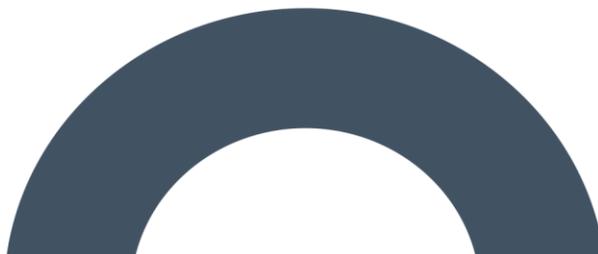


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Community Engagement Report

Carrig Renewables Wind
Farm, Co Tipperary

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DOCUMENT DETAILS

Client: **Atlantic Infrastructure Renewables**

Project Title: **Carrig Renewables Wind Farm, Co Tipperary**

Project Number: **211016-c**

Document Title: **Community Engagement Report**

Document File Name: **Community Engagement Report**

Prepared By: **MKO
Tuam Road
Galway
Ireland
H91 VW84**



Rev	Status	Date	Author(s)	Approved By
01	Draft	21/06/2023	MH	
02	Revised draft	24/07/2023	MH	TB

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1. INTRODUCTION

This Community Engagement Report has been compiled by MKO and Carrig Renewables Energy Limited (a subsidiary of Atlantic Infrastructure Renewables (AIR)) to document the process of community consultation and public engagement during the pre-planning phase of the seven-turbine Carrig Renewables Wind Farm (‘the Proposed Development’) in Co Tipperary. AIR is an Irish-owned company based in Co Limerick.

The report sets out how the objectives of a proactive community engagement approach have been met and further demonstrates AIR’s commitment to a programme of ongoing engagement with the local community over the lifespan of the project.

This report will outline the steps that AIR have taken since project inception to ensure transparent community engagement through all phases of the project to date. It will also demonstrate the values and objectives applied by AIR to the processes of public consultation and stakeholder engagement. Effective and timely community consultation is important to ensure that communities have a say and are heard. Engaging with stakeholders enables developers of projects to understand their needs, their preferences and their expectations. It can also help build trust.

This report has been prepared in line with the requirements as set out in the *Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines (December 2019) – Community Engagement* which state that developers of wind farms should, in advance of submitting applications for planning permission, take “*active steps to: inform local communities as they begin to develop their proposals; take the views of local communities into account in designing their proposals; demonstrate what practical effect that process of engagement has had; and, set out how the project will perform as a good neighbour in the context of the long-term economic and social development of the community or communities within which it is situated.*”

All community engagement activities have been carried out according to the fundamental principle that proactive consultation and open discussion with local stakeholders is a crucial element of any wind energy project. In carrying out these community engagement activities, AIR put the community at the heart of the process to ensure meaningful consultation was carried out which generated goodwill and feedback which made a tangible impact on the final project design.

1.1 Background to Community Consultation

Prior to the commencement of community engagement, AIR appointed MKO’s Project Communications team to consult on the process. MKO devised a Community Engagement Strategy which set out the steps involved in the community consultation approach and introduced a phased timeline for the successful rollout of the engagement process. The developers were cognisant at all times of the need to include the local community in every stage of the process and to ensure openness, transparency and inclusiveness in the development of this critical project.

Initial meetings were held between AIR and MKO in September 2022, prior to the commencement of the public consultation process. The purpose of these meetings was to establish the specific goals of the consultation programme and to plot out the steps required.

Arising from these meetings, MKO Project Communication Director Toni Bourke was appointed as Community Liaison Officer (CLO) on the project, with responsibility for acting as the point of contact for members of the public with questions or queries about the Proposed Development. A dedicated CLO email address and phone number were established in December 2022 to allow members of the public to communicate directly with the project team.

1.1.1 Objectives of Community Consultation

Before the process of community consultation was initiated, it was important to make clear the specific objectives and goals of the process. The overarching philosophy of the project team was to manage communications around the Carrig Renewables Wind Farm, to provide clear, accurate and timely information to members of the local community, and to provide the means and opportunities by which the local community could give their feedback, ask questions, or lodge complaints about the Proposed Development.

