

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) introduces the proposed Carrigeen Renewable Energy Development (the Project) and provides details of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) project team and the structure of the report. It defines the key terms of reference used in the environmental assessment of the Project. The Project is subject to an EIA, under the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive 2011/92/EU¹ of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU² (EIA Directive) and implemented in Ireland under the Planning and Development Act 2000³ (as amended) (the 'PDA 2000').

The EIAR has been prepared by Jennings O'Donovan & Partners Limited (JOD), on behalf of Carraigín Power Limited (the Applicant), to accompany the planning application seeking planning permission for the Project.

In addition to the identification, description and assessment of the Project, this EIAR identifies, describes and assesses the overall Project, as described in **Table 1.1** and **Chapter 2: Project Description** as a whole, and all likely significant direct and indirect effects, the cumulative impacts and their interactions, including all relevant ancillary and subsidiary elements. This EIAR also includes the conclusions of the competent and qualified experts as to the significance of any such environmental effects, to assist the competent authority in conducting its EIA.

The potential for the Project, both individually and in combination with other activities, plans and developments, to have a significant or adverse effect on the integrity of European Site(s) as designated under the EU Habitats Directive and the conservation objectives for their qualifying species and habitats have been screened and assessed. This application is accompanied by an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) which are intended to assist the competent authority in carrying out the Appropriate Assessment required in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EC).

¹ European Council (2011) Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment. Available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2011/92/oj> (Accessed: 20th February 2026).

² European Council (2014) Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment. Available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014L0052> (Accessed: 21st February 2026).

³ Planning and Development Act 2000. Available at: <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2000/act/30/enacted/en/pdf> (Accessed: 21st February 2026).

This chapter is supported by Figures and the following Appendices in Volume IV:

- **Appendix 1.1:** Author Qualifications
- **Appendix 1.2:** Community Engagement Report
- **Appendix 1.3:** Scoping Responses
- **Appendix 1.4:** Glossary of Common Acronyms

1.2 KEY DEFINED TERMS

In order to provide clarity in the EIAR, the following defined terms will be used throughout.

Table 1.1: Defined Terms used throughout the EIAR

Term	Definition
the Applicant	Carraigin Power Ltd.
the Application	Refers to this EIAR and all supporting planning documentation which will be submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála.
the Baseline	Refers to the relevant aspects of the current state of the existing environment in the area where the Project is proposed to be located and the surrounding areas.
Borrow Pit	Refers to an excavated area where material such as soil, sand, gravel, or clay is removed for use as fill at another location during construction of the Project.
the Commission	Refers to An Coimisiún Pleanála previously known as An Bord Pleanála (the Board).
Construction Haul Routes	Refers to the proposed routes from any local quarries and suppliers to the Wind Farm Site.
the Council	Refers to Roscommon County Council.
Decommissioning	Refers to the end of the operational life of the Project when the Wind Turbines are dismantled and taken off site for reuse, recycling, or disposal, as appropriate. The Turbine Foundations will remain in-situ and will be covered with soil and reseeded as appropriate. The Turbine Hardstands, and the Site Access Roads will be left in-situ. The Internal Cabling will be removed, while the ducting will remain in-situ. The Onsite Substation will be left in-situ. This proposed approach will be subject to the agreement with the Council prior to commencing decommissioning.
the Developer	Enerco Energy Ltd.

Term	Definition
the EIA Directive	Refers to Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the European Council of 13 December 2011 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU'.
EIA Planning Regulations	Includes the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended' (the PDA 2000); and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended' (the Planning Regulations 2001).
EIAR Boundary	The EIAR Boundary is defined as the primary study area established for the purposes of the EIAR. This boundary, as delineated by the EIAR Boundary in green as shown in Figure 1.1 , encompasses all components of the Project described in Chapter 2: Project Description , including Wind Farm Site infrastructure and associated Grid Connection. The EIAR Boundary represents the core spatial extent within which environmental assessments are undertaken, however, individual topic assessments may extend beyond this boundary where required to address indirect, cumulative, or project-related impacts.
Grid Connection	Refers to the proposed 110kV underground electrical cabling connecting the Onsite Substation to Flagford 220kV Substation.
Internal Cabling	Refers to the proposed 20/33kV underground cabling and associated telecommunications cables connecting the proposed wind turbines and masts to the Onsite Substation.
Onsite Substation	Refers to the onsite 110kV substation comprising 2 no. control buildings and other associated electrical infrastructure and the compound in which it is located.
Permanent Met Mast	Refers to a proposed permanent meteorological mast to be located within the Redline Boundary.
Permanent Spoil Storage	Refers to a specifically designated location where excavated material (spoil) that cannot be reused elsewhere on the Wind Farm Site is deposited and left in place for the life time of the Project.
the Project	Refers to all elements of the Carrigeen Renewable Energy Development project as a whole, comprising the Wind Farm Site infrastructure, including the works required within the Redline

Term	Definition
	Boundary for the Grid Connection route and Turbine Delivery Route, and any associated temporary works .
Redline Boundary	Refers to the the area that is subject to this planning application. It is the boundary line of all works to be completed as part of the Project.
Reinstatement	Reinstatement means restoring the habitat in the areas of the site where infrastructure was developed.
Scoping	The process to identify key environmental issues, and to determine which elements of the Project are likely to cause significant environmental impacts and to identify elements that can be removed from the assessment.
Site Access Roads	Refers to the internal road structure to facilitate the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Project.
Study Areas	Refers to the geographic areas which are identified by the relevant topic expert as areas in which the Project has the potential to give rise to significant environmental effects. These are topic-specific and defined within each technical section/chapter of this EIAR.
Survey Areas	Refers to areas within or over which surveys are undertaken. These are specifically defined within each technical section/chapter of this EIAR.
Temporary Construction Compounds	Refers to the temporary compounds to be developed and used by the appointed contractor(s) for the purposes of constructing the Project which will be left in-situ and reinstated naturally following completion of construction.
Turbine Delivery Route	Refers to the proposed turbine delivery route from Galway Port to the Wind Farm Site.
Turbine Foundation	Refers to turbine reinforced concrete base located under ground level and used to support the turbine.
Turbine Hardstand	Refers to a small, fixed hardcore area next to each turbine location used by cranes for erection of turbine hub, nacelles and rotor blades.
the Wind Farm Site	Refers to the area within which the Wind Turbines, Turbine Foundations, Turbine Hardstands, Site Access Roads, a Permanent Met Mast, Onsite Substation, Internal Cabling, Temporary

Term	Definition
	Construction Compounds, Borrow Pit, Permanent Spoil Storage, and all ancillary and associated works are proposed, excluding the Grid Connection and the Turbine Delivery Route.
Wind Turbine	All the components of a wind turbine, including the tower, nacelle (housing the gearbox, generator, and control systems), and rotor (blades and hub).

1.3 THE APPLICANT

The Applicant for the Project is Carraigin Power Ltd. an associated company of the Developer, Enerco Energy Ltd.

Enerco Energy Ltd. is an Irish-owned, Cork-based company with extensive experience in the design, construction and operation of wind energy developments throughout Ireland, with projects currently operating or in construction in Counties Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Clare, Galway, Mayo and Donegal. By the end of 2025, Enerco Energy Ltd associated companies had over 975 Megawatts (MW) of wind generating capacity in commercial operation or in construction, with a further c.400MW of projects at various stages in its portfolio to assist in meeting Ireland's renewable energy targets

1.4 THE WIND FARM SITE

The EIAR Boundary covers an area of approximately 1040ha. The principal land use within the Wind Farm Site is comprised of agricultural pasture grazing land, commercial forestry and peat harvesting. The Wind Farm Site is located c.12km north-east of Castlerea and c.16km south-west of Carrick-on-Shannon. The nearest centre of population to the Wind Farm Site is the small village of Frenchpark, which is located along the R361 regional road and is c.2.1km to the north of the closest turbine (T2). The village of Ballinagare is located c.2.2km to the south-west of T05, and Ballinameen c.3.4km to the north-east of T08.

The Wind Farm Site elevations range from 65m above ordnance datum (AOD) in the western section of the Site to 76m AOD towards the eastern section of the Wind Farm Site. A Site Location Map is appended as **Figure 1.1** and a map which comprises of all elements of the Project is outlined as **Figure 1.2**.

The Wind Farm Site is located in a rural setting and housing density in the area is low predominantly comprising one-off houses and farm holdings. There are 196 dwellings within a 2km radius of the proposed turbines (**Figure 1.3**). This excludes 1 No. house, H1 a derelict

house located 230m from T10. In the event that planning consent is achieved, this building will be in control of the Developer and will not be inhabited for the operational period of the Project. This building is uninhabited and the landowner is in agreement with the above terms.

1.5 SUMMARY OF PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Planning permission is being sought by the Applicant for the construction of 11 no. Wind Turbines, Turbine Foundations, Turbine Hardstands, Site Access Roads, a Permanent Met Mast, Onsite Substation, Internal Cabling, Temporary Construction Compounds, Grid Connection and all ancillary and associated works.

The EIAR Boundary is located in the townlands of Leggatinty, Carrigeenacreeha, Scor Beg, Cartron, Ryefield Or Runnateggal, Lismacool, Ballynahowna, Caranlea, Killummod, Culleenatreen Or Flagford, Cartroncaran, Lodge, Ballyculleen, Carrigeen, Ballaghcullia, Ballindrehid, Corbally East, Peak, Gortnacloy, Tonaknick, Ballysundrivan, Caran, Cloonkerin, Ballyhollaghan, Carrowntogher, Corbally Middle, Ballyroddy, Cloonshanville, Skeanavart, Carrowreagh, Dacklin, Runnacocka, Kinclare, Erriblagh, Lisgarve, Drummin, Loughbally, Moheedian, Rathardeagher, Carrigeenynaghtan, Brackloon, Edenan And Kinclare, Kilnamryall, Corbally West, Cartroncarrowntogher, and Carrowncaran.

