

Introduction

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definitions
DoEHLG 2006 Guidelines	The 2006 Wind Energy Development Guidelines. The current published wind energy development guidelines which address a variety of aspects relating to wind energy developments inclusive of noise, shadow flicker, setback distances and community obligations
Natura Impact Statement	A report prepared to assess the potential for a project to impact EU designated sites (i.e. Natura 2000 sites)
Renewable Energy Directive	An EU Directive which aims to accelerate the EU's renewable energy transition and promote energy independence
The Applicant	Slieveacurry Ltd.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
ACP	An Coimisiún Pleanála
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
CAP	Climate Action Plan
CCC	Clare County Council
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
COP	Conference of the Parties
DCENR	Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources
DECC	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
DoHPLG	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government
DoEHLG	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government
DPER	Department of Public Expenditure and Reform
EEA	European Environmental Agency
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ELAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESR	Effort Sharing Regulation
ETS	Emission Trading Scheme
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GW	Gigawatts
GWL	Global Warming Levels
IEA	International Energy Agency
IPCC	International Panel on Climate Change
LULUCF	Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry
MW	Megawatts
NCQG	New Collective Quantified Goal
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NECP	National Energy Climate Plan
NESF	National Energy Security Framework
NIS	Natura Impact Statement
NO ₂	Nitrogen Oxides

NO _x	Nitric Oxide and Nitrogen Dioxide
NREAP	National Renewable Energy Action Plan
NTS	Non-Technical Summary
O ₃	Ozone
PM	Particulate Matter
RED	Renewable Energy Directive
RES-E	Renewable Energy Share in Electricity
RES-H	Renewable Energy Share in Heat
RES-T	Renewable Energy Share in Transport Fuels
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
SEC	Sectoral Emissions Ceiling
SO _x	Sulphur Oxides
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WAM	With Additional Measures
WEM	With Existing Measures
WG	Working Group
WHO	World Health Organisation
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation

Background to the Proposed Project

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Terms	Definition
Carbon Budgets	The maximum cumulative amount of greenhouse gas emissions that can be released into the atmosphere while limiting global warming to a specified level, between 1.5 and 2 degrees
Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act	Ireland's legally binding framework which aims to achieve a climate-neutral economy by 2050, requiring a 51% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030
Climate Action Plan	National framework document for measuring, tracking and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adopting climate adaptation measures.
European Green Deal	An EU policy launched in 2019, aiming to cut emissions by at least 50% by 2030, rising towards 55%, while legally binding the 2050 neutrality goal through the European Climate Law.
Kyoto Protocol	An international treaty adopted in December 1997, requiring industrialised nations to reduce GHG emissions based on principle of common but differentiated responsibilities
National Energy Projections	Predictions of future energy use in Ireland under different scenarios and account for factors such as economic growth
National Energy Security Framework	Policy document produced by Irish government to provide an overarching and comprehensive response to Ireland's energy security needs in the context of the war in Ukraine.
National Planning Framework	A long-term, 20-year strategy for strategic planning and sustainable development of urban and rural areas to 2040, with the core objectives of securing balanced regional development and a sustainable 'compact growth,' approach to the form and pattern of future development.

Paris Agreement	A legally binding international treaty adopted in 2015 to combat climate change, aiming to limit global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees, preferably 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels
Planning and Development Act 2024	An Act to consolidate and revise the law relating to planning and development. It precedes the Planning and Development Act 2000 and is acknowledged as a major reform to speed up housing delivery and make the planning system clearer and more efficient.
Renewable Energy Directive	An EU Directive which aims to accelerate the EU's renewable energy transition and promote energy independence
REPowerEU	A European Commission plan launched in May 2022 to rapidly reduce dependence on Russian fossil fuels and to accelerate the green energy transition following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
The Climate Change Advisory Council	An Independent advisory body providing evidence-based advice and recommendations on policy to support Ireland's just transition to a biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable, climate neutral and resilient society.
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	1992 International Treaty aimed at stabilising atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations to prevent dangerous human-induced climate interference
Wind Energy Development Guidelines	Guidelines released by the Irish government in 2006 to offer advice to planning authorities on planning for wind energy through the development plan process and in determining applications for planning permission. The guidelines are intended to ensure a consistency of approval.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
ACP	An Coimisiún Pleanála
AMSL	Above Mean Sea Level
ANSP	Air Navigation Service Provider
CCAC	Climate Change Advisory Council
CCDP	City and Council Development Plans
CDP	County Development Plan
CER	Commission for Energy Regulation
CHIA	Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment
CLO	Community Liaison Officer
CNS	Communication, Navigation and Surveillance
COP	Conference of the Parties
CRU	Commission for Regulation of Utilities
DAFM	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
DCCAE	Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment
DCENR	Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources
DECC	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
DoECC	Department of Environment, Climate and Communications
DoEHLG	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government
DoHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
DoHPLG	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government

