

Natura Impact Statement

Cleanrath Wind Farm





DOCUMENT DETAILS





Table of Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION	4
	 Background Statement of Authority Structure and Format of this NIS 	6
2.	CONCLUSIONS OF ARTICLE 6(3) APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENIN REPORT	
	2.1 The Gearagh cSAC	7
	2.1 The Gearagh pSPA	
	2.3 Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA	
3.	DESCRIPTION OF CLEANRATH WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT	
	3.1 Site Location	9
	3.2 Characteristics of the Cleanrath wind farm development	
	3.3 Development Layout	
	3.4 Development Components	
	3.4.1 Wind Turbines	
	3.4.11 Wind Turbine Locations	
	3.4.1.2 Turbine Type	
	3.4.1.3 Turbine Foundations	
	3.4.1.4 Hard Standing Areas 3.4.2 Site Roads	
	3.4.2.1 Existing Roads for Use and Upgrade	
	3.4.2.2 New Roads	
	3.4.2.3 Road Construction	
	3.4.3 Borrow Pit and Rock Extraction Areas	
	3.4.3.1 Rock Breaking	
	3.4.3.2 Rock Blasting	23
	3.4.4.1 Quantities	
	3.4.4.2 Management of Peat and Subsoils	
	3.4.5 Derragh Wind Farm Substation	
	3.4.6 Site Cabling	24
	3.4.7 Grid Connection	
	3.4.8 Associated Works	
	3.4.8.1 Peatland Habitat Restoration	
	3.4.8.2 Tree Felling 3.4.8.3 Tree Planting	
4.	CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT	
	4.1 Ecological Survey Methodologies	
	4.1.1 Desk Study	
	4.1.2 Ecological Multidisciplinary Walkover Surveys	
	4.1.3 Otter Survey	
	4.1.4 Watercourse Surveys	32
	4.1.5 Surveys for Hen Harrier	
	4.1.5.1 Initial Site Assessment	
	4.1.5.2 Survey Methodologies	
	4.2 Results of Ecological Surveys	
	4.2.1 Desk Study Results	
	4.2.1.2 The Gearagh pSPA (004109)	
	4.2.1.3 Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA (004162)	
	4.2.1.4 Results of Consultation	
	4.2.1.5 EPA River Catchments and Watercourses	



	 4.2.2 General description of Ecology of the Site	
5.	ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS & ASSOCIATED MITIGATION	59
	 5.1 Potential for Direct Effects on the European Sites	59 eep 59 59 60 60 62 eep 62
	5.2.2.3 Decommissioning	
6.	ASSESSMENT OF RESIDUAL EFFECTS	
	 6.1 The Gearagh cSAC 6.1.1 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260] 6.1.1 Determination 6.1.2 Rivers with muddy banks with <i>Chenopodion rubri</i> p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetar [3270] 6.1.2 Determination 6.1.3 Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] 6.1.3 Determination 6.1.4 Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355] 6.15 Determination 6.2 The Gearagh pSPA 6.2 Determination 6.3 Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA 6.3 Determination on Potential Adverse Effects on Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA	6-64 6-65 tion 6-67 6-67 6-69 6-69 6-70 6-70 6-71 6-71 6-71
7.	CUMULATIVE EFFECTS	.7-73
	 7.1.1 Assessment of Plans 7.1.2 Assessment of Projects	76
8.	CONCLUDING STATEMENT	90
BIBLIO	GRAPHY	91

TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 3-1 Site Location	11
Figure 3-2 Site Layout	12



Figure 3-3 Turbine nacelle and hub components	15
Figure 3-4 Typical 38kV Cable trench cross section detail	25
Figure 3-5 Grid Connection Route	26
Figure 3-6 Grid Connection Watercourse/Drain Crossings	27
Figure 3-7 Felling Areas	.30
Figure 4-1 Kick Sampling Locations	. 33
Figure 4-2 Habitat Map	47

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Appendix 2	Project Layout Drawings
Appendix 2	Watercourse Course Survey Report
Appendix 4	Hen Harrier Survey Data
Appendix 5	Hydrological Assessment
Appendix 6	Pre-Construction Otter Survey
Appendix 7	Decommissioning Plan
Appendix 8	Operation and Environmental Management Plan



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

In May 2017, An Board Pleanála granted permission for a wind energy development at the site of the Cleanrath wind farm development (ABP Ref. PL04.246742) (hereafter referred to as the 2017 Permission). An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) was completed by the Board in their consideration of the application and the decision to grant permission for eleven turbines and associated works (including substation and all grid connection works). The decision to grant permission issued on the 19th May 2017 and subject to 22 no. conditions.

The wind farm development has been constructed, has been operational for a short-term period (December 2019 to the end of April 2020) and is now currently operating in Sleep Mode where the turbines are in a controlled mode which is maintained by the turbine manufacturer and are generally not producing electricity pending the outcome of the Substitute Consent process.

This Natura Impact Statement (NIS) assesses the potential for adverse effects on European Sites arising from the future operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development and its decommissioning.

The application is also accompanied by a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) which assesses the construction, operational (including the short term operation and current Sleep Mode operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development.

The development and all associated works is hereafter referred to as the Cleanrath wind farm development Judicial Review proceedings challenging the decision of the Board were instituted in July 2017 and culminated in a Supreme Court judgment delivered on 12th December 2019 which held that it was necessary to quash the decision made by the Board to grant the 2017 permission. Subsequently, by way of Order of the Supreme Court, the order quashing the decision to grant the 2017 permission was stayed pending the decision of the Board on this application for substitute consent, on the undertaking of Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd. not to operate the wind farm development other than in accordance with the terms of its letter dated the 30th day of April 2020. In that letter, Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd. confirmed that:

- with effect from 1 May 2020, Cleanrath Windfarm Limited will not operate the Cleanrath wind farm development pending the decision of An Bord Pleanála on the substitute consent procedure received by the Board on 20 December 2019.
- no electricity whatever will be generated by the nine constructed Cleanrath wind farm turbines for export to the national grid (other than in the context of the Eirgrid testing and the 10% protection mode, as set out below). However, Cleanrath Windfarm Limited will run the Cleanrath turbines in "sleep mode" (FM05), whereby the rotors may turn very slowly and which will not generate any electricity for export.
- In circumstances where there is a series of tests that EirGrid plc, as the Transmission Systems Operator (TSO), needs to carry out on the turbines including Grid Code Compliance tests , completed in three or four phases over the course of the year(each phase taking 2 or 3 days) and where EirGrid requires that the turbines are in a fully operational mode and exporting to the grid for the duration of each test phase, in order to enable all testing to be undertaken by EirGrid, the turbines will be required to be made fully operational for a maximum of 15 days over the period up to 30 April 2021;
- the grid connection between both the Cleanrath and Derragh wind farm developments and the national grid is authorised by the 2017 permission, whilst the construction of the Derragh turbines and onsite infrastructure is authorised pursuant to a separate grant of permission (ref. no. PL02.245082). In order to enable the continuation of export to the national grid of electricity generated by the operation of the six turbines located at the Derragh windfarm development (which has been ongoing since late 2019), it will be necessary to utilise the grid



connection authorised under the 2017 permission. In these circumstances, no electricity whatever will be generated from the Cleanrath wind farm turbines and exported to the national grid (other than for the purposes of the Eirgrid testing and the 10% protection mode referenced above). Rather, only electricity generated from the Derragh windfarm turbines will be exported to the national grid via the grid connection from Derragh.

On 20 December 2019, an application was made for leave to apply for substitute in relation to the Cleanrath wind farm development and on the May 5th 2020, An Bord Pleanála granted leave to apply for substitute consent (ABP-306272-19) and directed that a remedial Environmental Impact Assessment and a remedial Natura Impact Statement be prepared and included with the application.

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed to prepare a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to allow the competent authority to conduct an Appropriate Assessment under Part XAB of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2020 of the future operation and decommissioning of a constructed wind energy development and all associated infrastructure located at Cleanrath, Co. Cork. This NIS assesses the potential for effects on European Sites to occur during any future operation and/or decommissioning (either at the end of the 25year lifespan of the wind farm or should it be decommissioned at another time)

An Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been prepared for this application. This Appropriate Assessment Screening Report identifies the European Sites upon which the constructed development has the potential to result in significant effects and the pathways by which those effects may occur. It has also identified those qualifying interests/special conservation interests that have the potential to be affected by the operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development. The Screening Report identifies the European Sites upon which significant effects could not be excluded at the screening stage and those sites are assessed in this Natura Impact Statement.

This report has been prepared in compliance with Part XAB of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2020, the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2020 and relevant jurisprudence of the European and Irish courts. It has also been prepared in accordance with the European Commission guidance document Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological Guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (EC, 2001), European Communities (2018) Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission and the Department of the Environment's Guidance on the Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland (December 2009, amended 11 February 2010).

In addition to the guidelines referenced above, the following relevant guidance was considered in preparation of this report:

Council of the European Commission (1992) Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Official Journal of the European Communities. Series L 20, pp. 7-49.

European Communities (2000) Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission,

EC (2007) Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC – Clarification of the concepts of: alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest, compensatory measures, overall coherence, opinion of the commission. European Commission.

EC (2013) Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. Version EUR 28. European Commission.

CIEEM (2018) Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment.



1.2 Statement of Authority

This report has been prepared by Sarah Mullen (B.Sc., Ph.D., ACIEEM) and Pat Roberts (B.Sc. Environmental Science, MCIEEM). Pat has over 15 years' experience in ecological management and assessment and is a full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. Sarah has 4 years' professional ecological consultancy experience.

Ecological surveys were conducted by McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan (MKO) ecologists; Pat Roberts (B.Sc., MCIEEM), David McNicholas (B.Sc., M.Sc., MCIEEM), Julie O'Sullivan (B.Sc., M.Sc.), Claire Stephens (B.Sc (Env.)) and Luke Dodebier (B.Sc. (Ecol.). All surveyors have relevant academic qualifications and experience in undertaking the ecological surveys and assessments that they undertook.

Ecological surveys were undertaken by Dixon Brosnan ecological consultants to inform the EIS for the project that was submitted for planning in 2015. These surveys and assessments are referred to in this document and were ground truthed and updated by the surveyors listed above.

1.3 Structure and Format of this NIS

This NIS firstly provides a summary of the findings of the Article 6(3) Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (which clearly identifies the European Sites that have the potential to be significantly affected by the Cleanrath wind farm development and the pathways by which they might be affected). Following this, all elements of the Cleanrath wind farm development are fully described, as is the baseline environment, with respect to the relevant QI/SCI of the European Sites "screened in" for Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment.

Section 5 provides an assessment of the potential for adverse effects to occur on the identified European Sites and prescribes mitigation to robustly prevent impacts.

Section 6 provides an assessment of residual effects taking into consideration the proposed mitigation.

In Section 7, the potential in combination effects of the Cleanrath wind farm development on European Sites to occur, when considered in combination with other plans and projects are considered.

A concluding statement is provided in Section 8.



2.

CONCLUSIONS OF ARTICLE 6(3) APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

The Article 6(3) Appropriate Assessment Screening report identified the potential for the Cleanrath wind farm development to result in significant effects on the following European Sites:

- > The Gearagh cSAC
- > The Gearagh SPA
- > Mullaghanish to Musheramore SPA

Each of these sites is discussed individually below in terms of the Qualifying Interests/Special Conservation Interests with the potential to be affected and the pathways by which any such effects may occur or have occurred.

2.1 The Gearagh cSAC

This cSAC is located hydrologically downstream of the development via the River Toon which runs through the development site and via the River Lee, which is located downstream of the development site. Therefore, taking a precautionary approach, a potential pathway for indirect effects to occur on the following QI habitats and species, in the form of deterioration of surface water quality resulting from pollution, associated with the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the development was identified:

- Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]
- > Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270]
- Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]
- Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]

It cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the Cleanrath wind farm development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not have or has not had a significant effect on this European site. Accordingly, a Stage Two Appropriate Assessment is required.

2.2 The Gearagh pSPA

This pSPA is located hydrologically downstream of the development via the River Toon which runs through the development site and via the River Lee, which is located downstream of the development site. Therefore, taking a precautionary approach, a potential pathway for indirect effects to occur on the following SCI habitat, in the form of deterioration of surface water quality resulting from pollution, associated with the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the development was identified:

> Wetland and Waterbird [A999]

It cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the Cleanrath wind farm development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not have or has not had a significant effect on this European site. Accordingly, a Stage Two Appropriate Assessment is required.

7



2.3 Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA

Whilst this European Site is located outside the Core Foraging Range of the SCI Species, hen harrier (as identified in 'Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas' (Scottish Natural Heritage, 2016)), it is located within the maximum foraging range for this species. As hen harrier were recorded on the

Cleanrath wind farm development site during the extensive surveys undertaken (occasionally during the winter period), following the precautionary principle, the potential for significant effects on this species could not be excluded:

> Hen harrier [A082]

It cannot not be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the Cleanrath wind farm development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not have or has not had a significant effect on this European site. Accordingly, a Stage Two Appropriate Assessment is required.



3.

DESCRIPTION OF CLEANRATH WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Site Location

The Cleanrath wind farm development is located approximately 2.7 km south of the village of Reanaree, Co. Cork. The majority of the cable route is located in County Cork with a relatively short portion (1.99 km) located in County Kerry. The townlands within which the windfarm development are listed below in Table 3-1. The Grid Reference co-ordinates for the approximate centre of the site are E120,520 N69,583. The town of Macroom is located approximately 12 kilometres south west of the study area and Inchigeelagh is located approximately 2.5 kilometres to the south. The site location including the grid connection route is shown in Figure 3-1.

Townland Reananerree Cloontycarthy Cleanrath North Derrineanig **Cleanrath South** Milmorane Coombilane Rathgaskig Gorteenakilla Augeris Carrignadoura Gurteenowen Gurteenflugh Lyrenageeha Lackabaun

Table 3-3-1 Townlands within which the Cleanrath wind farm development is located

3.2

Characteristics of the Cleanrath wind farm development

This section of the NIS describes the Cleanrath wind farm development. The full description of the Cleanrath wind farm development is as follows:

- 1. 9 No. wind turbines with a ground to blade tip height of 150 metres and all associated foundations and hard-standing areas.
- 2. All associated underground electrical (33kV & 38kV) and communications cabling connecting the turbines to the national electricity grid.
- 3. Upgrade of existing access junctions and roads.
- 4. Upgrade of existing and provision of new site access roads.
- 5. Borrow pit.
- 6. Temporary construction compound.
- 7. Accommodation works along the turbine delivery route



- 8. Temporary roadway to facilitate turbine delivery.
- 9. Forestry Felling
- 10. Site Drainage
- 11. The operation of the wind farm for a period of 25 years.
- 12. The decommissioning of the wind farm, removal of turbines and restoration of the site.
- 13. All associated site development and ancillary works.

The application for substitute consent for the Cleanrath wind farm development includes the connection to the national electricity grid. All elements of the Cleanrath wind farm development, including grid connection and any works completed on public roads to accommodate turbine delivery, have been assessed. Any effects associated with the ongoing operation of the wind farm and its decommissioning have been assessed.

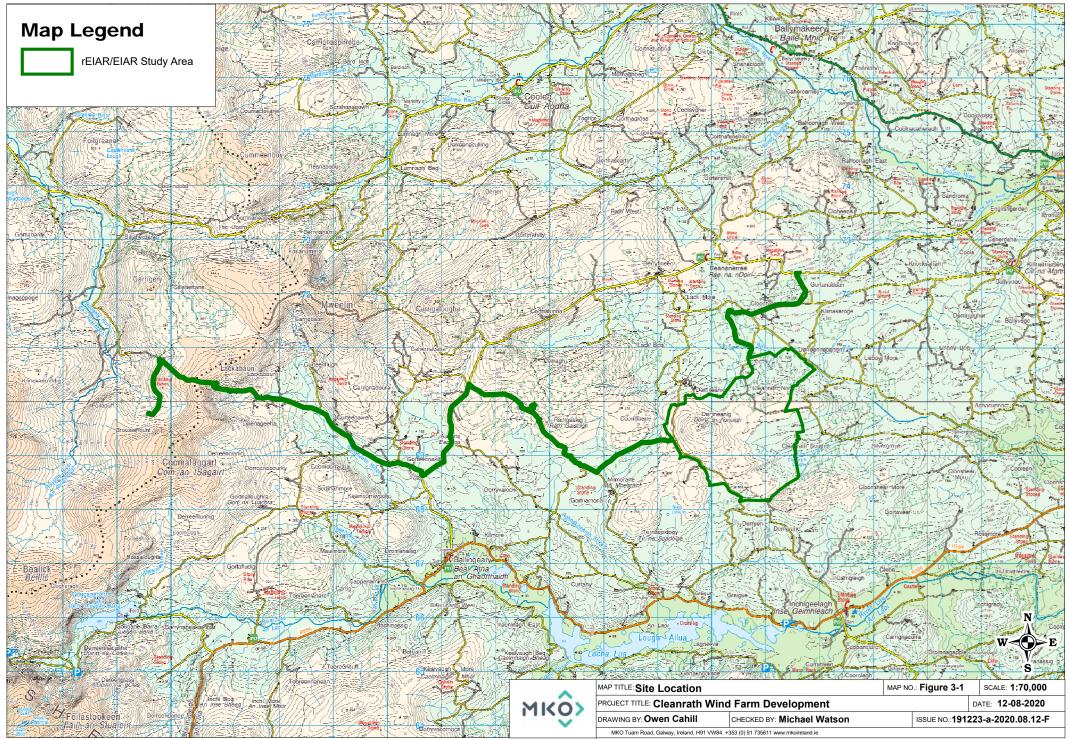
This application seeks substitute consent for 25-year operational life from the date of commissioning of the entire wind farm.

A fully detailed description of the Cleanrath wind farm development is provided below.

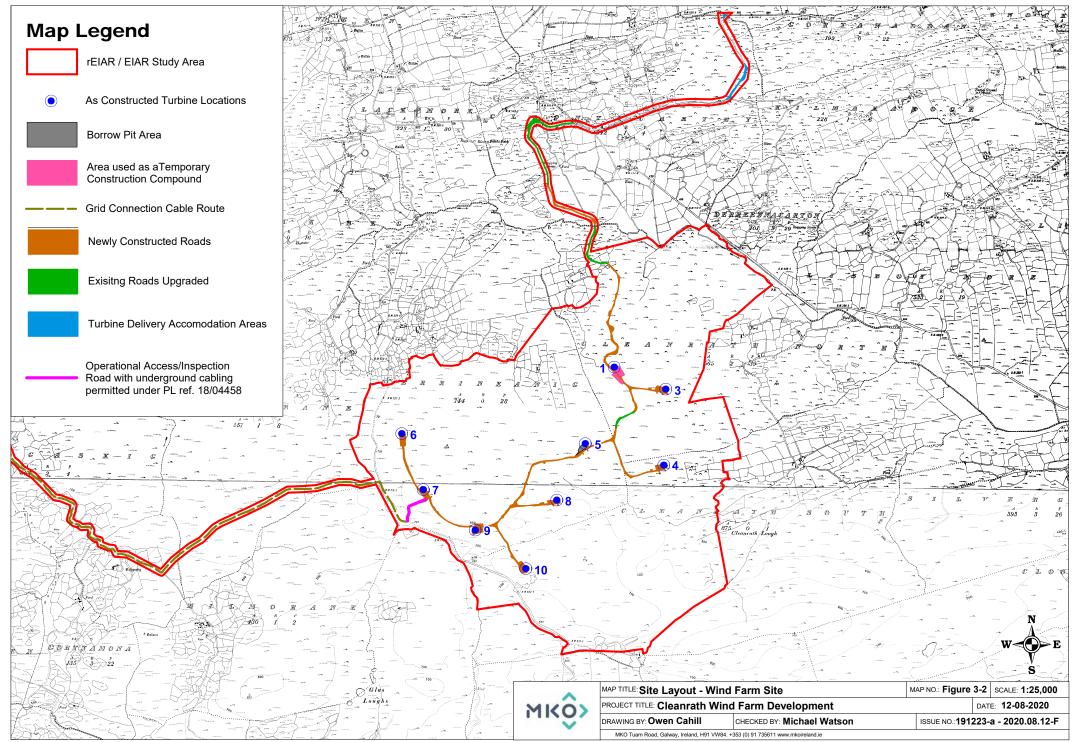
3.3 **Development Layout**

The layout of the Cleanrath wind farm development was designed to minimise the potential environmental impacts while at the same time maximising the energy yield of the wind resource passing over the site. A detailed constraints study was carried out in order to ensure that no turbines or ancillary infrastructure are located in the more environmentally sensitive areas of the site. The layout of the Cleanrath wind farm development makes maximum use of the existing access road and tracks within the site.

The overall layout of the Cleanrath wind farm development is shown on Figure 3-2. This map shows the current locations of the wind turbines (as previously permitted), borrow pit, internal roads layout, the main site entrance and the area used as a temporary construction compound during construction. Detailed layout drawings of the Cleanrath wind farm development are included as Appendix 1 to this report.



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



3.4 **Development Components**

3.4.1 Wind Turbines

3.4.1.1 Wind Turbine Locations

The current installed wind turbine layout was constructed in accordance with a design which was optimised using wind farm design software to maximise the energy yield from the site, while maintaining sufficient distances between the turbines to ensure turbulence and wake effects would not compromise turbine performance. The as constructed grid reference co-ordinates of the installed turbine locations and associated foundation levels are listed in Table 3-2 below. The turbine numbering of the installed turbines was altered for operational purposes, however for ease of reference, the turbine numbering used corresponds to that of 2017 Permission application documentation. The corresponding installed turbine number is provided in the Table 3-2 below.

Turbine Number	New Turbine Number (as per signage on site)	Irish Grid Coordinates		Top of Foundation Elevation (m OD)
		Easting	Northing	
1	15	120871	70057	209
3	14	121213	69913	213
4	13	121200	69411	190
5	12	120682	69553	208
6	7	119466	69620	260
7	8	119610	69250	253
8	11	120493	69178	222
9	9	119952	68981	228
10	10	120288	68725	229

Table 3-2 Wind Turbine Locations and Elevations

3.4.1.2 **Turbine Type**

Wind turbines harness the energy from the wind and convert it into electricity. A wind turbine, as shown in Plate 3-1 below, consists of four main components:

- > Foundation unit
- > Tower
- > Nacelle (turbine housing)
- > Rotor





Plate 3-1 Wind Turbine Components.

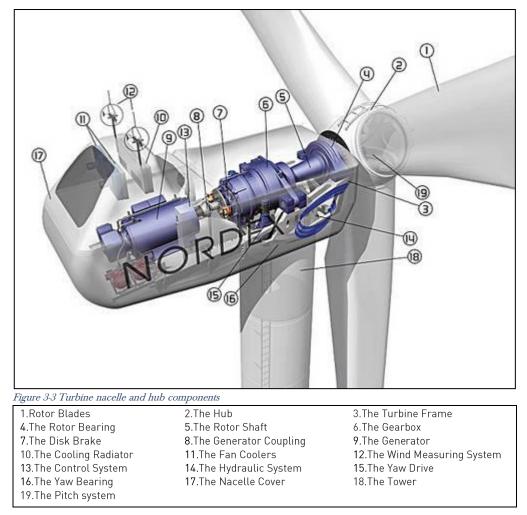
The installed wind turbines have a ground to blade tip height of approximately 150 metres.

The turbine model installed on site is the Nordex N117 which has a hub height of 91m and a rotor diameter of 117m.

The wind turbines are conventional three-blade turbines and are all geared to ensure the rotors of all turbines rotate in the same direction at all times. The turbines are light grey matt colour.

A drawing of the wind turbine is shown in Appendix 1. The individual components of a typical geared wind turbine nacelle and hub are shown below.





3.4.1.3 **Turbine Foundations**

Each wind turbine is secured to a reinforced concrete foundation that is installed below the finished ground surface. The size of the foundations installed vary between 20.2 - 21.8 metres in diameter in a circular configuration. The turbine foundation transmits any load on the wind turbine into the ground. The horizontal and vertical extent of a turbine's foundation is shown in Appendix 1.

After the foundation level of each turbine has been formed on competent strata, the bottom section of the turbine tower "Anchor Cage" is levelled and reinforcing steel is then built up around and through the anchor cage (Plate 3-2 below). The outside of the foundation is shuttered with demountable formwork to allow the pouring of concrete (Plate 3-3 below) and is backfilled accordingly with appropriate granular fill to finished surface level (Plate 3-4 below).





Plate 3-2 Turbine Base 'Anchor Cage'



Plate 3-3 Turbine Foundation Poured





Plate 3-4 Turbine Foundation Back-fill Complete

3.4.1.4 Hard Standing Areas

Hard standing areas consisting of levelled and compacted hardcore are installed around each turbine base to facilitate access, turbine assembly and turbine erection. The hard standing areas are used to accommodate cranes used in the assembly and erection of the turbine, offloading and storage or turbine components, and generally provide a safe, level working area around each turbine position. The hard standing areas are extended to cover the turbine foundations once the turbine foundation is in place. The sizes, arrangement and positioning of hard standing were installed as per turbine supplier's requirements. The installed turbine hard standing areas which have been optimised at each turbine location so that they were accommodated by the topography, position of the site access road, the turbine position and the turbine supplier's requirements are shown on the layout drawings included as Appendix 1.

The hard standing areas were developed to provide levelled assembly areas within the footprint of each hard stand. This ensured an appropriately sized area for offloading turbine blades and tower sections from trucks prior to being lifted into position by cranes. These levelled areas were provided within the hard standing areas outlined in the as constructed drawings in Appendix 1 with an example from the Cleanrath wind farm development in Plate 3-5.





Plate 3-5 Access Road at the entrance to Turbine no. 10 with Turbine no. 9 and hardstand area arrangement in the background

3.4.2 Site Roads

The Cleanrath wind farm development site is accessed via the existing junction between the L3402 and the local road in the townland of Cloontycarthy adjacent to the sawmill, through a new turbine delivery accommodation roadway for abnormal loads and then via an existing commercial forestry entrance off the local road and into the site as outlined in Figure 3-2. From this site entrance, a network of forestry tracks and a local public road traverse the northern half of the site. Maximum use was made of the existing road and tracks in accessing the turbine locations which minimised the requirement for new roadways within the site.

Straight sections of existing and new roadways were installed to a running width of c.6 metres to accommodate the transportation of large turbine components. Corners and junctions are installed wider than six metres to allow the trucks to manoeuvre around bends. All site access roads as part of the Cleanrath wind farm development, both existing and new, were installed to comply with the turbine supplier's requirements. The material used for upgrade and construction of roads within the site was obtained from an on-site borrow pit and areas where stone material was won on site as part of the cut and fill of roads and turbine areas. Plate 3-6 shows a site road under construction with a completed site road shown in Plate 3-7.





Plate 3-6 Site Road Under Construction

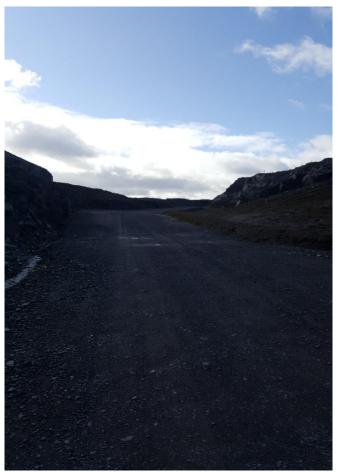


Plate 3-7 Completed Site Road



3.4.2.1 **Existing Roads for Use and Upgrade**

The existing roadways through the site have been upgraded and widened where required for providing access to the turbine locations. The road upgrade involved the widening of 1.3 kilometres of existing on-site roadways to as part of the Cleanrath wind farm development to a total running width of approximately six metres, with wider section at corners and on the approaches to turbine locations, and the laying of a new surface dressing on the existing section of roadway where necessary. Widening was carried out on either side of the existing road whilst respecting the location of existing roadside drainage already in place and where necessary widening taking place on the opposite side of the road to the roadside drainage. The locations of the existing on-site roads that required upgrade are shown in Figure 3-2.

3.4.2.2 New Roads

New roadways have been installed for access to turbine locations in areas where existing roads were not already present. A total of 4.8 kilometres of new roadway was installed as part of the Cleanrath wind farm development. The extent of the new roads are shown in Figure 3-2.

3.4.2.3 Road Construction

3.4.2.3.1 New Excavated Roads

Where relatively shallow depths of overburden were encountered on site, new or improved existing roads were installed directly on a solid formation. This solid formation for these excavate and replace roads was bedrock or a competent stratum.

The construction methodology for excavate and replace roads is outlined as follows:

- Prior to the construction of the road commencing, peat movement monitoring posts were put in place where required and appropriate drainage measures installed upslope of the access road alignment and construction area.
- > Excavation was carried out until a competent stratum was reached.
- > Road construction was carried out in sections of approximately 50 metres in length.
- The competent stratum was overlain typically with 500mm of granular fill and up to 1m in places.
- A layer of geogrid/geotextile was installed where required at the surface of the competent stratum.
- > A final surface layer was placed over the excavated road to provide a road profile to accommodate construction and turbine delivery traffic.

A typical section of a new excavated road is shown in Appendix 1.

3.4.2.3.2 New Floating Roads

Floating roads minimise impact on the peat, particularly peat hydrology, and significantly reduce the volumes of peat requiring management as there is no excavation required and no peat arisings are generated. Floating roads were constructed where deeper peat depths were found within the site (generally above 2m).

The construction methodology of floating roads is outlined as follows:

- > Prior to the construction of the floating road, movement monitoring posts were put in place where the peat depth is greater than three metres.
- > Base geogrid was laid onto the existing peat surface.
- > The typical make-up of the new floating road was 1m of granular fill with two layers of geogrid.



- > A basal layer of tree trunks/brash saved from the tree felling phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development was used where practical.
- > Stone used in the floating road construction area was end tipped over at least a ten metre stretch, on to the constructed floating road.
- Following the tipping of the stone a suitable bulldozer/excavator was used to spread and place the stone over the basal geogrid layer along the line of the road.
- > A final surface layer was placed over the floating road to provide a road profile to accommodate construction and turbine delivery traffic.

At transitions between floating and excavated roads, a length of road of approximately ten to twenty metres had the peat excavated and replaced with suitable fill. The fill was graded so that the road surface transitions smoothly from floating road to excavated road and vice versa.

