of quality so that a full and proper assessment can be undertaken.

For tourism related projects, or projects likely to affect tourism assets, competent experts in the area of tourism should be utilised in the environmental assessment.

The competency of all involved in the production of an EIAR or any related report (eg. Screening and scoping) is required to be stated at the beginning of the EIAR report with further details as necessary in each following chapter.

Where tourism projects involve for example heritage or cultural components, input from heritage consultants, conservation architects, or historians may be required.

7. EIAR Requirements

The following are the key requirements for an EIAR under the current guidance. This is not a definitive list and should be read in conjunction with regulations.

- project description;
- assessment of alternatives considered;

- baseline assessment;
- impact assessment;
- cumulative impact
- interaction of impacts
- mitigation.

Project Description

Project descriptions are required to describe the whole project including site, scale, design and key factors. It is important that the EIAR and design team have a consistent understanding of the development description in full. The key requirements are outlined in section 3.5 of the EPA Guidelines however they identify the following;

- the location of the project
- the physical characteristics of the whole project
- the main characteristics of the operational phase of the project
- an estimate, by type and quantity, of the expected residues and emissions

The location of the project should include identifying key sensitive receptors (including tourism receptors). In the operational phase of the project any tourism based, or potentially tourism related activity, should be identified.

Assessment of Alternatives

The assessment of alternatives is a requirement of EIAR.

Where tourism projects are location dependent the assessment of alternatives should consider alternative methods and technologies, detail the key considerations culminating in the selection of the design, the reasoning for these and the environmental effect of these decisions. This is particularly important for tourism projects which are often location tied. The developer is expected to consider reasonable alternatives. What is considered reasonable may vary from case to case.

Baseline Assessment

Baseline descriptions are evidence based, current descriptions of environmental characteristics with consideration of likely changes to the baseline environment evidenced in planning histories, unimplemented permissions, and applications pending determination. Baseline assessments should identify any tourism sensitivities in the zone of influence of a development. This zone of influence of a development is highly dependant on its **Context, Character, Significance, and Sensitivity**, as outlined in the Draft Guidelines. These characteristics apply to both the development and the environment.

For example, in a tourism context;

The location of sensitive tourism resources that are likely to be directly affected should be highlighted, and other premises which although located elsewhere, may be the subject of in combination impacts such as alteration of traffic flows or increased urban development.

The character of an area from a tourism perspective should be described and the principal types of tourism in the area. Where relevant, the specific environmental resources or attributes in the existing environment which each group uses or values should be stated and where relevant, indicate the time, duration or seasonality of any of those activities.

The significance of the tourism assets or activities likely to be affected should be highlighted. Reference to any existing formal or published designation or

recognition of such significance should be. Where possible the value of the contribution of such tourism assets and activities to the local economy should be provided.

If there are any significant concerns or opposition to the development known to exist among tourism stakeholders and interest groups, this should be highlighted. Identify, where possible, the particular aspect of the development which is of concern, together with the part of the existing tourism resource which may be threatened or impacted.

In addition, the baseline should include any methodologies employed in the study to obtain information, if particular databases are used to locate sensitive receptors they should be acknowledged. In relation to tourism information, the suggested information sources at the end of this document are a non-exhaustive list which may be of assistance in identifying tourism receptors.

Impact Assessment

The topics for consideration of impact are prescribed in the EIA Directive and transcribed into Irish law by the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018). Impact assessment should contain the likely significant effects of a development arising from both construction and operation of a development. Advice on describing the effects is contained within the Draft Guidelines and includes the **quality, significance, extent, probability, type** and **duration** of the effect, with particular descriptors for each. In describing effects upon tourism receptors these descriptors should take account of the particular aspects and sensitivities of tourism, for example a temporary annual effect from a development may have different impacts upon tourism if it falls at peak season rather than off-peak.

Impact assessment should be carried out as per EPA guidelines and the best practice for that prescribed topic. It may be considered appropriate to consider impact on tourism assets under the 'material assets' topic below.

Population and Human Health

The consideration of tourism projects within the Population and Human Health is extensive, with impacts ranging from rural employment population impacts of seasonal tourism, to the health impact of air pollution from increased traffic in urban areas.

The impact upon tourism can be considered within this section through the sensitivities of Hospitality, Safety and Pace of Life. Changes in population can impact the perception of pace of life or safety in a particular location. Impacts upon these issues in areas which rely heavily on tourism or have a particular sensitive tourism generator should be considered in this section.

Biodiversity

Particular tourist activities can have a significant impact upon biodiversity. Landscapes which are 'unspoiled' can be attractors of tourism. However, the disturbance to ecology must be managed to minimise impact. Biodiversity is also a tourism asset and should be protected as such from other development and should be provided for in proposals where possible.

Land, Soils and Geology

A link between tourism and this prescribed environmental factor, beyond the normal development impacts, is rare, however particular activities or facilities which use geological features may have an impact upon soils and geology, such as mountain biking trails, recreational uses of old quarries etc. Indirect impacts such as material use for extensive landscaping and public realm should also be considered.

Water

Tourism uses can be water intense, depending on development type. Recreational use of a surface water feature, water-based leisure centres etc have different impacts to standard development.

Air Quality and Climate

Tourism impact upon air quality is dependent on activity proposed and sensitivity of the location.

Noise and Vibration

A link between tourism and this prescribed environmental factor, beyond the normal development impacts, is rare, however the impact upon tourism of issues of noise and vibration can be significant. Construction adjoining hotels for example should consider the sensitivity of the development and ensure mitigation is in place.

Material Assets; Traffic and Transport

The different transport patterns associated with tourism activities is a key impact of tourism and should be considered especially for tourism projects. These produce temporal and seasonal changes on the norm and specialist consideration and interpretation should be given. Tourism proposals should, where possible, be well served by public transport and should be accessible by modes other than the car. The impact of traffic on tourism assets can be substantial and can vary in severity according to season, the weather, etc. The impact of construction traffic can be a particular concern in tourism sensitive areas in terms of noise pollution and visual impact. The construction programme of developments should work to avoid peak tourism periods in tourism areas and should consider planned or anticipated tourism events and festivals.

Cultural Heritage

Cultural heritage can be a key component of tourism projects and the impact of tourism on the maintenance of cultural heritage should be given the utmost consideration, whether positive or negative. As a tourism attraction, cultural heritage should be strongly considered in non-tourism developments and the impact upon tourism considered as a potential impact.

Archaeology

Archaeology can be of tourism interest and can be an attractive or key component of tourism projects. Archaeology can be a tourism attractor but is generally not kept in situ except in key cases which could also be considered under cultural heritage.

Material Assets; Waste Management

Tourism is a resource heavy activity and can impact waste streams and waste segregation. Impacts here should be considered strongly and with knowledge of the variation that arises from the particular tourist activity. Waste and Waste disposal issues can also impact the perception of an unspoiled environment, effecting tourism, which should be considered.

Material Assets

Material assets are utilities and infrastructure. Tourism itself could be considered a material asset as its impact upon the economy and the infrastructure in place to support it is a material consideration in assessing economic impact.

Landscape

The visual impact of a tourism development, especially in locations which are visually sensitive or renowned for their scenic or landscape beauty, should be considered carefully. A

development intended to utilise or enjoy a particular vista or environment should minimise impact upon that environment.

Major Accident and Natural Disaster

There is a requirement for tourist developments to describe expected significant effects on the environment of the proposed development's vulnerability to major accidents and/or natural disasters relevant to it. Where appropriate measures should be identified to prevent or mitigate the significant adverse effects of such accidents or disasters, including resulting from climate change, on the environment and detail the preparedness for the proposed response.

Interaction of Effects

Where two or more environmental impacts combine or interact they should be considered under the prescribed topics. It is best practice to provide a table of interactions within an EIAR or EIAR Screening Report.

Mitigation

Mitigation should follow the hierarchy of minimisation in descending order of preference- Avoid, Reduce, Remedy

Avoid sensitive tourism resources- such as views, access and amenity areas including habitats as well as historical or cultural sites and structures.

Reduce the exposure of sensitive resources to excessive environmental impact

Reduce the adverse effects to tourism land uses and patterns of activities, especially through interactions arising from significant changes in the intensity of use or contrasts of character or appearance.

Remedy any unavoidable significant residual adverse effects on tourism resources or activities.

Mitigation measures must be measurable and achievable within the bounds of the project.

Cumulative Impact

The cumulative impact is that of the project combined with any known likely project which will interact or compound an environmental impact.

Transboundary Impact

Transboundary impacts should be included in EIAR. In the case of tourism, especially international travel, the transboundary impacts may not be proximate to the EIAR site.

8. Sources of information on Tourism

Information available online

Fáilte Ireland

Fáilte Ireland offers detailed research analysis and insights into the Irish Tourism Industry. The National Tourism Development Authority has a portfolio of research across a number of areas including facts and figures, briefing papers and reports and visitor feedback. The Fáilte Ireland website has a dedicated research library which can be accessed [here](#)

Tourism Ireland

Tourism Ireland is responsible for marketing the island of Ireland overseas as a holiday and business tourism destination. Tourism Ireland publishes a range of research documents including; visitor facts and figures, seasonal updates and industry insights which are accessible [here](#)

Local Authorities

Local Authorities are an invaluable source of information. They produce tourism strategies and audits of tourism assets within their jurisdiction. Local authorities will also produce landscape and seascape studies. Protected views and prospects as well as the record of protected structures and other designated protected buildings are contained within the Statutory Development Plans.

Regional Authorities

Regional Authorities can also be consulted on high level strategic tourism and potential Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSEs) should be consulted.

Central Statistics Office

The Central Statistics Office (CSO) is Ireland's national statistical office and their purpose is to impartially collect, analyse and make available statistics about Ireland's people, society and economy. The Tourism and Travel Section of the Central Statistics Office is the major source for tourism statistics in Ireland and is updated regularly.

