APPENDIX 4-6

DECOMMISSIONING PLAN

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1. INTRODUCTION

This Decommissioning Plan has been developed by MKO on behalf of SSE Renewables (Ireland) Ltd. (the Applicant), to accompany an application for planning permission to An Coimisiún Pleanála for the Proposed Crumhach Wind Farm. For the purposes of this Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), the following references are used: 'Proposed Project', 'Proposed Wind Farm', 'Proposed Turbines', 'Proposed Grid Connection Route', 'the Site', 'Existing Grid Connection' and 'Existing Wind Farm'. Please see Section 1.1.1 of this EIAR for further details. A detailed description of the Proposed Project is provided in Chapter 4 of this EIAR.

This document is being prepared alongside an EIAR and the Natura Impact Statement ('NIS') which accompany this planning application for the Proposed Project to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

Decommissioning of the Proposed Wind Farm will be scheduled to take place after the proposed 35-year lifespan. The proposed onsite 110kV substation and the Proposed Grid Connection Route will remain in place as it will be part of the Electricity Grid under the ownership and control of the ESBN and/or EirGrid and will form a permanent part of the national electricity grid.

As noted in the Scottish Natural Heritage report (SNH) *Research and Guidance on Restoration and Decommissioning of Onshore Wind Farms* (SNH, 2013) reinstatement proposals for a wind farm are made approximately 30 years in advance, so within the lifespan of the wind farm, technological advances and preferred approaches to reinstatement are likely to change. According to the SNH guidance, it is therefore:

> *"best practice not to limit options too far in advance of actual decommissioning but to maintain informed flexibility until close to the end-of-life of the wind farm".*

In this regard, this Decommissioning Plan will be reviewed and updated prior to commencement of decommissioning works to take account of the relevant conditions of the planning permission and current health and safety standards.

This report provides the environmental management framework to be adhered to during the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Wind Farm, and it incorporates the mitigating principles to ensure that the work is carried out in a way that minimises the potential for any environmental impacts to occur.

1.1 Statement of Authority

This document has been prepared by Muireann Van Nieuwenhove and Edel Mulholland and reviewed by Brandon Taylor and Ellen Costello of MKO.

Muireann Van Nieuwenhove is a Graduate Environmental Scientist with MKO. Muireann holds a BA (Hons) in Geography and French and an MA (Hons) in Environment, Society and Development from the University of Galway. Muireann has excellent report writing and research skills. She received an award for her Master's thesis and for placing top of her class. She is experienced in qualitative and quantitative data analysis. Muireann's key strengths and areas of expertise include EIAR drafting and GIS mapping. Within MKO Muireann works as part of a large multi-disciplinary team to produce EIA Reports on the Environmental Renewables team. Since joining MKO Muireann has been involved in several large-scale Renewable Energy Developments.

Edel Mulholand is an Environmental Scientist with MKO with over 1 year experience. Edel holds BA (Hons) in Environmental Science from the University of Galway. Prior to taking up her position with MKO in September 2024, Edel worked as an Environmental Chemistry Analyst with Complete Laboratory Solutions, Co. Galway, where she assisted with water quality analysis. Since

joining MKO, Edel has assisted in the submission of several renewable energy developments. Edel's key strengths and areas of expertise are in environmental policy, drafting EIAR chapters, field work and QGIS mapping.

Brandon Taylor is an Environmental Scientist with over 3 years of private consultancy experience. Brandon holds a BSc (Hons) in Geography from McGill University, and a MSc (Hons) in Coastal & Marine Environments from the University of Galway. Brandon's key skills include scientific research and report writing, particularly in the context of local communities and their interactions with environmental stressors, and geospatial analysis and the application of GIS and remote sensing tools across fields of renewable energy development, coastal zone management and education and scientific communication. Since joining MKO, Brandon has been involved in the design and environmental impact assessment of multiple large-scale onshore wind energy developments across Ireland, contributing to and managing the production of EIA reports.

Ellen Costello is a Senior Environmental Scientist with MKO with over 6 years' experience in private consultancy. Ellen holds a BSc (Hons) in Earth Science, and a MSc (Hons) in Climate Change: Integrated Environmental and Social Science Aspects where she focused her studies on renewable energy development in Europe and its implications on environment and society. Ellen's key strengths and expertise are Environmental Protection and Management, Environmental Impact Statements, Project Management, and GIS Mapping and Modelling. Since joining MKO, Ellen has been involved in a range of renewable energy infrastructure projects. In her role as a project manager, Ellen works with and co-ordinates large multidisciplinary teams including members from MKO's Environmental, Planning, Ecological and Ornithological departments as well as sub-contractors from various fields in the preparation and production of EIARs. Ellen is a Practitioner Member of the Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment.

1.2 Scope of the Decommissioning Plan

This report is presented as a guidance document for the decommissioning of the Proposed Wind Farm. The Decommissioning Plan clearly outlines the mitigation measures and monitoring proposals that are required to be adhered to in order to complete the works in an appropriate manner.

The report is divided into nine sections, as outlined below:

Section 1 provides a brief introduction as to the scope of the report.

Section 2 outlines the Site and Project details, detailing the targets and objectives of this plan along with providing an overview of works methodologies that will be adopted throughout decommissioning.

Section 3 sets out details of the environmental controls to be implemented on site including the mechanisms for implementation. A waste management plan is also included in this section.

Section 4 outlines the general Health and Safety measures that will be implemented on site during the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Project.

Section 5 outlines the Emergency Response Procedure to be adopted in the event of an emergency in terms of site health and safety and environmental protection.

Section 6 sets out a programme for the timing of the works.

Section 7 consists of a summary table of all mitigation measures to be adhered to during the decommissioning-phase.

Section 8 consists of a summary table of all monitoring requirements for the operational and decommissioning-phases.

Section 9 outlines the proposals for reviewing compliance with the provisions of this report.

2. SITE AND PROJECT DETAILS

2.1 Site Location and Description

The Proposed Wind Farm is located on the northwest slopes of the Ox Mountains, located approx. 4.5km south of the village of Dromore West, and approx. 3km southwest of the village of Templeboy in Co. Sligo, at their nearest points.

The Proposed Grid Connection Route includes for underground 110V electrical cabling from the proposed onsite 110kV substation, in the townland of Crowagh/ Ballyglass/ Dunowla/ Kingsmountain to the existing Srananagh 220kV substation in the townland of Ballysumaghan, Co. Sligo to facilitate the Proposed Project connection to the national grid. The Proposed Grid Connection Route to the existing Srananagh 220kV substation, measuring approximately 41.6km in length, is primarily located within the public road corridor with approx. 130m located within the Proposed Wind Farm.

The Site measures approximately 1,546ha and primarily comprises peat bog, with coniferous forest to the north-west, east and south of the Site. South of the Proposed Wind Farm comprises largely of transitional wood scrub, while land-use in the northern end of the Site comprises largely of pastoral agriculture and low-density residential.

The Proposed Wind Farm is accessed via the L6309 and L2702 Local Roads off the N59 National Road, travelling in an east-west direction north of the Site and the N17 National Road, which runs in a north-south direction to the southeast of the Site. The current entrance to the Existing Wind Farm is proposed as the main site entrance, utilising the existing access roads and infrastructure. Upgrades to additional existing site entrances along the L6309 and L2702 Local Roads and the provision of a new site entrance on the L2702 are proposed to access the adjoining lands.

In addition to the current Wind Farm, current land-use on the Proposed Wind Farm is predominantly comprised of pastoral agriculture and low-density residential. Current land-use along the Proposed Grid Connection Route comprise public road corridor, pastures, low density residential, industry, commercial forestry and land principally used for agriculture with significant areas of natural vegetation. Land-use on the wider landscape comprises a mix of pastoral agriculture, peatlands, low-density residential, and small-scale commercial properties.

A full and detailed description of the Proposed Project (i.e. the Proposed Wind Farm and the Proposed Grid Connection Route) for the purposes of the planning application and the additional elements that form part of the overall project, assessed in the EIAR, is contained in Chapter 4 of the EIAR.

The townlands in which the Proposed Project is located are listed in Table 1-1 in Chapter 1. All townlands are located in Co. Sligo.

2.2 Description of the Proposed Project

This section describes the Proposed Wind Farm and the Proposed Grid Connection Route, collectively referred to as the Proposed Project. The Proposed Wind Farm consists of 17 no. wind turbines and associated infrastructure including hardstands, 2 no. onsite LiDAR compounds, 4 no. temporary construction compounds, 10 no. peat and spoil management areas, 3 no. borrow pits, approximately 4.6km of access tracks, the upgrade of approximately 4.8km of public road corridor and 8.9km of Existing Wind Farm access tracks, felling of conifer plantation (29.1 ha), proposed biodiversity mitigation and enhancement measures, turbine delivery route (TDR) accommodation works, and all associated development and drainage works. As per Section 1.1.1 of Chapter 1, the removal of the existing 23 no. turbines forms part of the construction phase of the Proposed Project, which is detailed further in Appendix 4-5 CEMP. The Proposed Grid Connection Route encompasses the 110kV

underground cabling connecting the proposed onsite 110kV substation to the existing Srananagh 220kV substation, and all ancillary works and apparatus

A full description of the Proposed Wind Farm and the Proposed Grid Connection Route can be found in Chapter 4: Description of the Proposed Project.

This application seeks a ten-year planning permission and 35-year operational life from the date of commissioning of the entire wind farm.

The Proposed Project is illustrated on Figure 2-1 and the Proposed Wind Farm is illustrated on Figure 2-2 below.