All new roadways were constructed with a camber to aid drainage and surface water runoff where the terrain could accommodate this. The gradient and slope of the camber depended on the site characteristics where the road is actually being constructed.

A typical section of a new floating road is shown in in Appendix 1.

3.4.3 **Borrow Pit and Rock Extraction Areas**

One on-site borrow pit was developed as part of the Cleanrath wind farm development. The rock and hardcore material that was required during the construction of the Cleanrath wind farm development was sourced from the on-site borrow pit and areas where stone material was won on site as part of the cut and fill of turbine areas and roads. A limited amount of hardcore and other aggregate materials were imported that may not be possible to source from the on-site borrow pit, such as bedding sand for duct laying, and hardcore for initial site enabling works required before the borrow pit was accessed and developed. The location and extent of the developed borrow pit is shown on Figure 3-2 and on the detailed site layout drawings included as Appendix 1 to this NIS.

The Borrow Pit is located in the centre of the site, adjacent to Turbine No. 5. The developed area measures $2,550m^2$ in area and supplied hardcore materials for the construction of turbines, construction compound and associated site access roads.

The total volume of rock and hardcore material that were extracted from the borrow pit as well as material won in other site areas as part of the cut and fill of roads and turbine areas was 51,905m³.

Post-construction, the borrow pit area has been secured and made safe by reinstatement of the area with overburden and peat from site excavations and therefore, the provision of a perimeter stock-proof fence around the borrow pit area to prevent access to this area is not necessary. The borrow pit now blends in with the hardstanding area of Turbine no. 5 as can be seen in Plates 3-8 and 3-9 below.

Hardcore materials were extracted from the borrow pit by means of rock breaking and blasting. Blasting was considered to be a more effective rock extraction method producing significant volumes of rock in a matter of milliseconds. Blasting was only carried out after an appropriate method of notifying local residents was submitted to and agreed with the Planning Authority. Notifying the residents involved a letter drop to each property within 1,300m of the borrow pit area which comprised 7 no. houses. Blast notifications took place 24 hours prior to each blast event

The extraction of rock from the borrow pit was a temporary operation run over a short period of time relative to the duration of the entire project. The two rock extraction methods utilised during construction are detailed below.





Plate 3-8 Borrow Pit Area adjacent to Turbine no. 5



Plate 3-9 Borrow Pit Area

3.4.3.1 Rock Breaking

Rock can typically be extracted from borrow pits or other infrastructure areas where weathered or brittle rock is encountered by means of a hydraulic excavator and a ripper attachment. This is a common extraction methodology where fragmented rock can be carefully extracted in layers by a competent operator. In areas where rock of a much higher strength is encountered and cannot be removed by means of excavating then a rock breaking methodology can be used. Where rock breaking is required, a large hydraulic 360-degree excavator with a rock breaker attachment is typically used. Given the power required to break out tight and compact stone at depth, the machines are generally large and in the 40-60 tonne size range. Even where rock might appear weathered or brittle at the surface, the extent of weathering can quickly diminish with depth resulting in strong rock requiring significant force to extract it at depths of only a few metres.



A large rock breaking excavator progressively breaks out the solid rock from the ground where necessary. The large rock breaker is typically supported by a smaller rock breaker which can often be in the 30-40 tonne size range and works to break the rocks down to a size that they can be fed into a crusher.

The extracted broken rock was typically loaded into a mobile crusher using a wheeled loading shovel and crushed down to the necessary size of graded stone required for the on-site civil works. The same wheeled loader took the stone from the crusher conveyor stockpile and stockpiled it away from the immediate area of the crusher until it was required elsewhere on the site.

3.4.3.2 Rock Blasting

Where blasting was used as an extraction method, a mobile drilling rig was used to drill vertical boreholes into the area of rock that was to be blasted. The drilling rigs used were self-propelled machines, designed for drilling blast boreholes. A drilling rig worked 4 days drilling the necessary number of boreholes required for a single blast. The locations, depth and number of boreholes were determined by the blast engineer, a specialist role fulfilled by the blasting contractor employed to undertake the works.

The blast engineer arranged for the necessary quantity of explosive to be brought to site to undertake a single blast. The management of explosives on site and the actual blasting operation was agreed in advance with and supervised by An Gardaí Siochána. The blast engineer set the explosives in place in the boreholes, set the charges, and fired the blast. Each blast took only a matter of milliseconds but may have been perceived to have taken longer as blast noise echoes around the area.

The blast generated rock of a size that could be loaded directly into a mobile crusher, using the same wheeled loader description outlined above. From that point on, the same method was used for processing the rock generated from a blast, as would be used to process rock generated by rock breaking. The drilling rig recommenced drilling blast holes for the next blast as soon one blast had been finished. A total of 4 no. blast events were completed as part of the Cleanrath wind farm development.

3.4.4 Peat and Overburden Management

3.4.4.1 Quantities

The quantity of peat and overburden that required management on the site was calculated, as 9,160m³. The volumes are calculated based on the quantity of material generated by the cut and fill design prepared by Ionic Consulting Engineers which was deemed to be unusable for reuse as suitable construction material. This material comprised soft overburden and peat from shallow areas.

3.4.4.2 Management of Peat and Subsoils

The majority of overburden and peat was stored temporarily adjacent to the works areas for reinstatement of temporary works areas after the main construction activities had been completed. For example, the working area required around each turbine foundation was backfilled on completion of the turbine foundation. Similarly, the roadways were graded back to the level of the adjacent ground and embankments were covered with a layer of suitable material to encourage re-vegetation of the site. In both these and other cases, the necessary volumes of overburden was stored adjacent to the works areas, for reuse in reinstatement. All have been assessed by an ecologist, geotechnical engineer and hydrologist as part of this assessment the details of which is summarised in the relevant sections throughout this document. This approach of using temporary storage areas was considered more sustainable than hauling the material to the borrow pit and transporting it back from there again to where it is needed for the reinstatement works. Considering also that only one borrow pit was



developed reduced the relocation options for this material as part of reinstatement. The stored material was sealed with the machine bucket and surrounded by silt fences to ensure sediment-laden run-off did not occur prior to its subsequent use for site reinstatement.

3.4.5 **Derragh Wind Farm Substation**

The grid connection cabling from the Cleanrath wind farm development connects to the existing 38kV Derragh Wind Farm Substation constructed as part of the Derragh Wind Farm development and is located approximately 3km west of Cleanrath Wind Farm in the townland of Rathgaskig. The cabling loops back out of this substation and runs mainly within the public road corridor on to the 110kV Coomataggart substation located in the townland of Grousemount, Co. Kerry.

The electricity substation compound includes a wind farm control building and the electrical components necessary to consolidate the electrical energy generated by Cleanrath wind farm development and export that electricity to the national grid. Further details regarding the connection of the onsite substation to the national electricity grid are provided in Section 3.4.7 below.

The location of the Derragh Wind Farm Substation with layout and elevations of the substation shown on Layout Drawings in Appendix 1. The substation compound is surrounded by an approximately 2.6 metre high steel palisade fence (or as otherwise required by ESB), and internal fences also segregate different areas within the main substation. The layout of electrical equipment in the electricity substation has been constructed to Eirgrid/ESB networks specifications.

3.4.6 Site Cabling

The electricity and fibre optic cabling from each turbine passes through the various site access roads in the direction of Turbine no. 7. Within Turbine no. 7, the power was combined for export off site. The electricity and fibre-optic cable ducting is approximately 1.2 metres below the ground surface as outlined on the application drawings included as Appendix 1 to this report. Figure 3-4 below shows a typical cable trench.



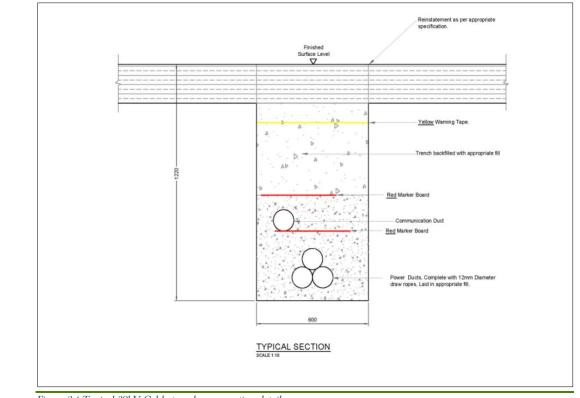
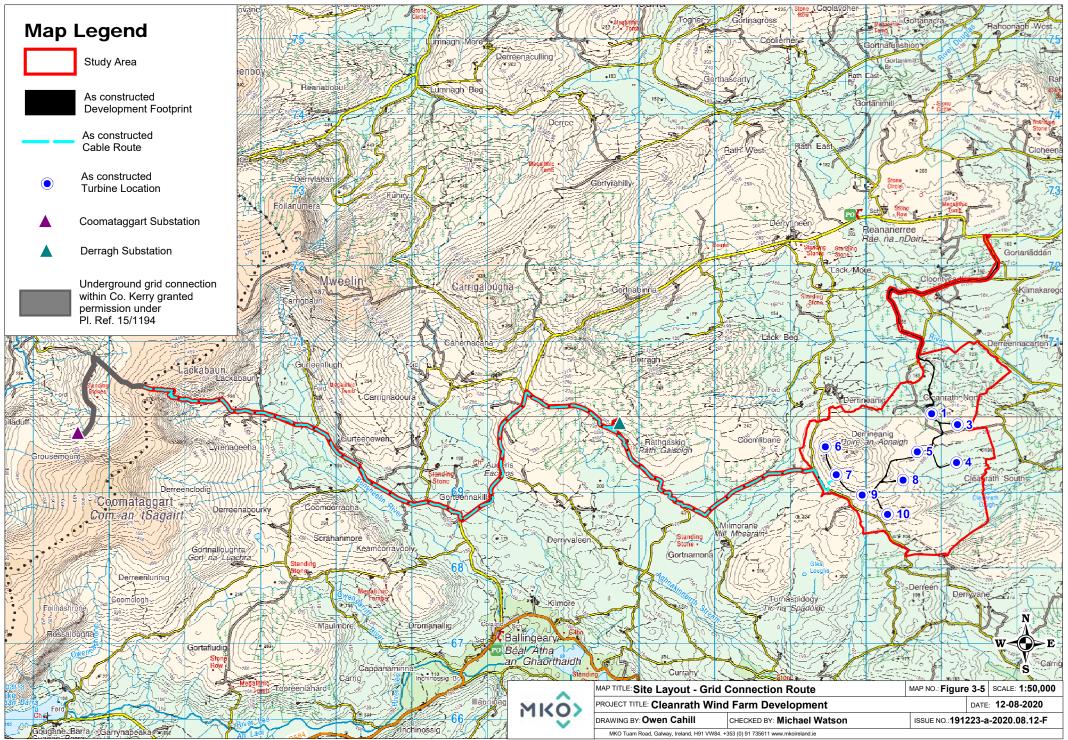


Figure 3-4 Typical 38kV Cable trench cross section detail

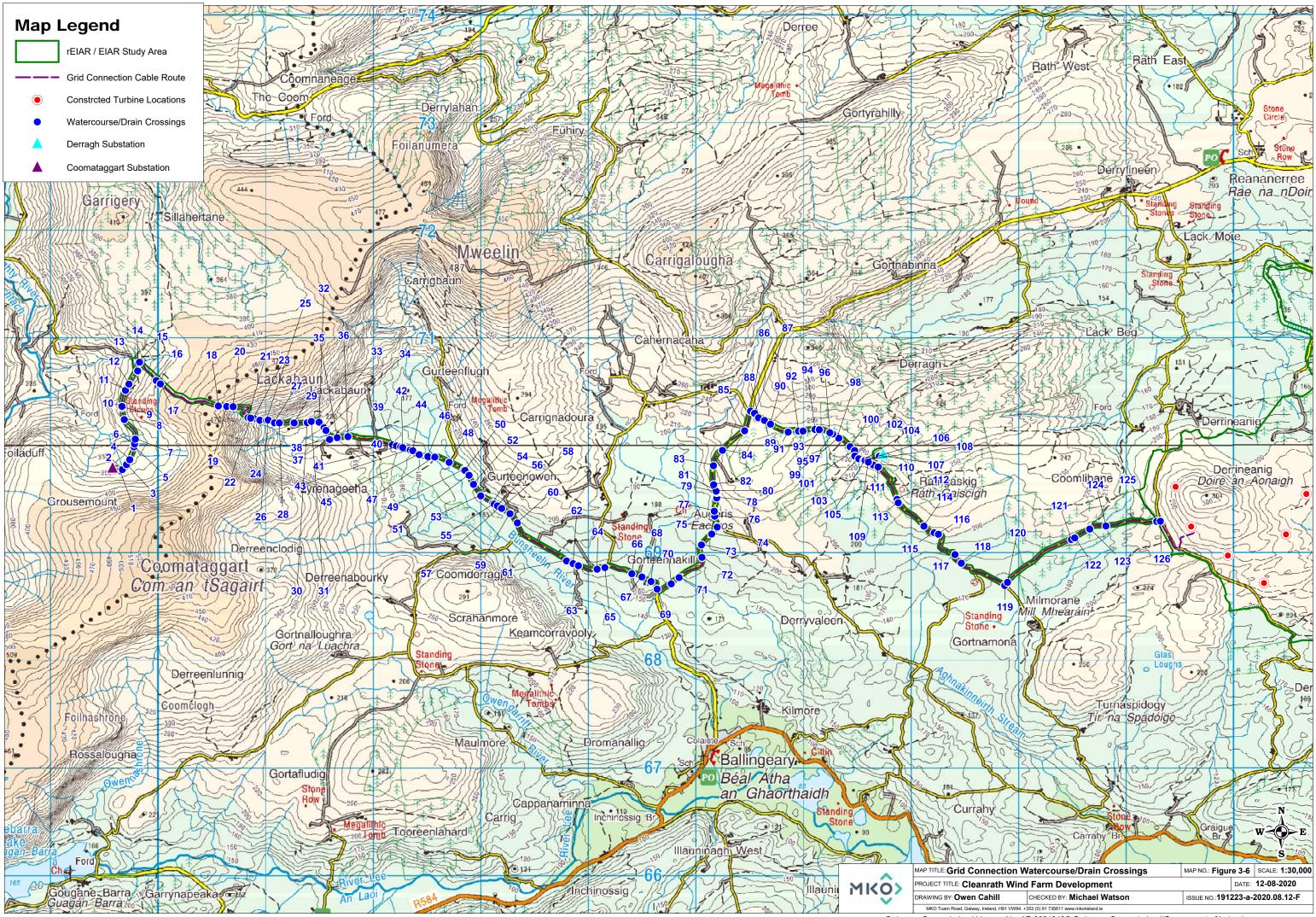
Cable trenches have been developed and ducting installed to ESB Networks specifications.

3.4.7 Grid Connection

The grid connection cable route comprises electricity cabling (33kV) from Turbine no. 7 within cable ducting along the permitted Operational Access/Inspection Road (Pl Ref. 18/04458) southwest of Turbine no. 7 and on to the local public road until it turns onto the access track of the constructed Derragh Wind Farm development and connects to the constructed 38kV electricity substation. The grid connection is approximately c15km in length. The cabling loops back out of the Derragh Wind Farm Substation (38kV) and runs mainly within the public road corridor on to the 110kV Coomataggart substation located in the townland of Grousemount, Co. Kerry. The final 1.5km of the cable route within Co. Cork and the 2km of the cabling in Co. Kerry is located on existing private access tracks. The entire grid connection route passes through the townlands listed in Table 3-1 of this NIS. The grid connection route is illustrated in Figure 3-5. Figure 3-6 illustrates the watercourse crossings along the grid route.



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819© Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



Temporary Construction Compound

A Site Office/Canteen and storage container was temporarily located along the access road west of Turbine no. 7 at the outset of construction works. As the works progressed into the site, these facilities were relocated to the access road South West of Turbine no. 8 as outlined in Figure 3-2. These were the only facilities required at this stage the construction. As the works progressed, a temporary construction compound measuring approximately 80 metres by 50 metres was installed in the north of the site adjacent to Turbine No. 1 and located along a section of new road. An additional area of temporary construction compound was also provided on the south side of the access road adjacent to Turbine no. 1 which was used mainly by the turbine supplier as their compound during turbine installation The location and extent of the construction compound is shown on the site layout drawing in Figure 3-2.

During construction, the compound included the provision of temporary site offices, staff facilities and car-parking areas for staff and visitors. The layout of the construction compound is shown in Appendix 1. Construction materials and turbine components were brought directly to the turbine locations following their delivery to the site.

Temporary port-a-loo toilets located within a staff portakabin were used during the construction phase. Wastewater from staff toilets were directed to a sealed storage tank, with all wastewater being tankered off site by permitted waste collector to wastewater treatment plants.

Since the completion of construction, all offices, welfare facilities and equipment has been removed and the area repurposed as the hardstanding for Turbine No. 1. The area of temporary construction compound on the south side of the access road has been decommissioned with all offices, containers and welfare facilities removed from site. The stoned area that remains will be allowed to revegetate naturally over time.

3.4.8 **Associated Works**

3.4.8.1 Peatland Habitat Restoration

The construction of the Cleanrath wind farm development has resulted in the permanent loss of 4.13ha of the peatland habitat mosaic within the site. The development was specifically designed to avoid the larger areas of blanket bog that are mapped separately from the overall peatland mosaic. It has also led to the temporary physical disturbance of peatland habitats adjacent to the development footprint during the construction of the wind farm. A habitat restoration and enhancement plan has been prepared to mitigate for this habitat loss.

The details of this habitat restoration plan are provided in Appendix 2.

3.4.8.2 Tree Felling

A portion of the Cleanrath wind farm development site comprises a commercial coniferous forestry plantation, with approximately 32.5% of the site originally under forestry. As part of the Cleanrath wind farm development, permanent tree felling was required within and around the development footprint to allow the construction of turbine bases, access roads and the other ancillary infrastructure. Along sections of access road in forested areas, an area of approximately three times the width of the access road was felled. Temporary felling was also required in the vicinity of turbine locations, the purpose of which is to achieve the required setback between the trees and the turbines for the protection of bats.

A total of 8.14 hectares of forestry was felled within and around the development footprint. An additional 4.18 hectares of trees were temporary felled around the turbine locations. The total amount of tree felling completed as part of the Cleanrath wind farm development was 12.32 hectares, or 7.2% of the current forested area. Figure 3-7 shows the extent of the area that was felled as part of the Cleanrath



wind farm development. Tree felling licences were obtained for the area of trees that was felled for the construction of the Cleanrath wind farm development.

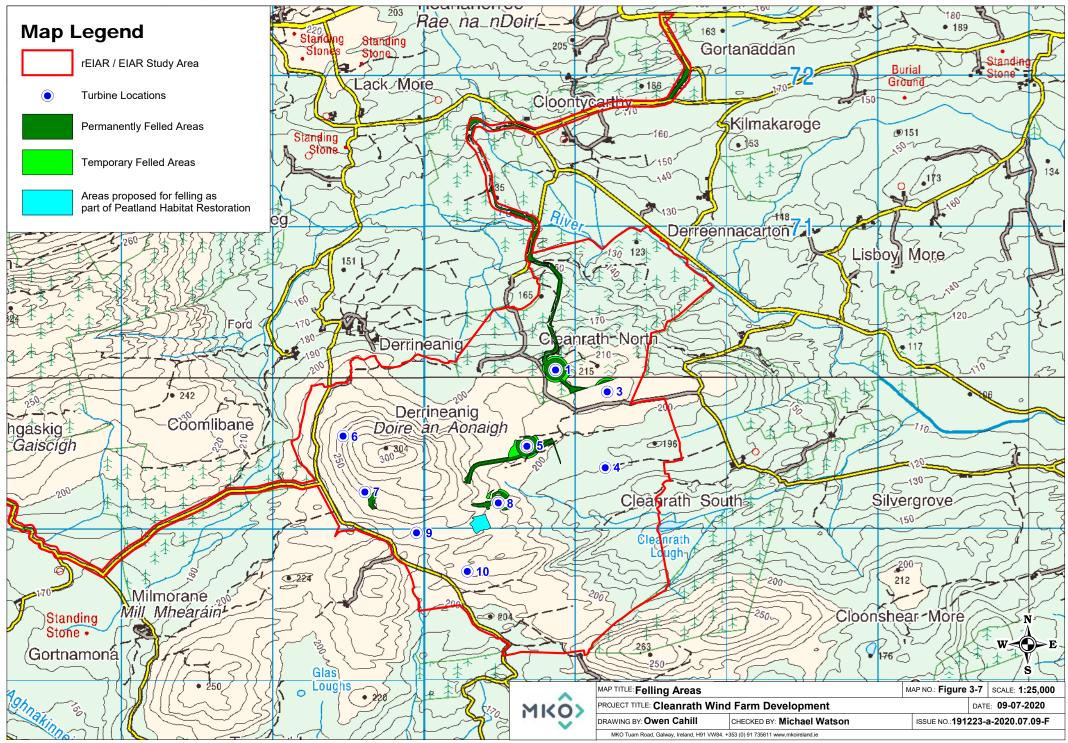
An additional hectare of felling is proposed to provide an area of enhanced peatland which is intended to offset the permanent loss of Peatland Habitat due to the permanent footprint of the Cleanrath wind farm development. This area will be restored to peatland habitat. Any further felling proposed for the site will be the subject of a Limited Felling Licence (LFL) application to the Forest Service.

3.4.8.3 Tree Planting

In line with the Forest Service's published policy on granting felling licences for wind farm developments, areas cleared of forestry for turbine bases, access roads, and any other wind farm-related uses are to be replaced by replanting at an alternative location.

The Forest Service policy requires replanting on a hectare for hectare basis and states that where turbulence or temporary felling is necessary, a 'short rotate//on forestry' (SRF) approach is generally made a condition of the felling licence. The SRF approach recommends the use of lodgepole pine or another suitable species as the replanting choice. The north coastal variety of lodgepole pine is preferred because it is unlikely to reach ten metres in height, the height at which the trees would again have to be felled to prevent turbine turbulence effects or interfere with the vegetation setback requirement for bats, over the 25-year lifetime of the wind farm project.

A total of 12.32 hectares of new forestry will therefore be replanted as a condition of the felling licences that have been issued in respect of the Cleanrath wind farm development. Replanting is a requirement of the Forestry Act and is primarily a matter for the statutory licensing processes that are under the control of the Forest service. The replacement replanting of forestry can occur anywhere in the State subject to licence. Some replanting will take place on the site of the Cleanrath wind farm development. It is standard practice to maximise the allowed 2 years fallow period between felling and replanting where replanting is due to take place on site, therefore this replacement planting of temporary felled areas will be due to occur before 31/03/2022. In addition, two replanting area were identified and assessed as part of the replacement of permanent felling with an availability of 2.95 hectares and 5.38 hectares located in the townlands of Glantane Beg and Claraghatlea, Co. Cork respectively. The lands proposed as part of the replacement of permanent felling required for the areas of Peatland Habitat Restoration are located in the townland of Sheehaun in Co. Roscommon. All these lands were granted Forest Service Technical Approval for afforestation and the planting of these areas has been completed.



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



4. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

The ecological surveys that were undertaken to inform this NIS are fully described in this section. A general description of the ecology of the site of the Cleanrath wind farm development is provided in the AA Screening Report. The specific surveys that were undertaken to assess the potential effects on the identified European Sites are described below.

4.1 Ecological Survey Methodologies

4.1.1 Desk Study

A comprehensive desk study was undertaken to inform this ecological impact assessment. This study included a thorough review of available information that is relevant to the ecology of the site of the development and grid connection. This information provides valuable existing data and also helps in the assessing the requirement for additional ecological surveys.

The following list describes the sources of data consulted:

- Review of Site Specific information with regard to the 'Screened In' European Sites as available from <u>www.NPWS.ie</u>.
- Review of The EPA web-mapper (https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/) to provide data on the EPA River Catchments and Watercourses.
- Consultation with relevant Statutory Authorities (Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Inland Fisheries Ireland)

4.1.2 **Ecological Multidisciplinary Walkover Surveys**

Multi-disciplinary ecological walkover surveys were undertaken of the Cleanrath wind farm development site including the turbine delivery route and grid connection route on various dates between 2010 and 2020 in accordance with NRA Guidelines on Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected Flora and Fauna on National Road Schemes (NRA, 2009). The walkover surveys were undertaken in October 2010, March, May and October, November and December 2011, January-March 2012, February-December 2015, 27th November 2018 and 20th December 2018. Additional surveys were also undertaken on the 3rd, 4th & 28th January 2019, 7th, 8th, 20th and 21st March 2019 and 30th March & 14th May 2020. The surveys provided baseline data on the ecology of the study area prior to, during and after construction. They enabled an assessment of whether further, more detailed habitat or species-specific ecological surveys were required. The multi-disciplinary ecological walkover surveys comprehensively covered the study area of the wind farm, including all elements of the development and grid connection.

Habitats were classified in accordance with the Heritage Council's 'A Guide to Habitats in Ireland' (Fossitt, 2000). Habitat mapping was undertaken with regard to guidance set out in 'Best Practice Guidance for Habitat Survey and Mapping' (Smith et al., 2011).

Plant nomenclature for vascular plants follows 'New Flora of the British Isles' (Stace, 2010), while mosses and liverworts nomenclature follow '*Mosses and Liverworts of Britain and Ireland - a field guide*' (British Bryological Society, 2010).

The walkover surveys were designed to detect the presence, or suitable habitat for a range of protected faunal species that may occur in the vicinity of the development.



ring the multidisciplinary surveys, a search for Invasive Alien Species (IAS), with a focus on those listed under the Third Schedule of the European Communities Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011), was also conducted.

4.1.3 Otter Survey

Areas identified during the multidisciplinary walkover survey as providing potential habitat for otter were subject to targeted surveys. Dedicated otter surveys were undertaken in December 2015 by MKO ecologists and again on the 13th, 14th and 15th November 2018 by Julie O'Sullivan of MKO. Further surveys were undertaken by Pat Roberts on 14th May 2020. Otter surveys were undertaken at all locations where the construction footprint occurs in close proximity to or crosses watercourses. Particular attention was paid to the River Toon within the development site. The otter surveys were conducted as per NRA (2009) guidelines (Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected Flora and Fauna during the Planning of National Road Schemes). This involved a search for all otter signs e.g. spraints, scat, prints, slides, trails, couches and holts. In addition to the width of the rivers/watercourses, a 10m riparian buffer (both banks) was considered to comprise part of the otter habitat (NPWS 2009). The dedicated otter survey also flowed the guidance as set out in NRA (2008) *'Guidelines for the Treatment of Otters Prior to the Construction of National Roads Schemes*' and following CIEEM best practice competencies for species surveys (CIEEM, 2013¹).

4.1.4 Watercourse Surveys

Sampling was carried out downstream of the study area at 11 sites on the 14th May 2020. All watercourses were assessed if they were located within or downstream of the wind farm development or the grid connection route and contained flowing water. The locations of each watercourse surveyed are provided in Figure 4-1.

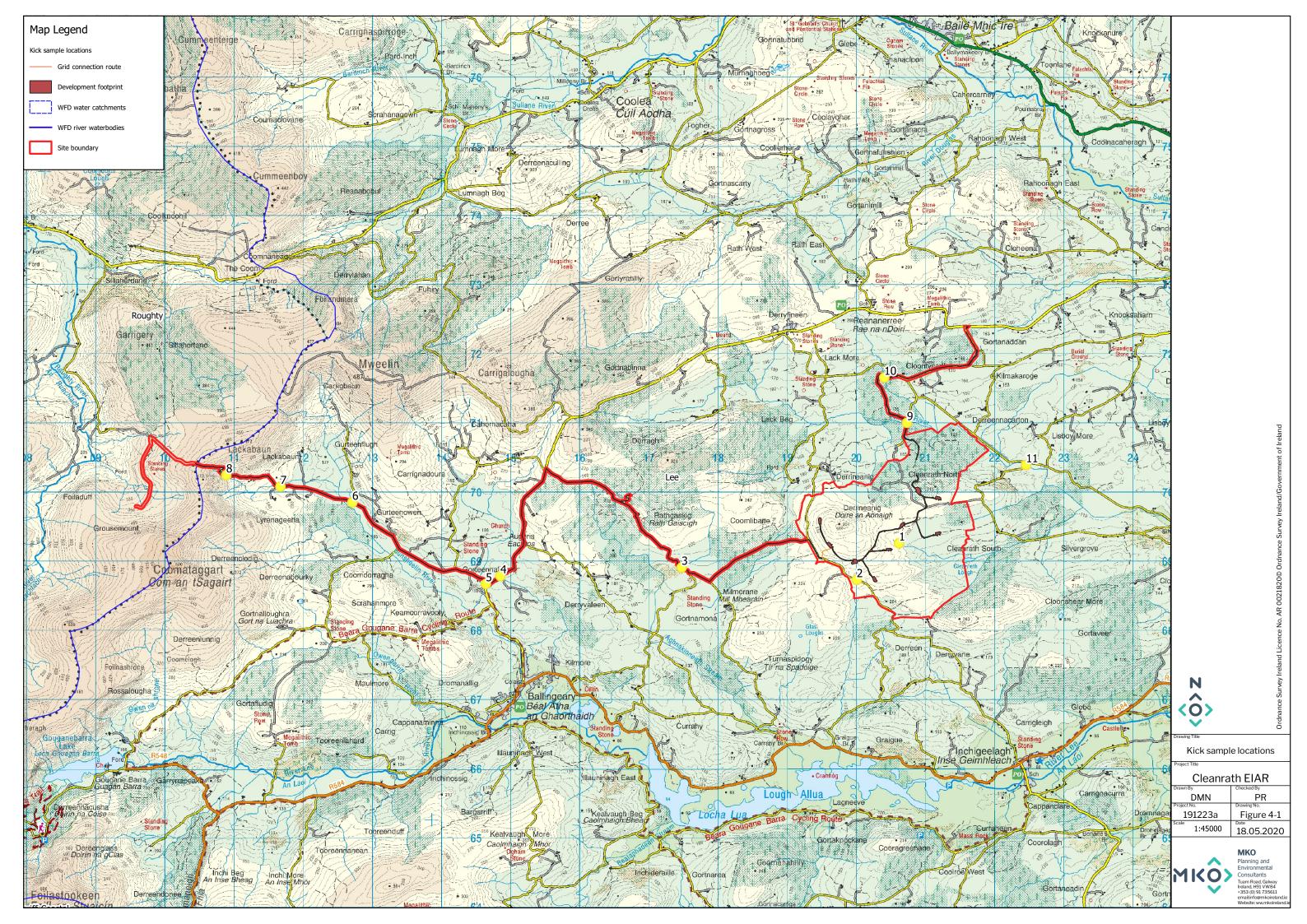
Biological water quality was assessed through kick-sampling each of these watercourses. Macroinvertebrate samples were converted to Q-ratings as per Toner et al. $(2005)^2$. The applied Q ratings followed the EPA water quality classes and Water Framework Directive status categories. All riverine samples were taken with a standard kick sampling hand net (250mm width, 500µm mesh size) from areas of riffle/glide utilising a two-minute sample, as per ISO standards for water quality sampling (ISO 10870:2012). Large cobble was also washed at each site where present.

