

Planning and Development Acts 2000 (as amended)
Notice of Direct Planning Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development, within the Local Administrative Boundaries of County Kildare, County Offaly and County Laois.

In accordance with section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Dara Energy Limited gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Coimisiún Pleanála for permission for a period of 10 years, for development comprising the construction and operation of a wind farm and related works within the townlands of Kilbeggan South, Hallsfarm, Stonehouse Farm; Ballybought, Durrow Demesne, Aghancarnan, Gormagh, Acantha, Ballynasrah or Tinnycross, Ardan, Puttaghan, Cappancur, Cloncollog, Meelaghans, Annaghavrey, Ballycollin, Ballina, Ballyknockan, Ballymooney, Ballycue, Ballinagar, Knockballyboy, Clonad, Townparks, Castlebarnagh Big, Killoneen, Killeen, Esker Beg, Ballycon, Drumcaw or Mountlucas, Derrycricket, Ballaghassaan, Walshisland, Bunnagappagh, Coolagary, Raheenakeeran, Enaghan, Moanvane, Cushina, Clonsast Lower, and Chevychase or Derrynadarragh in County Offaly; Aughrim and Derrylea in County Kildare; and Inchacooly, Coolnaferagh, Ullard or Controversyland, Clonanny, Lea, Loughmansland Glebe, and Bracklone in County Laois.

This development is covered by the provisions of the Renewable Energy Directive III (Directive 2023/2413) and the planning application is subject to a completeness check under section 37JA of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended by the European Union (Planning and Development) (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2025.

The development will consist of:

- A 10-year permission and a 35-year operational life from the date of commissioning of the entire Wind Farm;
- Construction of 9 no. wind turbines - 4 no. turbines will have a tip height of 186m above existing ground level with a hub height of 105m and rotor diameter of 162m, and 5 no. turbines will have a tip height of 187m above existing ground level with a hub height of 106m and rotor diameter of 162m;
- Construction of permanent turbine foundations and crane pad hardstanding areas and associated drainage;
- Construction of 1 no. new main site entrance on Regional Road R419 to serve as construction and operation access, and upgrade works to 1 no. existing site entrance (Derrylea Road) to the south to service for construction only;
- Construction of 9,360m of new internal access tracks and associated drainage infrastructure;
- Upgrading of 550m of existing tracks and associated drainage infrastructure;
- All associated drainage and sediment control including interceptor drains, cross drains, sediment ponds and swales;
- Installation of 1 no. permanent single span bridge crossing Cushina River within the proposed Wind Farm site;
- All associated infrastructure, services and site works including excavation, earthworks, peat and spoil management;
- Creation of dedicated peat and spoil deposition areas for the management of peat and spoil within the site;
- Establishment of 3 no. temporary construction compounds, and associated ancillary infrastructure including parking;
- Establishment of 2 no. temporary wheel washing areas during construction only;
- Forestry felling of 6.01ha (60,100 m²) to facilitate construction and operation of the Proposed Development;
- Provision of recreational amenity area comprising 2 no. parking spaces and picnic table;
- Biodiversity enhancement measures within the site boundary;
 - Construction of 1 no. IPP Substation and associated compound including:
 - Wind farm Control building with welfare facilities;
 - Electrical infrastructure;
 - Parking;
 - Security Fencing;
- Construction of 1 no. permanent onsite 110kV TSO electrical substation and associated compound including:
 - Welfare facilities;
 - TSO control building;
 - Electrical infrastructure;
 - Parking;
 - Wastewater holding tank;
 - Rainwater harvesting tank;
 - Security fencing;
- Installation of medium voltage electrical and communication cabling underground between the proposed turbines and the proposed on-site TSO substation and associated ancillary works;
- Installation of 11.4km of permanent high voltage (110kV) and communication cabling underground, primarily within the public roads between the proposed on-site substation and the Bracklone Substation (within the townland of Bracklone in Co. Laois) and associated ancillary works. The proposed grid connection cable works will include trenching, laying of ducting, installing 15 no. joint bays and 5 no. watercourse crossings, pulling cables and the back filling of trenches and reinstatement works, within the townlands of Cushina in County Offaly; Aughrim and Derrylea in County Kildare, and Inchacooly, Coolnaferagh, Ullard or Controversyland, Clonanny, Lea, Loughmansland Glebe, and Bracklone in County Laois. The underground cabling will traverse the following roads; Derrylea Road; L71764; L7176; L71761; R424; and R420 (Lea Road);
- Accommodation works required along the Proposed Turbine Delivery Route (TDR) to facilitate turbine component deliveries at the following seven locations:
 - Construction of load bearing surface, removal of vegetation and trees, and reprofiling of embankment on R420/R402 Junction within the townland of Ballina, Co. Offaly;
 - Construction of load bearing surface, removal of railing and planters, and reprofiling of road on R402 at junction to L2025 Ballinagar, within the townland of Ballinagar, Co. Offaly;
 - Installation of 1 no. permanent single span bridge crossing Daingean River at R402/R400 Junction and Philipstown Bridge along Turbine Delivery Route, within the townlands of Esker Beg and Drumcaw or Mountlucas, Co. Offaly;
 - Construction of load bearing surface, removal of vegetation and trees, reprofiling on R400, within the townlands of Drumcaw or Mountlucas, Co. Offaly;
 - Construction of load bearing surface, removal of vegetation and trees, reprofiling on R400 at junction to L1013 Enaghan, within the townland of Enaghan, Co. Offaly;
 - Construction of load bearing surface on northeastern verge, removal of vegetation and trees, reprofiling on R400, within the townland of Moanvane, Co. Offaly;
 - Construction of load bearing surface, removal of vegetation and trees, and reprofiling of embankment on R419 at junction to R400, within the townland of Cushina, Co. Offaly.