EASA	European Aviation Safety Agency
EDs	Electoral Divisions
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ELAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESR	Effort Sharing Regulation
ETS	Emissions Trading Scheme
EU	European Union
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIS	Geographical Information System
GSACR	Global Shield Against Climate Risk
GST	Global Stocktake
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
IAA	Irish Aviation Authority
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
ICCA	Ireland's Climate Change Assessment
IE	Industrial Emissions
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISEM	Integrated Single Electricity Market
IWEA	Irish Wind Energy Association
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LARES	Local Authority Renewable Energy Strategy
LCA	Landscape Character Area
LECPs	Local Economic and Community Plans
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
LTA	Long-term Average
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
MS	Microsoft Teams
MW	Megawatt
NDP	National Development Plan
NESF	National Energy Security Framework
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NIS	Natura Impact Statement
NPF	National Planning Framework
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
NREAP	National Renewable Energy Action Plan
OHL	Overhead Lines
OLS	Obstacle Limitation Surface
OPW	Office of Public Works
PIE	Public Information Event
RED	Renewable Energy Directive
RESS	Renewable Energy Support Scheme
RPOs	Regional Policy Objectives

RSES	Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
SID	Strategic Infrastructure Development
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SRA	Southern Regional Assembly
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
TTA	Traffic and Transport Assessment
UGC	Underground Cabling
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WAM	With Additional Measures
WEM	With Existing Measures
WES	Wind Energy Strategy
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WHO	World Health Organisation
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation

Site Selection and Reasonable Alternatives

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Do Nothing Alternative	The environment of the site and its environs should the Proposed Project not be developed
Natura 2000 site	A designated, protected area for biodiversity within the European Union. These sites are legally protected under the European Union Habitats Directive and Birds Directive.
Natural Heritage Areas	Legal conservation designations in Ireland used to protect habitats, species, and geological sites of national importance, under the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000. Primarily managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS).
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	1992 International Treaty aimed at stabilising atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations to prevent dangerous human-induced climate interference

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
CAP	Climate Action Plan
CDP	County Development Plan
CRA	Collision Risk Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
MW	Megawatts
NHA	Natural Heritage Area

pNHa	Proposed Natural Heritage Area
PV	Photovoltaic
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
VP	Viewpoint

Description of the Proposed Project

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Terms	Definition
Anchor cage	The bottom section of the turbine (i.e. the foundation) which is backfilled with concrete
Borrow Pit	A pit resulting from the excavation of material used in construction of the Proposed Wind Farm
Clear-Span Watercourse Crossing	A bridge structure that spans a watercourse without any supports (piers) within the stream channel or on its banks, ensuring no interference with the waterway.
Culvert	A structure, typically a pipe or enclosed channel, that allows water to flow under roads, railroads, or embankments acting as a crucial drainage solution.
Hardstanding	Levelled assembly areas comprising of bare soil surface to support plant and machinery
Joint Bays	Typically, pre-cast concrete chambers where lengths of cable will be joined to form one continuous cable.
Nacelle	Housing component of the turbine generator.
Piling	Installation of heavy stakes (piles) to support the foundations of the turbine
Turbine delivery route	A highly specialized, engineered, and permitted route for transporting oversized components—blades, tower sections, and nacelles—from ports to wind farm sites.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
ABZ	Aquatic Buffer Zone
ACP	An Coimisiún Pleanála
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
CIRIA	Construction Industry Research and Information Association
ECoW	Environmental Clerk of Works
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
FTC	Fehily Timoney and Company
ha	Hectares
HES	Hydro-Environmental Services
IFI	Inland Fisheries Ireland
LFL	Limited Felling Licence
mm	Millimetres
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Megawatt Hour
NESC	National Economic and Social Council

OPW	Office of Public Works
RAMS	Risk Assessment Method Statement
RESS	Renewable Electricity Support Scheme
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SOWOR	Schedule of Works Operation Record
SWMP	Surface Water Management Plan
TBT	Toolbox Talk
TMP	Traffic Management Plan
WEI	Wind Energy Ireland
WMP	Waste Management Plan

Population and Human Health

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Health Impact Assessment	HIA is defined as a combination of procedures, methods and tools that systematically judges the potential, and sometimes unintended, effects of a policy, plan, programme or project on both the health of a population and the distribution of those effects within the population
IEMA Guidance 2017	The 2017 IEMA guidance, “Assessing Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Evaluating their Significance” established a foundational approach for incorporating climate change into Environmental Impact Assessments. It introduced a precautionary principle often interpreting any rise in greenhouse gases as significant which was later updated in 2022 to align with Net-Zero targets.
Sensitive Receptor	A component of the receiving environment which will experience an impact from the Proposed Project in some capacity
SEVESO site	Industrial facilities storing potentially dangerous substances in high quantities regulated under the EU SEVESO Directives
Shadow Flicker	A phenomenon when rotating wind turbine blades cast moving shadows over a narrow opening causing a rapidly alternating flickering light intensity