In addition to the biological water quality assessment, each watercourse was visually assessed for signs of pollution or instream activity that could be attributable to the construction of the windfarm.

The results of the surveys at all 11 sites are provided in Appendix 3.

¹ CIEEM, 2013, Technical Guidance Series – Competencies for Species Survey, Online, Available at: <u>https://cieem.net/resource/competencies-for-species-survey-css/</u>Accessed: 20.06.2019

² Toner, P., Bowman, J., Clabby, K., Lucey, J., McGarrigle, M., Concannon, C.,. & MacGarthaigh, M. (2005). Water quality in Ireland. Environmental Protection Agency, Co. Wexford, Ireland.





4.1.5 Surveys for Hen Harrier

Field surveys were undertaken by McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) between February 2015 and March 2017, which includes two full breeding seasons and two non-breeding seasons in line with SNH (2017). This data comprises the core data set used to inform the impact assessment. It is supplemented by bird survey data gathered during pre-commencement monitoring at the Cleanrath wind farm development between June 2018 and August 2018, and bird survey data gathered during operational monitoring at the Cleanrath wind farm development, between January 2020 and May 2020. The supplementary data gathered during pre-commencement and operational is clearly defined throughout this report and has been used to compare against the predictions made using the core dataset (February 2015 to March 2017) during the impact assessment.

The data provided in this report is robust and allows clear, precise and definitive conclusions to be made on the avian receptors identified within the subject site. Field survey methodologies were devised to survey for the bird species composition and assemblages that occur within the study area and its hinterland and which are potentially susceptible to impacts from this type of development.

4.1.5.1 Initial Site Assessment

Based on the results of a desk study, consultation and 2011/12 winter season bird surveys, the likely importance of the study area for bird species was ascertained. Based on the collated information available from the above preliminary assessment and adopting a precautionary approach, a site-specific scope for the ornithological surveys was developed.

4.1.5.2 Survey Methodologies

The survey work undertaken between February 2015 and March 2017 forms the core dataset for the assessment of effects on ornithology, which includes two full breeding seasons and two non-breeding seasons in line with SNH (2017). This data is supplemented by pre-commencement and operational monitoring bird surveys which took place between June and August 2018, and January and May 2020 respectively. Full details of the surveys carried out and the data recorded are provided in Chapter 7 of the EIAR and its associated appendices. The methodologies followed in relation to hen harrier are provided below.

In the absence of specific national bird survey guidelines, the ornithological surveys were designed and undertaken in full accordance with '*Recommended bird survey methods to inform impact assessment of onshore wind farms*' (SNH, 2017).

The various survey types undertaken are described below.

4.1.5.2.1 Vantage Point Surveys

Vantage point surveys were undertaken in accordance with SNH guidance from February 2015 and February 2017. Surveys were conducted monthly throughout this survey period from three fixed point vantage points (VP1 – VP3) to allow comprehensive coverage of all turbines in accordance with SNH 2017. Vantage point surveys are designed to quantify the level of flight activity and its distribution over the survey area. The primary purpose of the survey is to provide data to inform the collision risk model, which makes predictions of mortality, from collisions with turbines. The validity of vantage point surveys were confirmed by MKO by conducting viewshed analysis, as described below, and further checked during initial field surveys. Figure 7-1 in Appendix 4 shows the locations of all vantage points relative to the development site.



Viewshed Analysis

Viewshed analysis was carried out to confirm coverage of the study area from fixed vantage point locations (i.e. VP1 – VP3). Viewsheds were calculated using Resoft Wind Farm ZTV (Zone of Theoretical Visibility) software in combination with Mapinfo Professional (Version 10.0) using a notional layer suspended at 32.5m, which is representative of the lowest swept rotor height of the turbines at the Cleanrath wind farm development. While the relevance of being able to view as much of the site to ground level is acknowledged, the SNH guidance emphasises the importance of visibility of the 'collision risk volume' when the data is to be used to estimate the risk of collision with turbines by birds.

The area visible from each vantage point was ground-truthed (i.e. confirmed during field surveys) to incorporate landscape features (e.g. woodland, spoil heaps etc.) into the analysis that would not otherwise be accounted for in the computer modelling programme. The vantage points were selected to effectively survey the rotor swept area of all turbines.

The viewshed analysis involved testing each VP location for its visibility coverage by creating a viewshed point 1.5 meters in height (to represent the height of observer) on a map using 10 metre contours terrain data. The relative height of forestry and its effects on visibility is also accounted for in the analysis. Using the ZTV software, a viewshed of 360 degrees was produced calculating an area 32.5 metres from ground level up to a 2km radius from the VP location. The resulting viewshed image was then cropped to 180 degrees to give the viewshed orientation and visible survey area from each VP location in line with SNH (2014, 2017).

In order to ensure that the viewsheds provided sufficient coverage of the proposed turbines and 500m of same, a 500m buffer was applied to the outer most turbines of the Cleanrath wind farm development' in line with SNH (2014, 2017). The viewshed analysis highlights that the rotor swept area (i.e. potential collision height) of all turbines was visible and surveyed throughout the two-year survey period. The visible view shed at 32.5m is presented on Figures7-2, 7-2-1, 7-2-2 and 7-2-3 in Appendix 4.

Data Recording and Digitisation

Data on bird observations and flight activity was collected from a scanning arc of 180° within a 2km radius of each fixed VP by a surveyor for six hours per month (SNH 2017). Due to weather constraints, some surveys ended early but were continued at a later date in the month to ensure that six hours of surveys were conducted per month in accordance with SNH guidance (2017). Surveys were scheduled to provide a spread over the full daylight period including dawn and dusk watches to coincide with the peaks in bird activity.

Survey effort for vantage point watches is presented in Appendix 4, This includes full details of dates, times, survey locations, survey duration and weather conditions for each survey. Table 1 below shows a summary of the VP survey work undertaken.

Survey Season	Months	Minimum Effort per VP
2015 Breeding Season (3VPs)	Feb-Aug	40 hours/VP
2015/2016 Non-Breeding Season (3VPs)	Sep-Feb	36 hours/VP
2016 Breeding Season (3VPs)	Mar-Aug	45 hours/VP
2016/2017 Non-Breeding Season (3VPs)	Sep-Feb	36 hours/VP

Table 4-1 Vantage Point Survey Effort

Birds which use the airspace around turbines are susceptible to collision with operating turbines. The swept area of the rotor blade is the area in which a collision is theoretically possible. Possible collision



height (PCH) is therefore defined as the area of space occupied by the turbine rotors. Observed flight activity was recorded as per defined flight bands which were chosen in relation to the dimensions of potential turbine models to be used at the Cleanrath wind farm development.

Bands were determined prior to final selection and construction of the turbines. Initial height bands used for recording flight data were split into bands 0-10m, 10-100m and 100m+ which were used during VP surveys between February 2015 and March 2016. In April 2016 height bands were revised to incorporate modern turbine dimensions. Height bands 0-10m, 10-25m, 25-175m and 175m+ were used for the period April 2016 to February 2017. Taking a highly precautionary approach, both height bands were combined, for collision risk modelling purposes, the height bands 10-100m and 100m+, were both combined and included in the newer height band of 25-175m. All flight activity within the combined height band of 25-175m is considered to be within the Potential Collision Height (PCH) with regard to the turbine swept area, based on a worst-case scenario for collisions risk modelling. This height band incorporates the actual swept area of the turbines (i.e. 32.5m - 150m), leaving a considerable amount of height below and above PCH to account for any potential surveyor error.

Each flight observation was assigned a unique identifier when mapped in the field and subsequently digitised using GIS software.

4.1.5.2.2 Breeding Bird Surveys (Adapted Brown & Shepherd Methodology)

Breeding walkover surveys were undertaken to determine the presence of bird species of high conservation concern and identify areas of possible, probable or confirmed breeding territories for bird species observed within the study area. The survey methodology followed the Adapted Brown and Shepherd method for upland sites as outlined in Gilbert et al. (1998) and SNH (2017) ('adapted Brown and Shepherd surveys'). In addition, surveyors visited prominent features (e.g. fence posts) within the Cleanrath wind farm development to search for signs of raptor activity (e.g. merlin) such as pellets or plucked feathers.

Transect routes were devised to ensure coverage of different habitats within the study area. Target species were waders, raptors, waterbirds, gulls and other birds of conservation concern. Along with target species, all additional species observed were recorded to inform the evaluation of supporting habitat.

Walkover surveys were carried out between daylight hours during the core breeding season months of April, June, July, August and September of 2015 and April, May, June, July and August 2016. Following all survey visits, the field maps were analysed to determine the number and location of breeding territories. All non-breeding individuals and species encountered were also recorded.

Survey effort is presented in Appendix 4, Table 3. This includes full details of dates, times, survey locations, survey duration and weather conditions for each survey. Figure 7-3 in Appendix 4 shows the transect routes surveyed.

4.1.5.2.3 Breeding Raptor Surveys

Breeding raptor surveys (i.e. birds of prey and owls) were conducted within the study area and its immediate surrounds during both the 2015 and 2016 breeding seasons (April – July). Survey methodology was as outlined in Hardey et al. (2013). Breeding Raptor Surveys aimed to cover all areas of suitable raptor breeding habitat within 2km of the site boundary, including hen harrier, merlin, peregrine, barn owl and other raptor species. This included surveying suitable buildings (where access allowed) (as per SNH 2017 recommendations for surveying owls) of the site for barn owl.

Raptor surveys, in the form of walked transects and short VP watches, were conducted within a 2km radius of the site boundary on a monthly basis during the core breeding season (April – July). The aim of these surveys was to identify occupied territories and establish whether breeding was successful within the study area.



Survey effort details are provided in Appendix 4.

4.1.5.2.4 Hen Harrier Roost Surveys

These surveys were undertaken in areas of suitable roosting habitat to a 2km radius of the Cleanrath wind farm development during the winter season (as per SNH 2017).

Survey work was undertaken in accordance with the methodology devised by Gilbert et al. (1998) and the 'Irish Hen Harrier Winter Roost Survey' (unpublished document coordinated by members of NPWS). Surveys were carried out throughout both non-breeding seasons (November 2015 - March 2016 & Oct 2016 – February 2017). Full details of survey effort are provided in Appendix 4.

4.1.5.2.5 Waterfowl Surveys

Waterfowl surveys were carried out at Lough Allua, approximately 2km south of the Cleanrath wind farm development at its closest point, for waterbird populations (i.e. waders, waterfowl, gulls, grebes and rails) during both winter seasons (November 2015 – March 2016 and August 2016 – February 2017 (as per SNH 2017). The survey methodology employed followed the 'I-WeBS Counter Manual – Guidelines for Irish Wetland Bird Survey Counters' co-ordinated by BirdWatch Ireland. Broadly in accordance with SNH (2017), counts were undertaken monthly during the first winter surveyed and bimonthly during the second winter surveyed, at each target wetland site during the wintering/migratory period. Counts were undertaken during daylight hours (including dawn and dusk) from suitable vantage points at the wetland site.

Survey effort, including details of survey duration and weather condition, is presented in Appendix 4.

4.1.5.2.6 Winter Transect Surveys

Winter transect surveys were conducted during the 2016/17 winter season to determine the presence of bird species of high conservation concern within areas of potential suitable habitat in the study area.

Transect routes were devised to ensure coverage of different habitat complexes between vantage point locations within the study area, during winter months. Methodology was broadly based on methods described in Bibby et al. (2000). Target species were raptors, waterbirds, gulls and ground birds of conservation interest. Along with target species, all additional species observed were recorded to inform the evaluation of supporting habitat. Surveys were conducted monthly between November 2016 and February 2017.

Survey effort, including details of survey duration and weather condition, is presented in Appendix 4.

4.1.5.2.7 Pre-Commencement Monitoring Bird Surveys

Pre-commencement bird surveys were conducted during the 2018 breeding season to determine the presence of bird species of high conservation concern within areas of potential suitable habitat in the study area, particularly breeding raptors, prior to commencement of construction activities. Surveys were carried in compliance with the requirement of Planning Condition 12 of Pl. Ref. No. 15/06966 (ABP Ref. PL 04.246742). The condition states that:

"Pre-construction and post-construction monitoring and reporting programmes for birds (particularly Hen Harrier and Merlin) shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. The surveys shall be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced specialists."



Pre-commencement bird surveys were undertaken between June 2018 and August 2018. Survey methodologies consisted of adapted Brown & Shepard walkover surveys within 500m of the Cleanrath wind farm development and Breeding raptor surveys within 2km of the Cleanrath wind farm development (with a particular emphasis on hen harrier and merlin. A total of 25 hours and 30 minutes of breeding raptor surveys were carried out between June and August 2018, while a total of 31 hours and 30 minutes of adapted Brown & Shepard walkover surveys were carried out between June and August 2018.

Survey effort, including details of survey duration and weather condition, for Breeding Bird Surveys and Breeding Raptor Surveys is presented in Appendix 4.

4.1.5.2.8 Operational Monitoring Bird Surveys

Operational monitoring bird surveys were begun in January 2020 when the wind farm went operational and continues at the Cleanrath wind farm development. Surveys consist of Vantage Point Surveys, Breeding Bird Surveys, Breeding Raptor Surveys, Hen Harrier Roost Surveys, Winter Transect Surveys and Corpse Searching Surveys. All of the survey methodologies described below are in line with conditions of the previous planning permission (ABP Ref. PL04.246742) which are currently ongoing at the Cleanrath wind farm development to ensure no lapse in bird surveys. Operational monitoring surveys are in full compliance with SNH (2017) recommended survey methodologies ensuring that the same level of survey effort is continued to allow for a direct comparison of the surveys conducted prior to construction (2015 – 2017). This EIAR only contains Operational Monitoring results up to the end of May 2020. Due to time sensitivity of the application it was not possible to process, digitise and incorporate the results from June and July 2020 in the assessment. June and July surveys have been completed and August operational monitoring has since commenced with the view to continuing surveying up to the time of the board's decision, and beyond should consent be granted, to ensure no lapse in surveys.

Survey effort, including details of survey duration and weather condition, for Operational Bird Monitoring surveys is presented in Appendix 4

Vantage Point Surveys

Vantage Point surveys were conducted from two fixed VP locations at the Cleanrath wind farm development. Two rounds of surveys were conducted in February 2020 to account for January and February survey rounds. VP surveys consisted of a minimum of 6 hours per VP each month, culminating in 30 hours of surveys per VP between February and May 2020. Survey methods were in line with SNH (2017) recommendations.

Survey effort, including details of survey duration and weather condition, is presented in Appendix 4.

Breeding Bird Surveys

Breeding Bird surveys were commenced at the Cleanrath wind farm development site during the 2020 breeding season as part of the operational bird monitoring programme. Surveys were initially intended to commence in April 2020, however due to travel restriction put in place by the government as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak in Ireland, surveys could not be conducted in April. Surveys therefore commenced in May 2020 as a result. Survey methods were in line with SNH (2017) recommendations.

Survey effort, including details of survey duration and weather condition, is presented in Appendix 4.



Breeding Raptor Surveys

Breeding Raptor surveys were commenced at the Cleanrath wind farm development during the 2020 breeding season as part of the operational bird monitoring programme. Surveys were initially intended to commence in April 2020, however due to travel restriction put in place by the government as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak in Ireland, surveys could not be conducted in April. Surveys therefore commenced in May 2020 as a result. Survey methods were in line with SNH (2017) recommendations.

Survey effort, including details of survey duration and weather condition, is presented in Appendix 4.

Hen Harrier Roost Surveys

Hen Harrier Roost surveys were conducted in February 2020 from three survey locations overlooking areas of suitable hen harrier roosting habitat within 2km of the Cleanrath wind farm development . Two rounds were undertaken at each survey location during the month of February to account for January surveys. In March 2020 Hen Harrier Roost survey locations were revised to ensure adequate coverage of all suitable hen harrier roosting areas, adding an additional two survey locations. Survey methods were in line with SNH (2017) recommendations.

Survey effort, including details of survey duration and weather condition, is presented in Appendix 4.

Winter Transect Surveys

Winter Transect surveys were conducted at the Cleanrath wind farm development and within 500m of same between February and March 2020. Two rounds of transect surveys were undertaken during the month of February to account for January surveys. Survey methods were in line with SNH (2017) recommendations.

Survey effort, including details of survey duration and weather condition, is presented in Appendix 4.

Corpse Searching Surveys

Corpse searching surveys were conducted between January and May 2020. Surveys for bird casualties will follow survey methods broadly based on guidelines issued by the SNH (2009) and search methods adopted by Duffy & Steward (2008). Searcher efficiency and carcass removal trials were conducted in advance of the commencement of the bird fatality searches to account for ability of the trained search dog to find bird corpses and the effect of scavengers on search results. This allowed for an estimate of the total number of collisions at the wind farm for each survey year.

During each visit, searches are undertaken at each operating turbine location by a team consisting of one surveyor with a trained search dog with a GPS collar attached, so that all finds could be plotted, subject to review by the accompanying surveyor. A plot measuring 130m x 130m from the centre of each turbine location was the subject of target searches for bird casualties. Recording sheets are used to document bird carcasses encountered in the field. The following details are considered during field surveys: GPS location of each bird carcass, photographic record, carcass condition (intact (carcass that is completely intact or not badly decomposed), scavenged (evidence that the carcass was fed upon by a scavenger/predator) or feather patch (ten or more feathers indicating predation or scavenging or two or more primary feathers must be present to consider the carcass a casualty)), distance from the turbine location, date, time, etc. Results of bird casualties will be issued in a final report at the end of each monitoring year.

4.2 **Results of Ecological Surveys**





4.2.1 **Desk Study Results**

4.2.1.1 **The Gearagh cSAC (000106)**

Following the precautionary principle, the operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development has the potential to cause deterioration in surface water quality due to the release of pollutants including suspended solids and hydrocarbons, potentially affecting the following downstream aquatic habitats and supporting habitats for QI aquatic fauna:

- Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]
- Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270]
- Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]
- Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]

The relevant QIs and the associated conservation objectives (as in the detailed Conservation Document (Version 1, Sep 2016) are presented in Table 4-2.

Table 4-2 Qualifying Interest and Conservation Objectives

Qualifying Interest	Conservation Objective
Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation in The Gearagh cSAC
Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270]	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Rivers with muddy banks with <i>Chenopodion rubri</i> p.p. and <i>Bidention</i> p.p. vegetation in The Gearagh cSAC
Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno- Padion, Alnionincanae, Salicionalbae</i>) [91EO)	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion,</i> <i>Alnion incanae, Salicion albae</i>) in The Gearagh cSAC
Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Otter in The Gearagh cSAC

4.2.1.1.1 Site Specific Pressures and Threats

As per the Natura 2000 Data Form, the site-specific threats, pressures and activities with potential to impact on the SAC were reviewed and considered in relation to the Cleanrath wind farm development. These are provided in Table 4-3.

Table 4-3 Site-specific threats, pressures and activities



Negative Impa	cts		
Rank	Threats and Press	ures	Inside/Outside/Both
Medium	H01.05	Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities	Both
High	J02	human induced changes in hydraulic conditions	Both

No pathways for the Cleanrath wind farm development to result in impacts with regard to the listed threats and pressures were identified.

4.2.1.1.2 Species Specific Information

Site specific information on each of the relevant Qualifying Interests was reviewed as part of this desk assessment.

Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation

The mapped extent of this habitat within the cSAC is shown in Map 2 of the site-specific conservation objectives. However, according to The Gearagh cSAC conservation objectives supporting document, *Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation and Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation* data on the vegetation of the river channels within The Gearagh cSAC are limited and, therefore, the distribution of this habitat and the sub-types/communities that occur in the site are currently unknown. The basis for the selection of the cSAC for the habitat was records from O'Reilly (1955), surveys by NPWS staff and the Irish Biogeographical Society survey of 1983 (McGough, 1983; FitzGerald, 1984; White, 1985a). While aquatics were not the focus of these surveys, Callitriche spp., Myriophyllum spp., Potamogeton spp., Ranunculus cf. penicillatus and Fontinalis antipyretica were recorded and these taxa are listed as characteristic of the habitat (European Commission, 2013). The conservation importance of The Gearagh SAC streams is attributable to the geomorphology (anastomosing channels) and mosaic of stream, woodland and wetland communities.

Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation

The extent of this habitat within the cSAC is shown in Map 2 of the site-specific conservation objectives. According to The Gearagh cSAC conservation objectives supporting document, '*Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation and Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation*' the area of the habitat is expected to vary, naturally, inter-annually, with flooding regime. In Ireland, the habitat is mainly found within turloughs that have areas from which the flood water recedes late and that are prone to summer flooding. In the rest of Europe, the habitat is found on muddy banks of rivers in late-receding river floodplains (European Commission, 2013). The Gearagh SAC is the only known Irish example of Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation occurring in the floodplain of a 'surface' river.

Otter (Lutra lutra)

There is no mapped distribution of this species within the cSAC in the site-specific conservation documents, however the extent of terrestrial habitat is calculated as 23.7ha along river banks,/lake



shoreline/around ponds and 62.3ha of wet woodland giving a total of 86.0ha. This includes the entire area of wet woodland that occurs on islands where the River Lee main channel breaks into a complex and dynamic network of channels. The extent of freshwater habitat is calculated as 10.6km

Detailed site-specific conservation objectives document are not available for this cSAC. According to the site synopsis form the site holds a population of Otter, a species listed on Annex II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (NPWS, 2013).

*Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnionincanae, Salicionalbae)

According to the site-specific conservation objectives document alluvial forest was surveyed in The Gearagh cSAC by Perrin et al. (2008) as part of the National Survey of Native Woodlands (NSNW). The minimum area based on this survey is 101.2 ha. The extent of this habitat (101.2ha) within the cSAC is mapped on Map 4 of the site-specific conservation objectives, however, further un-surveyed areas may be present within the cSAC.

According to the site synopsis form, the alluvial woodland which remains today at the Gearagh is of unique scientific interest, and qualifies as a priority habitat under Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive. The area has probably been wooded since the end of the last Ice Age, around 10,000 years ago. Originally the area of alluvial woodland extended as far as the Lee Bridge. However, around 60% of the former woodland was lost during extensive tree felling and flooding carried out the facilitate the operation of a hydro-electric scheme in 1954/55.

4.2.1.2 The Gearagh pSPA (004109)

There is hydrological connectivity between the Cleanrath wind farm development and this pSPA via the River Toon which flows through the development site and the River Lee which is located hydrologically downstream of the development site.

The works have the potential to cause or have caused deterioration of water quality during any future operation and decommissioning phase of the development potentially affecting the downstream SCI

> 'Wetland and Waterbirds'.

The relevant SCI and associated conservation objective is presented in Table 4.4.

Table 4-4 SCIs and Conservation Objectives		
Special Conservation Interest (SCI)	Conservation Objective	
Wetland and Waterbirds	'To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the wetland habitat at The Gearagh SPA as a resource for the regularly- occurring migratory waterbirds that utilise it.'	

4.2.1.2.1 **Review of site-specific pressures and threats**

As per the Natura 2000 Data Form, the site-specific threats, pressures and activities with potential to impact on the pSPA were reviewed and considered in relation to the Cleanrath wind farm development. These are provided in Table 4-5.

Table 4-5 Site-specific threats, pressures and activities



Negative Impacts			
Rank	Threats and Pres	sures	Inside/Outside
Low	F03.01	Hunting	Inside
Medium	A04	Grazing	Inside
High	J02.04	Flooding Modifications	Outside
High	J02	Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions	Inside

No pathways for the Cleanrath wind farm development to result in impacts with regard to the listed threats and pressures were identified.

4.2.1.2.2 Species Specific Information

The following relevant information on the special conservation interests of The Gearagh pSPA has been extracted from the site synopsis (NPWS, 2012).

⁶At the time this site was designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) it was utilised by nationally important populations of four species, i.e. Wigeon, Teal, Mallard and Coot, and each of these species is regarded as a special conservation interest for this SPA.

The Gearagh supported nationally important population of Wigeon (1,060), Teal (929) Mallard (478) and Coot (369) - all figures are two year mean peaks for the period 1994/95 to 1995/96. Other species that occurred at that time include Mute Swan (76), Whooper Swan (78), Gadwall (9), Shoveler (32), Pochard (106), Tufted Duck (237), Goldeneye (25), Cormorant (23), Lapwing (1,560), Golden Plover (1,748) and Curlew (335). A feral Greylag Goose flock is present in the area. A few pairs each of Great Crested Grebe and Tufted Duck breed.

The Gearagh is a Nature Reserve, a Ramsar Convention site and a Council of Europe Biogenetic Reserve'.

4.2.1.3 Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA (004162)

Whilst this European Site is located outside the Core Foraging Range of the SCI Species, hen harrier (as identified in 'Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas' (Scottish Natural Heritage, 2016)), it is located within the maximum foraging range for this species. As hen harrier were recorded on the wind farm site during the extensive surveys undertaken (occasionally during the winter period), following the precautionary principle, the potential for adverse effects on this species could not be excluded:

The works have the potential to cause disturbance of the Cleanrath wind farm development potentially affecting the SCI

> 'Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082].

The relevant SCI and associated conservation objective is presented in Table 4.6.

Table 4-6 SCIs and Conservation Objectives



Special Conservation Interest (SCI)	Conservation Objective
Hen Harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>) [A082]	
	'To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA

4.2.1.3.1 **Review of site-specific pressures and threats**

As per the Natura 2000 Data Form, the site-specific threats, pressures and activities with potential to impact on the SPA were reviewed and considered in relation to the Cleanrath wind farm development. These are provided in Table 4-7.

Negative Impacts			
Rank	Threats and Pres	sures	Inside/Outside
Medium	A04	Grazing	Inside
Medium	C01.03	Peat Extraction	Inside
High	В	Silviculture/Forestry	Inside
Low	D01.02	Roads/Motorways	Inside
Medium	A04	Grazing	Outside
High	В	Silviculture/Forestry	Outside
Low	D01.01	Paths, tracks and cycling tracks	Inside
Low	E01.03	Dispersed habitation	Inside

Table 4-7 Site-specific threats, pressures and activities

No pathways for the Cleanrath wind farm development to result in impacts with regard to the listed threats and pressures were identified.

4.2.1.3.2 Species Specific Information

The following relevant information on the special conservation interest of the Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA has been extracted from the site synopsis (NPWS, 2012).

⁶ This site is a stronghold for Hen Harrier. A survey in 2005 recorded 5 pairs, which represents over 2% of the all-Ireland total. A similar number had been recorded in the 1998-2000 period. The mix of forestry and open areas provides optimum habitat conditions for this rare bird, which is listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive. The early stages of new and second-rotation conifer plantations are the most frequently used nesting sites, though some pairs may still nest in tall heather of unplanted bogs and heath. Hen Harriers will forage up to c. 5 km from the nest site, utilising open bog and moorland, young conifer plantations and hill farmland that is not too rank. Birds will often forage in openings and gaps within forests. In Ireland, small birds and small mammals appear to be the most frequently taken prey.'

'The site is of ornithological importance because it provides excellent nesting and foraging habitat for breeding Hen Harrier. The presence of two species, Hen Harrier, and Merlin, which are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive is of note.'



4.2.1.4 **Results of Consultation**

MKO undertook a scoping exercise during preparation of this NIS. No response received from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht as of 27.07.2020

A response was received from the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in February 2016 in relation to the development (Pl.Ref. 15/6966). The points raised within this submission were fully addressed during the construction and operation of the wind farm and have been taken into account in the current sleep mode. They will be taken into account in any future operation or decommissioning of the Wind Farm.

In addition to the above, there was ongoing consultation with the Department in relation to surveying and mitigation for Kerry Slug. Surveying and translocation were undertaken under licence – *Der/Kerry Slug-2018-88*

4.2.1.5 **EPA River Catchments and Watercourses**

The EPA web-mapper (https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/) was consulted on the 02/04/2020 to provide data regarding the water quality and status of waterbodies that are located within and downstream of the site of the development.

The wind farm development site is situated within the WFD catchment 19: Lee, Cork Harbour and Youghal Bay catchment.

The WFD River Waterbody Status 2013 – 2018 for the watercourses which flow through and around the site have been assessed in Table

Name	Location	Status	Not at Risk
Toon River	Flows in a south-easterly direction through the northern section of the site	Good	Not at Risk
Lack	Flows in a south-easterly direction through the northern section of the site	Good	Not at Risk
Cluain Ti Cairtigh	Flows north into the Toon River	Good	Not at Risk
Doire An Aonaigh	Flows north into the Toon River	Good	Not at Risk
Ré na nDoirí	Flows south into the Toon River	Good	Not at Risk
Claonráthe Thuaidh	Flows south into Toon River	Good	Not at Risk
Silvergrove	Flows east adjacent to the southern section of the site	Good	Not at Risk
Graigue	Flows south adjacent to the southern section of the site	Good	Not at Risk
Cloch Eidhneach	Flows in a north easterly direction close to the northernmost section of the site	Good	Not at Risk

Table 4-8 EPA Water Quality Status and Risk Scores for Watercourses within and Adjacent to the Development Site

The Biotic Index of Water Quality (BIWQ) was developed in Ireland by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Q-values are assigned using a combination of habitat characteristics and structure of the macro-invertebrate community within the waterbody. Individual macro-invertebrate families are



classified according to their sensitivity to organic pollution and the Q-value is assessed based primarily on their relative abundance within a sample.

