

Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

Volume 6 of 6: Appendices

(Appendix A2.1) Competent Experts

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1. Competent Experts

Chapter	Name	Role	Organisation	Qualifications	Relevant Experience
Overall EIAR (including Chapters 1 to 5)	Simon White	Overall EIA Lead	Jacobs	MSC Environmental Management LLB Law and Politics Joint Honours Member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (MIEMA) Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv)	The overall EIA lead and competent expert responsible for the EIAR is a senior associate director and Chartered Environmentalist with 17 years' experience in EIA and environmental consulting, holding degrees in Environmental Management and Law. He is a member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment and experienced in the environmental assessment of major infrastructure projects across Ireland and the United Kingdom. Along with the overall coordination of the EIAR, he lead on the introductory chapters of the EIAR (including project description, construction & commissioning, consideration of reasonable alternatives, and the EIA process), with input from technical, design, and environmental specialists as required.
Chapter 6 – Noise and Vibration	Dermot Blunnie	Noise and Vibration Lead	AWN	BEng (Hons) in Sound Engineering MSc in Applied Acoustics Institute of Acoustics Diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control	Dermot Blunnie holds a BEng (Hons) in Sound Engineering, an MSc in Applied Acoustics and has completed the Institute of Acoustics Diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control. He has been working in the field of acoustics since 2008 and as a consultant since 2014. He is a member of both Engineers Ireland and the Institute of Acoustics. He is experienced in environmental, building and architectural acoustics. He has extensive knowledge of all aspects of surveying, computer modelling, impact assessment of environmental noise and architectural acoustic assessments for various sectors including, energy, industrial, commercial, and residential.
	Adam Baker	Groundborne Noise and Vibration Specialist	Jacobs	MSc Applied Acoustics BSc (Hons) Environmental Science Chartered Engineer (CEng) Member of the Institute of Acoustics (MIOA)	Adam has 19 years of experience in environmental assessment, including experience in transportation, manufacturing, power generation, waste disposal, leisure, construction, demolition and residential sectors. Key skills and areas of expertise include industrial noise and vibration assessment, construction noise and vibration assessment, and noise and vibration assessment for major infrastructure projects Environmental Impact Assessments.
Chapter 7 – Traffic and Transport	Maria Rooney	Traffic and Transport Lead	TOBIN	MEng Road and Transport Engineering BEng (Hons) Civil Engineering	Maria Rooney is a Chartered Engineer and has a Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering and Master of Engineering in Roads and Transport Engineering. She has over 10 year's work experience in roads and transport engineering. Maria has undertaken many Traffic and Transportation Assessments and EIAR Traffic Chapters for various developments including environmental projects, waste management facilities and energy projects.
	Saurabh Gupta	Traffic and Transport Reviewer	Jacobs	MEng Transportation Systems Engineering BEng Civil Engineering Member of Engineers Ireland (MIEI) Member of Chartered Institute of Highways and Transport (MCIHT)	Saurabh Gupta is a Chartered Engineer and has a Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering and Master of Engineering in Transportation Systems Engineering. He has over 22 years of work experience in Transport Planning and Traffic Engineering. Saurabh has supervised many Traffic and Transportation Assessments and EIAR Traffic Chapters for various new and expansion of existing developments including mixed-use developments and energy projects.