544000
552000
560000
568000
840000
832000
824000

N

Dromore
R297
Cluain Carn
N59
CARNEY
RAGHLY
DRUMCLIFF SOUTH
Coney Island
LAR
DROMORE
R297
R2
KILMACOWEN
KILMULDONEY
KILBOGLASH
BALLYGAWLEY
R284
N4
Castle Dargan
Lough Gill
Toberscanavan Loughs
BANAGHER
RIVERSTOWN
Easky Lough
T1
T2
T3
T4
T5
T6
T7
T8
T9
T10
T11
T12
T13
T14
T15
T16
T17
0
5
10 km

Map Legend

- EIAR Site Boundary
- Proposed Turbines
- Proposed Turbine Hardstands
- Proposed Blade Storage Set Down Area
- Proposed Decommissioned Turbine Laydown Area
- Proposed New Roads
- Proposed Upgrades to Existing Roads
- Proposed Upgrades to Public Road
- Proposed Permanent LiDAR Locations
- Proposed Peat and Spoil Management Areas
- Proposed Borrow Pits
- Proposed Onsite 110kV Substation
- Proposed Temporary Construction Compound
- Proposed Temporary Turbine Delivery Overrun Areas
- Proposed Grid Connection Route Access Track
- Proposed Enhancement Area
- Proposed Grid Connection Route

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SITE LOCATION - NOT TO SCALE

Drawing Title

Proposed Project Layout

Project Title

Crumhach Wind Farm, Co. Sligo

Project No.	Drawing No.	Scale
230841	2-1	1:100,000
Drawn By	Checked By	Date
MVN	BT	30/06/2026

MKO
Email: info@mkoireland.ie/ Website: www.mkoireland.ie

544000
546000
548000
830000
828000
826000
N
T1
T2
T3
T4
T5
T6
T7
T8
T9
T10
T11
T12
T13
T14
T15
T16
T17
0
1
2 km
Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Microsoft, Vantor

Map Legend

- EIAR Site Boundary
- Proposed Turbines
- Proposed Turbine Foundations
- Proposed Turbine Hardstands
- Proposed Blade Storage Set Down Area
- Proposed Decommissioned Turbine Laydown Area
- Proposed New Roads
- Proposed Upgrades to Existing Roads
- Proposed Upgrades to Public Road
- Proposed Permanent LiDAR Locations
- Proposed Peat and Spoil Management Areas
- Proposed Borrow Pits
- Proposed Temporary Construction Compound
- Proposed Onsite 110kV Substation
- Proposed Temporary Turbine Delivery Overrun Areas
- Proposed Grid Connection Route Access Track
- Proposed Enhancement Area
- Proposed Grid Connection Route

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N

SITE LOCATION - NOT TO SCALE

Drawing Title
Proposed Wind Farm

Project Title
Crumhach Wind Farm, Co. Sligo

Project No.	Drawing No.	Scale
230841	2-2	1:20,000
Drawn By	Checked By	Date
MVN	BT	30/06/2026

Email: info@mkoireland.ie/ Website: www.mkoireland.ie

2.3 Targets and Objectives

The decommissioning phase works will be completed to the approved standards at the time of decommissioning, which include specified materials, standards, specifications and codes of practice. This Decommissioning Plan has considered all potential environmental issues associated with the decommissioning phase.

The key site targets are as follows:

- Ensure decommissioning works and activities are completed in accordance with mitigation and best practice approach presented in the accompanying Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), Natura Impact Statement (NIS) and associated planning documentation.
- Ensure decommissioning works and activities are in line with best practice decommissioning guidelines at the time of decommissioning.
- Ensure decommissioning works and activities have an imperceptible impact/disturbance to local landowners and the local community.
- Ensure decommissioning works and activities have an imperceptible impact on the natural environment.
- Adopt a sustainable approach to decommissioning; and,
- Provide adequate environmental training and awareness (to the approved standards at the time of decommissioning) for all project personnel.

The key site objectives are as follows:

- Using recycled materials, if possible, e.g. soil and overburden material for backfilling and reinstatement. Ensure sustainable sources for materials supply where possible.
- Ensure sustainable sources for materials supply where possible.
- Avoidance of any pollution incident or near miss as a result of working around or close to existing watercourses and have emergency measures in place.
- Avoidance of vandalism.
- Keeping all watercourses free from obstruction and debris.
- Correct implementation of the sustainable drainage system (SuDS) drainage design principles.
- Keep impact of decommissioning works to a minimum on the local environment, watercourses, and wildlife.
- Correct fuel storage and refuelling procedures to be followed.
- Good waste management and housekeeping to be implemented.
- Air and noise pollution prevention to be implemented.
- Monitoring of the works and any adverse effects that it may have on the environment.

2.4 Decommissioning Methodologies Overview

2.4.1 Introduction

An experienced principal contractor will be appointed to undertake the decommissioning of the Proposed Wind Farm. The principal contractor will comply with the Decommissioning Plan prepared for the decommissioning phase and any revisions made to this document throughout the phase in which it is adopted. An overview of the decommissioning methodologies is provided below.

2.4.2 Decommissioning Methodology

2.4.2.1 Proposed Wind Farm

As per Section 1.1.1 of Chapter 1, the existing 23 no. turbines will be removed as part of the construction phase of the Proposed Project which is not considered as part of this decommissioning plan. Further details can be sought in Appendix 4-5 CEMP.

At the time of decommissioning, elements of the Proposed Project that were developed as a temporary facilitator during the construction phase would have either been removed, restored to its original condition, or would have naturally revegetated; i.e., the temporary construction compounds. All access tracks and hardstanding areas forming part of a site track network will be left in situ for future use.

It is intended that the decommissioning process will remove all the remaining elements i.e., above ground components and underground cabling from the Proposed Wind Farm, and reinstate areas where infrastructure is removed. The following elements will be decommissioned:

- Wind turbines dismantling and removal off site;
- Turbine foundation: Turbine foundation backfilling following dismantling and removal of above ground structures (foundations that protrude above ground level will be backfilled with soil - underground reinforced concrete remaining in-situ);
- Internal Underground cabling: removal (ducting remaining).;

2.4.2.2 Wind Turbines

Prior to any works being undertaken on wind turbines, they will be disconnected from the grid by the site operator in conjunction with ESB Networks/EirGrid. The dismantling and removal of wind turbines and met mast of this scale is a specialist operation which will be undertaken by the turbine supplier or competent subcontractor. Turbine dismantling will be undertaken in reverse order to methodology employed during their construction. Cranes will be brought back to the Proposed Wind Farm utilising the hardstand areas adjacent to each turbine. The dismantling of turbines and met mast will be bound by the same safety considerations as will be the case during construction in terms of weather conditions. Works will not be undertaken during adverse weather conditions and in particular not during high winds.

The turbines will be removed from the Proposed Wind Farm in a similar manner to how they will be transported to the site originally in extended articulated trucks. The details of transport to and from the Proposed Wind Farm are assessed in Section 15.1 of Chapter 15 of the EIAR.

The transport of disassembled turbines from the Proposed Wind Farm will be undertaken in accordance with a Transport Management Plan (TMP). The TMP will be issued to and agreed with the planning authority at that time as part of a permit application for the delivery of abnormal loads using the local roads under the Road Traffic (Special Permits for Particular Vehicles) Regulations 2007. The TMP will provide for all necessary safety measures, including a convoy and Garda escort as required, off-peak turning/reversing movements and any necessary safety controls. A Traffic Management Plan is included as Appendix 15-2 of this EIAR.

2.4.2.3 Turbine Foundations and LiDAR Compounds

On the dismantling of the Proposed Turbines and LiDAR compounds, it is not intended to remove the concrete foundation from the ground. It is considered that its removal will be the least preferred options in terms of potential effects on the environment. Therefore, the foundations of the 17. no turbines will be covered with soil material. If there is usable soil or overburden material on the Proposed Wind Farm after construction, this material will be used. Alternatively, where material is not readily available

on site, soil will be sourced locally and imported to site on heavy good vehicles (HGVs). The imported soil will be spread and graded over the foundation using a tracked excavator and revegetation enhanced by spreading of an appropriate seed mix to assist in revegetation and accelerate the resumption of the natural drainage management that will have existed prior to any construction. The LiDAR compounds will be decommissioned and left to naturally regenerate.

2.4.2.4 Internal Underground Cabling

The underground cabling within the Proposed Wind Farm, connecting the turbines to the onsite 110kV substation and cable ducting will be left in-situ as it is considered the most environmentally prudent option, avoiding unnecessary excavation and soil disturbance. The cable materials will be transferred to a suitable recycling or recovery facility.

2.4.2.5 Proposed Onsite 110kV Substation

The proposed onsite110kV substation will remain in place as it will be under the ownership and control of ESB and EirGrid and will form a permanent part of the national electricity grid.

2.4.2.6 Existing Wind Farm Control Buildings

The 2 no. Existing Wind Farm control buildings will be disconnected from the grid prior to decommissioning. All above ground components and electrical plant will be dismantled. The underground cabling associated with the substation will be cut at either end and pulled from the underground ducting onto a cable drum. All materials will then be segregated and transported off-site to an appropriate facility and will be reconditioned and reused or recycled where possible.

Prior to demolition, the electrical control buildings will be stripped of conductors, switches and other materials and equipment. These materials will be managed along with the main substation plant and equipment. Demolition of the control building shall take place using conventional demolition methods.

The demolition waste shall comprise mainly rubble (blocks, broken concrete, and plaster etc.) and timber. Rubble can be segregated to provide an aggregate material which may be used in the reinstatement of the Site while un-suitable material will be removed and disposed of at an approved licenced waste management facility. Timber and other waste shall be segregated according to material type with a view to recycling where possible or disposal. All demolition materials which cannot be reused on site shall be removed off site to a licensed waste handling facility for recycling or disposal.

Once all above ground structures and equipment have been removed, the foundations and cable ducting will be left in-situ as it is considered the most environmentally prudent option, avoiding unnecessary excavation and soil disturbance for these underground elements. The existing control building footprints will be covered with earth and reseeded with an appropriate seed mix.

2.4.2.7 Proposed Grid Connection Route

The Proposed Grid Connection Route underground cabling will remain in place as it will be under the ownership and control of ESB and EirGrid.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The following sections give an overview of the drainage, dust and noise control measures, a waste management plan for the Site and the implementation of the environmental management procedures for the Site.