Table 4-4-1 illustrates the respective Q-value status results from monitoring stations located along rivers which flow through the site (as is the case with the Toon River) or along rivers which are fed directly by watercourses which flow through or around the site (in the case of the Sullane River, for example).

Name Status Risk Location Toon - Br NE of Cleanrath E122449, N70396 4 (Good) 2005 North Toon - Second Br u/s Lee R E126067, N69249 4-5 (High) 2017 confl Sullane – Sullane Br E126046, N74088. 2019 4-5 (High)

Table 4-4-1 Q-value Results from Monitoring Stations on Rivers which Drain the Site

4.2.2 **General description of Ecology of the Site**

The wind farm site (excluding the grid connection route) is located in an area that is dominated by upland coniferous forestry and a mosaic of exposed siliceous rock and peatland habitats. The northern section of the wind farm site consists predominantly of conifer plantation (WD4) with a range of other associated habitats located within the plantation (Plate 4.1). The southern half of the wind farm site consists predominantly of a mosaic of peatland habitats including Wet Heath (HH3), Exposed siliceous rock (ER1), Dry Heath (HH1) and small areas of Upland blanket bog (PB2), where deeper peat occurs between bands of rock (Plate 4.2). In addition, a number of small areas of conifer plantation (WD4) and agricultural grassland occur in this area. The following text provides a description of the habitats on the site prior to the construction of the wind farm following surveys undertaken from 2015 and throughout the pre-commencement and construction phase up to 2020. A habitat map of the site, with the infrastructure footprint overlain, is provided in Figure 4-2.

Map Legend

Habitat Legend

Buildings and artificial surfaces (BL3) Improved agricultural grassland (GA1) Amenity grassland (improved) (GA2) Dry-humid acid grassland (GS3) Wet grassland (GS4)

Wet Heath (HH3), Dry Heath (HH1), Exposed siliceous rock (ER1), Upland Blanket Bog (PB2) and Acid Flush (PF2) mosaic Lowland blanket bog (PB3)

Cutover bog (PB4)

Conifer plantation (WD4)

Oak-birch-holly woodland (WN1)

Bog woodland (WN7)

Scrub (WS1)

Site boundary

T10

7

T9

Τ7

T1

T4

TTS







Plate 4-1 Example of plantation forestry (WD4) around T8 with larger rocky outcrops left unplanted. These areas retain patches of wet heath vegetation.



Plate 4-2. Example of Exposed siliceous rock (ER1), Wet Heath and Bog Mosaic to the north of T10

The habitats within the study area include several habitat mosaics where the habitat patterns were too complex to map the individual habitats separately. The peatland mosaics comprised mainly Wet Heath



(HH3), Exposed Siliceous Rock (ER1), Upland Blanket Bog (PB2) and Acid Flush (PF2) (Within these mosaics wet heath was the dominant habitat, while exposed siliceous rock while widespread, occupied only a small portion of the overall area. Dry Siliceous Heath (HH1) was only found occasionally within the mosaic and was associated with the Exposed Siliceous Rock (ER1). Other peatland habitats including Cutover Bog (PB4) and small areas of Lowland Blanket Bog (PB3). The Conifer Plantation is mapped as a single habitat but in reality, included several ancillary habitats such as small areas of Mixed Broadleaved Woodland (WD1), Immature Woodland (WS2), Scrub (WS1), and Dry Meadows & Grassy Verges (GS2) that form a small component of the overall conifer plantation habitat and have been mapped and evaluated as a matrix.

The access road crosses the Toon River to the north of the development site. The river is classified as eroding/upland river (FW2) habitat. The river was 3-4 m in width, with a gravel/cobble substrate (Plate 4.3). Several other watercourses, which are tributaries of the Toon River flow through the forestry plantation in the northern section of the site. These are generally very small streams with eroding/upland river (FW2) habitat with steep gradients and usually heavily shaded and lacking significant in-channel vegetation. The forestry plantations also have numerous drainage ditches, with some of these functioning as seasonal streams. A number of watercourses flow through the bog habitats in the eastern section of the wind farm site, ultimately feeding into Cleanrath Lough. Close to the development footprint, the watercourses are artificially created, very narrow and flow through deeply cut, or straightened channels. The steeper sections have gravelly substrates, while level sections have deep silt/peat substrates with extensive growth of Bog Pondweed (Potomogeton polygonifolius). The south-western section of the wind farm site has a number of small watercourses, often associated with areas of acid flush habitat (PF2; see above), see Plate 4.4. Within the habitat survey area, these are mainly artificial Drainage Ditches (FW4) that have been excavated to improve drainage. These watercourses usually have very steep gradients and generally lack distinct vegetation communities (although many wetland plant species occur in the associated flush habitat; see above). Many are seasonal watercourses with no flow during dry periods.



Plate 4.3. The Toon River adjacent to the access route





Plate 4.4. Example of small watercourse (FW2), associated with acid flush habitat to the south of T9 The constructed development footprint comprises mainly of Buildings and artificial surfaces (BL3) as the turbine hardstands, foundations, access roads and blade set down areas comprise of recently constructed infrastructure.

In some areas, the lands surrounding the constructed development have been temporarily disturbed and are in the early stages of post-construction restoration. These areas are classified as Recolonising Bare Ground (ED3) or where they are barer, Spoil and Bare Ground (ED2). In some areas, the disturbed ground is recolonising with typical heathland species such as tormentil, deergrass, purple moor grass and sweet vernal grass. In other areas it is still bare or, in the wetter areas, becoming colonised with rushy vegetation. Bare rock habitats have been created within the temporary disturbance area in order to recreate the habitat mosaic that surrounds the development. Plate 4.5 shows a typical area of temporarily disturbed habitat surrounding the built wind farm infrastructure. This shows the surrounding undisturbed habitat along with the reinstated and recolonising area. It also shows the inclusion of bare rock habitat in the restoration design.





Plate 4.5. Example of reinstatement of roadside verges along the site access track infrastructure classified as Buildings and artificial surfaces (BL3).

The grid connection cable route comprises electricity cabling (33kV) from Turbine no. 7 within cable ducting along the permitted Operational Access/Inspection Road (Pl Ref. 18/04458) southwest of Turbine no. 7 and on to the local public road until it turns onto the access track of the constructed Derragh Wind Farm development and connects to the constructed 38kV electricity substation, which is located in a forestry plantation approximately 3km west of the Cleanrath wind farm development in the townland of Rathgaskig (Plate 4.6). The grid connection is approximately c15km in length. The cabling loops back out of the Derragh Wind Farm Substation (38kV) and runs mainly within the public road corridor on to the 110kV Coomataggart substation located in the townland of Grousemount, Co. Kerry. The final 1.5km of the cable route within Co. Cork and the 2km of the cabling in Co. Kerry is located on existing private access tracks. The first section runs from the south western boundary of the wind farm site on an unbound road through a large conifer plantation (WD4), much of which has been recently clearfelled (Plate 4-7) The next section continues on public roads, which are surrounded by coniferous forestry and open agricultural land mainly occupied by improved agricultural grassland (GA1) with heath (HH) habitat on rock outcrops, and a larger area of wet heath (HH3) on the ridge south of the forestry plantation at Rathgaskig. A short section of the road is surrounded by a strip of birch-dominated oak-birch holly woodland (WN1). The roadside boundaries along this section of the route are mainly earth banks (BL2), and lack well-developed hedgerows/treelines, although there are occasional small Ash trees and conifers. In the next section, the road in which the cable is laid is surrounded by another large conifer plantation to the west of Rathgaskig.

The grid connection route then follows a series of local roads through a largely improved agricultural landscape before reaching an upland landscape at Lackabaun. The road margins comprise largely of Dry meadows and grassy verges (GS2) and Dry-humid acid grassland (GS3).

The grid connection route then follows a steep upland track from the termination of the public road to the boundary with Co. Cork and continuing until it reaches the infrastructure associated with the Grousemount Wind Farm and associated Coomataggart Substation. This track is surrounded by Acid Grassland, Bog and Heath habitats. This section of the route passes through edge of the Sillahertane Bog NHA at the Kerry border but is confined to the existing track with no encroachment onto the adjacent bog and heath habitats. The habitats along the grid connection route are provided in plates 4-8 - 4-11.



The entire grid connection is located within the curtilage of existing roads and tracks with no encroachment onto adjacent habitats. During the walkover surveys undertaken in May 2020, no signs of habitat loss or degradation were identified, with all signs of any disturbance at all located within the footprint of the existing roads.

The grid connection route crosses a number of streams between the windfarm site and the sub-station. These are in the Lee Catchment. There were no instream works undertaken as part of the construction of the grid connection and during surveys undertaken in May 2020, no evidence of any water pollution in the watercourses that were crossed was identified.



Plate 4-6. Constructed Derragh Substation - located within forestry plantation.





Plate 4.7. Example of unbound forestry (WD4) access track along the grid connection route outside the south of the site (Cal's road).



Plate 4-8. Cable laid within the road carriageway





Plate 4-9 Cable attached to side of bridge along cable route



Plate 4-10 Upgrade of mountain track at Lackabaun to facilitate cable connection





Plate 4.11. Location of grid connection in local track at edge of Sillahertane Bog NHA.

4.2.3 Watercourse and hydrological Survey

4.2.3.1 Conclusions of the Hydrological Assessment

The baseline hydrology of the site and surrounding area has been fully assessed and this assessment is provided in full in Appendix 5 to this NIS. The relevant Sections of the hydrological assessment (Chapter 9 'Water'), which describe the baseline hydrological environment, are provided in the below subsections.

4.2.3.1.1 Description of the hydrological baseline

Regional Hydrology

⁶Regionally the wind farm development site is located in the River Lee surface water catchment. The grid connection route which is approximately 15km in length is located in both the River Lee (~12.6km) and the Roughty River (~2.4km) surface water catchments. All of the 9 no. constructed turbines and access roads etc are located in the River Lee Catchment.

The River Lee is located in (Hydrometric Area 19 of the South Western River Basin District) and flows in an easterly direction approximately 2.7km to the south of the development site via Lough Allua. The Roughty River catchment, which exists ~9km to the west of the development site, is also located in the South Western River Basin District. A regional hydrology map is shown as Error! Reference source not found. Chapter 9 'Water' of the EIAR – Appendix 5 to this NIS.

Local Hydrology

'The western section of the development site drains into Lough Allua (i.e. turbines T7 to T10) which exists on the River Lee. The eastern section of the site (i.e. turbines T11 to T15) drain into the Toon River which is an also tributary of the River Lee. The site entrance and approximately 0.8km of access road is located in the Sullane Beg River which is also a tributary of the River Lee.



The length of the grid connection route within the River Lee catchment drains into Lough Allua. The remaining section of grid route within the Roughty River catchment drains directly into the Roughty River via minor streams. A local hydrology map is shown as Error! Reference source not found.' Chapter 9 'Water' of the EIAR. – Appendix 5 to this NIS

Site Drainage

'The topography at the site is locally undulating with the Hill of Derrineanig being the dominant feature. The ridges running below this peak slope gently off into five main sub-catchments. Two sub-catchments drain to Lough Allua and three of the sub-catchments drain to the Toon River'.

4.2.3.1.2 Conclusion of Hydrological assessment

Chapter 9 of the EIAR (Appendix 5 of this NIS) concludes that, in the absence of mitigation, there is no potential for the development to result in effects on any downstream European Site within the River Lee catchment. This further confirms the findings of this NIS and accompanying Screening report. The conclusion, as provided in Chapter 9 of the EIAR is provided below and in Appendix 5 to this NIS:

As stated in impact Section 9.6.2.1 and Section 9.6.2., Chapter 9 'Water' (Appendix 5), 'there was only an "imperceptible and temporary impact" on local streams and rivers but this would have been very localised and over a very short time period (i.e. hours). This lack of significant effects was demonstrated by the construction surface water quality monitoring data'. 'No significant impacts on any designated site occurred' during the construction phase or current operation phase of the development. It also concludes that the operational phase will have 'no significant effects on downstream surface water flows/levels have occurred or are likely to occur as a result of the Development'.

4.2.3.2 **Results of biological evaluation of watercourses**

The small streams that flow off the site of the development, and downstream watercourses, were subject to biological evaluation and assessment through kick sampling. Full details of the results of these surveys are provided in Appendix 3. A map of the kick sample locations is provided in Figure 4-1.

The survey included a general habitat assessment and biological water quality assessment at every watercourse where flowing water was present within or downstream of the Cleanrath wind farm development following construction and operation of the wind farm. In none of the 11 survey stations was there any evidence to indicate that there had been any impact on water quality or any other aspect of the watercourse as a result of the construction or the operation of the wind farm and grid connection.

4.2.4 **Otter Survey**

No otter (*Lutra lutra*) breeding or resting sites (holts) and no potential tree roots, riverbank excavations or rock formations with the potential to support an otter holt were recorded within the development site including the grid connection route during the dedicated otter surveys. Many of the watercourses within the survey area comprise of field drains or narrow upland streams and are too small to provide significant otter habitat. No signs of otter were recorded during dedicated kick sampes undertaken both within and downstream of the site undertaken in May 2020. However, evidence of otter usage (slides and spraints) was recorded during surveys undertaken in 2018 at a number of locations. The results are presented in Table and 4.11 below and in Figure 3-1 of the *Pre-Commencement Surveys Report* in Appendix 6 to this NIS.



Table 4-10 Otter survey results - development site

Location on Site	Grid Reference	Comment
Bridge over the River Toon	W20739, 70999	Spraint on bridge
East of Derrineaning Hill (within wind farm site and not associated with a significant watercourse)	W20998, 69552	Spraint on rock

Table 4-11 Otter survey results - watercourse crossings along grid connection route

Watercourse Number	Grid Reference	Comment
44	W 14603, 68593	Spraint on rock on the bank of the Cathair Na Cáithe River
35	W 12597, 69861	Otter slide; recorded on the banks of the Bunsheelin Rive

Otter are likely to utilise other small watercourses within the study area and along the grid connection route for foraging and commuting.

4.2.5 Hen harrier surveys – SCI Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA

The results of the surveys undertaken for hen harrier are provided below. Raw Survey data for hen harrier is not provided in this NIS but is available in Appendix 4. Results summary tables are present in Appendix 4.

4.2.5.1 Vantage Point Surveys

Hen harrier were recorded on fourteen occasions during Vantage Point Surveys between February 2015 and February 2017 All fourteen observations occurred during winter months between September and February. Only five of the fourteen observations occurred within, or partially within, the height band considered for PCH. All fourteen observations occurred within the Cleanrath wind farm development, predominantly within the north-western section of the site. All observations were of individual birds in hunting or travelling flights. There was no evidence of breeding or roosting activity observed.

Four observations were recorded during February 2015 between the 21st and 22nd. Each of the four observation were of an individual male in flight. Three observations occurred during the 2015/16 winter season. Each observation consisted of individuals in flight between September and October 2015. The remaining seven observations were recorded during the 2016/17 winter season, between December 2016 and January 2017. Five of the seven observations occurred during December while the remaining two observations occurred on the 13th of January 2017.

4.2.5.2 Breeding Bird Surveys

Hen harrier were only recorded on one date during Breeding Bird Surveys On the 15th of April 2015 two hen harrier were recorded in separate flights. One individual was flying directly over the site, while



the other was seen offsite to the north from the Cleanrath wind farm development site. No evidence of breeding activity was observed.

4.2.5.3 Hen Harrier Roost Surveys

Hen harrier were only recorded twice during dedicated Hen Harrier Roost Surveys Both observations occurred on the 21st of November 2016 as an individual was observed in flight on two occasions within a fifteen-minute period before dusk. Both observations consisted of individuals in flight, between one and two kilometres to the east of the Cleanrath wind farm development site, with no evidence of roosting behaviour recorded.

4.2.5.4 Per-Commencement Surveys (2018)

Hen harrier was not recorded during the pre-commencement surveys that were undertaken prior to the construction of the windfarm.

4.2.5.5 **Operational Monitoring Surveys**

Surveys of the operational windfarm were undertaken from February to May 2020. The results of the hen harrier observations during this period are provided below.

Breeding Raptor Surveys

Hen harrier was observed on one date during a Breeding Raptor Survey on the 15th of May 2020 (see Figure 3-1 Appendix 4). An adult male was recorded hunting and soaring on two occasions during the survey, more than 2km from the Cleanrath wind farm development. No evidence of breeding activity was observed.



5. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS & ASSOCIATED MITIGATION

5.1 **Potential for Direct Effects on the European** Sites

The development site lies entirely outside of the boundaries of European Sites, with the closest being approximately 4.6km distant from the site. Therefore, there is no potential for direct impact on any European Site.

5.2 **Potential for Indirect Effects on the European Sites**

5.2.1 **Deterioration of Surface Waters**

5.2.1.1 Impacts During Construction, the short period of operation and the current phase of sleep mode

The potential for impacts to have occurred during construction, the brief period that the wind farm was operational and during the current phase of sleep mode was fully considered in the NIS that accompanies this application.

The potential impacts included, run off of pollutants to the Toon River and other watercourses that flow into the The Gearagh cSAC and The Gearagh SPA. Mitigation and best practice was employed to prevent any such impacts occurring and during recent watercourse surveys undertaken (Appendices 3 and 5), no evidence of any pollution of watercourses having occurred was recorded.

5.2.1.2 Impacts During Operation

The increased amount of hard standing associated with the windfarm infrastructure has the potential to result in faster run off of water from the site to the surrounding watercourses. This may have the indirect effect of causing erosion, which could lead to deterioration of surface water and supporting habitat quality. Additionally, there is the potential for the faster run off of any pollutants that may be associated with vehicular usage on the site.

In addition, the felling of forestry will be undertaken to facilitate the habitat management Plan and this activity could result in the run off of pollutants from the site in the same manner are it could have during construction.

However, following comprehensive surveys of the site and of the surrounding watercourses (as described in Appendices 3 & 5), no such effects have occurred during the brief period that the wind farm was operational.

The same European Sites, QIs and SCIs are potentially affected during operation as during construction and for the period that the wind farm was operational.



5.2.1.3 Impacts During Decommissioning

The Wind farm is designed for a period of operation of 25 years at which point, it will be decommissioned and removed. In the event that early removal is required, the same procedures would be followed as if decommissioning were to occur at the end of the lifespan of the turbines/development.

Decommissioning will involve primarily the removal of the above ground elements of the turbines, with the foundations left in-situ and covered with soil (thus avoiding large scale excavations). The existing site roads would be used during decommissioning. The Grid Connection cables will be pulled from their trenches without the requirement for significant excavation.

Whilst the works required to decommission the wind farm will be considerably smaller in scale than those required for construction, they will be similar in nature (though without large scale excavation or use of concrete). The impacts on biodiversity will also be similar in nature to those experienced during construction but on a far lesser scale and magnitude. As with construction, a suite of measures is in place to avoid any adverse effects on European Sites. These measures are set out Decommissioning Plan (DP), which is provided as Appendix 7 to this NIS and will be carried out in accordance with Scottish Natural Heritage report *(SNH) Research and Guidance on Restoration and Decommissioning of Onshore Wind Farms (SNH, 2013)*. All prescribed measures will be employed in full during any works associated with the decommissioning of the Cleanrath wind farm development at any stage. The decommissioning phase of the development will be overseen and supervised by an ECoW to ensure that the prescribed measures are fully and correctly implemented. It can be concluded that following the implementation of preventative mitigation, there is no potential for the decommissioning of the wind farm to result in adverse effects on European Sites.

5.2.1.4 Mitigation to prevent water pollution

The development has been designed so that all large-scale infrastructure such as turbines, site compound and borrow pit are located over 50 metres from any significant watercourses and so that water crossings that occur on access tracks etc. were minimised and where possible, use existing bridges. An Operational and Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) (Appendix 8) & Decommissioning Plan (DP) (Appendix 7) describe the measures in place for the protection of water quality. The main measures that are included within the OEMP are summarised below:

- > Natural vegetation filters are used regularly across the site where the local drainage and topography allowed attenuation of surface water runoff.
- > Where possible, interceptor drains are installed up-gradient of infrastructure to collect clean surface runoff, in order to minimise the amount of runoff reaching areas where suspended sediment could become entrained. It is now directed to areas where it can be re-distributed onto natural vegetation.
- Swales/roadside drains are used to collect runoff from access roads and turbine hardstanding areas of the site, likely to have entrained suspended sediment, and channel it onto natural vegetation filters.
- Site drainage measures were installed during the construction phase some of which have been retained. The retention of these drainage features has occurred in areas where revegetation has not yet fully been established. As the operation of the wind farm continues, these areas within the site will revegetate resulting in a resumption of the natural drainage management that will have existed prior to any construction. It is not anticipated that the operation of the wind farm will interrupt this restored drainage regime in any way.



- Any drainage infrastructure retained in the operational phase will be the subject of ongoing maintenance where required. This will comprise the repairing and replacement of silt fencing along with the servicing of check dams, settlement ponds and any other infrastructure requiring maintenance. As outlined above, the revegetation of disturbed areas and return to the pre-construction drainage regime at the site will result in the requirement for maintenance of drainage infrastructure reducing as the operational phase progresses.
- > The water quality monitoring data collected during construction has shown that the site was constructed without having any impact on water quality and will continue to do so during operation. The water quality monitoring has continued for a period of 6 months post construction and will continue quarterly into the operational phase for a period of one year thereafter.
- > Road-going vehicles will be refuelled off site wherever possible;
- On-site refuelling will be carried out at designated refuelling areas at various locations throughout the site. Machinery will be refuelled directly by a fuel truck that will come to site as required
- Only designated trained and competent operatives will be authorised to refuel plant on site. Mobile measures such as drip trays and fuel absorbent mats will be used during all refuelling operations.
- > Fuel volumes stored on site should be minimised. Any fuel storage areas will be bunded appropriately for the fuel storage volume;
- > The electrical substation at Derragh Wind Farm which the Clenarath Wind Farm loops into on route to the national grid is bunded appropriately to the volume of oils being stored to prevent leakage to groundwater or surface water. The bunded area is fitted with a storm drainage system and an appropriate oil interceptor;
- > The plant used will be regularly inspected for leaks and fitness for purpose; and,
- An emergency plan for the operational phase to deal with accidental spillages will be developed (refer to Appendix A) Spill kits will be available to deal with and 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 operational phase.
- Every effort will be made to prevent an environmental incident during the operational 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 source of the spill 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 Site Manager immediately giving information on the location, type and extent of the spill so that they can take appropriate action.
- The Site Manager will inspect the site and ensure the necessary measures are in place to contain and clean up the spill and where necessary appoint a specialist contractor to undertake the clean-up and prevent further spillage from occurring.

5.2.2 **Potential Impacts on Hen Harrier**

5.2.2.1 Impacts During Construction, the short period of operation and the current phase of sleep mode

Potential impacts on hen harrier in the form of habitat loss and displacement were considered in the NIS that accompanies this application. Following the extensive surveys undertaken, no potential for adverse effects on any SPA population was identified, due to the low levels of hen harrier activity at the site.

5.2.2.2 **Operation**

5.2.2.2.1 Habitat Loss

No additional direct or indirect habitat loss has occurred or will occur as a result of the operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development.

5.2.2.2.2 Displacement

Turbine avoidance has been observed in hen harrier at one wind farm installation to extend to within 250 m of turbines (Pearce-Higgins et al. 2009). This study predicted a 52% reduction in breeding population within 500 m of a wind energy array but found no significant modification in flight height near turbines.

There was a single observation of a hen harrier during the four months of operational phase monitoring.

However, based on the core dataset there is no potential for significant displacement effects to occur given that hen harrier were not dependent on the habitats located in close proximity to development infrastructure for roosting or breeding. And foraging was only occasionally recorded onsite.

There is no potential for adverse effects on any SPA population in this regard and no requirement for mitigation during the operational phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development.



5.2.2.2.3 **Collision**

The species was recorded flying within the potential collision risk zone during VP surveys. A "Random" collision risk analysis has been undertaken and full details are provided in Appendix 4.

The collision risk has been calculated at a ratio of 0.003 collisions per year, or one bird every 333 years. The predicted collision risk is insignificant in the context of the county, national and international population.

There is no potential for adverse effects on any SPA population in this regard and no requirement for mitigation during the operational phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development.

5.2.2.3 **Decommissioning**

As discussed above, the impacts associated with the decommissioning of the wind farm (either at the end of the operational lifespan of the wind farm or at an earlier time, if required), the potential effects will be similar to those experienced during construction but on a much smaller scale. All decommissioning will be undertaken in accordance with the Decommissioning Plan (DP) that is provided in Appendix 7 and with Scottish Natural Heritage report (SNH) *Research and Guidance on Restoration and Decommissioning of Onshore Wind Farms* (SNH, 2013).

There is no potential for adverse effects on any SPA population in this regard.



6. **ASSESSMENT OF RESIDUAL EFFECTS**

6.1 The Gearagh cSAC

The potential for adverse effects on each of the individual Qualifying Interests that were identified as being at risk of potential effects in the AA Screening Report is assessed in this section in view of the Conservation Objectives of those habitats and species and following the implementation of mitigation.

This cSAC is located hydrologically downstream of the development via the River Toon which runs through the development site and via the River Lee, which is located downstream of the development site. Therefore, taking a precautionary approach, a potential pathway for indirect effects to occur on the following QI habitats and species, in the form of deterioration of surface water quality resulting from pollution, associated with the operational and decommissioning phases of the development was identified:

- Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion* vegetation [3260]
- Rivers with muddy banks with *Chenopodion rubri* p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270]
- Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae*) [91E0]
- Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]

6.1.1 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]

Site specific conservation objectives for Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion* vegetation [3260] are as follows:

"To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation in The Gearagh SAC"

An assessment of the Cleanrath wind farm development against the nominated attributes and targets for this habitat is provided in Table 6.1 below.

Attribute	Target	Assessment
Habitat area	Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on the area and
Habitat distribution	No decline, subject to natural processes.	distribution of this habitat within or outside this European Site. There is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in adverse effects habitat loss in terms of area and/or distribution.
		The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on the area and distribution of this habitat within or outside this European Site.

Table 6-6-1 Targets and attributes associated with the conservation objectives for Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]



Attribute	Toward	NIS F - 2020.08.13 - 19122.
Aundute	Target	Assessment
Hydrological regime: river flow	Maintain appropriate hydrological regime necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on the ground or surface water hydrological regime or substratum within this European Site.
Hydrological regime: groundwater discharge	Maintain appropriate groundwater contribution necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	Following the implementation of mitigation, there is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in any hydrological effects on this European Site.
Substratum: variety and extent	Maintain variety and extent of substratum necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on the ground or surface water hydrological regime or substratum within this European Site
Water quality: nutrients	Maintain the concentration of nutrients in the water column necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	
Water quality: biological indicators	Maintain good or high biological status necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on water quality, vegetation composition or fringing habitats within or outside this European Site. Following the implementation of mitigation, there is no
Vegetation composition: typical species	Maintain typical species in good condition, including appropriate distribution and abundance	pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in adverse effects on these parameters . The Cleanrath wind farm development will
Vegetation composition: vegetation communities	Maintain vegetation communities/ zonation/ mosaic characteristic of the site	not have any adverse effect on water quality, vegetation composition or fringing habitats within this European Site
Fringing habitats	Maintain marginal fringing habitats that support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	
Floodplain connectivity	Maintain floodplain connectivity necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on floodplain connectivity within or outside this European Site. Following the implementation of mitigation, there is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in adverse effects habitat loss in terms of floodplain connectivity.The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on floodplain connectivity within this European Site

6.1.1.1 **Determination**

It can be objectively concluded that the Cleanrath wind farm development has not affected, and will not adversely affect, 'Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion* vegetation [3260] within this European Site.



6.1.2 **Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p.** and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270]

Site specific conservation objectives for Rivers with muddy banks with *Chenopodion rubri* p.p. and *Bidention* p.p. vegetation [3270] is as follows:

"To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation in The Gearagh SAC"

An assessment of the Cleanrath wind farm development against the nominated attributes and targets for this habitat is provided in Table 6-2 below.

Attribute	Target	Assessment
Habitat area	Area stable or increasing, subject to natural fluctuations	
Habitat distribution	No decline, subject to natural processes.	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on the habitat area or distribution or the ground or surface water
Hydrological regime: groundwater contribution; flood duration, flood frequency, flood area and depth	Maintain appropriate hydrological regime necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	hydrological regime or substratum within this European Site. Following the implementation of mitigation, ther is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in any hydrological effects on this European Site. The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on the habitat area or distribution or the ground or surface water hydrological regime or substratum within this European Site.
Soil/substratum type: variety and extent	Maintain variety and extent of substratum necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on the soil substratum type, nutrient status or physical structure within or outside this European Site.
Soil/substratum nutrient status: nitrogen and phosphorus	Maintain nutrient status necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	Following the implementation of mitigation, there is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in adverse effects on these.
Physical structure: Bare ground	Maintain sufficient wet bare ground to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on the soil/substratum and physical structure of this habitat within this European Site.
Water quality: nutrients; phytoplankton biomass	Maintain water quality necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on water quality, vegetation composition or fringing habitats within or outside this European Site. Following

Table 6-2 Targets and attributes associated with the conservation objectives for Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270]



Attribute	Target	Assessment
Typical species	Maintain typical species in good condition, including appropriate distribution and abundance	the implementation of mitigation, there is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in adverse effects on these parameters .
Vegetation composition: vegetation zonation	Maintain vegetation zonation/mosaic characteristic of the site	The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on water quality nutrients, typical species, vegetation
Fringing habitats	Maintain marginal fringing habitats that support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	composition or fringing habitats within this European Site .
Floodplain connectivity	Maintain floodplain connectivity necessary to support the typical species and vegetation composition of the habitat	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on floodplain connectivity within or outside this European Site. Following the implementation of mitigation, there is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in adverse effects habitat loss in terms of floodplain connectivity. The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on floodplain connectivity within this European Site .

6.1.2.1 **Determination**

It can be objectively concluded that the Cleanrath wind farm development has not affected, and will not adversely affect, 'Rivers with muddy banks with *Chenopodion rubri p.p.* and *Bidention p.p.* vegetation;'[3270] within this European Site.