A 35-year operational life from the date of full commissioning of the entire wind farm is being sought. This reflects the lifespan of modern-day turbines.

A permanent planning permission is being sought for the Grid Connection and onsite 110 kV substation as these will become an asset of the national grid under the management of EirGrid and will remain in place upon decommissioning of the Proposed Wind Farm.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in relation to the project and accompany this planning application. The EIAR and NIS is prepared in respect of the construction, operation and, decommissioning of the proposed development and works to facilitate turbine delivery from the port of entry of Galway from Lough Atalia Road, R339, crossing junction with R338, continuing on R339, R336, N6, onto the M6, exiting M6 at Junction 5 Tullamore, N52, R420, R402, R400, R419, onto the proposed new site entrance off the R419.

The planning application, Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, during public opening hours for a period of seven weeks commencing on **3rd October 2025** at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 (9:15am - 5:30pm, Monday to Friday).
- Kildare County Council, Planning Department, Áras Chill Dara Devoy Park, Naas, Co Kildare W91 X77F.
- Offaly County Council, Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore Co. Offaly R35 F893.
- Laois County Council, Áras an Chontae, JFL Ave., Portlaoise, Co. Laois R32 EHP9.

The application may also be viewed/downloaded on the following website: www.derrynadarraghplanning.ie

A submission or observation may be made only to An Coimisiún Pleanála (“the Commission”) in writing or online at www.pleanala.ie, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902 during the above-mentioned period of seven weeks relating to:

- i. The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development of the area concerned, and
- ii. the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out, and
- iii. the likely effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received by An Coimisiún Pleanála (“the Commission”) not later than 5:30 p.m. on **21st November 2025** and must include the following information:

- the name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent,
- the subject matter of the submission or observation, and
- the reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full (Article 217 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, refers).

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Commission. The Commission may at its absolute discretion hold an oral hearing on the application (refer to “A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development” at www.pleanala.ie).

The Commission may in respect of an application for permission/approval decide to -

1. grant the permission/approval, or
2. make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its decision and grant permission/approval in respect of the proposed development as so modified, or
3. grant permission/approval in respect of part of the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of the forgoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or
4. refuse to grant the permission.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Development Section of An Coimisiún Pleanála (Telephone: 01 8588100).

A person may question the validity of any such decision of the Commission by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rule of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986, as amended by S.I. No 691 of 2011), in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed on the Commission’s website www.pleanala.ie or on the Citizens Information Service website, www.citizensinformation.ie.

Signed: Robyn Nicholl

for and on behalf of Fehily Timoney & Company [Agent on behalf of Dara Energy Ltd], Core House, Pouladuff Road, Ballyphehane, Cork T12 D773