3.1 Site Drainage

The Site drainage features for this Proposed Wind Farm during its construction and operation are outlined in the EIAR which accompany this application. As this Decommissioning Plan is a working document and is presented as an Appendix to the EIAR, the drainage measures are not included in this document. When the final Decommissioning Plan is prepared prior to decommissioning and presented as a standalone document, all drainage management measures, which will include maintenance of the operational drainage measures, will be included in that document, as required. The drainage proposals will be developed further prior to the commencement of decommissioning if deemed necessary. However, it should be noted that by the time decommissioning is undertaken after the planned 35-year lifespan of the Proposed Wind Farm, the areas within the Proposed Wind Farm will have revegetated resulting in a resumption of the natural drainage management that will have existed prior to any construction. It is not anticipated that the decommissioning phase will interrupt this restored drainage regime in any way with the works proposed. As a minimum measure, areas where freshly placed soil material as part of turbine foundation reinstatement will be surrounded by silt fencing if deemed necessary until the area has naturally revegetated.

3.2 Refuelling, Fuel and Hazardous Material Storage

Wherever possible, vehicles will be refuelled off-site, particularly for regular road-going vehicles. On-site refuelling of machinery will be carried out at designated refuelling areas at various locations throughout the Site. Heavy plant and machinery will be refuelled on-site by a fuel truck that will come to the Site as required on a scheduled and organised basis. All refuelling will be carried out outside designated watercourse buffer zones. Only designated trained competent operatives will be authorised to refuel plant onsite. Mobile measures such as drip trays and fuel absorbent mats will be used during refuelling operations as required. All plant and machinery will be equipped with fuel absorbent material and pads to deal with any event of accidental spillage.

The following mitigation measures are proposed to avoid release of hydrocarbons at the Site:

- Road-going vehicles will be refuelled off site wherever possible;
- Fuels volumes stored on site will be minimised;
- Any fuel storage areas will be bunded appropriately for the fuel storage volume for the time period of the construction and fitted with a storm drainage system and an appropriate oil interceptor;
- Oils or fuels stored in turbines will be drained and disposed of off-site by a licenced waste contractor, to prevent leakage to groundwater or surface water;
- The plant used will be regularly inspected for leaks and fitness for purpose;
- An emergency plan for the decommissioning phase to deal with accidental spillages will be developed (refer to Section 5 of this Decommissioning Plan). Spill kits will be available to deal with an accidental spillage in and outside the refuelling area.
- A programme for the regular inspection of plant and equipment for leaks and fitness for purpose will be developed at the outset of the decommissioning phase.

3.3 Dust Control

Dust can be generated from on-site activities during decommissioning such as reinstatement of foundations and travelling on site roads during prolonged periods of dry weather. The extent of dust generation will depend on the type of activity undertaken, the location, the nature of the dust, i.e. soil, and the weather. In addition, dust dispersion is influenced by external factors such as wind speed and direction and/or periods of dry weather. Site traffic movements also have the potential to generate dust as they travel along the haul route. If necessary, haul roads and other areas of hardstanding will be damped down by water spray or water misting to prevent the generation of dust.

Proposed measures to control dust, which are the same as those proposed for the construction phase, include:

- A wheel wash facility will be installed on the Proposed Wind Farm at all proposed decommissioning site entrance and will be used by vehicles before leaving the site.
- Sporadic wetting of loose stone surface will be carried out during the decommissioning phase to minimise movement of dust particles to the air. In periods of extended dry weather, dust suppression may be necessary along haul roads, site roads, grid route, road widening sections, substation, and compounds and around the borrow pit area to ensure dust does not cause a nuisance.
    - If necessary, such as during periods of dry weather, de-silted water will be taken from stilling ponds in the site's drainage system and will be pumped into a bowser or water spreader to dampen down haul roads, turbine bases, borrow pit and site compounds to prevent the generation of dust where required.
    - Water bowser movements will be carefully monitored to avoid, insofar as reasonably possible, increased runoff.
- Areas of excavation will be kept to a minimum and stockpiling of excavated material will be minimised by coordinating excavation, placement of material in peat deposition areas.
- Turbines components and decommissioning phase materials will be transported from the site on specified haul routes only, as agreed with the local authority. o
    - The agreed haul route roads adjacent to the site will be regularly inspected for cleanliness and cleaned as deemed necessary by the decommissioning Site Supervisor/Site Manager.
- The transport of decommissioning materials may have the potential to generate dust in dry weather conditions. Roads will be watered down to suppress dust particles in the air as deemed necessary by the Site Supervisor/Manager.
- Waste material will be transferred to a licensed /permitted Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) by a fully licensed waste contractor where the waste will be sorted into individual waste streams for recycling, recovery or disposal.
    - The MRF facility will be local to the site to reduce dust emissions associated with vehicle movements. The nearest licensed waste facility is located approx. 21.3km northeast of the Proposed Wind Farm

3.4 Noise Control

The operation of plant and machinery, including site vehicles, is a source of potential impact that will require mitigation at all locations within the Site. To avoid unsociable hours where possible, decommissioning works will be restricted to occur between 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday and Saturday 07:00 to 13:00, which are the same as those proposed during the construction phase. There will be no working on Sundays and Public Holidays, however, it should be noted that out of necessity some activity outside of the core hours could arise, from delivery and unloading of abnormal loads or health and safety requirements, or to ensure optimal use is made of fair weather windows for the

dismantling of turbine blades and cranes. If occasional work is undertaken outside of core hours, this should be agreed in advance with the relevant Local Authority.

Section 8 of BS 5228-1:2009+A1:2014 recommends a number of simple control measures as summarised below that will be employed onsite.

Proposed measures to control noise include:

- Keep local residents informed of the proposed working schedule, where appropriate, including the times and duration of any abnormally noisy activity that may cause concern;
- All vehicles and mechanical plant will be fitted with effective exhaust silencers and be subject to programmed maintenance;
- Select inherently quiet plant where appropriate - all major compressors will be 'sound reduced' models fitted with properly lined and sealed acoustic covers, which will be kept closed whenever the machines are in use;
- All ancillary pneumatic percussive tools will be fitted with mufflers or silencers of the type recommended by the manufacturers;
- Machines will be shut down between work periods (or when not in use) or throttled down to a minimum;
- Regularly maintain all equipment used onsite, including maintenance related to noise emissions;
- Vehicles will be loaded carefully to ensure minimal drop heights so as to minimise noise during this operation; and
- All ancillary plant such as generators and pumps will be positioned so as to cause minimum noise disturbance and if necessary, temporary acoustic screens or enclosures will be provided.

3.5 Ground Disturbance, Material Excavation & Reinstatement

During decommissioning, all plant and machinery will keep to existing wind farm infrastructure (e.g. tracks and hardstanding) and will not encroach upon adjacent habitats unless this is essential in order to progress the decommissioning works. In the event of any necessary encroachment into adjoining habitats; appropriate trackway or matting shall be placed to avoid any loss of the adjoining habitat.

The reinstatement of any areas disturbed during the decommissioning works will be undertaken. The contractor will record excavated volumes and storage areas, and volumes and type of material utilised for reinstatement of relevant areas. This information will be updated for the duration of the decommissioning works.

Reinstatement will be completed using site-won materials wherever possible without compromising or damaging established/existing habitats. Natural vegetation will be preferred; however, native seed mixes may also be selected to complement surrounding species. The seed mix and method of application will be agreed with a suitably qualified ecologist to ensure that the reinstated habitats are compatible with those existing and surrounding the reinstated areas at the time of decommissioning.

All temporarily stockpiled materials will be stored in designated areas and isolated from any surface drains and a minimum of 50m away from surface water where possible. Aggregate or fine materials storage will be enclosed and screened/sheeted. No storage of materials within sensitive habitats will be permitted.

Soil and vegetation must be stored separately from subsoil and shall be retained and reinstated on all areas of stripped ground as soon as possible to prevent erosion and leaching/loss of nutrients.

3.6 Biodiversity

Regarding Biodiversity at the Site, the decommissioning phase will involve the following best practice mitigation measures:

- All measures to mitigate the risks of contamination of watercourses as highlighted in Chapters 8 (Land, Soils & Geology) and Chapter 9 (Hydrology and Hydrogeology) of the EIAR will be fully implemented.
- The areas within 50m of the hard-stand and turbine foundations will be subject to a pre-works terrestrial ecology walkover to highlight any constraints that may be present (e.g. breeding or resting places of protected species, presence of Invasive Plant Species). If any significant constraints are identified appropriate controls will be developed and integrated into the live decommissioning plan ahead of the commencement of the work.
- If any Third Schedule Invasive species are present in or adjacent to the works footprint, an Invasive Species Management Plan (ISMP) will be developed, and all recommendations implemented in accordance with the contemporary best practice measures.
- Speed limits will be enforced on Site access tracks.
- A detailed TMP will be incorporated into the decommissioning plan which will ensure that areas of intact blanket bog are unaffected by traffic or storage of plant and materials.
- All edible wastes will be stored in covered segregated containers and disposed of at licensed facilities.
- No refuelling or other hydrocarbon related usage will be undertaken within 50m of any watercourse in relation to maintenance vehicles, plant or machinery.
- Any import of soil or fill necessary in the decommissioning process shall be from approved sources and appropriately tested or inspected to minimise the risk of import of invasive species. Only soil appropriate to the Site (pH, soil type) will be used. The re-seeding or natural revegetation of reinstated areas will proceed on the advice of a suitably qualified ecologist. Any seed mix used will be on the approval of the ecologist.

3.6.1 Invasive Species Management

Any soil material that will be imported to the Proposed Wind Farm as part of the foundation reinstatement of proposed turbines and temporary construction compounds will be free of any invasive species (listed under the Third Schedule of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011). The Site Manager will take steps to ensure the sourcing of suitably clean soil material and verify the quality of the material by having it inspected prior to bringing it to site by a suitably qualified ecologist. Prior to decommissioning, a suitably qualified ecologist will complete an invasive species survey of the Site to identify invasive species where any minor excavation will be required. If present in these areas, the ecologist will propose suitable management measures.