6.1.3 Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]

Site specific conservation objectives for Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] is as follows:

"To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae*)* in The Gearagh SAC

An assessment of the Cleanrath wind farm development against the nominated attributes and targets for this habitat is provided in Table 6.3 below.

Attribute	Target	Assessment
Habitat area	Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, at least 101.2ha for site surveyed.	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on the habitat area or distribution or the ground or the woodland
Habitat distribution	No decline	size within this European Site. Following the implementation of mitigation, there is no

Table 6-3 Targets and attributes associated with the conservation objectives for Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]



A	—	NIS F – 2020.08.13 – 19122
Attribute	Target	Assessment
Woodland Size	Area stable or increasing. Where topographically possible, "large" woods at least 25ha in size and "small" woods at least 3ha in size	pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in any effects on the size, area or distribution of this habitat within this European Site. The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on the habitat area or distribution or the ground or the woodland size within this European Site.
Woodland structure: cover and height	Diverse structure with a relatively closed canopy containing mature trees; subcanopy layer with semimature trees and shrubs; and well-developed herb layer	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on the woodland structure within this European Site. Following the implementation of mitigation, there is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in any effects on woodland structure within this European Site. The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on woodland structure within this European Site .
Woodland Structure: community diversity and extent	Maintain diversity and extent of community types	
Woodland structure: natural regeneration	Seedlings, saplings and pole age- classes occur in adequate proportions to ensure survival of woodland canopy	
Hydrological regime: Flooding Depth/height of water table	Appropriate hydrological regime necessary for maintenance of alluvial vegetation	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on the hydrological regime this European Site. Following the implementation of mitigation, there is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in any hydrological effects on this European Site.
		The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on the hydrological regime within this European Site
Woodland structure: dead wood	At least 30m ³ /ha of fallen timber greater than 10cm diameter; 30snags/ha; both categories should include stems greater than 40cm diameter (greater than 20cm diameter in the case of alder (Alnus glutinosa))	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on the woodland structure within this European Site. Following the implementation of mitigation, there is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in any effects on woodland structure within this European Site has been identified. The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on woodland structure within this European Site .
Woodland structure: veteran trees	No decline	
Woodland structure: indicators of local distinctiveness.	No decline	
Vegetation composition: native tree cover	No decline. Native tree cover not less than 95%	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on vegetation composition within this European Site.





Attribute	Target	Assessment
		Following the implementation of mitigation,
Vegetation	A variety of typical native species	there is no pathway for the operational phase
composition: typical	present, depending on woodland	of the windfarm to result in any effects on
species	type, including A variety of typical	vegetation composition within this European
	native species present, including oak	Site.
	(Quercus spp.), ash (Fraxinus	
	excelsior), birch (Betula pubescens),	The Cleanrath wind farm development will
	alder (Alnus glutinosa) and willows	not have any adverse effect on vegetative
	(Salix spp.)	composition within this European Site .
Vegetation	Negative indicator species,	
composition:	particularly non-native invasive	
negative indicator	species, absent or under contro	
species		

6.1.3.1 **Determination**

It can be objectively concluded that the Cleanrath wind farm development has not affected, and will not, adversely affect 'Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae*)' [91E0] within this European Site.

6.1.4 Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]

Site specific conservation objectives for otters is as follows:

"To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Otter in The Gearagh SAC,"

An assessment of the Cleanrath wind farm development against the nominated attributes and targets for this species are provided in Table 6-4 below.

Attribute	Target	Assessment
Distribution	No significant decline	
Extent of terrestrial habita	No significant decline. Area mapped and calculated as 23.7ha along river banks/lake shoreline/around ponds and 62.3ha of wet woodland, giving a total of 86.0ha	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on the extent of freshwater and/or terrestrial habitat or couching/holting sites within or outside this European Site. There is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in any effects on the size, area or distribution of
Extent of freshwater (river) habitat	No significant decline. Length mapped and calculated as 10.6km	otter habitat within or outside this European Site. The Cleanrath wind farm development will
Extent of freshwater (lake) habitat	No significant decline. Area mapped and calculated as 129.5ha	not have any adverse effect on the extent of freshwater and/or terrestrial habitat or couching/holting sites within or outside this European Site
Couching sites and holts	No significant decline	

Table 6-4 Targets and attributes associated with the conservation objectives for Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]



Attribute	Target	Assessment
Fish biomass available	No significant decline	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on fish biomass available within or outside this European Site. Following the implementation of mitigation, there is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in any effects on fish biomass within or outside this European Site.
		The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on fish biomass availability within this European Site .
Barriers to connectivity	No significant increase	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not led to any barriers to connectivity either within or outside this European Site. There is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in any barriers to connectivity within or outside this European Site.
		The Cleanrath wind farm development will not result in barriers to connectivity within this European Site .

6.1.5 **Determination**

It can be objectively concluded that the Cleanrath wind farm development has not affected, and will not, adversely affect '*Lutra lutra* (Otter)' [1355] within this European Site.

6.2 The Gearagh pSPA

The potential for adverse effects on each of the individual Special Conservation Interests that were identified as being at risk of potential effects in the AA Screening Report is assessed in this section in view of the Conservation Objectives of those habitats and species and following the implementation of mitigation.

This pSPA is located hydrologically downstream of the development via the River Toon which runs through the development site and via the River Lee, which is located downstream of the development site. Therefore, taking a precautionary approach, a potential pathway for indirect effects to occur on the following SCI habitat, in the form of deterioration of surface water quality resulting from pollution, associated with the construction and operational phases of the development was identified:

• Wetland and Waterbird [A999]

6.2.1 Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]

Site specific conservation objectives for Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] is as follows:

"To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the wetland habitat at The Gearagh SPA as a resource for the regularly-occurring migratory waterbirds that utilise it"



There are no specific nominated attributes and targets prepared for this habitat. However, following best practice, attributes and targets of another pSPA (NPWS, 2013³) for the same feature have been taken here for consideration in the absence of site- specific targets and attributes.

Table 6-5 Targets and attributes associated with the conservation objectives for wetlands [1355] (NPWS, 2013)						
Attribute	Target	Assessment				
Habitat area	The permanent area occupied by the wetland habitat should be stable and not significantly less than the area of occurring from natural patterns of variation.	The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on the wetland habitat area within this European Site. Following the implementation of mitigation, there is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in any effects on habitat area within this European Site. The Cleanrath wind farm development will not have any adverse effect on the wetland habitat area within this European Site				

6.2.2 **Determination**

It can be objectively concluded that the Cleanrath wind farm development has not affected, and will not adversely, affect 'Wetland and Waterbirds' [A999] within this European Site.

6.3 Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA

Whilst this European Site is located outside the Core Foraging Range of the SCI Species, hen harrier (as identified in 'Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas' (Scottish Natural Heritage, 2016)), it is located within the maximum foraging range for this species. As hen harrier were recorded on the wind farm site during the extensive surveys undertaken (occasionally during the winter period), following the precautionary principle, the potential for adverse effects on this species could not be excluded:

• Hen harrier [A082]

Site specific conservation objectives documents are not available for this site. The conservation objective for this SCI is:

"To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA"

The Cleanrath wind farm development has not had any adverse effect on the favourable conservation condition of this species within this European Site. There is no pathway for the operational phase of the windfarm to result in any effects on this species within this European Site.

³ NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives: Inner Galway Bay SPA 004031. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Available at: <u>https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/conservation_objectives/CO004031.pdf</u>



6.3.1 **Determination on Potential Adverse Effects on Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA**

Following the results of the extensive bird monitoring that has been undertaken at this site and following the implementation of mitigation, it can be objectively concluded that the Cleanrath wind farm development has not affected and will not adversely affect the favourable conservation status of Hen harrier [A082] within this European Site.



7. **CUMULATIVE EFFECTS**

The operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development was considered in combination with other plans and projects in the area that could result in cumulative impacts on relevant European Sites. This included a review of online Planning Registers and served to identify past, present and future plans and projects, their activities and their predicted environmental effects. The plans and projects considered are listed below.

7.1.1 Assessment of Plans

The review focused on policies and objectives that relate to European Sites. An overview of the search results with regard to plans is provided in Table 7.1.

The following development plans have been reviewed and taken into consideration as part of this assessment:

- Cork County Development Plan 2014-2020
- > Kerry County Development Plan 2015-2021
- > River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021



Table 7.1 Review of Plans and Policies

Plans	Key Policies/Issues/Objectives Directly Related to European Sites, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development In	Assessment of development
F lans	The Zone of Influence	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Col Const. Do also set		compliance with policy
Cork County Development Plan 2014-2020 and all relevant environmental documents and assessments associated with that plan	NATURA 2000 Sites: Policies & Objective HE-2-1 Provide protection to all natural heritage sites designated or proposed for designation under National and European legislation and International Agreements, and to maintain or develop linkages between these. This includes Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Natural Heritage Areas, Statutory Nature Reserves, Refuges for Fauna and Ramsar Sites. HE-2-2 Provide protection to species listed in the Flora Protection Order 1990, on Annexes of the Habitats and Birds Directives, and to animal species protected under the Wildlife Acts in accordance with relevant legal requirements.	The development plan was comprehensively reviewed, with particular reference to Policies and Objectives that relate to the Natura 2000 network. In addition, the Natura Impact Report that was completed in respect of this plan was reviewed. There is no potential for cumulative impacts to occur or have occurred when considered in conjunction with the Cleanrath wind farm development.
Kerry County Development Plan 2015-2021 and all relevant environmental documents and assessments associated with that plan	 <u>NE-2</u> Ensure that the requirements of relevant national and EU legislation, including the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), the EU (Birds) Directive (79/409/EEC), the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (85/337/EEC), the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), and the Flood Directive (2007/60/EC), are met by the Council in undertaking its functions. <u>NE-11</u> Ensure that all projects likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 / European site will be subject to Habitats Directive Assessment prior to approval. <u>NE-12</u> Ensure that no projects which will be reasonably likely to give rise to significant adverse direct, indirect or secondary impacts on the integrity of any Natura 2000 sites having regard to their conservation objectives, shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either individually or in combination with other plans or projects) unless imperative reasons of overriding public interest can be established and there are no feasible alternative solutions. 	The Development plan was comprehensively reviewed, with particular reference to Policies and Objectives that relate to the Natura 2000 network. In addition, the Natura Impact Report that was completed in respect of this plan was reviewed. There is no potential for cumulative impacts to occur or have occurred when considered in conjunction with the Cleanrath wind farm development.
	<u>NE-14 Protect</u> species of plants listed in the Flora Protection Order (S.I. No. 94 of 1999) and their habitats, species and the habitats of species that require strict protection under the Habitats Regulations (S.I. No. 94 of 1997, 233 of 1998 and 378 of 2005) and animal and bird species and their habitats protected under the Wildlife Acts 1976-2000.	Detailed ecological surveys have been undertaken within the study area to provide robust scientific data on which the findings of this report rely.



Plans	Key Policies/Issues/Objectives Directly Related to European Sites, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development In The Zone of Influence	Assessment of development compliance with policy
		The Cleanrath wind farm
		development has been designed in
		order to avoid any potential for
		direct or indirect impact on
		European Sites or other sensitive
		ecological receptors to occur or
		have occurred.



7.1.2 **Assessment of Projects**

7.1.2.1 Applications Within the Subject Wind Farm Site

A review of Cork County Council and Kerry County Council Planning Registers, undertaken on the 20th July 2020, indicates that (apart from the planning history detailed above in sections 2.4.1 and 2.4.2) only 1 no. valid application was lodged within and/or immediately adjacent to the subject site boundary. R. Toibin lodged an application for a dwelling house (Pl Ref. 05/509) to Cork County Council in February 2005. Cork County Council decided to refuse permission for the development. No further planning applications were lodged to either Cork or Kerry County Councils regarding either residential, agricultural or other related wind energy development, excluding those planning applications already discussed.

7.1.2.2 Applications in the Vicinity of the Subject Site

The majority of planning applications in the immediate vicinity of the Cleanrath wind farm development are related to the provision and/or alteration of one-off housing and agricultural developments. Where relevant, these applications have been considered in the design of the project and are considered within the relevant sections of this EIAR.

Between 2003 to March 2020, 102 no. valid applications were lodged to Cork and Kerry County Councils within the vicinity of the Cleanrath wind farm development with the majority (84 no.) lodged pre-2010. The most recent application for new residential development was Pl Ref. 19/5334 lodged by G. Hyde to construct a new dwelling house at Gortanaddan, Co. Cork. This site is located c. 1.3km north-east of the Cleanrath wind farm development. The Planning Authority granted conditional permission on the 7th January 2020 in the context of the Cleanrath wind farm being constructed.

Other applications lodged within the vicinity of the Cleanrath wind farm development, which don't relate to residential or agricultural development, include the following:

- Pl Ref. 13/5671: Application lodged by Coiste Forbartha Reidh na nDoiri to provide 1 no. finger post sign located at the site entrance to a holy well, installation of various light fittings throughout the site including any associated electrical works, and erection of 1 no. public information board at Reananerree, Cloheena, Co. Cork on the 28th August 2013. The Planning Authority granted conditional permission on the 18th November 2013.
- Pl Ref. 08/8074: Application lodged by D. O'Tuama for the construction of an engineering workshop, underground fuel storage tank, truck washing facility, treatment plant and percolation area, site infrastructure, vehicular entrance and associated site works at Cloontycarthy, Reananeree Co. Cork on 24th July 2008. The Planning Authority granted conditional permission on the 17th October 2008.

Due to the volume of historic applications lodged within the vicinity of the Cleanrath wind farm development over the past two decades, Table 7-2 below records valid consented planning applications lodged between 2010 – 2020 on the basis that any consented development prior to 2010 has been fully established within the receiving environment.

 Table 7-7-1.
 Applications Lodged within the Vicinity of the Cleanrath wind farm development (Post-2010)

Pl Ref.	Lodgement Date	Description of Development	Location	Planning Authority Decision
105715	09/07/2010	Construction of dwelling to include a ground floor garage and storage area for machinery for own private	Milmorane, Inchigeela, Co. Cork	Conditional (08/02/2011)



Pl Ref.	Lodgement Date	Description of Development	Location	Planning Authority Decision
		use, septic tank and associated site works		
105911	28/07/2010	New vehicular entrance, entrance lane, and parking & turning area to serve a holy well.	Reananerree, Cloheena, Co. Cork	Conditional (21/11/2010)
108782	22/12/2010	Construction of Dwelling house	Lackabaun, Ballingeary, Co. Cork	Conditional (14/03/2011)
125144	28/05/2012	Retention of existing ground excavation works and permission for new timber storage area, weighbridge and associated site works	Cloontycarthy Reananeree, Co. Cork	Conditional (27/08/2012)
125577	18/07/2012	Construction of dwelling and domestic garage	Augeris, Ballingeary, Co. Cork	Conditional (16/10/2012)
125816	23/08/2012	Dwellinghouse and garage, extension of duration to permission granted under ref. no. 07/9729	Cloontycarthy Reananerree, Co. Cork	Unconditional
134901	15/05/2013	Retention of minor elevational changes to existing Dwellinghouse including extra window to gable end together with retention of existing domestic garage	Gorteennakilla, Ballingeary, Co. Cork	Conditional (06/08/2013)
135336	11/07/2013	Construction of dwelling house, domestic garage and new entrance	Gortanaddan Kilnamartyra, Co. Cork	Conditional (27/11/2013)
135671	28/08/2013	To carry out the following works to serve a holy well: erection of 1 no. finger post sign located at the site entrance, installation of various light fittings throughout the site including any associated electrical works, and erection of 1 no. public information board	Reananerree, Cloheena, Co. Cork	Conditional (18/11/2013)
15/262	04/02/2015	An electrical transformer station consisting of three single storey control buildings with associated outdoor electrical equipment, including transformers, lightning protection masts and scada poles, effluent holding tank, internal roads, boundary fencing, associated access track and all other associated site development works. The proposed development is an amendment to the previously approved electrical transformer station at Grousemount wind farm (ref. No. 10/1333)	Grousemount, Co. Kerry	Conditional 05/08/2015
154478	11/03/2015	Construction of two storey Dwellinghouse, new entrance and domestic garage	Gurteenflugh, Ballingeary, Co. Cork	Conditional (12/11/2015)
154821	22/04/2015	Retention of (a) extension to side of dwelling, (b) domestic garage, and (c) altered septic	Lisboy More Kilnamartyra Macroom, Co. Cork	Conditional (23/07/2015)



Pl Ref.	Lodgement Date	Description of Development	Location	Planning Authority Decision
		tank location (Previous Planning Ref. No. 1266/77)		
155738	05/08/2015	Construction of a split level dwelling house wastewater treatment system and all associated site works	Cloontycarthy Reananerree, Co. Cork	Conditional (04/12/2015)
151150	21/12/2015	Construct a dwelling house	Sillahertane, Kilgarvan, Co. Kerry	Conditional (23/02/2016)
16233	10/03/2016	Construct A Sheep House	Knockanruddig Kilgarvan Co Kerry	Conditional (27/04/2016)
165878	27/07/2016	Construction of two storey Dwellinghouse, domestic garage, domestic effluent treatment system and all ancillary works	Reananerree, Co. Cork	Conditional (01/11/2016)
176117	16/08/2017	Construct a calving house and a cubicle/loose house with underground effluent storage tank and associated site work	Cloontycarthy Reananerree Macroom, Co. Cork	Conditional (12/09/2018)
185108	02/05/2018	Construct an extension to Dwellinghouse, alterations to the elevations, installation of a stairs to the existing attic space and all associated site works	Eachros, Augeris, Ballingeary, Co. Cork	Conditional (06/12/2018)
185692	29/06/2018	Construction of Dwellinghouse, domestic garage, new entrance together with all other ancillary site works	Gortanaddan Kilnamartyra, Co. Cork	Conditional (12/11/2018)
185848	13/07/2018	To construct a new dwelling house	Lisboy More, Kilnamartyra, Co. Cork	Conditional (30/11/2018)
194024	10/01/2019	Construction of an extension, new dormer window, elevational changes, demolitions and internal refurbishments to an existing dwelling, landscaping and all associated site works	Gorteennakilla, Cahir, Ballingeary, Co. Cork	Conditional (09/05/2019)
194193	30/01/2019	Construction of new dwellinghouse	Kilmore Ballingeary Co. Cork	Conditional (29/07/2019)
194245	06/02/2019	Alterations and 2-storey extension to existing dwellinghouse together with demolition of existing rear extension to existing dwellinghouse	Gortnabinna Ballingeary Macroom Co. Cork	Conditional (22/11/2019)
195334	24/05/2019	Dwellinghouse	Gortanaddan, Co. Cork	Conditional (26/08/2019)
195979	07/08/2019	1. Construction of agricultural building to include straw bedded livestock housing and associated livestock crush facilities, ancillary dry goods and machinery store, 2. Construction of unroofed slatted slurry tank and unroofed manure store, 3. Erection of 2 no. meal bins along with associated site works.	Gorteennakilla Ballingeary, Co. Cork	Conditional (19/11/2019)



Pl Ref.	Lodgement Date	Description of Development	Location	Planning Authority Decision
196405	04/10/2019	To construct new single storey and two storey extension to rear of existing dormer style dwelling, facade alterations to dwelling and all associated site works	Gortanaddan, Co. Cork	Conditional (07/01/2019)
204131	29/01/2020	Retention for a building extension for a disabled WC and circulation space, re- location of plant room and all associated site works.	Scoil Mhuire Dromanallig Ballingeary Co. Cork	Conditional (22/06/2020)

7.1.2.3 Other Wind Farm Sites

Within the wider area, there have been a large number of planning applications for wind farm developments (comprising two or more turbines) lodged within a 20-kilometre radius of the Cleanrath wind farm development. These wind farms applications are based on a review of the Cork County Council and Kerry County Council Planning Register and include those listed below. This record lists the main relevant applications in relation to the wind turbine applications. It is not intended to be exhaustive and list every application associated with the sites.



Table 7-7-2. Wind Farm Applications Lodged within the Vicinity of the Cleanrath wind farm development (20km)

Wind Farm	Pl. Ref.	Lodgement	Description	Location	Local Authority Decision
Derragh	12/5270	08/06/2012	Development of a wind farm consisting of 6 turbines (each with a maximum hub height of 100, maximum rotor diameter of 100m, and with a total tip height of 150m), a substation, one borrow pit, new internal access roads, upgrading of existing internal access roads and all ancillary works	Derragh, Rathgaskig and Lack Beg near Ballingeary, Co. Cork. Adjacent to the grid connection route for the Cleanrath wind farm development	CCC – Conditional Grant (18/06/2013) ABP – Grant (PL04.242223 - 15/11/2013) and Further Grant following Judicial Review (O'Grianna Judgement) and remittal PL04.245082 (15/06/2016)
Coomagearlahy	02/1241	22/05/2002	Construct a windfarm consisting of 17 [14 no. turbines built during Phase 1] wind turbines, an electrical substation with control building, 2 no. 50m high meteorological masts, construct and extend existing internal site tracks and associated works - EIS Received	Coomagearlahy Kilgarvan, Co. Kerry (c. 11km north-west of the Cleanrath wind farm	KCC – Conditional Grant (27/12/2002)
	03/2306	07/08/2003	Construct a wind farm extension to planning reg no 1241/02, extension will consist of 4 wind turbines [1 no. built during Phase 2] (hub height 80 m, blade diameter 80 m), construction and extension of existing internal site tracks and associated works. EIS Received	development)	KCC – Conditional Grant (01/10/2003)
Sillahertane	03/1359	20/05/2003	Erect 10 no. 1 mw wind turbines, 1 no. 40m wind monitoring mast(temporary), service roadways and control house. EIS received	Sillahertane Kilgarvan, Co. Kerry (c. 10km west of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	KCC – Conditional Grant (18/12/2003)
Grousemount and Barnastooka	10/197	04/03/2010	The development will consist of fourteen (14) wind turbines of 80 metre hub height and 90 metre rotor diameter, control building, electrical compound, associated site roads, drainage and site works. Environmental impact statement accompanied (EIS)	Gortlahard, Coolnagoppoge and Barnastooka Kilgarvan Co Kerry	KCC – Conditional Grant(25/11/2010). 3 rd Party Appeal (PL08.237551) Appeal Withdrawn
	10/1333	23/12/2010	Erect 24 wind turbines each having a rated electrical output of 2,000 kilowatts. Each wind turbine will have an overall maximum dimension of 126 metres, comprising a tower 80 - 85 metres high, with a diameter of about 4 metres at the base, to which three blades of 41 - 45 metres length will be attached.	(c. 8 - 12km west of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	KCC – Conditional Grant(26/01/2012)
	15/262	02/04/2015	The proposed development is an amendment to the previously approved electrical transformer station at Grousemount Wind Farm (ref. No. 10/1333)		KCC – Conditional Grant (05/08/2015)



Wind Farm	Pl. Ref.	Lodgement	Description	Location	Local Authority Decision
Lettercannon	03/2508	27/08/2003	4 no. 1mw wind turbines service roadways and control house and 1 no. 40m wind monitoring mast (temporary) and river crossing (temporary) for construction purposes	Lettercannon Kilgarvan Co Kerry (c. 13km west of the Cleanrath wind farm	3 rd Party Appeal (PL08.209629). Granted Conditional Permission with revised Conditions (27/04/2005)
	07/4515	12/12/2007	Move one wind turbine (T1) as an alteration to a six wind turbine development granted planning permission by An Bord Pleanála (ABP Ref PL. 08.209629 and Kerry County Council planning register Ref 03/2508). It is proposed to move the turbine approximately 480m to the northeast of its current location.	development)	KCC – Conditional Grant (19/03/2008)
	07/4701	21/12/2007	Erect one wind turbine (T9), hub height 80m, blade diameter 90m, as an addition to a six wind turbine development granted planning permission by An Bord Pleanála (ABP Ref PL. 08.209629 and Kerry County Council planning register Ref 03/2508).		KCC – Conditional Grant (27/03/2008)
Clydaghroe / Creedon	04/3152	20/08/2004	Development of a wind farm, the wind farm will consist of 2 wind turbines and service roadways on a site, (an EIS has been submitted with this application)	Clydaghroe Clonkeen Co. Kerry (c. 12km north-west of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	KCC – Conditional Grant (16/11/2004)
	07/306	29/01/2007	The development will consist of 1 wind turbine and service roadway. EIS submitted.	Clydaghroe Clonkeen Co. Kerry (c. 12km north-west of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	KCC – Conditional Grant (25/04/2007)
	10/1302	21/12/2010	Construct a single turbine extension to an existing three turbine windfarm. The maximum hub height will be 68.3m and the maximum rotor diameter will be 82.4m resulting in a maximum tip height of 109.5.	Clydaghroe Clonkeen Co. Kerry (c. 12km north-west of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	KCC – Refused 1 st Party Appeal (PL08.238677). Grant conditional permission (21/07/2011)
Clydaghroe / Cummeennabuddog e	06/1680	15/05/2006	Construct a wind farm, the development will consist of two wind turbines, two transformers, a control and metering building, a meteorological mast, site tracks and all associated works	Cummeennabuddoge and Clydaghroe Clonkeen Co Kerry	KCC – Conditional Grant (11/08/2006)



Wind Farm	Pl. Ref.	Lodgement	Description	Location	Local Authority Decision
				(c. 11km north of the	
				Cleanrath wind farm	
				development)	
Inchincoosh	07/1605	20/04/2007	Erect six wind turbines hub height 80m, blade diameter 90m, one 80m high	Inchincoosh	KCC – Conditional Grant
			meteorological mast, four borrow pits, construction of internal site tracks and	Kilgarvan	(05/09/2007)
			associated works	Co Kerry	
	07/4364	27/11/2007	Erect one wind turbine, hub height 80m, blade diameter 90m (as an addition to a	(c. 14km north-west of	KCC – Conditional Grant
			five wind turbine development granted permission under planning ref. No.	the Cleanrath wind farm	(29/02/2008)
			07/1605)	development)	
Midas	03/1188	02/05/2003	Develop wind farm consisting of 9 no. Wind turbines of 78 metres hub height	Inchee	KCC – Conditional Grant
			and 80 metres rotor blade diameter; wind monitoring mast of 40 metres height;	Poulbatha & Foilgreana	(12/11/2003).
			on site tracks and electrical control house together with necessary cabling [6 no.	(c. 9 - 10km west of the Cleanrath wind farm	1 st Part Appeal
			turbines built]		(PL08.204953)
	01/3571	02/19/2001	Construct a wind farm(8 no. Turbines) EIS received [4 no. turbines built]	development) Coolknoohil	Appeal Withdrawn KCC – Conditional Grant
	01/3371	03/12/2001	Construct a wind farm(8 no. 1 urbines) EIS received [4 no. turbines built]	Coolknoonii Co. Kerry	(03/12/2002)
	02/719	03/22/2002	Construct a wind farm consisting of 6 no. Wind turbine generators, electrical	(c. 10 - 11km west of the	KCC – Conditional Grant
	02/719	03/22/2002	substation, septic tank, percolation area, access roadways, buried cable ducts and	Cleanrath wind farm	(07/01/2003)
			a 50m anemometer mast. EIS received.	development	(07/01/2003)
	03/2610	08/09/2003	Erect four wind turbines of 60m hub height, 52m rotor blade diameter, on-site		KCC – Conditional Grant
	00/2010	00/00/2000	tracks and cabling [3 no. turbines built]		(18/02/2004)
	03/2609	08/09/2003	Erect 5 wind turbines of 60m hub height, 52m rotor blade diameter, on site tracks		KCC – Conditional Grant
	/	/ /	and cabling [4 no. turbines built]		(18/02/2004)
	03/3665	10/12/2003	To increase the hub heights of 7 wind turbines of planning reg no. 01/3571 from		KCC – Conditional Grant
	,	, ,	49m to 60m hub height		(15/03/2004)
Bawnmore	01/6529	03/12/2001	Wind farm to include 7 no. turbines, substation and site tracks (5 no. turbines	Cahernafulla,	CCC – Conditional Grant
			built)	Kilberrihert, Co. Cork	(22/04/2003)
				(c. 17km to the north-	
				east of the Cleanrath	
				wind farm	
				development.)	
	08/8770	05/09/2008	An increase in hub height from 60 to 85 metres and rotor blade diameter from 66	Cahernafulla,	CCC – Conditional Grant
			to 82 metres as well as the addition of 1no. wind turbine to the permitted wind	Kilberrihert, Co. Cork	(27/03/2009).
			farm development at Cahernafulla.	(c. 17km to the north-	3 rd Party Appeal
				east of the Cleanrath	(PL04.232274)



Wind Farm	Pl. Ref.	Lodgement	Description	Location	Local Authority Decision
				wind farm	Appeal Withdrawn
				development.)	
Bawnmore 2	07/4102	08/01/2007	Wind farm with 6 no. wind turbines (80m hub height and 80m blade diameter	Carriganimmy	CCC – Conditional Grant
(Carriganimma			with total height not exceeding 120m), a 38kV.	Macroom, Co. Cork	(28/06/2007
Community Wind				(c. 15km to the north-	
Farm)				east of the Cleanrath	
				wind farm	
				development.)	
Curraglass	20/350	03/07/2020	A renewable energy development with a 30-year operational life (from the date of	Derreendonee,	Decision Due Date:
			commissioning) and will consist of up to 7 no. wind turbines with an overall blade	Curraglass	27/08/2020
			tip height of up to 178.5 metres, a 38 kV electricity substation, including 4 no.	and Cappaboy Beg	
			battery storage containers and all associated site development and ancillary	Co. Cork	
			works.	(c. 12km to the south	
				west of the Cleanrath	
				wind farm	
				development.)	
Shehy More	13/551	30/09/2013	Ten year permission sought to construct a windfarm and all associated	Cloghboola,	CCC - Conditional
			infrastructure. The proposed windfarm will comprise the provision of a total of 12	Gortnacarriga,	Permission. 3rd Party
			no. wind turbines [11 no. granted], with a maximum overall blade tip height of	Tooreenalour,	Appeal (PL04.243486)
			up to 131m. The Planning Application is accompanied by an Environmental	Garryantorna, Shehy	Granted Conditional
			Impact Statement (EIS) and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS).	More,	Permission on the 23 rd of
				Dunmanway, Co. Cork	December, 2016
				(c. 6-10 km to the south	
				west of the Cleanrath	
				wind farm	
D · ·	10.057	1.6/10/0010		development)	
Derreenacrinning	10/857	16/12/2010	Development to comprise of seven (7) electricity generating wind turbines with a	Derreenacrinnig West	CCC – Conditional
West			hub height of 55 metres and a rotor diameter of 52 metres, an Electrical	Drimoleague	Permission. 3 rd Party
			Compound, Sub-Station Building.	Co. Cork	Appeal
				(c. 19km to the south of the Cleanrath wind farm	(PL88.239767) Conditional Permission
O	15720	99/19/9017		development)	Granted (05/12/2012)
Carrigarierk	15/730	22/12/2015	Ten year planning permission for the construction of a wind farm of up to 5 No.	Barnadivane (Kneeves),	CCC - Refused
			wind turbines, with a maximum ground to blade tip height of up to 140m.	Co. Cork	1 st Party Appeal
					(PL04.246353)



