



APPENDIX 2-2

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

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

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

The Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2006) state that:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2. CONSULTATION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

2.1 Notification of the Local Community

The local residents were first informed about the previous application in February 2020, a project Community Liaison Officer (CLO) was appointed, and an introductory information pack was delivered via door-door consultation to all householders within a c.1.5km radius of the area of the site. The information distributed to each household consisted of:

- A company brochure, which provided an overview on Enerco Energy and some general information about wind energy;
- Dedicated contact details (name, phone and email) for the community liaison officer (CLO) in relation to the project.
- An information leaflet detailing the biodiversity within the study area.

Following the decision by An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission in May 2024, the refusal reasons were carefully reviewed by the projects planning and environmental consultants, MKO. Following this review, it is considered that the reasons for refusal can be addressed in a new application. Therefore, in December 2024, the community was notified by letter of Slieveacurry Ltd's intention to submit a revised proposal.

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

2.1.1 Community Interactions

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

For the previous application, Slieveacurry Ltd. organised a number of door-to-door consultations, with the dedicated CLO intending to visit all households within 1.5km of the Proposed Project. There were three visits proposed to all of the selected properties, to be held between February 2020 and April 2020. Only two visits took place between February and March while the third proposed visit in April comprised of consultation with the community by phone due to the limiting regulations and restrictions of Covid-19.

A Public Information Exhibition (PIE) was held in Miltown Malbay Community Centre, Co. Clare on 29th September 2020. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions at that time, attendance could only be facilitated by appointment. Those wishing to attend were asked to make an appointment by contacting the CLO via the mobile number and/or email address advertised.

Additional communications took place in March and October 2021 notifying the community of project updates in the form of a newspaper notice and letter delivered to dwellings identified within 2km of the previous applications site.

A project update was given to the community in May 2022 noting the refusal by Clare County Council and the subsequent appeal and expected decision date.

A further project update was delivered to the community in July 2022, notifying them of the delayed decision date for the application.

In December 2024, following review of the refusal reasons by MKO, the houses within 2km of the Proposed Project were notified by letter of Slieveacurry Ltd's intention to submit a revised proposal.

In April 2025, correspondence was circulated notifying the community about the dates and times of a PIE to be held May 29th, in the Miltown Malbay Community Centre, Co. Clare.

In April 2026, a further project update was provided to the community with a letter circulated notifying the community that the planning application for the Proposed Project would be submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála within two weeks, and a copy of the press notice text was enclosed.

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

2.1.1.1 February 2020

Initial door-to-door visits were made by the appointed CLO to houses identified due to their proximity to the previous application's site, within an approximate 1.5km zone. Introductions were made and a brief outline of the proposal was given. Residents were each shown the location of their house on the map in relation to the proposed renewable energy development area. An Enerco Energy (the driver behind Slieveacurry Ltd) leaflet was left with them, outlining information on a range of topics, including wind energy in Ireland, the development process and community involvement, as well as contact details for the CLO.

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

In the event that nobody was home through-out this period, a leaflet was left in the post box and contact details were sought from nearby neighbours in an attempt to ensure that contact was made.

A number of Irish and international phone calls were also made to the owners of houses that were identified as holiday homes or seasonal dwellings. In this instance, the project was discussed over the phone and a postal address was requested, to enable the aforementioned leaflet to be sent.

Meetings were arranged for dates and times that suited those residents who were unavailable at the time of calling, or who wished for other family members to be present for the discussion.

2.1.1.2 March 2020

A second round of door-to-door visits was made. This was predominantly to answer any questions that had arisen following the previous round of visits, as residents would have had a chance to discuss the proposal with family members and neighbours. Additional information was provided in the form of a biodiversity leaflet, produced by environmental consultants MKO, which contained some local ecology information resulting from the surveys that were ongoing at the time

Where residents were not home during this period, a leaflet was left in their post box and several attempts were made to reach them by phone where possible.

Overall, the general reception was good. People were happy with the continued consultation and with the general flow of information. General queries related to turbine heights, noise levels, overhead lines and the potential impacts of construction traffic and were all satisfactorily addressed there and then. As turbine height had yet to be finalised, residents were informed that this detail would come at a later stage.

2.1.1.3 April 2020

Due to the advancing Covid-19 crisis, the planned door-to-door visit was cancelled, as it was not reasonable to be calling to houses during this period. In place of this, phone calls were made to residents to explain the situation, outline further developments in the project and answer any queries they may have. Details of the number of turbines and their proposed maximum tip height were given.

The general feedback from those who were spoken to over the phone was that the correct decision had been made in avoiding door-to-door contact. Again, people were happy with the continued consultation that communication lines remained open for any queries they might have.

There were multiple queries relating to the community benefit fund, predominantly how best to go about applying for it. It was reiterated that if suggestions were emailed or posted in, they would be filed for further

consideration and it would be best if members of the community could reach some level of consensus on this.

2.1.1.4 **September 2020**

In September 2020, correspondence was circulated to community regarding a PIE that was to take place on the 29th September. A leaflet was left at the houses of households within 1.5km of the site and the event was advertised in the Clare Champion, a local paper, on Thursday 24th September and was advertised to the local community individually where possible.

It was at this time that the project specific website, www.slieveacurryinfo.com, was made public. The website is an additional communications channel to keep members of the public informed about the previous application. Information distributed through door-to-door consultation and through other communication channels are provided on the website and includes information on the proposed location, information leaflets, layout maps and dedicated contact details for the project. This website has continued to be used to provide project updates for the Proposed Project.

2.1.1.5 **March 2021**

At this point, the original planning application that was lodged in November 2020 had been withdrawn, following legal proceedings being taken against Clare County Council regarding the validation of the application. The court ruled to put a stay on any decision pending the outcome of the legal case. Due to the uncertainty associated with the timing of a decision on the legal proceedings, it was decided to withdraw the planning application that was lodged in November 2020 and re-submit the planning application in April 2021.

In order to maintain communication with the local community and ensure they were kept informed with the most up-to-date information relating to the project, an additional round of consultation was subsequently completed. An advertisement was placed in the Clare Champion dated 25th March 2021, providing a brief update and directing people to the project website for further information. Contact details were also provided to facilitate individuals that may not have had internet access. In conjunction with this newspaper notice, a letter was delivered to dwellings identified within 2km of the site.