As such, the primary objectives of the community consultation process were as follows:

- To put the needs of the local community at the centre of the engagement process
- To identify the appropriate groups with whom to engage, based on their proximity to the Proposed Development and the impact the development was likely to have on their day-to-day lives.
- To reach out to the community in a manner that was timely, proactive and respectful.
- To identify the main concerns expressed by members of the community in relation to the Proposed Development and to address these concerns as comprehensively as possible.
- To create and maintain an open, two-way dialogue between the developers and the local community for the duration of the development process, beginning in the pre-planning phase and continuing through to project realisation and operation.
- To counteract the potential spread of speculation and misinformation relating to the Proposed Development.

The Community Engagement Strategy, in which the process of community consultation was laid out, was an evolving document which could be continually reviewed and amended throughout the consultation process to reflect both the specific aspects of the project as they were encountered as well as community feedback.

2. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

The consultation process consisted of a range of different methodologies. These included:

- The setting up of a dedicated project email address and CLO phone number.
- The design and development of a project website with frequently updated information on the project and contact information.
- Use of several different channels of communication including face-to-face meetings, email, phone calls, door-knocking and online tools.
- Direct engagement with local political representatives including local councillors, TDs and senators.
- Door-to-door engagement with residents within a 2km radius of the Proposed Development.
- Wider consultation with groups, clubs and businesses within a 5km radius of the development, to consist of a mailout of an introductory letter and a project brochure, with additional follow-up meetings held when requested.
- Meetings with prominent community groups.
- A Virtual Consultation Room on the project website.
- A Public Information Event.

2.1 Engagement with Local Representatives

To ensure the local elected representatives were aware of the project and the benefits it would bring to the community in terms of economic and social benefits from the Community Benefit Fund, the wider

environmental advantages, and how the project aligned with the Government's Climate Action targets, it was important that contact was established early in the consultation process.

Prior to the start of consultation with the wider public, MKO on behalf of AIR informed the elected members of Tipperary County Council representing the Nenagh Municipal District, in which the proposed Carrig Renewables Wind Farm was to be situated, of the plans to develop the wind farm.

An introductory letter and project brochure was mailed to each elected representative in December 2022, which was followed up by an email with the introductory letter attached (see appendix 1). This email also informed elected representatives of the plans to host a Public Information Event in the coming months. It also invited the representatives to contact the project team with any questions they may have or to request a meeting.

Responses to these initial communications were received from some of the local councillors. One councillor expressed support for the project but said it was important that the development remain confined to the proposed area, and that the local community be kept informed and up-to-date throughout the process. Another expressed his support for renewable energy and requested a site visit in the new year.

Introductory letters and project brochures were also sent to all Oireachtas members (TDs and senators) from the Tipperary constituency, along with contact details for further engagement.

2.2

Door-to-Door Engagement

Given the rural nature of the area in question and the relatively low density of houses, it was decided that door-to-door consultation would be merited at every house within a 2km radius of the proposed project site.

In late 2022, the project CLO commenced the programme of 'door-knocking' in the designated zone. Over the course of two days, 59 homes were visited. Where the door was answered, the CLO introduced the project and MKO's involvement. The benefits to the local community as well as the wider environmental benefits and how the project aligned to the Government's climate action targets were explained. She also explained the process of ongoing community engagement, the many channels available to the residents to get in touch with the project team, and next steps. Feedback was invited.

Each resident was given a brochure with information on the project, such as the location of the development study area, the estimated project timeline and contact details. Residents were also given a feedback questionnaire (see appendix 2) and asked to respond with any concerns or questions they may have. The questionnaire asked four questions about the development:

- *If the proposed project is developed, what types of benefits should the Carrig Renewables Wind Farm provide to the local community?*
- *Do you have any concerns about this proposed wind farm and if so, what are they?*
- *Have you any further comments in relation to the proposed project?*
- *Carrig Renewable Energy Limited is committed to keeping the local community informed about the proposed project. Please help us identify any other local groups which you feel should be consulted with.*

These project brochures and questionnaires were also left at those houses where the door-knock was unanswered. Each information pack contained a stamped and addressed envelope to return the questionnaire at no cost to the respondent. An online version of the questionnaire was also available on the project website and the link to the website was included.

To date, the project team has received correspondence from members of the local community in the form of phone calls from 19 different local residents, email communications from 17 residents, and completed feedback questionnaires from 5 residents.

The reception to the initial door-knock was mixed. Some residents were supportive of the project, while others expressed concerns over the noise of the wind turbines, the impact the turbines would have on

their livestock and bloodstock, and the potential impact on the native wildlife. Several residents requested more detailed information and precise maps of the Proposed Development and were told that these would become available and would be shared as the project developed over the coming months.

