

MWP

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Appendix 1A - EIAR Scoping
Ballynisky Wind Farm

Ballynisky Green Energy Ltd.

December 2025

EIAR SCOPING CHECKLIST – BALLYNISKY WIND FARM

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No.	Questions to be considered in scoping	Yes/No?	Which Characteristics of the Project Environment could be affected and how?	Is the effect likely to be significant? Why?
1. Will construction, operation or decommissioning of the Project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the locality (topography, land use, changes in waterbodies, etc.)				
1.1	Permanent or temporary change in land use, landcover or topography including increases in intensity of land use?	Yes	Will result in partial loss of on-site ecological habitats	Possibly – areas of valuable ecological habitats exist on-site
			Will result in partial loss of on-site forestry resource	No – no on-site forestry resource
			Will result in partial loss of existing agricultural land resource	Yes – medium value agricultural land
1.2	Clearance of existing land, vegetation and buildings?	Yes	Will result in partial loss of on-site ecological habitats	Possibly – areas of valuable ecological habitats exist on-site
			Will require partial loss of on-site forestry resource to accommodate development infrastructure which could affect economic income	No – no on-site forestry resource
			Loss of on-site forestry habitat could affect bat populations if present	Possibly – protected species
			Could damage or remove historic relics if present	Possibly - presence of cultural heritage features on-site unknown
1.3	Creation of new land uses?	Yes	Partial change of existing agriculture land resource to wind energy generating activity	Yes – medium value agricultural land
			Partial change of existing peatland resource to wind energy generating activity	No – no peat present on site
			Partial change of existing on-site forestry resource to wind energy generating activity	No – no on-site forestry resource
			The new land-use could affect local landscape character	Possibly – presence of wind turbines leading to character change
1.4	Pre-construction investigations e.g. boreholes , soil testing?	Yes	Pre-development ground investigation and archaeological test excavation.	No – very localised impact
1.5	Construction works?	Yes	Land resource, biodiversity, site drainage, waterbodies	Yes – potential ecological habitat loss, displacement of birds and fauna from project area, risk of surface water

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				contamination from run-off, changes to natural drainage, potential for soil erosion.
1.6	Demolition works?	No	n/a	n/a
1.7	Temporary sites used for construction works or housing of construction workers	Yes	Partial loss of on-site ecological habitat to accommodate temporary construction phase compound	Possibly - areas of valuable ecological habitats exist on-site. Potential for displacement of birds and fauna from development site
			Potential for soil and groundwater pollution from sanitary effluents and oils/fuels	No - materials and fuels will be stored in designated areas. Appropriate welfare facilities will be provided
1.8	Above ground buildings, structures or earthworks, including linear structures, cut and fill or excavations?	Yes	Partial loss of existing on-site ecological habitat to accommodate the new substation building and turbines	Possibly – areas of valuable ecological habitats exist on-site
			Partial loss of existing agriculture land resource to accommodate the new substation building and turbines	Yes – medium value agricultural land
			Potential for visual effects due to height of turbine structures	Possibly - low open landscape with large visual extent
			Potential for effects on avian population –collision or strike with turbines	Possibly – Lower Shannon/Fergus SPA and Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA within 5km
1.9	Underground works including mining or tunnelling?	Yes	Excavation of roadway & within fields for the underground cable from the wind farm to the substation	No – excavations will be shallow and fully reinstated, localised impact
1.10	Reclamation works?	No	n/a	n/a
1.11	Dredging?	No	n/a	n/a
1.12	Coastal structures e.g. seawalls, piers?	No	n/a	n/a
1.13	Offshore structures?	No	n/a	n/a
1.14	Production and manufacturing processes?	No	n/a	n/a
1.15	Facilities for storages of goods or materials?	Yes	Water quality impacts could occur from run-off from temporary on-site storage of construction materials and fuel	No – materials and fuels will be stored in designated areas which can be suitably protected by appropriate run-off containment and drainage control