2.1.1.6 **October 2021**

The decision by Clare County Council, in June 2020, to refuse planning permission for the proposed development was appealed to An Coimisiún Pleanála. Following a court ruling known as the Derryadd Judgment it was advised to withdraw the appeal from An Coimisiún Pleanála in order to rectify issues identified in the Derryadd judgment which were applicable to the previous application. The court ruled that it was necessary to indicate a minimum size limit along with a maximum size limit for the proposed infrastructure. As the development description for the previous planning application only noted a maximum turbine tip height of up to 175m, it has been decided to withdraw the appeal case and lodge a new planning application to Clare County Council, which incorporates the requirements of the Derryadd Judgment. At this point, the community was informed of the decision to withdraw the proposal and of the intention to resubmit the same proposal with the amendments relevant to the Derryadd Judgement having been made within the week of receiving the letter.

2.1.1.7 **May 2022**

An update letter was sent to the community noting the refusal by Clare County Council and the subsequent appeal. The letter outlined the expected date for decision from Board and directed the public to the application files available online.

2.1.1.8 **July 2022**

A further update letter was sent to the community. This letter outlined the current status of the application. An Bord Pleanála had served notice that it would not be possible to determine the appeal case within the

original timeframe and a new target for a decision on the appeal case had been set. The letter also reminded the community of where to access the information relating to the application.

2.1.1.9 **December 2024**

Following the decision by An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for the previous application in May 2024, the refusal reasons were carefully reviewed by the projects planning and environmental consultants, MKO. Their decision was based on concerns regarding the adequacy of the information provided to assess the impact of the proposed development on designated sites and species of conservation, with particular focus on site drainage and peat management.

Following this review, it was considered that the reasons for refusal could be addressed in a new application. Therefore, in December 2024, the community was notified by letter of Slieveacurry Ltd's intention to submit a revised proposal. This letter addressed the refusal reasons and reintroduced the project back to the community.

2.1.1.10 **April 2025**

This round of consultation was carried out to inform the local community of the upcoming PIE, scheduled for May 29th, 2025, at the Miltown Malbay Community Centre, Co. Clare. The letter provided details on the event's location and time, as well as information on who would be available to answer any queries. A copy of the advertisement intended for publication in the Clare Champion was also enclosed within the letter. A notice appeared in the Clare Champion two weeks before the PIE informing the public about the event details.

2.1.1.11 **April 2026**

In April 2026, a letter was circulated to the usual mailing list informing them that the planning application for the Proposed Project would be submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála within the coming weeks. Enclosed with this letter was a copy of the press notice text which contained the development description of the Proposed Project. It was noted in this letter that the planning notice would appear in the 'Clare Champion'.

2.1.1.12 **Public Information Exhibition**

PIE Advertisement

A PIE for the previous application was held in Miltown Malbay Community Centre, Co. Clare on Tuesday 29th September 2020 from 14:00 to 21:00. The event was advertised in the Clare Champion, a local paper on Thursday 24th September 2020 and was advertised to the local community individually where possible. Each household within 1.5 km of the proposed area was left a leaflet in the letter box inviting them to make an appointment for the information event. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions at that time, attendance could only be facilitated by appointment. Those wishing to attend were asked to make an appointment by contacting the CLO via the mobile number and/or email address advertised. Each household unit was allocated a half hour appointment, with up to a maximum of three members from the same household allowed to attend each appointment. Anyone who couldn't attend the PIE were met at their convenience by the CLO.

In April 2025, correspondence was circulated again notifying the community about the dates and times of the PIE for the Proposed Project to be held May 29th, in the Miltown Malbay Community Centre. An advert was again placed in the Clare Champion to notify the wider community of the event.

PIE Details

Miltown Malbay Community Centre, Miltown Malbay, Co. Clare (29/09/2020) (approx. 25 attendees)

Miltown Malbay Community Centre, Miltown Malbay, Co. Clare (29/05/2025) (approx. 30 attendees)

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

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

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

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

PIE Feedback

The main queries raised during the PIEs, were:

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

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

Dedicated Contact Details

Since the project was first introduced to the community in February 2020, dedicated contact details for the Proposed Project have been provided to the community, including a dedicated phone number and email address. To date, these channels facilitated enquires about both the previous application and the Proposed Project.

Project Website

In September 2020, a dedicated project website was launched, www.slieveacurryinfo.com. The website is an additional communication channel to make information that was circulated to the local community available for public viewing. All information that was made available to the community throughout the

consultation period has been uploaded to this website. It is intended to continue to update the website as any new information becomes available.

The website also provides the public with another possible method to reach out to the CLO using the 'Contact' portal. This has led to several queries being addressed from the public who may have felt more comfortable contacting the CLO in this manner.

Community Liaison Officer

In February 2020, a dedicated Community Liaison Officer (CLO) was appointed for the Proposed Project to facilitate on the ground engagement with the local community. As part of this consultation, the CLO introduced the previous application to the local community in February 2020, and the Proposed Project in December 2024, as outlined in detail above. Throughout the community consultation process the CLO has remained available to liaise with all interested parties in the community to address any concerns raised. To date, having a single point of contact for the community has proved successful in addressing any concerns raised. The CLO will continue to be available to address any queries or concerns that may be raised by the community in relation to the Proposed Project.

3. **ENDURING ECONOMIC BENEFIT**

3.1 **Economic Benefits – Community Benefit Fund**

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

Initial local suggestions for use of the fund included grants for Cloonanaha National School and Miltown Malbay Community Centre, upkeep works on the local Glendine road, local enterprise schemes, riparian planting of native species, energy retro-fitting of houses and contributions to electrical bills.

3.1.1 **Short Term Economic Benefits**

During the construction phase, it is estimated that at peak construction approximately 70 jobs will be created. This in turn will have a knock-on effect of the local economy through the supply of services to the workforce. While at a regional level additional employment will be created in the region through the supply of services and materials (such as stone and concrete) to the Proposed Project.

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

3.1.2 **Long Term Economic Benefits**

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

3.1.2.1 **Employment**

It is estimated that approximately 70 jobs will be created during the construction, operational and maintenance phases of the Proposed Project.

3.1.2.2 **Rates**

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

3.1.2.3 **Community Benefit Fund**

Throughout the community engagement on the Proposed Project, the Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS) 2 guidelines have been used to demonstrate what benefits the community would receive should the project be developed under RESS. The RESS 2 T&C's have since been updated in RESS 5 and will likely change again before the Proposed Project is built. As such, the fund will be adjusted accordingly depending on what RESS iteration is relevant when the Proposed Project becoming operational.

Based on RESS 2 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 of the Proposed Project.

Should the Proposed Project be developed under the RESS 2 T&C's, as a 54MW development it would attract a community contribution in the region of almost €331,000/year for the local community (estimated based on an average energy yield). The value of this fund would be directly proportional to the electricity generated by the wind farm. Under the RESS 2 T&Cs, the following is the recommended breakdown of the fund:

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

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

Should the Proposed Project not 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 approximately €165,000 (using the same formula as above), which across the 35-year operational lifespan would result in funding in the order of €5.75 million to the local community which is a substantial contribution.