3.7 Ornithology

Taking a precautionary approach, it is proposed that decommissioning works will commence outside the bird nesting season (1st of March to 31st of August inclusive) to avoid the most sensitive time of the year for most bird species with the potential to use the Proposed Wind Farm and its surroundings. Decommissioning monitoring surveys will be undertaken prior to the initiation of works at the Proposed Wind Farm. The survey will aim to identify sensitive sites (e.g., nests or roosts). Any requirement for decommissioning works to run into subsequent breeding or winter seasons following the commencement of works will be subject to a repeat of the decommissioning bird surveys.

Monitoring will be undertaken by a suitably qualified ornithologist. The survey will include a thorough walkover survey to a 500m radius of the development footprint and/or all works areas. If winter roosts or breeding activity of birds of high conservation concern is identified, the roost or nest site will be located and earmarked for monitoring at the beginning of the first winter or breeding season of the

decommissioning phase. If the roost/nest is found to be active during the decommissioning phase no works shall be undertaken, works will cease within a species-specific buffer of this (Forestry Commission Scotland, 2006; NatureScot, 2022); in line with best practice. No works shall be permitted within the buffer until it can be demonstrated that the roost or nest is no longer occupied.

All site staff and subcontractors will be made aware of any restrictions to be imposed by means of a toolbox talk and a map of the 'no-work zone' will be made available to all construction staff. The restricted area will also be marked off using hazard-tape fencing to alert all personnel on site to the suspension of works within that area.

Regarding Ornithology and Avian Populations, the decommissioning plan will include industry best practice measures to mitigation the impact of works on birds, which may include the following:

- No removal of woody vegetation or scrub will be carried out within the bird breeding season (March 1st to August 31st)
- Vantage Point surveys will be carried out for the season before and during the decommissioning process.
- The areas within 50m of the hard-stand and turbine foundations will be subject to a pre-works ornithology walkover to highlight any constraints that may be present (e.g. breeding or resting places of protected species). If any significant constraints are identified, appropriate controls will be developed and integrated into the live decommissioning plan ahead of the commencement of the work.
- Speed limits will be enforced on internal access tracks.

3.8 Traffic Management

A Traffic Management Plan (TMP) will be prepared in advance of any decommissioning works. The removal of turbines from the Proposed Wind Farm will be undertaken for a specialist haulier. The traffic management arrangements although similar to those that will be implemented for turbine delivery as outlined in the EIAR will be agreed in advance of decommissioning with the competent authority.

3.9 Waste Management

This section of the Decommissioning Plan provides a Resource and Waste Management Plan (RWMP) which outlines the best practice procedures during the decommissioning of the Proposed Wind Farm. The RWMP outlines the methods of waste prevention and minimisation by recycling, recovery and reuse at each stage of decommissioning. Disposal of waste will be a last resort.

3.9.1 Legislation

The Waste Management Act 1996 (the Act) and its subsequent amendments provide for measures to improve performance in relation to waste management, recycling and recovery. The Act also provides a regulatory framework for meeting higher environmental standards set out by other national and EU legislation.

The Act requires that any waste related activity has to have all necessary licenses and authorisations. It will be the duty of the Waste Manager on the Site to ensure that all contractors hired to remove waste, have valid Waste Collection Permits. It will then be necessary to ensure that the waste is delivered to a licensed or permitted waste facility. The hired waste contractors and subsequent receiving facilities must adhere to the conditions set out in their respective permits and authorisations. Waste removal-related traffic volumes during the decommissioning phase, will be less than those anticipated and assessed for the construction phase.

The Resource Waster Management Plan (RWMP) has been produced in line with the following guidance '*Best Practice Guidelines for the Preparation of Resource & Waste Management Plans for Construction & Demolition Projects*' (EPA, 2021)[1].

3.9.2 Waste Management Hierarchy

The waste management hierarchy sets out the most efficient way of managing in the following order:

Prevention and Minimisation:

The primary aim of the RWMP will be to prevent and thereby reduce the amount of waste generated at each stage of the Proposed Project.

Reuse of Waste:

Reusing as much of the waste generated on site as possible will reduce the quantities of waste that will have to be transported off site to recovery facilities or landfill.

Recycling of Waste:

There are several established markets available for the beneficial use of Construction and Demolition waste such as using waste concrete as fill for new access tracks.

At all times during the implementation of the RWMP, disposal of waste to landfill will be considered only as a last resort.

3.9.3 Waste Arising from Decommissioning

The relevant components will be removed from the Proposed Wind Farm for re-use, recycling or waste disposal. Any structural elements that are not suitable for recycling will be disposed of in an appropriate manner. All lubrication fluids will be drained down and put aside for appropriate collection, storage, transport and disposal. Any materials which cannot be re-used or recycled will be disposed of by an appropriately licenced contractor.

The waste types arising from the decommissioning of the Proposed Wind Farm are outlined in Table 3-1 below.

Table 3-1 Expected waste types arising during the Decommissioning Phase

Material Type	Example	EWC Code
Cables	Electrical wiring	17 04 11
Metals	Copper, aluminium, lead and iron	17 04 07
Fibreglass	Turbine blade component	10 11 03
Hydrocarbons	Oils and lubricants drained from the turbines	13 01 01, 13 02 04

[1] *EPA, 2021. Best practice guidelines for the preparation of resource & waste management plans for construction and demolition projects. Available at: https://www.epa.ie/publications/circular-economy/resources/CDWasteGuidelines.pdf*

3.9.3.1 Reuse

Many construction materials can be reused several times before they have to be disposed of:

- Electrical wiring can be reused on similar wind energy projects.
- Elements of the turbine components can be reused but this will be determined by the condition that they are in.

3.9.3.2 Recycling

If a certain type of construction material cannot be reused onsite, then recycling is the most suitable option. The opportunity for recycling during decommissioning will be limited and restricted to components of the wind turbines.

All waste that is produced during the decommissioning phase including dry recyclables will be deposited in the on-site skip initially and sent for subsequent segregation at a remote facility. The anticipated volume of all waste material to be generated at the Site is low which provides the justification for adopting this method of waste management.

3.9.3.3 Implementation

3.9.3.3.1 *Roles and Responsibilities*

Prior to the commencement of the decommissioning, a Decommissioning Waste Manager will be appointed by the Contractor. The Decommissioning Waste Manager will oversee the implementation of the objectives of the plan, ensuring that all hired waste contractors have the necessary authorisations and that the waste management hierarchy is adhered to. The person nominated must have sufficient authority so that they can ensure everyone working on the decommissioning adheres to the RWMP.

3.9.3.3.2 *Training*

It is important for the Decommissioning Waste Manager to communicate effectively with colleagues in relation to the aims and objectives of the waste management plan. All employees working on site during the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Wind Farm will be trained in materials management and thereby, should be able to:

- Distinguish reusable materials from those suitable for recycling.
- Ensure maximum segregation at source.
- Co-operate with site manager on the best locations for stockpiling reusable materials.
- Separate materials for recovery; and
- Identify and liaise with waste contractors and waste facility operators.

3.9.3.3.3 *Record Keeping*

The RWMP will provide systems that will enable all arisings, movements and treatments of construction waste to be recorded. This system will enable the contractor to measure and record the quantity of waste being generated. It will highlight the areas from which most waste occurs and allows the measurement of arisings against performance targets. The RWMP can then be adapted with changes that are seen through record keeping.

The fully licensed waste contractor employed to remove waste from the Site will be required to provide documented records for all waste dispatches leaving the Site. Each record will contain the following:

- Consignment Reference Number;
- Material Type(s) and EWC Code(s)/LOW Codes(s);

- Company Name and Address of Site of Origin;
- Trade Name and Collection Permit Ref. of Waste Carrier;
- Trade Name and Licence Ref. of Destination Facility;
- Date and Time of Waste Dispatch;
- Registration no. of Waste Carrier vehicle;
- Weight of Material;
- Signature of Confirmation of Dispatch detail;
- Date and Time of Waste Arrival at Destination; and
- Site Address of Destination Facility.

3.9.3.4 Waste Management Plan Conclusion

The RWMP will be properly adhered to by all staff involved in the Proposed Project which will be outlined within the induction process for all site personnel. The waste hierarchy should always be employed when designing the plan to ensure that the least possible amount of waste is produced during decommissioning. Reuse of certain types of construction wastes will cut down on the cost and requirement of raw materials therefore further minimising waste levels.

This RWMP has been prepared to outline the main objectives that are to be adhered to and it will be updated as required prior to decommissioning.

3.10 Environmental Management Implementation

3.10.1 Roles and Responsibilities

The Site Manager and/or Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) are the project focal point relating to decommissioning-related environmental issues.

In general, the ECoW will maintain responsibility for monitoring the decommissioning works and Contractors/Sub-contractors from an environmental perspective. The ECoW will act as the regulatory interface on environmental matters. The Site Manager will be responsible for reporting to and liaising with SCC and other statutory bodies as required.

The Site Manager in consultation with the ECoW will be responsible for employing the services of a suitably qualified ecologist and any other suitably qualified professionals as required throughout the decommissioning works.

4. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Decommissioning of the Proposed Wind Farm will necessitate the presence of a construction site and travel on the local public road network to and from the Site. Construction sites and the machinery used on them pose a potential health and safety hazard to construction workers if site rules are not properly implemented.

The Proposed Wind Farm will be decommissioned in accordance with all relevant Health and Safety Legislation, including:

- Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 (No. 10 of 2005);
- Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Application) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 (S.I. No. 36 of 2016);
- S.I. No. 528/2021 - Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 and
- Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Work at Height) Regulations 2006 (S.I. No. 318 of 2006).

The following measures below are also detailed in Chapter 18: Schedule of Monitoring and Mitigation Measures.