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
CAHA	Climate and Health Alliance
CAP	Climate Action Plan
Cebr	Centre for Economics and Business Research
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
CERIS	Centre for Economic Research on Inclusivity and Sustainability
CNAL	Construction Noise Assessment Locations
CSCS	Construction Skills Certification Scheme
CSO	Central Statistics Office
DP	Decommissioning Plan
DTM	Digital Terrain Modelling

Eds	Electoral Divisions
EHS	Environmental Health Service
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
ELF	Extremely Low Frequency
EMF	Electric and Magnetic Fields
GDG	Guideline Development Group
GWB	Groundwater Body
GWS	Group Water Scheme
HGVs	Heavy Goods Vehicles
HIA	Health Impact Assessment
HSE	Health Service Executive
IAA	Irish Aviation Authority
ICNIRP	International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection
IEA	International Energy Agency
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
IEMA	Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment
ISEP	Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals
IWEA	Irish Wind Energy Authority
LBNL	Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory
LGVs	Light Goods Vehicles
MW	Megawatts
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
NSL	Noise Sensitive Locations
OHL	Overhead Lines
PSCS	Project Supervisor Construction Stage
PSDP	Project Supervisor Design Process
PWS	Public Water Supply
RESS	Renewable Energy Support Scheme
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
TMP	Traffic Management Plan
TTA	Traffic and Transport Assessment
WEI	Wind Energy Ireland
WHO	World Health Organisation
WTS	Wind Turbine Syndrome

Biodiversity

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Terms	Definition
Avian receptors	Bird species or populations within a project's "zone of influence" that may experience significant effects from a development
Barotrauma	In bat ecology, refers to fatal internal injuries caused by extreme, rapid air pressure changes, particularly when bats fly near the fast-rotating blades of wind turbines
Baseline Ecological Conditions	The existing state of an ecosystem—including biodiversity, habitat quality, and species abundance—prior to development or human intervention
Clustering process	An unsupervised data analysis process that groups sites, species, or environmental variables based on high similarity and low dissimilarity

County importance	A, usually non-statutory, designation for sites, habitats, or species that are considered significant at the county or local regional level, rather than national or international level
Cumulative effects	A cumulative effect is the total, combined impact of multiple, often individually minor, actions or events occurring over time
Delineated by the EIAR Site Boundary	Indicated by the exact position of the EIAR site boundary
Designated sites	SACs (Special Areas of Conservation) and SPAs (Special Protection Areas) are internationally important, legally protected sites for nature conservation, forming the EU's Natura 2000 network
Fossitt (2000)	A guide which provides a standard scheme for describing habitats in Ireland.
Ground level Static surveys	Involve the deployment of automated, unattended monitoring equipment—most commonly bat detectors—left in place for extended, consecutive nights
Habitat mosaics	A combination of different ecological communities or habitat types within a landscape
Hydrogeology	The study of the occurrence, distribution, and movement of groundwater within the Earth's crust, particularly in aquifers
Hydrology	The study of the movement, distribution and quality of water and how it influences ecosystems, habitats and biodiversity
Incidental records	The unplanned or opportunistic sightings of species (fauna or flora) outside of a structured/ targeted survey
Invasive species	Non-native organisms (plants, animals, fungi, or bacteria) introduced to a new ecosystem—usually by human activity—that cause, or are likely to cause, significant harm to the environment, economy, or human health
Irish Vegetation Classification	A comprehensive statistically based framework commissioned by the National Biodiversity Data Centre to map and describe all natural and semi- natural vegetation in Ireland
Key ecological receptors	are specific habitats, populations, or species—often those with high conservation value, legal protection, or critical ecosystem roles—that are most vulnerable to, and thus prioritized during, environmental impact assessments
Likely Zone of Influence	The area within which ecological features may be affected by changes resulting from a proposed project.
Manual Transects	A fundamental, field-based ecological survey method used to study the distribution, abundance, and diversity of organisms (usually plants or sessile animals) along a specific path or environmental gradient
Multi- disciplinary walkover survey	A comprehensive, on-site survey conducted by a team of specialists to assess the ecological, environmental, and physical characteristics of a specific area
National Vegetation Database	A database which securely stores and manages Irish Vegetation data and serves as the core resource for the Irish vegetation classification.
Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs)	Legally designated, high priority conservation sites in Ireland protected under the Wildlife Amendment Act 2000, NHAs are areas considered important for the habitats present, or which holds species of plants and animals whose habitat needs protection

