



GALETECH
ENERGY SERVICES

**Strategic Infrastructure Development
Pre-Application Consultation Meeting No. 2**

Cushina Wind Farm (ACP-323296-25)

19 March 2026

Introduction

- Prospective Applicant
 - Cushina Wind Limited
- Prospective Applicant's Agent
 - Galetech Energy Services
- Attendees
 - James Carville (Cushina Wind Limited)
 - Jessica Smyth (Cushina Wind Limited)
 - Bláithín Rafferty (Galetech Energy Services)
 - Simon Carleton (Galetech Energy Services)
 - David Broderick (Hydro-Environmental Services)
 - Brittany Arendse (Woodrow/APEM Group)
 - Maeve Maher-McWilliams (Woodrow/APEM Group)
 - Aron Sapsford (Woodrow/APEM Group)

Summary of Meeting No. 1

- Site selection process, the preliminary design and all environmental scoping completed to date.
- Desktop work, initial field studies and site surveys completed
- Proposed next steps were to:-
 - Continue the evaluation of the identified environmental constraints and iterative project design process.
 - Continue with public consultation.
 - Continue the preparation of the EIAR, NIS and planning application.
- Recommendations from An Coimisiún Pleanála:-
 - Further refinement of the layout of the project to confirm that the project exceeds the 50MW Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) threshold.
 - Ensure that a robust cumulative assessment is undertaken.
 - Ensure that all necessary site investigations are undertaken to fully understand the characteristics of the project site.

