



APPENDIX 2-1

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Maughanaclea Renewable
Energy Development, Co. Cork
Community Engagement Report



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

This report has been prepared to document the consultation carried out with the local community in respect of the proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork. Maughanaclea Ltd, is an associate company of Enerco Energy, which has been created exclusively for the Proposed Project. Enerco Energy Ltd. has led the community consultation process in relation to the Proposed Project with local residents and interested parties in the wider community. The objective of the consultations was to ensure that the views and concerns of all interested parties were considered as part of the Proposed Project design and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

The Proposed Project has the potential to have significant benefits for the local economy, by means of job creation, landowner payments and commercial rate payments. An important part of any renewable energy development, which the Applicant has been at the forefront of developing, is its Community Benefit Package. The concept of directing benefits from wind farms to the local community is promoted by the National Economic and Social Council (NESC) and the Wind Energy Ireland (WEI) among others. While it may be simpler and easier to put a total fund aside for a wider community area, Maughanaclea Ltd. is endeavouring to develop new ways to direct increased gain towards the local community with particular focus on those living closest to the Proposed Wind Farm.

The Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006) state that:

“While it is not a mandatory requirement, it is strongly recommended that developers of a wind energy project should engage in active consultation and dialogue with the local community at an early stage in the planning process, ideally prior to submitting a planning application”.

This was further addressed in the Preferred Draft Approach to Wind Energy Development in Ireland¹ (June 2017) which stated the following with respect to planning applications for wind farms:

“Planning applications must contain a Community Report prepared by the applicant which will specify how the final proposal reflects community consultation. The Community Report must also outline steps taken to ensure that the Proposed Project will be of enduring economic benefit to the communities concerned”.

The Draft Guidelines (DoHPLG, 2019) has retained this position stating the following:

“In order to promote the observance of best practice, planning authorities should require applicants to prepare and submit a Community Report with their planning application and a condition on any subsequent planning permission should require developers to carry out the development in accordance with the approved Community Report”.

This report outlines the consultation and community engagement initiatives undertaken by the Applicant prior to the submission of the planning application. It also outlines the main issues identified during this process, how the final proposal reflects community consultation and the steps taken to ensure that the Proposed Project will be of enduring economic benefit to the communities concerned.

¹ The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment and Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Information Note Review of the Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2006 “Preferred Draft Approach”, 2017, p.8

2. CONSULTATION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

2.1 Notification of the Local Community

To inform local residents about the Proposed Project, a project Community Liaison Officer (CLO) was appointed, and an introductory information pack was delivered via door-door consultation to all householders within a c.2km radius of the area of the site, in December 2024. The information distributed to each household consisted of:

- A company brochure, which provided an overview on Enerco Energy and some general information about wind energy;
- A site location map;
- An overview map which divided the properties surrounding the site into 2 zones;
- A map highlighting the potential developable area which was under review at that time and the properties within each zone;
- Dedicated contact details (name, phone and email) for the community liaison officer (CLO) in relation to the project, along with a web address for the dedicated project website.
- All of the information sent to the local community was also made available for public viewing on the project information website.

The community consultation effort was led by Enerco Energy Ltd on behalf of Maughanaclea Ltd. which is a project specific company.

2.1.1 Community Interactions

Following the initial notification of the proposal to the local community, the CLO liaised with interested parties in helping them to understand the proposal and respond to any queries or concerns raised. As more project information became available, further consultations were organised, with the CLO attending in-person meetings with individuals to answer queries relating to the Proposed Project.

The following paragraphs provide an outline of the consultation effort, with further detail provided in the following sections below:

In December 2024, the first round of public consultation was carried out, via door-to-door visits by the CLO (assisted by colleagues). The information pack delivered included a map of the developable area, an introductory letter and a brochure with some information about Enerco Energy and some general information about wind energy.

In April 2025, correspondence was circulated notifying the community about the dates and times of the first Public Information Exhibition to be held April 29th, in the Westlodge Hotel, Bantry.

In November 2025, again correspondence was circulated updating the community on the project and notifying them about the dates and times of the second Public Information Exhibition to be held November 24th, in the Westlodge Hotel.

In March 2026, a further project update letter was provided to the community notifying them that the project was due to be submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála within 2 weeks, and a copy of the press notice text was enclosed. A leaflet was delivered by the CLO to all properties directly accessed off the Proposed Grid Connection underground cabling route notifying them about the project and providing some information of the proposed works associated with the underground cabling installation. The leaflet included an overview map of the Proposed Grid Connection underground cabling route and contact

details for the CLO should any interested parties wish to discuss the proposal further. This leaflet was also enclosed with the letter to the houses on the mailing list.

Throughout the lengthy consultation period the CLO has continued to liaise with any interested parties and answer any questions as promptly as possible.

2.1.1.1 December 2024

The first round of consultation was by a letter from the appointed CLO to houses identified within c.2km of the site that was identified with potential for wind turbine development. Introductions were made and an information pack was given to the householders which contained a brochure with some information about Enerco Energy and some general information about wind energy, along with a map highlighting the identified site area with the potential for wind development.

This was an opportunity to further validate the sensitive receptors that had previously been identified, with a few new ones added and others marked as derelict properties.

This correspondence was hand delivered by the CLO (assisted by colleagues), in the event that nobody was home throughout this period, the letter and information pack was left in the post box with the CLO's contact details inside. A number of calls were received by the CLO from householders that were not home during the visits, and many queries were answered over the phone. Meetings were arranged for dates and times that suited those residents who were unavailable at the time of calling, or who wished for other family members to be present for the discussion.

The full pack of information that was sent to the neighbouring houses was also made available for public viewing on a dedicated project information website, www.maughanacleainfo.com and this website has been continuously updated to ensure that all community correspondence remains available for public viewing.

2.1.1.2 April 2025

This round of consultation was carried out to inform the local community of the upcoming PIE, scheduled for April 29th, 2025, at the Westlodge Hotel in Bantry, Co. Cork. The letter provided details on the event's location and time, as well as information on who would be available to answer any queries. A copy of the advertisement intended for publication in the Southern Star was also enclosed within the letter. A notice appeared in the Southern Star informing the public about the PIE.

2.1.1.3 November 2025

Another letter was shared with the local community to update them on the project and to inform them of the upcoming PIE, scheduled for November 24th, 2025, at the Westlodge Hotel in Bantry, Co. Cork. The letter provided details on the event's location and time, as well as information on who would be available to answer any queries. It also included project updates, such as the ongoing consultation with An Coimisiún Pleanála regarding whether the project constitutes Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID). A copy of the advertisement intended for publication in the Southern Star was also enclosed within the letter. Similarly to the previous time, a notice appeared in the Southern Star informing the public about the PIE.

2.1.1.4 March 2026

In March 2026, a letter was circulated to the usual mailing list informing them that the planning application for the Proposed Project would be submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála within the coming weeks. Enclosed with this letter was a copy of the press notice text which contained the development description of the Proposed Project, and a copy of the leaflet that was given to the houses along

Proposed Grid Connection underground cabling route. It was noted in this letter that the planning notice would appear in the Southern Star and that Site Notices would be erected in the area.

As noted above, a leaflet was hand delivered by the CLO to all properties directly accessed off the Proposed Grid Connection underground cabling route. This leaflet provided some information of the proposed works associated with the underground cabling installation and contact details for the CLO. The leaflet also included a map of the entire underground cabling route along with the associated road numbers and key landmarks along the route. The door-to-door leaflet drop resulted in many queries being addressed on the day, with queries received by the CLO afterwards and meetings held as required to satisfy the queries raised.

2.1.1.5 Public Information Exhibition

PIE Advertisement

In April 2025, correspondence was circulated notifying the community about the dates and times of the first Public Information Exhibition to be held April 29th, in the Westlodge Hotel, in Bantry, Co. Cork. An advert was also placed in the Southern Star to notify the wider community of the event.

In November 2025, correspondence was circulated again notifying the community about the dates and times of the second Public Information Exhibition to be held November 24th, in the Westlodge Hotel, in Bantry, Co. Cork. An advert was again placed in the Southern Star to notify the wider community of the event.

