

Schedule of pre-application Consultation

Extensive consultation was undertaken in relation to the project, and comments from stakeholders and interested parties were requested and recorded. Consultation through meetings, letters, email, and telephone calls, with various statutory and non-statutory consultees has been maintained throughout. Door to door queries were carried out by Ballinla Wind Farm Ltd. on three occasions, where representatives called to residential dwellings within a 1.6km radius of the proposed developments. The following outlines the consultation process.

Pre-planning consultation meetings took place with the following parties:

- ACP.
- Offaly County Council (OCC).

An Coimisiún Pleanála

Two pre-application meetings were held with ACP, the first meeting was held on 24th of November 2023, where the Applicant and MWP provided an overview of the proposed development, including the grid connection. The potential issues to be addressed in the EIAR were discussed at this meeting.

A second meeting was held with the ACP on 6th of June 2024. The discussion focused on project progress to date including the EIAR. The Board advised they would be providing the list of statutory bodies once the pre-application stage was closed.

A Design Flexibility meeting was also held with ACP on 6th of June 2024, but following the consideration of alternatives, the flexibility option was not deemed necessary to the proposed development. ACP were notified of the decision to not pursue the Design Flexibility option on 13th of November 2024.

ACP confirmed the project would be Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) in correspondence dated the 28th of November 2024 and advised on the list of prescribed bodies.

Local Authority – OCC

The Applicant and MWP held a meeting with members of OCC Planning Department on 24th of July 2024. This was a preliminary meeting to provide an overview of the proposed development. It was confirmed that all of the proposed wind turbines are located within an area “*Open for Consideration for Wind Energy Developments*” as outlined in the Offaly County Wind Energy Strategy 2021-2027. The turbine delivery route, potential visual impacts, public consultation, and environmental impacts were also discussed.

Written Consultations

Written requests for consultation/feedback were issued in February 2024 to a number of key stakeholders (both statutory and non-statutory consultees). This included a notification setting out an overview of the Proposed Development proposal. The notifications invited feedback from the Consultees on any key issues and considerations which they believe should be addressed and expressed that their input at this stage would be welcomed. Consultees were informed that participation at this stage of the project would not affect participation at a later stage in the planning process. A list of the organisations/groups consulted, is provided in **Volume 3 Appendix 1-2** of this EIAR. The feedback was subsequently considered in the EIA process.

Community Engagement and Public Consultation

Ballinla Wind Farm Ltd. has engaged and consulted with the local community to ensure that their views, concerns, and suggestions were considered as part of the project design and the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

Door to door queries were carried out by Ballinla Wind Farm Ltd. on three occasions October 2023, November 2024, & June 2025, where representatives called to residential dwellings within a 1.6km radius of the proposed developments. The responses were noted to allow the Applicant to identify and address the concerns of the local residents regarding the proposed development.

A project website (www.ballinlawindfarm.ie) was established (live since October 2023) to share information with the local community. This website was updated regularly to reflect progress on the proposed development. Subsequently as part of the SID planning application a revised website (www.ballinlawindfarmsid.ie) has been set up for consultation purposes during the planning application period. Information presented on the project website includes:

- Project Information.
- Project Benefits.
- Key Questions.
- Company Information.
- Public Consultation Material.
- Project Updates.
- Wind Energy Survey..
- Contact information.

Request for Consultation List February 2024

An Taisce
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment
Department of Environment, Climate and Communications
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage
Health Service Executive
Inland Fisheries Ireland
Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU)
Department of Transport
Irish Water
An Chomhairle Ealaíon, (Arts Council)
Offaly County Council
Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)
Faillte Ireland
Heritage council
Irish Aviation Authority (IAA)
Waterways Ireland
Bat Conservation Ireland
Birdwatch Ireland
Failte Ireland
Friends of the Earth
Friends of the Irish Environment
Irish Peatland Conservation Council
Irish Wildlife Trust
Irish Parachute Club

List of Prescribed Bodies to be Notified of the Application for the Proposed Development

Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage (Development Applications Unit)
Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications
Offaly County Council
Meath County Council
Kildare County Council
Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly
Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)
An Chomhairle Ealaíon, (Arts Council)
Faillte Ireland
Inland Fisheries Ireland
Waterways Ireland
Irish Aviation Authority (IAA)
Córas Iompair Éireann
Heritage council
An Taisce
Health Service Executive
Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU)
Irish Water