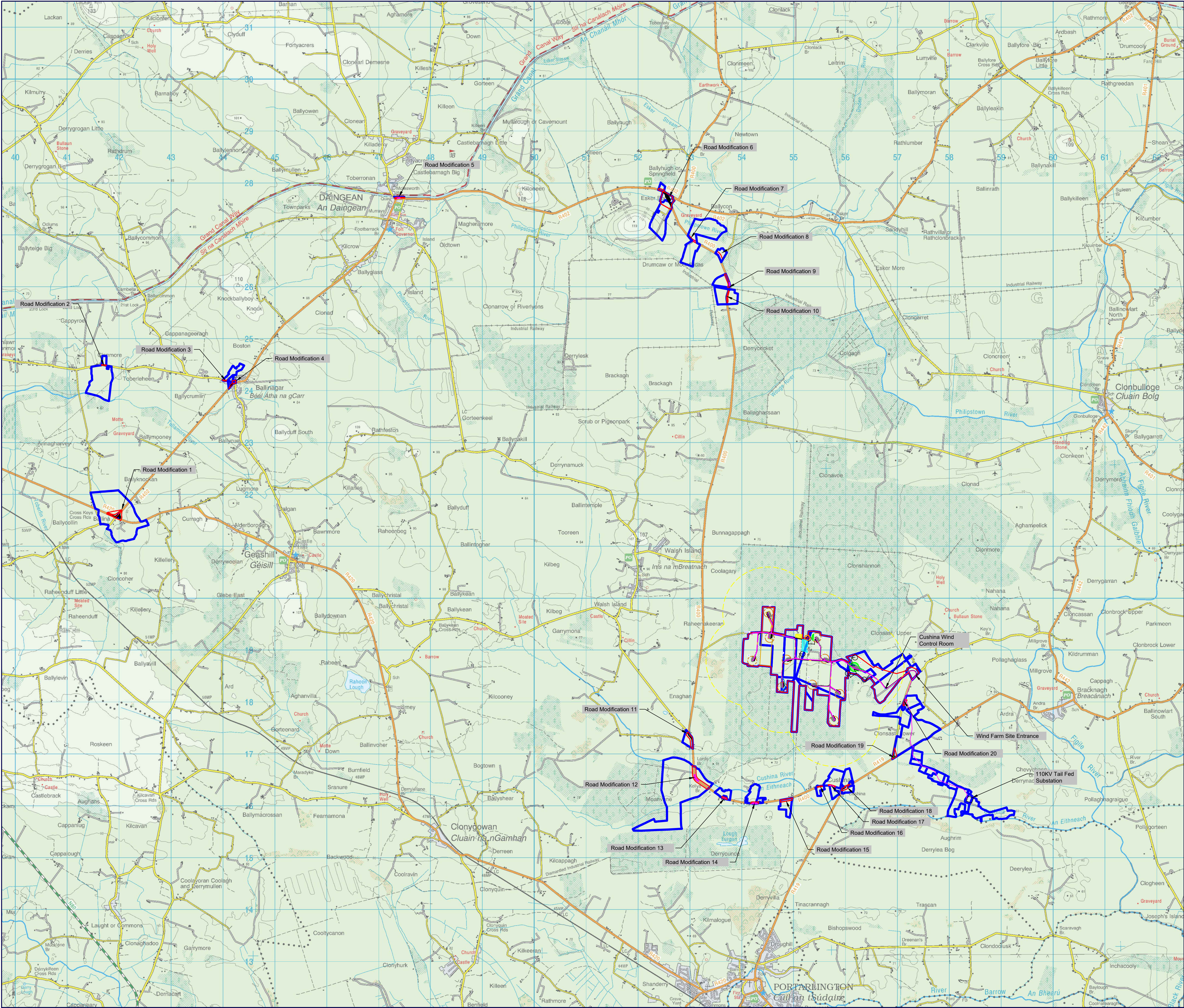
Project Design/Development Description

- Project Design Evolution
 - Continued refinement of project layout since Meeting No. 1.
 - The precise location of T10 has been revised in response to additional environmental assessment.
 - Removal of Borrow Pit following site investigations.
- Draft Development Description
 - 11 no. wind turbines with an overall tip height of 220m, a rotor diameter range of 162m-175m and a hub height range of 132.5m-139m (7-megawatts per turbine);
 - All associated turbine foundations and crane hardstanding areas;
 - Construction of 1 no. site entrance to provide access for construction and operational phase traffic;
 - Provision of new internal site access tracks;
 - 1 no. Electrical Control Building;
 - Underground Electricity & Communications Cables;
 - 1 no. guy-wired meteorological mast with an overall height of 30m;
 - 1 no. temporary construction compound;
 - The storage, as required, of excavated material at dedicated spoil deposition areas;
 - The installation of 4km of underground electricity line to connect the proposed wind farm to the proposed Derrynadarragh Wind Farm 110 kilovolt (kV) electrical substation;
 - Temporary and permanent works to public roads along the turbine component haul route; and,
 - All associated and ancillary site development, excavation, construction, landscaping and reinstatement works, including provision of site drainage infrastructure and environmental mitigation measures.

Update on Consultation

- Continued Public Consultation
 - Door to door community consultation with all houses within 2km.
 - Main queries raised during public consultation include:-
 - Shadow Flicker
 - Noise
 - Visual Impact

Design Freeze 1 (November 2025)



Legend:

- Ownership Boundary
- Application Boundary
- Wind Farm Access Tracks & Crane Hardstanding Areas
- Indicative Cable Routes
- Surplus Soil Deposition Areas
- Borrow Pit and Supluss Soil Deposition Area
- Forestry to be felled
- Swept Area to Turbine Rotor (175 meter diameter)
- Bat Buffer (86.4m Radius)
(Based on Worst Case Scenario 132.5m hub - 175 rotor - 25m high forestry)
- Four Times Turbine Tip Height Setback to dwellings

Notes:

- All dimension in meters unless otherwise stated
- Turbines may be micro-sited by up to a maximum of 20 meters
- Micro-sited of ancillary infrastructure to be permitted within the planning application boundary

09/10/25	08	T3 & T6 moved, Road Added to Compound Area	GOR
09/06/25	07	Substation & Road to Metmast Revised	GOR
06/06/25	06	Site Entrance & Substation Revised	GOR
23/04/25	05	Internal Access Road Revised for Badger Sett	GOR
22/04/25	04	New Blade (V175) Route Adjusted & Cable Route Added	GOR
02/04/25	03	New Site Entrance with Cable & Substation added	GOR
22/01/25	02	Site Entrance & Road Modification area added	GOR
Date:	Rev:	Description:	Drawn By:

Prepared by:



Galetech Energy Developments Ltd,
Clondorgan,
Stradone,
Co. Cavan

Client:

Cushina Wind Ltd

Job Title:

Cushina Wind Farm

Drawing Title:

Overview Map (1:35,000)

Drawing No.:	240730/CMP/GD/003	Revision No.:	Rev08
Scale:	(A1) 1:35,000	Date:	09/10/2025
Drawn By:	C.M.P	Checked By:	J.C
		Confirmed By:	S.D