The Project will consist of the provision of the following:

- 11 no. Wind Turbines with an overall turbine tip height of 185m, turbine hub height of 103.5m, and rotor blade diameter of 163m, a meteorological mast with a height of 30 metres, and associated foundations and hardstanding areas, and subsequent decommissioning of the wind turbines and meteorological mast, following a thirty five year operational life from the date of full commissioning of the wind turbines;
- A 110kV substation compound (Including control buildings (591 Sq. m) with welfare facilities, all associated electrical plant and apparatus, security fencing, underground cabling, storage containers, underground wastewater holding tank, site drainage and all ancillary works);
- Underground electrical (110kV) and communications cabling from the proposed 110kV Onsite Substation to the existing Flagford 220kV substation in the townland of Flagford (including joint bays, communication chambers, earth sheath links, and ancillary works along the underground electrical cabling route). This cabling route is primarily located within the public road corridor;
- Underground electrical (33kV) and communications cabling connecting the Wind Turbines and meteorological mast to the proposed 110kV Onsite Substation;

- 6 no. Temporary Construction Compounds (including site offices and welfare facilities (with a floor area of 405 Sq. m)).
- Junction accommodation works to facilitate turbine delivery and construction access to the Wind Farm Site, including the upgrade of an existing site entrances off the N5 national road, and the construction of new site access roads off the L-1217 and L-56421 local roads;
- Upgrade of existing Site Access Roads and provision of new Site Access Roads, junctions and hardstand areas (including upgrade of 3.6km of the L-1217, 660m of the L-56402, 360m of the L-5642, 480m of the L-56421, 210m of the L-56492 and 85m of the L-56491 local roads);
- 2 no. Borrow Pits;
- Peat & Spoil Management;
- Site Drainage;
- Tree felling and vegetation removal;
- Operational stage site signage;
- Biodiversity Enhancement measures and;
- All ancillary works and apparatus.

A 10-year planning permission and 35-year operational life from the date of commissioning of the Project is being sought. The Onsite Substation and Grid Connection will be under the ownership of ESB Networks and will form a permanent part of the national grid infrastructure, which will not be decommissioned with the wind farm at the of its operational life.

1.6 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1.6.1 Legislative Context of Environmental Impact Assessment

This EIAR complies with the EIA Directive as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU, the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Regulations (as amended).

The EIA Directive requires that, before consent is given for certain public and private projects, an assessment of the effects on the environment is undertaken by the relevant competent authority. The EIA Directive has been transposed into Irish legislation, for the purposes of this EIA development, by the PDA 2000 and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended ("the Planning Regulations 2001").

Section 171A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) defines an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as 'a process —

(a) consisting of —

- (i) the preparation of an environmental impact assessment report by the Applicant in accordance with this Act and regulations made thereunder,*
- (ii) the carrying out of consultations in accordance with this Act and regulations made thereunder,*
- (iii) the examination by the planning authority or the Board, as the case may be, of— (I) the information contained in the environmental impact assessment report, (II) any supplementary information provided, where necessary, by the Applicant in accordance with section 172(1D) and (1E), and (III) any relevant information received through the consultations carried out pursuant to subparagraph (ii),*
- (iv) the reasoned conclusion by the planning authority or the Board, as the case may be, on the significant effects on the environment of the proposed development, taking into account the results of the examination carried out pursuant to subparagraph (iii) and, where appropriate, its own supplementary examination, and*
- (v) the integration of the reasoned conclusion of the planning authority or the Board, as the case may be, into the decision on the proposed development, and*

(b) which includes —

- (i) an examination, analysis and evaluation, carried out by the planning authority or the Board, as the case may be, in accordance with this Part and regulations made thereunder, that identifies, describes and assesses, in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case, the direct and indirect significant effects of the proposed development on the following: (I) population and human health; (II) biodiversity, with particular attention to species and habitats protected under the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive; (III) land, soil, water, air and climate; (IV) material assets, cultural heritage and the landscape; (V) the interaction between the factors mentioned in clauses (I) to (IV), and*
- (ii) as regards the factors mentioned in subparagraph (i)(I) to (V), such examination, analysis and evaluation of the expected direct and indirect significant effects on the environment derived from the vulnerability of the proposed development to risks of major accidents or disasters, or both major accidents and disasters, that are relevant to that development.*

Section 172(1)(a)(ii)(I) requires projects of a class specified in Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning Regulations 2001 to be subject to an EIA where:

“(I) Such development would equal or exceed, as the case may be, any relevant quantity, area or other limit specified in that Part ”.

Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning Regulations 2001 includes the following potentially relevant classes of an EIA development:

Class 1(a) " *Projects for the restructuring of rural land holdings, undertaken as part of a wider proposed development, and not as an agricultural activity that must comply with the European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Agriculture) Regulations 2011, where the length of field boundary to be removed is above 4 kilometres, or where re-contouring is above 5 hectares, or where the area of lands to be restructured by removal of field boundaries is above 50 hectares. "*

Class 3(i) "*Installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms) with more than 5 turbines or having a total output greater than 5 megawatts."*

Class 10(dd) "*All private roads which would exceed 2000 metres in length"*

Class 15 "*Any project listed in this Part which does not exceed a quantity, area or other limit specified in this Part in respect of the relevant class of development but which would be likely to have significant effects on the environment, having regard to the criteria set out in Schedule 7".*

The Project comes within the scope of class 3(i) and is over the threshold specified therein. A mandatory EIA of the Project is required on that basis.

A total of 80m of hedgerow will be removed as part of the Project. On that basis, it is considered that the Project comes within the scope of class 1(a) but does not exceed the threshold specified therein. However, an EIAR is being submitted on the basis that the Project as a whole is likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Approximately 5,030m of new Site Access Roads and 6,382m of upgraded existing Site Access Roads are proposed as part of the Project. As these are access roads and not private roads, it is not considered that the project comes within class 10(dd).

1.6.2 EIA Directive

Article 5 of the EIA Directive provides that, where an EIA is required, the Developer shall prepare and submit an EIAR previously referred to as an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The information to be provided by the Developer shall include at least:

- (a) *a description of the project comprising information on the site, design, size and other relevant features of the project*
- (b) *a description of the likely significant effects of the project on the environment*
- (c) *a description of the features of the project and/or measures envisaged in order to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset likely significant adverse effects on the environment*

- (d) *a description of the reasonable alternatives studied by the Developer, which are relevant to the project and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for the option chosen, taking into account the effects of the project on the environment*
- (e) *a non-technical summary of the information referred to in points (a) to (d) and*
- (f) *any additional information specified in Annex IV relevant to the specific characteristics of a particular project or type of project and to the environmental features likely to be affected*

In addition, Annex IV of the EIA Directive provides further detail on the information to be included in an EIAR. These requirements are transposed under Article 94 and Schedule 6 of the Planning Regulations 2001, with which this EIAR complies.

JOD was appointed as the environmental consultant on the Project and commissioned to prepare this EIAR in accordance with the requirements of the EIA Directive and the EIA Planning Regulations.

The EIAR describes the receiving environment and assesses the likely significant effects of the Project on the receiving environment and proposes mitigation measures to avoid or reduce these effects as well as appropriate monitoring to ensure the efficacy of such mitigation measures. Where impacts cannot be fully mitigated, offset/compensatory measures will be implemented ensuring that environmental losses are balanced by gains elsewhere. The function of the EIAR is to provide information to allow the competent authority to conduct the EIA of the Project. All elements of the Project have been assessed as part of this EIAR.

1.6.2.1 Factors of the Environment

The EIA Directive requires the EIA to identify, describe and assess, in an appropriate manner and in light of each individual case, the direct and indirect significant effects of a project on the following factors:

- (a) population and human health;
- (b) biodiversity, with particular attention to species and habitats protected under the Habitats and Birds Directives;
- (c) land, soil, water, air and climate;
- (d) material assets, cultural heritage and the landscape;
- (e) the interaction between the factors referred to in points (a) to (d).

The effects referred to above on the factors set out shall include the expected effects deriving from the vulnerability of the Project to risks of major accidents and/or disasters that are relevant to the Project concerned.

Table 1.2: Outline of respective chapters relating to the requirements of the EIA Directive

Revised EIA Directive	Chapter	Title
<i>(a) population and human health</i>	5	Population and Human Health
<i>(b) biodiversity, with particular attention to species and habitats protected under the Habitats and Birds Directives</i>	6	Biodiversity
	7	Bat Ecology
	8	Ornithology
	9	Aquatic Ecology
<i>(c) land, soil, water, air and climate</i>	6	Biodiversity
	9	Aquatic Ecology
	10	Soils and Geology
	11	Hydrology and Hydrogeology
	14	Material Assets
	18	Air
<i>(d) material assets, cultural heritage and the landscape</i>	19	Climate
	12	Landscape and Visual Amenity
	14	Material Assets
	15	Cultural Heritage
	16	Traffic and Transport
<i>(e) the interaction between the factors referred to in points (a) to (d)</i>	17	Shadow Flicker
	21	Interactions of the Foregoing,
	22	Schedule of Mitigation Measures

1.6.2.2 Alternatives to the Project

Article 5(1) of the EIA Directive sets out the information to be contained in an EIAR, and includes a requirement that the EIAR includes a description of the reasonable alternatives studied by the Developer, which are relevant to the project and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for the option chosen, taking into account the effects of the project on the environment.

The obligation to address alternatives to the project is required under the EIA Directive. The EIA Directive provides that the information to be provided by the Developer shall include at least, inter alia:

“(d) a description of the reasonable alternatives studied by the Developer, which are relevant to the project and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main

reasons for the option chosen, taking into account the effects of the project on the environment”.

