



APPENDIX 15-4

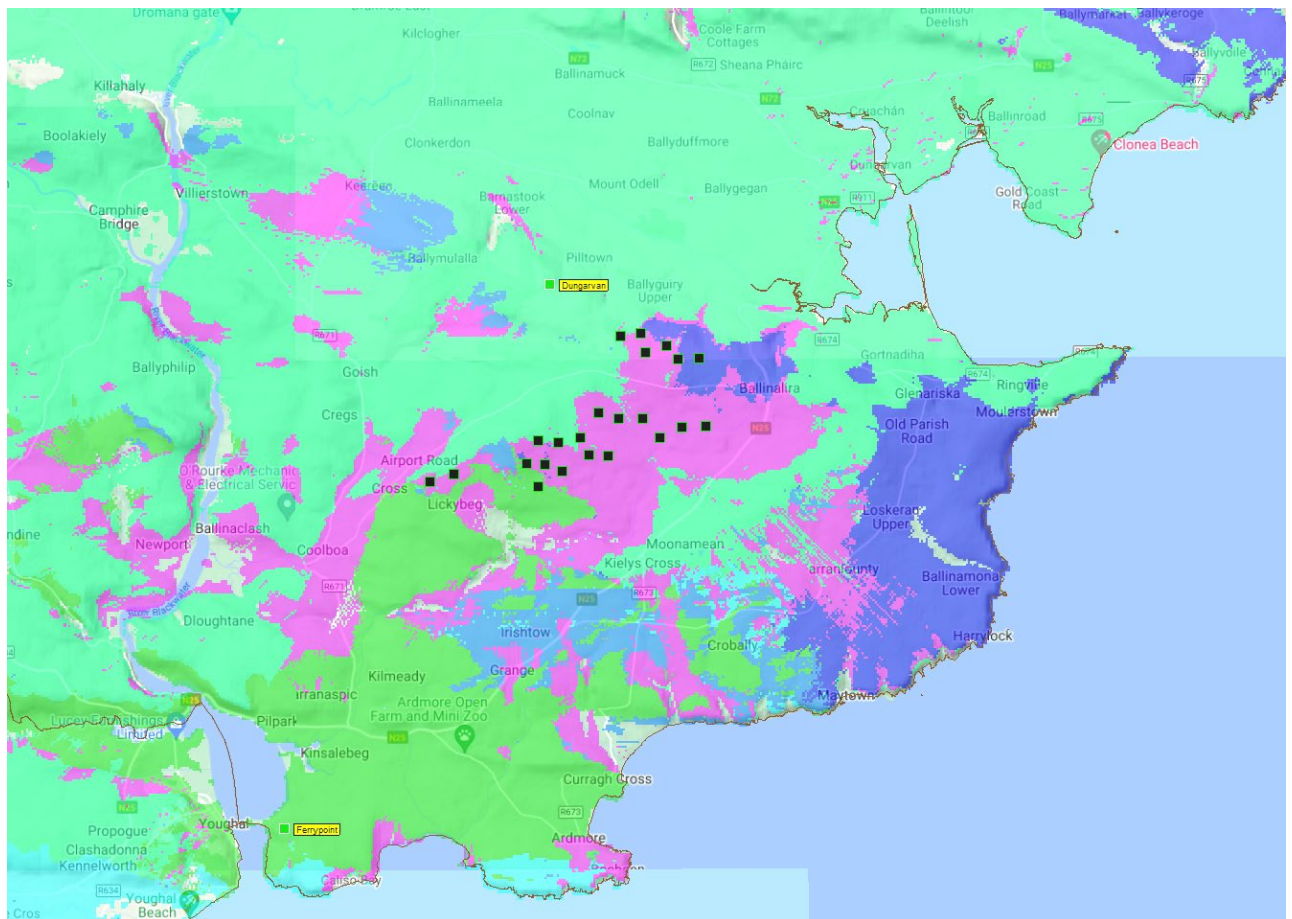
2RN TV Reception Analysis

Analysis of Potential Impact of Slievegrine Windfarm of Saorview TV Reception

2RN has carried out an interference analysis of the proposed windfarm development at Slievegrine using the turbine locations and details provided by MKO. The analysis shows a potential for significant Saorview TV coverage disruption/interference in the surrounding area served by our Saorview transmitter site “Dungarvan” located close to the proposed development (approx. 2km north west of T1). The level of interference predicted is beyond what we would normally consider when seeking a protocol agreement.

The analysis indicates that Saorview TV coverage to in the region of 1700 households could be affected. With the exception of Clashmore village and Ardmore, these households are distributed throughout the surrounding area, mostly from the east of the windfarm around to the south west (i.e. anywhere where the turbines are between our transmission site and the viewers). In the areas of Clashmore village, and Ardmore there are clusters of approx. 200-250 households where coverage is likely to be disrupted (primarily by T22 and T23 at Clashmore). Note that coverage disruption is predicted within Gaeltacht na nDéise, and that Saorview carries both TG4 and RnaG.

The plot below from our model of the proposed windfarm shows the areas at most risk of interference (in pink) to existing Saorview TV coverage.



If the development goes ahead with the current layout and turbine details, remediation will be needed to ensure viewers are able to continue to access free to air Irish national TV. The options for remediation are:

1. Redirect viewers receiving antennas to an alternative Saorview transmission site. The analysis estimates that up to 1000 of the affected households could receive some level of Saorview service from an alternative transmission site (e.g. Mount Leinster, Mullaghanish, Spur Hill, Ferrypoint), with varying degrees of reliability. This would involve a visit from a professional TV installer to each individual house to redirect, and in some cases replace, their antenna, and retune the viewers TV(s).
2. Provide alternative coverage from new/additional Saorview transmission sites. This solution is only feasible where there is a cluster of affected viewers like in the areas of Clashmore and Ardmore. It would involve the procurement of a suitable site/sites (which has a clear view of the affected viewers and of a reliable Saorview source signal), all necessary equipment, and the ongoing operational costs associated with running and maintaining Saorview sites. Affected viewers would also need to have their TV antennas directed to the new site. Securing a suitable site and arranging frequency licencing for an additional site could take significant time.
3. Provide access to Irish TV services from an alternative non-Saorview source. Alternative sources include:
 - a. Direct to home satellite (e.g. subscription Sky TV, noting that Saorsat – the free to air Irish satellite TV service will cease operation in early 2028)
 - b. TV via broadband

Disrupted viewers are likely to expect that the windfarm developer cover the cost of any equipment/installation, and ongoing subscription costs associated with these alternative services. It is also worth noting that such systems can be significantly more complex to use and will be challenging for most older viewers.

As there is likely to be a requirement for some or all of these remediation measures we recommend that you undertake a detailed TV reception survey in the potentially affected areas prior to starting work on the turbines, and then repeat the survey post commissioning. This will help protect you from remediation claims from viewers who are currently unable to receive adequate Saorview reception. Details from a reception survey and further analysis may help to reduce the scale of the numbers of households predicted to be affected.

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