- A Health and Safety Plan covering all aspects of the decommissioning process will address the Health and Safety requirements in detail. This will be prepared on a preliminary basis at the procurement stage and developed further at decommissioning stage.
- All hazards will be identified, and risks assessed. Where elimination of the risk is not feasible, appropriate mitigation and/or control measures will be established. The contractor will be obliged under the decommissioning contract and current health and safety legislation to adequately provide for all hazards and risks associated with the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Wind Farm. Safepass registration cards are required for all decommissioning, delivery and security staff. Decommissioning operatives will hold a valid Construction Skills Certificate Scheme card where required. The developer is required to ensure a competent contractor is appointed to carry out the decommissioning works. The contractor will be responsible for the implementation of procedures outlined in the Safety and Health Plan. Public safety will be addressed by restricting Site access during construction. Fencing will be erected in areas of the Site where uncontrolled access is not permitted
- Goal posts will be established, where necessary, under overhead electricity lines for the entirety of the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Wind Farm.
- The suitability of machinery and equipment for use near power lines will be risk assessed.
- All staff will be trained on operating voltages of overhead electricity lines running the Site. All staff will be trained to be aware of the risks associated with overhead lines. All contractors that may visit the Site are made aware of the location of lines before they come on to Site.
- Barriers will run parallel to the overhead line at a minimum horizontal distance of 6 metres on plan from the nearest overhead line conductor wire.
- When activities must be carried out beneath overhead lines, e.g., turbine component removal, a site-specific risk assessment will be undertaken prior to any works. The risk assessment must take into account the maximum potential height that can be reached by the plant or equipment that will be used prior to any works. Overhead line proximity detection equipment will be fitted to machinery when such works are required.
- Information on safe clearances will be provided to all staff and visitors.
- Signage indicating locations and health and safety measures regarding overhead lines will be erected in canteens and onsite.
- All staff will be made aware of and adhere to the Health & Safety Authority's 'Guidelines on the Procurement, Design and Management Requirements of the Safety, Health and Welfare

at Work *(Construction) (Amendment) Regulations 2021'.* This will encompass the use of all necessary Personal Protective Equipment and adherence to the Site Health and Safety Plan.

The scale and scope of the project necessitates that a Project Supervisor Design Process (PSDP) and Project Supervisor Construction Stage (PSCS) are required to be appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Health & Safety Authority's '*Guidelines on the Procurement, Design and Management Requirements of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013'*.

The PSDP appointed for the decommissioning stage shall be required to perform his/her duties as prescribed in the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations. These duties include (but are not limited to):

- Identify hazards arising from the design or from the technical, organisational, planning or time related aspects of the project;
- Where possible, eliminate the hazards or reduce the risks;
- Communicate necessary control measures, design assumptions or remaining risks to the PSCS so they can be dealt with in the Safety and Health Plan;
- Ensure that the work of designers is coordinated to ensure safety;
- Organise co-operation between designers;
- Prepare a written Safety and Health Plan;
- Prepare a safety file for the completed structure and give it to the client; and
- Notify the Authority and the client of non-compliance with any written directions issued.

The PSCS appointed for the decommissioning stage shall be required to perform his/her duties as prescribed in the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations. These duties include (but are not limited to):

- Development of the Safety and Health Plan for the decommissioning stage with updating where required as work progresses;
- Compile and develop safety file information.
- Reporting of accidents / incidents;
- Weekly Site meeting with PSDP;
- Coordinate arrangements for checking the implementation of safe working procedures.
- Ensure that the following are being carried out:
    - Induction of all Site staff including any new staff enlisted for the project from time to time;
    - Toolbox talks as necessary;
    - Maintenance of a file which lists personnel on Site, their name, nationality, current Safe Pass number, current Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) card (where relevant) and induction date;
    - Report on Site activities to include but not limited to information on accidents and incidents, disciplinary action taken and PPE compliance;
    - Monitor the compliance of contractors and others and take corrective action where necessary; and
    - Notify the Authority and the client of non-compliance with any written directions issued.

5. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

An Emergency Response Plan (ERP) is presented in this section of the Decommissioning Plan. It provides details of procedures to be adopted in the event of an emergency in terms of site health and safety and environmental protection.

5.1 Emergency Response Procedure

The ERP includes details on the response required and the responsibilities of all personnel in the event of an emergency. The ERP will require updating and submissions from the contractor/PSCS and sub-contractors as decommissioning progresses. Where sub-contractors that are contracted onsite are governed by their own emergency response procedure a bridging arrangement will be adopted to allow for inclusion of the sub-contractor's ERP within this within this document.

This is a working document that requires updating throughout the various stages of the Proposed Project.

5.1.1 Roles and Responsibilities

The chain of command during an emergency response sets out who is responsible for coordinating the response. The Site Supervisor/Decommissioning Manager will lead the emergency response which makes him responsible for activating and coordinating the emergency response procedure. The other site personnel who can be identified at this time who will be delegated responsibilities during the emergency response are presented in Figure 5-1. In a situation where the Site Supervisor/Decommissioning Manager is unavailable or incapable of coordinating the emergency response, the responsibility will be transferred to the next person in the chain of command outlined in Figure 5-1. This will be updated throughout the various stages of the decommissioning process.

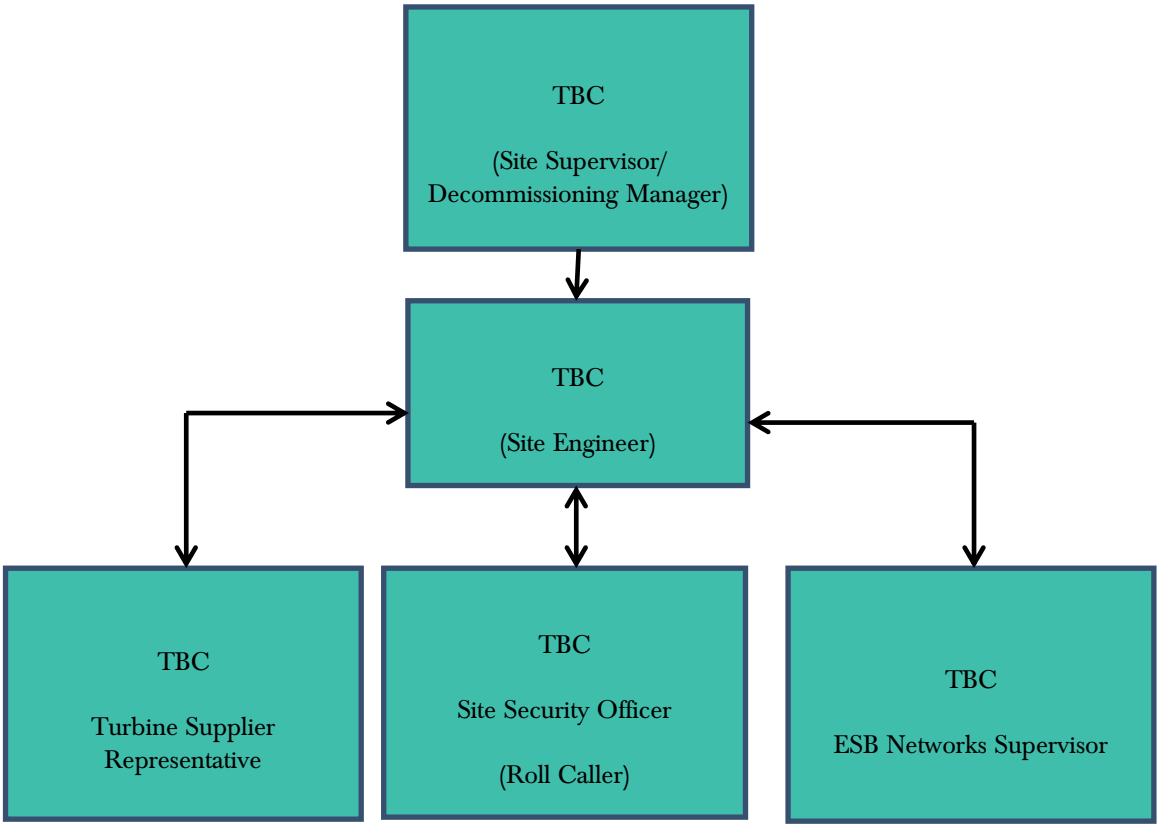


Figure 5-1 Emergency Response Procedure Chain of Command

5.1.2 Initial Steps

To establish the type and scale of potential emergencies that may occur, the following hazards have been identified in Table 5-1 below as being potential situations that may require an emergency response in the event of an occurrence.

Table 5-1 Hazards associated with potential emergency situations

Hazard	Emergency Situation
Construction Vehicles: Dump trucks, tractors, excavators, cranes etc.	Collision or overturn which has resulted in operator or third-party injury.
Peat Instability	Excessive movement of peat on site; onset of peat slide.
Abrasive wheels/Portable Tools	Entanglement, amputation or electrical shock associated with portable tools
Contact with services	Electrical shock or gas leak associated with an accidental breach of underground services
Fire	Injury to operative through exposure to fire
Falls from heights including falls from scaffold towers, scissor lifts, ladders, roofs and turbines.	Injury to operative after a fall from a height
Sickness	Illness unrelated to site activities of an operative e.g. heart attack, loss of consciousness, seizure
Turbine Specific Incident	This will be included the turbine manufacturers' emergency response plan.

In the event of an emergency situation associated with, but not restricted to, the hazards outlined in Table 5-1 the Site Supervisor/Decommissioning Manager will carry out the following:

- Establish the scale of the emergency situation and identify the number of personnel, if any, have been injured or are at risk of injury.
- Where necessary, sound the emergency siren/foghorn that activates an emergency evacuation. The Site Supervisor/Decommissioning Manager must proceed to the assembly point if the emergency poses any significant threat to their welfare and if there are no injured personnel at the scene that require assistance. The Site Supervisor/ Decommissioning Manager will be required to use their own discretion at that point. In the case of fire, the emergency evacuation should proceed, without exception. The evacuation procedure is outlined in Section 5.1.3.
- Make safe the area if possible and ensure that there is no identifiable risk exists with regard to dealing with the situation e.g. if a machine has turned over, ensure that it is in a safe position so as not to endanger others before assisting the injured.
- Contact the required emergency services or delegate the task to someone. If delegating the task, ensure that the procedures for contacting the emergency services as set out in Section 5.2 is followed.
- Take any further steps that are deemed necessary to make safe or contain the emergency incident e.g. cordon off an area where an incident associated with electrical issues has occurred.
- Contact any regulatory body or service provider as required e.g. ESB Networks the numbers for which as provided in Section 5.2.

