



Health Service Executive,
National Business Service Unit,
National Environmental Health Service,
Health Service Executive,
2nd Floor, Oak House,
Millennium Park,
Naas,
Co. Kildare
W91 KDC2

Our ref: 240843

Your ref: ACP-
324155-26

Date: 17th April 2026

Re: Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended – Planning Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála for a Proposed Wind Farm Development in the townlands of Cahermurphy, Carrowmagry South, Castlepark, Caheraghacullin, Doolough, Drummin, Kilmihil, Knockalough and Knocknahila More South, Co. Clare.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing regarding the Section 37E Cahermurphy Wind Farm application (ACP-324155-26), for which the Health Service Executive is identified as a prescribed body.

Following notification from An Coimisiún Pleanála that the address of the Health Service Executive to receive such applications has changed, we are issuing a new notification of this application, which was lodged with An Coimisiún Pleanála on 23rd March 2026.

Please note that the submission period is seven weeks from the date in this letter, and any submissions by the HSE must be received no later than Friday 5th June 2026. For clarity, the original closing date of Tuesday 19th May referenced in the letter dated 9th April is no longer applicable, as a new seven-week period now applies.

An electronic copy of this application accompanies this correspondence.

A copy of this application is also available at <https://cahermurphywestplanning.ie/>

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Adrian Moran

Adrian Moran
Planner, MKO
Tel: 091 735 611

Galway - MKO, Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84 (**Correspondence address**)

Dublin - MKO, 9C Beckett Way, Park West Business Park, Dublin, D12 XN9W

+353 (091) 735 611 | mkoireland.ie | info@mkoireland.ie

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 462657. VAT No: IE9693052R

MKO Water Limited t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 338589. VAT No: IE6358589Q

MKO Estates & Project Management Ltd. Registered in Ireland No: 613029. VAT No: 3497897JH

Email: amoran@mkoireland.ie

Galway - MKO, Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84 (**Correspondence address**)
Dublin - MKO, 9C Beckett Way, Park West Business Park, Dublin, D12 XN9W

+353 (091) 735 611 | mkoireland.ie | info@mkoireland.ie

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 462657. VAT No: IE9693052R
MKO Water Limited t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 338589. VAT No: IE6358589Q
MKO Estates & Project Management Ltd. Registered in Ireland No: 613029. VAT No: 3497897JH



HSE,
Dr. Steevens' Hospital,
Steeven's Lane,
Dublin 8,
D08 W2A8

Our ref: 230843

Your ref:

Date: 20th March 2026

Re: Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended – Planning Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála for a Proposed Wind Farm Development in the townlands of Cahermurphy, Carrowmagry South, Castlepark, Caheraghacullin, Doolough, Drummin, Kilmihil, Knockalough and Knocknahila More South, Co. Clare

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of our client, Cahermurphy Renewables Designated Activity Company (DAC), please find enclosed a copy of an application for the proposed renewable energy development which consists of the construction of 8 no. wind turbines, and associated infrastructure in the townlands of Cahermurphy and adjacent townlands in Co. Clare, including a permanent 110kV electrical substation and associated works, with underground 33kV electrical and communications cabling connecting the wind turbines to the proposed substation and associated ancillary works. The Proposed Project will be known as the 'Cahermurphy West Wind Farm'. You have received a copy of the application as a noted Prescribed Body.

Background

The Application is being made directly to An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP) as 'Strategic Infrastructure Development' (SID) under the provisions of Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) ("the Act,"). Pre-application consultation was opened in August 2024, with a meeting being held with ACP on the 11th of August 2024 in accordance with Section 37B of the Act. A further meeting took place on the 2nd of December 2025 in response to the transposition of the Renewable Energy Directive (RED III) into Irish law through the European Union (Planning and Development)(Renewable Energy) Regulations 2025.

On the 9th of February 2026, ACP wrote to the Applicant and confirmed that the consultation was closed and that the Wind Farm Site was considered to be SID within the meaning of Section 37A of the PDA and such any application for approval for the Proposed Wind Farm should be made directly to ACP.

A design flexibility opinion was issued by ACP on the 9th February 2026 and accompanies this application. The details unconfirmed in this application are the turbine dimensions (turbine total tip height, rotor diameter and hub height). The range of parameters under which the turbine dimensions

Galway - MKO, Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84 (**Correspondence address**)

Dublin - MKO, 9C Beckett Way, Park West Business Park, Dublin, D12 XN9W

+353 (0)91 735 611 | mkoireland.ie | info@mkoireland.ie

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 462657. VAT No: IE9693052R

MKO Water Limited t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 338589. VAT No: IE6358589Q

MKO Estates & Project Management Ltd. Registered in Ireland No: 613029. VAT No: 3497897JH

will fall are specified on the public notices and further detailed in the design flexibility opinion which accompanies this application.