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Chapter 8 – Biodiversity	Laura Kennedy	Lead Ecologist	TOBIN	MSc Environmental Science BSc Zoology MSc Environmental Science	Laura Kennedy is an Associate Director and Lead Ecologist with TOBIN. She is a qualified and experienced environmental consultant with sixteen years' post-graduate experience in environmental sciences and environmental consultancy in Canada and Ireland. Laura has delivered ecological assessments for renewable energy projects and pipeline projects. She has a strong technical background as an aquatic ecologist and has extensive field experience in biological and chemical water quality assessment. Laura has also undertaken Screening Reports and Natura Impact Statements for renewable energy developments and has defended Appropriate Assessments at Oral Hearings for a waste development and a mining project.
	Russell Cryer	Senior NIS Reviewer	Jacobs	Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) B.Tech (Hons) Applied Biology (Ecology) PG Diploma Conservation Management PG Certificate Supervisory Management	Russell has over 20 years of experience of supporting infrastructure projects in ecological assessment, specialising in Appropriate Assessment. Before this, he spent 18 years developing land management, team / project management and stakeholder engagement skills in the nature conservation field. Russell's experience has been in the voluntary, public and private sectors and has included infrastructure projects including water and flood management projects, new nuclear build, trunk roads, pipelines, electricity transmission and waste management facilities, as well as development of decision-making processes and strategic assessments in the government sector.
	Paul Murphy	Senior Aquatic Biologist	EirEco Environmental Consultants	MSc Environmental Science Diploma in Aquatic Biology Certificate in Horticulture Certificate in Agriculture	Paul Murphy is the Director of EirEco Environmental Consultants. Paul is an approved surveyor by the National Parks and Wildlife Service for various aquatic Annex-listed species and has held numerous licences for the survey of freshwater pearl mussel (Stage 1 and Stage 2), white-clawed crayfish and lamprey. Paul is fully conversant with the Appropriate Assessment process and has undertaken Screening Reports and Natura Impact Statements for a wide variety of developments. Paul was the principal author of the Guidelines for the Crossing of Watercourses During the Construction of National Road Schemes (NRA 2005). He has been heavily involved in the assessment of river crossings on aquatic ecology and the development of mitigation to avoid, reduce or remedy potential impacts in a variety of large bridge crossings. Paul was also the principal author of the Guidelines on the Management of Noxious Weeds and Non-Native Invasive Plant Species on National Roads (NRA 2010) and regularly undertakes surveys of invasive non-native species in terrestrial and aquatic environments. He has been the expert witness for aquatic ecology at Oral Hearings.
	Patrick Crushell	Habitat Specialist	Wetland Surveys Ireland	BSc Applied Ecology MSc Environmental Resource Management PhD Environmental Sciences (Peatland Ecology and Restoration)	Company Director and Senior Environmental Consultant, Dr Patrick Crushell established Wetland Surveys Ireland in 2007. He is a Chartered Ecologist and full Member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM), adhering to their code of professional conduct. Patrick has been working in the area of nature conservation and ecological assessment since 2002. He has worked as a consultant ecologist in the preparation of Ecological Impact Assessments on over 500 different projects for a range of organisations including government agencies, engineering firms, local environmental groups and NGOs and has appeared as an expert witness on numerous occasions.