- Contact the next of kin of any injured personnel where appropriate.

5.1.3 Site Evacuation/Fire Drill

A site evacuation/fire drill procedure will provide basis for carrying out the immediate evacuation of all site personnel in the event of an emergency. The following steps will be taken:

- Notification of the emergency situation. Provision of a siren or foghorn to notify all personnel of an emergency situation.
- An assembly point will be designated in the construction compound area and will be marked with a sign. All site personnel will assemble at this point.
- A roll call will be carried out by the Site Security Officer to account for all personnel on site.
- The Site Security Officer will inform the Site Supervisor/Decommissioning Manager when all personnel have been accounted for. The Supervisor/Decommissioning Manager will decide the next course of action, which be determined by the situation that exists at that time and will advise all personnel accordingly.

All personnel will be made aware of the evacuation procedure during site induction. The Fire Services Acts of 1981 and 2003 require the holding of fire safety evacuation drills at specified intervals and the keeping of records of such drills.

5.1.4 Excessive Peat Movement

As stated in Appendix 4-2 Peat and Spoil Management Plan (PSMP), in the unlikely event of excessive peat movement or continuing peat movement recorded at a monitoring location, or identified at any location within the site, but no apparent signs of distress to the peat (e.g., cracking, surface rippling) then the following shall be carried out.

1. *All activities (if any) shall cease within the affected area.*
2. *Increased monitoring at the location shall be carried out. The area will be monitored, as appropriate, until such time as movements have ceased.*
3. *Re-commencement of activities shall only start following a cessation of movement and agreement with all parties (Contractor/Engineer/Designer).*

5.1.5 Onset of Peat Slide

As stated in Appendix 4-2 PSMP, in the unlikely event of an onset or actual detachment of peat (e.g., cracking, surface rippling) then the following shall be carried out.

1. *On alert of a peat slide incident, all activities (if any) in the area should cease and all available resources will be diverted to assist in the required mitigation procedures.*
2. *Action will be taken to prevent a peat slide reaching any watercourse. This will take the form of the construction of check barrages on land. Due to the terrain and the inability to predict locations it may not be possible to implement any on-land prevention measures, in this case a watercourse check barrage will be implemented.*
3. *All relevant authorities should be notified if a peat slide event occurs on site.*
4. *For localised peat slides that do not represent a risk to a watercourse and have essentially come to rest the area will be stabilised initially by rock infill, if required. The failed area and surrounding area will then be assessed by the engineering staff and stabilisation procedures implemented. The area will be monitored, as appropriate, until such time as movements have ceased.*

5.1.6 Spill Control Measures

Every effort will be made to prevent an environmental incident during the decommissioning phase of the project. Oil/fuel spillages are one of the main environmental risks that will exist on the Site which will require an emergency response procedure. The importance of a swift and effective response in the event of such an incident occurring cannot be over emphasised. The following steps provide the procedure to be followed in the event of such an incident:

- Stop the spill at source and raise the alarm to alert people working in the vicinity of any potential dangers;
- If applicable, eliminate any sources of ignition in the immediate vicinity of the incident.
- Contain the spill using the spill control materials, track mats or other material as required. Do not spread or flush away the spill;
- If possible, cover or bund off any vulnerable areas where appropriate such as drains, watercourses or sensitive habitats;
- If possible, clean up as much as possible using the spill control materials.
- Contain any used spill control material and dispose of used materials appropriately using a fully licensed waste contractor with the appropriate permits so that further contamination is limited;
- Notify the ECoW immediately giving information on the location, type and extent of the spill so that they can take appropriate action;
- The ECoW will inspect the site and ensure the necessary measures are in place to contain and clean up the spill and prevent further spillage from occurring; and
- The ECoW will notify the appropriate regulatory body such as Sligo County Council, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), if deemed necessary.

The importance of a swift and effective response in the event of such an incident occurring cannot be over emphasised. Environmental incidents are not limited to just fuel spillages. Therefore, any environmental incident must be investigated in accordance with the following steps.

- The ECoW must be immediately notified;
- If necessary, the ECoW will inform the appropriate regulatory authority. The appropriate regulatory authority will depend on the nature of the incident;
- The details of the incident will be recorded on an Environmental Incident Form which will provide information such as the cause, extent, actions and remedial measures used following the incident. The form will also include any recommendations made to avoid reoccurrence of the incident; and
- A record of all environmental incidents will be kept on file by the ECoW and the Main Contractor. These records will be made available to the relevant authorities such as Sligo County Council, or the EPA if required.

The ECoW will be responsible for any corrective actions required as a result of the incident e.g. an investigative report, formulation of alternative works methodologies or environmental sampling, and will advise the Main Contractor as appropriate.

5.2 Contact the Emergency Services

5.2.1 Emergency Communications Procedure

In the event of requiring the assistance of the emergency services the following steps will be taken:

Stay calm. It is important to take a deep breath and not get excited. Any situation that requires 999/112 is, by definition, an emergency. The dispatcher or call-taker knows that and will try to move things along quickly, but under control.

Know the location of the emergency and the number you are calling from. This may be asked and answered a couple of times but do not get frustrated. Even though many emergency call centres have enhanced capabilities meaning they are able to see your location on the computer screen they are still required to confirm the information. If for some reason you are disconnected, at least emergency crews will know where to go and how to call you back.

Wait for the call-taker to ask questions, then answer clearly and calmly. If you are in danger of assault, the dispatcher or call-taker will still need you to answer quietly, mostly "yes" and "no" questions.

If you reach a recording, listen to what it says. If the recording says your call cannot be completed, hang up and try again. If the recording says all call takers are busy, WAIT. When the next call-taker or dispatcher is available to take the call, it will transfer you.

Let the call-taker guide the conversation. He or she is typing the information into a computer and may seem to be taking forever. There is a good chance, however, that emergency services are already being sent while you are still on the line.

Follow all directions. In some cases, the call-taker will give you directions. Listen carefully, follow each step exactly, and ask for clarification if you do not understand.

Keep your eyes open. You may be asked to describe victims, suspects, vehicles, or other parts of the scene.

Do not hang up the call until directed to do so by the call taker.

Due to the location of the Site, it may be necessary to liaise with the emergency services on the ground in terms of locating the Site. This may involve providing an escort from a designated meeting point that may be located more easily by the emergency services. This should form part of the Site induction to make new personnel and sub-contractors aware of any such arrangement or requirement if applicable.

5.3 Contact Details

A list of emergency contacts is presented in Table 5-2. A copy of these contacts will be included in the Site Safety Manual and in the Site offices and the various site welfare facilities.

Table 5-2 Emergency Contacts

Contact	Telephone no.
Emergency Services – Ambulance, Fire, Gardaí	999/112
Doctor – Doctor – Skreen Family Practice	071 9166619
Hospital – University Hospital Sligo– Sligo Town	071 917 1111
ESB Emergency Services	1800 372 999
Gas Networks Ireland Emergency	1800 20 50 50
Gardaí – Enniscrone Garda Station	096 36103

Health and Safety Co-ordinator - Health & Safety Services	TBC
Health and Safety Authority	0818 289 389
Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI)	0818 347 424
Project Supervisor Construction Stage (PSCS): TBC	TBC
Project Supervisor Design Stage (PSDS): TBC	TBC
Client: SSE Renewables (Ireland) Ltd.	01 6556400

5.4 Procedure for Personnel Tracking

All operatives on site without any exception will have to undergo a site induction where they will be required to provide personal contact details which will include contact information for the next of kin.

In the event of a site operative becoming in an emergency situation where serious injury has occurred and hospitalisation has taken place, it will be the responsibility of the Site Manager or next in command if unavailable to contact the next of kin to inform them of the situation that exists.

5.5 Induction Checklist

Table 5-3 provides a list of items highlighted in this ERP which must be included or obtained during the mandatory site induction of all personnel that will work on the Site. This will be updated throughout the various stages of the Proposed Project.

Table 5-3 Emergency Response Plan Items Applicable to the Site Induction Process

ERP Items to be included in Site Induction	Status
All personnel will be made aware of the evacuation procedure during site induction.	
Due to the remoteness of the Site it may be necessary to liaise with and assist the emergency services on the ground in terms of locating the Site. This may involve providing an escort from a designated meeting point that may be located more easily by the emergency services. This should form part of the Site induction to make new personnel and sub-contractors aware of any such arrangement or requirement if applicable.	
All operatives on site without any exception will have undergo a site induction where they will be required to provide personal contact details which will include contact information for the next of kin.	

6. PROGRAMME OF WORKS

6.1 Decommissioning Schedule

The decommissioning phase will take approximately 3 – 9 months to complete from commencing the removal of turbines to the final reinstatement of the Proposed Wind Farm.

At this time, it is not possible to determine when decommissioning will take place. The phasing and scheduling of the main decommissioning task items are outlined in Table 6-1 below.

Table 6-1 Indicative Decommissioning Schedule

ID	Task Name	Task Description	Month 1-3	Month 3-6	Months 6-9
1	Site Health and Safety	Manage Site Health and Safety			
2	Turbine Decommissioning	Disconnect Power Output			
3	Turbine & Met Mast Dismantling	Disassemble Turbine Components			
4	Turbine Removal	Transport of all Turbine Components off Site			
5	Cable Removal	Remove Underground Cables from Ducting			
6	Turbine Foundations Backfill	Reinstate Foundation Areas by Covering with Soil Material			

7. MITIGATION PROPOSALS

All mitigation measures relating to the pre-commencement, construction and operational phases of the Proposed Project are set out in the various sections of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and NIS and listed in Chapter 18: Schedule of Mitigation Measures prepared as part of the planning permission application to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

This section of the Decommissioning Plan groups together all of the Decommissioning phase mitigation measures presented in the above documents. These Mitigation Measures are presented in Table 7-1.