The Applicant for the Proposed Project, Cahermurphy Renewables Designated Activity Company, is a joint venture between FuturEnergy Ireland and Mid Clare Renewable Energy (MCRE) Ltd. Further details about the applicant are available in Chapter 1 of the accompanying EIAR.

A separate, concurrent planning application for underground electrical cabling (110kV) which will connect the wind farm to the existing Moneypoint 110kV electrical substation is also being lodged to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

European Union (Planning and Development) (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2025 (S.I. No. 274 of 2025)

On 6 August 2025, the European Union (Planning and Development) (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2025 (S.I. No. 274 of 2025) were adopted for the purpose of giving effect to Articles 15e(5), 16, 16bb, 16(2), 16d, 16e and 16f of the RED III Directive.

The legislation introduces new decision timelines based on a “completeness check” (ss.34E, 37JB, 295B): 52 weeks for new wind farms, 30 weeks for repowering projects, and one to two years for IROPI cases (two years for projects over 150 kW, one year for projects under 150 kW or repowering). Importantly, renewable energy developments, including related grid and storage infrastructure, are now presumed to be in the overriding public interest. The development is fully covered by the provisions of the Renewable Energy Directive III (Directive 2023/2413).

This planning application has been prepared in line with these Regulations, and, specifically, the Schedule of Information to Inform the Completeness Check, provided by ACP, as Appendix 2 of their SID determination under ABP- 319676-24. A full assessment of the Proposed Wind Farm in relation to this schedule has been included as Appendix 1 of the Cover Letter submitted with this application.

Proposed Wind Farm

The Proposed Wind Farm, as per the public notices is as follows:

The proposed development will comprise:

- i. Construction of 8 no. wind turbines with a blade tip height range from 180m to 185m inclusive, a hub height range from 98.5m to 110.5m inclusive and a rotor diameter range from 149m to 163m inclusive with associated foundations, hard-standing and assembly areas;*
- ii. Construction of 1 no. permanent 110 kV electrical substation including 2 no. control buildings lightning protection, welfare facilities, car parking, and all associated electrical plant and apparatus, security fencing, external lighting, underground cabling, wastewater holding tank and all associated infrastructure, apparatus and landscaping;*
- iii. Underground electrical cabling (33kV) and communications cabling connecting the wind turbines to the proposed on-site 110kV electrical substation and associated ancillary works;*

- iv. *Erection of 1 no. Meteorological Mast of 100m metres above existing ground level for the measuring of meteorological conditions, including a lightning rod which will extend above the mast;*
- v. *Construction of new permanent access roads and upgrade of existing roads to provide access within the site and to connect the wind turbines and associated infrastructure;*
- vi. *Upgrade of 1 no. new existing agricultural/forestry access to the site, off the L6254 local road, to serve as the sole entrance to the wind farm during its operational phase and to facilitate the delivery of the construction materials and turbine components to site during the construction and operational phases (including the installation of security fencing and gates);*
- vii. *Development of 2 no. borrow pits;*
- viii. *Construction of 2 no. temporary construction compounds and associated ancillary infrastructure including temporary site offices, staff facilities and car-parking areas, all to be removed at end of construction phase;*
- ix. *Temporary works at 6 no. locations along the N68 national road, R484 regional road and L-2074, L-2082 and L-2048 local roads associated with the facilitation of turbine component and abnormal load delivery to site. These works will primarily include the trimming of vegetation and strengthening of road verges;*
- x. *Permanent and temporary Site Drainage;*
- xi. *Operational Stage Site Signage;*
- xii. *Ancillary forestry felling over an area of 21.87ha to facilitate construction and operation of the proposed development;*
- xiii. *Biodiversity enhancement measures including the permanent removal of commercial forestry (deforestation) over an area of 56.3ha and restoration of farmland habitat to good quality hen harrier foraging habitat through diversifying the range and extent of habitats over an area of 67.4ha, and;*
- xiv. *All related site works and ancillary development including landscaping considered necessary to facilitate the proposed development.*

A ten-year permission and a thirty five-year operational life from the date of full commissioning of the entire wind farm is being sought and the subsequent decommissioning.

A separate, concurrent planning application for underground electrical cabling (110kV) which will connect the wind farm to the existing Moneypoint 110kV electrical substation is also being lodged to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany this application.