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

3.1.2.3.1 **Community Gain Examples**

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

4. **CONCLUSION**

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

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



APPENDIX 2.1.1

2020-INFORMATION

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. 1. Why are the turbines so big?

A. Larger turbines maximise the amount of electricity produced from the clean renewable source. Wind energy is key to the Government's Climate Action Plan. The proposed height of the turbines is standard for modern wind turbines, and similar turbines have already been granted planning permission throughout the Country. The landscape and visual impact will be assessed for the project which will involve generating photomontages of the proposed development.

Q. 2. Are wind turbines noisy?

A. Wind turbines do emit noise. However, as the distance from the turbine increases, the noise reduces. The World Health Organisation* recommends, for average noise exposure, reducing noise levels produced by wind turbines below 45 dB L_{den}. Application of the current Irish Wind Energy Development Guidelines (2006) will generally achieve this. The Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines, released by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December 2019, would also comply with the WHO recommendation. Detailed analysis will be completed for the houses around the proposed site to ensure the appropriate guidelines are met.

Q. 3. What is shadow flicker?

A. Shadow flicker occurs where the turbine blades cast a shadow over a window in a nearby house and the rotating blades causes the light within the room to flick on and off. This effect lasts only for a short period of time until the sun passes beyond the turbines. Detailed shadow flicker calculations will be carried out for all houses around the site to ensure the guidelines are not exceeded.

Q. 4. Do wind turbines affect health?

A. Research by the Australian Government's National Health and Research Council (NMHRC)** states, "there is no consistent evidence that wind farms cause adverse health effects in humans". In 2017, the NMHRC commissioned a further two scientific studies to assess if inaudible noise from turbines has effects on human health when compared to silence and traffic noise. These studies are expected to be complete within 5 years.

Q. 5. Do wind farms affect property values?

A. Research carried out in the UK*** which analysed 82,000 housing transactions in proximity to wind farms found that "there is no evidence to suggest that there was a long-term negative impact on house prices, either during the period of construction or post completion of the wind farms".

Q. 6. Do wind farms affect tourism?

A. There is no evidence to suggest wind farms have any impact on tourism. In Irish and Scottish surveys undertaken, most respondents take a positive likelihood of returning to an area.

* *Environmental Noise Guideline for European Region (2018)*

** *Evidence on Wind Farms and Human Health (2015)*

*** *The Effect of Wind Farms on House Prices (2014)*

Q. 7. Who can I contact?

A. Aidan Stakelum
M 086 1427399 aidan.stakelum@turnkeydev.com
We would like to hear any comments or queries you may have

Renewable Energy Project Wind Information Leaflet

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Who We Are Enerco Energy

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

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



To date Enerco has installed a generating capacity of approximately 550 MW, with 180 MW under construction and a further 400 MW in the planning process or already permitted.

Climate Action Plan 2019

Introduction

In August 2019 the Irish government published the Climate Action Plan to build net zero carbon energy systems and create a sustainable country. The principles of the action plan are as follows:

Current situation

- Ireland will miss the target set for 2013-2020 of reducing emissions by 20% (relative to 2005 Levels) by one eighth and more worrying it is expected that recent growth in emissions will put the country on a trajectory to be 25% off target for the 2021-2030 period.

Targets for 2030 and beyond

- Increase percentage of electricity generated from renewables from 30% to 70% by 2030.
- Establish a trajectory which leads to Ireland being net zero carbon by 2050.

Road map to achieve Targets

The greatest saving from known technologies lie in transport and electricity. Three quarters of the adjustments required will not impose a cost on the country. The Climate Action Plan proposes:

- Adding 8.2 gigawatts of onshore wind.
- 100% of new cars and vans to be electric (EV) by 2030.
- 30% Green House Gas reduction
- Ending coal burning in ESB's Moneypoint by 2025 and Bord na Mona transitioning away from peat by 2028.

Source: *Climate Action Plan 2019 (01/08/2019)*

Wind in Ireland

Ireland has over 250 wind farms with a total installed capacity of 3,700 MW and employing 4,400 people. In quarter 2 2019 wind energy generated 27% of the total electricity.

A new record for wind energy generated in Ireland was recorded on 18th December 2019, electricity generated by wind energy at that time had the potential to power over 1.9 million houses, and it accounted for approximately 72% of the electricity demand that day. As more wind farms are being built this record will continue to be broken and wind energy will fulfill more and more of our energy demand.

Source: www.eirgridgroup.com

The SEAI reports that in 2017 alone wind energy cut our carbon dioxide emissions by 2.7 million tonnes saving the Irish economy more than €220 million in fossil fuel imports. Wind energy helps reduce both our reliance on imported fossil fuels and our carbon emissions whilst contributing towards a downward pressure on the price of electricity.

Source: *SEAI - Renewable Energy in Ireland 2019 (01/2019)*

Solar in Ireland

Solar energy currently has low penetration in Ireland. This contrasts with other countries such as Germany and the UK, which have successfully deployed solar power. The proposed Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS) is due to be rolled out next year making solar electricity generation more commercially viable. Under RESS Enerco will be in prime position to develop solar projects.

Decommissioning

The wind turbines which are part of each development are expected to have a lifespan of approximately 25 to 30 years. Following the end of their useful life, the wind turbines may be replaced subject to planning permission being obtained, or the site may be decommissioned fully, with the exception of the electricity substation.

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

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



What is an EIAR?

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

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

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

1. Introduction to the Project
2. Background to the Proposed Development
3. Site Selection and Alternatives
4. Description of the Proposed Development
5. Human Beings, Population & Human Health including Shadow Flicker
6. Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna
7. Land, Soils, Geology and Peat Stability
8. Water – Surface Water & Groundwater
9. Air and Climate
10. Noise and Vibration
11. Landscape and Visual
12. Cultural Heritage
13. Material Assists, including Traffic and Telecommunications
14. Interaction of Impacts



Knocknagoum Wind Farm 44.5MW

Wind Resource in Ireland

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

How Wind Turbines Work

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

Environmental Benefits

A wind farm generates clean, renewable, carbon neutral electricity. Every megawatt it generates is the equivalent of powering approximately 650 homes for a year.

Knocknagoum Wind Farm

Knocknagoum Wind Farm generates enough power to supply approximately 28,000 homes every year. Every watt of electricity generated at the wind farm will replace the same amount that would have been generated by burning coal or gas. A wind farm will emit no toxic substances or air pollutants, unlike coal or gas power stations. The carbon emissions created during the construction of the wind farm and the manufacturing of the turbines etc. will be offset in the electricity generated by the wind farm in the first 1-2 years of operation, therefore the wind farm generates carbon neutral power for the remaining 23-28 years of the project (Modern turbines have a lifespan of 25-30 years).