Wind Farm	Pl. Ref.	Lodgement	Description	Location	Local Authority Decision
				(c. 7km to the south of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	Conditional Permission Granted (28/10/2016)
Dromleena	09/63	28/01/2009	Ten year permission to erect 11no. Wind Turbines on single site. This planning application will be accompanied by an EIS	Dromleena, Inchanadreen & Derrynasafagh Dunmanway, Co. Cork (c. 15-16km to the south of the Cleanrath wind warm development)	CCC – Conditional Grant (23/12/2009)
Kilvinane	01/980	28/02/2001	Windfarm consisting of 4 wind turbines, electrical substation with control building, 50m meteorological mast, upgrading of entrance & assoc. works [3 no. turbines built]	Garranure, Co. Cork (c. 20km to the south- east of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	CCC – Conditional Grant 1 st / 3 rd Party Appeal (PL04.127137) Conditional Grant (19/07/2002)
Gneeves	99/0616	12/02/1999	15.6 MW windfarm to incl. 13 turbines, 45m high measuring mast, control building, hard standing areas, compound, access roads, signs & anc. site works [11 no. turbines built]	Gneeves, Co. Cork (c. 14km to the north of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	CCC – Conditional Grant 3 rd Party Appeal (PL04.111211) Appeal Withdrawn
	03/6585	18/12/2003	Modifications to windfarm permitted under Reg. No. N/99/0616 to include increase of the turbine height from 44m to 65m		CCC – Conditional Grant (29/03/2004)
	04/188	16/01/2004	Extension to windfarm permitted under reg. no. N/99/0616 to consist of 4 no. wind turbines (hub height 65m, blade tip 91m), construction of an extension of internal site tracks and associated works		CCC – Conditional Grant (16/08/2004)
	13/5717	04/09/2013	Ten year planning permission for an extension to existing Gneeves Wind Farm (Planning Refs. 99/0616, 03/6585, 04/1355, 04/0188, 08/5636, 13/4566). The proposed extension will comprise of 3no. turbines (each with a maximum tip height of 91m)		CCC – Conditional Grant (03/09/2014)
Curragh	07/10105	03/08/2007	Windfarm development comprising of 8 no. wind turbines, substation, meteorological mast, associated access roads, borrow pit and associated works	Curragh Drishane, Millstreet, Co. Cork	CCC – Conditional Grant (21/08/2008)



Wind Farm	Pl. Ref.	Lodgement	Description	Location	Local Authority Decision
				(c. 14km north-east of Cleanrath wind farm development)	
Coomacheo	03/1997	29/04/2003	Windfarm to include 17 no. turbines, 60m meteorological mast,120KV substation, control building, fencing, compound and ancillary works [15 no. turbines built]	Coomacheo, Co. Cork (c. 14km north of Cleanrath wind farm development)	CCC – Conditional Grant (25/07/2003)
Caherdowney	03/3079	23/06/2003	Windfarm to include 4 no. turbines, meteorological mast, transformers,38kv substation, control building, site tracks and associated works	Caherdowney, Co. Cork (c. 13km north of Cleanrath wind farm development)	CCC – Conditional Grant (31/10/2003)
Knocknamork	19/4972	18/04/2019	Renewable energy development consisting of the provision of a 7 turbine wind farm, solar photovoltaic array, electricity substation, battery storage compound and all associated works.	Slievereagh and Coomnaclohy Ballyvourney Co. Cork (c. 10-11km north of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	CCC – Conditional Grant (02/01/2020)
Knockeenboy	11/59	08/02/2011	Development is to comprise of seven (7) electricity generating wind turbines with a hub height of up to 70 metres and a rotor diameter of up to 71 metres	Cashloura Kilronane West and Knockeenboy Dunmanway, Co. Cork (c. 20km to the south of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	CCC – Conditional Grant 3rd Party Appeal (PL88.240070) Conditional Permission Granted with Revised Conditions (24/08/2012)
Milane Hill	98/1482	14/04/1998	Construction of windfarm comprising of 10 no. turbines, transformers,1 meteorological mast, control building, access tracks ,gates, signs & anc. Works [9 no. turbines built]	Milane Hill, Drimoleague, Co. Cork (c. 19km to the south of the Cleanrath wind warm development)	CCC – Conditional Grant 3rd Party Appeal (PL04.108950) Conditional Permission Granted with Revised Conditions (25/05/1999)



Wind Farm	Pl. Ref.	Lodgement	Description	Location	Local Authority Decision
Barnadivane	05/5907	17/08/2005	18 no. wind turbines, 18 no. transformers, 110kV substation, 110kV switch station, 1 no. 70m high wind monitoring mast, construction and upgrading of site entrances, site tracks and associated works	Barnadivane, Co. Cork (c. 13 kilometres to the south east of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	CCC – Conditional Grant (39 no. Conditions) 3 rd Party Appeal (PL04.219620) Conditional Permission Granted
	14/6760	19/12/2014	The construction of six wind turbines, with a maximum tip height of up to 131m and associated turbine foundations and hardstanding areas. This application is intended to replace the development already granted permission under PL04.219620 (05/5907) and subsequently extended under 11/6605. This application is seeking a 10-year planning permission. An Environmental Impact Statement and AA Screening Report have been prepared in respect of the planning application.	Lackareagh and Garranereagh Lissarda and Barnadivane (Kneeves) Teerelton Co Cork (c. 13 kilometres to the south east of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	(14/02/2007) CCC – Conditional Grant 3 rd Party Appeal (PL04.245824). <i>Grant of Permission with</i> <i>Revised Conditions</i> (Quashed following Judicial <i>Review</i>) 3 rd Party Appeal (PL04.248153) <i>Granted Conditional</i> <i>Permission with revised</i> <i>Conditions on</i> 2 nd of April 2019 – Quashed by High <i>Court in May</i> 2020 and <i>remitted back to the Board</i>
Garranereagh	03/2047	01/05/2003	Wind farm to include 5 no. turbines, control housing and electrical compound	Garranereagh, Co. Cork	CCC – Conditional Grant
	10/5711	09/07/2010	anemometer mast, anemometer, service roadways & assoc. works Construction of a wind farm development comprising of 4 wind turbines with a hub height of up to 80m with blade length of 41m. This development requires an EIS and the EIS has been submitted with the application).	(c. 15 kilometres to the south east of the Cleanrath wind farm development)	(27/11/2003) CCC – Conditional Grant(16/12/2010)



For the purposes of this cumulative assessment, wind farms within a 10-kilometre radius of the Cleanrath wind farm development area are considered to be within the potential cumulative Zone of influence and are described in further detail below.

Clydaghroe / Creedon (Ref: 04/3152)

Location: Clydaghroe, Clonkeen, Co. Kerry. Approx. 10km from Cleanrath wind farm.

The potential for the Cleanrath wind farm development to result or have resulted in cumulative or in combination effects on any European Site when assessed alongside Clydaghroe wind farm was considered. The planning file was reviewed on the Kerry County Council Planning Register.

Given that there is no potential for the Cleanrath wind farm to result or have resulted in adverse effects on any European Site when considered on its own, there is no potential for it to contribute or have contributed to any adverse effect, when considered cumulatively or in- combination with any other development, including the Clydaghroe/Creedon Wind Farm.

Midas, (Ref: 01/3571)

Location: Coolknoohil, Co. Kerry. Approx. 10km from Cleanrath wind farm.

The potential for the Cleanrath wind farm development to result or have resulted in cumulative or in combination effects on any European Site when assessed alongside Midas wind farm was considered. The planning file was reviewed on the Kerry County Council Planning Register.

Given that there is no potential for the Cleanrath wind farm to result or have resulted in adverse effects on any European Site when considered on its own, there is no potential for it to contribute or have contributed to any adverse effect, when considered cumulatively or in- combination with any other development, including the Midas Wind Farm.

Shehy More (Ref: 13/551)

Location: Cloghboola, Gortnacarriga, Tooreenalour, Garryantorna, Shehy More, Dunmanway, Co. Cork. Approx. 6km from Cleanrath wind farm.

The potential for the Cleanrath wind farm development to result or have resulted in adverse cumulative or in combination effects on European Sites when assessed alongside Shehy More wind farm was considered. The planning file was reviewed on the Cork County Council Planning Register.

Given that there is no potential for the Cleanrath wind farm to result or have resulted in adverse effects on any European Site when considered on its own, there is no potential for it to contribute or have contributed to any adverse effect, when considered cumulatively or in- combination with any other development, including the Shehy More Wind Farm.

Carrigarierk (Ref: 15/730)

Location: Carrigdangan, Co. Cork. Approx. 8km from Cleanrath wind farm.

The potential for the Cleanrath wind farm development to result or have resulted in adverse cumulative or in combination effects on European Sites when assessed alongside Carrigarierk wind farm was considered. The planning file was reviewed on the Cork County Council Planning Register.



Given that there is no potential for the Cleanrath wind farm to result or have resulted in adverse effects on any European Site when considered on its own, there is no potential for it to contribute or have contributed to any adverse effect, when considered cumulatively or in- combination with any other development, including the Carrigarierk Wind Farm.

Knocknamork (Ref: 19/4972)

Location: Slievereagh and Coomnaclohy, Ballyvourney, Co. Cork. Approx. 10km from Cleanrath wind farm.

The potential for the Cleanrath wind farm development to result or have resulted in adverse cumulative or in combination effects when assessed alongside Knocknamork wind farm was considered. The planning file was reviewed on the Cork County Council Planning Register.

Given that there is no potential for the Cleanrath wind farm to result or have resulted in adverse effects on any European Site when considered on its own, there is no potential for it to contribute or have contributed to any adverse effect, when considered cumulatively or in- combination with any other development, including the Knocknamork Wind Farm.

Derragh Wind Farm & Grousemount / Coomatagart Sub Station

Location: Adjacent to Cleanrath wind farm..

The Cleanrath wind farm development includes an entirely underground 33/38 kV cable running predominantly within the public road corridor from the wind farm to the 110 kV Coomataggart substation located in the townland of Grousemount, Co. Kerry. It also includes the Derragh Substation (Pl. Ref. 17/5126). Potential cumulative effects arising from the Cleanrath wind farm development have been comprehensively assessed with regard to Derragh Wind Farm (ABP PL04.245082) and Coomataggart 110 kV substation (Pl Ref. 15/262).

The potential for the Cleanrath wind farm development to result or have resulted in adverse cumulative or in combination effects when assessed alongside Derragh wind farm was considered. The planning files ware reviewed on the Cork and Kerry County Council Planning Registers. In addition, the previous An Bord Pleanála decision on the Cleanrath wind farm development was reviewed.

Following a review of the available online documentation, the decision by ABP states that it can be concluded 'beyond reasonable scientific doubt, that the proposed development (including the proposed grid connection), either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, would not adversely affect the integrity of these European sites, in view of those sites' conservation objectives, or of any other European sites'. It was further 'concluded that the proposed development, subject to compliance with the mitigation measures proposed, and subject to compliance with the conditions set out .. (in the planning permission conditions), would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment'.

Given that there is no potential for the Cleanrath wind farm development to result or have resulted in adverse effects on any European Site when considered on its own, there is no potential for it to contribute or have contributed to any adverse effect, when considered cumulatively or in- combination with any other development, including the Derragh Wind Farm & Grousemount wind farm/ Coomatagart Sub Station .

.

In the review of the other projects that was undertaken, no connection between the sites, that could potentially result in additional or cumulative impacts was identified. Neither was any potential for different (new) impacts resulting from the combination of the various projects and plans in association with the subject wind farm.



Taking into consideration the reported residual effects from other plans and projects in the area and the identified or predicted effects with the Cleanrath wind farm development, there is no potential for adverse cumulative effects on European Sites to occur.

Other Developments

The review of the Cork County Council and Kerry County Council planning register documented relevant general development planning applications in the vicinity of the Cleanrath wind farm development, most of which relate to the provision and/or alteration of one-off rural housing and agriculture-related structures, as listed in Table 7.2.

In the review of the other projects that was undertaken, no connection between the sites, that could potentially result in additional or cumulative impacts was identified. Neither was any potential for different (new) impacts resulting from the combination of the various projects and plans in association with the subject windfarm.

Taking into consideration the reported residual effects from other plans and projects in the area and the predicted effects with the current proposal, no potential for cumulative effects to occur or have occurred on any European site exists.

7.1.3 **Conclusion of Cumulative Assessment**

The residual operational and decommissioning impacts of the Cleanrath wind farm development are considered cumulatively with other plans and projects as described above. Particular focus has been placed on those plans and projects that are in closest proximity to the Cleanrath wind farm development and those that could be or have been potentially affected via downstream surface water.

Following the detailed surveys undertaken and impact assessment provided above, it is concluded that there will not be any residual effects on European Sites, associated with the wind farm project and therefore it has not and will not contribute to any cumulative effect when considered in combination with other plans and projects. The other wind farms in the area were considered (among other projects) but the Cleanrath wind farm development has been deliberately designed to minimise the effects on European Sites by blocking the identified pathways for effect thereon.

No adverse effects on any European Site as a result of the development in relation to disturbance, displacement or mortality of faunal species has been identified. Therefore, there is no potential for the Cleanrath wind farm development to contribute to any cumulative effect in this regard.

The Cleanrath wind farm development has not and will not result in any adverse residual effects on European Sites and will not contribute to any cumulative effect when considered in combination with other plans and projects. In the review of the projects and plans that was undertaken, no connection that could potentially result in additional or cumulative impacts was identified. Neither was any potential for different (new) impacts resulting from the combination of the various projects and plans in association with the Cleanrath wind farm development.



8. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This NIS has provided an assessment of all potential direct or indirect adverse effects on European Sites.

Where the potential for any adverse effect on any European Site to occur has been identified, the pathway by which any such effect may occur has been robustly blocked through the use of avoidance, appropriate design and mitigation measures as set out within this report and its appendices. The measures ensure that the operation and decommissioning of the Cleanrath wind farm development will not adversely affect the integrity of any European sites.

Therefore, it can be objectively concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the operation and decommissioning of the Cleanrath wind farm development (including all its elements: the turbine delivery route, the Derragh Substation and the grid connection route), individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not adversely affect the integrity of any European Site.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bailey, M. and Rochford J. (2006) Otter Survey of Ireland 2004/2005. Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 23. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin, Ireland.

Balmer, D.E., Gillings, S., Caffrey, B.J., Swann, R.L., Downie, I.S. and Fuller, R.J. (2013). Bird Atlas 2007-11: the breeding and wintering birds of Britain and Ireland. BTO Books, Thetford, UK.

Birds Directive (2009/47/EC) – http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature /legislation/birdsdirective /index _en.htm

Blumstein DT, Anthony LL, Harcourt R, Ross G. 2003. Testing a key assumption of wildlife buffer zones: is flight initiation distance a species-specific trait? Biological Conservation 110:97–100.

Blumstein DT, Fernández-Juricic E, Zollner PA, Garity SC. 2005. Inter-specific variation in avian responses to human disturbance. Journal of Applied Ecology 42:943–953. Blumstein DT 2006b. The multi-predator hypothesis and the evolutionary persistence of antipredator behavior. Ethology 112: 209–217.

Bowers Marriott, B. (1997) Practical Guide to Environmental Impact Assessment: A Practical Guide. Published by McGraw-Hill Professional, 1997, 320 pp.

Chandler, J.R. (1970) A Biological Approach to water Quality Management. Water Poll. Cont. 69:415-421.

Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitats Directive) and Directive 2009/147/EC (codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as amended) (Birds Directive) – transposed into Irish law as European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (SI 477/2011).

CIEEM (2018) Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management Draft Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment.

Crowe, O., Wilson, J., Aznar, I. and More, S.J. (2009). A review of Ireland's waterbirds, with emphasis on wintering migrants and reference to H5N1 avian influenza. Irish Veterinary Journal 62, 800–811.

Crowe, O. (2005) Ireland's Wetlands and their Waterbirds: Status and Distribution. BirdWatch Ireland, Rockingham, Co. Wicklow.

Del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., and Sargatal, J. 1996. Handbook of the Birds of the World, vol. 3: Hoatzin to Auks. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona, Spain

DEHLG (2009) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. DEHLG, Dublin.



DoEHLG (2010). Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities. Revision, February, 2010. Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

EC (2018) Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission.

EC (2001) Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Articles 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.

EC (2002) Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission.

EC (2006) Nature and biodiversity cases: Ruling of the European Court of Justice. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg.

EC (2007a) Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC – Clarification of the concepts of: alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest, compensatory measures, overall coherence, opinion of the commission. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission.

EC (2007b) Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. Version EUR 27. European Commission, DG Environment.

EPA (2002) Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements. Environmental Protection Agency.

EPA (2003) Advice Notes on current practice in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements. Environmental Protection Agency.

EPA website: http://www.epa.ie.

European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds) Regulations, 1985, SI 291/1985 & amendments – http://www.irishstatutebook.ie.

European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations, 1989 to 2001.

European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, SI 94/1997, SI 233/1998 & SI 378/2005 – http://www.irishstatutebook.ie.

Fossitt, J. A. (2000). A Guide to Habitats in Ireland. Dublin: The Heritage Council.

Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).

McGuinness, D., Muldoon, C., Tierney, N., Cummins, S., Murray, A., Egan, S. & Crowe, O. (2015). Bird Sensitivity Mapping for Wind Energy Developments and Associated Infrastructure in the Republic of Ireland. Guidance Document. Birdwatch Ireland.

Møller AP. 2008b. Flight distance and blood parasites in birds. Behavioural Ecology 19:1305-1313.

Møller AP. 2008c. Flight distance and population trends in European birds. Behavioural Ecology 19:1095–1102.



Møller AP, Erritzøe J. 2010. Flight distance and eye size in birds. Ethology 116:458-465.

Murphy, D.F. (2004) Requirements for the Protection of Fisheries Habitat During Construction and Development Works at River Sites. Eastern Regional Fisheries Board, Dublin.

NPWS (2008) The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Conservation Status in Ireland of Habitats and Species listed in the European Council Directive on the Conservation of Habitats, Flora and Fauna 92/43/EEC.

NPWS of the DEHLG (2008) The Report on Status of Habitats and Species in Ireland: Technical Reports and Forms.

NPWS (2020) Conservation objectives for Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA [004162]. Generic Version 7.0. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

NPWS (2020) Conservation objectives for The Gearagh SPA [004109]. Generic Version 7.0. Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives: The GearaghSAC 000108. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

NPWS Protected Areas Site Synopses and maps available on http://www.npws.ie/en/ProtectedSites/.

NRA (2004) Environmental Impact Assessment of National Road Schemes – A Practical Guide, National Roads Authority, Dublin.

NRA (2004) Guidelines for the Treatment of Noise and Vibration in National Road Schemes (1 ed.). Dublin: National Roads Authority.

NRA (2005) Guidelines for the Crossing of Watercourses during the Construction of National Road Schemes. Dublin: National Roads Authority.

NRA (2006) A Guide to Landscape Treatments for National Road Schemes in Ireland. Dublin: National Roads Authority.

NRA (2006) Guidelines for the Protection and Preservation of Trees, Hedgerows and Scrub Prior to, During and Post-Construction of National Road Schemes. Dublin: National Roads Authority.

NRA (2009). Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected Flora and Fauna during the Planning of National Road Schemes. Dublin: National Roads Authority.

Oliver, G. (2007). Inventory of Irish coastal lagoons (version 2). Unpublished Report to NPWS.

O'Neill, F.H., Martin, J.R., Devaney, F.M. & Perrin, P.M. (2013) The Irish semi-natural grasslands survey 2007-2012. Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 78. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Ireland.

Pease, M. L., Rose, R. K. & Butler, M. J. Effects of human disturbances on the behavior of wintering ducks. Wildlife Society Bulletin33, 103-112 (2005).

Richards, A. 1990. Seabirds of the northern hemisphere. Dragon's World Ltd, Limpsfield, U.K.

Rodgers Jr, J.A. and Smith, H.T., 1995. Set-back distances to protect nesting bird colonies from human disturbance in Florida. Conservation Biology, 9(1), pp.89-99.

Bay Intertidal Surveys 2009 & 2010. Unpublished report to NPWS & Marine Institute.



Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) (July 2013) Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas (SPA)

Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) (2011) The Fen Management Handbook, A. McBride, I. Diack, N Droy, B. Hamill, P.Jones, J. Schutten, A. Skinner, and M. Street. Scottish Natural Heritage, Perth.

Shannon Regional Fisheries Board (2009). Protection and Conservation of Fisheries Habitat with Particular reference to Road Construction (2009)

Therivel R. (2009) Workshop Material on the Habitats Directive Assessment of Plans Levett-Therivel Sustainability Consultants on behalf of the Heritage Council, Kilkenny.

Water status data available on http://www.epa.ie and http://www.wfdireland.ie

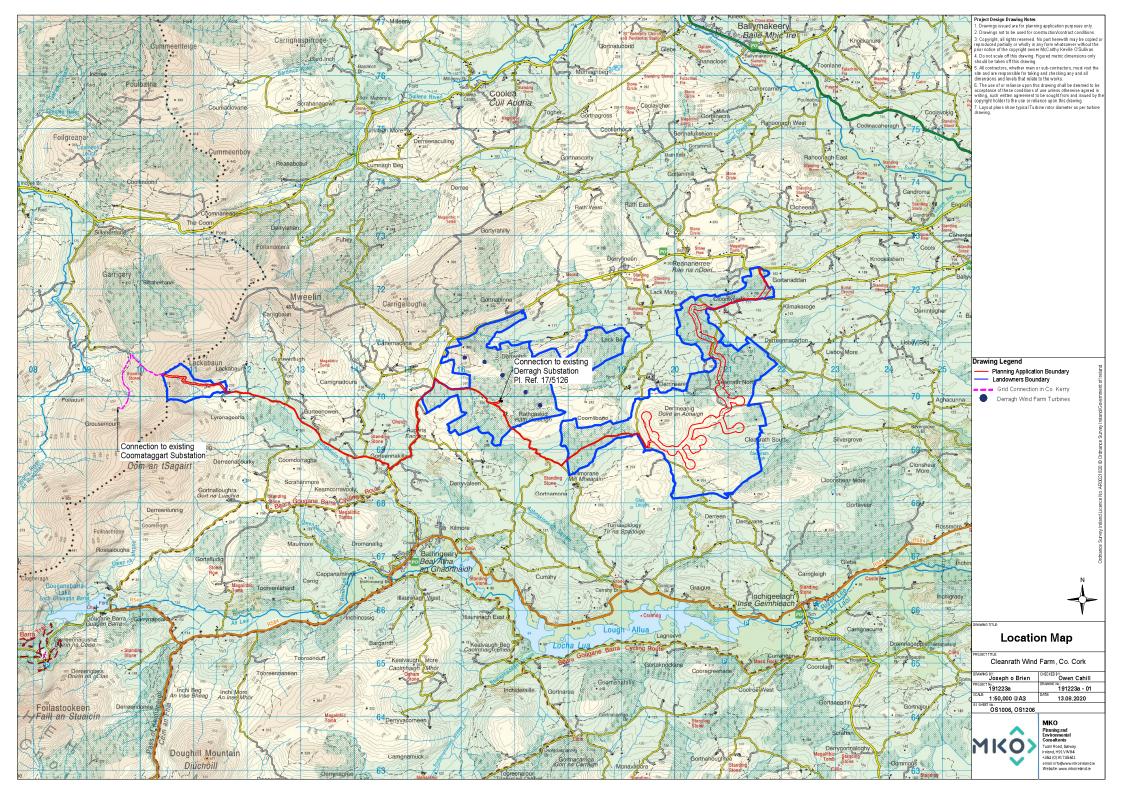
Wildlife Act 1976 and Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000.