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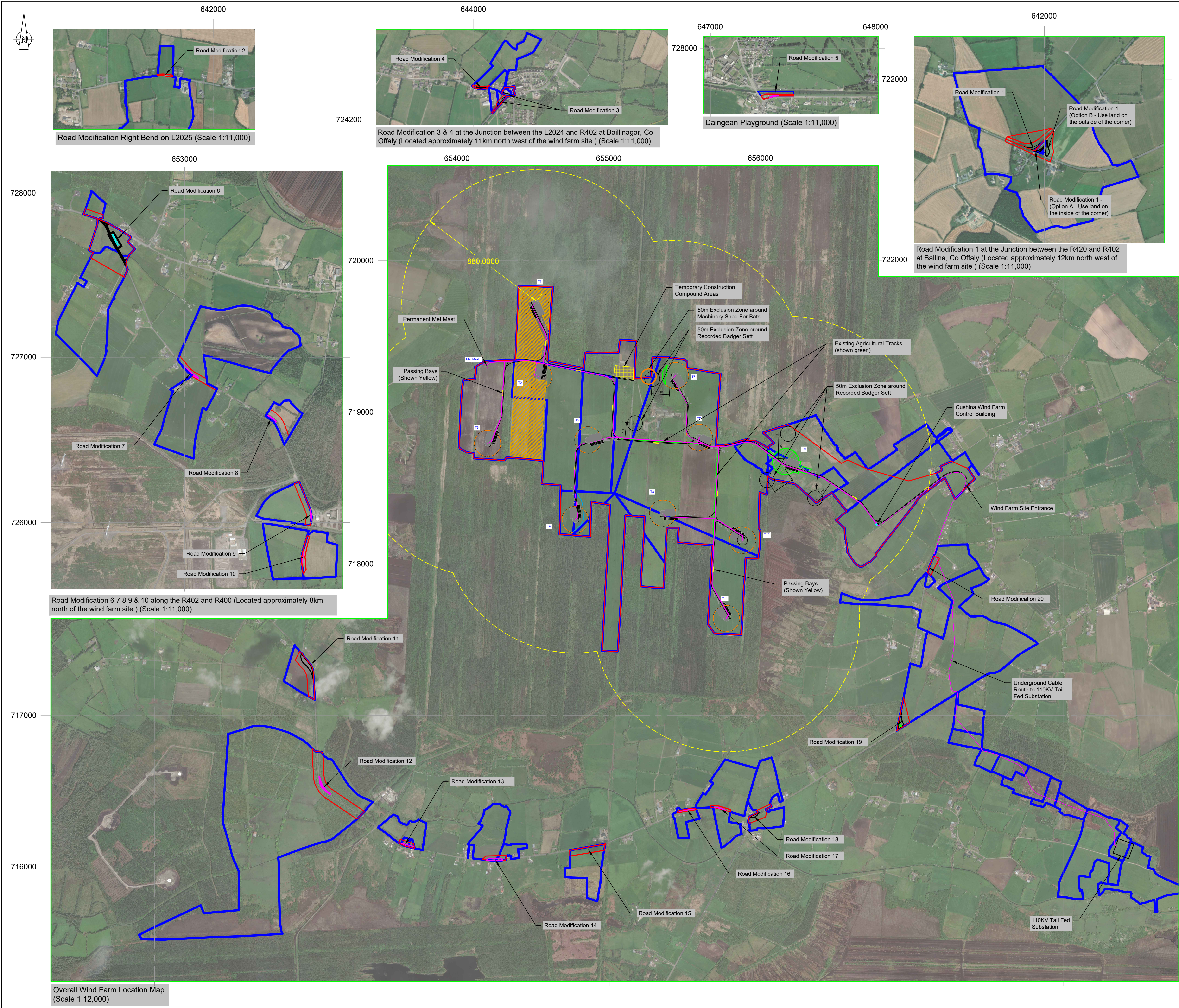
Cushina Wind Farm

Drawing Title:

Overall Site Location Map (1:6,000)

<u>Drawing No.:</u> 240730/CMP/GD/002		<u>Revision No.:</u> Rev08	
<u>Scale:</u> (A1) 1:6,000		<u>Date:</u> 09/10/2025	
<u>Drawn By:</u> C.M.P		<u>Checked By:</u> J.C	
		<u>Confirmed By:</u> S.D	

Design Freeze 2 (March 2026)



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Prepared by:



Client:

Cushina Wind Ltd

Job Title:

Cushina Wind Farm

Drawing Title:

Overall Site Location Map

Drawing No.: 240730/CMP/GD/001

Revision No.: Rev11

Scale: AS SHOWN

Date: 27/02/2026

Drawn By: C.M.P

Checked By: J.C

Confirmed By: S.D



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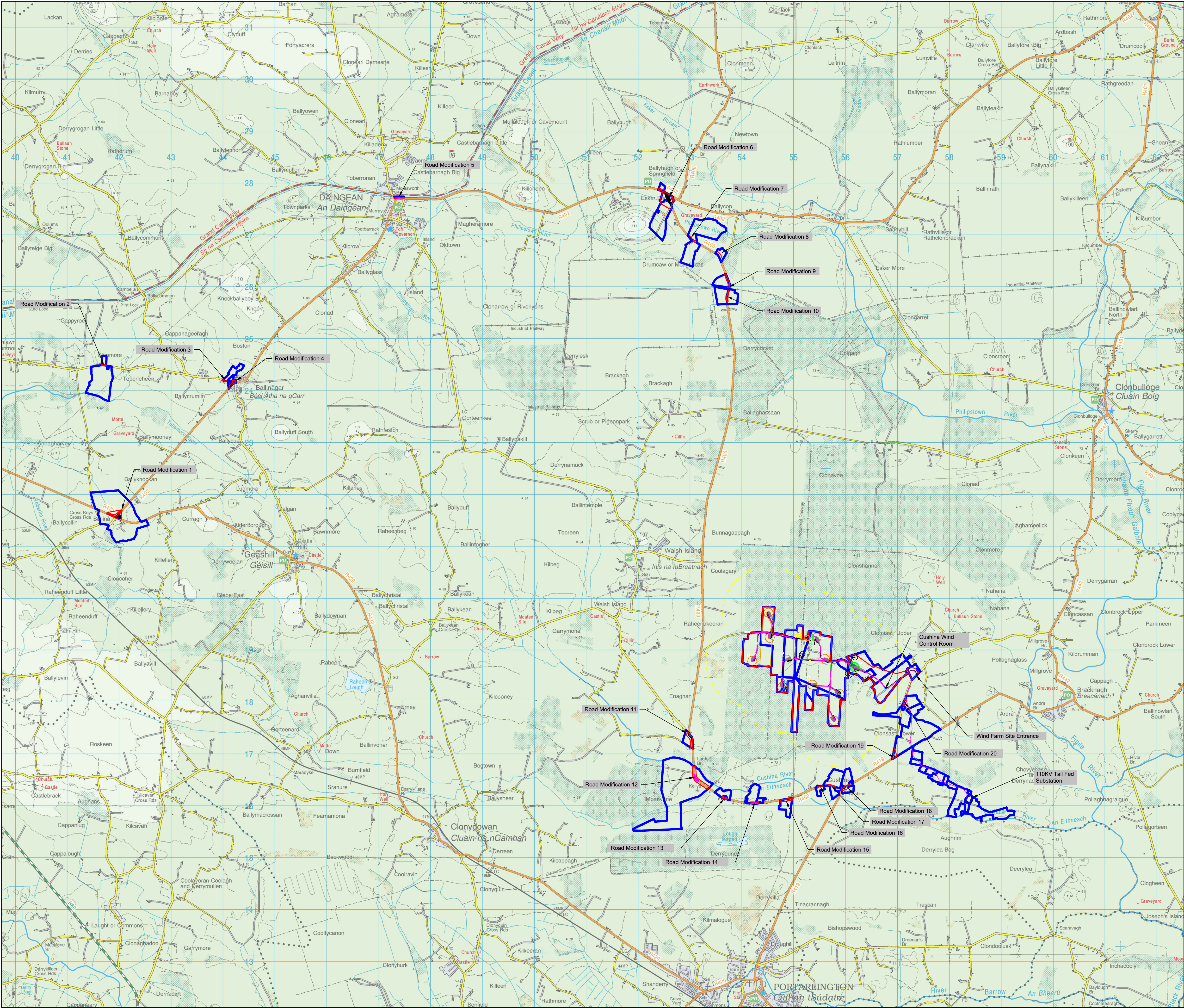
Job Title:

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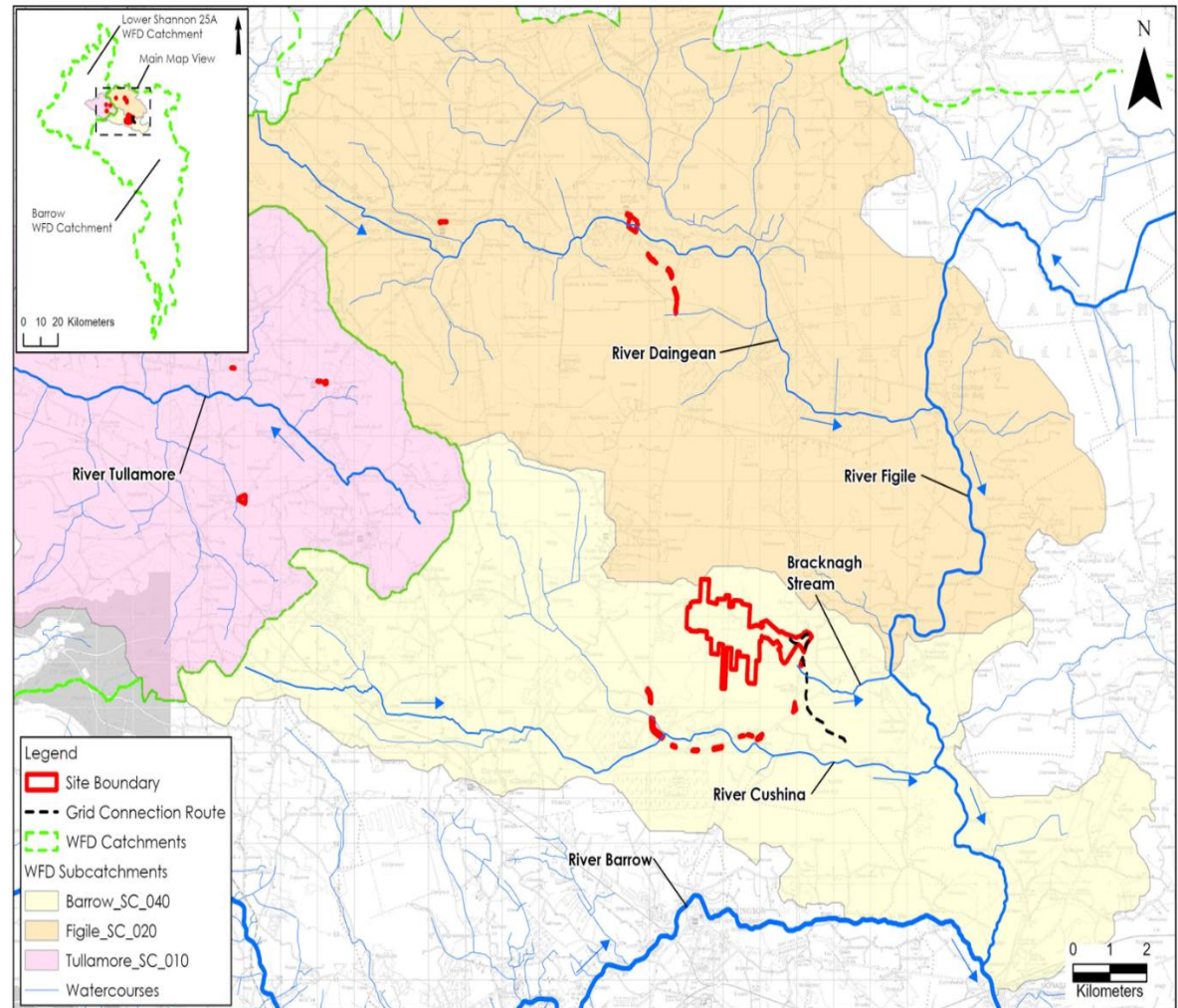
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Hydrology

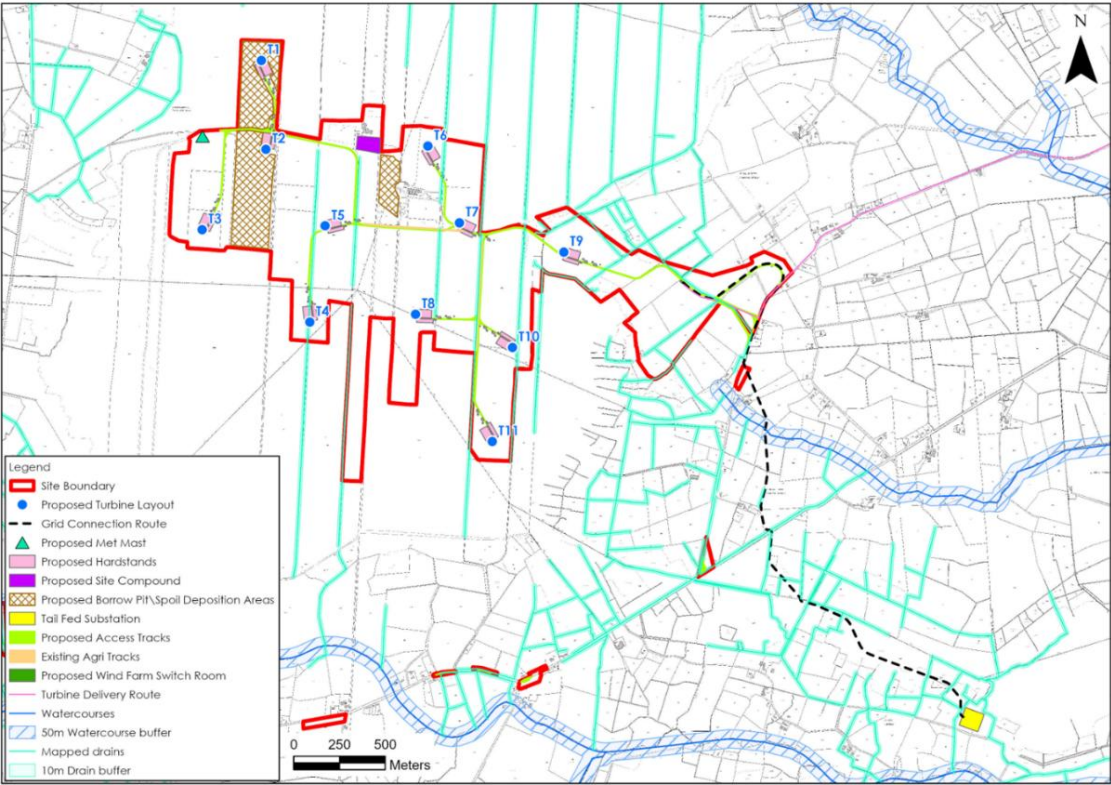
- Ground Investigations
 - Results of ground investigations have informed understanding of hydrological and hydrogeological conditions.
- Water Sampling
 - Assessing water quality/ potential impacts from construction.
- Outcomes from field studies and investigations:-
 - Refinement of infrastructure layout.
 - Identification of appropriate drainage design.
 - No identified risk of flooding.
- Watercourses and drains have been inspected and mapped across the site.
- Surface water sampling and flow monitoring ongoing.
- Flood risk assessment being prepared.
- Water Framework Directive Assessment Report being prepared.