Economic Benefits

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

which generally lasts in the region of 18 months. The construction phase will see employment opportunities for:

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

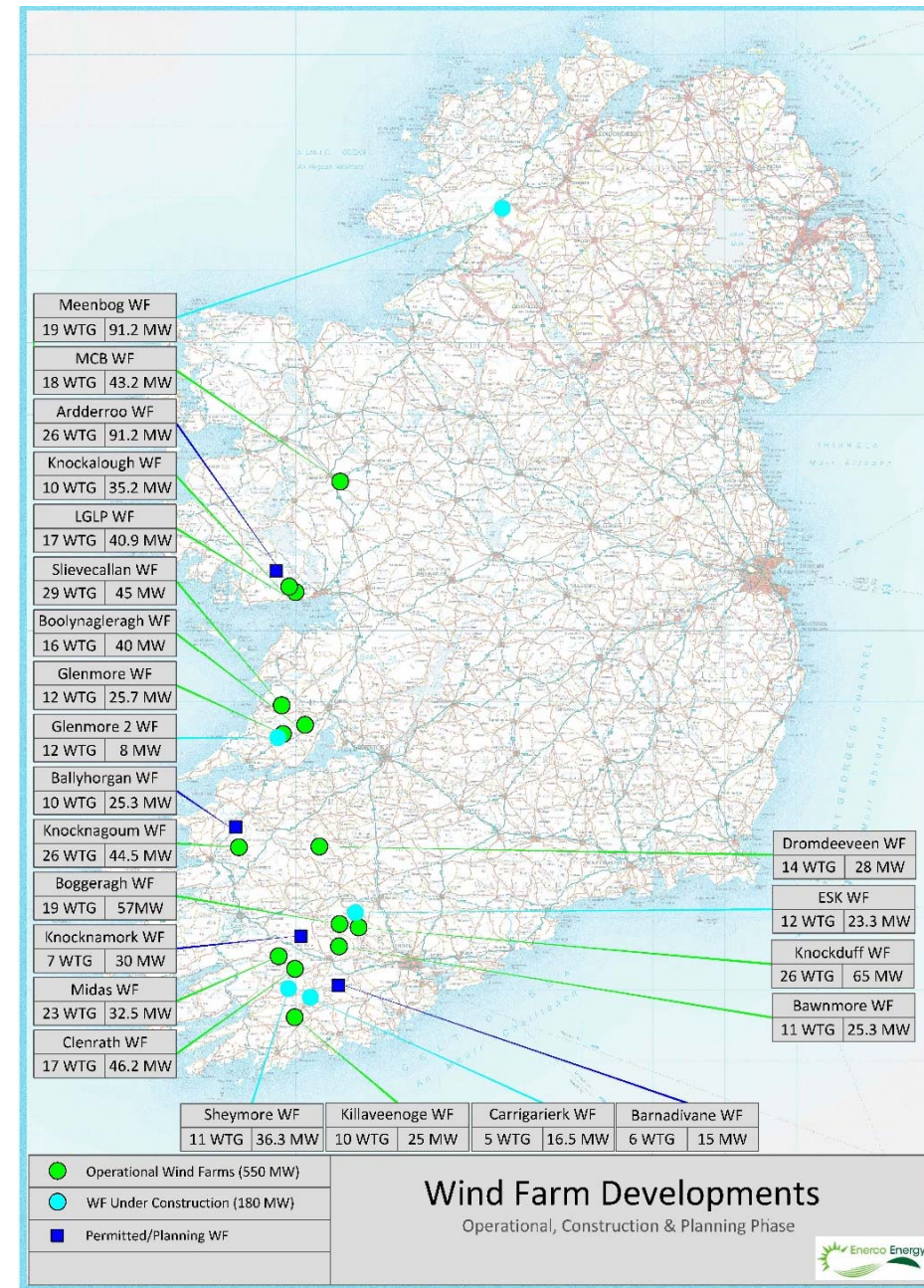
Increased activity in the locality benefits the local hospitality and service sector. Contractors and wind farm employees use shops, restaurants, hotels and B&B's in the wind farm proximity throughout a project lifecycle.

Security of Energy Supply

Ireland imported 66% of its energy requirement in 2017, one of the highest ratios in Europe. The more of its own energy Ireland can produce, the less vulnerable it would be to foreign policy and conflict interrupting gas, oil and electricity supply lines. There is an opportunity to continue developing a strong indigenous wind industry, that will take advantage of Ireland's excellent wind resource, reducing our import dependency.



LGLP Wind Farm 40.9MW



Benefits of Wind Turbines



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

Community Involvement

- As a long-term owner, developer and operator of energy assets Enerco Energy Ltd. seeks to be an active partner in the communities in which we develop and operate projects.
- As part of planning a project we like to hear from the community about their vision for its future and how the project might help.
- A community benefit scheme will be made available every year for the operational lifespan of the wind farm.
- "Open up opportunity for community participation in renewable generation and community gain arrangements" is a stated aim of the Climate Action Plan 2019.
- The community benefit scheme will be available to communities and voluntary groups. The benefit will be set out to aid the local community, by supporting projects and the area around the development.
- The community closest to the proposed development will decide how the community benefit scheme is administered and whether the focus is on local groups and clubs, or those living closest to the wind farm.

Points of local interest

Map 1 illustrates the biodiversity study area and the following locations, as indicated on the map, may be of interest to the local community:

- **A – Molinia meadows:** Molinia/Purple Moor-grass meadows are species-rich wildflower meadows that primarily occurs in fairly low-lying areas with moderately base-rich and peaty gley soils. A wide variety of invertebrates benefit from Molinia meadows including marsh fritillary butterfly. These areas have been fully assessed and avoided during the project design.
- **B – Peatland habitat:** Where this habitat is still intact and not cut for peat extraction, two forms of peatland habitats occur within the site: upland blanket bog and wet heath. These two peatland habitats are differentiated by the depth of the peat and the species composition. Upland blanket bog has typically got a peat depth in excess of 50 cm with heath located on shallow peat. The peatlands on site have been assessed avoided where possible.
- **C - Conifer forestry:** This habitat is often low in biodiversity due to the density of trees planted and the monoculture composition. However a variety of species can be found here including pine marten, goldcrest, long-eared owl, Marsh fritillary etc.