PIE Details

Westlodge Hotel, Bantry, Co. Cork (29/04/2025) (approx. 65 attendees)

Westlodge Hotel, Bantry, Co. Cork (24/11/2025) (approx. 40 attendees)

The Public Information Exhibitions were attended primarily by people who live in the locality of the Proposed Project. The exhibitions comprised several graphic and information boards positioned for the public to read. Members of the project team including the prospective Applicant were in attendance to answer any queries and discuss the project details. The information presented included:

- > Detail on the wind farm and grid connection sites
- > Consultation undertaken
- > Application process Site constraints
- > Development design
- > The chapters to be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report
- Environmental benefits
- > Community benefits
- > Next steps and how to get in touch
- > Selection of photomontages

Members of the public were invited to submit comment, concerns, and opinions regarding the Proposed Project through a feedback form at the event. The project website address, www.maughanacleainfo.com, and the contact details of CLO were on display for the attendees.

All information that was displayed at the Public Information Exhibition was made publicly available for interested parties to view in their own time, and the website includes a contact page which facilitates any feedback or queries from the community.

PIE Feedback

The main queries raised during the Public Information Exhibitions, were:

1. *Proximity of houses;*
2. *Community Gain Scheme;*
3. *Number of turbines;*
4. *Noise and Vibration;*
5. *Height of turbines;*
6. *Visual Impact;*
7. *Impact on Biodiversity.*
8. *Hydrological Impacts;*
9. *Turbine Foundations;*
10. *Shadow flicker;*
11. *Impact on Group Water Schemes;*
12. *Planning process.*

Following the Public Information Exhibition, the CLO followed up with any queries raised at the events. Feedback received at and since the public information evenings has been noted by the CLO and relayed to the design team. This feedback has continued to inform all refinements to the project design and all concerns have been fully addressed in the EIAR and NIS that accompany this planning application.

Dedicated Contact Details

Since the project was first introduced to the community in December 2024, dedicated contact details for the Proposed Project have been provided to the community, including a dedicated phone number and email address. To date, these channels have facilitated several enquiries about the Proposed Project.

Project Website

In December 2024, a dedicated project website was launched, www.maughanacleainfo.com. The website is an additional communication channel to keep members of the public informed about the Proposed Project. All information that was made available to the community has been uploaded to the website throughout the consultation period.

Following subsequent site layout amendments, the information hosted on the website was updated in line with the various rounds of consultation. This allowed members of the public to access the latest information at all times. It is intended to continue to update the website as any new information becomes available.

Community Liaison Officer

In December 2024, a dedicated Community Liaison Officer (CLO) was appointed for the Proposed Project to facilitate on the ground engagement with the local community. As part of this consultation, the CLO introduced the Proposed Project to the local community in December 2024, as outlined in detail above. Throughout the community consultation process the CLO has remained available to liaise with all interested parties in the community to address any concerns raised. To date, having a single point of contact for the community has proved successful in addressing any concerns raised. The CLO will continue to be available to address any queries or concerns that may be raised by the community in relation to the Proposed Project.

3. **ENDURING ECONOMIC BENEFIT**

3.1 **Economic Benefits – Community Benefit Fund**

Throughout the public consultation process, residents were informed about the availability of a community benefit fund, in the event of a grant of planning for the Project. Examples were given of how this fund could be utilised to help provide a loose framework of what it can contribute to the community. It was highlighted that this fund could be used, for example, as funding for a range of youth, sport and community facilities, schools, educational and training initiatives, and wider amenity, heritage, and environmental projects.

3.1.1 **Short Term Economic Benefits**

During the construction phase, it is estimated that at peak construction approximately 100 jobs will be created. This in turn will have a knock-on effect of the local economy through the supply of services to the workforce. While at a regional level additional employment will be created in the region through the supply of services and materials (such as stone and concrete) to the Project.

Additionally, the payment of a development contribution to Cork County Council in respect of public infrastructure and facilities will potentially provide benefits to the local community through schemes such as the refurbishment, upgrading or replacement of roads, car parks and car parking places; sewers and wastewater facilities, drains or water mains; provision of open spaces/parks, community facilities, amenities and landscaping works etc.

3.1.2 **Long Term Economic Benefits**

The Proposed Project will provide many long-term economic benefits to the communities in the surrounding areas, as outlined in the following sections.

3.1.2.1 **Employment**

It is estimated that approximately 100 jobs will be created during the construction phase of the Proposed Project.

3.1.2.2 **Rates**

Annual rates paid by the Proposed Project to Cork County Council will potentially support the provision of local services.

3.1.2.3 **Community Benefit Fund**

Throughout the community engagement on the Project, the Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS) guidelines have been used to demonstrate what benefits the community would receive should the Project be developed under RESS. The RESS T&C's have been updated a number of times and will likely change again before the Project is built. As such, the fund will be adjusted accordingly depending on what RESS iteration is relevant when the Project becoming operational.

Based on the current RESS 5 guidelines it is expected that for each megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity produced by the wind farm, the Developer will contribute €2 into a community fund for the first 15 years of operation of the Project.

Should the Project be developed under the RESS 5 T&C's, as a 67.2MW development it would attract a community contribution in the region of almost €435,000/year for the local community (estimated

based on an average energy yield). The value of this fund would be directly proportional to the electricity generated by the Project. Under the current RESS T&Cs, the following is the recommended breakdown of the fund:

- **Direct payments** – to those living closest to the wind farm. A minimum €1,000 payment per annum for houses within 1km of the Proposed Project. Further payments to those living within 1-2km of the Proposed Project will be made using the remaining fund with Direct Payments capped at 50%.
- **Energy Efficiency** – A minimum of 40% of the fund would be available for the development of energy initiatives to benefit people living in the local area. This is to be provided to not-for profit community enterprises.
- **Administration costs** – a maximum of 10% per year will be made available for the administration and governance costs of the fund.
- **Support for local groups** – The remainder of the fund would be available for local groups, clubs and not-for-profit organisations that provide services in the local area. This would include services for the elderly, local community buildings, and the development of sporting facilities such as all-weather playing pitches etc.

The Community Benefit Fund belongs to the local community. The premise of the fund is that it should be used to bring about, significant, positive change in the local area. To make this happen, the first task will be to form a benefit fund development working group that clearly represents both the close neighbours to the project as well as nearby communities. The group will then work on designing the governance and structure of a community entity that would administer the Community Benefit Fund.

Should the Project not be developed under RESS, the Applicant is committing that for each megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity produced by the Project, the Developer will contribute €1 into a community fund for the entire operational life of the Project. This would equate to an estimated annual fund in the region of almost €210,000 (using the same formula as above), which across the 35-year operational lifespan would result in funding in the order of over €7.3 million to the local community which is a substantial contribution.

The number and size of grant allocations will be decided by a Community Fund liaison committee with various groups and projects benefiting to varying degrees depending on their funding requirement.

3.1.2.3.1 **Community Gain Examples**

- **Support for local groups**
 - Astroturf pitches;
 - Walking/running tracks;
 - Floodlighting;
 - Upgrade of clubhouse facilities;
 - Improved accessibility of local community facilities
 - Provision of ramps
 - Disabled parking spaces;
- **Energy Efficiency**
 - Installation of heat pumps
 - Retrofitting of insulation
 - Fitting of triple-glazed windows
 - Retrofitting of boilers
 - Fitting of advanced ventilation
 - Fitting of Solar PV panels
 - Monetary contribution towards energy bills

4.

CONCLUSION

Active engagement and consultation with the local community has taken place from an early stage during the pre-application phase of the Proposed Project. The consultation process has been an extremely valuable exercise and has provided a detailed, and enhanced understanding of the key issues and concerns of the local community, which have ultimately shaped the final project proposal. There is currently on-going consultation with the local community, and it is the intention of the applicant to continue with the consultation for the entire lifespan of the Proposed Project.

The development of the proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development will provide an enduring economic benefit to the communities surrounding the Proposed Project as outlined in Chapter 2 of the EIAR, through the potential community benefit package for residents and community groups, employment during the construction and operation of the Proposed Project and through the annual rates payable to the local authority.