Plant nomenclature	The formal, scientific naming system for plants
Proposed mitigation	The specific, planned actions outlined in a development proposal or Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) designed to avoid, reduce, or compensate for negative impacts on biodiversity and natural habitats
Proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs)	Sites containing important habitats, plant and animal species, or geological/geomorphological features, which are not directly protected by the Wildlife Acts but may be protected via local planning, particularly under the Planning and Development Acts.
Project Footprint	Permanent Built Infrastructure of the Proposed Project
Qualifying Interests	The specific habitats or species for which Special Areas of Conservation are designated under the EU Habitats Directive
Receptor valuation	The systematic identifying and assessing of the value of the receiving habitats, species or ecosystems which may be adversely affected by the development
Relevé assessments	A relevé assessment (or survey) is a standardized, rapid sampling method used in ecology to describe and classify plant communities
Scoping exercise	A preliminary, systematic assessment used to define the boundaries, objectives, and feasibility of a project or research study including the identification of stakeholders and issues
Special Areas of Conservation	Designated for habitats (e.g., active raised bogs, reefs) and non-bird species listed under the EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.
Special Conservation Interests	Specific species or habitats for which a site is designated as a Special Protection Area, primarily focusing on rare, vulnerable, or migratory birds, as well as wetlands
Special Protection Areas	Designated specifically for the protection of wild birds and their habitats under the EU Birds Directive 2009/147/EC.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
AA	Appropriate Assessment
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
BL3	Buildings and Artificial Surfaces
WD4	Conifer Plantation
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
CR	Critically Endangered
PB4	Cutover Bog
HD1	Dense Bracken
DAFM	Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine
FW4	Drainage Ditches
GS2	Dry Meadows and Grassy Verges
ECoW	Ecological Clerk of Works
EcIA	Ecological Impact Assessment
ERICA	Engine for Relevés to Irish Communities Assignment

EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
PB5	Eroding Blanket Bog
FW1	Eroding/ Upland Rivers
GC	Good Condition
GI	Green Infrastructure
WL1	Hedgerows
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
GA1	Improved Agricultural Grassland
IFI	Inland Fisheries Ireland
IAQM	Institute of Air Quality Management
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
ISMP	Invasive Species Management Plan
IVC	Irish Vegetation Classification
KER	Key Ecological Receptor
PB3	Lowland Blanket Bog
NBAP	National Biodiversity Action Plan
NBDC	National Biodiversity Data Centre
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
NVD	National Vegetation Database
NIS	Natura Impact Statement
NED	Natural Environment Division
NHA	Natural Heritage Area
NT	Near Threatened
NIEA	Northern Ireland Environmental Agency
pNHA	Proposed Natural Heritage Area
PWS	Public Water Supply
QI	Qualifying Interests
WS5	Recently Felled Woodland
ED3	Recolonising Bare Ground
FS1	Reed and Large Sedge Swamp
RE	Regionally Extinct
WS1	Scrub
ER1	Siliceous Rock
SSCO	Site Specific Conservation Objectives
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SCI	Special Conservation Interests
SPAs	Special Protection Areas
ED2	Spoil and Bare Ground
BL1	Stone Walls and Other Stonework
SO	Suitable Over grazed
SU	Suitable Under grazed
FS2	Tall-herb swamps
PF3	Transition Mire and Quaking Bog
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland

WL2	Treelines
UN	Unsuitable
PB2	Upland Blanket Bog
VU	Vulnerable
WFD	Water Framework Directive
GS4	Wet Grassland
HH3	Wet Heath
WN4	Wet Pedunculate Oak-Ash Woodland
WN6	Wet Willow Alder Ash
ZoI	Zones of Influence

Ornithology

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Breeding Season	April to September
Collision Risk Model	A mathematical model to predict the number of birds that may be killed by collision with moving wind turbine rotor blades
Key Ornithological Receptor	A bird species upon which potential impacts are anticipated and assessed
National Biodiversity Data Centre	A national organisation in Ireland responsible for collecting, managing, and analysing data on Ireland's biodiversity.
Potential Collision Height	The rotor-swept area of the proposed turbines
Winter Season	October to March

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
AA	Appropriate Assessment
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
BoCCI	Birds of Conservation Concern in Ireland
BR	Breeding Raptor
BTO	British Trust for Ornithology
BZ	Buzzard
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
CRA	Collision Risk Assessment
DTM	Digital Terrain Model
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EU	European Union
HH	Hen Harrier
HHVP	Hen Harrier Vantage Point
I-WeBS	Irish Wetland Birds Survey
KOR	Key Ornithological Receptor
NBDC	National Biodiversity Data Centre
NHA	Natural Heritage Area
NIS	Natura Impact Statement
PCH	Potential Collision Height

pNHA	Proposed Natural Heritage Area
ROI	Republic of Ireland
SCI	Special Conservation Interests
SH	Sparrowhawk
SPA	Special Protection Areas
VP	Vantage Point

Land, Soils and Geology

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Terms	Definition
Aquifer	A body of porous rock or sediment saturated with groundwater
Floodplain	A generally flat area of land next to a river or stream.
Geohazard	An adverse geological condition or natural process such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, or tsunamis that causes significant danger to life, property, and the environment.
Geology	The science that deals with the earth's physical structure and substance, its history and the processes that act on it
Hardstanding	Levelled assembly areas comprising of bare soil surface to support plant and machinery
Morphology	Geological Form or Structure
Peat Probing	A method used to measure the depth of peat deposits by pushing specialised, narrow and lightweight rods into the ground until resistance is met.
Peat Stability Assessment	Evaluates the risk of bog bursts or landslides on peatlands
Trial Pit	Shallow excavated holes, typically 1-4 metres deep, used to examine soil, rock and groundwater conditions before construction