Water Quality & Status

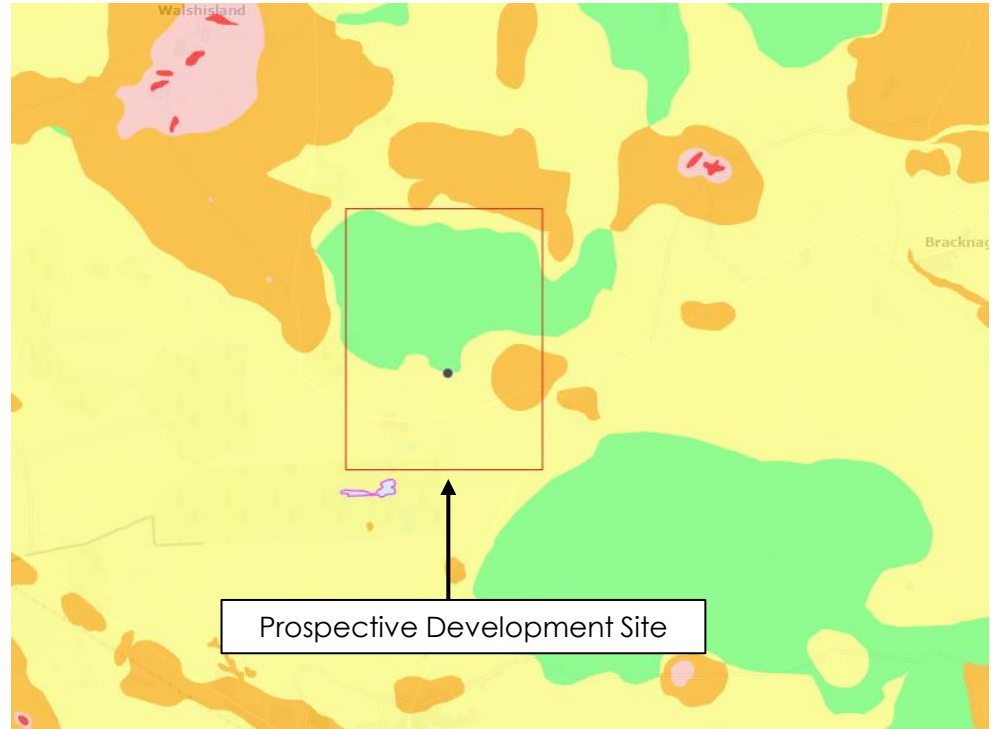
- Waterbody Quality & Status
 - Biological Q-rating data for EPA monitoring points on nearby river water bodies are shown in **Table**. Most recent data available show that the Q-ratings are 'Good' to 'Moderate' downstream of the Site.

Station Name	River Waterbody	Year	Q-Value Score	Status
Br u/s Coolnagillagh Str. confl	Enaghan Stream_010	2023	Q4	Good
Cushina Br	Cushina_030	2023	Q3-4	Moderate
Ardra Br	Figile_060	2020	Q4	Good
Figile - 1 km u/s Barrow R confl	Figile_080	2006	Q3-4	Moderate