APPENDIX 2.1.1

DECEMBER 2024-INFORMATION



29th November 2024

Proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development

Dear Householder,

I hope this letter finds you well. Based on land ownership details obtained from the Property Registration Authority, I understand that you are the owner of the property marked HXXX, within Zone X, on the enclosed map. By their nature, these records are not always fully up to date and changes in land ownership details may not be fully reflected by such records. In addition, names of deceased persons may still be recorded in such files and if this is the case, this is sincerely regretted. If this information is incorrect, please let me know, and I will have it updated for all future correspondence.

I am writing to you as a representative of Enerco Energy Ltd., an Irish-owned renewable energy developer, based in Lissarda, near Macroom Co. Cork. We are exploring the potential of a renewable energy development in your area, consisting of 2 no. clusters of wind turbines, with one cluster located at Coomclogh and adjacent townlands and the second cluster located at Maughanaclea and adjacent townlands, which we have identified as having potential for a development of approximately 15 no. wind turbines which is likely to have a generating capacity in excess of 50 Mega Watts (MW).

MKO have been appointed as the lead project Planning and Environmental consultant. MKO, a Galway based consultancy with extensive experience in leading environmental assessments for large scale infrastructure projects, will be responsible for the preparation of the planning application for the proposed project, which will be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS).

We are making initial contact with all dwellings identified within approximately 2km of the identified Developable Area. This letter is intended to inform you about the proposed project, introduce you to the company and provide a point of contact to address any queries that you may have in relation to the proposal. Along with this letter, you will also find maps and a leaflet enclosed. The leaflet provides an overview about Enerco Energy, with some general information about wind energy. The 'Site Location Map' presents the location of the proposed site, and the 'Overview Map' illustrates the area identified as being potentially suitable to accommodate wind turbines (Developable Area) in relation to the identified dwellings within c.2km of the site. As there is potential of including sections of Coillte property within the Developable Area, in addition to other third-party lands, please contact lsinfo@coillte.ie if you have any Coillte related queries about the proposal.



A dedicated project website has been set up to make all information in relation to the project publicly available, www.maughanacleanfo.com. The website provides an overview of the proposed project including a copy of this correspondence and it will be updated with further information as the project progresses. MKO are carrying out various surveys at the site and as information becomes available, we will relay it to the community.

The development of a community benefit fund has become a fundamental component of all renewable energy projects in recent years. At this stage it is not possible to determine the exact community benefit that will be available as part of this proposal. However, as an example, a 50MW development developed under the current Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS), would attract a community contribution of approximately €325,000 per annum for the first 15 years of operation. The value of this fund would be directly proportional to the electricity generated by the development. The purpose of the fund is to bring about significant positive change to the local area. Further information regarding the potential community benefit fund is available on the project website.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss any aspect of this proposal, please feel free to contact me. I am available by email at clo@maughanacleanfo.com, by phone at (086)1764784 or via the "Contact" portal on the project website, www.maughanacleanfo.com.

Yours sincerely,

Padraig Quille

Enerco Energy Ltd
clo@maughanacleanfo.com
086176 4784

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q. 1. Why are the turbines so big?**
- A. Larger turbines maximise the amount of electricity produced from the clean renewable source. Wind energy is key to the Government's Climate Action Plan. The scale of modern turbines has increased in recent years to remain consistent with the global turbine market and this is reflected in recent planning applications and planning permissions throughout the Country. The landscape and visual impact will be assessed for the project which will involve generating photomontages of the proposed development.
- Q. 2. Are wind turbines noisy?**
- A. Wind turbines emit noise. However, noise levels experienced due to a noise source, reduce with distance from the source. Therefore, the total noise level at dwellings due to a wind turbine development depends on the distance from that location to each of the turbines, and the noise emissions from the turbines. A detailed noise assessment for the proposed development will be prepared and presented in the planning application; it will follow the best-practice guidelines for the assessment of noise from wind farms.
- Q. 3. What is shadow flicker?**
- A. Shadow flicker is an effect that occurs when rotating wind turbine blades cast shadows over a window at a nearby property, where the sunlight reaching the room is momentarily interrupted by the shadow of a wind turbine's blade. This effect lasts only for a short period of time until the sun passes beyond the turbines. A shadow flicker study will be included as part of the planning application documentation and that will provide predicted shadow flicker levels at neighbouring properties together with proposals to mitigate shadow flicker effect where necessary.
- Q. 4. Why are wind farms needed?**
- A. The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (amendment) Act 2021 commits Ireland to a legally binding target of net-zero emissions no later than 2050, and a cut of 51% by 2030, transitioning Ireland to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy.
- The Climate Action Plan 2024 (CAP) identified the need to increase the share of electricity demand generated from renewable sources by up to 80% where achievable and cost effective, without compromising security of electricity supply, identifying a need for 9 GW (gigawatt) of onshore wind generation in order for Ireland to meet its 2030 targets.
- Q. 5. Can the land around the wind farm be used for farming?**
- A. The wind farm infrastructure takes up relatively little ground. The surrounding land can continue to be used for farming as normal.
- Q. 6. How close will the nearest turbine be to a house?**
- A. It is intended to achieve a minimum setback distance of 4 times the overall blade tip height, to all third-party properties. However, this setback distance can be reduced for involved properties, subject to a minimum setback distance of 500m from any relevant property.
- Q. 7. Who can I contact?**
- A. Padraig Quille CLO
Mobile: +353 (0)86 1764784 | Email: clo@maughanacleaninfo.com | Office: +353 (0)21 733 6034
We would like to hear any comments or queries you may have.

Decommissioning

The wind turbines which are part of each development are expected to have a lifespan of approximately 30 to 35 years. Following the end of their useful life, the wind turbines may be replaced subject to planning permission being obtained, or the site may be decommissioned fully, except for the electricity substation.

Upon decommissioning of the proposed wind farm, the wind turbines would be disassembled in reverse order to how they were erected. All above ground turbine components would be separated and removed off-site for recycling.

Turbine foundations would remain in place underground and would be covered with topsoil and reseeded as appropriate. Leaving the turbine foundation in-situ is considered a more environmentally prudent option. Site roads facilitate other uses during the lifetime of the windfarm and therefore would be left in situ after decommissioning.

Renewable Energy Project Wind Information Leaflet

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Who Are Enerco Energy

Enerco Energy, based near Macroom, Co. Cork is a 100% Irish owned, leading renewable energy company, with the capability to develop, construct and operate projects that contribute towards our goal of creating a sustainable future.

The company's core activity includes the development and operation of medium to large scale wind farms. Enerco also works in other renewable sectors such as solar and battery storage.



To date Enerco and its associated companies had over c.885 MW of wind generating capacity in commercial operation and construction, with a further 400 MW of projects at various stages in its portfolio to assist in meeting Ireland's renewable energy targets.

Climate Action Plan 2024

Introduction

In December 2023 the Irish government published the latest Climate Action Plan to build net zero carbon energy systems and create a sustainable country.

Current situation

- Ireland missed the target set for 2013-2020 of reducing emissions by 20% (relative to 2005 Levels) by one eighth and more worrying it is expected that recent growth in emissions will put the country on a trajectory to be 25% off target for the 2021-2030 period if we don't implement a new strategy.

Targets for 2030 and beyond

- Increase percentage of electricity generated from renewables to 80% by 2030.
- 51% greenhouse gas reduction by 2030 and establish a trajectory which leads to Ireland being net zero carbon by 2050.

Road map to achieve Targets

To meet the required level of emissions reduction by 2030 the Climate Action Plans includes:

- Adding 7GW of offshore wind (with 2GW earmarked for Green Hydrogen).
- Increasing onshore wind to 9GW.
- 845,000 EV's in private transport fleet by 2030.
- Adding 8GW of Solar.

Source: Climate Action Plan 2024 (20/12/2023)

Wind in Ireland

By the end of 2023 Ireland's installed wind capacity was 4,740 MW. Wind energy accounted for 86.7% of normalised renewable electricity in 2023 and was one of the largest sources of electricity, second only to natural gas.

Source: SEAI – Renewable Energy in Ireland 2023 Report (09/2023)

2023 was record year with wind farms provided 35% of Ireland & Northern Ireland's electricity, totalling 13,725GWh and it is equivalent to the electricity consumption of more than 3 million houses. As more wind farms are being built this record will continue to be broken and wind energy will fulfil more and more of our energy demand.