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
cSAC	Candidate Special Area of Conservation
ERT	2D- Resistivity
FoS	Factor of Safety
FT	Fehily and Timoney
GPSRA	Geotechnical and Peat Stability Risk Assessment
GSI	Geological Society of Ireland
HES	Hydro-Environmental Services
LFL	Limited Felling Licence
mbgl	Metres Below Ground Level
MGX	Minerex Geophysics Ltd.
NHA	Natural Heritage Areas
PLHRAG	Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessment: Best Guidance for Proposed Electricity Generation
pNHA	Proposed Natural Heritage Areas

p-wave	Seismic Refraction
SACs	Special Areas of Conservation
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SPAs	Special Protection Areas
T	Turbine
TP	Trial Pit

Hydrology and Hydrogeology

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Terms	Definition
Aquifer	A body of porous rock or sediment saturated with groundwater
Borrow Pit	A pit resulting from the excavation of material used in construction of the Proposed Project
Excavating Dewatering	The removal of surface and groundwater from construction sites to create stable, dry working conditions
Frac-out / Fracture blowout	This occurs when hydraulic drilling fluid pressure exceeds the strength of overlying soil, causing mud to break through to the surface.
Group Water Scheme	Voluntary community-run organisations in rural Ireland supplying water to roughly 6% of the population.
Hardstanding	Levelled assembly areas comprising of bare soil surface to support plant and machinery
Horizontal Directional Drilling	A trenchless, steerable method for installing underground pipelines, cables, and conduits with minimal surface disruption
Marsh Fritillary	A threatened, legally protected butterfly known for its orange, yellow, and brown checkered wings, primarily found in damp, unimproved grasslands, fens and bogs.
Silt Fence	A silt fence is a temporary sediment barrier made of porous fabric. It's held up by wooden or metal posts driven into the ground, so it's inexpensive and relatively easy to remove. The fabric ponds sediment-laden stormwater, causing sediment to be retained by the settling processes.
Sub-catchments	defined as logical, smaller, and more manageable subdivisions of larger river catchments
Water Framework Directive	A comprehensive environmental law requiring member states to achieve at least “good status” for all water bodies: rivers, lakes, groundwater and coastal waters by 2027.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
AAR	Average Annual Rainfall
AE	Actual Evaporation
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
cSAC	Candidate Special Area of Conservation

EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EQS	Environmental Quality Standards
ER	Effective Rainfall
FRA	Flood Risk Assessment
FT	Fehily and Timoney
GSI	Geological Survey of Ireland
GWB	Groundwater Body
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
HES	Hydro- Environmental Services
MADS	Major Accidents and Disasters
NHAs	Natural Heritage Areas
NIFM	National Indicative Fluvial Mapping
OPW	Office of Public Works
OSI	Ordnance Survey Ireland
PAC	Poly Aluminium Chloride
PE	Potential Evapotranspiration
pNHA	Proposed Natural Heritage Areas
PWS	Public Water Supply
R	Rainfall
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
SACs	Special Areas of Conservation
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SPA	Special Protection Area
SWB	Surface Water Bodies
TDR	Turbine Delivery Route
WFD	Water Framework Directive

Air Quality

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
CAFE Directive	The Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive is a key European Union regulation designed to define, establish, and manage ambient air quality standards to protect human health and the environment. It sets legally binding limits for pollutants and dictates how Member States should monitor and improve air quality
IAQM 2024 Guidance	The IAQM 2024 guidance, "Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction," provides a standardized methodology for assessing construction dust impacts, covering demolition, earthworks, construction, and trackout.
Trackout	The transport of dust and dirt from the construction/ demolition site onto the public road network, where it may be deposited and then re-suspended by vehicles using the network.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
C ₆ H ₆	Benzene
CAFÉ	Clean Air for Europe
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
DEFRA	Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges
ECoW	Ecological Clerk of Works
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
ESB	Electricity Supply Board
HDV	Heavy Duty Vehicle
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle
IAQM	Institute of Air Quality Management
LGVs	Light Goods Vehicles
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
NH ₃	Ammonia
NIS	Natura Impact Statement
NMVO	Non-Methane Volatile Organic Compounds
NO	Nitrogen Monoxide
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NO _x	Oxides of Nitrogen
O ₃	Ozone
PAHs	Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons
Pb	Lead
PM	Particulate Matter
ppb	Parts Per Billion
SO ₂	Sulphur Dioxide
T	Turbine
UKHA	UK Highways Agency
WHO	World Health Organisation

Climate

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Carbon Budget	The total amount of greenhouse gas emissions that may be released during an agreed period. In Ireland, this is measured on an economy-wide basis, excluding aviation and maritime, in megatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent over a five-year period. Carbon budgets are used in climate policy and act as a benchmark to help ensure sustained emissions reductions over a period of time.