Jonny Fearon

From: GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>
Sent: 07 November 2022 13:52
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Clare Glanville; GSI Planning
Subject: RE: EIS 22/384 - EIA Scoping Report for Sharragh Wind Farm, Co Tipperary
Attachments: 22_384 Sharragh Wind Farm Co Tipperary.pdf; GSI datasets relevant to EIA & SEA_20210421.pdf

Dear Jonathan,

With reference to your email received on the 22 September 2022, concerning the EIA Scoping Report for Sharragh Wind Farm, Co Tipperary, please find attached response and dataset sheet from Geological Survey Ireland.

If you have any further queries or if we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me Trish Smullen, or my colleague Clare Glanville at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Trish Smullen
Geological Survey Ireland

From: GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>
Sent: Thursday 22 September 2022 16:59
To: Clare Glanville <Clare.Glanville@decc.gov.ie>; Sophie O'Connor <Sophie.OConnor@decc.gov.ie>; Brian McConnell <Brian.McConnell@gsi.ie>; Monica Lee <Monica.Lee@gsi.ie>; Taly Hunter Williams <Taly.HunterWilliams@gsi.ie>; Sean Cullen <Sean.Cullen@gsi.ie>; Charise McKeon <Charise.McKeon@gsi.ie>; Jim Hodgson <jim.hodgson@gsi.ie>; Eoin McGrath <Eoin.McGrath@gsi.ie>; Trish Smullen <Trish.Smullen@gsi.ie>
Cc: GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>
Subject: EIS 22/384 - EIA Scoping Report for Sharragh Wind Farm, Co Tipperary

EIS 22/384

EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in Co Tipperary. Request for observations by MKO. Further details below. Scoping document is enclosed.

Regards,

John

From: Jonny Fearon [<mailto:jfearon@mkoireland.ie>]
Sent: 22 September 2022 15:13
To: John Butler; GSI Planning
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. John Butler,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 4 - 7 No. wind turbines, a 110kV substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound, and a permanent anemometry mast located in Co. Tipperary, and grid connection to Birr 110kV substation, located in Co. Offaly, via an underground grid connection route.

An application will be made to An Bord Pleanála (Board) seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed wind energy development. If the Board determine that the development is indeed SID, the planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. Should the project be of a scale lower than the SID thresholds, applications for planning permission will be made to Tipperary County Council.

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar shreol an teachtaireacht ar an eolas láithreach. Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aims odh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.

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Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!



Jonathan Fearon
MKO
Tuam Road
Galway H91 VW84

07 November 2022

Re: EIAR Scoping Report for Sharragh Wind Farm, Co Tipperary
Your Ref: 211016
Our Ref: 22/384

Dear Jonathan,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and advice and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability. We recommend using these various data sets, when conducting the EIAR, SEA, planning and scoping processes. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly to 'Geological Survey Ireland'.

With reference to your email received on the 22 September 2022, concerning the EIAR Scoping Report for Sharragh Wind Farm, Co Tipperary, Geological Survey Ireland would encourage use of and reference to our datasets. Please find attached a list of our publicly available datasets that may be useful to the environmental assessment and planning process. We recommend that you review this list and refer to any datasets you consider relevant to your assessment. The remainder of this letter and following sections provide more detail on some of these datasets.

Geoheritage

Geological Survey Ireland is in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage), to identify and select important geological and geomorphological sites throughout the country for designation as geological NHAs (Natural Heritage Areas). This is addressed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland, under 16 different geological themes, in which the minimum number of scientifically significant sites that best represent the theme are rigorously selected by a panel of theme experts.

County Geological Sites (CGSs), as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include additional sites that may also be of national importance, but which were not selected as the very best examples for NHA designation. All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS. CGSs are now routinely included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#).

The audit for Co. Tipperary was carried out in 2019. The full report details can be found [here](#). **Our records show that there is a CGS in the vicinity of the proposed wind farm.**

Arragh More Bog, Co. Tipperary (GR 197387, 201288), under IGH themes: IGH7 Quaternary, IGH16 Hydrogeology. An active raised-bog in a low-lying hollow 6 km east of Carrigahorig. The entire Arragh More Bog comprises several interconnecting bogs, with till ridges running between deeper areas of bog. Peat has developed on some of the ridges. A large flush occurs in the northern area of the bog partially forested by conifers. Large areas of the southern part of the bog are characterised by cutover. Link to Site Report: [TY004](#).

With the current plan, there may be potential impacts on the integrity of current CGSs envisaged by the proposed development, should these sites not be assessed as constraints. Ideally, the sites should not be damaged or integrity impacted or reduced in any manner due to the proposed development. However, this is not always possible, and in this situation appropriate mitigation measures should be put in place to minimize or mitigate potential impacts.

We would also ask that the design of any future development considers the use of information panels as appropriate to highlight the significance of the impacted CGS. Please contact Clare Glanville (Clare.Glanville@gsi.ie) for further information and possible mitigation measures if applicable.



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Groundwater

Geological Survey Ireland's [Groundwater and Geothermal Unit](#), provides advice, data and maps relating to groundwater distribution, quality and use, which is especially relevant for safe and secure drinking water supplies and healthy ecosystems.

Proposed developments need to consider any potential impact on specific groundwater abstractions and on groundwater resources in general. We recommend using the groundwater maps on our [Map viewer](#) which should include: wells; drinking water source protection areas; the national map suite - aquifer, groundwater vulnerability, groundwater recharge and subsoil permeability maps. For areas underlain by limestone, please refer to the karst specific data layers (karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels (gwlevel.ie). Background information is also provided in the Groundwater Body Descriptions. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data.

The Groundwater Data Viewer indicates aquifers classed as a 'Locally Important Aquifer - Bedrock which is Moderately Productive only in Local Zones', a 'Regionally Important Aquifer - Karstified (diffuse)', and a 'Locally Important Aquifer - Bedrock which is Generally Moderately Productive' underlie the proposed wind farm development.

The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates the range of groundwater vulnerabilities within the area covered is variable. We would therefore recommend use of the Groundwater Viewer to identify areas of High to Extreme Vulnerability and 'Rock at or near surface' in your assessments, as any groundwater-surface water interactions that might occur would be greatest in these areas.

There is a groundwater drinking water abstraction within the proposed wind farm study area for which there is a source protection area: Abbeyville Group Water Scheme (GWS). Key to groundwater protection in general, and protection of specific drinking water supplies, is preventing ingress of road runoff to the aquifer. Design of access road drainage will need to be cognisant of this supply scheme and the interactions between surface water and groundwater as well as runoff. Appropriate design should be undertaken by qualified and competent persons to include mitigation measures as necessary, such as SUDs or other drainage mitigation measures. Given the nearby drinking water source, the effects of any potential contamination / dewatering as a result of the wind farm development would need to be assessed.

[GWClimate](#) is a groundwater monitoring and modelling project that aims to investigate the impact of climate change on groundwater in Ireland. This is a follow on from a previous project (GWFlood) and the data may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans. Maps and data are available on the [Map viewer](#).

Geological Survey Ireland has completed Groundwater Protection Schemes (GWPSs) in partnership with Local Authorities, and there is now national coverage of GWPS mapping. A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater. **The Groundwater Protection Response overview and link to the main reports is here: <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater/projects/protecting-drinking-water/what-is-drinking-water-protection/county-groundwater-protection-schemes/Pages/default.aspx>**

Geological Mapping

Geological Survey Ireland maintains online datasets of bedrock and subsoils geological mapping that are reliable and accessible. We would encourage you to use these data which can be found [here](#), in your future assessments.

Please note we have recently launched QGIS compatible bedrock (100K) and Quaternary geology map data, with instructional manuals and videos. This makes our data more accessible to general public and external stakeholders. QGIS compatible data can be found in our downloadable bedrock 100k .zip file on the [Data & Maps](#) section of our website.

Geohazards

Geohazards can cause widespread damage to landscapes, wildlife, human property and human life. In Ireland, **landslides, flooding and coastal erosion** are the most prevalent of these hazards. We recommend that geohazards be taken into consideration, especially when developing areas where these risks are prevalent, and we encourage the use of our data when doing so.



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Geological Survey Ireland has information available on landslides in Ireland via the National Landslide Database and Landslide Susceptibility Map both of which are available for viewing on our dedicated [Map Viewer](#). Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.

Geological Survey Ireland also engaged in a national project on Groundwater Flooding. The data from this project may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans, and is described in more detail under 'Groundwater' above.

Natural Resources (Minerals/Aggregates)

Geological Survey Ireland provides data, maps, interpretations and advice on matters related to minerals, their use and their development in our [Minerals section](#) of the website. The Active Quarries, Mineral Localities and the Aggregate Potential maps are available on our [Map Viewer](#).

We would recommend use of the Aggregate Potential Mapping viewer to identify areas of High to Very High source aggregate potential within the area. In keeping with a sustainable approach we would recommend use of our data and mapping viewers to identify and ensure that natural resources used in the proposed wind farm development are sustainably sourced from properly recognised and licensed facilities, and that consideration of future resource sterilization is considered.

Geochemistry of soils, surface waters and sediments

Geological Survey Ireland provides baseline geochemistry data for Ireland as part of the Tellus programme. Baseline geochemistry data can be used to assess the chemical status of soil and water at a regional scale and to support the assessment of existing or potential impacts of human activity on environmental chemical quality. Tellus is a national-scale mapping programme which provides multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water in Ireland. At present, mapping consists of the border, western and midland regions. Data is available at <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/Geochemistry.aspx>.