Source: www.windenergyireland.com

The amount of CO₂ avoided through the use of renewable energy was 6.75 million tonnes in 2022, more than any previous year, with 4.48 MtCO₂ avoided by wind energy. Wind energy helps to reduce both our reliance on imported fossil fuels and our carbon emissions whilst contributing towards a downward pressure on the price of electricity.

Source: SEAI - Energy in Ireland 2023 Report (12/2023)

Solar in Ireland

Solar energy in Ireland is growing in popularity, this follows other Northern European countries such as Germany and the UK, which have successfully deployed solar power at a rapid pace over the last decade. Solar has become a much more viable energy source, thanks to both the consistently falling costs and the increasing generational capacities of solar modules.

What is an EIAR?

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) is a document that describes the proposed development and all issues relating to the potential impact of the proposed wind farm on the environment.

Each wind farm project undergoes a rigorous environmental impact assessment by the planning authority and/or An Bord Pleanála, prior to being granted planning permission. An EIAR is prepared and forms part of the planning permission application to be submitted to the Local Authority or An Bord Pleanála as appropriate.

The EIAR usually includes detailed information on impacts relating to the following topics:

1. Introduction
2. Background to the Proposed Development
3. Consideration of Reasonable Alternatives
4. Description of the Proposed Development
5. Population & Human Beings
6. Biodiversity
7. Birds
8. Land, Soils & Geology
9. Water
10. Air Quality
11. Climate
12. Noise and Vibration
13. Cultural Heritage
14. Landscape and Visual
15. Material Assists
16. Vulnerability to Accidents & Natural Disasters
17. Interaction of Foregoing
18. Schedule of Mitigation



Knocknagoum Wind Farm 44.5MW

Wind Resource in Ireland

Wind Energy is one of Ireland's greatest natural resources. Modern wind farms use this natural resource to produce energy to power homes and industries throughout Ireland. Ireland has one of the best wind resources in Europe.

How Wind Turbines Work

When the wind speed rises above 4 metres per second (a gentle breeze) the turbine turns into the wind and the rotor begins to rotate. This causes a shaft inside the turbine to rotate. This shaft is often attached via a gearbox to a generator or may be gearless. The rotation of the generator generates electricity in much the same way as a bicycle dynamo works. The electricity is carried via cables down the turbine tower, and out into the local electricity grid to power homes and industry throughout Ireland.

Environmental Benefits

A wind farm generates clean, renewable, carbon neutral electricity. Every megawatt installed is the equivalent of powering approximately 730 homes for a year.

Knocknagoum Wind Farm

Knocknagoum Wind Farm generates enough power to supply approximately 32,500 homes every year. Every watt of electricity generated at the wind farm will replace the same amount that would have been generated by burning coal or gas. A wind farm will emit no toxic substances or air pollutants, unlike coal or gas power stations. The carbon emissions created during the construction of the wind farm and the manufacturing of the turbines etc. will typically be offset in the electricity generated by the wind farm in the first 1-2 years of operation, therefore the wind farm generates carbon neutral power for the remaining 28-33 years of the project (Modern turbines typically have a lifespan of 30-35 years).

Economic Benefits

Wind farm developments have several long-term and short-term benefits for the local economy. The developments can represent an investment of several million euro in the locality of the development, with a large percentage of the total cost relating to on-site works, which would be relying heavily on local contractors and suppliers. The project will create many local jobs during the construction stage, which generally lasts in the region of 18 months.

The construction phase will see employment opportunities for:

- Local contractors
- Construction plant suppliers
- Machinery operators
- Skilled labourers
- Construction materials suppliers
- Transport companies.

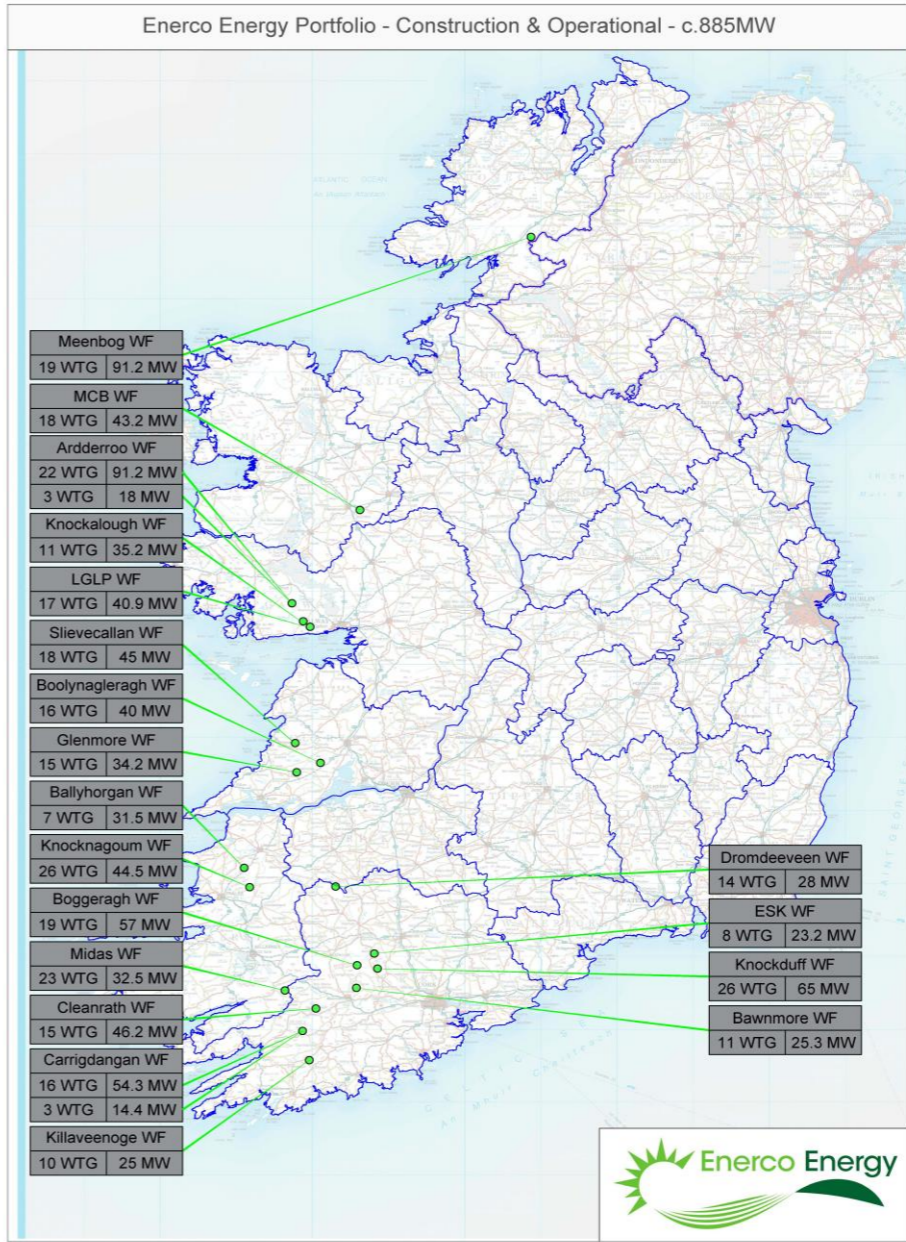
Increased activity in the locality benefits the local hospitality and service sector. Contractors and wind farm employees use shops, restaurants, hotels and B&Bs in the wind farm proximity throughout a project lifecycle.

Security of Energy Supply

In 2022, Ireland imported 81.6% of its total primary energy requirement, one of the highest ratios in Europe (Source: SEAI - Energy in Ireland 2023 Report (12/2023)). The more of its own energy Ireland can produce, the less vulnerable it would be to foreign policy and conflict interrupting gas, oil, and electricity supply lines. There is an opportunity to continue developing a strong indigenous wind industry, that will take advantage of Ireland's excellent wind resource, reducing our import dependency.