This is elaborated upon under Annex IV (2) of the Revised EIA Directive as follows:

“a description of the reasonable alternatives (for example in terms of project design, technology, location, size and scale) studied by the Developer, which are relevant to the proposed project and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for selecting the chosen option, including a comparison of the environmental effects”.

The requirements of the EIA Directive in relation to alternatives are considered in **Chapter 3: Alternatives Considered** of this EIAR.

1.6.2.3 National Guidance

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published its ‘Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports’⁴ in May 2022 (EPA EIAR Guidelines), which is intended to guide practitioners preparing an EIAR.

In preparing this EIAR regard has also been taken of the provisions of the ‘Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on Carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment’⁵, published by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) in August 2018.

In preparing this EIAR, regard has also been given to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (2018) Circular PL. 05/2018 -Transposition into Planning Law of Directive 2014/52/EU⁶.

1.6.2.4 European Guidance

The European Commission also published a number of guidance documents in December 2017 in relation to Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects (Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU) including ‘Guidance on Screening’, ‘Guidance on Scoping’ and

⁴Environmental Protection Agency, (2022). Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports. Available at: https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/EIAR_Guidelines_2022_Web.pdf [Accessed 19th March 2026].

⁵ Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, (2018). Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on Carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment. Available at: <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-housing-local-government-and-heritage/publications/guidelines-for-planning-authorities-and-an-bord-pleanala-on-carrying-out-environmental-impact-assessment-august-2018/> [Accessed 19th March 2026].

⁶ Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (2018) Circular PL 05/2018: Transposition into Planning Law of Directive 2014/52/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment.

'Guidance on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report'. This EIAR has prepared in accordance with these guidelines.

1.6.2.5 Competent Experts and Quality of the EIAR

Article 5(3) of the EIA Directive states that, in order to ensure the completeness and quality of the EIAR, (a) the Developer shall ensure the EIAR is prepared by competent experts; (b) the competent authority shall ensure that it has, or has access to, sufficient expertise to examine the EIAR, and (c) where necessary, the competent authority shall seek from the Developer any supplementary information, in accordance with Annex IV (the information to be contained in the EIAR), which is directly relevant to reaching a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the project on the environment.

The EIA Directive Consultation states that:

"It is not proposed to define the terms 'competent experts' or 'sufficient expertise' in legislation given the broad and diverse range of EIA topics and the different areas of specialist expertise.

It is proposed that the competency of experts preparing an EIAR should be a matter for each competent authority, having regard to the diverse range of EIA topics and areas of specialist expertise.

Guidance will address the issue of 'expertise' in both the preparation and assessment of EIARs.

It would be good practice for the EIAR to state who prepared each element of the EIAR and list the qualifications and experience of each such person to assist the competent authority satisfy itself as to the competency of the experts who prepared the EIAR. The level of expertise required for each element of the EIAR would depend on the nature and importance of that element vis-à-vis the size, nature and location of the project and the receiving environment and the likely significant impact on that environment".

Note there is a legal requirement under article 94(e)(the Planning Regulations 2001): "
(e) a list of the experts who contributed to the preparation of the report, identifying for each such expert—

(i) the part or parts of the report which he or she is responsible for or to which he or she contributed,

(ii) his or her competence and experience, including relevant qualifications, if any, in relation to such parts, and

(iii) such additional information in relation to his or her expertise that the person or persons preparing the EIAR consider demonstrates the expert's competence in the preparation of the report and ensures its completeness and quality. “

The EIAR project team comprises a multidisciplinary team of experts with extensive experience in the assessment of wind energy developments and in their relevant area of expertise. The qualifications and experience of the staff from each company involved in the preparation of this EIAR are summarised in **Appendix 1.1 Author Qualifications**. Each chapter of this EIAR has been prepared by a competent expert in the subject matter.

This EIAR has been prepared by JOD, Consulting Engineers, Finisklin Business Park, Sligo, F91 RHH9, on behalf of the Developer.

JOD are one of the longest established and most reputable multi-disciplinary engineering consultancies in Ireland. Established in 1950, it has grown to be the largest engineering consultancy in the north-west of Ireland. JOD have been an established presence in the Renewable Energy Wind Farm sector since 1998. To date, the company has a portfolio of project involvement extending to over 2,040 MW of power in Ireland and Northern Ireland and is a recognised market leader in the area of Wind Energy development. This portfolio will equate, when completed, to an investment of €3 billion in the Wind Energy Sector. Additionally, JOD has attained certificates in line with industry standards as follows:

- ISO 9001:2015 – Quality Management System
- ISO 14001:2015 – Environmental Management System
- ISO 45001:2018 – Occupational Health and Safety Management System

ISO certification demonstrates that JOD have developed, maintained and implemented systems in quality, safety and environmental related matters and are therefore competent experts.

This Project has been completed in line with JOD's Integrated Management System (IMS) which is based on the current versions of ISO 9001 (Quality Management System), ISO 14001 (Environment Management System) and ISO 45001 (Safety Management System).

JOD has developed a Quality Policy Statement, an Environmental Policy Statement and a Safety Health and Welfare Policy Statement. It is a stated objective in our Quality Policy Statement that:

“...Jennings O'Donovan and Partners Limited is committed to complying with the requirements of the quality management system and to continually improve its effectiveness...”.

JOD staff are degree qualified in their respective specialist fields and have developed their competence through both experience on the job and through training. Each team member has developed the following:

- Sufficient knowledge of the specific tasks to be undertaken and the risks which may arise.
- Sufficient experience and ability to carry out their duties in relation to this EIAR and to take appropriate actions required under the EIA Directive.

Specialist consultancies have been employed to complete some of the EIAR chapters. Each chapter of the EIAR includes a Statement of Authority regarding the competency of the author and relevant qualifications.

1.7 NEED FOR THE PROJECT

The extent of the challenge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with our International and EU obligations is well understood by Government and is reflected in the National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (2014) and the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Acts 2015 to 2021.

Both the policy position and legal framework are key elements of the effort to progress the national low carbon transition agenda.

In 2015 the National Policy Statement on climate change made a commitment to transform Ireland into a Low Carbon Economy by the year 2050.

The Government quantified this as:

- An aggregate reduction in CO₂ emissions of at least 80% (compared to 1990 levels) by 2050 across the electricity generation, built environment and transport sectors; and

- In parallel, an approach to carbon neutrality in the agriculture and land-use sector, including forestry, which does not compromise capacity for sustainable food production.

The Climate Action Plan 2025

The Climate Action Plan 2025⁷ (CAP25) is Ireland's third statutory annual update to its national climate strategy, approved by the government in April 2025. It provides a roadmap to achieve the legally binding national objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 51% by 2030 and reaching a climate-neutral economy by 2050. CAP25 builds on previous plans by refining and updating actions across key sectors like agriculture, transport, electricity, buildings, industry, and land use.

Considerable progress in Ireland has been made in decarbonising the electricity sector, which resulted in (CAP25⁷):

- Reduction in electricity generation emissions of 22% in 2023⁸. The 2023 figure represents a 22% decrease on the 2021 emissions.
- The 22% reduction was due to an increase in both the use of indigenous renewable electricity generation sources (over 6 GW installed capacity by end 2023) and electricity imports, allowing for a reduction in fossil-based domestic generation:
- The share of renewable electricity generation increased from 38.6% to 40.7% from 2022 to 2023;
 - Wind energy accounting for 33.7% of electricity supply, with a further 7% coming from other renewable sources, such as solar, hydro, and biomass; and
 - An increase in net imports of electricity, rising from 1% in 2022 to 10% in 2023; resulting in a reduction in the use of coal-, oil-, and gas-fired plant for domestic generation.
- Wind energy accounted for 33.7% of electricity generation in Ireland in 2023, with a further 7% coming from other renewable sources, such as solar, hydro, and biomass.

CAP25 re-affirms the previous commitment to increasing the share of renewable electricity to 50% by 2025 and 80% by 2030.

The targets are:

- onshore wind, 6GWs by 2025 and 9 GWs by 2030.
- offshore wind, at least 5GWs by 2030.

⁷Government of Ireland. (2025). Climate Action Plan 2025. Available at: https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/Climate_Action_Plan_2025_updated_cover.pdf [Accessed 19th March 2026]

⁸ Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), GHG Provisional Emissions Inventory 1990-2023, July 2024.

- solar, up to 5GW by 2025 and 8GW by 2030.

These targets are unchanged for the previous two years. CAP25 states

“A renewables-led system is at the core of Ireland’s plan to radically reduce emissions in the electricity sector, protect our energy security, and ensure our economic competitiveness. This requires the accelerated and increased deployment of new renewable electricity generation capacity and related infrastructure.”

These commitments highlight the need to remove barriers to the development of renewables, including onshore wind, such as streamlining regulation and encouraging reinforcement of the grid to facilitate greater renewables penetration.

The contribution of the Project to the de-carbonisation of the Irish electricity network will contribute positively to an issue of strategic social importance and. The significance of the Climate Action Plan 2024 is underlined by the Irish government’s declaration of a Climate Emergency in 2019.

The Renewable Energy Directives 2018 and 2023

The first Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC) (RED I) provided the framework for the promotion of energy from renewable resources across the EU. The second Renewable Energy Directive 2018/2001/EU (RED II) entered into force in December 2018 and was transposed into Irish law in September 2020 by S.I. No. 365/2020 - European Union (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2020. In 2023, the European Union (EU) adopted an amendment of the Renewable Energy Directive (EU/2023/2413), which is referred to as “RED III”.

The regulations set the parameters for the establishment of future Renewable Electricity Support Schemes (RESS), and build on the existing regime, which was created by the European Union (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2014 (as amended) (the “2014 Regulations”).