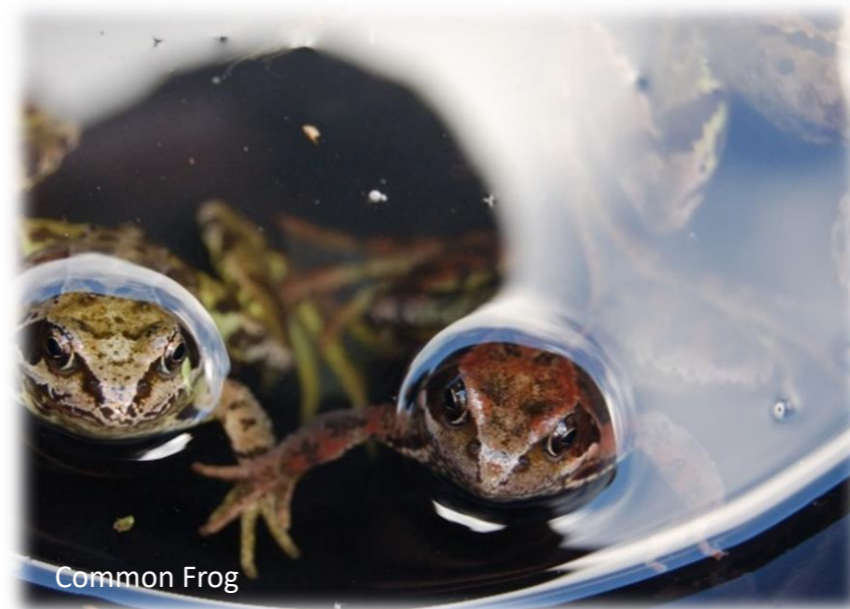
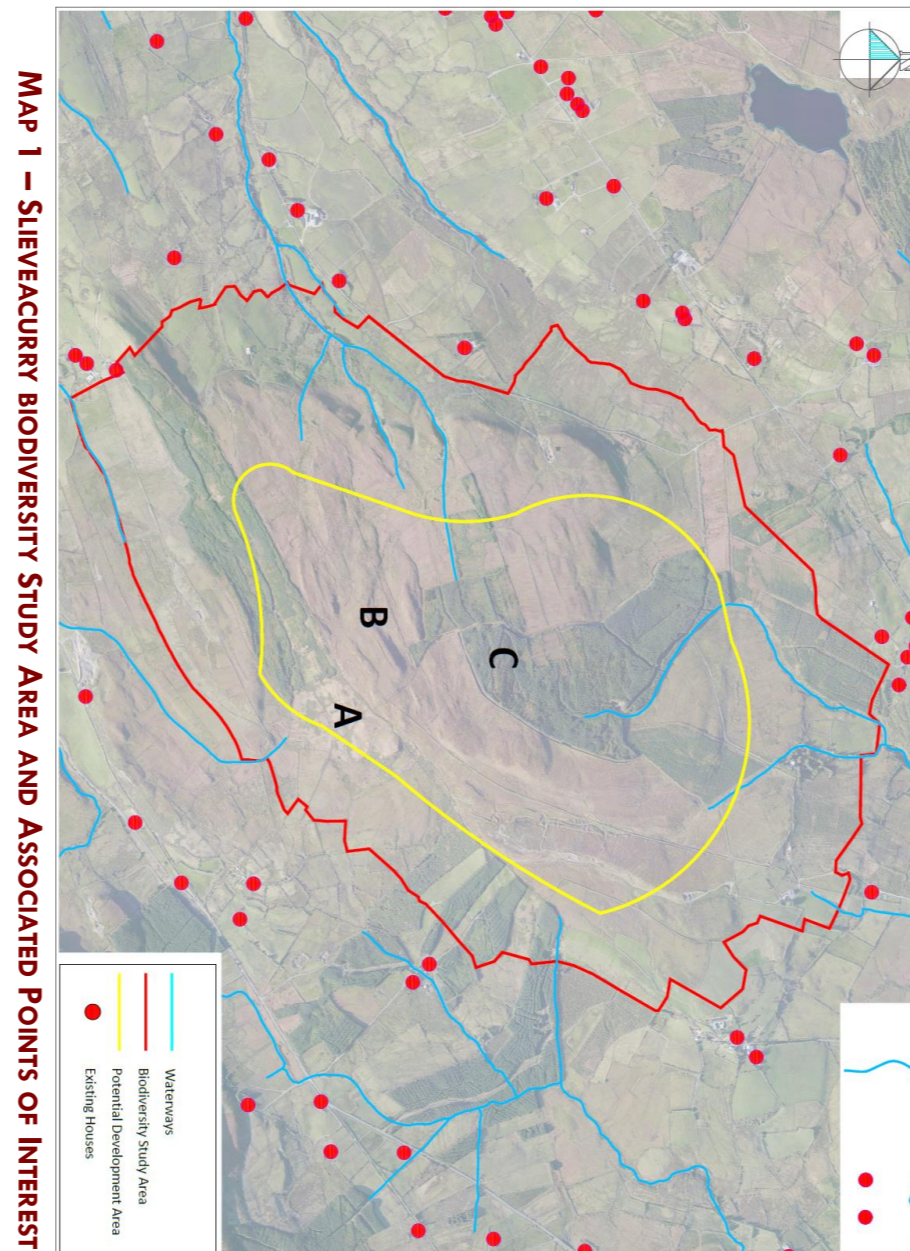
Molinia meadows

Useful sources of information

Bat Conservation Ireland
www.batconservationireland.org/

BirdWatch Ireland <http://www.birdwatchireland.ie>

Irish Peatland Conservation Council <http://www.ipcc.ie>



Common Frog

If you would like further information please contact:
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd: info@mkoireland.ie

Slieveacurry Biodiversity

Information Leaflet
February 2020



This leaflet was presented by Aidan Stakelum, Enerco Energy Ltd.
Phone: 021 7336 034 Email: aidan.stakelum@turnkeydev.com



Long-eared owl

Local Biodiversity

What is Biodiversity?

Biodiversity is a term given to the variety of life on earth, including all species and ecosystems.

A wide variety of specialist ecological surveys have been undertaken at Slieveacurry and the surrounding area in recent years by MKO the with project designed to avoid sensitive ecological receptors.

These surveys have targeted a wide variety of species and habitats with the aim of determining their distribution in the area across the site.

This leaflet provides a brief overview of a variety of habitats and species of interest recorded at the site as well as some interesting facts for the reader.



Marsh fritillary

Habitats and Species of Slieveacurry

Marsh fritillary

Marsh fritillary colonies have been recorded within the area and the distribution of supporting habitat mapped in detail. This butterfly is Irelands only protected insect, listed on Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive. The proposed development footprint has been altered to avoid suitable habitat within the site.

