

Uisce Éireann Ref: PN25000032810
Planning Ref: Cooloo Wind Farm
Planning Authority: Galway County Council
Issue Date: 17 November 2025

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Development Location:

located within Cloondahamper, Cloonascragh, Elmhill, Cooloo, Lecarrow, Dangan Eighter, Lissavally an

Development Description:

Construction of wind energy development and all associated works

A Chara,

Please accept this submission in respect to the above-referenced planning application. Uisce Éireann (UÉ) has reviewed the plans and particulars submitted with the application and have the following observation(s).

Uisce Éireann has the following observations in respect of the proposed development;

The proposed windfarm is located within the Mid Galway Public Water Supply (PWS) zone of contribution (ZOC) with 2 no. turbines locations (T1 & T2) and the proposed construction compound located within the Source Protection Area (SPA) as detailed in the SPA report (https://gsi.geodata.gov.ie/downloads/Groundwater/Reports/SPZ/GY_PWSS_SPZ_MidGalway_May_2012_EPA.pdf). In addition, approximately 3.8km of the Proposed Grid Connection cable route is located inside the SPA, with the majority of the 3.8km being along public roads. While the subsoils are variable across the wind farm site, depth to bedrock is variable but appears to be generally c.5 m with a reduction in depth to the south based on the GSI data.

In terms of the PWS and the potential impacts to the ZOC /SPA, the potential effects are set out section 9.5.2 of the EIAR which include the use of fuels and concrete for the construction phase, while the mitigation measures are set out in detail in section 9.6.2 of the EIAR in terms of groundwater.

Uisce Éireann has reviewed the proposed mitigation measures and request the additional measures as follows be conditioned should the development be approved:

The refuelling for mobile plant and machinery, to be used in construction shall be located outside of the Source Protection Area as committed to in the EIAR. Uisce Éireann requires that refuelling take place in a dedicated and designated location. The applicant shall agree the location of the refuelling area with Uisce Éireann prior to commencement.

The EIAR notes that a geotextile liner will be placed below the founding layer (lean mix concrete) where concrete is to be poured to prevent vertical loss of wet concrete at turbine bases. Uisce Éireann requires that details of this geotextile shall be recorded and logged on the risk register.

The EIAR notes that perimeter shuttering is to be used at turbine bases to prevent lateral loss of wet concrete. Uisce Éireann requires that a consultant hydrogeologist /engineering geologist shall be employed to monitor and supervise foundation works and in particular any grouting works.

The EIAR notes that all temporary cement washout lagoons are proposed be located outside the Public Water Supply (PWS) Source Protection Area (SPA). The location of these lagoons, in hardstanding areas outside the PWS SPA, shall be designated and agreed with Uisce Éireann prior to commencement. The washout lagoons shall be lined and a consultant hydrogeologist / engineering geologist shall be employed to monitor and supervise the activities at these lagoons.

The EIAR notes that no wind farm drainage will be released inside the 50m watercourse buffer on the Lecarrow 30 Stream. Any runoff from hardstanding areas shall also be treated for settlement of suspended solids prior to discharge.

Turbines T1 and T2 are located within the Source Protection Area for the Mid Galway Public Water Supply. Downgradient Groundwater quality monitoring of T1 and T2 shall be undertaken prior to construction and during the construction phase of the project. The procedure for groundwater monitoring shall be generated by a consultant hydrogeologist, submitted to, and agreed with Uisce Éireann prior to commencement. A record of groundwater monitoring shall be submitted to Uisce Éireann at agreed intervals during the project.

The applicant/operator shall comply with the Water Framework Directive and River Basin Management Plan objectives to ensure that the development will not negatively impact on the water quality of source/receiving waters during both construction and operational phases.

The applicant/operator shall meet the requirements of EIA Directive 2014/52/EU.

The applicant/operator shall comply with the requirements of the Groundwater Directive, Article 6(1) of Directive 2000/60/EC.

In the interest of Public Health and Environmental Sustainability the applicant/operator will comply with best practice Groundwater Protection Schemes set in the GSI Groundwater Protection Schemes.

Uisce Éireann's Standard Condition(s):

The applicant shall enter into a Connection Agreement(s) with Uisce Éireann to provide for a service connection(s) to the public water supply and/or wastewater collection network and adhere to the standards and conditions set out in that agreement.

All development shall be carried out in compliance with Uisce Éireann's *Standard Details and Codes of Practice*.

Uisce Éireann does not permit Build Over of its assets. Where the applicant proposes to build over or divert existing water or wastewater services the applicant shall have received written Confirmation of Feasibility (COF) of Diversion(s) from Uisce Éireann prior to any works commencing.

Reason: To provide adequate water and wastewater facilities.

Queries relating to the terms and observations above should be directed to planning@water.ie

Signed on behalf of Dermot Phelan
Connections and Developer Services