Climate Change Performance Index	Established in 2005, the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) is an independent monitoring tool which tracks individual countries climate protection performance.
Conference of the Parties	Every year since 1995, the Conference of the Parties (COP) has gathered the 196 Parties (195 countries and the European Union) that have ratified the Convention in a different country, to evaluate its implementation and negotiate new commitments, and is the supreme decision-making body of the UNFCCC.
Embodied Carbon	The emissions associated with procuring, mining and harvesting raw materials, the transformation of those materials into construction products, transporting them to site, installation of these materials during a construction phase, and the subsequent replacement, removal, and disposal of these materials upon decommissioning
Emissions Trading Scheme	A market-based policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by setting a cap on total emissions which lowers over time. Entities must hold allowances for every ton of Co2 they emit, which they can trade. The system promotes cost-effective emissions reductions, primarily used in sectors like power generation and industry.
The Climate Change Advisory Council	An Independent advisory body providing evidence-based advice and recommendations on policy to support Ireland's just transition to a biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable, climate neutral and resilient society.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
AMOC	Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
CAP	Climate Action Plan
CCAC	Climate Change Advisory Council
CCDP	Clare County Development Plan
CCPI	Climate Change Performance Indicator
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
COP	Conference of the Parties
EEA	European Environmental Agency
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESR	Effort Sharing Regulation
ETS	Emissions Trading Systems
FRA	Flood Risk Assessment
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicles
ICCA	Ireland's Climate Change Assessment
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
kWh	Kilowatt Hour
LACAP	Local Area Climate Action Plan
LGV	Light Goods Vehicles

LULUCF	Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry
NCQG	New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
NECP	National Energy and Climate Plan
NIR	National Inventory Report
RCP	Representative Concentration Pathways
RED	Renewable Energy Directive
RWMP	Resource Waste Management Plan
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
T	Turbine
tCO _{2e}	Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WAM	With Additional Measures
WEM	With Existing Measures
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation
WMP	Waste Management Plan

Noise and Vibration

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
A – Weighting	The “A” suffix denotes the fact that the sound levels have been “A-weighted” in order to account for the non-linear nature of human hearing.
Background Noise	The noise level rarely fallen below in any given location over any given time period, often classed according to daytime, evening or nighttime periods. The $L_{A90,10min}$ is the parameter that is used to define the background noise level in this instance. L_{A90} is the sound level that is exceeded for 90% of the sample period. It is typically used as a descriptor for background noise.
dB (decibel)	The unit normally employed to measure the magnitude of sound. It is defined as 20 times the logarithm of the ratio between the RMS pressure of the sound field and the reference pressure of 20 micropascals (20 μ pa)
dB(A)	An ‘A-weighted decibel’ – a measure of the overall noise level of sound across the audible frequency range (20 Hz – 20 kHz) with A-frequency weighting (i.e. A – Weighting) to compensate for the varying sensitivity of the human ear to sound at different frequencies
Hub Height Wind Speed	The wind speed at the centre of the turbine rotor
Hertz (Hz)	The unit of sound frequency in cycles per second

$L_{Aeq,T}$	This is the equivalent continuous sound level. It is a type of average and is used to describe a fluctuating noise in terms of a single noise level over the sample period (T). The closer the L_{Aeq} value is to either the L_{AF10} or L_{AF90} value indicates the relative impact of the intermittent sources and their contribution. The relative spread between the values determines the impact of intermittent sources such as traffic on the background
L_{AF90}	Refers to those A-weighted noise levels in the lower 90 percentile of the sampling interval; it is the level which is exceeded for 90% of the measurement period. It will therefore exclude the intermittent features of traffic and is used to estimate a background level. Measured using the “Fast” time weighting
L_{den}	Refers to the L_{Aeq} noise levels over a whole day, but with a penalty of 10 dB(A) for night-time noise (23:00-07:00) and 5 dB(A) for evening noise (19:00-23:00), also known as the day evening night noise indicator
Low Frequency Noise	LFN - noise which is dominated by frequency components towards the lower end of the frequency spectrum.
Noise	Sound that evokes a feeling of displeasure in the environment in which it is heard, and is therefore unwelcomed by the receiver
Noise Sensitive Location (NSL)	Any dwelling house, hotel or hostel, health building, educational establishment, place of worship or entertainment, or any other facility or other area of high amenity which for its proper enjoyment requires the absence of noise at nuisance levels
Octave band	A frequency interval, the upper limit of which is twice that of the lower limit. For example, the 1,000Hz octave band contains acoustical energy between 707Hz and 1,414Hz. The centre frequencies used for the designation of octave bands are defined in ISO and ANSI standards
Pascal (Pa)	Pascal is a unit of pressure and so sound pressures are measured in Pascals.
Sound Power Level (L_W)	The sound power level radiated by a source is defined as: $L_W = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{W}{W_0} \right) \text{ dB}$ where W is the acoustic power of the source in Watts (W) and W_0 is a reference sound power chosen in air to be 10^{-12} W
Sound Pressure Level (L_P)	The sound pressure level at a point is defined: $L_P = 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{P}{P_0} \right) \text{ dB}$ where P is the sound pressure and P_0 is a reference pressure for propagation of sound in air and has a value of 2×10^{-5} Pa