The RED III sets an 80% target for electricity production from renewable sources by 2030. Ireland is facing significant challenges in efforts to meet these targets, alongside its commitment to transition to a climate neutral economy by 2050. Ireland did not meet its 2020 target for renewable energy and is falling behind in the longer-term movement away from fossil fuels.

RED III raises the share of renewable energy in the European Union's overall energy consumption to 42.5% by 2030, with an additional 2.5% indicative top-up to allow the target of 45% to be achieved.

A number of articles of RED III have been transposed into the planning code by the European Union (Planning and Development) (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2025. The main provisions of these regulations which came into effect on the 7th of August 2025 provides as follows:

- Completeness Check: the Regulations amend section 37JA of the PDA 2000 as amended – where an application for renewable energy is submitted to the Commission under section 37E of the PDA 2000 the Commission shall within 45 days from the date application is made or 30 days in respect of a repowering plant carry out a completeness check;
- Scoping of an EIAR is mandatory commencing on 1st May 2026 for all RED III applications lodged from this date;
- The timelines for making a decision on an application by the Commission is as follows once the application is deemed complete:
 - Onshore Renewable Developments = 52 weeks
 - Onshore Repowering Renewable Developments = 30 weeks
 - Offshore Renewable Developments = 65 weeks
 - Offshore Repowering Renewable Development = 52 weeks

White Paper on Energy Policy in Ireland 2015 – 2030

A Government White Paper entitled '*Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030*' was published in December 2015 by the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources⁹. This Paper provides a complete energy update and a framework to guide policy up to 2030. The Paper builds upon the White Paper published in 2007 and takes into account the changes that have taken place in the energy sector since 2007.

The policy framework sets out a vision for a low carbon future that maintains Ireland's competitiveness and ensures a supply of affordable energy.

The Project is critical to helping Ireland meet the targets and commitments set by international, EU and national frameworks outlined above, as well as addressing the country's over-dependence on unsustainable imported fossil fuels. The need for the Project is driven by the following factors:

⁹ <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/77389/e5aa9f25-da81-43eb-804d-57309615681e.pdf#page=null> [Accessed 19th March 2026]

- A requirement to diversify Ireland's energy sources to include more renewables, which reduce the reliance on imported fuels, to achieve International, EU, and national renewable energy targets.
- A desire to avoid significant fines from the EU (the EU Renewables Directive);
- A legal commitment under the Kyoto protocol from Ireland to limit greenhouse gas emissions.
- A requirement to increase Ireland's national energy security as set out in the Energy White Paper.
- Provision of cost-effective power production for Ireland which would deliver local benefits.
- Increase energy price stability in Ireland by reducing an over-reliance on imported gas and exposure to international market price and supply fluctuations.

The Project will create additional jobs and will encourage continued investment in the renewable industry in Ireland. Wind Energy Ireland (WEI), Ireland's largest renewable energy organisation, in its annual Wind Energy Report for 2023 noted that Ireland's wind energy share of electricity demand in 2023 was 35% compared to 34% in 2022. The Project will help achieve the 80% of electricity generated from the renewable energy target set by RED III.

The total installed capacity of the Republic of Ireland's wind farms is now 4,934MW¹⁰ (as of December 2024); this is approximately enough to power 2.2 million Irish homes annually.

Chapter 4: Planning Policy of the EIAR relates to the Planning Policy Context and presents a full description of the international and national renewable energy policy context for the Project. **Chapter 19: Climate** addresses Climate Change, including Ireland's current status with regard to meeting greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

1.7.1 Public Consultation

1.7.1.1 *Informing the Public and Local Residents*

To inform local residents about the Project, a project Community Liaison Officer (CLO) was appointed to the Project. The public were informed about the Project via the distribution of letters to residents in the locality in January 2025 and again in July 2025, along with a dedicated project website www.carrigeeninfo.com. These letters outlined the Project proposals, the community benefit fund, the environmental benefits, answers to frequently

¹⁰EirGrid, (2025). System and Renewable Data Reports. Data relating to renewable energy use in our electricity system. Available at: <https://cms.eirgrid.ie/sites/default/files/publications/Wind-Installed-Capacities-v1.png> [Accessed 19th March 2026].

asked questions and contact information for further information requests and consultations. In October 2025, a correspondence was circulated notifying the community about the date and time of the Public Information Exhibition, held November 6th, in the Ballinagare Health and Leisure Centre. 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 Grid Connection notifying them about the project and providing some information of the proposed works associated with the Grid Connection installation. The leaflet included an overview map of the Grid Connection 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.

The Community Engagement Report is attached as **Appendix 1.2**. This report outlines the Developer's approach to community engagement and feedback received from the public consultation.

1.7.1.2 Community Benefit and Community Involvement

The Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) is a Government of Ireland initiative that provides support to renewable electricity projects in Ireland. RESS is a pivotal component of the Programme for Government and the Climate Action Plan 2021 and 2023 and is a major step in achieving Ireland's target of at least 80% renewable electricity by 2030. One of the key objectives of RESS is to provide an Enabling Framework for Community Participation through the provision of pathways and supports for communities to participate in renewable energy projects.

The RESS Terms and Conditions, published by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment make some high-level provisions for how this type of benefit fund will work. Any project which wants to export electricity to the national grid must abide by these broad principles.

Based on the current RESS guidelines it is expected that for each megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity produced by the wind farm, the Project will contribute €2 into a community fund for the first 15 years of operation. If this commitment is changed in upcoming Government Policy, the fund would be adjusted accordingly.

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. This group will then work on designing the governance and structure of a community entity that would administer the Community Benefit Fund.

The types of projects and initiatives that could be supported by such a Community Benefit Fund could include youth, sport and community facilities, schools, educational and training initiatives, and wider amenity, heritage, and environmental projects.

Should the Project be developed under the current RESS T&C's, it would attract a community contribution in the region of €406,000/year for the local community (estimated based on an average energy yield) over the first 15 years of operation of the Project. The value of this fund would be directly proportional to the electricity generated by the wind farm.

Should the Project be developed under RESS, the Applicant is committing that for each megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity produced by the wind farm, the Project will contribute €1 into a community fund for the entire operational life of the Proposed Project. This would equate to an estimated annual fund of €200,000 (using the same formula as above), which across the 35-year operational lifespan would result in funding in the order of €7 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. Please see **Appendix 1.2: Community Engagement Report** for details.

1.8 EIAR STRUCTURE

This EIAR uses the grouped structure method to describe the existing environment, the potential impacts of the Project thereon and the proposed mitigation measures. Background information relating to the Project, Scoping and consultation undertaken and a description of the Project are presented in separate sections. The grouped format sections describe the impacts of the Project in terms of human beings, flora and fauna, soils and geology, hydrology and hydrogeology, air and climate, noise and vibration, landscape and visual, cultural heritage and material assets such as traffic and transportation, together with the interaction of the foregoing. Please note that the Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM) coordinate system is used in the EIAR document.

The layout of this EIAR is arranged in four volumes, I-IV.

Volume I: This volume includes the opening **Non-Technical Summary (NTS)**. It is a condensed and easily comprehensible version of the EIAR document. The NTS is presented in a similar format to the main EIAR document and comprises descriptions of the Project, the receiving environment, impacts, mitigation measures and interactions presented in a grouped format. It is a standalone document.

Volume II: This volume contains the **EIAR Chapters**. The EIAR is presented using the grouped structure method and describes the existing environment, the potential impacts of the Project thereon and the proposed mitigation measures. Background information relating to the Project, Scoping and consultation undertaken and a description of the Project are presented in separate chapters.

The chapters in this Volume II: in the EIAR are as follows:

- Chapter 1: Introduction
- Chapter 2: Project Description
- Chapter 3: Alternatives Considered
- Chapter 4: Planning Policy
- Chapter 5: Population and Human Health
- Chapter 6: Biodiversity
- Chapter 7: Bat Ecology
- Chapter 8: Ornithology
- Chapter 9: Aquatic Ecology
- Chapter 10: Soils and Geology
- Chapter 11: Hydrology and Hydrogeology
- Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual Amenity
- Chapter 13: Noise
- Chapter 14: Material Assets
- Chapter 15: Cultural Heritage
- Chapter 16: Traffic and Transport
- Chapter 17: Shadow Flicker
- Chapter 18: Air
- Chapter 19: Climate
- Chapter 20: Major Accidents & Natural Disasters
- Chapter 21: Interactions of the Foregoing
- Chapter 22: Schedule of Mitigation Measures

Volume III: EIAR Figures and Drawings

The Figures and Drawings referred to in each chapter of the EIAR are compiled separately in Volume III. Figures are numbered sequentially for each chapter in which they are principally referred.

Volume IV: Appendices

The Appendices referred to in each chapter of the EIAR are compiled separately in Volume IV. They are also numbered sequentially for each chapter in which they are principally referred.

Volume V: Photomontages

The Photomontages referred to in **Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual Amenity** are compiled separately in Volume V. They are visual simulations that combine photographs of the existing landscape with digitally rendered images of the Project. They show how the Project will look from specific viewpoints once constructed.

Volume VI: Natura Impact Statement

The NIS referred to in **Chapter 6: Biodiversity**, **Chapter 7: Bat Ecology**, **Chapter 8: Ornithology**, and **Chapter 9: Aquatic Ecology** is provided separately in Volume VI. The NIS is prepared to support an AA under the EU Habitats Directive. It evaluates whether a proposed project or plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site.

1.9 INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN A DECISION TO GRANT

Article 8a (1) of the EIA Directive states:

“The decision to grant development consent shall incorporate at least the following information:

(a) the reasoned conclusion referred to in Article 1(2)(g)(iv);

(b) any environmental conditions attached to the decision, a description of any features of the project and/or measures envisaged to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset significant adverse effects on the environment as well as, where appropriate, monitoring measures”.