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				system
1.16	Facilities for treatment or disposal of solid wastes or liquid effluents	Yes	Potable welfare facilities will be provided. Potential for soil/groundwater pollution in event of spill/leak	No – there will be no planned discharges. Any accidental spill would be localised
1.17	Facilities for long term housing of operational workers?	No	n/a	n/a
1.18	New road, rail or sea traffic during construction or operation?	Yes	Will increase HGV traffic on local road networks	No - temporary short term increase. Traffic management plan will address potential disturbance
1.19	New road, rails, air, waterborne or other transport infrastructure including new or altered routes and stations, ports, airports etc?	Yes	New internal access tracks are to be constructed. Potential for water quality impact	Possibly – risk of water quality impact during construction
1.20	Closure or diversion or existing transport routes or infrastructure leading to changes in traffic movements?	Yes	Turbine delivery route	No - temporary short term impact. Traffic management plan will address potential disturbance
1.21	New or diverted transmission lines or pipelines?	Yes	On-site substation with underground connection to grid	No - connection could be achieved with minimal environmental effects due to proximity of existing and other permitted grid networks
1.22	Impoundment, damming, culverting, realignment or other changes to the hydrology of watercourses or aquifers	Yes	Some on-site culverting and modification to drainage regime could be required resulting in changes to existing hydrology regime which could impact on-site ecological resources	No – engineered drainage and run-off control system is to be implemented which will ensure minimal changes to existing on-site drainage regime
1.23	Stream crossings?	Yes	Onsite drains may require crossing. Potential for water pollution during construction.	No - Suitably engineered clear span bridge and appropriate best practice construction methods could ensure no negative impact
1.24	Abstractions or transfers of water from ground or surface waters?	No	n/a	n/a
1.25	Changes in waterbodies or the land surface affecting drainage or run-off?	Yes	Project infrastructure will increase the area of impermeable land on-site. Potential for indirect effect to on-site ecological habitats	No - engineered drainage and run-off control system which will ensure minimal changes to existing on-site drainage regime
1.26	Transport of personnel or materials for construction, operation or decommissioning?	Yes	Major increase in development generated HGV traffic during construction on local road infrastructure	No – short term temporary activity
1.27	Long term dismantling or decommissioning or restoration	Yes	Decommissioning works will temporarily affect the	No - Unlikely to be significant as best

No.	Questions to be considered in scoping	Yes/No?	Which Characteristics of the Project Environment could be affected and how?	Is the effect likely to be significant? Why?
	works?		local environment through vehicle movements, noise, dust, waste generation and soil disturbance.	practice measures will be employed.
1.28	Ongoing activity during decommissioning which could have an impact on the environment?	No	n/a	n/a
1.29	Influx of people to an area either temporarily or permanently?	Yes	There will be a temporary influx of construction workers during the construction phase and again during decommissioning. This may place minor, short-term demands on local services and infrastructure (e.g., accommodation, transport routes), but no permanent population increase will occur.	No - Unlikely to be significant. The workforce is temporary, limited in scale and common to infrastructure projects of this nature. Any local service impacts are expected to be minor and manageable.
1.30	Introduction of alien species?	No	n/a	n/a
1.31	Loss of native species or genetic diversity	Yes	Partial loss of on-site ecological habitat to accommodate development could effect associated habitat dependant species	Possibly – areas of valuable ecological habitats exist on-site, will be avoided where possible & mitigation will be proposed
1.32	Any other actions?	No	n/a	n/a
2. Will construction or operation of the Project use natural resources such as land, water materials or energy, especially any resources which are non-renewable or in short supply?				
2.1	Land especially undeveloped or agricultural land?	Yes	Existing site supports some agricultural lands	No – The project will use an area of medium value agricultural land. Such land is not in short supply locally
2.2	Water?	Yes	Water for construction phase	No – short term temporary requirement
2.3	Minerals?	No	n/a	n/a
2.4	Aggregate?	Yes	Construction will use large amount of imported stone and aggregate material	No – will be sourced from operating registered quarries. Unlikely to affect overall regional resources
2.5	Forests or timber?	No	n/a	n/a
2.6	Energy including electricity and fuels?	Yes	Fuels required for construction vehicles and plant	No – short term temporary activity
2.7	Any other resources?	n/a	n/a	n/a
3. Will the Project involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to human health or the environment or raise concerns about actual or perceived risks to human health?				
3.1	Will the project involve use of substances or materials which	Yes	Use of oils, fuels and concrete during construction.	No – materials and fuels will be stored