2.3

Wider Community Consultation

Businesses, schools, groups and clubs within a 5km radius of the development received an information pack containing an introductory letter, project brochure and questionnaire in the post in December 2022. These project brochures contained up-to-date information on the project plans, including:

- An outline description of the project.
- Information about the design team, AIR and MKO.
- The main advantages and benefits of wind energy.
- Details of the planning process and next steps.
- Information about the Community Benefit Fund.
- Contact information.

Each information pack also contained a stamped and addressed envelope for the return of the questionnaire at no cost to the respondent.

2.4

Project Website

A dedicated project website (<https://carrigrenewables.com>) was designed and went live in December 2022. The website was constantly updated with the latest information over the following months as the project plans took shape. The website contained an FAQ section answering the most frequently asked questions about the development, as well as details about the government's wind energy policies under the Climate Action Plan. The website also contained contact information.

In April 2023, on the day of the Public Information Event, the Virtual Consultation Room went live on the project website. This interactive online space contained the most detailed plans of the project yet, including:

- Specific locations for the proposed seven turbines.
- An introduction to the project and a list of the environmental and economic benefits for the local community.
- An explanation of how the Community Benefit Fund can benefit the Carrig area.
- The distances between the proposed turbine sites and their nearest dwellings, roads, etc.
- Aerial imaging of the site showing the broader location of the wind farm site relative to the area's boglands and nearest settlements.
- A map showing the proposed grid connection route to bring power from the wind farm to the Dallow substation in Co Kilkenny.
- A map of the proposed Turbine Delivery Route (TDR).
- Further information on site constraints, the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), the planning process and the planned next steps.
- Photomontage impressions showing what the turbines, if built, would look like from several locations surrounding the development site at varying distances and angles.

PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENT

The Public Information Event (PIE) was organised for Thursday, April 27th, 2023. The venue chosen for the event was the Carrig and Riverside Community Centre in Carrig, the closest village to the proposed wind farm site. The event was staged between 3pm and 8pm and was attended by representatives of the project team including:

- Neil O'Brien, AIR
- Eoin McCarthy, MKO senior environmental scientist
- Jonathon Fearon, MKO environmental scientist
- Michael Watson, MKO associate director
- Gus McCarthy, MKO director
- Toni Bourke, MKO project communications director/project CLO
- Mark Higgins, MKO communications specialist

3.1 Event Advertisement

To bring the PIE to the attention of as many people as possible, newspaper adverts were placed in two of the local newspapers, the *Midland Tribune* and the *Nenagh Guardian*, in their respective editions of Thursday, April 20th, one week out from the event (see appendix 3). The adverts were accompanied by press releases outlining the purpose of the event and additional details about the Proposed Development (see appendix 4). A notice was also placed in the parish newsletter of St Mary's Church in Carrig on the weekend prior to the event.

On Friday, April 21st, six days out from the event, representatives from MKO performed a door-to-door visit to houses within a 2km radius of the development, dropping leaflets of the same advert that had appeared in the local newspapers the previous morning to ensure as many of the residents as possible were made aware of the PIE.

3.2 Event Format

The PIE was staged in a format designed to be open and interactive for the attendees. Boards were erected on either side of the hall displaying posters with information about the development and maps of the proposed site layout. Maps were also displayed showing the distance from the wind turbines to the nearest houses, the turbine delivery and grid connection routes, and aerial imaging of the site with the locations of the turbines clearly marked.

At the far end of the hall a series of photomontages were displayed showing what the Proposed Development would look like from various distances away from the site. Booklets of these photomontages were also laid out for attendees to peruse. Everything on view on the project website was presented at the PIE, and vice versa.

A welcome desk was set up at the entrance to the hall and attendees were invited to sign in with their names and contact details, with the option of signing up to a mailing list also provided.

Attendees were greeted at the sign-in desk and brought through the display by a member of the project team. Attendees were also given the option of perusing the display in their own time. Attendees were also encouraged to ask questions or raise any concerns they may have with members of the project team. Comment sheets were available for attendees to fill out as they left the event.

Approximately **80** people attended the Public Information Event over the course of the five hours, with approximately **50** of these electing to leave their names and contact details.

Feelings toward the wind farm varied dramatically amongst the attendees; some members of the local community were roundly supportive of the development and others were curious to learn more about the plans, while some of the attendees were in strong opposition to the development and made their positions known to the project team.

4. FEEDBACK FROM CONSULTATION

4.1 Main Issues Raised

Several issues relating to the proposed Carrig Renewables Wind Farm were raised over the course of the community consultation process, from the initial door-knocking phase through to the Public Information Event and subsequently. Among the most raised issues were:

- The proximity of the proposed turbines to homes.
- The noise generated by the turbines.
- The visual impact of the development.
- Shadow flicker.
- The impact the development would have on local property prices.
- The impact on local wildlife.
- Payments to near neighbours.
- The potential for disruption to turf-cutting activities on the bog.
- The potential for damage to local roads during the construction phase.
- Loss of amenity walkways in the area of the windfarm site.

Proximity to homes

The proximity of the turbines to homes along the L5041 and L5040 roads was the single biggest concern raised by members of the local community over the course of the public consultation process. Homeowners, farmers and renters living and/or farming along the two roads expressed serious reservations, during both the initial door-knocking phase and at the PIE, about how close certain turbines would be to their homes and lands.

Residents were told that one of the key initial criteria for the selection of the Carrig site was the separation distance between the wind turbines and homes. They were also assured that the guideline minimum distance between a turbine and a home (four times the full tip height of the turbine, as set out in the Draft Wind Energy Guidelines (DWEAG), 2019¹) has been met in the project design.

In this instance, the full ground to blade tip height of the Carrig turbines is 185metres and no turbine will be placed less than 740metres from a home. In this regard, AIR have adhered to the 2019 draft guidelines rather than the advisory guidelines in the current legislation², which advise that turbines should be a minimum of 500m away from a dwelling. The developers have thereby sought to increase the minimum distance between the turbines and the nearest dwellings by nearly 50 percent more than the advisory guidelines.

Noise concerns

Closely related to the concerns over proximity were fears over the noise the turbine blades would generate for those living closest to the development. Residents were told that modern turbine technologies are designed to produce as little noise as possible, and that the development would be required by law to abide by any planning conditions set out by the planning authorities regarding the noise from the turbines.

Visual impact / Shadow flicker

The visual impact of the turbines was another significant concern for those residents living closest to the site. Several residents spoke of their fears of the turbines “looming over” their homes while others expressed their concerns over livestock and horses being frightened or distressed by the sight of the turbines. Several residents also raised concerns about shadow flicker from the spinning turbines affecting their homes.

These concerns were closely related to the concerns over proximity. Residents were again told that the turbines were outside the guideline minimum distance from homes as per the Draft Wind Energy

¹ Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, 2019

² Wind Energy Development Guidelines, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, 2006

Guidelines, 2019. Residents were also assured that shadow flicker experienced at any property would not exceed the limits outlined in the Draft Wind Energy Guidelines.

Impact on property prices

Some members of the local community expressed their concern that the development of the wind farm would lead to a fall in the value of nearby properties. Some also said that their children had plans to build houses on land close to the site, and that the development would cause them to reconsider.

These residents were told that peer-reviewed research conducted in the EU and mainland Europe has demonstrated that proximity to a wind farm has no material impact on property prices, and that prices are far more sensitive to the wider influences that dictate the rise and fall of properties values nationwide.

Impact on local wildlife

Some of the locals outlined their concerns over the impact that the construction and operation of the Proposed Development would have on the local animal and plant life in the area. Particular concerns were highlighted over the whooper swan roosting area at Sharragh, as well as the risk to other migratory birds.

In response, the project team assured those who expressed these concerns that a full Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) would be included with the planning application upon submission, which would contain reports from the extensive ecological and ornithological surveys carried out in the site over recent years.

Regarding the whooper swans in particular, this concern was addressed at an early stage in the project design when it was decided to discount any potentially viable area to the north of the roosting area of whooper swan and to implement a 600m 'biodiversity buffer zone' around the roosting site.

Payments to near neighbours

Some of the attendees at the Public Information Event who owned lands close to the Proposed Development site expressed the view that they should be compensated for the disruption they felt would be caused by the construction and operation of the wind farm.

These landowners were told that because their lands were not in direct use in the development, they were not entitled to direct payments, but they were encouraged to apply to the Community Benefit Fund. It was also explained that access to their lands would be maintained at all times with the implementation of a traffic management plan to minimise disruption to local road users.

Impact on turf-cutting

The impact that the Proposed Development would have on turf-cutting activities ultimately became one of the main themes of the community engagement process. In the wake of the Public Information Event, and once site-specific maps were made publicly available, the CLO was contacted by numerous turbarry rights holders who were concerned that the development would impede on their ability to cut turf on their banks.

As turbarry rights holders do not own the land from which they harvest turf, their consent is not a statutory requirement. However, the developers were keen to engage with rights holders as much as possible to assuage what concerns they had over access to the turf banks and the possibility of turf-cutting being impeded.

Efforts were made to determine the exact location of each of the turf banks in question; given that these turbarry rights often extend back through several generations and often do not appear in modern land registries, this was at times a difficult process. The developer paid several visits to the bog in May and June 2023 to speak to the locals and attempt to identify individual turf banks, and where they are situated relative to the proposed turbine locations and other proposed infrastructure.

Rights holders were assured that access to the turf banks would not be affected during the construction phase, barring in certain specific locations where sites will need to be temporarily closed off on health and safety grounds. In these instances, if access to the turf banks is temporarily restricted, the rights holders will be able to claim compensation from the developer for the value of the turf they are unable to harvest. Alternatively, it may be possible for the rights holder to be assigned an unused turf bank from which to cut while his or her own is inaccessible. These turbary owners would be consulted with during the construction process.

Impact on local roads

Several local residents along the L5041 and L5040, and along the main N52 road, had concerns over the increased traffic flow during the construction phase of the development and over the potential damage that may be caused to the road surfaces by the volume of heavy machinery accessing the development.

Residents expressed their views that the two local roads in particular (the L5041 and L5040) are narrow, single-lane roads which are not designed or equipped to handle a flow of heavy machinery, such as the specialist trucks that will be needed to transport the turbine blades to the site.

Residents were assured by the developers that the utmost care would be taken during the construction phase to minimise disruption insofar as is practically possible. Major operations, such as the delivery of the turbine blades, will be carried out at a time of the day when traffic along the delivery route is at its quietest.

Due care will also be taken to ensure the roads around the development site are respected. In any potential instance in which a road surface is damaged, it will be restored to the same or better condition as soon as possible. In addition, it was explained to residents that several roads within the development site itself will need to be considerably improved, and several new roads laid, to allow the construction phase to proceed. Post-construction, these improved roads will remain in place for use by residents and visitors for walking, running, hiking, cycling, etc.

Loss of amenity walkways

Some residents had concerns over a loss of access to amenity walkways and paths which are currently open for public use in and around the site area, particularly on the bog.

The developers acknowledged that access to some of these walkways and paths may need to be temporarily restricted during the construction phase of the project on the grounds of health and safety. Residents were also informed, however, that upon completion of the construction phase, the existing walkways will have full accessibility restored and new pathways will have been created during the construction, potentially increasing the opportunities for walking/hiking in the area.

Positive feedback

Notwithstanding the concerns expressed by residents on the above topics, the public consultation process also elicited significant positive feedback from individuals, households and groups in the local area. The dominant feeling toward the Proposed Development was one of support for wind energy and the benefits, both environmental and economic, that the Proposed Development would provide.

Among the community groups and clubs in the area who expressed their support for the Proposed Development were the Tidy Towns committee, the GAA club, the graveyard committee, and the management of Gurteen College, the nearby agricultural school, who expressed an interest in exploring “what potential linkages and benefits there could be for both organisations if your Proposed Development goes ahead.”

There was also enthusiasm among the residents regarding the Community Benefit Fund (CBF). The questionnaires distributed by MKO early in the consultation process asked what form of benefit the Proposed Development should provide for the local area. Among the suggestions received via those questionnaires for improvements to the locality were:

- The restoration of old stone buildings in the parish.
- Helping the Tidy Towns committee.
- Resurfacing of the roads.
- Reduced energy costs.
- EV charging points in the village.

A common theme of the consultation was that the local area should see real, tangible benefits from the Proposed Development. Those residents living closest to the turbine sites will be in receipt of proximity payments through the CBF while the wider community at large will be able to apply for funds through the CBF to support sustainability projects.

The project team informed the community that this fund would be administered by a committee made up of local people, and would ideally be comprised of representatives of a broad cross-section of groups and clubs, such as the Carrig Riverstown GAA club, the Tidy Towns committee, the graveyard committee, etc.

4.2

Influence of Community Consultation on the Project Design

The various issues raised by residents over the course of the consultation process had a significant impact on the final design of the project. At all stages of the design process, the developers were fully conscious of the need to minimise the levels of disruption caused by the project for the local community, both during the construction and the operational phases.

Early in the design phase, after concerns were expressed by locals regarding the name of the proposed wind farm, it was decided to change the name of the project from the Sharragh Wind Farm to the Carrig Wind Farm, to better reflect the location of the development. As mentioned above, a decision was also made to create the 600m 'biodiversity buffer' to the north of the development site in response to the ecological and ornithological studies, and concerns raised by the local community about the whooper swan habitats in the area. In this regard, the initial area being considered was reduced significantly following extensive bird surveys over the entire site.

It was subsequently brought to the developers' attention that there was a pre-existing, privately-owned and operated wind farm in the area which had already claimed the name of Carrig Wind Farm. After engagement with the owner of that wind farm, it was agreed to again change the name of the proposed new development to the Carrig Renewables Wind Farm.

Throughout the pre-planning phase of the project, developers were conscious of the concerns held by the residents over issues such as the proximity, visual impact and noise impact of the development. These issues were raised repeatedly by a small group of local residents over the course of the community consultation process and consequently, the developers were aware of the need to assure the residents that none of the turbines would be closer than the guideline minimum distance of four times the total tip height away from an occupied dwelling, and that all practical considerations to limit the impact of the turbines on the local residents were being taken into account in the design process.

Similarly, the need to minimise the disruption to local roads was also made clear during the consultation phase. The developers have committed to ensuring that the roads in the locality which will be used in the construction process will be left in the same or better condition post-construction, and that the new roads that will need to be laid in and around the site will be left for the use of the local people moving forward.

The issue of turf-cutting, and particularly access to the turf banks for turbary rights holders, has also been factored into the project plans in the wake of the public consultation process. Feedback from turf-cutters has made it clear that in cases where access to a given turf bank needs to be temporarily restricted on the grounds of health and safety, the rights-holder must be adequately compensated for the value of the turf that he or she is unable to extract, or alternatively, assigned another unused bank for the period that his or her bank is inaccessible.

5.

CONCLUSION

From the outset, AIR and MKO made the best interests of the local community a primary consideration of the project. Through meaningful face-to-face, written, telephone and online contact, the community consultation process has been effective, open and transparent.

AIR has engaged and consulted with the local community from an early stage of the pre-planning phase of the Carrig Renewables Wind Farm development. This process of community engagement has proven highly valuable as a means of identifying the key concerns of the local community in relation to the Proposed Development, and the issues raised by local residents during the consultation process have informed and shaped the project proposal in several ways.

The development of the Carrig Renewables Wind Farm will provide a direct and prolonged economic benefit to the communities surrounding the Proposed Development site through the Community Benefit Fund, and through employment opportunities during the construction process. The developers are committed to maintaining the strong community engagement approach throughout the post-application stage and, if planning permission is granted, will continue to consult with and be available to residents through the construction and operational lifespan of the Carrig Renewables Wind Farm.

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APPENDIX 1

**CORRESPONDENCE WITH
LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES,
DECEMBER 2022**

Tipperary Planning Authority Inspection Purposes Only!

Dear Senator,

In line with Government targets to establish Ireland as a carbon neutral country by 2050, Carrig Renewable Energy Limited propose to develop a wind farm in the townlands of Arraghmore, Cloncorrig, Clonfinane, Coolderry, Faddan More and Sharragh, Co. Tipperary.

The proposed Carrig Wind Farm will contribute to both Ireland's and the European Union's renewable energy targets. It will also help secure Ireland's energy supply and reduce the country's reliance on imported fossil fuels. The proposed Carrig Wind Farm project is, in part, a response to the challenges of climate change and ensuring a secure supply of Ireland's future energy needs.

Ecological and Environmental surveys are currently underway. Once concluded, these studies will inform the final design of the project and help determine the location, tip height and number of turbines.

Carrig Renewable Energy Ltd. is a subsidiary of Atlantic Infrastructure Renewables (AIR), which is an Irish owned company based in Co. Limerick. AIR invests in infrastructure projects across Ireland that help deliver high-quality infrastructure assets essential to society and the communities where they are located. AIR is currently developing a number of renewable energy projects in Ireland.

A planning application is expected to be lodged with Tipperary County Council in early 2023. Before then, we will be presenting the proposed final design to the local community and hosting a Public Information Event both in-person and online via a Virtual Consultation Room.

The purpose of this email is to introduce the project and outline our intention to develop the Carrig Wind Farm. We commenced community consultation this week with all residents within 2km of the Proposed Development. You will receive an info pack in the post which contains an information leaflet with further details, a survey, and map of the study area.

We value your feedback during the design process, and we appreciate your consideration of the information provided. Consultation is ongoing and we continue to seek your views in the following ways:

- Email: clo@carrigwindfarm.com
- Phone: 087 0998218 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday
- Use the "Contact" portal on the project website www.carrigwindfarm.com
- By post to Toni Bourke, CLO, Carrig Renewable Energy Ltd, C/O MKO, Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Kind regards,

Toni Bourke

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APPENDIX 2

**FEEDBACK QUESTIONNAIRE
SENT TO LOCAL RESIDENTS AS
PART OF PROJECT
INFORMATION PACK**

Tipperary Planning Authority Inspection Purposes Only!



Q4: Carrig Renewable Energy Limited is committed to keeping the local community informed about the proposed project. Please help us identify any other local groups which you feel should be consulted with.

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Name: -----

Address: -----

Email: -----

Eircode: -----

RETURN ADDRESS: MKO, Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 VW84

Email: clo@carrigwindfarm.com

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APPENDIX 3

**ADVERTISEMENT PLACED IN
LOCAL NEWSPAPERS AHEAD OF
PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENT,
PUBLISHED 20-4-2023**

Tipperary Planning Authority Inspection Purposes Only!

Carrig Renewables Wind Farm

Public Information Day

Atlantic Infrastructure Renewables and Carrig Renewable Energy Limited will host a Public Information Day on Thursday next, April 27th, to provide updates on and answer queries about the proposed Carrig Renewables Wind Farm.

The wind farm is being proposed in the townlands of Arraghmore, Cloncorrig, Lissernane, Coolderry, Faddan More, Clohaskin and Sharragh in Co. Tipperary.

Representatives of the developer and environmental consultants will be present to discuss the project with you.

All are welcome.

When: Thursday, April 27th – 3pm to 8pm

Where: Carrig and Riverstown Community Centre

See carrigrenewables.com for more information
or contact clo@carrigrenewables.com or
phone 087-0998218

RECEIVED: 22/09/2023



APPENDIX 4

**PRESS RELEASES TO LOCAL
NEWSPAPERS AHEAD OF
PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENT,
PUBLISHED 20-4-2023**

Tipperary Planning Authority Inspection Purposes Only!

Carrig Renewables Wind Farm details to be unveiled at Public Information Day

Issued 13th April, 2023 - Plans for a seven-turbine wind farm southwest of Carrig village in Co Tipperary will be unveiled to the local community at a Public Information Day on Thursday, April 27, 2023. The proposed Carrig Renewables Wind Farm will generate enough electricity to supply almost 32,000 homes, which is equivalent to 54% of the households in Co Tipperary according to the most recent census data.

The wind farm is being proposed in the townlands of Arraghmore, Clohaskin, Cloncorrig, Lissernane, Coolderry, Faddan More and Sharragh, southwest of Carrig, Co Tipperary in line with Government targets to establish Ireland as a carbon neutral country by 2050. These lands have been identified as having potential to accommodate a wind farm development and feasibility studies have been undertaken to assess the site's potential over the past few years. It is envisaged that a planning application will be lodged with Tipperary County Council in mid-2023 but the developer would like to discuss the project further with the local community first.

Speaking about the need for such a project, Carrig Renewable Energy Limited's Neil O'Brien said: "Our company is working hard to deliver green energy alternatives to combat the rising price of electricity and to help Ireland increase its energy security and reach its climate targets.

"It is proposed that the Carrig Renewables Wind Farm will comprise seven wind turbines that will generate enough electricity to supply almost 32,000 homes, which equates to 43.4 megawatts of electricity.

"When built, a substantial Community Benefit Fund will be available for local projects in the areas of recreation, health and wellbeing, culture and heritage, environmental sustainability, and tourism to ensure the local community benefits from hosting this important development."

MKO, one of Ireland's leading environmental and planning consultants, have ensured that the Wind Energy Guidelines 2019 have been fully adhered to in relation to the amenity of the neighbouring houses.

Continuing, Neil explained the need for such a project: "The Government published the Climate Action Plan in 2021, outlining the decision to increase renewable electricity production from wind and solar up to 80% by 2030 and establishing Ireland as a climate neutral economy by 2050.

"This plan has a target of up to 8GW of onshore wind to be supplied to the national grid by 2030. The proposed Carrig Renewables Wind Farm is a response to the challenges of climate change and ensuring a secure supply of Ireland's future energy needs."

Anyone interested in hearing more about the Carrig Renewables Wind Farm is invited to attend the public information day in the Carrig and Riverstown Community Centre on Thursday, April 27 from 3pm to 8pm.

For anyone who cannot attend in person, all the relevant maps and designs will be available to view on the project website www.carrigrenewables.com on the same day as the in-person event.

Ends

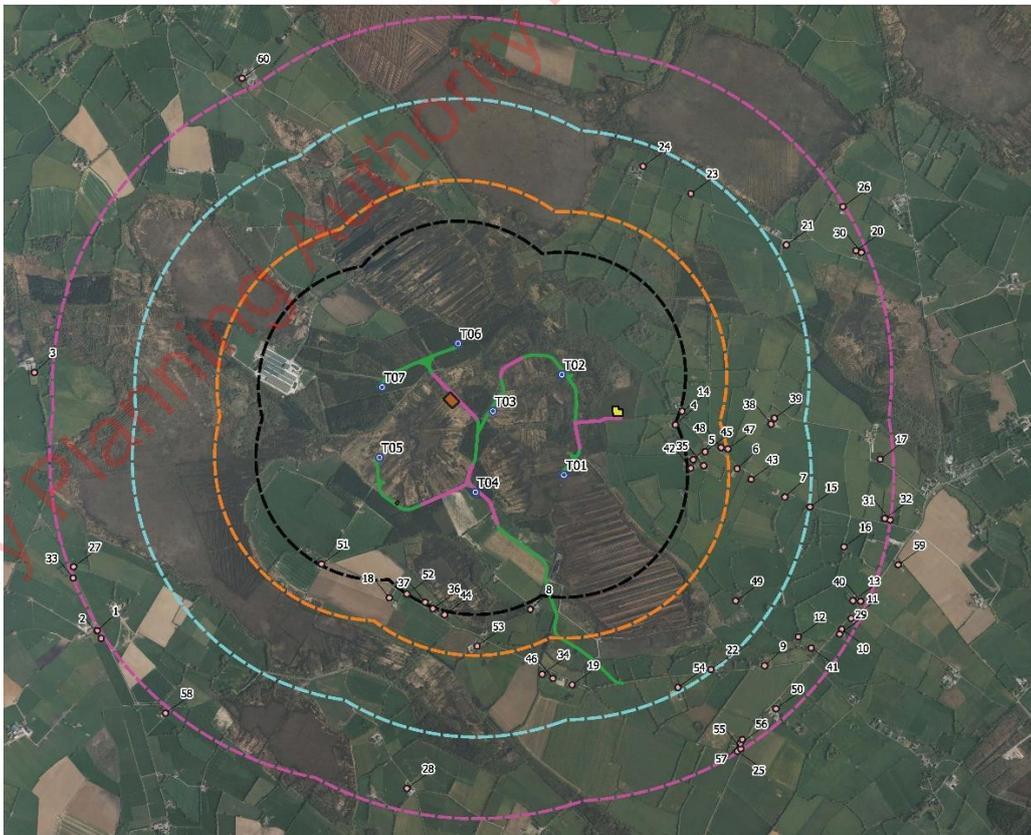
For media queries please contact Toni Bourke, Project Communications Director, MKO, 087-6125373, tbourke@mkoireland.ie



The edition of the Midland Tribune of Thursday, April 20th 2023 which carried the press release about the upcoming Carrig Renewables Wind Farm Public Information Event.



MKO's Jonathon Fearon and Mark Higgins pictured at the Carrig Renewables Wind Farm Public Information Event, held in the Carrig and Riverside Community Centre in Co Tipperary on April 27th, 2023.



The map of the Carrig Renewables Wind Farm site area used during the door-knocking phase of public consultation. Identified are the seven proposed turbine sites and the occupied dwellings within 2km of the site boundary.