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	Tina Aughney	Bat Specialist	Bat Eco Services	BSc Environmental Science PhD Environmental Science	Dr. Tina Aughney is a consultant ecologist specialising in bats and bat ecology since 2000. She has undertaken extensive training and survey work for all Irish bat species. Dr. Aughney manages national and all-island monitoring programmes on behalf of Bat Conservation Ireland for the NPWS in the Republic of Ireland and NIEA in Northern Ireland. Dr. Aughney has made numerous presentations on bat ecology, monitoring and mitigation at Irish, British and European conferences and symposiums. She has been the expert witness for bat ecology at Oral Hearings.
	Lorraine Benson / John Sherry	Ornithologist	Benson Ecology/TOBIN	MSc Applied Environment Science BSc Field Biology with Wildlife Tourism	Lorraine Benson is a Senior Ornithologist consultant. She is a member of the Irish Rare Birds Committee and the Tolka Branch of BirdWatch Ireland. She has conducted national surveys for Hen Harrier and Merlin as well as Irish Wetland Surveys and Irish Countryside Bird Surveys for BirdWatch Ireland. She has been involved in large infrastructural projects including windfarm developments in counties Donegal, Cork and Kildare. John holds the position of Project Ornithologist with TOBIN. John has over five years post-graduate experience in ecology and ornithology. John has primarily been involved in the surveying and reporting for large-scale renewable infrastructure projects where he has carried out the biodiversity and ornithology assessments which have been used to inform Environmental Impact Assessments and Appropriate Assessment. John also has a proven knowledge of field skills, with a focus on ornithological surveys, involving winter and breeding bird surveys associated largely with proposed wind farms or infrastructure developments. John has experience with carrying out monthly vantage point surveys, hen harrier roosts surveys, woodcock surveys and wildfowl and wader wetland counts.
Chapter 9 – Water	Rebecca Westlake	Water Technical Reviewer; WFD Lead	Jacobs	BSc (Hons) Physical geography MSc Coastal and marine resource management PhD Coastal geomorphology and morphodynamics LLM Environmental law and Practice Chartered Scientist Chartered Marine Scientist	25+ years in academia, consultancy, regulatory, on water related projects, major infrastructure projects, and WFD in UK and Europe. Led on several Development Consent Orders in the UK, including attendance at Examination, derogation expertise, water EIA lead and WFD technical lead.
	Finlay Horn	Hydrological Modelling/ Hydrology Lead	Jacobs	BSc (Hons) Geography MSc Integrated Water Resources Management Chartered Water and Environmental Manager (CIWEM)	Principal Hydrologist with 10 years' experience in water resources studies for a range of UK and Ireland water utility clients. Hydrology Lead of Uisce Éireann's first National Water Resources Plan (NWRP) as a water utility, which involved being responsible for the water availability and hydrological modelling assessments of over 200 river and lake abstraction sources across Ireland.
	Aristotelis Koskinas	Flood Risk Lead	Jacobs	MEng Civil Engineering Chartered Engineer (CEng) Member of Engineers Ireland (MIEI)	Senior Engineer with six years' experience in the water sector for a range of UK and Ireland clients. Worked on Flood Risk Assessments and drainage designs for large scale infrastructure projects (waste water treatment plants, gas insulated substations, motorway upgrades).

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Chapter 10 – Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology	John Dillon	Geology and Soils Lead	TOBIN	BSc Environmental Science MSc Environmental Engineering Diploma Environmental Engineering	Over 20 years professional experience focusing on land, soil and groundwater assessment, consultation and contributions to many infrastructural projects including pipelines, powerlines and renewable energy.
Chapter 11 – Agriculture	Philip Farrelly	Director - Agronomy	Philip Farrelly & Co.	B.AgSc MACA Former Council Member ASA	Over 35 years professional experience focusing on agronomy consultation and contributions to many infrastructural projects. His expertise spans diverse domains such as linear infrastructure, pipelines, utilities, and agricultural systems. He has worked on various assignments requiring environmental impact assessments and agronomic planning, particularly for infrastructure development initiatives that intersect with agricultural and natural resource considerations.
	Aoife Smith	Senior Agronomist	Philip Farrelly & Co.	B.AgSc UCD ProAcad PM MACA MASA MIPAV (Affiliate)	Over eight years professional experience specialising in agronomy consultation. Her portfolio of expertise involves conducting EIAs that are critical for sustainable development e.g. linear infrastructure, pipelines, utilities etc.
	Michael Sadlier	Equine Specialist	Equine Veterinary Consultancy	Batchelor Veterinary Medicine Graduate Certificate in Equine Sports Medicine Certificate in Equine Surgery (Orthopaedics) Membership of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists in Equine Surgery	Michael has worked in veterinary clinical practice for over 40 years in many countries around the world. Michael has worked predominantly in equine practice and has achieved significant post graduate qualifications, all by examination. For the past 15 years, Michael has worked as a consultant on equine welfare related issues on numerous infrastructural projects, such as roads (M8, N17, N11, N4, N22, N26, N24, M20), windfarms, solar farms, rail lines, gas and water pipe lines, flood relief schemes, electricity transmission lines and incinerators.
Chapter 12 – Air Quality Chapter 13 – Climate	Ciara Nolan	Air Quality and Climate Lead	AWN Consulting	BSc Eng in Energy Systems Engineering MSc in Applied Environmental Science Member Institute of Air Quality Management (MIAQM) Member Institution of Environmental Sciences (MIEnvSc)	Ciara has over 8 years of professional experience in undertaking air quality and climate assessments. She has prepared air quality and climate impact assessments as part of EIARs for numerous development types including residential, commercial and industrial developments, as well as renewable energy developments including windfarms. She also specialises in conducting air dispersion modelling assessments of emissions from data centres, energy centres and the chemical industry as part of EPA Industrial Emissions Licences. She has undertaken air quality and climate impact assessments for large infrastructure schemes, primarily transportation schemes, including regional and national road schemes, from constraints, through to route selection and EIAR stage.
Chapter 14 – Population	Robert Fadden	Population Lead	Jacobs	BA in Geography & Politics MSc in Environmental Policy Full Membership of the Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES) Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv)	Robert has over 10 years' experience managing / coordinating EIAs as well as undertaking Population / Socio-economic Assessments for a wide range of large infrastructure projects in Ireland but also in the UK and Australia. He has attained a BA and MSc from University College Dublin (UCD) and is a Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv).