Tonal	Sounds which cover a range of only a few Hz which contains a clearly audible tone i.e. distinguishable, discrete or continuous noise (whine, hiss, screech, or hum etc.) are referred to as being 'tonal'
10 Minute Average Wind Speed (m/s)	The wind speed measured by an anemometer at a specified height above ground level, averaged over a 10-minute period.
Wind Shear	The increase of wind speed with height above ground

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
AM	Amplitude Modulation
AMWG	Amplitude Modulation Working Group
BERR	Department of Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
BPF	Blade Passing Frequency
CLG	Department of Communities and Local Government
CNL	Construction Noise Levels
CNT	Construction Noise Thresholds
dB	Decibels
DCEE	Department of the Climate, Energy and Environment
DEFRA	Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ETSU	Energy Technology Support Unit
GDG	Guideline Development Group
GPG	Good Practice Guide
HH	Hub Height
Hz	hertz
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
IOA	Institute of Acoustics
NCMP	Noise Compliance Monitoring Programme
NPF	National Planning Framework
NRA	National Roads Authority
NSL	Noise Sensitive Location
PPV	Peak Particle Velocity
RD	Rotor Diameter
SE	Southeast
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SPL	Sound Pressure Levels
TDR	Turbine Delivery Route
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
WHO	World Health Organisation

Landscape and Visual

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
The Guidelines DoEHLG 2006	The 2006 Wind Energy Development Guidelines. The current published wind energy development guidelines which address a variety of aspects relating to wind energy developments inclusive of noise, shadow flicker, setback distances and community obligations
Draft Guidelines DoHPLG 2019	The 2019 Draft Wind Energy Guidelines. The draft document of the updated Wind Energy Development Guidelines yet to be published.
Landscape Character Area	Units of the landscape that are geographically specific and have their own character and sense of place. Each LCA has its own distinctive character, based upon patterns of geology, landform, land use, cultural, historical and ecological features
Photomontage	These are visualisations that superimpose an image of a proposed project upon a photograph or series of photographs from a specific location, termed the 'viewpoint'.
Route Screen Analysis	An exercise where transport routes were driven in real-time and the level of roadside visual screening, in the direction of the proposed turbines, was recorded to inform actual on the ground visibility.
Topography	The study, mapping, and description of the physical features and shape of the Earth's surface
Viewpoint	This is typically in reference to a select location where a photomontage has been captured, which is represented in the Photomontage Booklet
Zone of Theoretical Visibility	A map (digitally produced showing areas of land in which the proposed development is theoretically visible (based on topography rather than screening) to show a worst-case scenario

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
AA	Appropriate Assessment
CCDP	Clare County Development Plan
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
CWES	Clare Wind Energy Strategy
DoEHLG	Department of the Environment, Heritage, and Local Government
DoHPLG	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EU	European Union
GLVIA	Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

LCA	Landscape Character Area
LCACC	Landscape Character Assessment of County Clare
LCT	Landscape Character Type
LI	Landscape Institute
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
M	Motorway
N	National
PSMP	Peat and Spoil Management Plan
R	Regional
RSA	Route Screening Analysis
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
TDR	Turbine Delivery Route
TV	Theoretical Visibility
VP	Viewpoint
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

Cultural Heritage

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Borrow Pits	A pit resulting from the excavation of material used in construction on the Proposed Wind Farm Site
National Inventory of Architectural Heritage	An Irish state initiative under the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage that identifies, records, and evaluates ¹ post-1700, non-archaeological buildings and structures of significance.
National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2004	Primary Irish Legislation protecting archaeological heritage, covering monuments, sites and objects.
Photomontage	These are visualisations that superimpose an image of a proposed project upon a photograph or series of photographs or series of photographs from a specific location, termed the 'viewpoint'.
Register of Historic Monuments (1997 act)	A statutory list maintained by the Minister for the Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands
The Granada Convention	A legally binding Council of Europe treaty defining and protecting Europe's architectural heritage. It emphasises the importance of inventories in underpinning conservation policies.
Trial Pit	A shallow, excavated hole used in geotechnical investigations to inspect soil, rock and groundwater conditions prior to construction.
Zone of Theoretical Visibility	A map (digitally produced) showing areas of land in which the proposed development is theoretically visible (based on topography rather than vegetation screening)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
ASI	Archaeological Survey of Ireland
CCDP	Clare County Development Plan
CHIA	Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment
DAU	Development Applications Unit
DHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
ESRI	Economic and Social Research Institute
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HEV	Historic Environment Viewer
IAI	Institute of Archaeologists
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
NFC	National Folklore Collection
NIAH	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
NMS	National Monuments Service
OS	Ordnance Survey
PDS	Proposed Development Site
PO	Preservation Order
RMP	Record of Monuments and Places
RPS	Record of Protected Structures
SMR	Sites and Monuments Records
T	Turbine
TDR	Turbine Delivery Route
WHS	World Heritage Sites
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