Guidelines

The following guidelines may also be of assistance:

- Institute of Geologists of Ireland, 2013. Guidelines for the Preparation of the Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology Chapters of Geology in Environmental Impact Statements.
- [EPA, 2022](#). Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR)

Other Comments

Should development go ahead, all other factors considered, Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. The data would be added to Geological Survey Ireland's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to the Geological Mapping Unit, at <mailto:GeologicalMappingInfo@gsi.ie>, 01-678 2795.

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me Clare Glanville, or my colleague Trish Smullen at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Clare Glanville
Senior Geologist
Geological Survey Ireland

Trish Smullen
Geoheritage and Planning Programme
Geological Survey Ireland

Enc: Table - Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes.

Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes
following European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018
(S.I. No. 296 of 2018)

Geological Survey Ireland Programme	Dataset	Relevant EIA Topic	Coverage	Description / Notes / Limitations	Link to Geological Survey Ireland map viewer
Geohazards	Landslide: National landslide database and landslide susceptibility map	Land & Soil/Climate/Landscape	National	Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a9044a5981f950e9b9c5625c
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Historic)	Water	Regional	Provide information of historic flooding, both surface water and groundwater. [A lack of flooding presented in any specific location of the map only indicates that a flood has not been detected. It does not indicate that a flood cannot occur in that location at present or in the future]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=c848f83c85799436b086f249c735b1cc
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Predictive)	Water	Regional	Provides information on the probability of future karst groundwater flooding (where available). [The maps do not, and are not intended to, constitute advice. Professional or specialist advice should be sought before taking, or refraining from, any action on the basis of the flood maps]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b086f249c735b1cc
Geohazards	Radon Map	Land & Soils/Air	National		http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/
Geoheritage	County Geological Sites as adopted by National Heritage Plan and listed in County Development Pla	Land & Soils/Landscape	Regional	All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e874c0b2fbd2aaac3c228
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	National	1:100,000 scale and associated memoirs.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	Regional	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Sediments	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Geomorphology	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Physiographic units:	Land & Soils	National	Broad-scale physical landscape units mapped at 1:100,000 scale in order to be represented as a cartographic digital map at 1:250,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a420f54877843aca1bc075c62b
Geological Mapping	GeoUrban: Spatial geological data for the greater Dublin and Cork areas	Land & Soils	Regional	Includes 3D models	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b79416093bb2212a850c66&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Geotechnical database	Land & Soils	National	Digitised geotechnical and Site Investigation Reports and boreholes which can be accessed through online downloads	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a2718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c
Goldmine	Historical data sets including geological memoirs and 6" to 1 mile geological mapping records	Land & Soils/Water	National	available online	https://secure.dcaae.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater resources (aquifers)	Water	National	Data limited to 1:100,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater recharge.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale; long term annual average recharge	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater vulnerability.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Group scheme and public supply source protection areas.	Water	National	Not all PWS / GWS have SPZ / ZOC. Check with IW / coco / NFGWS for private supplies.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater Protection Schemes	Water	National	Data is limited to scale of 1:40,000. Data does not include all of the source protection areas	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Catchment and WFD management units.	Water	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	karst specific data layers	water	National	For areas underlain by limestone, includes karst features, tracer test database; turf/rough water levels (gwlevel.ie)	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Wells and Springs	Water	National	Not comprehensive, there may be unrecorded wells and springs	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater body Descriptions	Water	National	Not exhaustive; only those in designated SACs; could be other GWDTEs; for more information contact NPWS / EPA / site investigations Also, Roadmap for a Policy and Regulatory Framework for Geothermal Energy, November 2020	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx
Groundwater & Geothermal	Geothermal Suitability maps	Land & Soils/Water	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9eae46bee08de41278b90a991d60c0b9e
Marine & Coastal Unit	INFOMAR - Ireland's national marine mapping programme; providing key baseline data for Ireland's	Water	National		https://secure.dcaae.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/
Marine & Coastal Unit	CHERISH - Coastal change project (Climate, Heritage and Environments of Reefs, Islands, and Headl	Water	Regional		http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/
Marine & Coastal Unit	Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI).	water / Land & Soils	Regional	Currently the project is being carried out on the east coast and will be rolled out nationally	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx
Minerals	Aggregate potential	Land & Soils/Material Assets	National	Consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a material asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Active quarries	Land & Soils	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Historic mines	Land & Soils/Cultural Heritage	National	Inventory and Risk Classification 2009. Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Minerals Division and Geological Survey Ireland (DECC).	https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?easting=7&northing=7&lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilities_Extractive_Facilities
Tellus	Geochemical data: multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://www.epa.ie/enforcement/mines/
Tellus	Airborne geophysical data including radiometrics, electromagnetics and magnetics	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754
Tellus	urban geochemistry mapping (Dublin SURGE project).	Land & Soils	Regional		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754

- Notes:
1. The maps and data listed above are available on the Geological Survey Ireland map viewer <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx>
2. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data
3. Geological Survey Ireland and Irish Concrete Federation published guidelines for the treatment of geological heritage in the extractive industry in 2008.

Jonny Fearon

From: Hueston, Caroline <caroline.hueston@hse.ie>
Sent: 05 October 2022 12:26
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: Scoping report for Sharragh proposed renewable energy development Your reference 211016
Attachments: HSE submission Renewable Energy Dev Sharragh Co Tipperary Scoping MKO EHS 2725.docx; Cover letter Sharragh, Co Tipperary Scoping MKO EHS 2725.docx

You don't often get email from caroline.hueston@hse.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good afternoon Jonathan

Attached please find the HSE scoping report for the proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh, Co Tipperary. Should any submissions be received from other HSE stakeholders they will be forwarded to you before October 20th

Regards
Caroline



Environmental Health Officer
Environment OU
Ennistymon Health Centre
Ennistymon
Co. Clare
065 7071143
086 8236817

Need information and advice on COVID-19? Go to www.hse.ie/coronavirus



Feidhmeannachta Seirbhíse Stáinte, Teach na Darrach, Pairc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Cill Dara W91KDC2. National Environmental Health Office, t 045 880442 Oak House, Millennium Park, Naas, Co e ehnationaloffice@hse.ie Kildare W91KDC2.

Mr Jonathan Fearon
MKO
Tuam Road
Galway
H91 VW84

Date: 20 October 2022
Name: Mr Jonathan Fearon, MKO, Tuam Road, Galway
Consultant's reference: 211016 EIA Scoping Application for Proposed Renewable Energy Development, Sharragh, Co. Galway
Re: EIA Scoping Report
Proposed development: Proposed Renewable Energy Development, Sharragh, Co. Tipperary
Applicant: Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd
EHIS Reference: 2725

Dear Mr Fearon

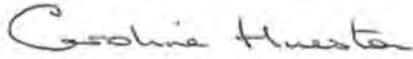
Please find enclosed the HSE Consultation Report in relation to the above proposal.

The following HSE departments were made aware of the consultation request for the proposed development on 23 September 2022

- Emergency Planning – Kay Kennington
- Estates – Helen Maher/Stephen Murphy
- Assistant National Director for Health Protection – National Clinical Director for Health Protection
- CHO – Maria Bridgeman

Please contact me if you have any queries regarding this report

Yours sincerely



Caroline Hueston
Environment/Climate Change, Network Support Unit (NSU)
Environmental Health Service
HSE West,
Ennistymon Health Centre,
Ennis Road,
Ennistymon,
Co. Clare
065 7071143
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HSE EIA Scoping

Environmental Health Service Submission Report

Date: 20 October 2022

Our reference: EHIS 2725

Report to: Jonathan Fearon, M Sc. Environmental Scientist, MKO, Tuam Road, Galway

Type of Consultation: EIA Scoping

Proposed development: Renewable Energy Development, Sharragh, Co. Tipperary

Applicant: Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd

Proposed Development: The proposed development will likely comprise approximately 4-7 No. wind turbines, a 110Kv substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), burrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound and a permanent anemometry mast located in Co Tipperary and a grid connection to Birr 110Kv substation, located in Co Offaly via an underground grid connection route.

General Introduction

The following documents should be taken into consideration when preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment Report:

- Guidelines on the information to be contained in EIS (2002), 187kb
- Advice Notes on Current Practice in the preparation of EIS (2003), 435kb
- Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment

https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidelines_for_planning_authorities_and_an_bord_pleanála_on_carrying_out_eia_-_august_2018.pdf

EU publication: Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects Guidance on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, EU, 2017

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/pdf/EIA_guidance_EIA_report_final.pdf

Adoption of the Directive (2014/52/EU) in April 2014 initiated a review of the above guidelines. The draft new guidelines can be seen at:

<http://www.epa.ie/pubs/consultation/reviewofdrafteisguidelinesadvicenotes>

The applicant should also consider the findings of the High Court judgement issued in the judicial review of the Derryadd Wind Farm. (2021 IEHC 390 [20202 No. 557 JR] P. Sweetman v An Bord Pleanála)

Generally the Environmental Impact Assessment should examine all likely significant impacts and provide the following information for each:

- a) Description of the receiving environment;
- b) The nature and scale of the impact;
- c) An assessment of the significance of the impact;
- d) Proposed mitigation measures;
- e) Residual impacts.

Directive 2014/52/EU has an enhanced requirement to assess likely significant impacts on Population and Human Health. It is the experience of the Environmental Health Service (EHS) that impacts on human health are often inadequately assessed in EIAs in Ireland. It is recommended that the wider determinants of health and wellbeing are considered in a proportionate manner when considering the EIA. Guidance on wider determinants of health can be found at www.publichealth.ie

In addition to any likely significant negative impacts from the proposed development, any positive likely significant impacts should also be assessed.

The HSE will consider the final EIAR accompanying the planning application to be made to Tipperary County Council and will make comments to the Planning Authority on the methodology used for assessing the likely significant impacts and the evaluation criteria used in assessing the significance of the impact.