LGLP Wind Farm 40.9MW



Benefits of Wind Turbines

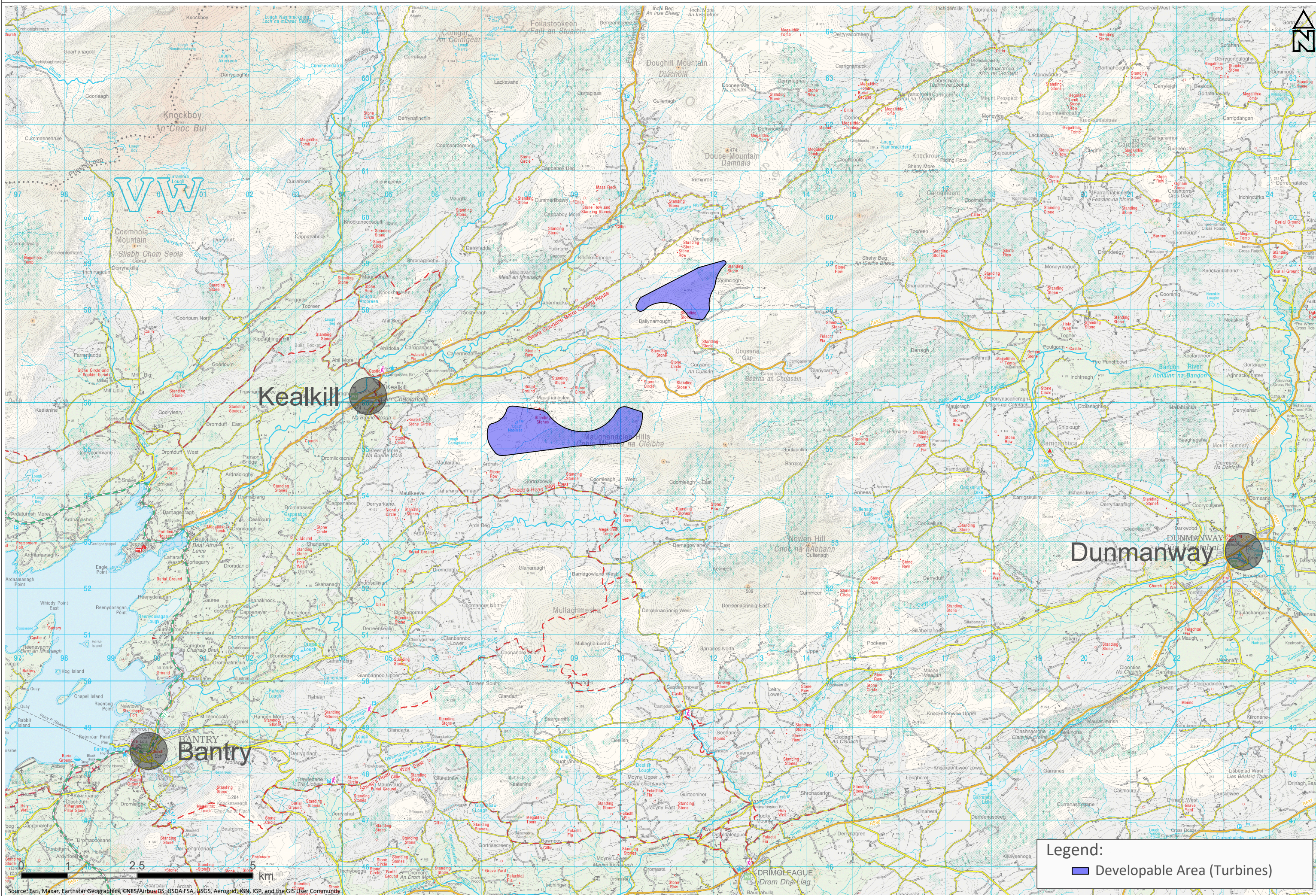


- Carbon Neutral Electricity
- Low Ecology Impacts
- Income directly into the locality
- Employment Generation
- Boost Local Economy
- Improve local road and power infrastructure
- Low-Cost Electricity

Community Involvement

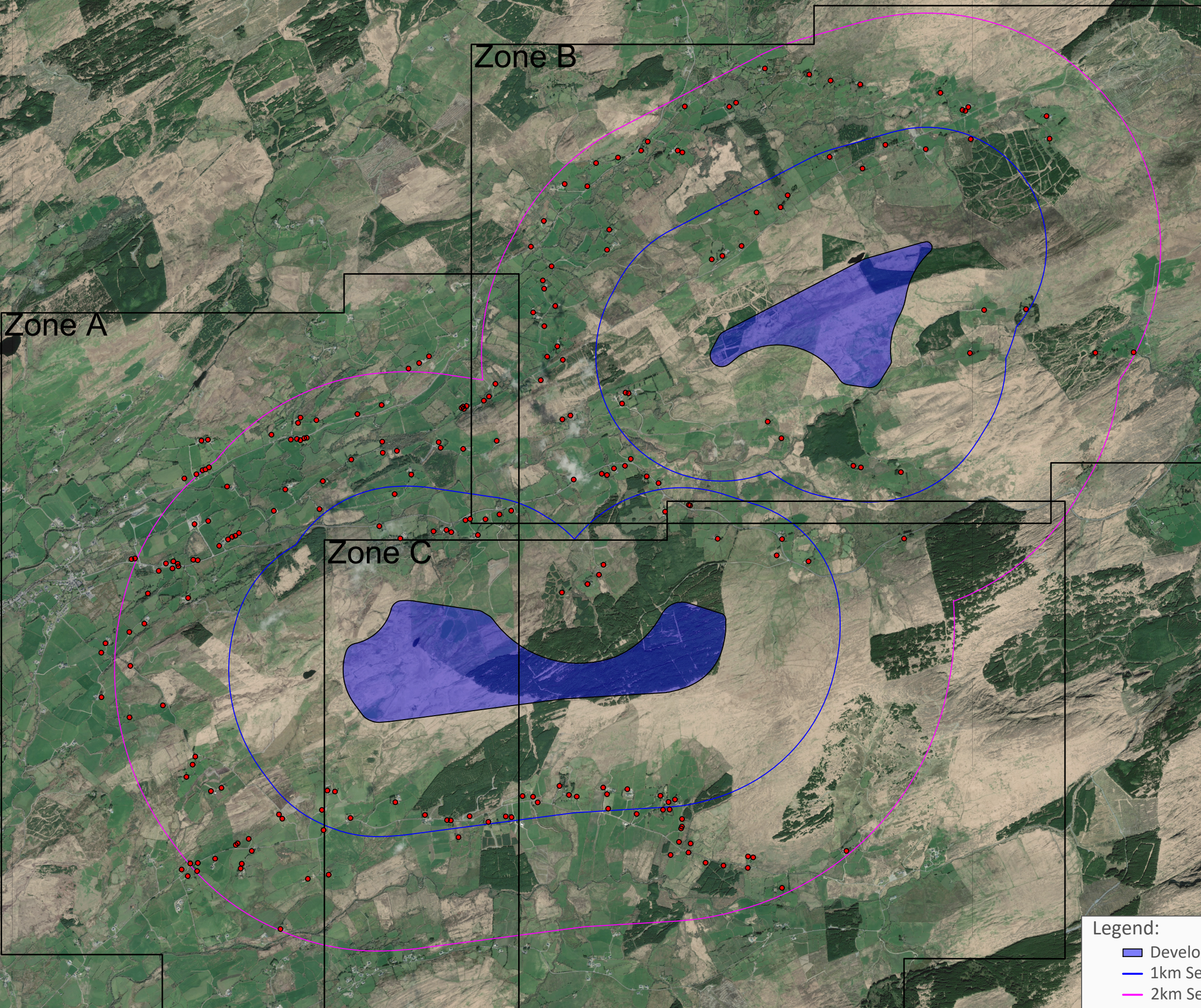
- As a long-term owner, developer and operator of energy assets Enerco Energy Ltd. seeks to be an active partner in the communities in which we develop and operate projects.
- A community benefit scheme will be made available every year for the operational lifespan of the wind farm.
- The community benefit scheme will be available to communities and voluntary groups. The benefit will be set out to aid the local community, by supporting projects and the area around the development.
- The community closest to the proposed development will decide how the community benefit scheme is administered and whether the focus is on local groups and clubs, or those living closest to the wind farm.
- As part of planning a project we like to hear from the community about their vision for its future and how the project might help.
- For more information on community benefit, please visit www.clonmoreinfo.com.

Proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development - Site Location - 25/11/2024



Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/AirbusDS, USDA FSA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, and the GIS User Community

Proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development - Developable Area - 28/11/2024



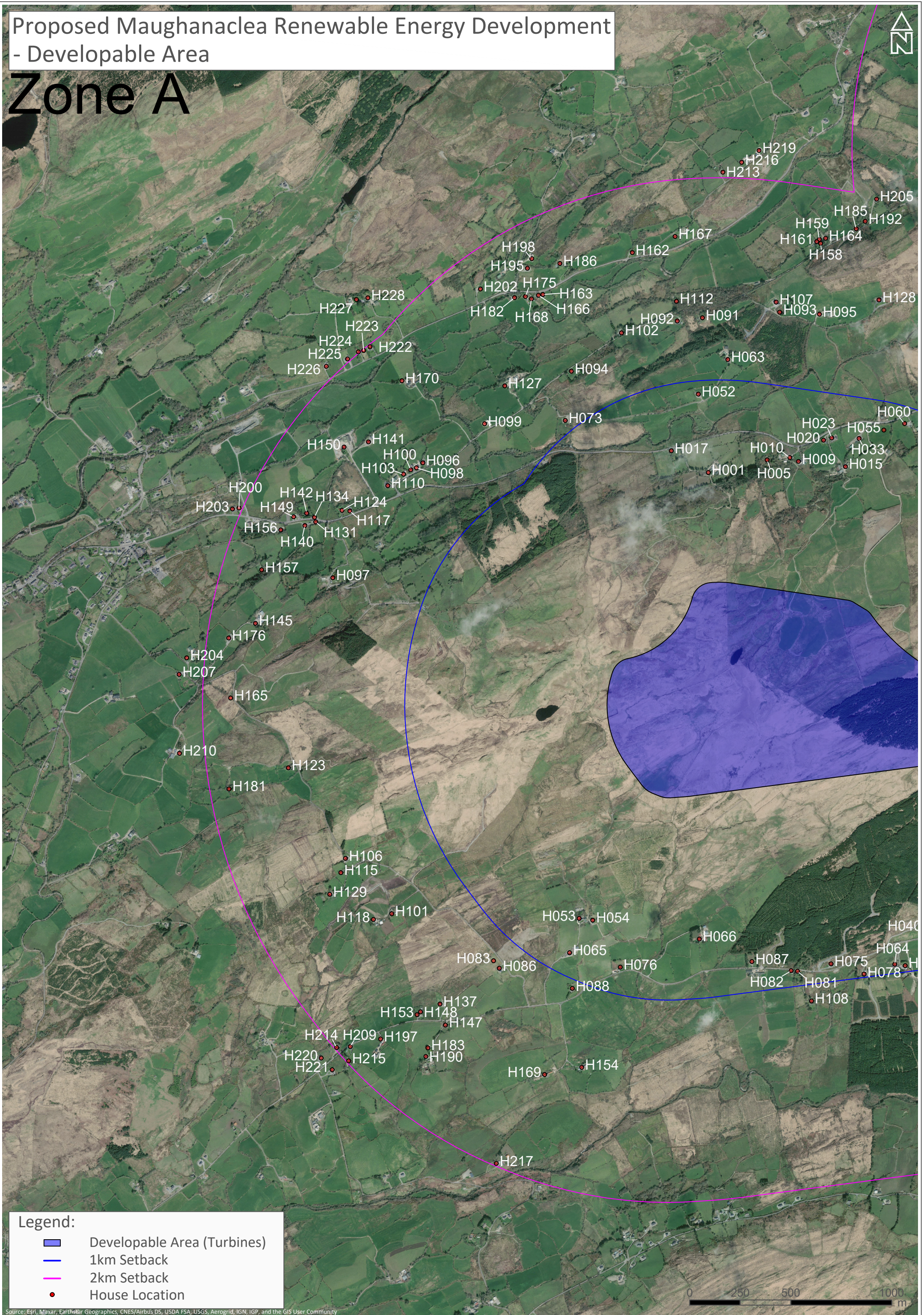
Legend:

- Developable Area (Turbines)
- 1km Setback
- 2km Setback
- House Location

Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA FSA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, and the GIS User Community

Proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development - Developable Area

Zone A



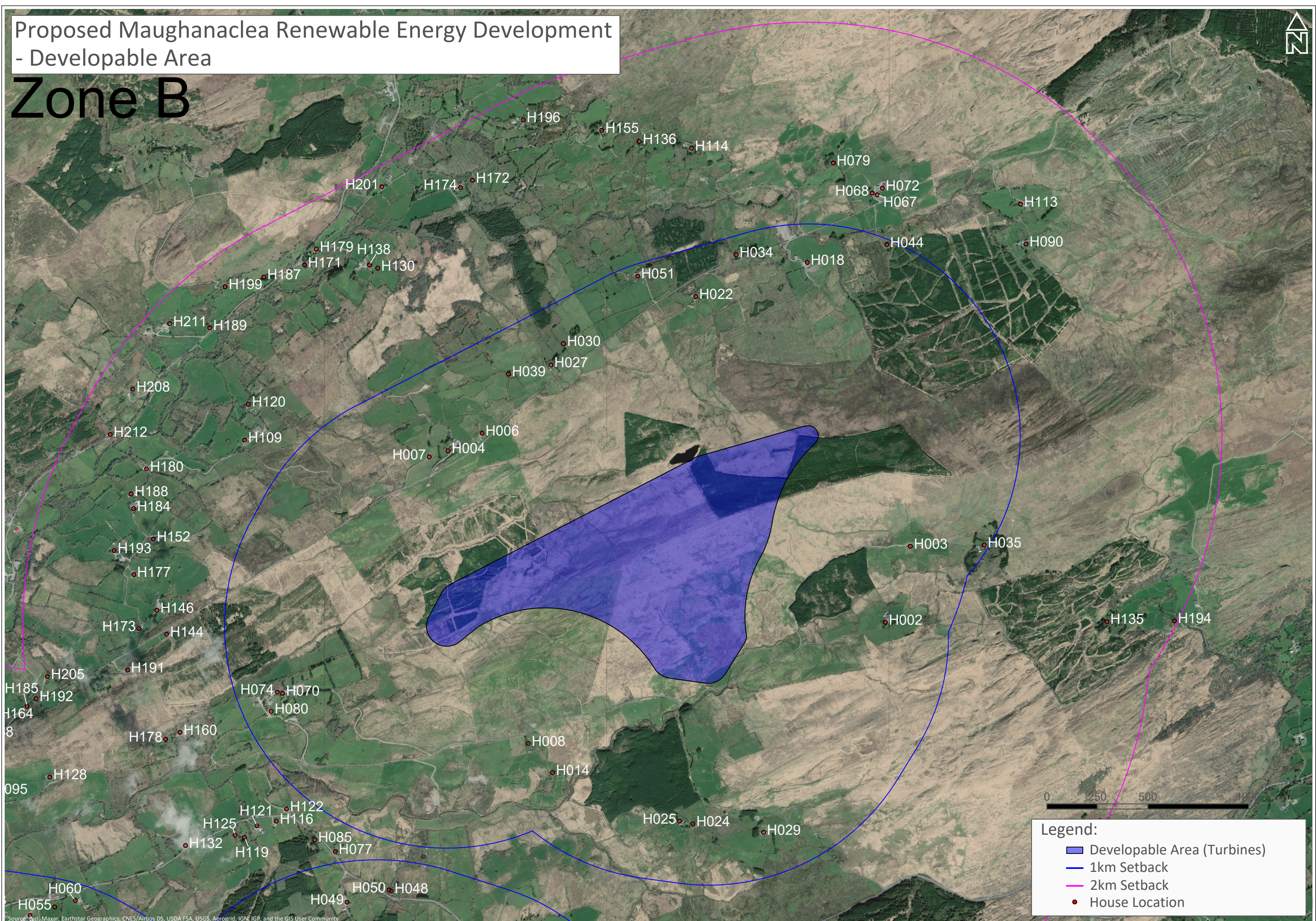
Legend:

- Developable Area (Turbines)
- 1km Setback
- 2km Setback
- House Location

Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA FSA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, and the GIS User Community

Proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development - Developable Area

Zone B



Legend:

- Developable Area (Turbines)
- 1km Setback
- 2km Setback
- House Location

Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA FSA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, and the GIS User Community



APPENDIX 2.1.2

APRIL 2025 - INFORMATION



8th April 2025

Proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development

Dear Householder,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I wish to update you on the proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development. The project Environmental Consultants, MKO, continue their preparation for a planning permission application for the proposed development and are ready for a Public Information Exhibition (PIE) about the proposal.