Red deer

Red deer is a commonly recorded species in the area. Although this species is often elusive, preferring to be most active at dawn and dusk, tracks and signs of the species can be easily seen throughout the site.

Bird species

Red grouse have been recorded in the area and their unusual and distinctive call is unmistakable. This is often the easiest way to locate the species in large areas of peatland habitats, as their mottled brown plumage camouflages them very well. A wide variety of other common and widespread bird species have been recorded at the site including sparrowhawk and kestrel.

Bats

There are nine bat species in Ireland. A number of common bat species have been recorded at Slieveacurry including Irelands smallest bat, soprano pipistrelle, which weighs as much as a €1 piece. Irelands largest bat, Leisler's bat, has also been recorded. Each bat can eat over 3000 midges in one night!

Peatland & Bog Formation

Peat formation started at the end of the last glaciation, 10,000 years ago. Peat forms in waterlogged conditions and is made up of layers and layers of dead plant matter which doesn't decompose due to the waterlogged/low oxygen conditions. This habitat is home to a wide variety of unique plant and animal species. As peat is used as a source of fuel, turf cutting has occurred at the site over the years.

Upland rivers

The rivers that drain the site provide suitable habitat for a wide variety of invertebrates such as caddisflies, mayfly, dragonfly and damselfly larvae. Such invertebrates provide suitable prey for a wide variety of birds and bat species.

Local Biodiversity

Slieveacurry is situated within an upland plantation forestry and peatland landscape. This leaflet provides an overview of the main habitats and species of local interest recorded during ecological surveys of the area. These include:

Habitats

- Peatland habitats (Cutover blanket bog and Heath),
- Mature conifer forestry,
- Upland eroding rivers, and
- Wet grasslands.

Species

- Pine marten,
- Marsh fritillary,
- Bats,
- Red deer,
- Irish hare,
- Common frog,
- Fox
- Red grouse



Red grouse



Map Legend

- EIAR Site Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Locations
- Existing Roads - Upgrade Proposed
- Proposed New Site Roads
- Proposed Turbine Foundations
- Proposed Turbine Hardstands
- Proposed Borrow Pits
- Proposed Temporary Construction Compounds
- Met Mast Location
- Temporary Runover Area
- County Road to be Maintained
- Public Road Expansion Area
- Soft Levelled Area
- Proposed Grid Connection Route
- Proposed Extension to Existing Slieveacallan Substation
- Existing Slieveacallan Substation

House Locations

- Dwelling
- 1000m Turbine Buffer
- 1500m Turbine Buffer

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Drawing Title	
Proposed Site Layout and House Locations	
Project Title	
Slieveacurry Renewable Energy Development, Co. Clare	
Drawn By	Checked By
Ellen Costello	Michael Watson
Project No.	Drawing No.
170224c	Figure 1
Scale	Date
1:27500	26/10/2021

MKO
 Planning and Environmental Consultants
 Tuam Road, Galway
 Ireland, H91 VW54
 +353 (0) 91 735611
 email: info@mkofireland.ie
 Website: www.mkofireland.ie



APPENDIX 2.1.2

MARCH 2021-INFORMATION



25/03/2021

Proposed Slieveacurry Wind Farm Development

Dear Resident,

I hope you are keeping well during these uncertain times.

I am writing to you to update you on the progress with the Slieveacurry Wind Farm proposal. The original planning application was subject to legal proceedings being taken against Clare County Council regarding the validation of the application. The court ruled to put a stay on any decision pending the outcome of the legal case. Due to the uncertainty associated with the timing of a decision on the legal proceedings, it was decided to withdraw the planning application. We are now proposing to re-submit a planning application to Clare County Council in the coming weeks, with minor changes to the layout of the proposed development.

Due to the continuing Covid 19 restrictions, it will not be possible to present the proposed development at a conventional public information event. We will instead present the information on the project website www.slieveacurryinfo.com. We invite you to view the latest updated information on the website, for convenience we also provide you with the enclosed wind farm layout map.

In conjunction with this letter, an ad will appear in this weeks' edition of the Clare Champion, to notify the wider community on the availability of new information on the project website. The notice also provides my contact details for any interested parties to get in touch with any queries that may arise.

It is anticipated that a planning application will be submitted to Clare County Council around early April and once it is lodged, all the application documentation will be available on the Clare County Council website. We will update the project website accordingly to include the planning file number once it is available.

I would welcome any queries or questions you may have relating to the project and would appreciate your feedback. Please feel free to contact me, either through the contact page on the website, by email aidan.stakelum@turnkeydev.com, or by phone 086-1427399.

Yours sincerely,

Aidan Stakelum
Enerco Energy Ltd



APPENDIX 2.1.3

OCTOBER 2021-INFORMATION



27/10/2021

Proposed Slieveacurry Wind Farm Development

Dear Resident,

I hope you are keeping well during these uncertain times.

I am writing to you with an update regarding the Slieveacurry Renewable Energy Development. As you may be aware, the decision by Clare County Council in June to refuse planning permission for the proposed development was appealed to An Bord Pleanála. Following a recent court ruling known as the Derryadd Judgment we have been advised to withdraw the appeal from An Board Pleanála in order to rectify issues identified in the Derryadd judgment which are applicable to Slieveacurry. The court ruled that it was necessary to indicate a minimum size limit along with a maximum size limit for the proposed infrastructure. As the development description for the previous planning application only noted a maximum turbine tip height of up to 175m, it has been decided to withdraw the appeal case and lodge a new planning application to Clare County Council, which incorporates the requirements of the Derryadd Judgment.

The proposal has not changed from the last application. The documentation has been amended where appropriate to address the requirements of the Derryadd Judgment and the reasons for refusal by Clare County Council on the previous file have also been addressed. For convenience we have enclosed a copy of the proposed site layout map with this letter.

In conjunction with this letter, an ad will appear in this weeks' edition of the Clare Champion, to notify the wider community on the availability of new information on the project website www.slieveacurryinfo.com. The notice also provides my contact details for any interested parties to get in touch with any queries that may arise.

It is anticipated that a new planning application will be submitted to Clare County Council in the coming week and once it is lodged, all the application documentation will be available on the Clare County Council website. We will update the project website accordingly to include the planning file number once it is available.

I have taken over this project from my former colleague Aidan Stakelum. I would welcome any queries or questions you may have relating to the project and would appreciate your feedback. Please feel free to contact me, either through the contact page on the website, by email james.crowley@turnkeydev.com, or by phone 086-3979248. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

James Crowley
Enerco Energy Ltd.