This report only comments on Environmental Health Impacts of the proposed development. It is based on an assessment of the correspondence submitted to this office dated 22nd September 2022

The Environmental Health Service (EHS) recommends that the following matters are included and assessed in the EIAR

- Public Consultation
- Decommissioning phase of the proposed wind farm
- Siting and location of turbines
- Noise & Vibration
- Shadow Flicker
- Air Quality
- Surface and Groundwater Quality
- Geological Impacts
- Ancillary facilities
- Cumulative impacts

Public Consultation

It is recommended that early and meaningful public consultation with the local community is undertaken to ensure all potentially significant impacts of the proposed renewable energy development have been adequately addressed.

All parties affected by the proposed development, **including those who may benefit financially from the project**, must be fully informed of what the proposal entails especially with regard to potential impacts on surrounding areas.

Sensitive receptors and other stakeholders should be identified to ensure all necessary and appropriate mitigation measures are put in place to avoid any complaints about the proposed wind farm development in the future.

With the lifting of restrictions around public gatherings as a result of Covid 19 prevention measures there should be no barrier to holding public consultation events. The Environmental Health Service expects that meaningful public consultation, where the local community is fully informed of the proposed development, will be undertaken. Members of the public should be given sufficient opportunities to express their views on the proposed renewable energy development.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) should clearly demonstrate the link between public consultations and how those consultations have influenced the decision-making process in the EIA.

To assist with the consultation and planning process it is recommended that the applicant develops a dedicated website for the proposed renewable energy development. All correspondence, maps, project updates and documentation including the EIAR should be uploaded to the website

The EIAR should state the period of planning permission sought, the length of time construction is estimated to take and if it is anticipated that the renewable energy development will be decommissioned and removed or will continue to operate (following any further planning consent) at the end of this period of planning permission (should permission be granted)

Decommissioning

The EIAR should detail the eventual fate of the wind turbines and associated material i.e. will the material be recycled or how will it be disposed of.

Information should also be provided regarding the proposed methodology to be used for the disposal of the materials forming the foundations of the wind turbines.

The EIAR should indicate the proposed future use of the development site at the end of the planning permission period.

Siting, Location and details of Turbines

The EIAR should include a map and a description of the proposed location of each of the proposed wind turbines.

The Environmental Health Service expects that details (height and model) of the turbines to be installed will be available at the time planning permission is sought and will be included in the EIAR.

Details of the foundations for the wind turbine including depth, quantity and material to be used should be included in the EIAR.

Assessment of Consideration of Alternatives

The EIAR should consider an assessment of alternatives. The EHS recommends that alternative renewable energy options to on- shore wind farms should be assessed as part of the EIAR.

Noise & Vibration

The potential impacts for noise and vibration from the proposed development on all noise sensitive locations must be clearly identified in the EIAR. The EIAR must also consider the appropriateness and effectiveness of all proposed mitigation measures to minimise noise and vibration.

A baseline noise monitoring survey should be undertaken to establish the existing background noise levels. Noise from any existing turbines in the area should not be included as part of the back ground levels.

In addition, an assessment of the predicted noise impacts during the construction phase and the operational phase of the proposed renewable energy development must be undertaken which details the change in the noise environment resulting from the proposed development.

The Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines were published in December 2019. Whilst these have yet to be adopted, any proposed wind farm development should have consideration of the draft Guidelines.

https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/public-consultation/files/draft_revised_wind_energy_development_guidelines_december_2019.pdf

Shadow Flicker

It is recommended that a shadow flicker assessment is undertaken to identify any dwellings and sensitive receptors which may be impacted by shadow flicker. The assessment must include all proposed mitigation measures. Dwellings should include all occupied properties and any existing or proposed properties for which planning consent has been granted for construction or refurbishment.

It is recommended that turbine selection will be based on the most advanced available technology that permits shut down during times when residents are exposed to shadow flicker. As a result no dwelling should be exposed to shadow flicker.

Air Quality

Due to the nature of the proposed construction works generation of airborne dust has the potential to have significant impacts on sensitive receptors. A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) should be included in the EIAR which details dust control and mitigation measures. Measures should include:

- Sweeping of hard road surfaces
- Provision of a water bowser on site, regular spraying of haul roads
- Wheel washing facilities at site exit
- Restrict speed on site
- Provide covers to all delivery trucks to minimise dust generation
- Inspect and clean public roads in the vicinity if necessary
- Material stockpiling provided with adequate protection from the wind
- Dust monitoring at the site boundary
- Truck inspection and maintenance plan
- Details of a road maintenance agreement between the wind farm operator and the Local Roads Authority to clarify responsibility for the upkeep and repair of access roads during the construction phase of the project

Surface and Ground Water Quality

The proposed development has the potential to have a significant impact on the quality of both surface and ground water. All drinking water sources, both surface and ground water, must be identified. Public and Group Water Scheme sources and supplies should be identified in addition to any private wells supplying potable water to houses in the vicinity of the proposed development. Measures to ensure that all sources and supplies are protected should be described. The Environmental Health Service recommends that a walk over survey of the site is undertaken in addition to a desktop analysis of Geological Survey of Ireland data in order to identify the location of private wells used for drinking water purposes.

Any potential significant impacts to drinking water sources should be assessed. Details of bedrock, overburden, vulnerability, groundwater flows, aquifers and catchment areas should be considered when assessing potential impacts and any proposed mitigation measures.

Any impacts on surface water as a result of the construction of the underground cables should be identified and addressed in the EIAR.

Geotechnical and Peat Stability Assessment

A detailed assessment of the current ground stability of the site for the proposed renewable energy development and all proposed mitigation measures should be detailed in the EIAR. The assessment should include the impact construction work may have on the future stability of ground conditions, taking into consideration extreme weather events, site drainage and the potential for soil erosion.

Information should be provided on the make and model of the turbines and on construction details for the turbine foundations, including the depth and volume of concrete required. An accurate

assessment of the potential impacts of the foundations on water quality and peat stability cannot be undertaken without this information.

Reference is made to a peat slide which occurred near Ballybofey in Co. Donegal on 13 November 2020 which may have been linked to construction activity at Meenbog Wind Farm. Potential impacts on water supply associated with contamination following a peat slide include sedimentation and alteration of pH levels.

The Environmental Health Service recommends that a detailed Peat Stability/Geotechnical Assessment should be undertaken to assess the suitability of the soil for the proposed development. The EIAR should include provision for a peat stability monitoring programme to identify early signs of potential bog slides ('pre-failure indicators' see the Scottish Government's 'Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessments: Best Practice Guide for Proposed Electricity Developments 2017') <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2017/04/peat-landslide-hazard-risk-assessments-best-practice-guide-proposed-electricity/documents/00517176-pdf/00517176-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/00517176.pdf>

Ancillary Facilities

The EIAR should include details of the location of all site office, construction compound, fuel storage depot, sanitary accommodation and canteen, First Aid facilities, disposal of wastewater and the provision of a potable water supply to the site canteen.

Cumulative Impacts

All existing or proposed wind farm developments in the vicinity should be clearly identified in the EIAR.

The impact on sensitive receptors of the proposed development combined with any other wind farm/renewable energy developments in the vicinity should be considered. The EIAR should include a detailed assessment of any likely significant cumulative impacts of the proposed renewable energy development.



Environment/Climate Change Network Support Unit,
Environmental Health Service,
HSE West,
Ennistymon Health Service,
Ennis Road,
Ennistymon,
Co. Clare
065 7071143
086 8236817

Jonny Fearon

From: RAFFERTY Audrey <audrey.rafferty@iaa.ie>
Sent: 04 October 2022 14:47
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Dear Mr Fearon

Based on the information provided, the proposed wind farm is proximate to the licenced Aerodrome – Birr Airfield, Co. Offaly.

Please engage directly with the aerodrome licensee, Ormand Flying Club to make them aware of the Sharragh Wind Farm proposal.

Mr. Colm Wright,
Ormand Flying Club,
Birr Airfield,
Birr,
Co. Offaly
Phone: 057-9121300
<https://ormandflyingclub.ie/>
info@ormandflyingclub.ie

Based on the licensee's observations, it may be necessary to undertake an aeronautical safety assessment to consider the potential impact of the wind farm on the safety of aircraft operations at Birr Airfield.

In any case, it is likely that the following general observations would be proffered by the Authority during a formal planning process: In the event of planning consent being granted, the applicant should be conditioned to contact the Irish Aviation Authority to:

- (1) agree an aeronautical obstacle warning light scheme for the wind farm development,
- (2) provide as-constructed coordinates in WGS84 format together with ground and blade tip height elevations at each wind turbine location

<i>Turbine No.</i>	<i>WGS-84 Co-ordinates</i>	<i>Ground elevation (Malin Head OD)</i>	<i>Blade tip elevation of turbine (Malin Head OD)</i>	<i>Height of turbine (height from ground level to blade tip)</i>	<i>Confirm if turbine has obstacle lighting.</i>
T1	53.346125, -6.258288	75m	225m	150m	No

- (3) notify the Authority of intention to commence crane operations with at least 30 days prior notification of their erection.

It should be noted that the above does not preclude other domains within the Authority, i.e. Engineering, Airspace, etc., from making additional observations in relation to this proposal.

Kind Regards

Audrey Rafferty
Corporate Affairs
Irish Aviation Authority

11-12 Dolier Street
Dublin 2
01 603 1103

=====

===== PLEASE consider the environment; PRINT ONLY when necessary! DISCLAIMER: This message contains information that is confidential, may be privileged and is the property of The Irish Aviation Authority (IAA). If you are not the intended recipient, you may not use this email or the information it contains. If you are not the intended recipient please notify the sender immediately and delete all copies of this message. Thank you. This email message has been swept for the presence of computer viruses. Internet Emails are not necessarily secure. The IAA accepts no responsibility for malicious content such as viruses or for changes made to this message after it was sent. _____ Registered Office: The Times Building, 11-12 D'Olier Street, Dublin 2. D02 T449 Registered Number: 211082 Place of Registration: Ireland A limited liability company

=====

=====

RECEIVED 23/02/2023

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purpose Only!