No.	Questions to be considered in scoping	Yes/No?	Which Characteristics of the Project Environment could be affected and how?	Is the effect likely to be significant? Why?
	are hazardous or toxic to human health or the environment (flora, fauna, water supplies)?		Risk to water quality if uncontrolled spills occur	in designated areas which can be suitably protected by appropriate run-off containment and drainage control system
3.2	Will the project result in changes in occurrence of diseases vectors (e.g. insect or water borne diseases)?	No	n/a	n/a
3.3	Will the project affect the welfare of people e.g. by changing living conditions?	?	Perceived risk of impacts to amenity due to noise, shadow flicker and visual impact	Effect to be confirmed by assessment
3.4	Are there especially vulnerable groups of people who could be affected by the project e.g. hospital patients, the elderly?	No	n/a	n/a
3.5	Any other causes?	Yes	On site substation may be perceived locally as safety risk	No – substation compound will be secure from public access
4. Will the Project produce solid wastes during construction, operation or decommissioning?				
4.1	Spoil, overburden or mine wastes?	Yes	Construction will generate large volume of excavated spoil and overburden requiring disposal/re-use.	No - all excavated material will be retained and re-used onsite
4.2	Municipal waste (household and or commercial wastes)?	Yes	Construction personnel will generate some domestic waste requiring disposal to landfill	No - very limited volume
4.3	Hazardous or toxic wastes (including radioactive wastes)?	No	n/a	n/a
4.4	Other industrial process wastes?	No	n/a	n/a
4.5	Surplus product?	No	n/a	n/a
4.6	Sewage sludge or other sludges from effluent treatment?	No	n/a	n/a
4.7	Construction or demolition wastes?	Yes	Construction will generate inert soils and sub soils requiring disposal	No – all excavated material will be used on site for fill and landscaping
4.8	Redundant machinery or equipment?	No	n/a	n/a
4.9	Contaminated soils or other materials?	No	n/a	n/a
4.10	Agricultural wastes?	No	n/a	n/a
4.11	Any other solid wastes?	Yes	Construction will generate surplus soils requiring disposal	No – surplus soils will be re-used on site
5. Will the Project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air?				
5.1	Emissions from combustion of fossil fuels from stationary or mobile sources?	No	n/a	n/a
5.2	Emissions from production processes?	No	n/a	n/a
5.3	Emissions from materials handling including storage or transport?	Yes	Material delivery vehicles will generate minor emissions to the atmosphere	No – short temporary duration
5.4	Emissions from construction activities including plant and	Yes	Construction vehicles and plant will generate minor	No – short temporary duration

No.	Questions to be considered in scoping	Yes/No?	Which Characteristics of the Project Environment could be affected and how?	Is the effect likely to be significant? Why?
	equipment?		emissions to the atmosphere	
5.5	Dust or odours from handling of materials including construction materials, sewage and waste?	Yes	Excavation activities will generate particulate emission to the atmosphere	No – short temporary duration – localised effect
5.6	Emissions from incineration of wastes?	No	n/a	n/a
5.7	Emissions from burning of waste in open air (e.g. slash materials, construction debris)?	No	n/a	n/a
5.8	Emissions from any other sources?	No	n/a	n/a
6. Will the Project cause noise and vibrations or release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation?				
6.1	From operation of equipment e.g. engines, ventilation, crushers?	Yes	Construction vehicles and plant will generate noise	No – short temporary duration
6.2	From industrial or similar processes?	Yes	Wind turbines during operation are a source of noise	Unknown. Effect to be confirmed by assessment
6.3	From construction or demolition?	Yes	Excavation activities during construction are a potential noise source	No - short temporary duration. All existing potential sensitive residential receptors are >500m from turbines.
6.4	From blasting or piling?	Yes	Excavation activities during construction are a potential noise source	No – some blasting may be required at wind turbine locations where bedrock is present near the ground surface. Localised sheet steel piling may be required to facilitate soil excavation for formation of the hardstand and turbine base footprint
6.5	From construction or operational traffic?	Yes	Construction vehicles and plant will generate minor emissions to the atmosphere	No – short temporary duration
6.6	From lighting or cooling systems?	No	n/a	n/a
6.7	From sources of electromagnetic radiation (consider effects on nearby sensitive equipment as well as people)?	No	n/a	n/a
6.8	From any other sources?	No	n/a	n/a
7. Will the Project lead to risk of contamination of land or water from releases of pollutants onto the ground or into sewers, surface water, groundwater, coastal waters or the sea?				
7.1	From handling, storage, use or spillage of hazardous substances or toxic materials?	Yes	Risk to water quality during construction phase from uncontrolled fuel spills, concrete use etc	No – materials and fuels will be stored in designated areas which can be suitably protected by appropriate run-off containment and drainage control system. Designated suitability bounded