The mitigation proposals are presented in the below table format to provide an easy-to-audit list that can be reviewed and reported on during the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Wind Farm.

Table 7-1 Proposed Mitigation Measures

Ref MM No.	Reference Heading	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
EIAR Chapter 4 – Description of the Proposed Project					
Decommissioning Phase					
MM1	Decommissioning	EIAR Chapter 4 Appendix 4-6	A Decommissioning Plan has been prepared (Appendix 4-6) the detail of which will be agreed with the Local Authority prior to any decommissioning. The Decommissioning Plan will be updated prior to the end of the operational period in line with decommissioning methodologies that may exist at the time and will agree with the competent authority at that time. The potential for effects during the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Wind Farm has been fully assessed in the EIAR.		
MM2	Decommissioning	EIAR Chapter 4 Appendix 4-6	› Upon decommissioning of the Proposed Wind Farm, the wind turbines and the meteorological mast would be disassembled. All above ground turbine and mast components would be separated and removed off-site for recycling. Turbine and mast foundations would remain underground and would be covered with earth and allowed to revegetate. Leaving the foundations in-situ is considered a more environmentally prudent option, as to remove that volume of reinforced concrete from the ground could result in significant temporary environment nuisances such as noise, dust and/or vibration. Site roadways will be used during the operational phase by farm machinery and therefore will be retained where requested post-decommissioning to facilitate these activities. › The underground electrical cabling connecting the turbines to the onsite substation will be removed from the cable ducts. The cabling will be pulled from the cable ducts using a mechanical winch which will extract the cable and re-roll it on to a cable drum. This will be undertaken at		

			the original cable jointing pits which will be excavated using a mechanical excavator and will be fully re-instated once the cables are removed. The cable ducting will be left in-situ as it is considered the most environmentally prudent option, avoiding unnecessary excavation and soil disturbance. The cable materials will be transferred to a suitable recycling or recovery facility. › The Proposed Grid Connection Route and onsite substation will remain in place as it will be part of the Electricity Grid under the ownership and control of the ESB and EirGrid.		
MM3	Refuelling	EIAR Chapter 4, 8, 9 Appendix 4-6	Wherever possible, vehicles will be refuelled off-site, particularly for regular road-going vehicles. On-site refuelling of machinery will be carried out at designated refuelling areas at various locations throughout the Site. Heavy plant and machinery will be refuelled on-site by a fuel truck that will come to the Site as required on a scheduled and organised basis. All refuelling will be carried out outside designated watercourse buffer zones. Only designated trained competent operatives will be authorised to refuel plant onsite. Mobile measures such as drip trays and fuel absorbent mats will be used during refuelling operations as required. All plant and machinery will be equipped with fuel absorbent material and pads to deal with any event of accidental spillage. The following mitigation measures are proposed to avoid release of hydrocarbons at the Site: › Road-going vehicles will be refuelled off site wherever possible; › Fuels volumes stored on site will be minimised; › Any fuel storage areas will be bunded appropriately for the fuel storage volume for the time period of the construction and fitted with a storm drainage system and an appropriate oil interceptor; › Oils or fuels stored in turbines will be drained and disposed of off-site by a licenced waste contractor, to prevent leakage to groundwater or surface water;		

			› The plant used will be regularly inspected for leaks and fitness for purpose; › An emergency plan for the decommissioning phase to deal with accidental spillages will be developed (refer to Section 5.1.6 of this Decommissioning Plan). Spill kits will be available to deal with an accidental spillage in and outside the refuelling area. › A programme for the regular inspection of plant and equipment for leaks and fitness for purpose will be developed at the outset of the decommissioning phase.		
EIAR Chapter 5 – Population and Human Health					
Decommissioning Phase					
MM4	Decommissioning Phase	EIAR Chapter 4, 5 Appendix 4-6	› The wind turbines proposed as part of the Proposed Project are expected to have a lifespan of approximately 35 years. Following the end of their useful life, the wind turbines may be replaced with a new set of turbines, subject to planning permission being obtained, or the Proposed Turbines may be decommissioned fully. The Proposed Grid Connection Route and on-site substation will remain in place as it will form part of the Electricity Grid under the ownership and control of the ESB and EirGrid. › The works required during the decommissioning phase are described in Section 4.10 in Chapter 4: Description of the Proposed Project. Any impact and consequential effect that occurs during the decommissioning phase will be similar to that which occurs during the construction phase, however to a lesser extent, and the mitigation measures outlined above will be implemented during the decommissioning phase also. A Decommissioning Plan has been prepared as part of this EIAR and is included as Appendix 4-6. This Decommissioning Plan follows the most up to date NatureScot guidance. By its nature, the Decommissioning Plan is a working document and, in accordance with the NatureScot guidance, an updated Decommissioning Plan will be agreed with the		

			local authorities three months prior to decommissioning the Proposed Project. The principles that will inform the final decommissioning plan are contained in the CEMP in Appendix 4-5.		
EIAR Chapter 6 – Biodiversity					
Decommissioning Phase					
MM5	Decommissioning Phase	EIAR Chapter 6 Appendix 4-6	› It is anticipated that there will be no additional habitat loss associated with the decommissioning of the Proposed Project and therefore there will be no significant effects in this regard. In addition, the removal of the infrastructure will involve similar operations to those involved in construction but without the large-scale earth moving or excavations as the turbine bases and roads etc. will be left in place. These works would therefore be of a smaller scale but would have similar impacts on ecology to those experienced during construction. There would be no additional or ancillary impacts associated with the decommissioning phase. › The same mitigation to prevent significant impacts on water quality and associated aquatic fauna and other terrestrial fauna during construction will be applicable to the decommissioning phase.		
EIAR Chapter 7 – Birds					
Decommissioning Phase					
MM6	Decommissioning	EIAR Chapter 7 Appendix 7-7 Appendix 4-6	Taking a precautionary approach, it is proposed that decommissioning works will commence outside the bird nesting season (1st of March to 31st of August inclusive) to avoid the most sensitive time of the year for most bird species with the potential to use the Proposed Wind Farm and its surroundings. Decommissioning monitoring surveys will be undertaken prior to the initiation of works at the Proposed Wind Farm. The survey will aim to identify sensitive sites (e.g., nests or roosts). Any requirement for		

			decommissioning works to run into subsequent breeding or winter seasons following the commencement of works will be subject to a repeat of the decommissioning bird surveys. Monitoring will be undertaken by a suitably qualified ornithologist. The survey will include a thorough walkover survey to a 500m radius of the development footprint and/or all works areas. If winter roosts or breeding activity of birds of high conservation concern is identified, the roost or nest site will be located and earmarked for monitoring at the beginning of the first winter or breeding season of the decommissioning phase. If the roost/nest is found to be active during the decommissioning phase no works shall be undertaken, works will cease within a species-specific buffer of this (Forestry Commission Scotland, 2006; NatureScot, 2022); in line with best practice. No works shall be permitted within the buffer until it can be demonstrated that the roost or nest is no longer occupied. All site staff and subcontractors will be made aware of any restrictions to be imposed by means of a toolbox talk and a map of the 'no-work zone' will be made available to all construction staff. The restricted area will also be marked off using hazard-tape fencing to alert all personnel on site to the suspension of works within that area. Regarding Ornithology and Avian Populations, the decommissioning plan will include industry best practice measures to mitigation the impact of works on birds, which may include the following: › No removal of woody vegetation or scrub will be carried out within the bird breeding season (March 1st to August 31st) › Vantage Point surveys will be carried out for the season before and during the decommissioning process. › The areas within 50m of the hard-stand and turbine foundations will be subject to a pre-works ornithology walkover to highlight any constraints that may be present (e.g. breeding or resting		

			places of protected species). If any significant constraints are identified, appropriate controls will be developed and integrated into the live decommissioning plan ahead of the commencement of the work.		
EIAR Chapter 8 – Lands, Soils and Geology					
Decommissioning Phase					
MM7	Decommissioning Phase	EIAR Chapter 8 Appendix 4-6	The potential impacts associated with decommissioning of the Proposed Project will be similar to those associated with construction but of reduced magnitude. Mitigation measures applied during decommissioning activities will be similar to those applied during construction where relevant. Mitigation proposed in Line Items MM66 to MM72 in Table 18-1 in Chapter 18 of the EIAR will be implemented as appropriate. Mitigation measures to avoid contamination by accidental fuel leakage will be implemented as per the construction phase mitigation measures outlined in Line-Item MM67 of Table 18-1 in Chapter 18.		
EIAR Chapter 9 – Hydrology and Hydrogeology					
Decommissioning Phase					
MM8	Decommissioning Phase	EIAR Chapter 9 Appendix 4-6	The potential impacts associated with decommissioning of the Proposed Project will be similar to those associated with construction but of a reduced magnitude, due to the reduced scale of the proposed decommissioning works in comparison to construction phase works. Mitigation proposed in Line Items MM77 to MM92 in Table 18-1 in Chapter 18 of the EIAR will be implemented as appropriate.		
EIAR Chapter 10 – Air Quality					