Jonny Fearon

From: Jane Gilleran <Jane.Gilleran@fisheriesireland.ie>
Sent: 23 September 2022 09:08
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: Consultation request Sharragh Windfarm
Attachments: Sharragh Windfarm EIAR Consultation 23.09.2022.pdf

You don't often get email from jane.gilleran@fisheriesireland.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Jonathan,

Please find attached IFI response to your request for consultation.

Best regards,

Jane

Jane Gilleran
Fisheries Environmental Officer
Inland Fisheries Ireland - Limerick

Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

Tel (061) 300238
Email jane.gilleran@fisheriesireland.ie
Web www.fisheriesireland.ie

Ashbourne Business Park, Dock Rd. Limerick, V94 NPE0

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan
Tuam Road
Galay
H91 VW84



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

23.09.2022

Re. Consultation Request for Proposed Development of Sharragh Wind, Co. Tipperary

Dear Jonathan,

Thank you for your email dated September 22nd regarding a request for consultation on the proposed Sharragh Windfarm which was forwarded to me for reply.

Please find below our initial concerns and recommendations in relation to this development. Our main concerns in relation to this development will be the protection of the aquatic resource and the associated riparian habitat. In particular the protection of streams such as the Faddan Beg that crosses the proposed site and which feeds into the Little Brosna River which flows directly to the River Shannon at Victoria Lock, part of the River Shannon Callows SAC.

The accompanying map is low on detail making it difficult to assess the potential river crossings and interactions, therefore the comments below are generic in nature and reflect our general concerns in relation to such developments. Additional concerns may be raised when the final EIAR and planning application is available.

1. All watercourses that will receive drainage from the construction sites of the turbines or the access roads must be assessed in terms of aquatic biodiversity with particular emphasis on fish, the food of fish, spawning grounds and fish habitat in general. In this regard changes to river morphology should be avoided.
2. We are concerned about soils, their structure and types around all the turbines, turbine pads, associated access roads and site development. In particular we have concerns about the stability of the soils and the impact that works on both the turbines and access roads may have either directly or by vibration on the stability of the soils. IFI are particularly concerned where it is proposed to construct wind turbines on peat soils especially if these peat soils are located on upland areas. Extra caution will be required to prevent deleterious discharges to waters.
3. Of concern to IFI is that the proposed development will necessitate the continuation of the current drainage/watercourse management scheme, thereby preventing future restoration of the bog complex. Additionally, IFI are concerned with the proposed peat stripping of the site and the re-use of this material within the development and the potential for significant nutrient loss from this activity. Any proposed mitigation measures should focus not solely on suspended solids but also on dissolved nutrients such as ammonia that are lost from desiccated peat.



4. IFI strongly recommends that specialist personnel are employed to assess soil strength and suitability of the ground at each site and along any proposed access road. This is particularly important in relation to peat soils. From our experiences we will have serious difficulties with developments on peat soils where there is excessive slope and/or where the peat depth exceeds one metre. Excessive slopes will be an issue with all wind farm proposals regardless of soil type. The potential for soil movement and landslides should be assessed fully within the EIS.
5. Particular attention should be paid to the hydrology of any site where excavations, including excavations for road construction are being undertaken. It is important that natural flow paths are not interrupted or diverted in such a manner as to give rise to erosion or instability of soils caused by an alteration in water movement either above or below ground.
6. Attention should be paid to drainage during both the construction phase and the operational phase. This includes waters being pumped from foundations or other excavations. It is particularly important during the construction phase that sufficient retention time is available in any settlement pond to ensure no deleterious matter is discharged to waters. We strongly recommend that settlement ponds are maintained, where appropriate, during the operational phase to allow for the adequate settlement of suspended solids and sediments and prevent any deleterious matter from discharging. In constructing and designing silt traps particular attention should be paid to rainfall levels and intensity. The silt traps should be designed to minimise the movement of silt during intense precipitation events where the trap may become hydraulically overloaded. It is essential that they are located with good access to facilitate monitoring sampling and maintenance. A license to discharge to waters may be required from the local authority.
7. We have concerns about the construction of roads as these will tend to provide preferential flow paths for surface waters. Considerable attention must be paid to the interception of surface water flows. Our concerns in relation to deleterious matter have been referred to above, but we also have concerns in relation to the flow patterns and to ensuring that normal flows are maintained both during and after construction. Situations can arise where water transportation is significantly increased in certain watercourses thereby putting additional pressures on these and interfering with the sustained flow of water particularly during dry weather. This should be avoided.
8. Consideration must be given to the disposal of waste materials such that they will not give rise to discharges to waters. In terms of risk, the placing of soils on watercourse-adjacent ground should not be permitted unless the area has been the subject of a risk assessment. This is of particular concern where peat soils are encountered. Furthermore drainage from disturbed and stockpiled soils will have to be considered in advance. It may be necessary to carry out soil stockpiling operations in confined areas only and to ensure vegetation/covering of the soils to prevent wash-out.



9. Details in relation to site offices and the services necessary for the site offices should form part of the EIA. In addition, details relating to operations during the construction phase to contain pollutants should also be considered. It should be noted that cement leachate, hydrocarbon oils and other toxic materials will require full containment and should not be permitted to discharge to any waters. Please note that physical pollution of watercourses in terms of dumping of unsuitable gravel material or other construction debris in or stockpiling such materials near watercourses is not acceptable as this will interfere with the aquatic habitat.
10. The use of sedimentary rocks, such as shale, in road construction should be avoided. This type of material has poor tensile strength and is liable to be crushed by heavy vehicles thereby releasing fine sediment materials into the drainage system which are difficult to precipitate and may give rise to water pollution. We recommend that specialist expertise should advise on the type of material required for road construction bearing in mind the pressures that will arise during the construction phase and the necessity to avoid pollution due to fines washing out into the roadside drainage.
11. In relation to watercourse crossings for the road or grid connection please be advised that IFI will require to be consulted well in advance in relation to all watercourse crossings or the use of any temporary diversions. We strongly recommend that these crossings should be kept to a minimum. We will also require that any instream structures or bridge crossings are approved by the IFI. In designing crossings, the length, slope and width of any instream structure will be important. Clear span bridges are the preferred option for all crossings especially in upland areas.
12. Please also note that any instream works or other works which may impact directly on a watercourse should only be carried out during the open season which is from 1st July to 30th of September in each year (so as to avoid impacting on the aquatic habitat during the spawning season.) It would be important that appropriate scheduling of works is allowed for.
13. The EIA should indicate proposals to monitor the impact on watercourses within the site. In the event that environmental damage to the aquatic habitat and associated riparian zone is caused, the EIA should indicate the steps that may be taken to rectify any damage to the aquatic habitat including liaison with the appropriate authorities.
14. In relation to wind farm structures and infrastructure it is important that a sufficient bank side riparian zone is maintained to absorb and attenuate overland flows. In deciding the extent of this riparian zone the following factors would be important:
- Type of soil and its depth and strength
 - Stock piling or spreading of spoil on unstable soils especially if the soil is peat with a depth greater than 1 meter thick. (Geotec. survey and assessment at every stage of operation is essential)



Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

- Degree or extent of the slope.
- Variations in the topography that will give rise to point flows (keep flow as diffuse as possible).
- Extent and nature of catchment above the area of operation. In particular meticulous care should be paid to avoid interfering with the catchment and altering the direction of flow, perhaps to another catchment.
- The importance of the watercourse and downstream waters in fisheries and biodiversity terms.
- The extent and proven efficacy of water treatment in relation to the structure.

The discharge of polluting or deleterious matter to any watercourse except under and in accordance with a licence may be an offence under the Fisheries Acts and/or under the Water Pollution Acts.

Should works be approved a finalised CEMP must be agreed with Inland Fisheries Ireland before works commence.

Should you require any further information or clarification from IFI, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Gilleran