To assist the competent authority with this requirement, the EIAR includes at the end of each chapter a summary of all proposed mitigation and monitoring measures outlined within the technical assessments.

1.10 EIAR PREPARATION

1.10.1 EIAR Project Team

JOD had overall responsibility for the coordination of the EIAR with input from other independent specialist consultants where necessary as required by the EIA Directive and Regulations. Recital (33) of EIA Directive states the following in relation to the persons responsible for preparing the EIARs:

“Experts involved in the preparation of environmental impact assessment reports should be qualified and competent. Sufficient expertise, in the relevant field of the project concerned, is required for the purpose of its examination by the competent authorities in order to ensure that the information provided by the Developer is complete and of a high level of quality.”

In compliance with this requirement, and in line with emerging best practice, including with the 2018 EIA Guidelines for Planning Authorities, **Table 1.3** provides the names of the professionals who have prepared each element of the EIAR. It also lists their qualifications and relevant experience, demonstrating that the EIAR has been prepared by competent experts. Further details on the qualifications of each lead author can be found in **Appendix 1.1** and in the Statement of Authority in each individual technical assessment chapter.

Table 1.3: EIAR Preparation Details

Consultants	Principal Staff Involved in the Project	EIAR Input
Jennings O'Donovan & Partners Limited	Sarah Moore Kathlyn Feeney Ciara Gilligan Padraig O'Dowd John Doogan David Kiely Breena Coyle	Chapter 1: Introduction Chapter 2: Project Description Chapter 3: Alternatives Considered Chapter 4: Planning Policy Chapter 5: Population and Human Health Chapter 14: Material Assets Chapter 16: Traffic and Transport Chapter 17: Shadow Flicker Chapter 18: Air Chapter 19: Climate Chapter 20: Major Accidents & Natural Disasters

Consultants	Principal Staff Involved in the Project	EIAR Input
		Chapter 21: Interactions of the Foregoing Chapter 22: Schedule of Mitigation Measures
Doherty Environmental	Pat Doherty	Chapter 6: Biodiversity Chapter 7: Bat Ecology Chapter 8: Ornithology
Aquafact	Aisling Hearty Tracy Paul Neve McCann Eddie McCormack	Chapter 9: Aquatic Ecology
Whitefords Geoservices Ltd.	John Whiteford	Chapter 10: Soils & Geology
McCloy Consulting Ltd.	Iain Muir Kyle Somerville Paul Singleton Kate Macartney Duncan Hartwick Mistaya Langridge	Chapter 11: Hydrology and Hydrogeology
Macro Works Ltd.	Mark Salisbury Richard Barker	Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual Impact
Irwin Carr Consulting Ltd.	Shane Carr Mark Burke Brendan O'Reilly	Chapter 13: Noise
Irish Archaeology Consultancy Ltd.	Faith Bailey Lucy Bagshaw Jonny Small	Chapter 15: Cultural Heritage
Headland Archaeology	Fraser McFarlane	

1.10.2 Chapter Structure

Each technical assessment included in the EIAR chapters has followed the same general format:

- Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria: A description of the methods used in baseline surveys, limitations and the assessment of the significance of effects.

- **Baseline Description:** A description of the Site's existing baseline, based on the results of surveys, desk information and consultations, and a summary of any information required for the assessment that could not be obtained. It also includes an outline of the likely evolution of the baseline without the Project as far as natural changes from the baseline scenario can be assessed with reasonable effort on the basis of the availability of environmental information and scientific knowledge.
- **Assessment of Potential Environmental Effects:** A description of how the baseline environment could potentially be affected by the Project including a summary of the measures taken during the design of the Project to minimise effects.
- **Mitigation Measures and Residual Effects -** A description of measures recommended that will be implemented to prevent, avoid, reduce and/or offset potential negative effects and a summary of the assessed level significance of the effects of the Project after mitigation measures have been implemented.
- **Cumulative Effects:** An assessment of the potential cumulative effects of the Project in combination with other existing, approved or proposed plans and projects.
- **Statement of Significance of Effects.**

The significance of effects resulting from the Project will be determined through consideration of a combination of the sensitivity of the receiving environment and the predicted level of change from the baseline state. Environmental sensitivity can be categorised by several aspects including factors such as the transformation of natural landscapes, the protection afforded to, and presence of, European sites, rare or endangered species, land use and fisheries.

Sensitivity of classification of the receiving environment can vary between the different technical areas of assessment e.g., biodiversity, hydrology and hydrogeology, population and human health and landscape and visual impact. In general, this EIAR largely follows the principles and terminology of the EPA EIAR Guidelines¹¹ in relation to the identification of significant effects. Where a technical assessment has adopted an alternative to this process, such as following technical guidance bespoke to that topic, such assessment criteria are made clear in that chapter. **Table 1.4** highlights the general framework for the assessment of significance of effects.

¹¹Environmental Protection Agency, (2022). Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports. Available online at: https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/EIAR_Guidelines_2022_Web.pdf [Accessed 19th March 2026]

Table 1.4: Effect Classification Terminology (EPA EIAR Guidelines)

Effect Characteristic	Term	Description
Quality	Positive	A change which improves the quality of the environment
	Neutral	No effects or effects that are imperceptible within normal bounds of variation or within the margin of forecasting error
	Negative	A change which reduces the quality of the environment
Significance	Imperceptible	An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences
	Not significant	An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences
	Slight	An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities
	Moderate	An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends
	Significant	An effect, which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity significantly alters a sensitive aspect of the environment
	Very significant	An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity significantly alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment
	Profound	An effect which obliterates sensitive characteristics
Extent & Context	Extent	Describe the size of the area, number of sites and the proportion of a population affected by an effect
	Context	Describe whether the extent, duration, or frequency will conform or contrast with established (baseline) conditions
Probability	Likely	Effects that can reasonably be expected to occur because of the planned project if all mitigation measures are properly implemented
	Unlikely	Effects that can reasonably be expected not to occur because of the planned project if all mitigation measures are properly implemented
Duration and Frequency	Momentary	Effects lasting from seconds to minutes
	Brief	Effects lasting less than a day
	Temporary	Effects lasting less than a year
	Short-term	Effects lasting one to seven years
	Medium-term	Effects lasting seven to fifteen years
	Long-term	Effects lasting fifteen to sixty years
	Permanent	Effect lasting over sixty years

Effect Characteristic	Term	Description
	Reversible	Effects that can be undone, for example through remediation or restoration
	Frequency	Describe how often the effect will occur, (once, rarely, occasionally, frequently, constantly – or hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, annually)
Type	Indirect	Impacts on the environment, which are not a direct result of the project, often produced away from the project site or because of a complex pathway
	Cumulative	The addition of many minor or significant effects, including effects of other projects, to create larger, more significant effects.
	'Do Nothing'	The environment as it would be in the future should the subject project not be carried out
	'Worst Case'	The effects arising from a project in the case where mitigation measures substantially fail
	Indeterminable	When the full consequences of a change in the environment cannot be described
	Irreversible	When the character, distinctiveness, diversity, or reproductive capacity of an environment is permanently lost
	Residual	Degree of environmental change that will occur after the proposed mitigation measures have taken effect
	Synergistic	Where the resultant effect is of greater significance than the sum of its constituents

1.10.3 Significance Criteria

The significance of the potential effects of the Project have been classified by comparing the character of the predicted effect to the sensitivity of the receiving environment as defined in **Table 1.5**.

Table 1.5: Rating of Significant Environmental of Effect (EPA EIAR Guidelines)

Description of Effect (Character/Magnitude/Duration/Probability/Consequences)					
Existing Environment (Significance /Sensitivity)		Negligible	Low	Medium	High
	Extremely High	Not Significant	Profound/ Very Significant	Profound	Profound
	Very High	Not Significant	Moderate	Significant	Profound/ Very Significant
	High	Not Significant	Slight	Significant/ Moderate	Very Significant
	Medium	Not Significant/ Imperceptible	Slight	Moderate	Significant/ Moderate
	Low	Imperceptible	Slight/ Not Significant	Slight	Slight/ Moderate
	Negligible	Imperceptible	Imperceptible	Imperceptible	Imperceptible

1.10.3.1 Mitigation Measures and Residual Effects

There are three established strategies for impact mitigation - avoidance, reduction and remedy. The efficacy of each is directly dependent on the stage in the design process at which environmental considerations are taken into account, (i.e. impact avoidance can only be considered at the earliest stage, while remedy may be the only option available to fully designed projects).

The EIA co-ordinator has engaged with stakeholders, which has provided the benefit of developing and refining mitigation through an iterative process rather than 'adding on' such measures at the end of the Project. Mitigation measures have been prioritised and embedded into the design phase of the Project to avoid, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects. These are referred to within this EIAR as 'embedded mitigation'.

Relevant mitigation measures are discussed within each technical chapter of this EIAR. **Chapter 22: Schedule of Mitigation Measures** provides a summary of mitigation measures for all technical assessments.

1.10.3.2 Cumulative Effects

The potential cumulative impact of the Project has been assessed in line with Annex IV of the EIA Directive as amended which provides that the EIAR must contain a description of the likely significant effects of the Project on the environment resulting from the cumulation of effects with other existing and/or approved projects, taking into account any existing environmental problems relating to areas of particular environmental importance likely to be affected or the use of natural resources.

The assessment of the Project in combination with other projects considers the range and nature of existing projects within the cumulative impact study area of the Project, as far as practically possible. For the purposes of this EIAR, a radius of 20km for larger scaled projects for the cumulative impact assessment is used. This Study Area is derived from the Wind Energy Development Guidelines (2006)¹² and Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2019¹³.