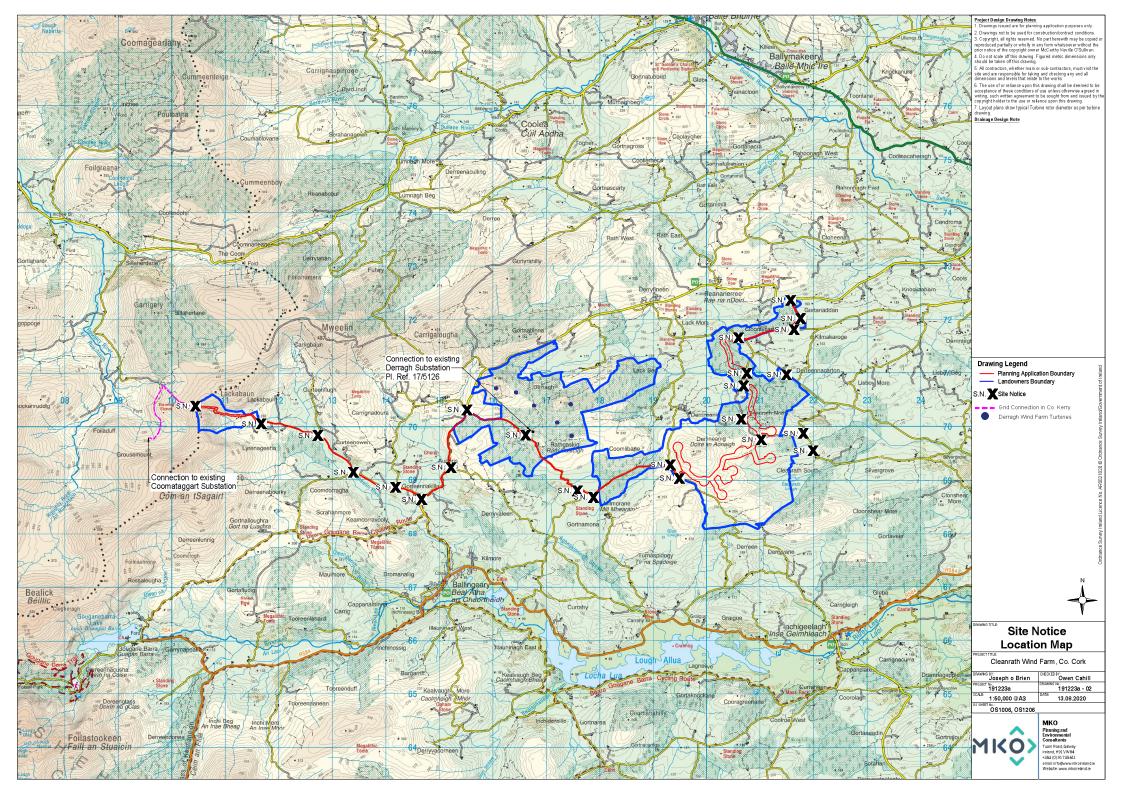


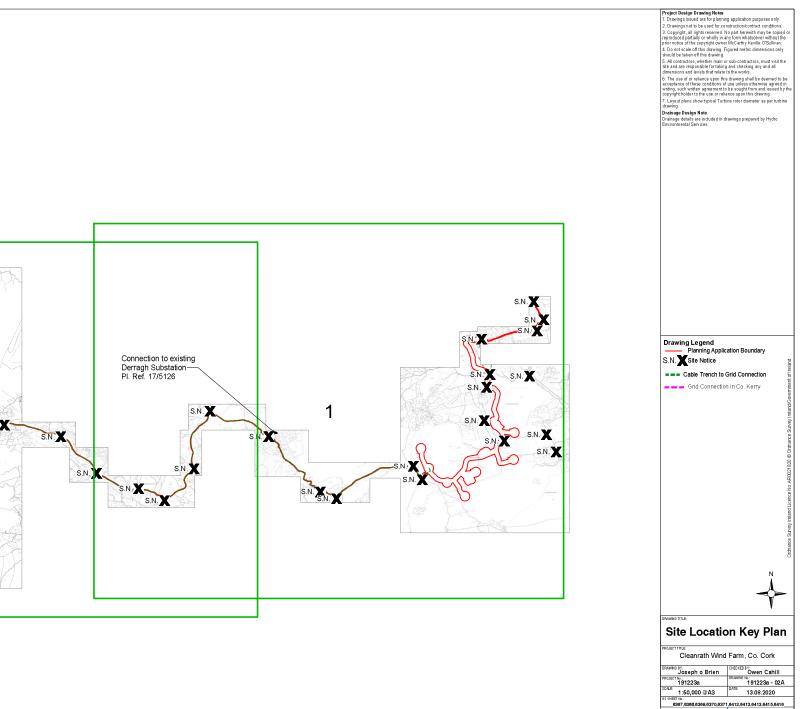


APPENDIX 1

PROJECT LAYOUT DRAWINGS



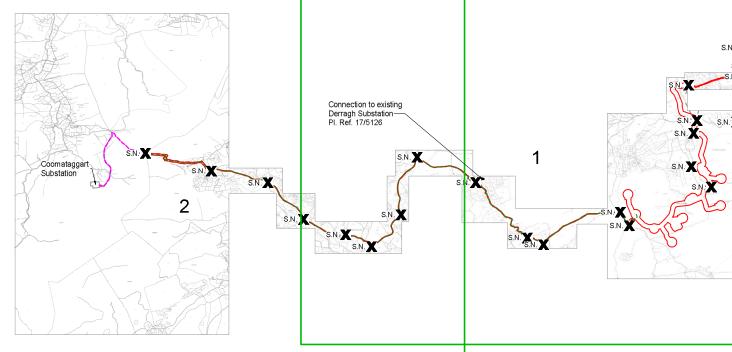


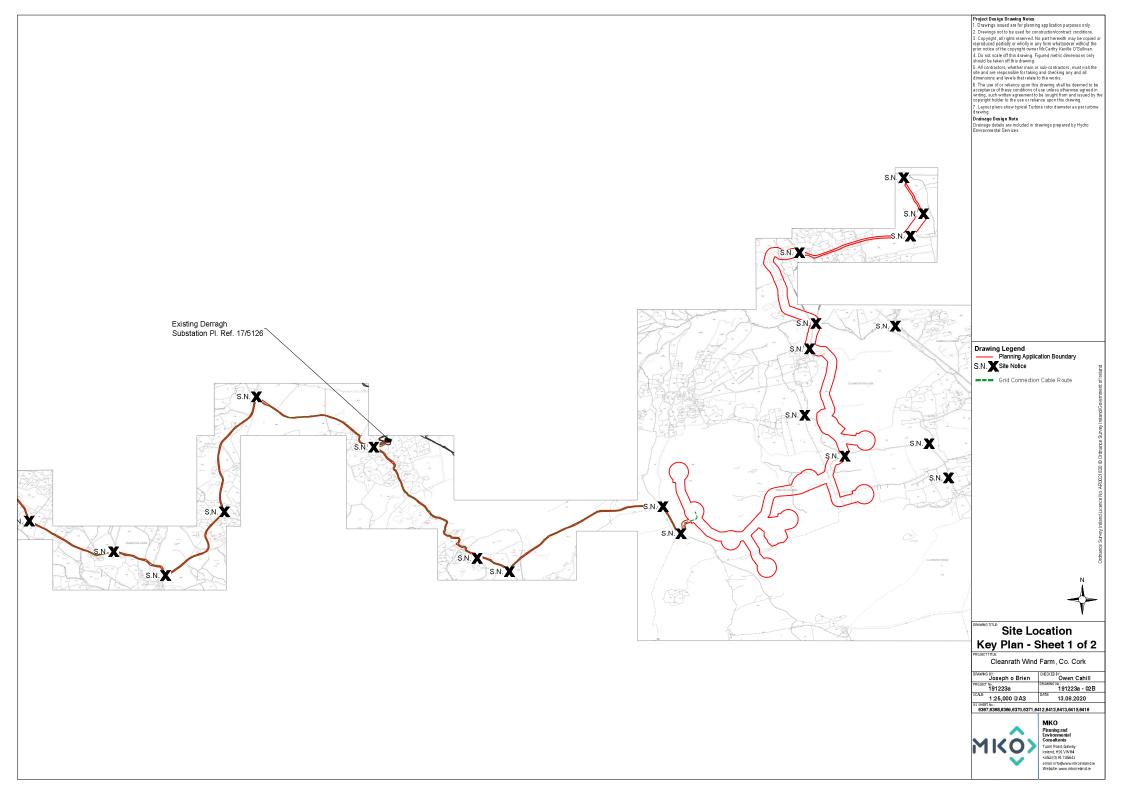


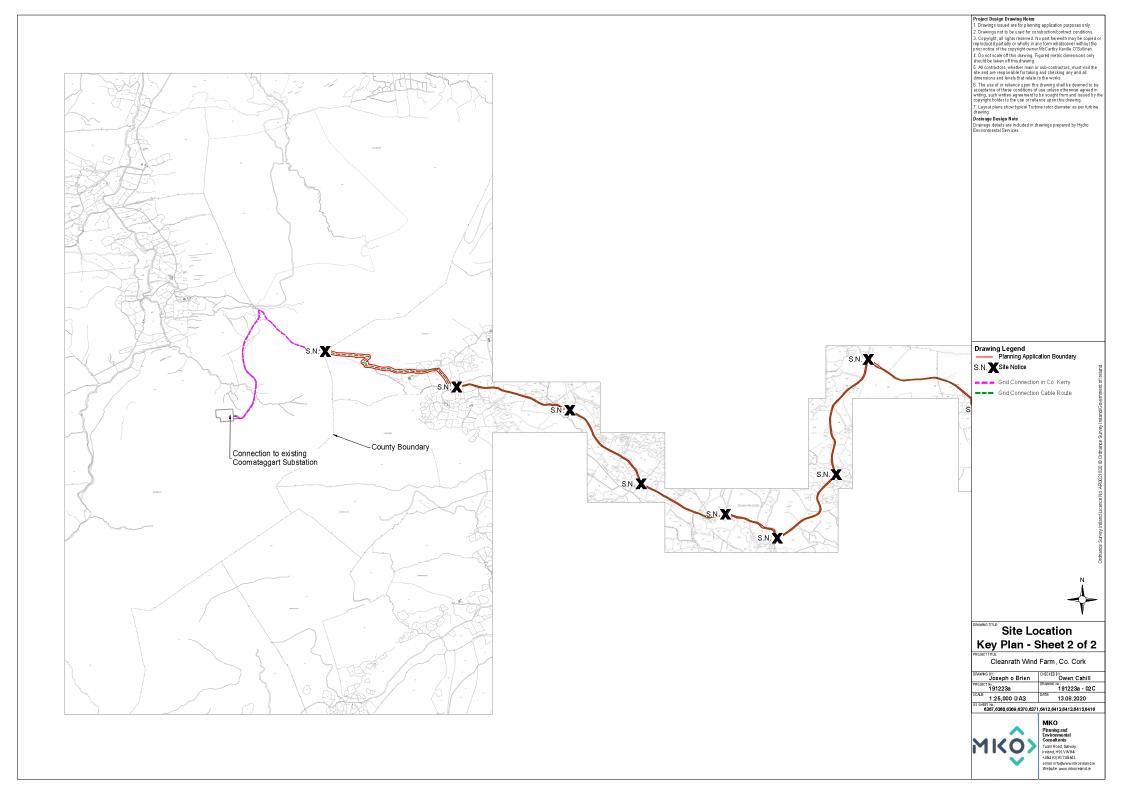
мко

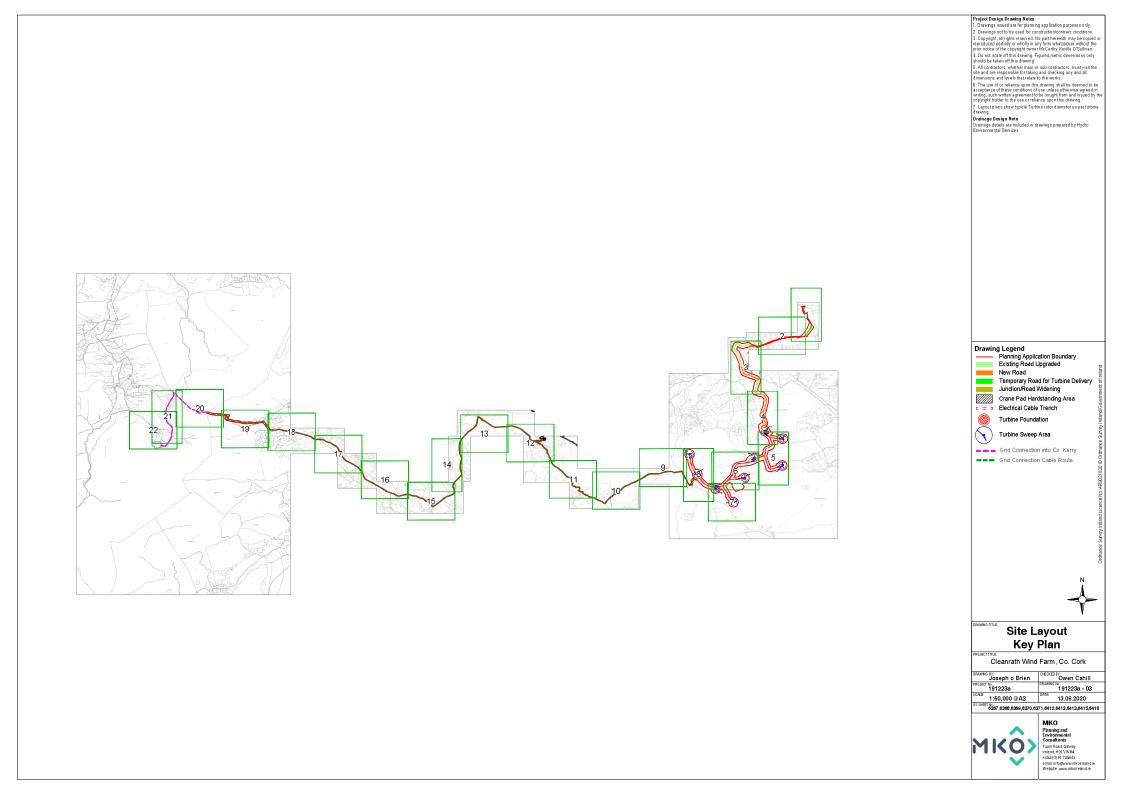
мко́> \checkmark

PIRO Planning and Environmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway Ireland, H91VWPA +353 (0) 91735611 errail: Info@www.mkoireland.ie Websits: www.mkoireland.ie