No.	Questions to be considered in scoping	Yes/No?	Which Characteristics of the Project Environment could be affected and how?	Is the effect likely to be significant? Why?
				concrete wash out area also provided
7.2	From discharge of sewage or other effluents (whether treated or untreated) to water or land?	No	n/a	n/a
7.3	By deposition of pollutants emitted to air, onto the land or into water?	No	n/a	n/a
7.4	From any other sources?	No	n/a	n/a
7.5	Is there a risk of long term build up of pollutants in the environment from these sources?	No	n/a	n/a
8. Will there be any risk of accidents during construction or operation of the Project which could affect human health or the environment?				
8.1	From explosion, spillages, fires etc from storage, handling, use or production or toxic substances?	No	n/a	n/a
8.2	From events beyond the limits of normal environmental protection e.g. failure of pollution control systems?	No	n/a	n/a
8.3	From any other causes?	No	Accidents from other causes could potentially affect human health and safety on site and cause minor, short-term disturbance to the local environment (e.g., dust, noise, or accidental release of small quantities of non-hazardous materials). However, such risks are inherent to most construction projects and are controlled through established industry practices.	No - The effect is unlikely to be significant. The project will adhere to statutory health and safety legislation, apply standard construction management measures and implement a site-specific risk management plan. Emergency procedures will also be in place to deal with any unexpected events. As a result, the likelihood of residual effects on the environment or human health is considered negligible.
8.4	Could the project be affected by natural disasters causing environmental damage (e.g. floods, earthquakes, landslip, etc)?	Yes	Flood risk from watercourse in northwest of the site.	No – flood risk assessment will be completed, and project will be designed so that development will not cause flooding on-site or elsewhere.
9. Will the Project result in social changes, for example, in demography, traditional lifestyles, employment?				
9.1	Changes in population size, age, structure, social groups etc?	No	n/a	n/a
9.2	By resettlement of people or demolition of homes or communities or community facilities e.g. schools, hospitals, social facilities?	No	n/a	n/a
9.3	Through in-migration of new residents or creation of new	No	n/a	n/a

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	communities?			
9.4	By placing increased demands on local facilities or services e.g. housing, education, health?	No	n/a	n/a
9.5	By creating jobs during construction or operation or causing the loss of jobs with effects on unemployment and the economy?	Yes	Employment to be created during construction likely to be met locally with some employment opportunities during operation	Yes – would benefit local economy
9.6	Any other causes?	No	n/a	n/a
Question – Are there any other factors which should be considered such as consequential development which could lead to environmental effects or the potential for cumulative impacts with other existing or planned activities in the locality?				
9.7	Will the project lead to pressure for consequential development which could have significant impact on the environment e.g. more housing, new roads, new supporting industries or utilities, etc?	No	n/a	n/a
9.8	Will the project lead to development of supporting facilities, ancillary development or development stimulated by the project which could have impact on the environment e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting infrastructure (roads, power supply, waste or wastewater treatment, etc) ▪ Housing development ▪ Extractive industries ▪ Other? 	Yes	Potential for development of additional grid circuits to facilitate export to national grid	No - possible connection could be achieved with minimal environmental effects due to proximity of existing and other permitted grid networks
9.9	Will the project lead to after-use of the site which could have an impact on the environment?	No	n/a	n/a
9.10	Will the project set a precedent for later developments?	No	Area currently zoned for type of development proposed. Each project assessed on its own merits	n/a
9.11	Will the project have cumulative effects due to proximity to other existing or planned projects with similar effects?	?	Potential for cumulative traffic and visual effects.	Unknown. Effect to be confirmed by assessment