All of the relevant projects with potential to create cumulative impacts have been included in **Chapter 2: Project Description** in **Sections 2.3.3 to 2.3.4** and **Appendix 2.5** and detailed cumulative impact assessments are included in each relevant section of the EIAR.

The geographic extent of the cumulative assessment is considered on a case-by-case basis, in line with the following:

- Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EPA, 2022).
- Guidance on the Preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (European Union 2017) (Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU); and
- Guidelines for the Assessment of Indirect and Cumulative Impacts as well as Impact Interactions (European Commission 1999).

All existing and approved large-scale projects¹⁴ and large-scale projects in the public domain at pre planning or pending a decision from a planning authority within 20km of the Project were considered for potential cumulative assessment in all other chapters of this EIAR. This measurement was taken from the outermost Wind Turbines of the Project. A

¹² Wind Energy Development Guidelines (2006) <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/f449e-wind-energy-development-guidelines-2006/> [Accessed 19th March 2026]

¹³ Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines (2019) <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/9d0f66-draft-revised-wind-energy-development-guidelines-december-2019/> [Accessed 19th March 2026]

¹⁴ Large-scale project in Irish planning law (the Planning Regulations 2001) is generally one that:

- Falls under Part 1 of Schedule 5 (mandatory EIA), or
- Exceeds the thresholds in Part 2 of Schedule 5, or
- Is sub-threshold but still likely to have significant environmental impacts.

20km distance was considered appropriate due to the size and extent of the Project and the nature of the potential effects as detailed throughout the EIAR.

The material for the cumulative assessment was gathered through a search of relevant County Councils' Online Planning Registers, the Commission website and the EIA Portal for a period of ten years (the last check was carried out March 2026). Relevant EIA documents, planning application details and planning drawings were reviewed, which served to identify the locations of existing and approved projects and projects pending a decision from a planning authority, their activities and their environmental impacts.

The relevance of the projects was considered on a case-by-case basis in each chapter as necessary depending on the interaction and likelihood of in combination impacts.

1.10.3.3 Statement of Significance of Effects

The statement of significance outlines the conclusion of each technical assessment in order to provide a final overall conclusion as to the likely significant effects of the Project under the terms of the EIA Directive and the EIA Planning Regulations.

1.11 SCOPING AND CONSULTATION

The Scoping and consultation process was carried out in accordance with the EIA Directive, EIA Planning Regulations and in accordance with the EPA EIAR Guidelines (2022).

The EIA Directive Circular notes that:

"It is a requirement of the EIA process to consult with statutory consultees and to take into account any submissions made by these consultees. Such submissions may contain expert specialist opinions on topics to be assessed in the EIA process..."

A Scoping exercise was carried out in March 2025. **Table 1.6** documents individuals and organisations that have been consulted as part of the EIA process. The purpose of this consultation process was to provide a focus for the EIA by identifying the key issues of relevance. As such, the consultation process informs the various organisations of the Project, thereby providing an opportunity to submit comments and to offer information relevant to the preparation of this EIAR. A record of the full responses can be found in **Appendix 1.4 Scoping Opinion**.

Table 1.6: Scoping Responses Received on The Project

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
Planning Authority			
The Commission	Outline of pre-application meeting held on the 15th May 2025 (noted received in letter dated 12th June 2025): The Commission made the following observations: • In relation to biodiversity, the Commission outlined the importance of robust surveys and specialist surveys as required. • The consideration of Annex IV species and derogation was outlined. • In relation to ornithology, considerations in relation collision risk assessment, disturbance, habitat loss, impacts at different population levels and connections to SPAs were outlined. • The Commission noted that whites Cloonshanville bog, the closest SPA is approx. 235m to the nearest turbine the proposed boundary is closer with ancillary infrastructure (site roads etc) and close to bog habitat. A second meeting with the Commission took place on 14th October 2025. During this meeting, the Commission's primary observations related to Traffic and Transport. The Commission emphasised the relevant provisions of the Roscommon County Development Plan 2022–2028 (RCDP), particularly those concerning: • The protection of national roads; • The requirement to prepare a Traffic and Transport Assessment (TTA) and a Road Safety Audit (RSA); • The specific obligations regarding sightlines, including the need for a land registry map and a legally binding agreement where applicable. The Applicant has undertaken all of the above requirements, and the supporting information has been provided in Chapter 16: Traffic and Transport and Appendix 16.4.	All items considered during the design process. No implications for the EIA/Design.	Biodiversity, Annex IV species, ornithology, habitat loss, European sites and Traffic and Transport are addressed in: Chapter 6: Biodiversity Chapter 7: Bat Ecology Chapter 8: Ornithology Chapter 9: Aquatic Ecology Appendix 16.4: Road Safety Audit
The Council	Outline of pre-application meeting held on the 11th June 2025: The Council made the following observations:	All items considered during the design process. No	The site selection process, engineering methodology of the Grid Connection route and heritage impact

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
	- In relation to Project location, the Council raised concerns about the Project located within a designated 'less favoured' area for wind energy development. - The Council expressed significant concerns about the feasibility of using bog roads for the Grid Connection, citing potential structural damage and the challenges of construction. They noted that the road's timber foundation complicates repairs and that the scale of the Project could have a substantial impact on the local road network. - The proximity of the Project to the Rathcrohan Archaeological Complex is a major consideration, particularly regarding potential indirect impacts on the landscape and visual impact assessments. The Council emphasizes the importance of thoroughly assessing any potential visual and cultural heritage impacts on Rathcrohan and its surrounding plateau, given its exceptional value and economic development potential.	implications for the EIA/Design.	assessment of the Rathcroghan site are addressed in: Chapter 2: Project Description Chapter 3: Alternatives Considered Chapter 15: Cultural Heritage
The Council-Roads Department	A site walkover took place on the 12th of December 2025 between the Developer, JOD Roads Engineer and the Council Roads Engineers. The purpose of the site visit /meeting was to discuss the chosen Turbine Delivery Route (TDR), Construction Haul Routes, site entrances and Grid Connection with the Council Roads Engineers. The Council were overall content with the proposed TDR and site entrances. The main note of concern was the proposed locations for the Grid Connection joint bays, which were proposed within the public road network. The Council requested that the joint bays be re-located off of the public roads and onto adjoining third party lands instead. A second site meeting took place on the 9th of February 2026 to discuss the relocation of 10 no. joint bays along the Grid Connection route. Representatives from the Council and Applicant were present. The Council approved and were satisfied with the new locations for the 10 no. joint bays. The main comments are as follows: - The TDR and grid route chosen was deemed suitable. - The TDR will be using the "new road" before traversing back on the old road. A temporary opening was discussed to facilitate the TDR.	The Grid Connection joint bay locations were reviewed and locations revised. As many locations as possible were re-positioned onto third party lands as requested by the Council.	The methodology of the Grid Connection route and traffic and transport assessment are addressed in: Chapter 2: Project Description Chapter 16: Traffic and Transport Appendix 16.1: Traffic and Transport Assessment Appendix 16.2: Traffic Management Plan Appendix 16.3: Turbine Delivery Route

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
	The various access points were shown on a map at the first meeting. - The 110kV grid route is to be located in the middle of the public road along all local roads. The cable is to be positioned in the left carriageway along the R368 heading towards Carrick on Shannon. - All joint bays to be located off the public road for the exception of joint bays along the R368. All joint bays along the R368 can remain in the carriageway. All revised locations were agreed at the second site meeting. - Directional drill is the preferred bridge crossing methodology. - RCC have plans to replace WC04. Works may be carried out in sequence with the proposed grid route. - Reinstatement to be agreed at Road Opening Licence stage.		
Aviation			
Abbeyshrule Airport	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Galway Airport	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Ireland West Knock Airport	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Irish Aviation Authority (IAA)	Outline of response received (email dated 19th March 2025): The IAA made the following observations: In the event of planning consent being granted, the Developer should be conditioned to contact the IAA to: - agree an aeronautical obstacle warning light scheme for the wind farm development, - provide as-constructed coordinates in WGS84 format together with ground and blade tip height elevations at each Wind Turbine location and - notify the Authority of intention to commence crane operations with at least 30 days prior notification of their erection in accordance with S.I 215 of 2005 (obstacles to aircraft inflight) order.	All items considered during the design process. No implications for the EIA/Design.	The Developer accepts the proposed planning condition by the IAA.

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
Air Nav Ireland	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Ecology			
An Taisce	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Bat Conservation Ireland	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Birdwatch Ireland	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Inland Fisheries Ireland	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Irish Wildlife Trust	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Irish Peatland Conservation Council	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Irish Raptor Study Group	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (NPWS - Development Applications Unit)	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Soils and Water			
Geological Survey of Ireland	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Waterways Ireland	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Archaeology			
The Heritage Council	No response received.	N/A	N/A

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
National Monuments Services (NMS)	No response was received to the Scoping report, however further engagement with NMS was undertaken in relation to the Rathcroghan Archaeological Complex assessment. A site visit was undertaken on the 24th October 2025 with representatives from the Developer, Headland Archaeology, Farming Rathcroghan, NMS and World Heritage Unit (WHU). The purpose of the site visit/meeting was to discuss the ways in which the Project setting contributes to potential Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and the impact that the Project may have on this potential OUV were assessed during the site visit. Visualisations from the relevant viewpoints within Rathcroghan were produced and issued to the NMS and WHU to inform the site visit.	All items considered during the design process. No implications for the EIA/Design.	The Heritage Impact Assessment (Appendix 15.1) assesses the Rathcroghan complex and whether visual change to that setting would adversely impact potential OUV.
Telecommunications			
ENET	No response received	N/A	N/A
BT Ireland	Outline of response received (email dated 18th March 2025): If your enquiry is about BT Ireland network please be aware we use Klicon application – a self-service, automated click before you dig BT Ireland system.	N/A	Telecommunications is addressed in Chapter 14: Material Assets .
Broadcasting Authority of Ireland	No response received.	N/A	N/A
2RN	Outline of response received (email dated 19th March 2025): 2RN have no fixed linking in the area that would be affected by the Project. There is however a risk of interference to broadcast services in the area, therefore 2RN ask that a protocol be signed between the Developer and 2RN should the Project be consented.	All items considered during the design process. No implications for the EIA/Design.	The Developer accepts the proposed planning condition by 2RN. Telecommunications are addressed in Chapter 14: Material Assets.
Coimisiún na Meán	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Eir Limited	Outline of response received (email dated 19th March 2025): Eir Limited have no transmission links within the Project and it has no risk to the network for Eir Mobile or the Eir fixed network.	N/A	Telecommunications are addressed in Chapter 14: Material Assets .

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
Towercom	Outline of response received (email dated 20th March 2025): Towercom Limited's operations will not be affected by the Project.	N/A	Telecommunications are addressed in Chapter 14: Material Assets .
Tetra Ireland Communications	No response received.	N/A	N/A
ESB Telecoms	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Virgin Media Television	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Vodafone	Outline of response received (email dated 19th March 2025): Vodafone does not have any transmission passing through the Project.	N/A	Telecommunications are addressed in Chapter 14: Material Assets .
EOBO Ltd	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Imagine Broadband	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Other			
Department of Agriculture	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Department of Defence	Outline of response received (letter dated 2nd April 2025): The Department of Defence made the following observations: - The Minister for Defence is responsible for the regulation of military aviation, whereas the IAA is responsible for the safety regulation of civil aviation including aerodromes. - All turbines should be illuminated by Type C, Medium intensity, Fixed Red obstacle lighting with a minimum output of 2,000 candela to be visible in all directions of azimuth and to be operational H24/7 days a week. Obstacle lighting should be incandescent or, if LED or other types are used, of a type visible to Night Vision equipment. Obstacle lighting used must emit light at the near Infra-Red (IR) range of the electromagnetic spectrum, specifically at or near 850 nanometres (nm) of wavelength. Light intensity to be of similar value to that emitted in the visible spectrum of light.	All items considered during the design process. No implications for the EIA/Design.	Aviation is addressed in Chapter 14: Material Assets .

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
	- In the event negative impacts on future military radar systems, the owner will engage with the Department of Defence and will provide suitable mitigations as soon as practical. - Any Irish Air Corps (IAC) requirements for are separate to IAA requirements.		
Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media	Outline of response received (email dated 21st March 2025): Planning matters in general fall within the remit of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The Development Applications Unit may be contacted at Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie.	N/A	Heritage is addressed in Chapter 15: Cultural Heritage .
Department of Transport	Outline of response received (letter dated 17th April 2025): The Department of Transport made the following observations: - Their presence within the public road will likely significantly restrict the Road Authority in carrying out its function to construct and maintain the public road and will likely add to the costs of those works post construction. - Their installation within the lands associated with the public road may affect the stability of the road. In particular where the road is a "legacy road" (where there is no designed road structure and the subgrade may be poor or poorly drained) or bog rampart and the design needs to take account of all the variable ground conditions and not be based on a sample of the general soil conditions. This should include a constructability assessment to a 950mm minimum cover depth to the HV Cable on legacy roads, roads over peat/bog ramparts. - The possible effect on the remaining available road space (noting that there may be need to accommodate other utilities within the road cross-section in the future or additional drainage for climate adaptation) on potential future development.	All items considered during the design process. No implications for the EIA/Design.	The Developer accepts the proposed planning conditions by Department of Transport. The site selection process, engineering methodology of Grid Connection Route, and impact on public roads are addressed in: Chapter 2: Project Description Chapter 3: Alternatives Considered Chapter 16: Traffic and Transport

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
	- The necessity to have the power in the cables switched off (particularly where structural failures occur due to extreme weather events) where the Road Authority considers this necessary in order to carry out its function to construct and maintain the public road and a complete operation and maintenance manual should be agreed with the Local Authority. - Examination of all available technologies including both Overhead Line (OHL) and Underground Cable (UGC) options (or combinations of both) and route options other than the routing of cables along the public road to ensure the best performing route and technology option is selected, (ensuring compliance with CAP24). The public road should only be considered following a robust MCA determining the optimal solution including examining the most linear solutions, - Examination of options for connection to the national grid network at a point closer to the wind farm in order to reduce the adverse impact on public roads, The Department of Transport recommends the following conditions should be applied to any grant of permission that includes the laying of high voltage electricity cable in the road network where that routing is identified as the 'optimal solution'. - Prior to commencement of development, engagement with the planning authority should discuss and agree the route for the HV Cable(s) to identify/agree the routing 'optimal solution' along with the associated requirements for traffic management, road opening licencing, times of work, Reinstatement, positioning of chambers/joint bays etc. - A condition requiring the Developer to, at a minimum, comply with all appropriate standards and, inter alia the Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads, 2017 in order to ensure orderly development. - Electricity cabling shall be laid off carriageway where feasible. - Wherever possible, joint bay structures are best located off the carriageway in verges, open spaces, or adjacent sites; and where they must be under carriageway, joint bay structures will be to accepted design standards.		

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
	- High/medium voltage transmission underground cables should not be sited on or attached to existing roads structures, masonry bridges/ culverts and similar structures. - A condition requiring that the location of the cables would be recorded as exactly as possible, using BIM type technology, so as to facilitate the further use of road space for utilities and the maintenance/construction of the public road by the Roads authority. This record should include as constructed surveys of all infrastructure altered, added, removed or relocated and exact detail of the road construction including any drains or other features encountered. The record should be lodged with the local authority and with the ESB Networks for retention on their records. - A condition requiring the replacement of culverts that have been excavated during the cable duct placement operation. The replacement culverts should be designed appropriately and include an allowance for the effects of climate change. - A condition requiring the Developer to notify the Roads Authority of the owner of the cables (Owner) and the controller (Power Controller) of the power transmitted along the cables. In addition, the condition should require Owner and Power Controller to notify the Roads Authority of any change in ownership of the cables or change of Power Controller transmitting power along the cables. In all instances the Owner and Power Controller should be required to maintain an agreed contacts list with the Roads Authority.		
Fáilte Ireland	Outline of response received (email dated 26th March 2025): The Fáilte Ireland provided a copy of Fáilte Ireland's Updated 2023 Guidelines for the Treatment of Tourism in an EIA¹⁵ (Fáilte Ireland's EIAR Guidelines). The following key observations can be drawn from Fáilte Ireland's EIAR Guidelines:	All items considered during the EIA process. No implications for the EIA/Design.	The key topics for tourism are addressed in the following chapters: Chapter 3: Alternatives Considered Chapter 5: Population and Human Health Chapter 6: Biodiversity Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual Amenity Chapter 13: Noise

¹⁵ Fáilte Ireland, (2023). EIAR Guidelines for the Consideration of Tourism and Tourism Related Projects.

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
	- According to the Fáilte Ireland Tourism Facts 2019 Report¹⁶, the most important factors in determining the attractiveness of tourism destinations for visitors to Ireland are; Beautiful Scenery and Unspoiled Environment Hospitality Safety Nature, Wildlife and Natural Attractions History and Culture Pace of Life These factors used for the promotion of tourism in Ireland are also barometers of sensitivity to change in tourism sensitive or dominant locations where development may have an impact upon the tourism asset. - The location of the Project should include identifying key sensitive receptors (including tourism receptors). In the operational phase of the Project any tourism based, or potentially tourism related activity, should be identified. - The impact upon Geotourism related to geoheritage within the natural environment, e.g., any impacts on UNESCO Global Geoparks, of which we currently have three on the island of Ireland; Copper Coast in Co. Waterford, Burren and Cliffs of Moher in Co. Clare, and Cuilcagh Lakelands in Cavan and Fermanagh should be considered (where applicable).		Chapter 14: Material Assets Chapter 15: Cultural Heritage Chapter 16: Traffic and Transport Chapter 18: Air Chapter 19: Climate Chapter 20: Major Accidents & Natural Disasters
Forest Division (in Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)).	No response received	N/A	N/A

¹⁶ Fáilte Ireland, (2019). Key Tourism Facts 2019. Available at: https://www.failteireland.ie/Failteireland/media/WebsiteStructure/Documents/3_Research_Insights/4_Visitor_Insights/KeyTourismFacts_2019.pdf?ext=.pdf [Accessed 19th March 2026].