The PIE will be hosted in Westlodge Hotel, Bantry, on Tuesday 29th of April from 4.30pm to 8.30pm. Information about the proposed development will be on display and members of the project team along with myself will be present to answer any queries. See overleaf a copy of the advertisement which will appear in next week's edition of the Southern Star to inform the wider community of this event.

The applicant for the planning application will be Maughanaclea Ltd., which is an associate company of Enerco Energy Ltd., exclusively allocated to the Maughanaclea project. This is a standard procedure for all projects of this nature, and Enerco will continue to manage the proposed development.

Everyone is welcome to attend the exhibition, however, there is no obligation. All information made available on the day will also be uploaded to the project website, www.maughanacleainfo.com. If you cannot attend the PIE and have difficulty accessing the information on the project website, please contact me and I will assist you.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and as always if you have any queries regarding the proposed development, please feel free to contact me by email at clo@maughanacleainfo.com, by phone 086-1764784, or through the 'contact' portal on the project website.

Yours sincerely,

Padraig Quille

Enerco Energy Ltd
clo@maughanacleainfo.com
086 176 4784

Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development

Maughanaclea Ltd. are holding a Public Information Exhibition (PIE) regarding a proposed renewable energy development, comprising approximately 14 no. wind turbines and associated infrastructure, in the townlands of Maughanaclea, Ardrah, Coomclogh, Ballynamought, and Gortloughra Co. Cork, with underground grid connection cabling following the public road network, connecting to the existing Dunmanway Substation. The PIE will be held in the Westlodge Hotel, Bantry, as follows.

**Westlodge Hotel,
Bantry,
Co. Cork.
Tuesday 29th April
4.30pm – 8.30pm**

The PIE is open to all interested parties and information in relation to the proposal will be on display with project representatives in attendance to answer any questions. For those that cannot attend, all information on display at the exhibition will also be available on the project website, www.maughanacleainfo.com. If anyone cannot access the website, please contact the project Community Liaison Officer (CLO), Pdraig Quille, to arrange an alternative means of sharing the information.

E-mail: clo@maughanacleainfo.com or Phone: 086-176 4784



APPENDIX 2.1.3

NOVEMBER 2025—INFORMATION



03rd November 2025

Proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development

Dear Householder,

I wish to update you on the proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development.

As MKO continue to prepare all necessary information needed to lodge a planning application, we will continue to update you with new information as it becomes available. Currently MKO anticipate that a planning application for the proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development will be lodged in Q1 of next year.

As outlined previously, the proposal is likely to have a generating capacity in excess of 50 Mega Watts (MW). A query is with An Coimisiún Pleanála whether the development constitutes Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) and we await the Commission's determination (Case Ref: 321826). However, it is envisaged that the proposal constitutes SID and that the application will be submitted directly to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

We are grateful for the feedback received from the community following the first PIE held in April 2025. We intend to hold another PIE on Monday the 24th of November 2025 from 4.30pm to 8.00pm, in the Westlodge Hotel, Bantry. See overleaf a copy of the advertisement which will appear in the next edition of the Southern Star to inform the wider community of this event.

The format of the PIE will be the same as before with updated project information on display and members of the project team from Enerco and MKO present to answer any queries you may have relating to the proposal.

All information made available on the day will be uploaded to the project website prior to the PIE, www.maughanacleainfo.com. If you cannot attend the PIE and have difficulty accessing the information on the project website, please contact me and I will assist you.

As always, should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me, by phone, email or through the 'contact' portal on the project website.

Yours sincerely,

Padraig Quille
Enerco Energy Ltd
clo@maughanacleainfo.com
086 176 4784

Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development

Maughanaclea Ltd. are holding a Public Information Exhibition (PIE) regarding a proposed renewable energy development, comprising approximately 14 no. wind turbines and associated infrastructure, in the townlands of Maughanaclea, Ardrah, Coomclogh, Ballynamought, and Gortloughra Co. Cork, with underground grid connection cabling following the public road network, connecting to the existing Dunmanway Substation. The PIE will be held in the Westlodge Hotel, Bantry, as follows.

Westlodge Hotel,

Bantry,

Co. Cork.

Monday 24th November

4.30pm – 8.00pm

The PIE is open to all interested parties and information in relation to the proposal will be on display with project representatives in attendance to answer any questions. For those that cannot attend, all information on display at the exhibition will also be available on the project website, www.maughanacleainfo.com. If anyone cannot access the website, please contact the project Community Liaison Officer (CLO), Pdraig Quille, to arrange an alternative means of sharing the information.

E-mail: clo@maughanacleainfo.com or Phone: 086-176 4784

PUBLIC INFORMATION EXHIBITION – 24/11/2025





APPENDIX 2.1.4

MARCH 2026 – INFORMATION



19th March 2026

Proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development

Dear Householder,

I hope this letter finds you well. I wish to update you on the proposed Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development.

The project Environmental Consultants, MKO, are nearing completion of the necessary documentation to accompany the planning application. The proposal will include 14 no. turbines with an overall tip height of 169m, a hub height of 102.5m and a rotor diameter of 133m. The proposed turbines will be connected to the grid via an on-site substation and underground cabling connection to the existing Dunmanway Substation near Dunmanway.

It is anticipated that the planning application for the proposed development will be submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála within the next two weeks.

Please find enclosed a copy of a flyer, which will be delivered to all residents along the underground cabling route to inform them about the development.

A public notice, about the planning application, will appear in the next edition of the 'Southern Star', see a copy of the public notice text which is due to appear in the newspaper overleaf for your information. Public site notices will also be erected at selected locations surrounding the site and along the underground cabling route to Dunmanway Substation.

Once the planning application has been lodged, a link to the planning application documentation, will be provided on the project website, www.maughanacleainfo.com. Should you have any difficulties accessing this information, please contact me and I will assist you.

I would like to thank the local community for the feedback received to date and I remain available to discuss any queries regarding this proposal, please feel free to contact me. I am available by email at clo@maughanacleainfo.com, by phone 086-1764784, or through the 'contact' portal on the project website.