Slieveacurry Ltd. wish to inform interested parties of the proposed lodging of a new planning application for the Slieveacurry Renewable Energy Development, comprising 8 no. wind turbines. The application relates to the townlands of Tooreen, Glendine North, Fahanlunaghta More, Curraghodea, Letterkelly, Cloghaun More, Cloghaun Beg, Silverhill, Doonsallagh East, Shanavogh East and Knockalassa, Co. Clare.

The dedicated project website www.slieveacurryinfo.com contains updated information and it will be further updated once the application is lodged to Clare County Council. The website is open to the public to view and provide feedback.

If you have any queries in relation to the project, please use the contact form on the project website and we will respond as soon as possible. Alternatively, for project questions or if the website is not accessible to you, please contact James Crowley on 0863979248 or by email at james.crowley@turnkeydev.com.



- ### Map Legend
- EIAR Site Boundary
 - Proposed Turbine Locations
 - Existing Roads - Upgrade Proposed
 - Proposed New Site Roads
 - Proposed Turbine Foundations
 - Proposed Turbine Hardstands
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 - Proposed Grid Connection Route
 - Proposed Extension to Existing Slieveacallan Substation
 - Existing Slieveacallan Substation
- House Locations
- Dwelling
 - 1000m Turbine Buffer
 - 1500m Turbine Buffer

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Proposed Site Layout and House Locations	
Project Title Slieveacurry Renewable Energy Development, Co. Clare	
Drawn By Ellen Costello	Checked By Michael Watson
Project No. 170224c	Drawing No. Figure 1
Scale 1:27500	Date 26/10/2021

MKO
Planning and Environmental Consultants
Team Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW54
+353 (0) 91 735611
email@mkofireland.ie
Website: www.mkofireland.ie




Map Legend


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Scale 1:27500	Date 26/10/2021
	
MKO Planning and Environmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway Ireland, H91 VW84 +353 (0) 91 735611 email: info@mkofireland.ie Website: www.mkofireland.ie	



APPENDIX 2.1.4

MAY 2022-INFORMATION



25/05/2022

Proposed Slieveacurry Wind Farm Development

Dear Resident,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am writing to you with an update regarding the progress of the Slieveacurry Renewable Energy Development. As you may be aware, Clare County Council decided to refuse planning permission for the proposed development in January, and that decision was subsequently appealed to An Bord Pleanála. The current target for a decision by the Board on the appeal case is the 20th of June.

The planning application files are available to view online and as outlined in previous correspondence, details of the file numbers are available on the project website, www.slieveacurryinfo.com. The Clare County Council file reference number is 21/1226 and the An Bord Pleanála case number is PL03.312728.

If you have any difficulty in accessing the information on the website, or have any queries relating to the project, please contact me through the contact page on the website, by email james.crowley@turnkeydev.com, or by phone 086-3979248. I will continue to update you, and the project website, as the project progresses.

Yours sincerely,

James Crowley

Enerco Energy Ltd.



APPENDIX 2.1.5

JULY 2022-INFORMATION



07/07/2022

Proposed Slieveacurry Wind Farm Development

Dear Householder,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am writing to you with an update regarding the progress of the Slieveacurry Renewable Energy Development. An Bord Pleanála served notice that it will not be possible to determine the appeal case within the original timeframe and a new target for a decision on the appeal case has been set for the 9th of September.

As previously stated, the planning application files are available to view online with links available on the project website, www.slieveacurryinfo.com. The Clare County Council file reference number is 21/1226 and the An Bord Pleanála case number is PL03.312728.

If you have any difficulty in accessing the information on the website, or have any queries relating to the project, please contact me through the contact page on the website, by email james.crowley@turnkeydev.com, or by phone 086-3979248. I will continue to update you, and the project website, as the project progresses.

Yours sincerely,

James Crowley

Enerco Energy Ltd.



APPENDIX 2.1.6

DECEMBER 2024-INFORMATION



2nd December 2024

Proposed Slieveacurry Wind Farm Development

Dear Householder,

I hope this letter finds you well. I wish to update you on the Slieveacurry Wind Farm proposal.

Since our last correspondence, I have endeavoured to ensure the information that I have in relation to property ownership is up to date. Land ownership details have been obtained from the Property Registration Authority, however, by their nature, these records are not always fully up-to-date and changes in land ownership details may not be fully reflected in such records. In addition, names of deceased persons may still be recorded in such files and, if this is the case, this is sincerely regretted. If there is a discrepancy in the information that we have in relation to your property, please let me know and I will update the information for future correspondence.

As you may be aware, An Bord Pleanála decided to refuse planning permission for the Slieveacurry Renewable Energy Development in May of this year. Their decision was based on concerns regarding the adequacy of the information provided to assess the impact of the proposed development on designated sites and species of conservation, with particular focus on site drainage and peat management. A full copy of the An Bord Pleanála decision can be found on the dedicated project information website (www.slieveacurryinfo.com). The project planning and environmental consultants, MKO, have carried out a careful review of the Board's decision. Following this review, it is considered that the reasons for refusal can be addressed in a new application. MKO are currently carrying out the necessary supplementary studies to support a new planning application for the proposed development. It is currently anticipated that the necessary documentation for a new application could be available by the middle of next year, Q2/Q3 of 2025.

We will be in touch again in the new year in relation to plans to hold a Public Information Exhibition (PIE), where information in relation to the revised proposal will be on display. This will provide an opportunity for all interested parties to view the information, and there will be representatives from MKO and Enerco Energy Ltd in attendance to answer any questions in relation to the proposal. The timing of the PIE will be dependent on the necessary information being prepared by MKO.

All information presented to the community will continue to be made available for public viewing at www.slieveacurryinfo.com. If you have difficulty in accessing the project website, please let me know and I will assist with this. I would welcome any queries or questions you may have relating to the project and would appreciate your feedback.



Please feel free to contact me, either through the contact page on the website, by email, clo@slieveacurryinfo.com, or by phone, 086-0841815.

I wish you the very best for the festive season and I look forward to working with your community in the new year.

Yours sincerely,

James Crowley

Enerco Energy Ltd

clo@slieveacurryinfo.com

086-0841815



APPENDIX 2.1.7

APRIL 2025-INFORMATION



28th April 2025

Proposed Slieveacurry Wind Farm Development

Dear Householder,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I wish to update you on the Slieveacurry Wind Farm proposal. The project Environmental Consultants, MKO, continue their preparation for a planning permission application for the proposed development and are preparing for a Public Information Exhibition (PIE). Final site surveys continue, gathering all required data for the compilation of the necessary documentation that will accompany the planning application.

The PIE will be hosted in the Miltown Malbay Community Centre, on Thursday 29th of May from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Information about the proposed development will be on display and members of the project team, along with myself, will be present to answer any queries. See overleaf a copy of the advertisement which will appear in the Clare Champion at least two weeks before the PIE to inform the wider community of this event.