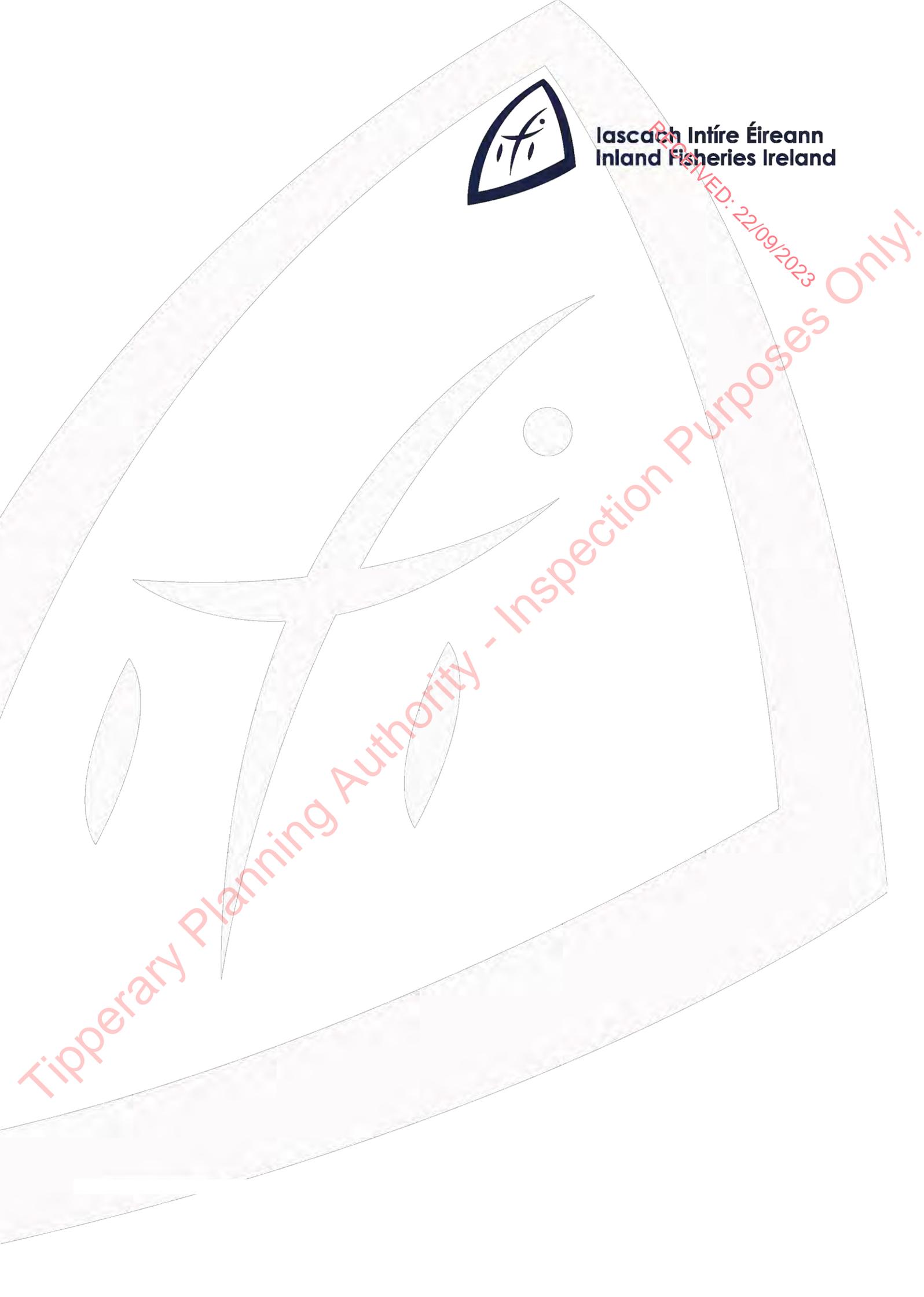
.....
Jane Gilleran
Fisheries Environmental Officer
Inland Fisheries Ireland - Limerick



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

REMOVED: 22/09/2023

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!



Jonny Fearon

From: Paul Brunel <Paul.Brunel@imaginegroup.ie>
Sent: 27 September 2022 15:21
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Eoin McCarthy; Ronnie O'Neill
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.

Dear Mr. Jonathan Fearon,
We would like stress that Imagine have two Microwave links traversing this development. At present the closest turbine location is only 150m from our Microwave link. We trust that turbine blades will not be impede upon our path. If turbines are added or moved buffer zones must be ensured. Construction areas must be located away from any microwave path.



Kind Regards,
Paul Brunel
Transmission Planner

 www.imagine.ie
 086 388 1962
 Sandyford Business Centre |
Blackthorn Road |Sandyford
| D18AW89



Disclaimer: www.imagine.ie/email-disclaimer/

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 22 September 2022 15:24
To: Paul Brunel <Paul.Brunel@imaginegroup.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.

This email originated outside of the organisation - please exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

Dear Mr. Paul Brunel,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 4 - 7 No. wind turbines, a 110kV substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound, and a permanent anemometry mast located in Co. Tipperary, and grid connection to Birr 110kV substation, located in Co. Offaly, via an underground grid connection route.

An application will be made to An Bord Pleanála (Board) seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed wind energy development. If the Board determine that the development is indeed SID, the planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. Should the project be of a scale lower than the SID thresholds, applications for planning permission will be made to Tipperary County Council.

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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Jonny Fearon

From: Elaine Gallagher <egallagher@southernassembly.ie>
Sent: 09 May 2023 10:08
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: FW: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.
Attachments: Fig. 1 - Turbine Layout (OSi) - 2023.04.27 - 211016.pdf; Fig. 1 - Turbine Layout (Aerial) - 2023.04.27 - 211016.pdf; Sharragh Scoping Document - F - (Email) (Reduced Size) 2022.09.14 - 211016.pdf

You don't often get email from egallagher@southernassembly.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Jonny,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of this email, I have forwarded it to the Planning Division for review.

Le dea-ghuí,

Elaine Gallagher

Clerical Officer

HR & Finance

Southern Regional Assembly

egallagher@southernassembly.ie | :: www.southernassembly.ie; www.eufunds.gov.ie; #EuropeInMyRegion

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Government of Ireland



Có-mhaoinithe ag an
Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by the
European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



Europe in my region

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 9 May 2023 09:29
To: info <info@southernassembly.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am following up on the on the below email which related to the EIA Scoping Document for a proposed wind energy development near Carrig, Co. Tipperary. Have you had a chance to examine the Scoping Document for the proposed Carrig Renewable Wind Farm (formerly called Sharragh Wind Farm) as per the email I sent out on 22nd September 2022? I have attached maps showing the turbine layout of the Proposed Development. We would appreciate any further feedback you may have.

Kind Regards,

Jonny.

Jonny Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



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From: Jonny Fearon

Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2022 3:26 PM

To: info@southernassembly.ie

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 4 - 7 No. wind turbines, a 110kV substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound, and a permanent anemometry mast located in Co. Tipperary, and grid connection to Birr 110kV substation, located in Co. Offaly, via an underground grid connection route.

An application will be made to An Bord Pleanála (Board) seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed wind energy development. If the Board determine that the development is indeed SID, the planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. Should the project be of a scale lower than the SID thresholds, applications for planning permission will be made to Tipperary County Council.

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonny Fearon', is written below the text 'Yours sincerely,'.

Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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RECEIVED: 22/09/2023

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!

Jonny Fearon

From: Landuse Planning <LandUsePlanning@tii.ie>
Sent: 23 May 2023 17:13
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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TII ref. TII23-122970

Dear Mr. Fearon,

I acknowledge receipt of your e.mail of 11 May, 2023, relating to the above EIAR Scoping exercise.

TII will endeavour to consider and respond to planning applications referred to it given its status and duties as a statutory consultee under the Planning Acts. The approach to be adopted by TII in making such submissions or comments will seek to uphold official policy and guidelines as outlined in the Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DoECLG, 2012). Regard should also be had to other relevant guidance available at www.TII.ie.

The issuing of this correspondence is provided as best practice guidance only and does not prejudice TII's statutory right to make any observations, requests for further information, objections or appeals following the examination of any valid planning application referred.

National Strategic Outcome 2 of the National Planning Framework includes the objective to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the national roads network. In addition, Chapter 7 'Enhanced Regional Accessibility' of the National Development Plan, 2021 – 2030, sets out the key sectoral priority of maintaining Ireland's existing national road network to a robust and safe standard for users. This requirement is further reflected in the publication of the National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland and also the existing Statutory Section 28 Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities.

With respect to EIAR scoping issues, the recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of an EIAR, which may affect the National Roads Network.

The developer/scheme promoter should have regard, *inter alia*, to the following;

- Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office with regard to locations of existing and future national road schemes,
- TII would be specifically concerned as to potential significant impacts the development would have on the national road network (and junctions with national roads) in the proximity of the proposed development, including the potential haul route,
- The developer should assess visual impacts from existing national roads,
- The developer should have regard to any EIAR/EIS and all conditions and/or modifications imposed by An Bord Pleanála regarding road schemes in the area. The developer should in particular have regard to any potential cumulative impacts,

- The developer, in preparing EIAR, should have regard to TII Publications (formerly DMRB and the Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works).
- The developer, in preparing EIAR, should have regard to TII's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, including the *Guidelines for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes* (National Roads Authority, 2006),
- The EIAR/EIS should consider the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 (SI 140 of 2006) and, in particular, how the development will affect future action plans by the relevant competent authority. The developer may need to consider the incorporation of noise barriers to reduce noise impacts (see *Guidelines for the Treatment of Noise and Vibration in National Road Schemes* (1st Rev., National Roads Authority, 2004)),
- It would be important that, where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment be carried out in accordance with relevant guidelines, noting traffic volumes attending the site and traffic routes to/from the site with reference to impacts on the national road network and junctions of lower category roads with national roads. In relation to national roads, the Authority's Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the national road network. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of the NRA/TII TTA Guidelines which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA. Any improvements required to facilitate development should be identified. It will be the responsibility of the developer to pay for the costs of any improvements to national roads to facilitate the private development proposed as TII will not be responsible for such costs,
- The designers are asked to consult TII Publications to determine whether a Road Safety Audit is required,
- In the interests of maintaining the safety and standard of the national road network, the EIAR should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network,
- TII recommends that that applicant/developer should clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. It is noted that your e.mail that accompanied the EIAR Scoping referral indicates a haul route to site utilising the M7, N52 and N62, national roads. Where abnormal 'weight' loads are proposed, separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route. All national road structures on the haul route through all the relevant County Council administrative areas should be checked by the applicant/developer to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal 'weight' load proposed.

In addition, the haul route should be assessed to confirm capacity to accommodate abnormal 'length' loads and any temporary works required.

The national road network is managed by a combination of PPP Concessions, Motorway Maintenance and Renewal Contracts (MMaRC) and local road authorities in association with TII.

The applicant/developer should also consult with all PPP Companies, MMaRC Contractors and road authorities over which the haul route traverses to ascertain any operational requirements, including delivery timetabling, etc. to ensure that the strategic function of the national road network is safeguarded.

Where temporary works within any MMaRC Contract Boundary are required to facilitate the transport of turbine components to site, the applicant/developer shall contact thirdpartyworks@tii.ie in advance, as a works specific Deed of Indemnity will be needed by TII before the works can take place.

Additionally, any damage caused to the pavement on the existing national road arising from any temporary works due to the turning movement of abnormal loads (eg. tearing of the surface course, etc.) shall be rectified in accordance with TII Pavement Standards and details in this regard shall be agreed with the Road Authority prior to the commencement of any development on site.

- It is noted that the grid connection proposals outlined in the EIA Scoping Report outline the proposal to connect the Proposed Development to the 38kV Birr substation. The connection method (overhead line/underground cable) or grid connection route is not elaborated. Please note, any grid connection and cable routing proposals should be developed to safeguard proposed road schemes as TII will not be responsible for costs associated with future relocation of cable routing where proposals are catered for in an area of a proposed national road scheme. In that regard, consideration should be given to routing options, use of existing crossings, depth of cable laying, etc.

In the context of the existing national roads network, in accordance with the National Planning Framework National Strategic Outcome no. 2 'Enhanced Regional Accessibility', there is a requirement to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the network. This requirement is further reflected in the National Development Plan, the National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland and also the existing Statutory Section 28 Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities.

There is around 99,000km of roads in Ireland, the national road network which caters for strategic inter-urban travel consists of only approx. 5.4% of this. There is a critical requirement to ensure the strategic capacity and safety of this national road network is maintained and significant Government investment already made in the national road network is safeguarded.

The provision of cabling along the national road network represents a number of significant implications for TII and road authorities in the management and maintenance of the strategic national road network and TII is of the opinion that grid connection cable routing should reflect the foregoing provisions of official policy and therefore, avoid grid connection routing proposals along national roads.

Other consents or licences may be required from the road authority for any trenching or cabling proposals crossing the national road. The Authority requests referral of all proposals agreed and licensed between the road authority and the applicant which affect the national road network.

Cable routing should avoid all impacts to existing TII infrastructure such as traffic counters, weather stations, etc. and works required to such infrastructure shall only be undertaken in consultation with and subject to the agreement of TII, any costs attributable shall be borne by the applicant/developer. The developer should also be aware that separate approvals may be required for works traversing the national road network.

Notwithstanding, any of the above, the developer should be aware that this list is non-exhaustive, thus site and development specific issues should be addressed in accordance with best practise.

I trust that the above comments are of use in your EIA preparation.

Yours sincerely,
Michael McCormack
Senior Land Use Planner

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2023 4:52 PM

To: INFO <Information@tii.ie>

Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

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Dear Sir/Madam,

In September 2022, a scoping exercise for the proposed Carrig Wind Farm (at the time it was named Sharragh Wind Farm) setting out the project details that were known at the time. An oversight resulted in TII being left out of the listed consultees. This oversight was realised once we began the second round of scoping for the now named (proposed) Carrig Renewable Wind Farm project. To rectify this, I am attaching to this email the original scoping document that issued in September 2022. In the intervening months, the project has been renamed and the layout subsequently has changed. The following details list some of the changes to the project since the issuing of the September 2022 scoping document:

- The proposed site boundary is 315 hectares.
- The proposed project is now a 7-turbine project with a tip height of 185m and a rotor diameter of 162m.
- The proposed access is from the L5040 Local Road which is located to the south of the site boundary.
- The on-site substation is now a 38kV substation which will connect into the existing 110kV Dallow substation (north of Birr) via an underground 38kV grid connection to be laid within the public road network.

It is envisaged that from the M7 motorway (Junction 21), turbine components will be transported to the site along the R435 and R445 regional roads to Roscrea before joining the N62 national secondary road and travelling northwest to Birr and then turning southwest onto the N52 and continuing to the site entrance which is located on the L5040 local road.

Apologies for this oversight. We would greatly appreciate any feedback TII may have, thank you.

Kind Regards,
Jonny.

Jonny Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



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Próiseálann BIÉ sonraí pearsanta a sholáthraítear dó i gcomhréir lena Fhógra ar Chosaint Sonraí atá ar fáil ag <https://www.tii.ie/about/about-tii/Data-Protection/?set-lang=ga>

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RECEIVED 12/09/2023

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!

Jonny Fearon

From: Customer Service Desk <customerservices@tipperarycoco.ie>
Sent: 22 September 2022 15:25
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: Customer Service Desk: 211016- EIA Scoping Document for the proposed renewable energy development in Sharragh & adjacent townlands in Tipperary.: Case No: T-199008-B7S4 CRM:065600206

Dear Jonny,

Thank you for your e-mail regarding " **211016- EIA Scoping Document for the proposed renewable energy development in Sharragh & adjacent townlands in Tipperary.** "

I have forwarded your e-mail to the Planning Section for their attention and direct reply to you. Should you wish to follow up on this case, please contact Customer Service Desk quoting reference number **T-199008-B7S4**

Regards,
Customer Service Desk,
Tipperary County Council,
Civic Offices, Clonmel / Civic Offices, Nenagh,
Co. Tipperary.

Phone: 0818 06 5000

E-mail: customerservice@tipperarycoco.ie

Jonny Fearon

From: Stapleton, Maria <maria.stapleton@tipperarycoco.ie>
Sent: 22 September 2022 16:08
To: Jonny Fearon
Subject: RE: [External] 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

You don't often get email from maria.stapleton@tipperarycoco.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Joanthan,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your e-mail and I have it forwarded to the relevant staff members.

Kind Regards

Maria Stapleton
A/ Assistant Staff Officer, Planning
Tipperary County Council, Civic Offices, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

E: maria.stapleton@tipperarycoco.ie
T: 0818 06 5000
W: www.tipperarycoco.ie



From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 22 September 2022 15:02
To: Planning Group <planning@tipperarycoco.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: [External] 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

CAUTION FROM TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL IT SECTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 4 - 7 No. wind turbines, a 110kV substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound, and a permanent anemometry mast located in Co. Tipperary, and grid connection to Birr 110kV substation, located in Co. Offaly, via an underground grid connection route.

An application will be made to An Bord Pleanála (Board) seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed wind energy development. If the Board determine that the development is indeed SID, the planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. Should the project be of a scale lower than the SID thresholds, applications for planning permission will be made to Tipperary County Council.

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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Jonny Fearon

From: Hayes, Roisin <roisin.hayes@tipperarycoco.ie>
Sent: 27 September 2022 13:35
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: EIA Scoping Document for renewable energy development - Sharragh

Some people who received this message don't often get email from roisin.hayes@tipperarycoco.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Jonathan,

I wish to inform you that the council received your Scoping Document for Renewable Energy Development at Sharragh, Co Tipperary on the 22/09/2022. I have referred it on to the Environment Section Nenagh, the EPA, An Bord Pleanala, The Dept of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources and Housing, Planning and Local Government and advised that any submissions/observations in relation to the information to be contained in the EIAR may be made to the authority by the 20th Oct 2022.

Kind Regards,

Roisin

Roisin Hayes
Staff Officer
Planning Section
Tipperary County Council, Civic Offices, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.
Ext 6969
E roisin.hayes@tipperarycoco.ie

Jonny Fearon

From: Planning <Planning@water.ie>
Sent: 15 June 2023 11:12
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Barry Kelly (C)
Subject: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.
Attachments: EIAR Scoping Response -Sharragh.pdf

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good Morning Jonny,

In response to your EIAR Scoping document for a Proposed wind farm development located in Sharragh and surrounding townlands, Co. Tipperary.

Please find attached Uisce Éireann's observations.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Martha Gilligan
Planning Application Specialist

Uisce Éireann
Teach Colvill, 24–26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86, Éire
Uisce Éireann
Colvill House, 24–26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, D01 NP86, Ireland

Text to Voice/Voice to text 1800 378 378

planning@water.ie
www.water.ie
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Is don duine amháin nó don eintiteas amháin ainmnithe ar an seoladh an fhaisnéis agus d'fhéadfadh ábhar faoi rún, faoi phribhléid nó ábhar atá íogair ó thaobh na tráchtála de a bheith mar chuid den fhaisnéis. Tá toirmeasc ar aon daoine nó aon eititis; nach dóibh siúd an fhaisnéis- aon athbhreithniú a dhéanamh, aon atarchur a dhéanamh nó aon athdháileadh a dhéanamh, nó aon úsáid eile a bhaint as an bhfaisnéis, nó aon ghníomh a bhraithfeadh ar an bhfaisnéis seo a dhéanamh agus d'fhéadfaí an dlí a shárú dá ndéanfaí sin. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas as aon ghníomh agus as aon iarmhairt bunaithe ar úsáid neamhúdraithe na faisnéise seo. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le seachadadh iomlán agus ceart na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo agus séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann leis an bhfaisnéis a fháil. Má tá an ríomh-phost seo faighte agat trí dhearmad, déan teagmháil leis an seoltóir más é do thoil é agus scríos an t-ábhar ó gach aon ríomhaire. D'fhéadfadh ríomhphost a bheith so-ghabhálach i leith truaillithe, idircheaptha agus i leith leasuithe neamhúdraithe. Séanann Uisce Éireann aon fhreagracht as athruithe nó as idircheapadh a rinneadh ar an ríomhphost seo nó as aon dochar do chórais na bhfaighteoírí déanta ag an teachtaireacht seo nó ag a ceangaltáin tar éis a sheolta. Tabhair faoi deara go bhféadfadh monatóireacht a bheith á dhéanamh ar theachtairreachtaí chuig Uisce Éireann agus ó Uisce Éireann d'fhonn ár ngnó a chosaint agus chun a chinntiú go bhfuiltear ag teacht le beartais agus le caighdeáin Uisce Éireann. Is cuideachta

gníomhaíochta ainmnithe é Uisce Éireann atá faoi theorainn scaireanna, a bunaíodh de bhun fhorálacha na n-Achtanna um Sheirbhísí Uisce 2007-2022, a bhfuil a bpríomh-ionad gnó ag Teach Colvill, 24-26 Sráid na Talbóide, BÁC 1.

Go raibh maith agat as d'aird a thabhairt.

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Thank you for your attention.