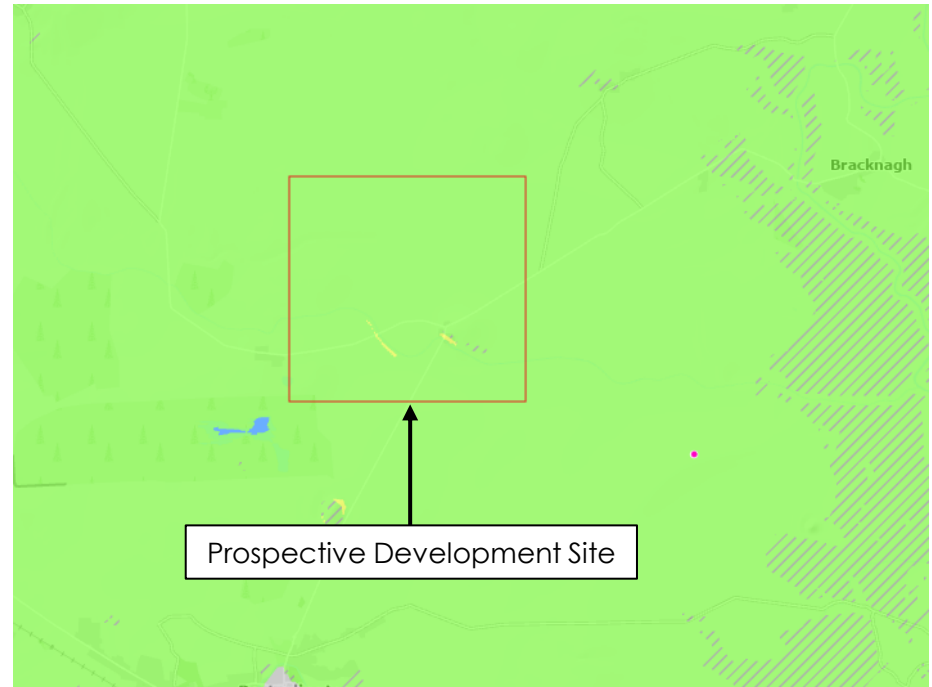
Hydrogeology

- Regarding groundwater bodies, the majority of the site is mapped inside the Rhode GWB with a small portion in the south within the Bagenalstown Upper GWB and small portion in the east within the Cushina GWB.
- The electricity line route is mapped within the Cushina GWB.
- The turbine delivery route works areas are mapped within the Cushina GWB, Bagenalstown Upper GWB, Rhode GWB and Geashill GWB.
- There are no karst features mapped by the GSI within the site, within the turbine delivery route works areas or along the electricity line route.
- Based on criteria, the Locally Important bedrock aquifer and Regionally Important aquifers at the site have a Medium to High Importance respectively.



Landslide Susceptibility

- The GSI Landslide database (www.gsi.ie) does not record any historic landslides in the vicinity of the site or in the surrounding lands. The nearest landslide is recorded c. 3.8km southeast of the site.
- This landslide occurred on 1st January 1954 on a raised bog in the townland of Derrylea, Co. Kildare.
- The GSI Landslide Susceptibility Map classifies the probability of a landslide occurring at a given location. The probability of a landslide occurring at the site is mapped as Low.
- Site Investigations (peat probing/ trial pitting) support the conclusion no significant risk of landslide. Peat probing concluded that peat depths are shallow (<1m).



Biodiversity

- Further Habitat Surveys
 - Existing plant species.
 - Establish biodiversity and habitat conditions.
 - Continued assessment of habitats along the electricity line and at haul route upgrade locations.
- Further Fauna Surveys
 - Establish suitability of habitats for mammal species and their distribution were appropriate.
 - Establish suitability of habitats for other taxa
 - Assessment of findings of bat surveys.

Ornithology

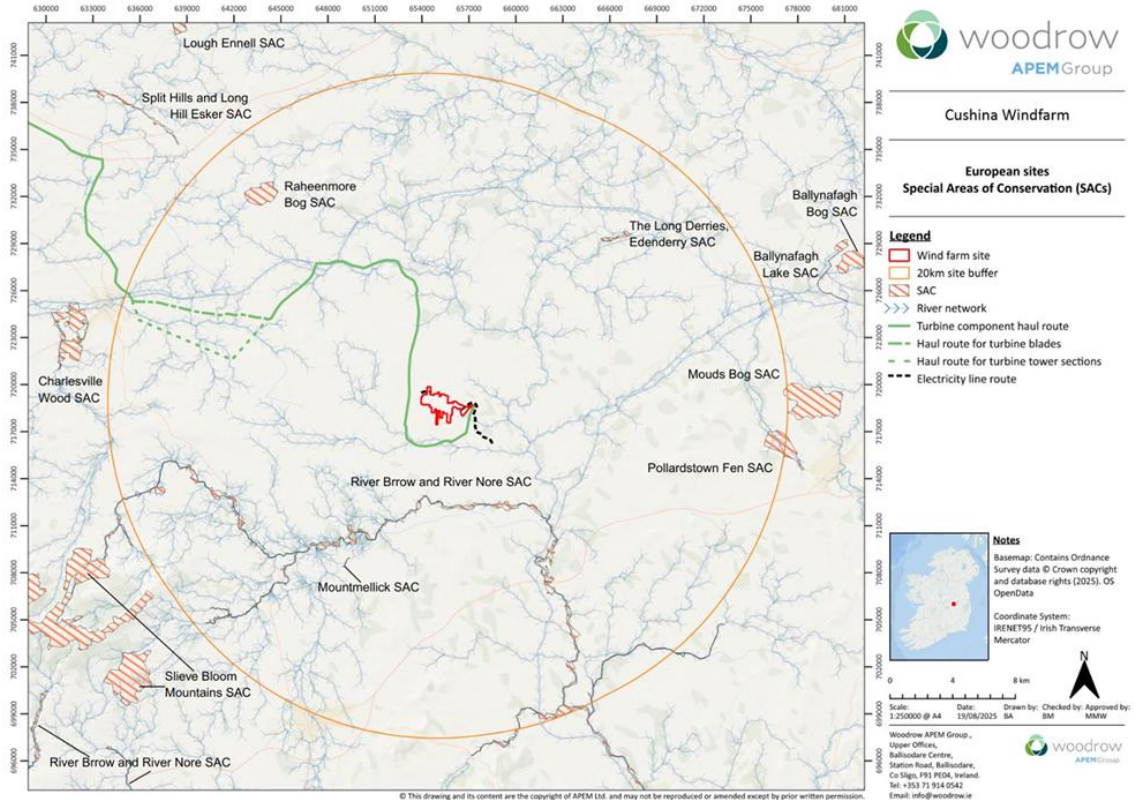
- Hen Harrier
 - No breeding territories or winter roosts were recorded within the site.
 - Sporadic winter foraging recorded over bog/wet grassland; no persistent core areas defined
 - If winter roosts were present, a 750m buffer would apply, but none were identified on site.
- Whooper Swan
 - The wider area is regularly used by whooper swans in winter.
 - Flightlines cross the development site, but no consistent flight corridor was identified.
 - Turbines should avoid core wetlands and seasonally flooded areas.
 - Operational mitigation (e.g., shutdown on demand) may be considered if flight activity is high.
- Snipe
 - Localised breeding activity recorded in wet grassland/peatland areas
 - The species is sensitive to disturbance and habitat loss.
 - Instead of applying a universal 400m buffer, mitigation will focus on:
 - Timing construction outside the breeding season
 - Exclusion zones around confirmed territories
 - Hydrological restoration (e.g., drain blocking) may improve habitat post-construction.
- Woodcock
 - Associated with damp woodland and bog margins. May be displaced 200–300m from turbines. Turbine placement should avoid high-suitability woodland–wetland interfaces where possible. Where a 300m buffer cannot be achieved, mitigation may include
 - Curtailment during roding periods (dusk/dawn, April–June)
 - Construction timing restrictions near territories

Ornithology (Continued)

- Ongoing Collision Risk Assessment
 - Collision Risk Modelling (CRM) informed by 1,481.5 hours of VP survey effort collected over 3 breeding and 4 non-breeding seasons (Oct 2021–Mar 2025).
 - CRM run only for species with >1,000 seconds of flight activity within the Collision Risk Zone (CRZ) and >3 observations. This has resulted in nine target species being assessed.
 - Buzzard
 - Golden Plover
 - Hen Harrier
 - Kestrel
 - Lapwing
 - Mallard
 - Snipe
 - Sparrowhawk
 - Whooper Swan
 - Predicted number of bird transits through rotors are extremely low, typically <1 per month for all species. After applying recommended avoidance rates (98–99.5%), predicted collisions drop to near zero in all cases.
 - Resulting mortality levels equate to <1% of background mortality — no population level or meaningful ecological effects expected.

Appropriate Assessment

- A screening matrix of all impacts ruled out Natura 2000 sites; except for the River Barrow and River Nore SAC for further assessment.
- Downstream hydrological connections between the Project and the River Barrow and River Nore SAC via the Cushina River and Bracknagh Stream - the latter flowing from the east of the Wind farm Site into the Figile River which flows into the SAC.
- In addition, works at proposing an access route and bridging structure over the Daingean River also has the potential to impact on QIs of the River Barrow and River Nore SAC which is located c. 29.5 rkm downstream.
- A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) will be prepared.



Proposed Next Steps

- Submission of Design Flexibility Request
- Ongoing environmental scoping, constraints analysis and iterative design process
- Request for Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Opinion
- Continued drafting of Environmental Impact Assessment Report.
- Continued drafting of Natura Impact Statement.



Galetech Energy Services

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan Ireland

Telephone +353 (0)49 555 5050

www.galetechenergyservices.com