
RE: Foigha Solar Farm - Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Enquiry

From Murray Urquhart <Murray.Urquhart@cairnrisk.com>

Date Tue 30/06/2026 1:04 PM

To tomaonaigh@longfordcoco.ie <tomaonaigh@longfordcoco.ie>

Cc Mike O'Keeffe <mike.okeeffe@baywa-re.com>; Shali Pavithran <Shali.Pavithran@cairnrisk.com>; James Redmond <james.redmond@baywa-re.com>

Hi Tomás,

Just following up on my email below, we have prepared a Battery Safety Management Plan and outline Emergency Response Plan for the proposed Foigha BESS project, which include all information relevant to the Fire & Rescue Service (FRS), including proposed firefighting strategy and the role of the FRS during emergency response.

Please let me know if you would like these documents to be shared with you so you can provide any comments/feedback. We can also set up a call to introduce ourselves and the project, if that would be of benefit.

Best regards,

Murray



Murray Urquhart

Senior Consultant

m: +44 (0)7985 384 718 t: +44 (0)141 280 8007

www.cairnrisk.com



Have you read our updated **TECHNICAL PAPER: "Beyond Borders"?**

The contents of this e-mail are for the intended recipient(s) only. For more information see our [Privacy Policy](#).

From: Murray Urquhart

Sent: 17 June 2026 16:21

To: 'tomaonaigh@longfordcoco.ie' <tomaonaigh@longfordcoco.ie>

Cc: Mike O'Keeffe <mike.okeeffe@baywa-re.com>; Shali Pavithran <Shali.Pavithran@cairnrisk.com>

Subject: Foigha Solar Farm - Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Enquiry [Filed 17 Jun 2026 16:20]

Hi Tomás,

I am contacting you from Cairn Risk Consulting, who are working on behalf of BayWa r.e., the developer of the [Foigha Solar Farm project](#) in County Longford, which is proposed to include an approx. 180 MWh capacity lithium-ion Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

We are currently assessing the proposed BESS facility with regards to fire safety and ensuring that the site has been designed to minimise fire risk, including the suitability of firefighting infrastructure and emergency response arrangements. This is in response to an appeal by a third party to the project, which had previously been granted permission by Longford County Council (Planning Ref. 2460325).

As there is currently no or limited regulation of BESS in Ireland or any Irish or European specific guidance on BESS safety, we are assessing the scheme against the UK National Fire Chiefs Council Guidance [Grid scale energy storage system planning - Guidance for fire and rescue services](#), as requested by An Coimisiún Pleanála. This guidance suggests that the local Fire & Rescue Service are engaged on BESS developments at the earliest opportunity to provide the FRS the opportunity to conduct an appraisal of the project, advise on the suitability of access and firefighting provisions, and agree to a role of the FRS should a fire occur at the site.

The findings of our assessment are to be summarised in a Battery Safety Management Plan and we are also preparing an outline Emergency Response Plan for the project. These documents can be shared with you upon request, and we welcome any comments on the proposed scheme following a review of these documents.

We would also be happy to set up an introductory call between you, BayWa, and ourselves, if this would be beneficial. We would be interested to understand your awareness of the fire hazard posed by lithium-ion batteries and your involvement in any other BESS schemes in the county.

Best regards,

Murray

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.