Decommissioning Phase					
MM9	Decommissioning Phase	EIAR Chapter 10	Any impact and consequential effect that occurs during the decommissioning phase will be similar to that which occur during the construction phase, albeit of lesser impact. The mitigation measures prescribed for the construction phase of the Proposed Wind Farm will be implemented during the decommissioning phase thereby minimising any potential impacts. Mitigation proposed in Line Items MM98 to MM100 in Table 18-1 in Chapter 18 of the EIAR will be implemented as appropriate.		
EIAR Chapter 11 – Climate					
Decommissioning Phase					
MM10	Decommissioning Phase	EIAR Chapter 11	Any impact and consequential effect that occurs during the decommissioning phase are similar to that which occur during the construction phase, albeit of lesser impact. The mitigation measures prescribed for the construction phase of the Proposed Wind Farm will be implemented during the decommissioning phase thereby minimising any potential impacts. Mitigation proposed in Line Item MM103 in Table 18-1 in Chapter 18 of the EIAR will be implemented as appropriate.		
EIAR Chapter 12 – Noise					
Decommissioning Phase					
MM11	Decommissioning Phase (Noise)	EIAR Chapter 12 Appendix 4-6	Activities that occur during the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Project are unlikely to produce higher noise levels than those produced during construction and many of the activities will be similar in nature, particularly those related to the removal of the existing turbines. As such it is considered that if construction noise levels are predicted to be below the threshold levels, then decommissioning noise will also be within the		

			threshold levels. A schedule of noise control measures has been formulated in accordance with best practice guidance. These are outlined in the Decommissioning Plan (Appendix 4-6) that has been prepared for the Proposed Project.		
EIAR Chapter 15 – Material Assets					
Decommissioning Phase					
MM12	Decommissioning Phase	EIAR Chapter 15 Appendix 4-6	In the event that the Proposed Project is decommissioned after the 35 years of operation, a decommissioning plan, will be prepared for agreement with the Local Authority, as described in Chapter 4 and Appendix 4-6 Decommissioning Plan. This plan will include preparation of a material recycling / disposal and traffic management plan for agreement with the local authority prior to decommissioning, in accordance with Scottish Natural Heritage report (SNH) *Research and Guidance on Restoration and Decommissioning of Onshore Wind Farms* (SNH, 2013).		
MM13	Decommissioning Phase	EIAR Chapter 15 Appendix 4-6	As stated in Section 15.2.6.2 in Chapter 15, the potential for electromagnetic interference from the Proposed Turbines occurs only during the operational phase of the Proposed Project. There are no electromagnetic interference impacts associated with the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Project, and therefore no mitigation is required.		

8. MONITORING PROPOSALS

All monitoring proposals relating to the pre-commencement, construction and operational phases of the Proposed Project were set out in various sections of the EIAR and NIS prepared as part of the planning permission application to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

This section of the Decommissioning Plan groups together all of the decommissioning phase monitoring proposals presented in the planning documentation. The monitoring proposals are presented in Table 8-1.

The monitoring proposals are presented in table format below to provide an easy-to-audit list that can be reviewed and reported on during the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Wind Farm.

Table 8-1 Proposed Monitoring Measures

Ref No.	Reference Heading	Reference Location	Monitoring Measure	Frequency	Reporting Period	Responsibility
Decommissioning Phase						
MX1	Decommissioning	Appendix 4-8	As noted in the Scottish Natural Heritage report (SNH) *Research and Guidance on Restoration and Decommissioning of Onshore Wind Farms* (SNH, 2013) reinstatement proposals for a wind farm are made approximately 30 years in advance, so within the lifespan of the wind farm, technological advances and preferred approaches to reinstatement are likely to change. According to the SNH guidance, it is therefore: *"best practice not to limit options too far in advance of actual decommissioning but to maintain informed flexibility until close to the end-of-life of the wind farm".* In this regard, the Decommissioning Plan (DP) (Appendix 4-8) will be reviewed and updated prior to commencement of decommissioning works to take account of the relevant conditions of the planning permission and current health and safety standards at the time of decommissioning.	End of Operational Life	As Required	Developer Appointed/ Contractor
MX2	Decommissioning	Appendix 4-6	The ECoW will maintain responsibility for monitoring the decommissioning works and Contractors/Sub-contractors from an environmental perspective. The ECoW will act as the regulatory interface on environmental matters. The Site Manager will be responsible for reporting to and liaising with Local Authority and other statutory bodies as required.	End of Operational Life	As Required	Site Manager/ ECoW

MX3	Decommissioning	Appendix 4-6	The Site Manager in consultation with the ECoW will be responsible for employing the services of a suitably qualified ecologist and any other suitably qualified professionals as required throughout the decommissioning works.	End of Operational Life	As Required	Site Manager/ ECoW
MX4	Decommissioning	Appendix 4-6	Prior to decommissioning, a suitably qualified ecologist will complete an invasive species survey of the site to identify invasive species where any minor excavation will be required. If present in these areas, the ecologist will propose suitable management measures.	End of Operational Life	As Required	Project Ecologist
MX5	Health and Safety	Appendix 4-6	› Report on site activities to include but not limited to information on accidents and incidents, disciplinary action taken and PPE compliance; › Monitor the compliance of contractors and others and take corrective action where necessary; and › Notify the Authority and the client of non-compliance with any written directions issued.	End of Operational Life	As Required	PSDecS
MX6	Birds	Appendix 7-7 Appendix 4-6	› It is proposed that decommissioning works will commence outside the bird nesting season (1st of March to 31st of August inclusive) to avoid the most sensitive time of the year for most bird species with the potential to use the site and its environs. Pre-commencement surveys will be undertaken within one month prior to the initiation of works. The purpose of these surveys is to identify sensitive roosting sites. › If works run into the subsequent breeding season(s) (April-September), surveys will be conducted to identify sensitive nesting sites. Breeding season surveys will be conducted once per month from April to July inclusive of when works are taking place. If works run into the subsequent winter season(s) (October to March), surveys will be repeated to identify	End of Operational Life	As Required	Project Ornithologist

			sensitive roost sites. These surveys will be conducted at the beginning of each winter season (e.g., October) and continue if there is evidence to justify continuing (i.e. potential roosting behaviour of birds of conservation concern). › Surveys will be undertaken by a suitably qualified ornithologist. The survey will comprise a thorough walkover survey of the development footprint and/or all works areas to a 500m radius, where access allows. If winter roosts or nests of birds of high conservation concern are identified, the roost/nest will be earmarked for continued monitoring during works. If the roost/nest is found to be active during works, works will cease within a species-specific buffer of its location in line with best practice guidance (Forestry Commission Scotland, 2006; Goodship and Furness 2022; Ruddock and Whitfield, 2007) to avoid disturbance. No works shall be permitted within the buffer until it can be demonstrated that the roost/nest is no longer occupied. Aerial surveys using a drone may be used to confirm the presence or absence of birds, where conditions are suitable. › All site staff and subcontractors will be made aware of any restrictions to be imposed by means of a toolbox talk and a map of the 'no-work zone' will be made available to all decommissioning staff. The restricted area will also be marked to alert all personnel on site to the suspension of works within that area.			

9. COMPLIANCE AND REVIEW

9.1 Site inspections and Environmental Audits

Routine inspections of decommissioning activities will be carried out on a daily and weekly basis by the ECoW and the Site Supervisor/Decommissioning Manager to ensure all controls to prevent environmental impacts, relevant to the decommissioning activities taking place at the time, are in place.

Environmental inspections will ensure that the works are undertaken in compliance with this Decommissioning Plan and all other planning application documents. Only suitably trained staff will undertake environmental site inspections.

9.2 Auditing

Environmental audits will be conducted at planned intervals to determine whether the Decommissioning Plan is being properly implemented and maintained. The results of environmental audits will be provided to project management personnel. In contrast to monitoring and inspection activities, audits are designed to shed light on the underlying causes of non-compliance and not merely detect the non-compliance itself. In addition, audits are the main means by which system and performance improvement opportunities may be identified. Environmental audits will be carried out by the ECoW on behalf of the appointed contractor. It is important that an impartial and objective approach is adopted.

Once the Proposed Wind Farm has been decommissioned and all identified infrastructure removed from the Site, a report of compliance with decommissioning works mitigation measures will be prepared.

9.3 Environmental Compliance

The following definitions shall apply in relation to the classification of Environmental Occurrences during decommissioning of the Proposed Wind Farm:

Environmental Near Miss: An occurrence which if not controlled or due to its nature could lead to an Environmental Incident.

Environmental Incident: Any occurrence which has potential, due to its scale and nature, to migrate from source and have an environmental impact beyond the Site.

Environmental Exceedance Event: An environmental exceedance event occurs when monitoring results indicate that limits for a particular environmental parameter (as indicated in the Environmental Monitoring Programme) has been exceeded.

An exceedance will immediately trigger an investigation into the reason for the exceedance occurring and the application of suitable mitigation where necessary.

Exceedance events can be closed out on achieving a monitoring result below the assigned limit for a particular environmental parameter.

Environmental Non-Compliance: Non-fulfilment of a requirement and includes any deviations from established procedures, programs and other arrangements related to the EMP.

9.4 Corrective Action Procedure

A corrective action is implemented to rectify an environmental problem on-site. Corrective actions will be implemented by the Site Supervisor/Decommissioning Manager, as advised by the Site ECoW. Corrective actions may be required as a result of the following:

- Environmental Audits.
- Environmental Inspections and Reviews.
- Environmental Monitoring.
- Environmental Incidents; and,
- Environmental Complaints.

A Corrective Action Notice will be used to communicate the details of the action required to the main contractor. A Corrective Action Notice is a form that describes the cause and effect of an environmental problem on site and the recommended corrective action that is required. The Corrective Action Notice, when completed, will include details of close out and follow up actions.

If an environmental problem occurs on site that requires immediate attention direct communications between the Site Supervisor/Decommissioning Manager and the ECoW will be conducted. This in turn will be passed down to the Site staff involved. A Corrective Action Notice will be completed at a later date.

9.5 Decommissioning Plan Review

This Decommissioning Plan will be reviewed and updated prior to commencement of any decommissioning works. In accordance with the guidelines set out in the SNH Research and Guidance 2013 document pertaining to '*restoration and decommissioning of onshore wind farms*', further updates will be completed to the plan during decommissioning works to adapt to specific situations or site conditions which may be encountered and consequently need to be considered by the plan.

This report provides the environmental management framework to be adhered to during the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Wind Farm, and it incorporates the mitigating principles to ensure that the work is carried out in a way that minimises the potential for any environmental impacts to occur.