I am pleased to note that my colleague, Kieran Kyne, has joined the project team as joint Community Liaison Officer with myself and he will also attend the PIE.

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

Furthermore, MKO are engaging with An Bord Pleanála to determine whether the proposal constitutes a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID), Case No. ABP-321892. This proposal will likely meet the criteria for SID, however the formal determination process has not been concluded by An Bord Pleanála.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and, as always, if you have any queries regarding the proposed development, please feel free to get in touch by email at CLO@slieveacurryinfo.com, through the 'Contact' portal on the project website, www.slieveacurryinfo.com, or by phone, James Crowley (086 0841815) or Kieran Kyne (086 1427399).

Yours sincerely,

James Crowley

Enerco Energy Ltd

| CLO@slieveacurryinfo.com

| 086-0841815



APPENDIX 2.1.8

MAY 2025-INFORMATION

PUBLIC INFORMATION EXHIBITION – 29/05/2025





APPENDIX 2.1.9

APRIL 2026-INFORMATION



14th April 2026

Proposed Slieveacurry Renewable Energy Development

Dear Householder,

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

The project Environmental Consultants, MKO, are nearing completion of the necessary documentation to accompany the planning application. The proposal will include 9 no. turbines with an overall tip height of 175m, a hub height of 100m and a rotor diameter of 150m. The proposed turbines will be connected to the grid via underground cabling to an extension of the existing Slievecallan 110kV Substation.

Further to engagement with An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP) under case no 321892, it was determined that the proposal meets the requirements for Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID), and therefore the application will be submitted directly to ACP. It is anticipated that the planning application will be lodged within the next two weeks.

A public notice about the planning application will appear in the 'Clare Champion'. For your information, see overleaf a copy of the public notice text, which is due to appear in the newspaper before the application is lodged. Public site notices will also be erected at selected locations surrounding the site.

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

I would like to thank the local community for the feedback received to date and I remain available to discuss any queries regarding this proposal, please feel free to contact me. I am available by email at clo@slieveacurryinfo.com, by phone 086-1427399, or through the 'contact' portal on the project website.

Yours sincerely,

Kieran Kyne

Enerco Energy Ltd. | clo@slieveacurryinfo.com | 086-1427399

PUBLIC NOTICE

Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

Notice of Direct Planning Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development, County Clare

In accordance with Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Slieveacurry Ltd. gives notice of its intention to make an application to An Coimisiún Pleanála for permission for proposed development located at the townlands of Tooreen, Fahanlunaghta More, Glendine North, Curraghodea, Silverhill, Cloghaun More, Letterkelly, Doonsallagh East, Knockalassa, Boolinrudda, Magherbaun, Slievealoughaun and Cloonlaheen Middle, Fahanlunaghta Beg, Co. Clare.

This development is covered by the provisions of the Renewable Energy Directive III (Directive 2023/2413) and the planning application is subject to a completeness check under section 37JA of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended by the European Union (Planning and Development) (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2025.

The proposed development will consist of the provision of the following:

- (i) 9 No. wind turbines with an overall ground-to-blade tip height of 175 metres; rotor diameter of 150 metres; and hub height of 100 metres, and a meteorological mast with a height of 30 metres, and subsequent decommissioning of the wind turbines and meteorological mast, following a thirty five-year operational period from the date of full commissioning of the wind turbines;
- (ii) Associated wind turbine and meteorological mast foundations and hardstanding areas;
- (iii) An extension to the existing 110kV substation compound in the townland of Knockalassa (Including the provision of a new control building (floor area of 112.5 sq.m) with welfare facilities, all associated electrical plant and apparatus for an additional 110kV bay, security fencing, underground cabling, underground wastewater holding tank, site drainage and all ancillary works);
- (iv) Underground electrical (33kV) and communications cabling connecting the proposed wind turbines and meteorological mast to the 110kV substation extension via proposed and existing private access road/tracks and the R460 regional road;
- (v) Temporary accommodation works to facilitate the delivery of turbine components and other abnormal sized loads on the L6230, L1076, L2118 and L1074 local roads;
- (vi) Upgrade and widening works to the L6230 local road and access junction off the L6230 local road;
- (vii) Upgrade of existing tracks/roads and provision of new site access roads and hardstanding areas;
- (viii) A borrow pit;
- (ix) 2 no. temporary construction compounds (including site offices and welfare facilities, with a combined floor area of 202.5 sq.m);
- (x) Peat and Spoil Management;
- (xi) Site Drainage;
- (xii) Tree felling and vegetation removal;
- (xiii) Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan measures (including hedgerow planting, peatland, marsh fritillary and hen harrier habitat enhancement areas);
- (xiv) Operational stage site signage; and
- (xv) All associated site development works and apparatus.

The applicant is seeking a ten-year permission and an operational period of thirty-five-years for the wind turbines, meteorological mast and site signage from the date of full commissioning of the wind turbines. Permanent planning permission is being sought for all other works.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and accompany this planning application. The EIAR and NIS include assessment of temporary accommodation works to facilitate the delivery of turbine components from the Foynes Port to the site entrances via the Motorway (M18), National (N69, N18 and N85), Regional (R510, R527, R445 and R460) and Local (L1074, L1076, L2118 and L6230) public road network.

The planning application, EIAR and NIS may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such a copy) during public opening hours for a period of seven weeks commencing on the **1st May 2026** at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902 (9:15am – 5:30pm, Monday – Friday)
- The Offices of Clare County Council, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2 (9:00am – 4:00pm, Monday – Friday)

The application may also be viewed/downloaded on the following website: www.slieveacurryplanning.com

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

- i. The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development of the area concerned, and
- ii. the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out, and
- iii. the likely effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received by An Coimisiún Pleanála not later than 5:30pm on the **18th June 2026** and must include the following information:

- The name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent,
- the subject matter of the submission or observation, and
- the reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full (Article 217 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, refers).

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Commission. The Commission may at its absolute discretion hold an oral hearing on the application (refer to 'A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development' at www.pleanala.ie)

The Commission may in respect of an application for permission decide to:

1. grant the permission, or
2. make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its decision and grant permission in respect of the proposed development as so modified, or
3. grant permission in respect of part of the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or
4. refuse to grant the permission

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Development Section of An Coimisiún Pleanála (Telephone: 01-8588100).

A person may question the validity of any such decision of the Commission by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986, as amended by S.I. No. 691 of 2011), in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed on the Commission's website (www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/home) under the following heading: Legal Notices – Judicial Review Notice. This information is also available on the Citizens Information Service website www.citizensinformation.ie.