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Chapter 15 – Human Health	Jenny Wade	Human Health Lead	Jacobs	BA (Hons) Geography MSc Environmental Management MPH Public Health Full Member of Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (MIEMA) Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) Associate of Faculty of Public Health	Jenny Wade is a Senior Associate Director in Jacobs. She has over 21 years' relevant experience in environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment during which time she has contributed to or led over 18 health assessments for transport plans and projects, as well as some other types of nationally important infrastructure projects. She is a member of the IEMA Technical Working Group for Health in EIA. She holds a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree from Cardiff University, a Masters (MSc) degree in Environmental Management from Imperial College, London and Geography degree (BA Hons) from Swansea University.
Chapter 16 – Landscape and Visual	Richard Barker	Landscape Lead	Macro Works	BA in Environmental Studies Post Grad Dip Forestry Master's degree in landscape architecture Corporate Member Irish Landscape Institute	Richard's experience includes over 19 years of assessing a broad range of infrastructural, industrial and commercial projects, including numerous large scale linear infrastructure developments. Richard has presented guest lectures on LVIA to the UCD EIA Management course and also presented two conference papers to the Irish Landscape Institute relating to best practice in LVIA.
Chapter 17 – Cultural Heritage	Faith Bailey	Cultural Heritage Lead	IAC Archaeology	BA in Archaeology MA in Cultural Landscape Management (Archaeology and Built Heritage) Member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland (IAI) Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA)	Faith has over 20 years' experience working in the field of archaeology and architectural and cultural heritage. She has an in-depth knowledge of the planning systems and heritage legislation within both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Faith specialises in the preparation of archaeological and built heritage chapters for EIAR of large-scale developments and schemes, along with provision of expert witness services at Oral Hearing.
Chapter 18 – Material Assets	Simon White	Overall EIA Lead	Jacobs	See first row	See first row. This chapter was coordinated by the overall EIA lead, with input from technical, design, and environmental specialists as required.
Chapter 19 – Resource and Waste Management	Sara Craze	Resource and Waste Management Lead	Jacobs	BSc in Geography & Environmental Sciences MSc in Environmental Management and Technology Full Membership of Institute of The Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM)	Sara has worked in consultancy for over 20 years within waste management. She has regularly completed EIA chapters for materials and waste as well as acted as technical reviewer on a number of EIA chapters. She has been involved in a number of projects which are considered as projects of national significance.
Chapter 20 – Risk of Major Accidents and Disasters	Simon White	Overall EIA Lead	Jacobs	See first row	See first row. This chapter was coordinated by the overall EIA lead, with input from technical, design, and environmental specialists as required.

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Chapter 21 – Cumulative Impacts and Environmental Interactions	Andrew Johnson	Cumulative Effects Lead	Jacobs	BSc (Hons) Microbiology MSc Pollution and Environmental Control Full Member of Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (MIEMA) Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) Registered Environmental Auditor (IEMA)	Andrew has worked in the environmental consultancy field for over 20 years and has regularly acted as a coordination lead for production of a range of EIA topic chapters. His experience includes involvement in a number of nationally significant infrastructure project consent applications.