Yours sincerely,

Padraig Quille

Enerco Energy Ltd. | clo@maughanacleainfo.com | 086-1764784

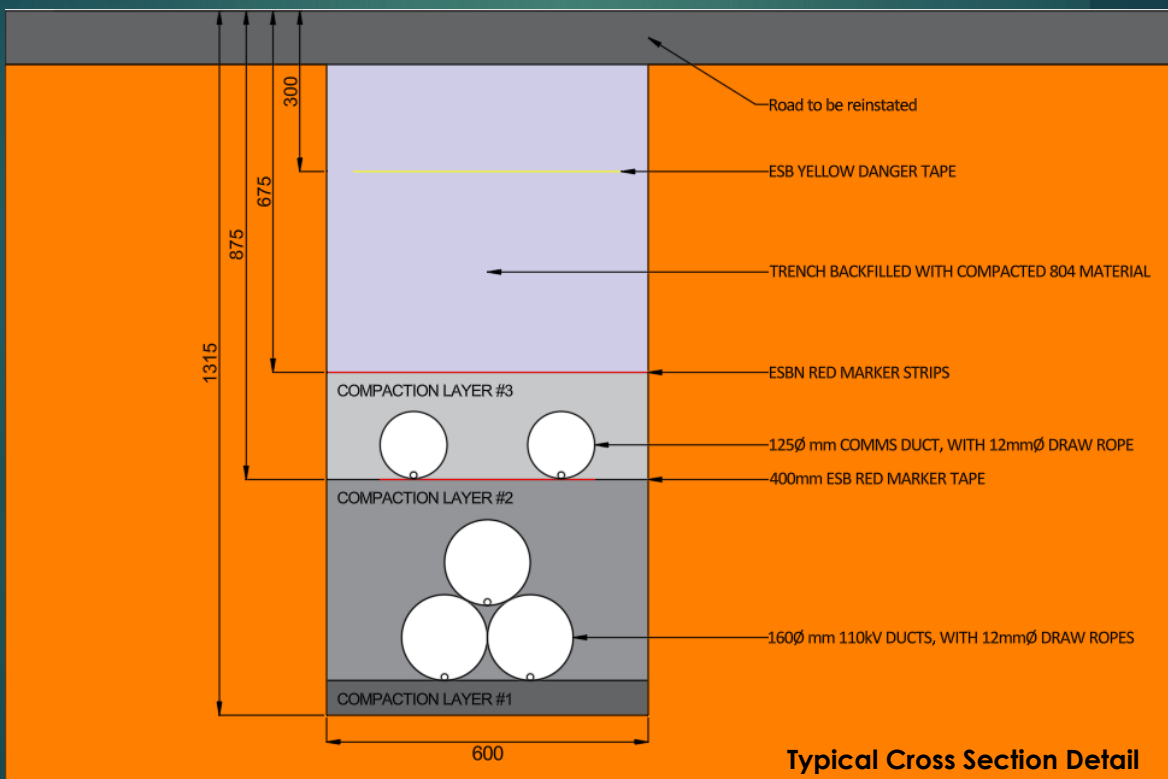
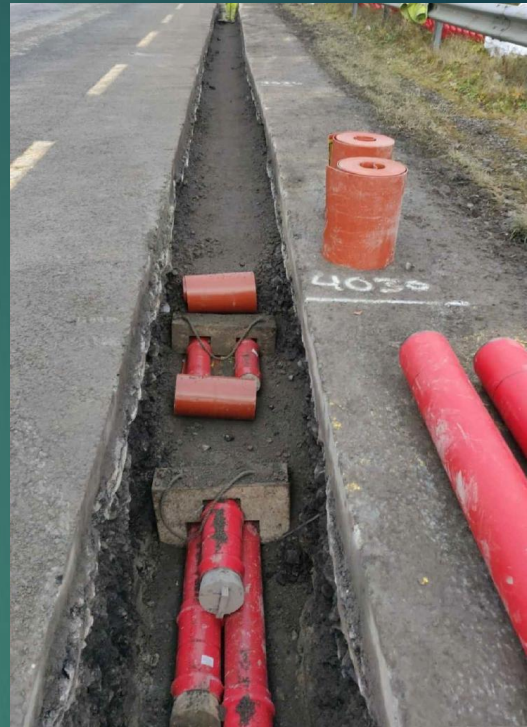
Maughanaclea - Grid Connection

Maughanaclea Ltd. intend to submit a planning application for a proposed wind farm in Muaghanaclea and adjacent townlands, near Kealkil. The associated grid connection will be via approximately 20.5km of 110kV underground cabling to Dunmanway 110kV substation near Dunmanway, Co. Cork. The proposed underground cabling will be designed and installed to ESBN/EirGrid specifications, primarily located within the public road corridor. See here photo and cross section detail of a typical installation.

Please see overleaf, a map for your information which illustrates the overall grid connection route from the proposed wind farm substation to Dunmanway 110kV substation.

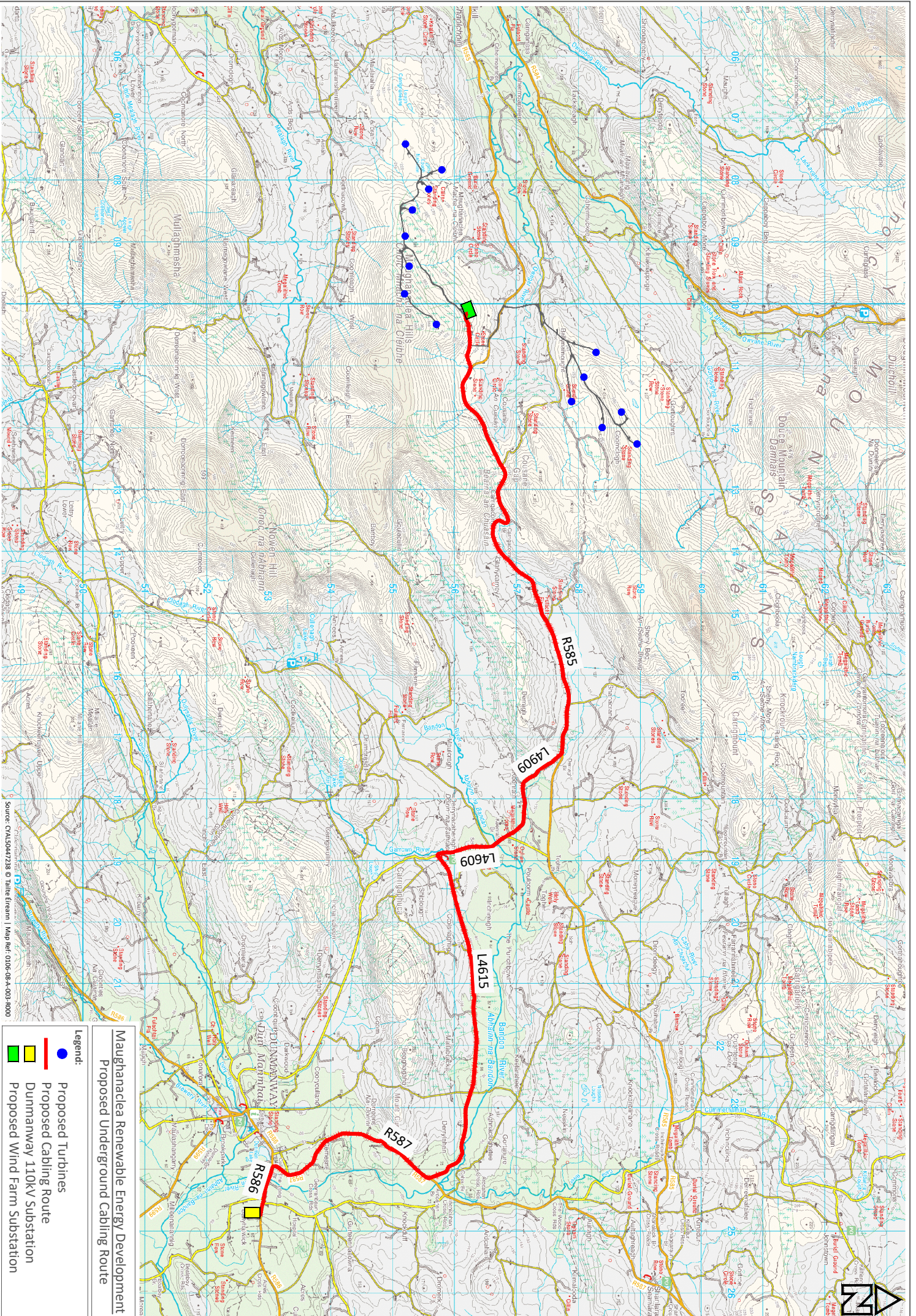
The works required to install the underground cabling will be transient in nature, with approximately 100-150m completed daily. There will be an appropriate traffic management plan in place for the duration of the works in each section.

You can view all available information in relation to the development on the project website, www.maughanacleainfo.com.



If you have any queries in relation to the proposed grid connection or to the overall development, please feel free to contact the CLO, Padraig Quille.

Padraig Quille
clo@maughanacleainfo.com
086-1764784



Maughanaclea Renewable Energy Development
Proposed Underground Cabling Route

- Legend:**
- Proposed Turbines
 - Proposed Cabling Route
 - Dúnmanway 110kV Substation
 - Proposed Wind Farm Substation

Source: CAUS547238 © Tallie Eireann | Map ref: 006-08-4-003-0000