For the attention of Jonny Fearon

Environmental Scientist
MKO Consultants
Tuam Road,
Galway,
H91 VW84

13th June 2023

By Email: jfearon@mkoireland.ie

Uisce Éireann
Bosca OP 6000
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 WA07
Éire

Uisce Éireann
PO Box 6000
Dublin 1
D01 WA07
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T: +353 1 89 25000
F: +353 1 89 25001
www.water.ie

Re: EIA Scoping Request – Proposed wind farm development located in Sharragh and surrounding townlands, Co. Tipperary.

Dear Jonny Fearon,

Uisce Éireann has received notification of your Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping request relating Sharragh Renewable Energy Limited's forthcoming planning application for a windfarm development in Co. Tipperary.

Please see attached, Uisce Éireann's scoping opinion in relation to Water Services. On receipt of the planning referral, Uisce Éireann will review the finalised Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) as part of the planning process.

Queries relating to the terms and observations above should be directed to planning@water.ie

Yours sincerely,

PP *Alí Robinson*

Signed on behalf of Yvonne Harris
Connections and Developer Services

Uisce Éireann's Response to EIA Scoping Requests

At present, Uisce Éireann does not have the capacity to advise on the scoping of individual projects. However, in general the following aspects of Water Services should be considered in the scope of an EIA where relevant;

- a) Where the development proposal has the potential to impact an Uisce Éireann Drinking Water Source(s), the applicant shall provide details of measures to be taken to ensure that there will be no negative impact to Uisce Éireann's Drinking Water Source(s) during the construction and operational phases of the development. Hydrological / hydrogeological pathways between the applicant's site and receiving waters should be identified as part of the report.
- b) Where the development proposes the backfilling of materials, the applicant is required to include a waste sampling strategy to ensure the material is inert.
- c) Mitigations should be proposed for any potential negative impacts on any water source(s) which may be in proximity and included in the environmental management plan and incident response.
- d) Any and all potential impacts on the nearby reservoir as public water supply water source(s) are assessed, including any impact on hydrogeology and any groundwater/ surface water interactions.
- e) Impacts of the development on the capacity of water services (*i.e. do existing water services have the capacity to cater for the new development*). This is confirmed by Uisce Éireann in the form of a Confirmation of Feasibility (COF). If a development requires a connection to either a public water supply or sewage collection system, the developer is advised to submit a Pre-Connection Enquiry (PCE) enquiry to Uisce Éireann to determine the feasibility of connection to the Irish Water network. All pre-connection enquiry forms are available from <https://www.water.ie/connections/connection-steps/>.
- f) The applicant shall identify any upgrading of water services infrastructure that would be required to accommodate the proposed development.
- g) In relation to a development that would discharge trade effluent – any upstream treatment or attenuation of discharges required prior to discharging to an Uisce Éireann collection network.
- h) In relation to the management of surface water; the potential impact of surface water discharges to combined sewer networks and potential measures to minimise and or / stop surface waters from combined sewers.
- i) Any physical impact on Uisce Éireann assets – reservoir, drinking water source, treatment works, pipes, pumping stations, discharges outfalls etc. including any relocation of assets.

- j) When considering a development proposal, the applicant is advised to determine the location of public water services assets, possible connection points from the applicant's site / lands to the public network and any drinking water abstraction catchments to ensure these are included and fully assessed in any pre-planning proposals. Details, where known, can be obtained by emailing an Ordnance Survey map identifying the proposed location of the applicant's intended development to datarequests@water.ie
- k) Other indicators or methodologies for identifying infrastructure located within the applicant's lands are the presence of registered wayleave agreements, visible manholes, vent stacks, valve chambers, marker posts etc. within the proposed site.
- l) Any potential impacts on the assimilative capacity of receiving waters in relation to Uisce Éireann discharge outfalls including changes in dispersion / circulation characterises. Hydrological / hydrogeological pathways between the applicant's site and receiving waters should be identified within the report.
- m) Any potential impact on the contributing catchment of water sources either in terms of water abstraction for the development (*and resultant potential impact on the capacity of the source*) or the potential of the development to influence / present a risk to the quality of the water abstracted by Uisce Éireann for public supply should be identified within the report.
- n) Where a development proposes to connect to an Uisce Éireann network and that network either abstracts water from or discharges wastewater to a "protected"/ sensitive area, consideration as to whether the integrity of the site / conservation objectives of the site would be compromised should be identified within the report.
- o) Mitigation measures in relation to any of the above ensuring a zero risk to any Irish Water drinking water sources (Surface and Ground water).

This is not an exhaustive list.

Please note;

- Where connection(s) to the public network is required as part of the development proposal, applicants are advised to complete the Pre-Connection Enquiry process and have received a Confirmation of Feasibility letter from Uisce Éireann ahead of any planning application.
- Uisce Éireann will not accept new surface water discharges to combined sewer networks.

Jonny Fearon

From: Fiona Byrne, Vodafone (External) <fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com>
Sent: 10 October 2022 14:20
To: Jonny Fearon; Eoin McCarthy
Cc: Gavin Byrne, Vodafone; Chris Stephenson, Vodafone (External); Sean Lyons, Vodafone (External)
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.

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Hi Jonny, Eoin,

Using the coordinates E 598091, N 702416 provided for the centre of the proposed windfarm location I can confirm we do have some links nearby.

Can you please provide proposed turbine locations, size and dimension so I can complete further analysis to confirm if any of the links nearby will be affected?

Thanks,

Kind Regards,



Fiona Byrne

Transmission Engineer

Technology- NET

+353879938050

fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com

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Ireland: No. 326967

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C2 General

From: Sean Lyons, Vodafone (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>

Sent: Monday 26 September 2022 09:24

To: Fiona Byrne, Vodafone (External) <fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com>

Cc: Gavin Byrne, Vodafone <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>; Chris Stephenson, Vodafone (External) <chris.stephenson2@vodafone.com>

Subject: FW: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.

Hi Fiona,

Can you look into this proposed windfarm?

Please send your findings to Jonny Fearon jfearon@mkoireland.ie & Eoin McCarthy emccarthy@mkoireland.ie

Thanks,

Seán Lyons

****Upcoming leave – Thursday 29th & Friday 30th September****

Transmission Program Manager

Converged Transmission

Technology- NET

+353877758117

sean.lyons@vodafone.com



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Together We Can!

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MountainView, Leopardstown, Dublin 18,

Registered in Ireland: No. 326967

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Thursday 22 September 2022 15:46

To: Chris Stephenson, Vodafone (External) <chris.stephenson2@vodafone.com>; Gavin Byrne, Vodafone <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>; Sean Lyons, Vodafone (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Sharragh and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary.

CYBER SECURITY WARNING: This email is from an external source - be careful of attachments and links. Please follow the Cyber Code and report suspicious emails.

Dear Mr.Chris Stephenson/Mr. Gavin Byrne/Mr. Sean Lyons,

Sharragh Renewable Energy Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Sharragh and adjacent townlands, located in County Tipperary. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 927 hectares and is located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of Birr, Co. Offaly and 9.4 kilometres northeast of the village of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 4 - 7 No. wind turbines, a 110kV substation, wind farm control buildings, electrical cabling for grid connection, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), a temporary construction compound, and a permanent anemometry mast located in Co. Tipperary, and grid connection to Birr 110kV substation, located in Co. Offaly, via an underground grid connection route.

An application will be made to An Bord Pleanála (Board) seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed wind energy development. If the Board determine that the development is indeed SID, the planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. Should the project be of a scale lower than the SID thresholds, applications for planning permission will be made to Tipperary County Council.

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project and the site of the proposed development is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Jonathan Fearon MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O’Sullivan Ltd



Jonathan Fearon
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
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+353 (0) 91 735611
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RECEIVED: 22/09/2023

Tipperary Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!

Jonny Fearon

From: Sabine Browne <Sabine.Browne@waterwaysireland.org>
Sent: 08 August 2023 15:08
To: Jonny Fearon
Cc: Cormac McCarthy
Subject: RE: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Carrig and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good afternoon Jonny,

This is not within any Zone of Influence of our waterways so we will not be commenting.

Kind regards,

Sabine Browne

From: Jonny Fearon <jfearon@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 2:57 PM
To: Sabine Browne <Sabine.Browne@waterwaysireland.org>; Cormac McCarthy <cormac.mccarthy@waterwaysireland.org>
Subject: 211016 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Carrig and adjacent townlands in County Tipperary

Dear Sir/Madam,

In September 2022, a scoping exercise for the proposed Carrig Wind Farm (at the time it was named Sharragh Wind Farm) setting out the project details that were known at the time. An oversight resulted in the Waterways Ireland being left out of the listed consultees. This oversight was realised once we began the second round of scoping for the now named (proposed) Carrig Renewable Wind Farm project. To rectify this, I am attaching to this email the original scoping document that issued in September 2022. In the intervening months, the project has been renamed and the layout subsequently has changed. The following details list some of the changes to the project since the issuing of the September 2022 scoping document:

- The proposed site boundary is 315 hectares.
- The proposed project is now a 7-turbine project with a tip height of 185m and a rotor diameter of 162m.
- The proposed access is from the L5040 Local Road which is located to the south of the site boundary.
- The on-site substation is now a 38kV substation which will connect into the existing 110kV Dallow substation (north of Birr) via an underground 38kV grid connection to be laid within the public road network.

It is envisaged that from the M7 motorway (Junction 21), turbine components will be transported to the site along the R435 and R445 regional roads to Roscrea before joining the N62 national secondary road and travelling northwest to Birr and then turning southwest onto the N52 and continuing to the site entrance which is located on the L5040 local road.

Apologies for this oversight. We would greatly appreciate any feedback Waterways Ireland may have, thank you.

Kind Regards,
Jonny.

Kind Regards,
Jonny.

Jonny Fearon
Environmental Scientist

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