Material Assets

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Terms	Definition
Alternating Current	An electric current that periodically reverses direction and changes magnitude, typically following a sine wave pattern. Unlike direct current (DC), AC is used to deliver power to homes and businesses because it can be easily transformed to different voltages and transmitted efficiently over long distances
Delay	Output in minutes, this gives an indication of the forecast average delay during the time period modelled for each movement.
Direct Current	The unidirectional flow of electric charge, where electrons move steadily in one direction from negative to positive terminals. Common sources include batteries, solar panels, and electronic power supplies, providing stable power for devices like laptops, phones,

	and toys. It is characterised by a constant, non-reversing flow.
Electromagnetic Interference	The disruption of an electronic device's operation caused by unwanted electromagnetic radiation or signals from an external source
InfraRed	A form of invisible electromagnetic energy with wavelengths longer than visible light, perceived as heat.
Material Assets	Built services and infrastructure. Traffic is included because in effect traffic consumes transport infrastructure
Microwave Communication Links	Point-to-point, line-of-sight wireless systems operating in the 1–300 GHz range to transmit data over long distances, commonly used as cellular backhaul, in broadcasting, and to connect remote areas. These systems use highly directional antennas and microwave radios to deliver high-speed, high-capacity, and reliable connectivity.
Road Opening Licence	A mandatory permit required by contractors or individuals to legally excavate, open, or cut into a public road, footpath, or grass verge.
Traffic Volume	traffic volumes are discussed in terms of vehicles and passenger car units, or PCUs, where each vehicle is expressed in terms of its demand on the network relative to the equivalent number of cars or light goods vehicles

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
AC	Alternating Current
ACP	An Coimisiún Pleanála
BAI	Broadcasting Authority of Ireland
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
CIE	Córas Iompar Éireann
COF	Confirmation of Feasibility
ComReg	Commission for Communications Regulation
DC	Direct Current
DECC	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
DoD	Department of Defence
DoT	Department of Transport
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EMF	Electric Magnetic Fields
ESB	Electricity Supply Board
GNI	Gas Networks Ireland
GWS	Group Water Schemes
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicles
IAA	Irish Aviation Authority
IAC	Irish Air Corps
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation

IR	InfraRed
MMaRC	Motorway Maintenance and Renewals Contractors
MOA	Military Operations Area
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
nm	nanometres
NRA	National Roads Authority
OHL	Overhead Lines
OLS	Obstacle Limitation Surfaces
PCE	Pre-Connection Enquiry
PCUs	Passenger Car equivalent Units
RFC	Ratio of Flow to Capacity
ROL	Road Opening Licence
SID	Strategic Infrastructure Development
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
TDR	Turbine Delivery Route
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
TMP	Traffic Management Plan
TTA	Traffic and Transport Assessment
UÉ	Uisce Éireann
UGC	Underground Cables
WMP	Waste Management Plan

Major Accidents and Natural Disasters

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Catchment Flood Risk Assessment Management	The Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme is Ireland's largest-ever national flood study, commissioned by the Office of Public Works to assess 80% of the country's primary flood risk, develop detailed flood management Plans with tailored strategies for 300 communities to meet EU Directive requirements
Factor of Safety	The ratio of a structure's absolute capacity (strength) to its actual applied load (demand), indicating how much stronger a system is than it needs to be.
Hydrocarbons	Organic compounds composed entirely of hydrogen and carbon atoms, serving as the primary components of fossil fuels like petroleum and natural gas.
SEVESO Site	Industrial facilities storing potentially dangerous substances in high quantities under the EU SEVESO Directives
Major Emergency Plan	Outlines potential site/event specific emergency plans which have been considered or ruled out as part of the baseline, prepared by Clare County Council (2018).

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
CFRAM	Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme
DWIRP	Drinking Water Incident Response Plan
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERP	Emergency Response Plan
FoS	Factor of Safety
GSI	Geological Survey Ireland
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicles
HSE	Health Service Executive
INSN	Irish National Seismic Network
LGV	Light Goods Vehicles
NIFM	National Indicative Fluvial Mapping
RSES	Regional Spatial Economic Strategy
RWCS	Reasonable Worst-Case Scenario

Interactions of the Foregoing

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Interaction of Effects	The combined, indirect, or secondary impacts that arise from the interaction between different environmental factors.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
BMEP	Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan
C	Construction
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
GSI	Geological Survey Ireland
km	Kilometre
LCA	Landscape Character Area
LGV	Light Goods Vehicles
Nox	Nitrogen
O	Operation
SO2	Sulphur Dioxide
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility