



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Record of Meeting ABP-322292-25

Case Reference / Description	Proposed wind farm of 10 wind turbines with MEC of approx. 72MW including on-site 110kV electrical substation. Ballyfasy Wind Farm, in the townlands of Ballinlammy, Ballyfasy Upper, Ballymartin, Ballynoony East, Ballyquin, Ballywairy, Bishopsmountain, Darbystown and Knockbrack, County Kilkenny.		
Case Type	Design Option meeting		
1st / 2nd / 3rd / 4th Meeting	1 st Meeting		
Date	26 May 2025	Start Time	12:00pm
Location	MS Teams	End Time	12:20pm

Representing An Coimisiún Pleanála

Una Crosse (Assistant Planning Director) Chair

David Ryan (Senior Planning Inspector)

Ellen Moss (Executive Officer)

Representing the Prospective Applicant

Allison Murphy, Tobin

Yolande McMahon, Tobin

Sandra Kelly, FuturEnergy Ireland

Juliet Ryan, FuturEnergy Ireland

Sinead O'Malley, FuturEnergy Ireland

Introduction

The Commission referred to the letter received from the prospective applicant on the 10th April 2025, requesting design option consultations under section 37CC of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. The Commission's representatives mentioned the following general procedures in relation to the process:

- The Commission will keep a record of this meeting. Such records will form part of the file which will not be made available publicly until an application for permission is made to the Commission. The record of the meeting will not be amended by the Commission once finalised, but the prospective applicant may submit comments on the record which will form part of the case file.
- Any recording of the meeting is prohibited.
- The Commission may at any time conclude the consultation where it considers it appropriate to do so.
- The holding of consultations does not prejudice the Commission in any way and cannot be relied upon in the formal planning process or in any legal proceedings.

Presentation made by the prospective applicant:

The prospective applicant began their presentation by advising on the details unlikely to be confirmed when lodging the proposed application.

These elements include the turbine tip height, turbine rotor diameter, turbine hub height, and the substation layout.

The proposed turbine specifications were outlined as follows:

- Total tip height range of 169m – 180m
- Rotor diameter range of 130m – 163m
- Hub height range of 95m - 112m

Substation Layout

The prospective applicant advised that two grid connection options are being considered under a separate application, and the substation layout depends on which option is available at the time of construction.

Discussion:

The prospective applicant noted that the turbine parameters have differed slightly since submitting the design option request and queried whether the Commission requires a letter to advise on this change. The Commissions representatives advised that the presentation and the record of this meeting will form part of the file, and these changes have been noted. The Commissions representatives advised the prospective applicant to address the public notice requirements in respect of the design option opinion.

The Commissions representatives queried whether the substation forms part of the proposed s.37E application with the prospective applicant indicating that it was their intention to include it in the application.

The Commissions representatives advised the prospective applicant that drawings of the two substation layout options are clearly outlined.

The Commissions representatives questioned whether flexibility was being sought in terms of the substation layout rather than substation type; the prospective applicant clarified that the flexibility was sought on substation orientation.

The Commissions representatives further queried the reasoning as to why these elements cannot be confirmed prior to submitting the application; the prospective applicant advised that turbine technology is rapidly changing with flexibility required in terms of timelines of projects.

Conclusion:

The Commission's representatives advised that the record of the instant meeting will be issued in due course and the prospective applicant can submit any comments it may have in writing.

The Meeting concluded at 12:20pm.



Una Crosse

Assistant Director of Planning