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI)	Outline of response received (letter dated 16th April 2025): The GSI made the following observations: - We recommend using our various data sets when conducting the EIAR, planning and Scoping processes for the Project. - Should the Project go ahead, all other factors considered, GSI would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. The data would be redacted for confidentiality and added to GIS's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to the Geological Mapping Unit, at GeologicalMappingInfo@gsi.ie.	All items considered during the EIA process. No implications for the EIA/Design.	The data sets available from the GIS website were used in this EIAR for various topics (where applicable). The site investigations (if any) undertaken for this EIAR are outlined in Chapter 10: Soils & Geology and associated reports are provided as part of this EIAR. Any further information can be provided to the GIS upon request.
Health and Safety Authority (HSA)	Outline of response received (letter dated 20th March 2025): The HSA made the following observations: - The Health and Safety Authority (the Authority), acting as the Central Competent Authority under the Chemicals Act (Control of Major Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substances) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 209 of 2015) gives technical advice to the Planning Authority when requested, under regulation 24(2) in relation to: (a) the siting and development of new establishments; (b) modifications to establishments of the type described in Regulation 12(1); (c) new developments including transport routes, locations of public use and residential areas in the vicinity of establishments, where the siting, modifications or developments may be the source of, or increase the risk or consequences of, a major accident. - Since the above-referenced application appears to be outside the scope of the Regulations, the Authority has no observations to forward.	N/A	Health and Safety is addressed in Chapter 20: Major Accidents & Natural Disasters
Health Service Executive (HSE)	Outline of response received (letter dated 17th April 2025): The HSE made the following observations: The Developer should consider the findings of the High Court judgement issued in the judicial review of the Derryadd Wind Farm.	All items considered during the EIA process. No implications for the EIA/Design.	The key topics for an EIAR as recommended by the NEHS are addressed in the following chapters: Chapter 5: Population and Human Health

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
	(2021 IEHC 390 [20202 No. 557 JR] P. Sweetman v An Bord Pleanála), with regard to general noise considerations of noise and wind farms the judgement in [2024] IEHC 136 [2018 8457 P] MARGARET WEBSTER AND KEITH ROLLO AND MEENACLOGHSPAR (WIND) LIMITED. - It is the experience of the National Environmental Health Service Submission Report (NEHS) that impacts on human health are often inadequately assessed in EIAs in Ireland. It is recommended that the wider determinants of health and wellbeing are considered in a proportionate manner when considering the EIA. Guidance on wider determinants of health can be found at www.publichealth.ie. - The NEHS recommends that the following matters are included and assessed in the EIAR; - Public Consultation - Population and human health - Decommissioning phase of the Project - Siting and location of turbines - Noise & Vibration - Shadow Flicker - Air Quality - Surface and Groundwater Quality - Ancillary facilities - Cumulative impacts - Climate - Health gain - It is recommended that early and meaningful public consultation with the local community is undertaken to ensure all potentially significant effects of the Project have been adequately addressed.		Chapter 10: Soils and Geology Chapter 11: Hydrology and Hydrogeology Chapter 13: Noise Chapter 14: Material Assets Chapter 16: Traffic and Transport Chapter 17: Shadow Flicker Chapter 18: Air Chapter 19: Climate Chapter 22: Schedule of Mitigation Measures
Irish Water	No response received.	N/A	N/A
National Museum of Ireland (NMI)	Outline of response received (letter dated 27th March 2025): The NMI made the following observations: The NMI Topographical files, within the Irish Antiquities Division of the NMI, should be consulted. These will provide details on stray finds within the various townlands which may be impacted/affected by the Project.	All items considered during the design process. No implications for the EIA/Design.	Heritage is addressed in Chapter 15: Cultural Heritage , including the findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment, Visual Assessment of the Rathcroghan archaeological complex.

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
	- The area has extensive bog and was the location of a large lake called Lough Bally. Bogs and lakes are often rich in archaeological material. The bog at Drummin being a case in point. If excavations are to be carried out, the consultant archaeology company should have relevant wetland archaeology experience inhouse or access to such specialisms. - There are several recorded monuments within the broader landscape. The NMS should be contacted directly for further information in this regard. - It is noted that Rathcroghan archaeological complex is located close to the Study Area. The impact on this landscape should be part of a Visual Impact Survey. - It should be noted that within riverine, wetland and bog locations there is a very high potential for the survival of archaeological features and finds. These can include stone, metal, and crucially, organic waterlogged material. Any changes to their current local conditions could have a severe negative impact on their preservation. Mitigation may be necessary to protect and/or recover any such archaeological finds to ensure their long-term preservation. - Over such a large Study Area, there is a very high potential for encountering archaeological features and finds. Archaeological intervention, to include, for example, an archaeological impact assessment will, most likely, be required. Preservation of archaeological sites in-situ is preferable, however, in some cases mitigation/rescue excavations may be necessary to preserve by record any identified archaeological features and recover any archaeological objects. Adequate funding for archaeological works (to include excavation and post-excavation works) should be agreed prior to the commencement of any works.		
Office of Public Works (OPW)	No response received.	N/A	N/A
Royal Irish Academy	No response received.	N/A	N/A

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)	No response received.	N/A	N/A
The Arts Council	No response received	N/A	N/A
Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)	Outline of response received (letter dated 7th April 2025): The TII made the following observations: - TII notes that the subject Study Area includes a section of N5, national road, subject to a 100kph speed limit. Access to the road network is not clear in the EIAR Scoping Report and TII recommends that access proposals should be developed in accordance with official policy and road safety considerations. As outlined above, access directly to a national road, or intensification of a private access to a national road, outside a reduced 50 – 60kph speed limit location should be avoided in accordance with the provisions of official policy. Alternative arrangements should be identified to ensure adherence to the provisions of official policy. - Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office, with regard to the locations of existing and future national road schemes in the area. In that regard, consultation with the Council concerning the N5 Ballaghderreen to Scramogue Scheme should be undertaken. - TII would be specifically concerned as to potential significant impacts the Project would have on the national road network (and junctions with national roads) in the proximity of the Project, including the potential haul route. - The Developer should assess visual impacts from existing national roads. - The Developer, in preparing EIAR, should have regard to TII Publications (formerly DMRB and the Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works). - The EIAR should have regard to TII's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, including the Good Practice Guidance for the Treatment of Noise during the Planning of National Road Schemes (National Road Authority (NRA), 2014).	All items considered during the design process. No implications for the EIA/Design.	Traffic and Transport is addressed in Chapter 16: Traffic and Transport , including the proposed Construction Haul Routes.

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
	• The EIAR should consider the 'European Communities (Environmental Noise) Regulations, 2018, (S.I. no. 549 of 2018)', and, in particular, how the Project will affect future action plans by the relevant competent authority. The Developer may need to consider the incorporation of noise barriers to reduce noise impacts (see 'Good Practice Guidance for the Treatment of Noise during the Planning of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2014)'). • It would be important that, where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment (TTA) be carried out in accordance with relevant guidelines, noting traffic volumes attending the site and traffic routes to/from the site, with reference to impacts on the national road network and junctions of lower category roads with national roads. • In relation to national roads, TII's 'Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines' (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed Project with potential impacts on the national road network. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of TII's TTA Guidelines, which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA. • Any improvements required to facilitate Project should be identified. It will be the responsibility of the Developer to pay for the costs of any improvements to national roads to facilitate the private Project proposed, as TII will not be responsible for such costs. • The designers are asked to consult TII Publications to determine whether a Road Safety Audit is required. • In the interests of maintaining the safety and standard of the national road network, the EIAR should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network. • TII recommends that the Developer should clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. Where abnormal 'weight' loads are a feature of the Project, e.g., turbine or substation components, separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route. All national road structures on the haul route through all the relevant County Council		

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
	administrative areas should be checked by the Developer to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal 'weight' load proposed. Any requirements for 'Exceptional Abnormal Loads' should also be addressed in accordance with TII Publications. • In addition, the haul route should be assessed to confirm capacity to accommodate abnormal 'length' loads and any temporary works required are identified. • The national road network is managed by a combination of PPP Concessions, Motorway Maintenance and Renewal Contractors (MMaRC) and local road authorities, in association with TII. • The Developer should also consult with all PPP Companies, MMaRC Contractors and road authorities over which the haul route traverses, to ascertain any operational requirements, including delivery timetabling, etc., to ensure that the strategic function of the national road network is safeguarded. • Where temporary works within any MMaRC Boundary are required to facilitate the transport of turbine components to Wind Farm Site, the Developer shall contact thirdpartyworks@tii.ie in advance, as a works specific Deed of Indemnity will be needed by TII before the works can take place. • Additionally, any damage caused to the pavement on the existing national road arising from any temporary works due to the turning movement of abnormal loads (e.g., tearing of the surface course, etc.) shall be rectified in accordance with TII Pavement Standards and details in this regard shall be agreed with the road authority prior to the commencement of any Project on site. • Any Road Safety Audit requirements should be addressed. • Where grid connection and cable routing form part of any proposal, proposals should be developed to safeguard proposed road schemes, as TII will not be responsible for costs associated with future relocation of cable routing where proposals are catered for in an area of a proposed national road scheme. In that regard, consideration should be given to routing options, use of existing crossings, depth of cable laying, etc. • Where grid connection proposals impact the existing national road network, please note, in accordance with the National Planning Framework National Strategic Outcome No. 2 'Enhanced Regional		

Consultee Organisation	Response Received	Implications for the EIA/Design	EIAR Chapter/Section where comments have been addressed
	Accessibility', there is a requirement to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the network. This requirement is further reflected in the NDP, the National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland and also the existing Statutory Section 28 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities'. • The Scheme promoter should also refer to Department of Transport Circular, RW 07 of 2025 and the 'Interim Guidance to Road Authorities (placement of Medium or High Voltage electricity assets).		

1.12 STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT (SID) PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION PROCESS

Pre-planning meetings were held with the Commission as part of the SID pre-application process to determine if the Project was a SID.

On the 22nd of January 2026, JOD was notified by the Commission that the Project constitutes a SID in accordance with the 7th Schedule of the PDA 2000. The planning application for the Project will therefore be made to the Commission under Section 37E of the PDA 2000.

1.13 AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION

A copy of the EIAR and associated planning documents may be viewed online on the dedicated project SID website; www.carrigeenplanning.com.

A paper copy of the EIAR and associated planning application can be viewed, during office opening hours at the following addresses:

1. An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, St. Rotunda, Dublin 1, D01 V902.
2. The Offices of Roscommon County Council, Áras an Chontae, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon, F42 VR98.

Paper copies can be provided at the cost of printing, through the Council (Roscommon County Council).

Electronic copies are available via email (info@jodireland.com).

1.14 GLOSSARY OF COMMON ACRONYMS

The common acronyms used throughout this EIAR are contained in Volume IV: **Appendix 1.5 Glossary of Common Acronyms**.