The EIAR and NIS assess both the full extent of the proposed development as described above in i-xiv., as well as integral elements of the wider project infrastructure including underground electrical cabling (110kV) from the proposed Cahermurphy West Wind Farm development to the existing Moneypoint 110kV electrical substation; joint bays including communication chambers and earth sheath links along the proposed underground electrical cabling route; permanent and temporary Site Drainage; reinstatement of land, road and track surface above the proposed cabling trench and all related site works and ancillary development located in the townlands of Cahermurphy, Cloonwhite South, Sheeaun, Leitrim, Cloonreddan, Kilmacduane East, Clooncullin, Lissanair, Teemagloghane, Brisla East, Brisla West, Gowerhass, Tullagower, Garraunatooha, Knockerry West, Carrowfree, Derrylough, Dunneill, Doonnagurroge, Pouladarree, Carrowdotia South, Carrowdotia North Co.

Clare, all of which are essential infrastructure associated with the operation of the proposed development and which, as referenced above, are subject to a separate, concurrent planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

A design flexibility opinion issued by An Coimisiún Pleanála (Opinion Ref. No.ACP-323567) on the 9th February 2026 accompanies this application. The details unconfirmed in this application are the turbine

tip height, hub height and rotor diameter. The range of parameters under which the turbine dimensions will fall are specified on this notice in item i. above and further detailed in the design flexibility opinion that accompanies this application.

Contents of the Application

The following documents are included in the application pack:

- Planning Application Documentation;
 - Cover Letter, including compliance with Schedule of Information to Inform the Completeness Check,
 - Planning Application Form,
 - Form No.22 Application to accompany an application that includes an opinion on design flexibility (Opinion Ref. No.ACP-323567), including design flexibility opinion issued by An Coimisiún Pleanála,
 - Copy of Site Notice, erected on the 20th March 2026,
 - Copy of Newspaper Notice published locally in the Clare Champion, published 19th March 2026 and dated 20th March 2026,
 - Copy of Newspaper Notice, published Nationally in the Irish Examiner, published dated 20th March 2026,
 - EIA Portal Confirmation (ID: 2026035),
 - Planning Report,
 - Letter of consents from relevant landowners – included with the planning application form.
- Planning Application Drawings (Including Drawing Schedule).
- Red Line Boundary in DWG format
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)
 - Volume 1 – Non-Technical Summary (NTS) and Main Report
 - Volume 2 – Photomontage Booklet
 - Volume 3 – EIAR Appendices including 2 no. confidential Appendices.
- Natura Impact Statement (NIS)

The planning application, EIAR and NIS may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such a copy) during public opening hours for a period of seven weeks commencing on the 31st March 2026 at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 D01 V902 (9:15am – 5:30pm, Monday – Friday).
- The Offices of Clare County Council, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2 (9:00am- 5:00pm Monday- Friday).

Galway - MKO, Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84 (**Correspondence address**)

Dublin - MKO, 9C Beckett Way, Park West Business Park, Dublin, D12 XN9W

+353 (091) 735 611 | mkoireland.ie | info@mkoireland.ie

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 462657. VAT No: IE9693052R

MKO Water Limited t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 338589. VAT No: IE6358589Q

MKO Estates & Project Management Ltd. Registered in Ireland No: 613029. VAT No: 3497897JH

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

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

- (i) The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and
- (ii) The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, 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 the Commission not later than 5.30 p.m. on the 19th May 2026 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

- (a) (i) grant the permission, or
 - (ii) make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its decision and grant permission in respect of the proposed development as so modified, or
 - (iii) grant permission in respect of part of the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or
- (b) 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 (Tel. 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 Commissions website (www.pleanala.ie) under the following heading: Legal Notices - Judicial Review Notice. This information is also available on the Citizens Information Service website www.citizensinformation.ie.

Yours sincerely,
Alan Clancy

Alan Clancy

Senior Planner

Galway - MKO, Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84 (**Correspondence address**)

Dublin - MKO, 9C Beckett Way, Park West Business Park, Dublin, D12 XN9W

+353 (091) 735 611 | mkoireland.ie | info@mkoireland.ie

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 462657. VAT No: IE9693052R

MKO Water Limited t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 338589. VAT No: IE6358589Q

MKO Estates & Project Management Ltd. Registered in Ireland No: 613029. VAT No: 3497897JH

Enclosed

- 1 x USB copy of Planning Application Pack

Galway - MKO, Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84 (**Correspondence address**)
Dublin - MKO, 9C Beckett Way, Park West Business Park, Dublin, D12 XN9W

+353 (091) 735 611 | mkoireland.ie | info@mkoireland.ie

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 462657. VAT No: IE9693052R
MKO Water Limited t/a MKO. Registered in Ireland No: 338589. VAT No: IE6358589Q
MKO Estates & Project Management Ltd. Registered in Ireland No: 613029. VAT No: 3497897JH