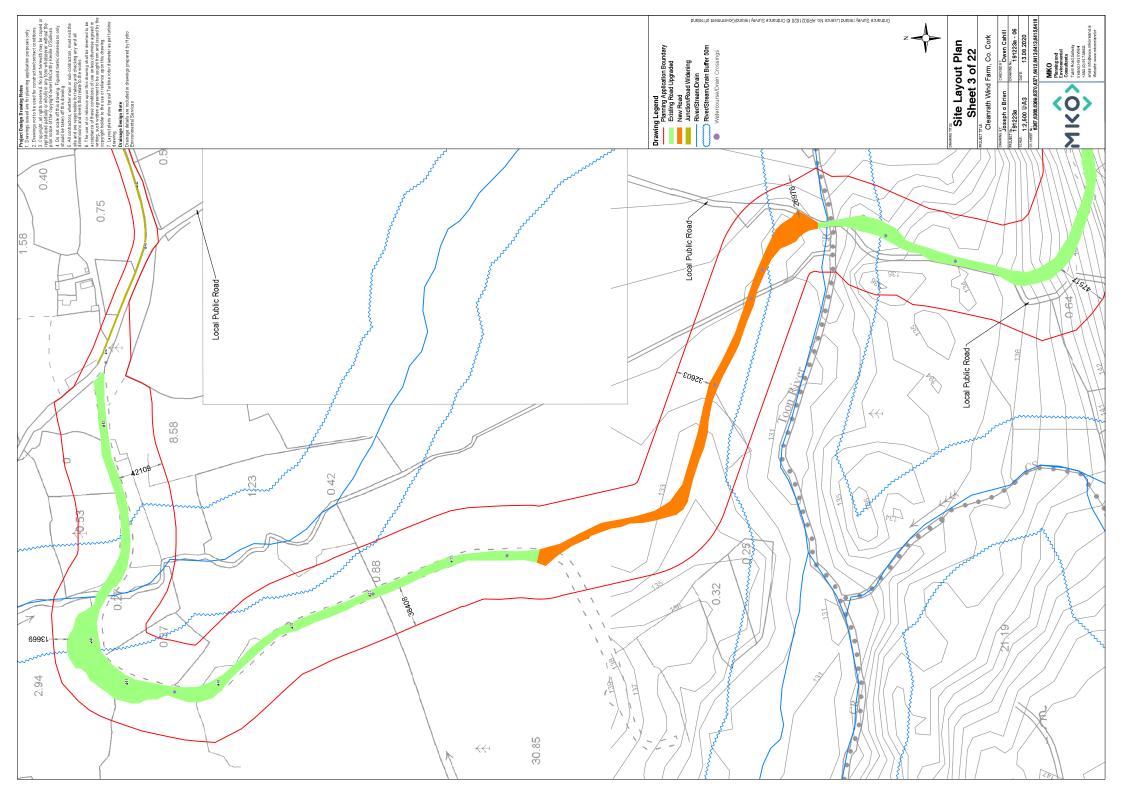


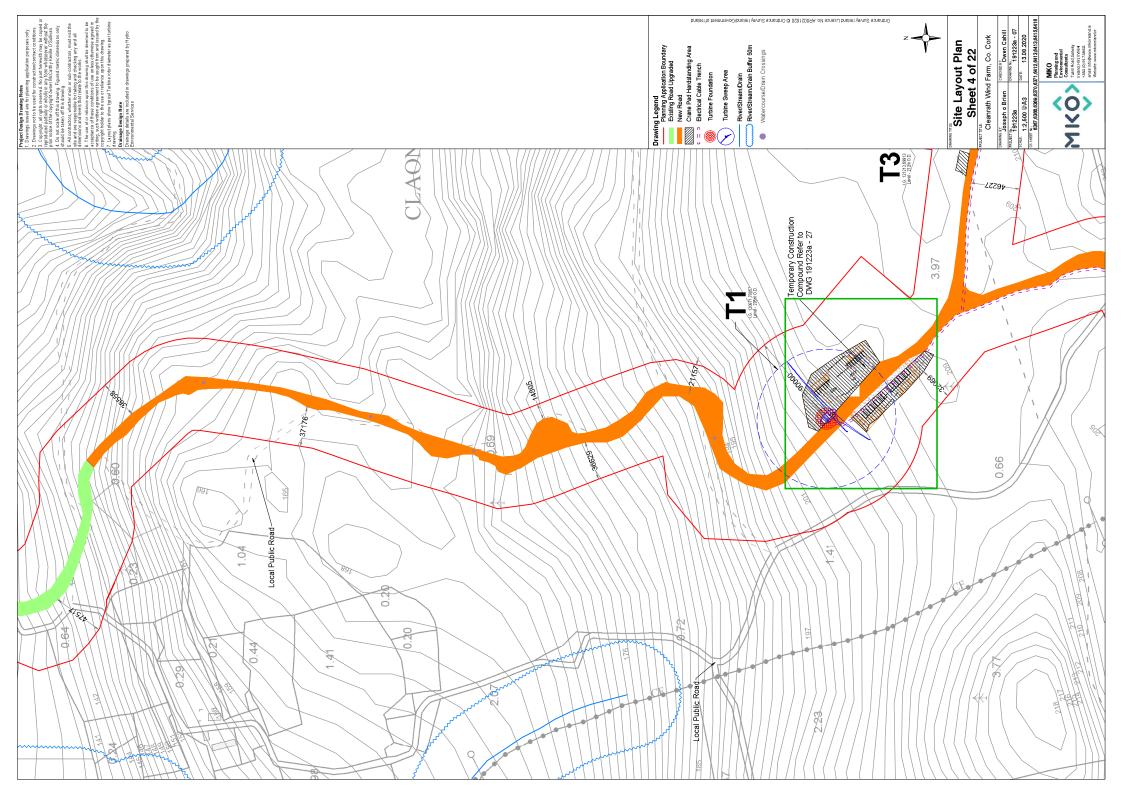


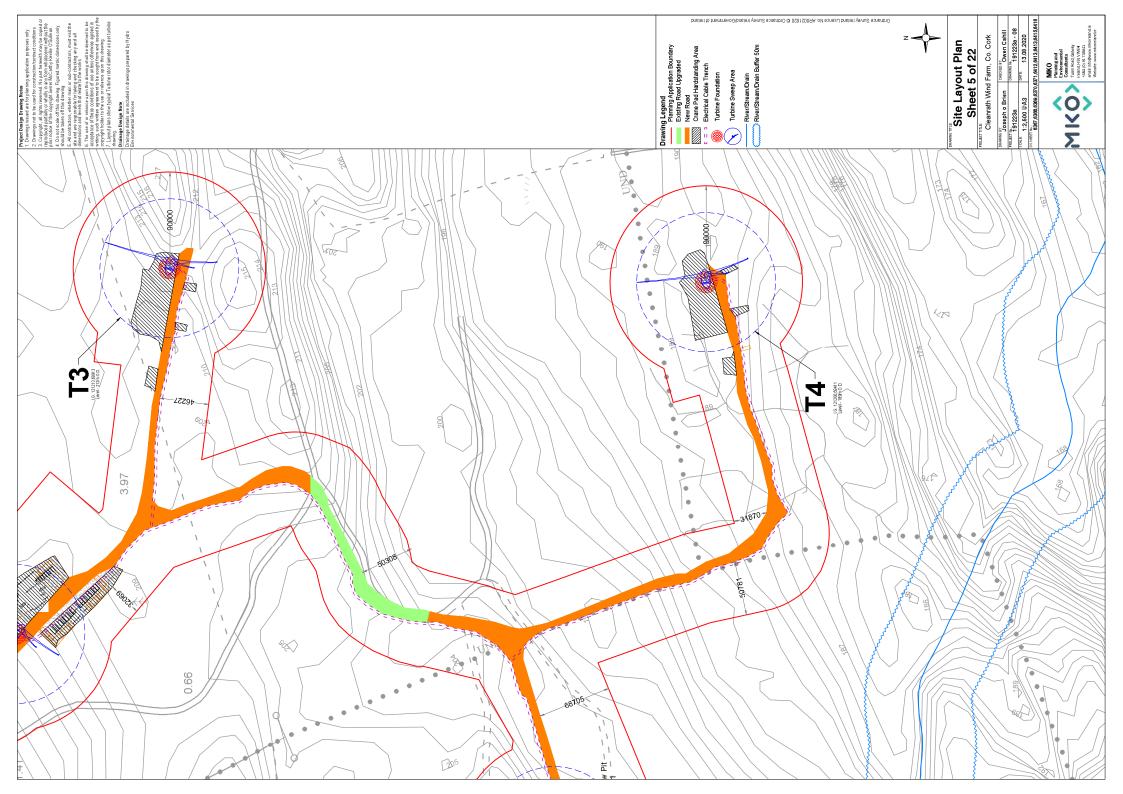


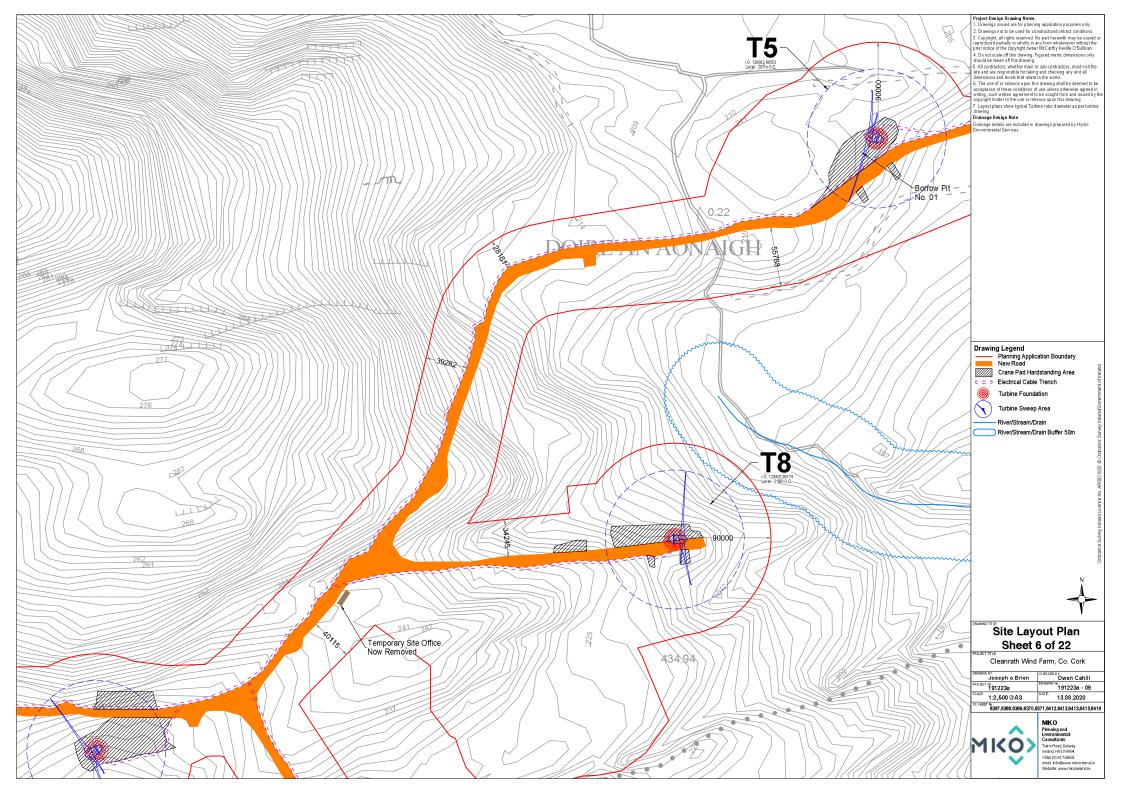


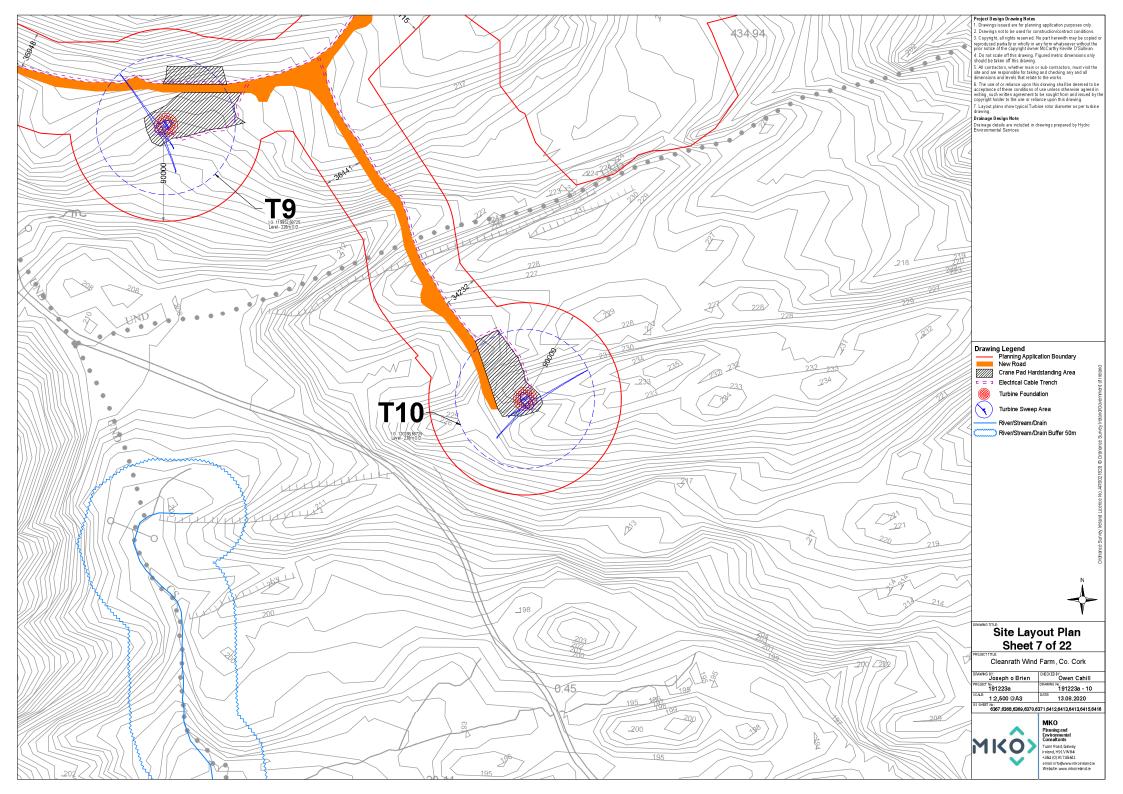


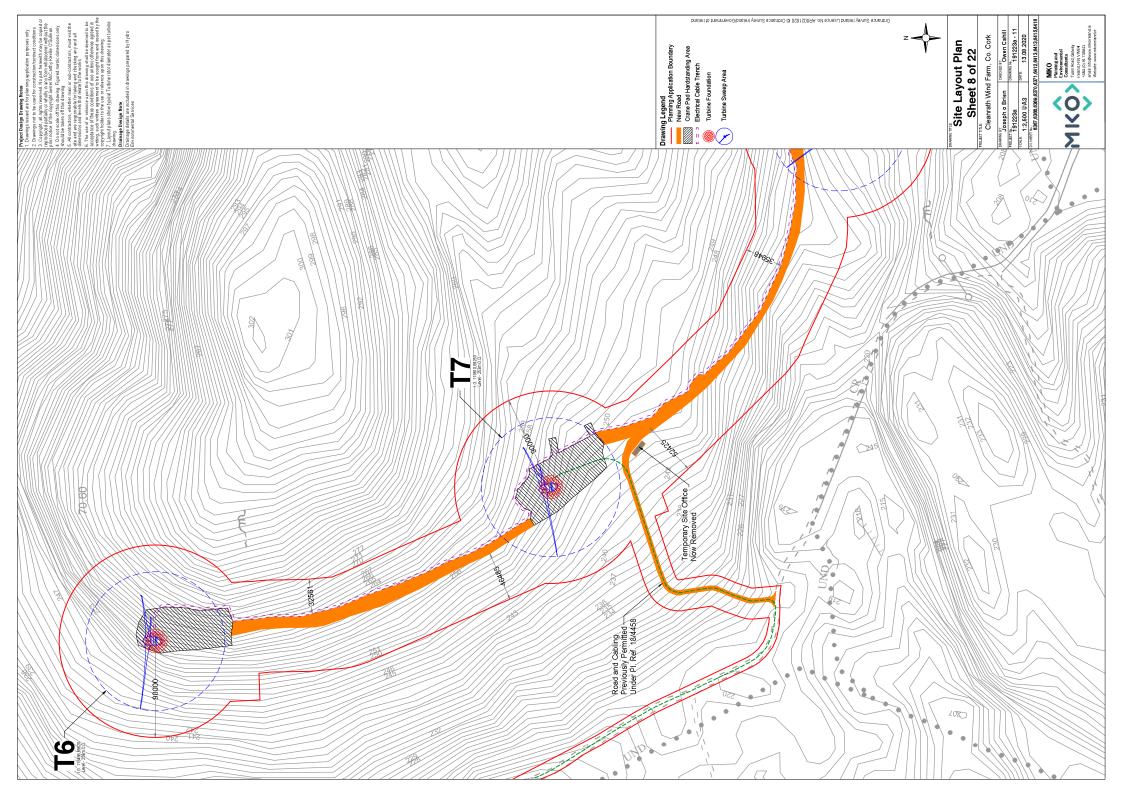


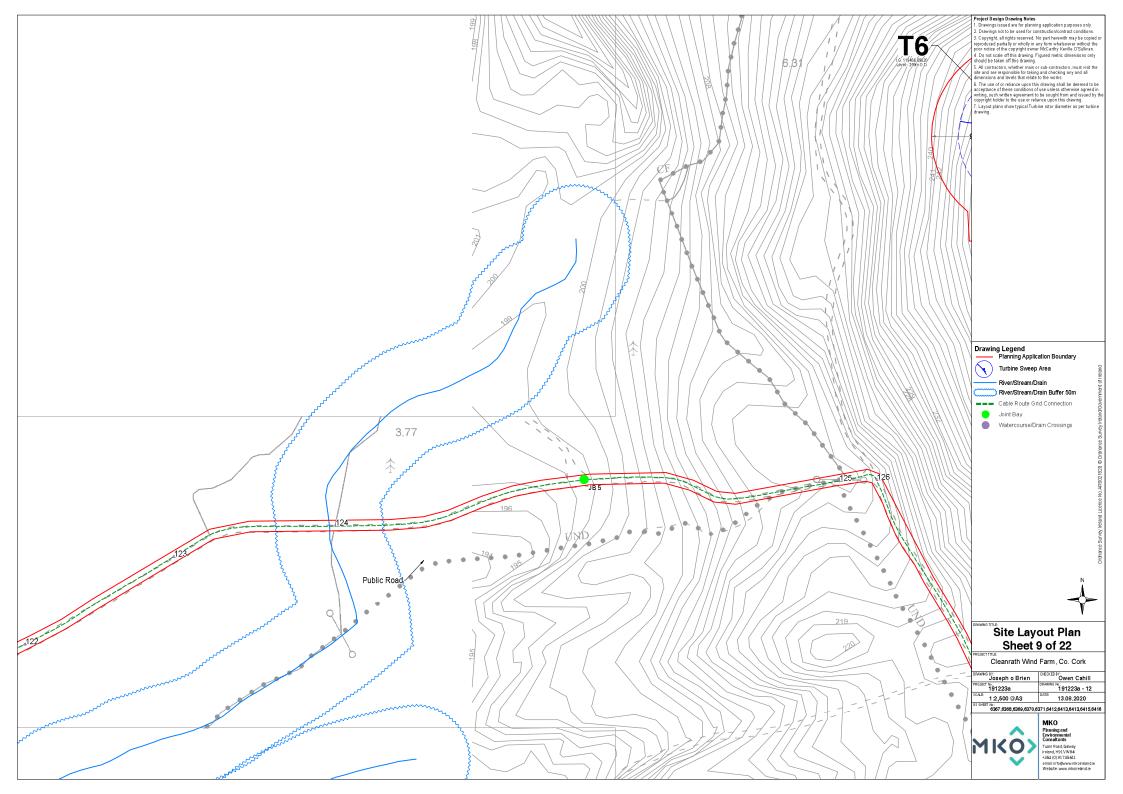


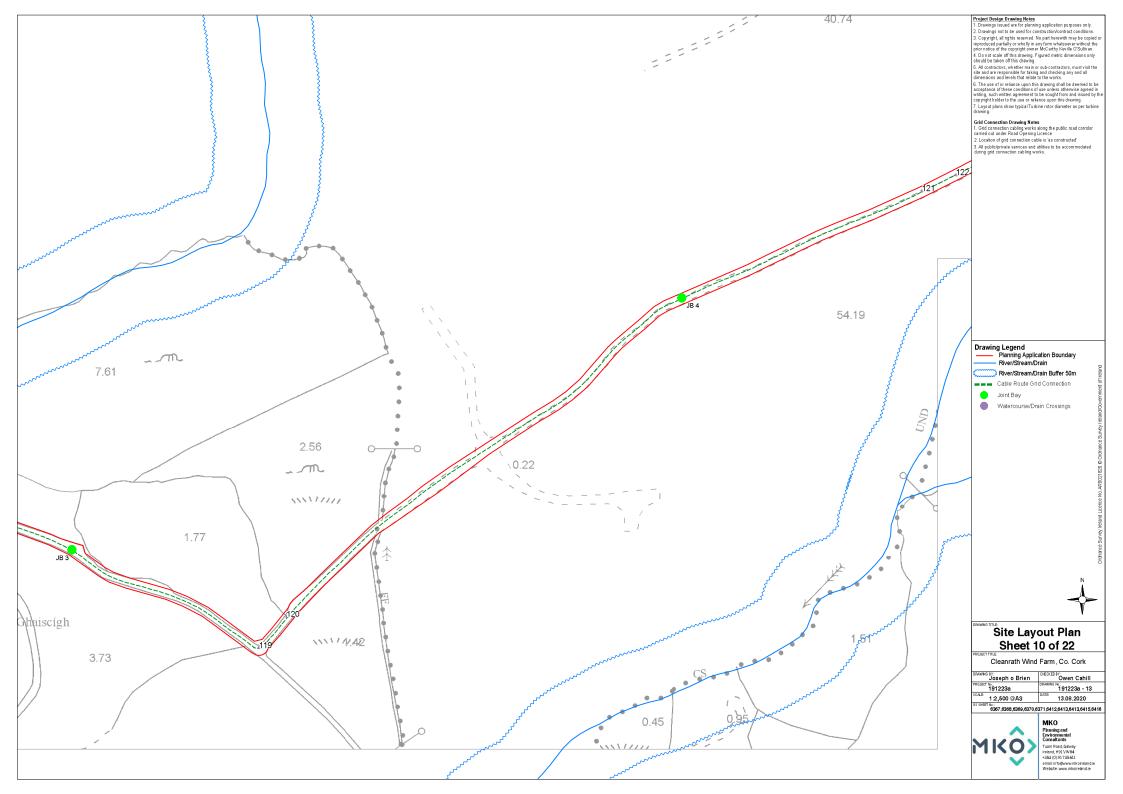


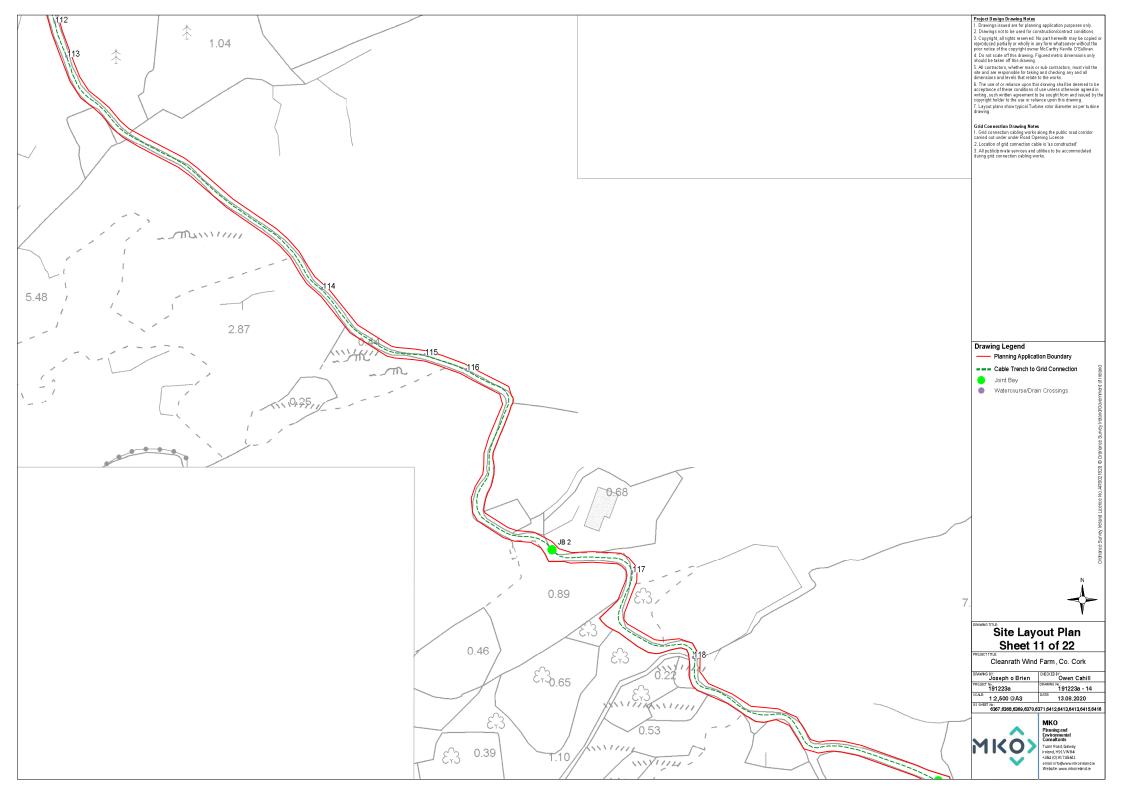


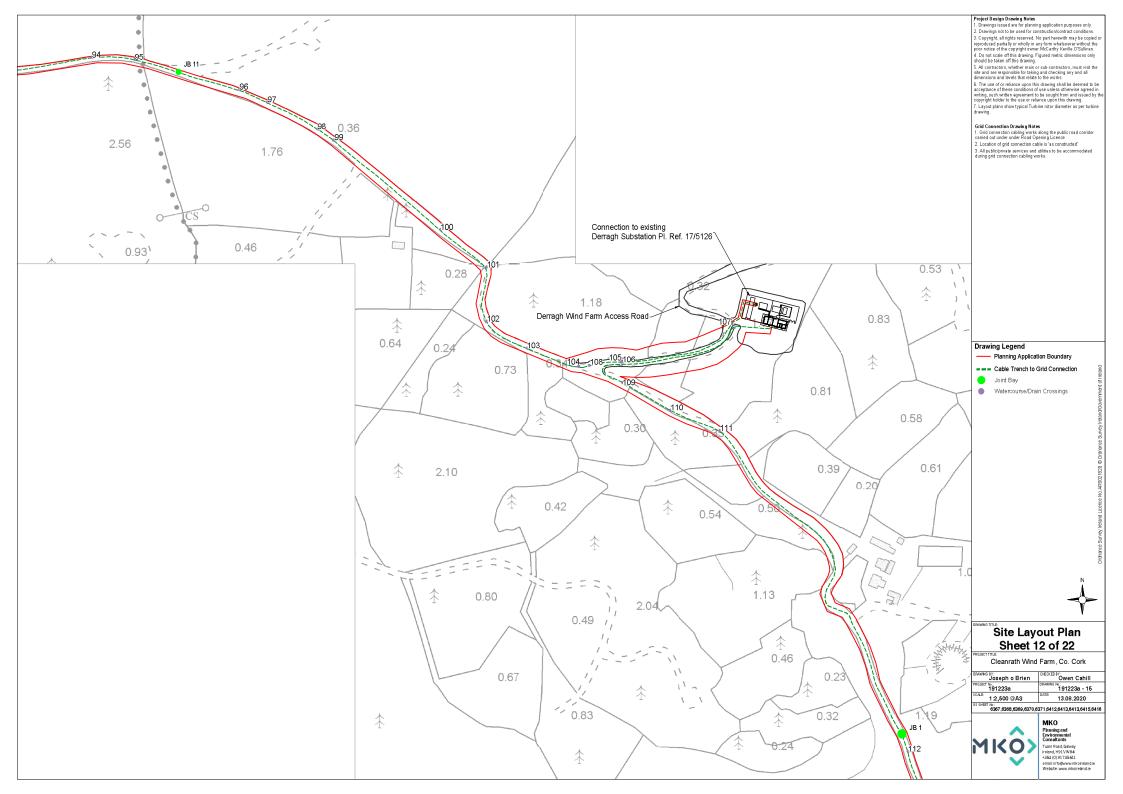






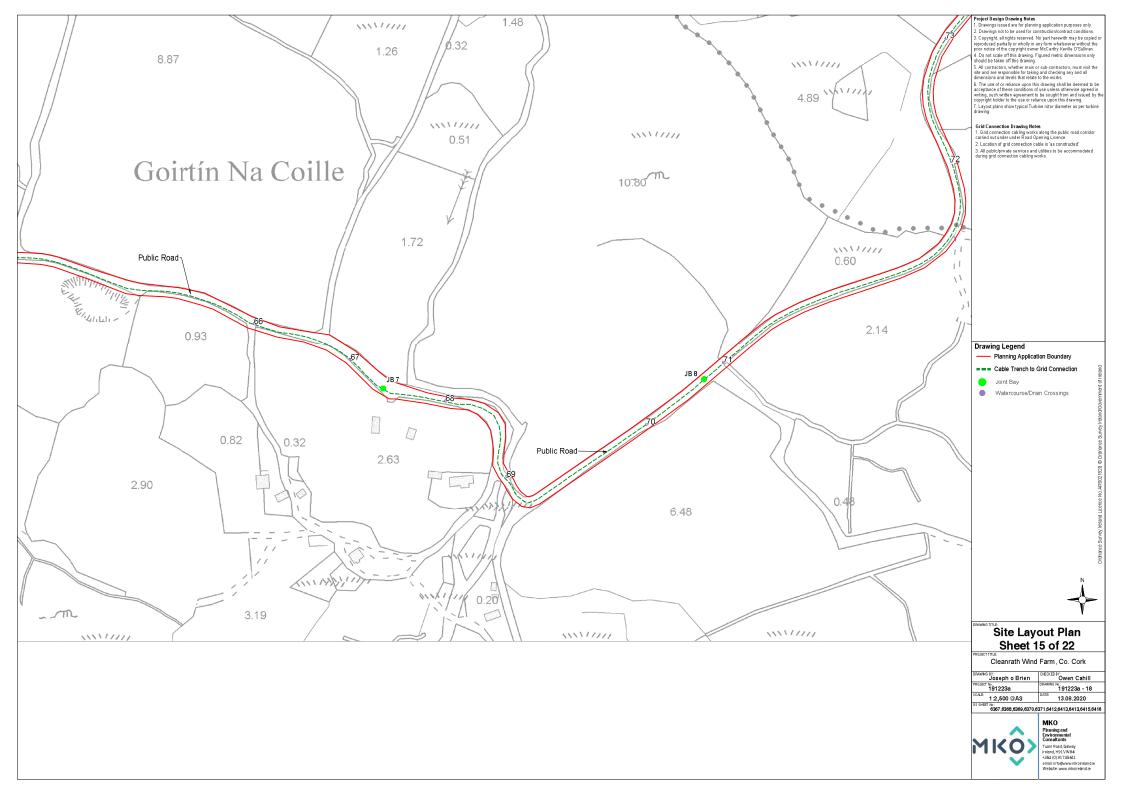


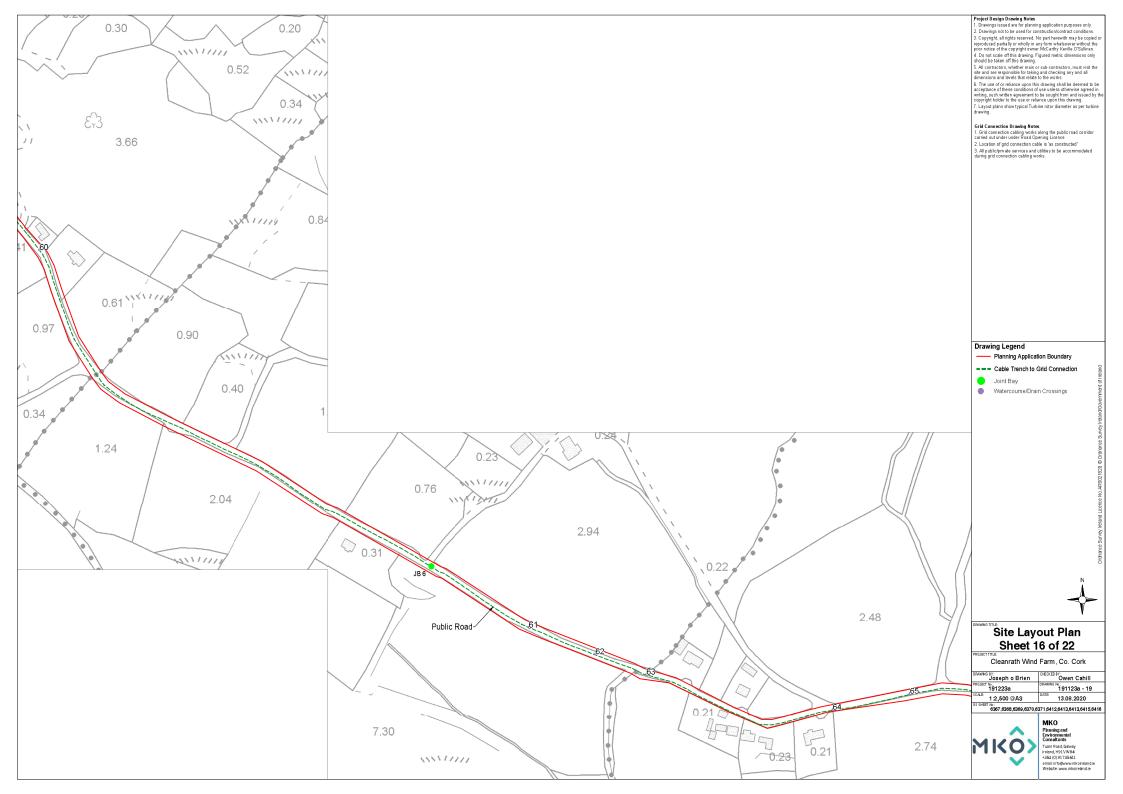


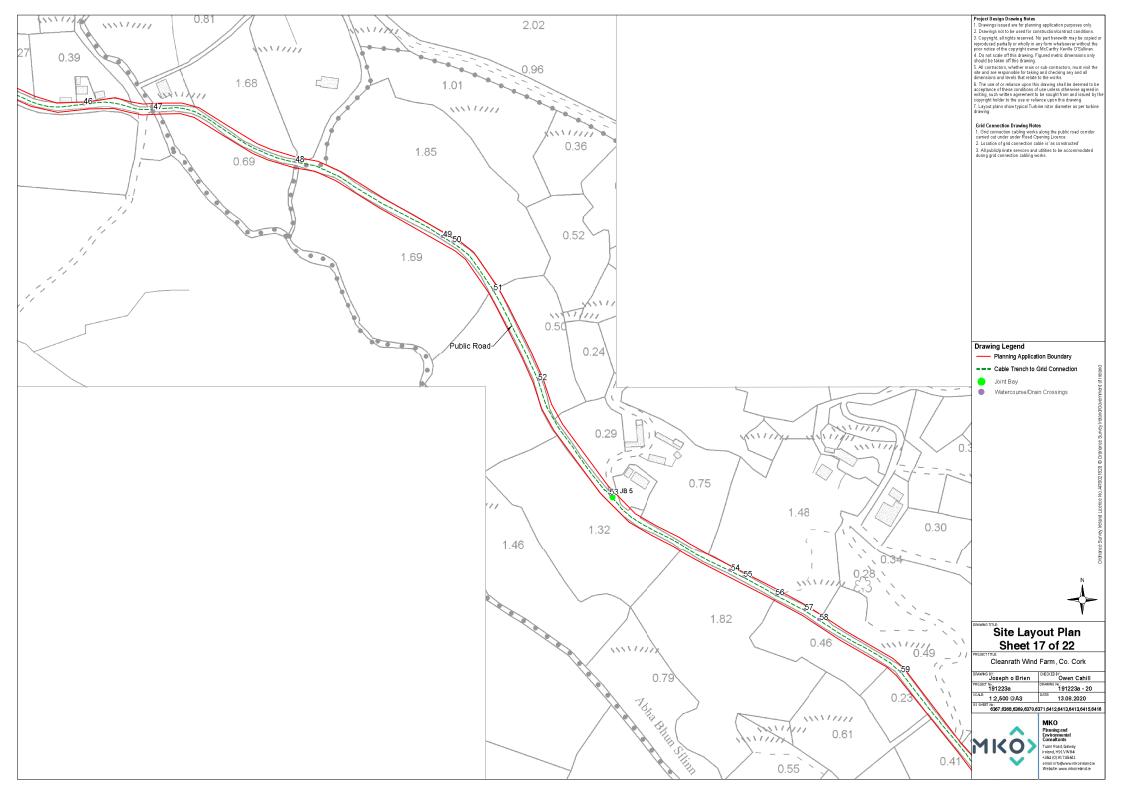




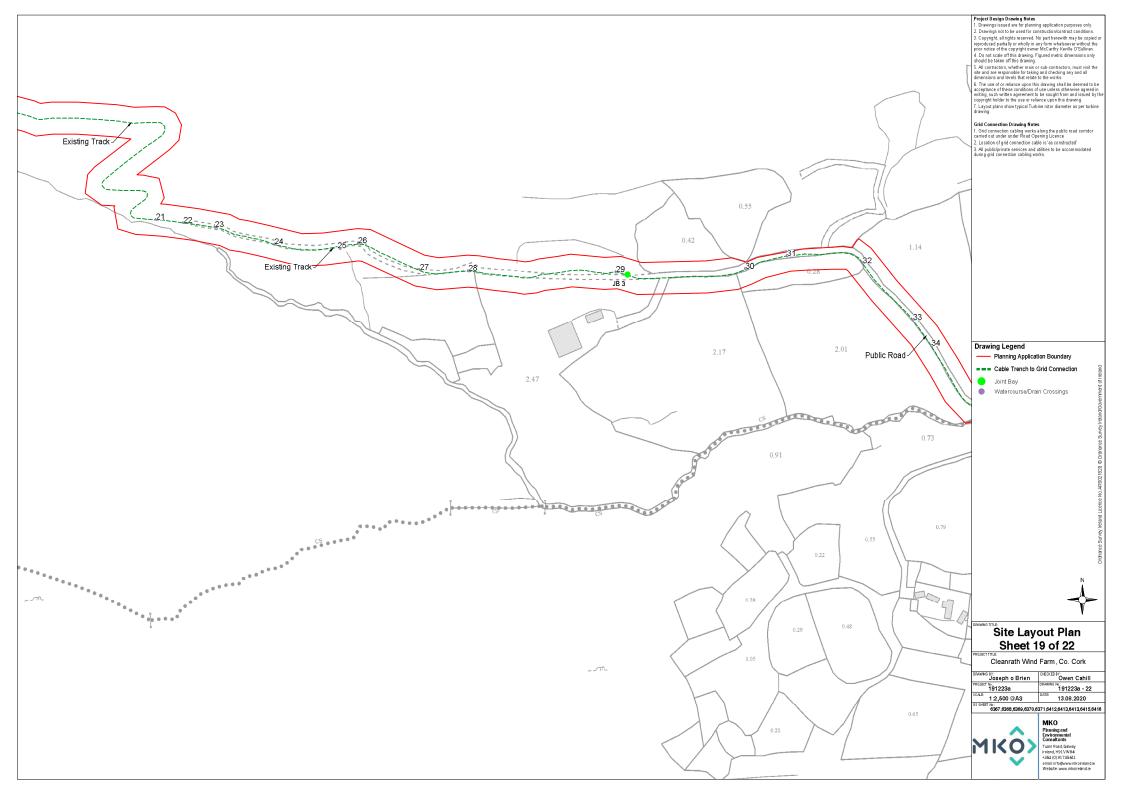








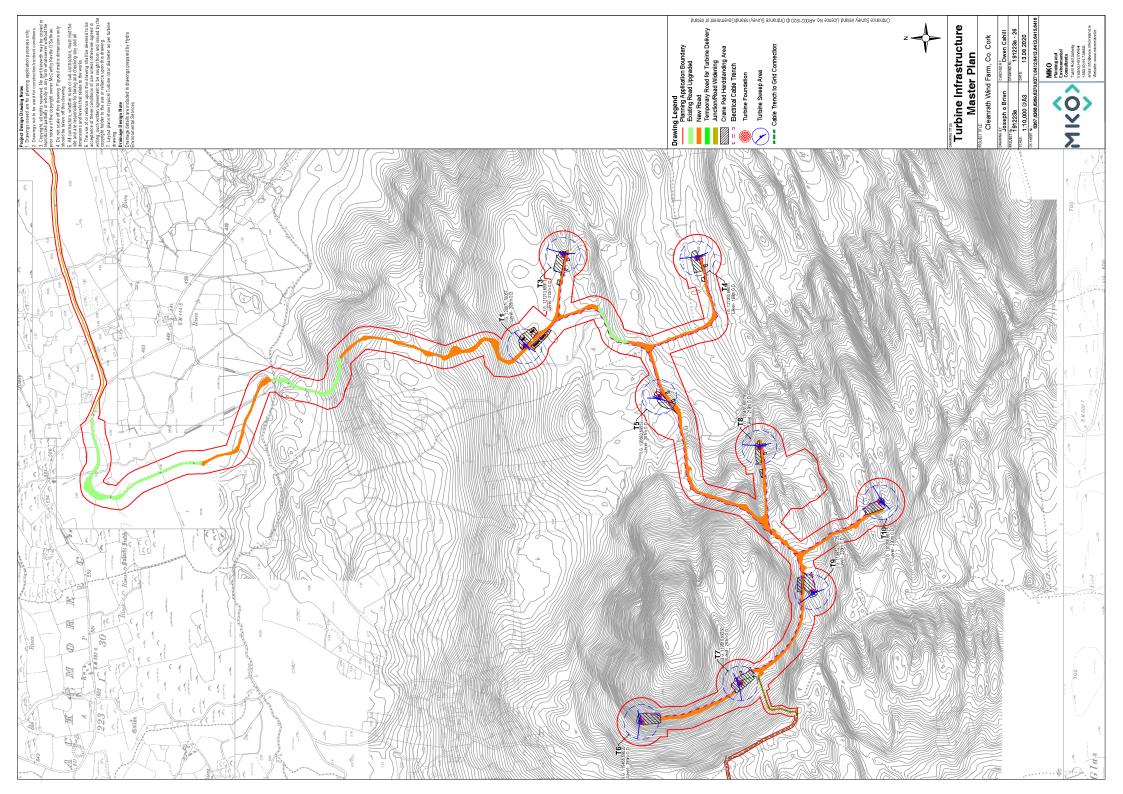


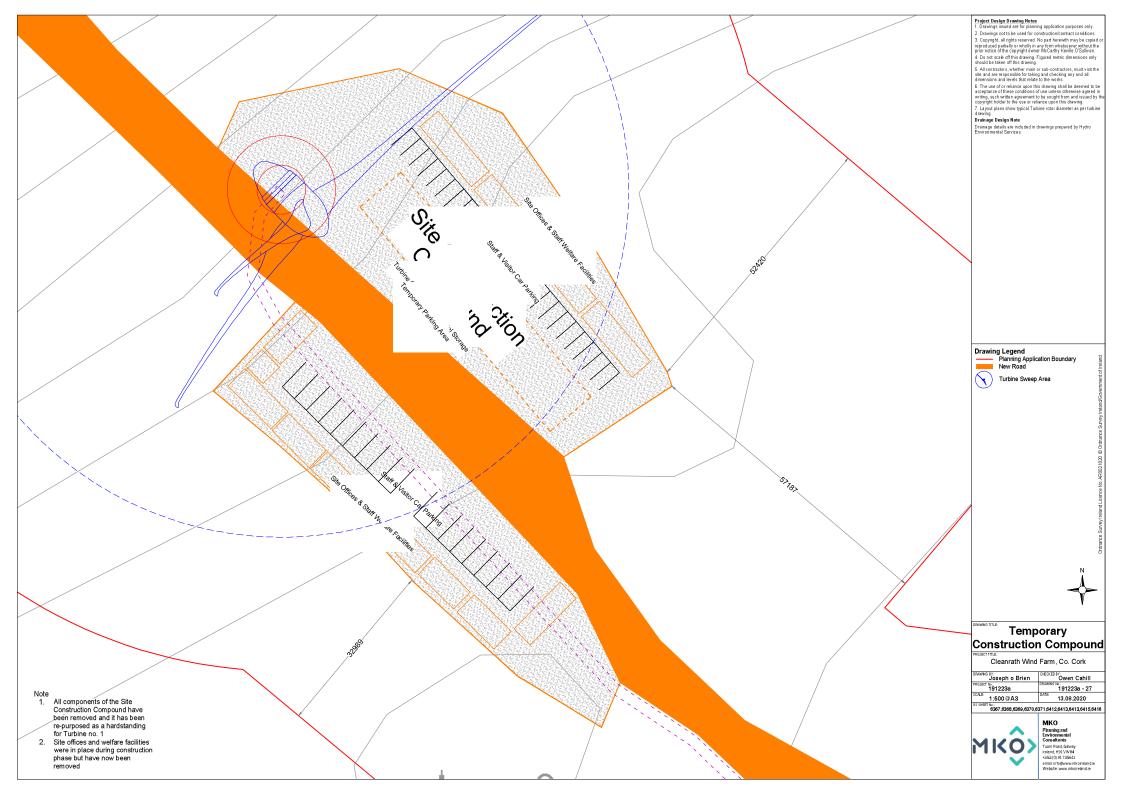




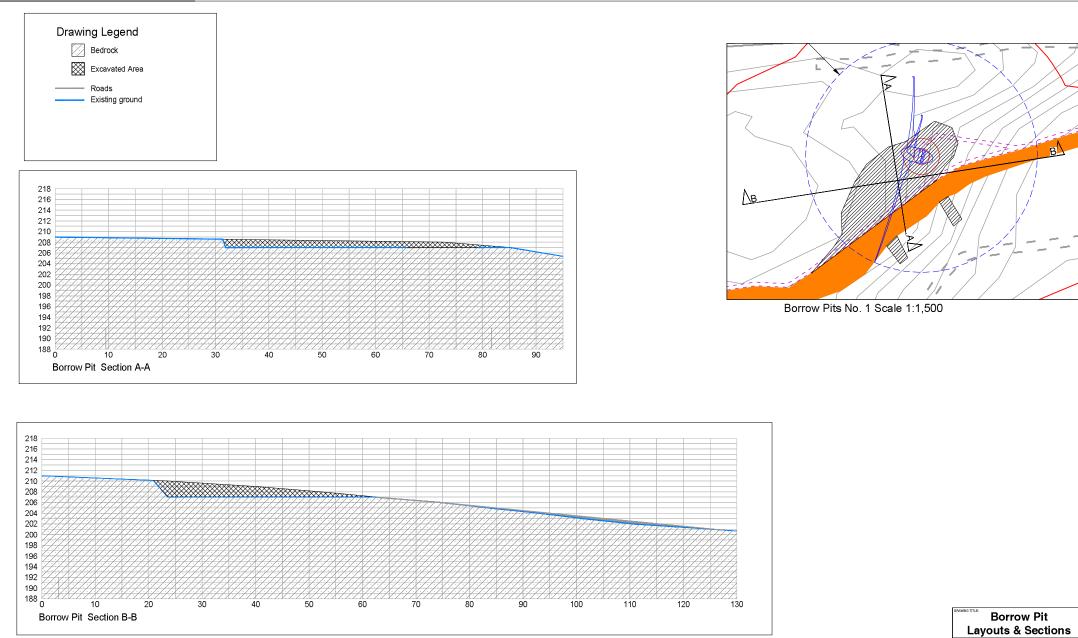




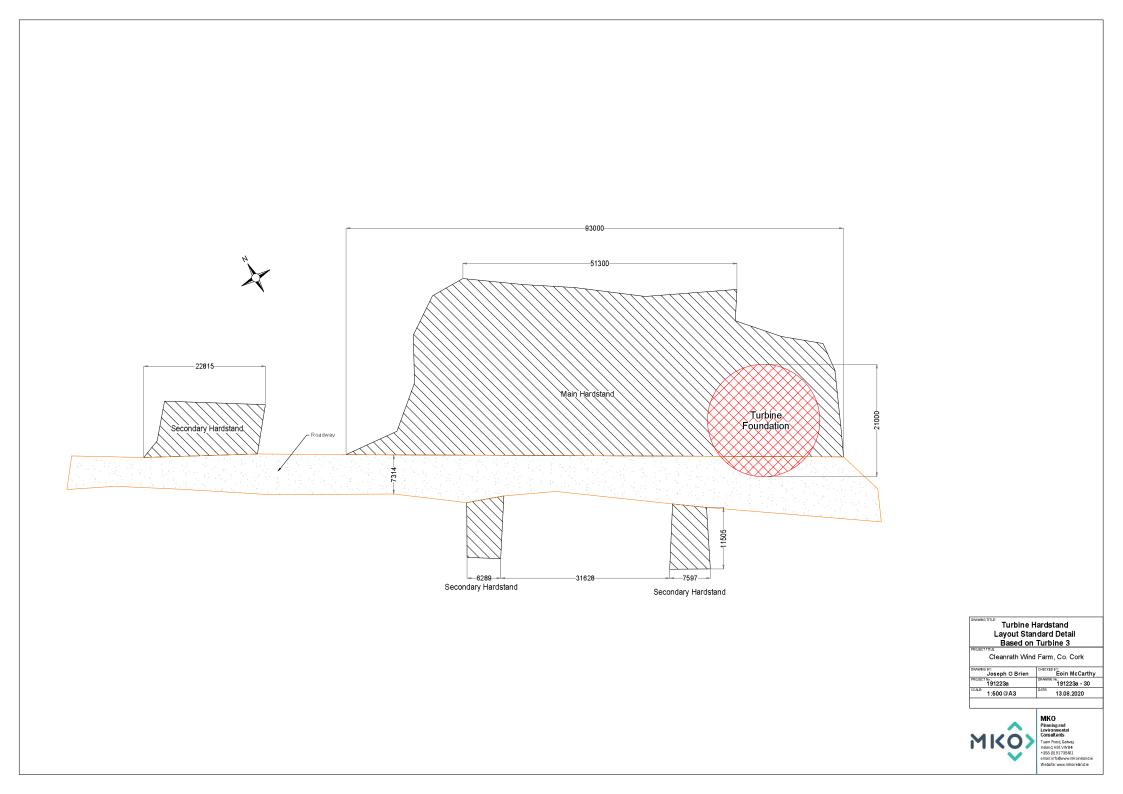


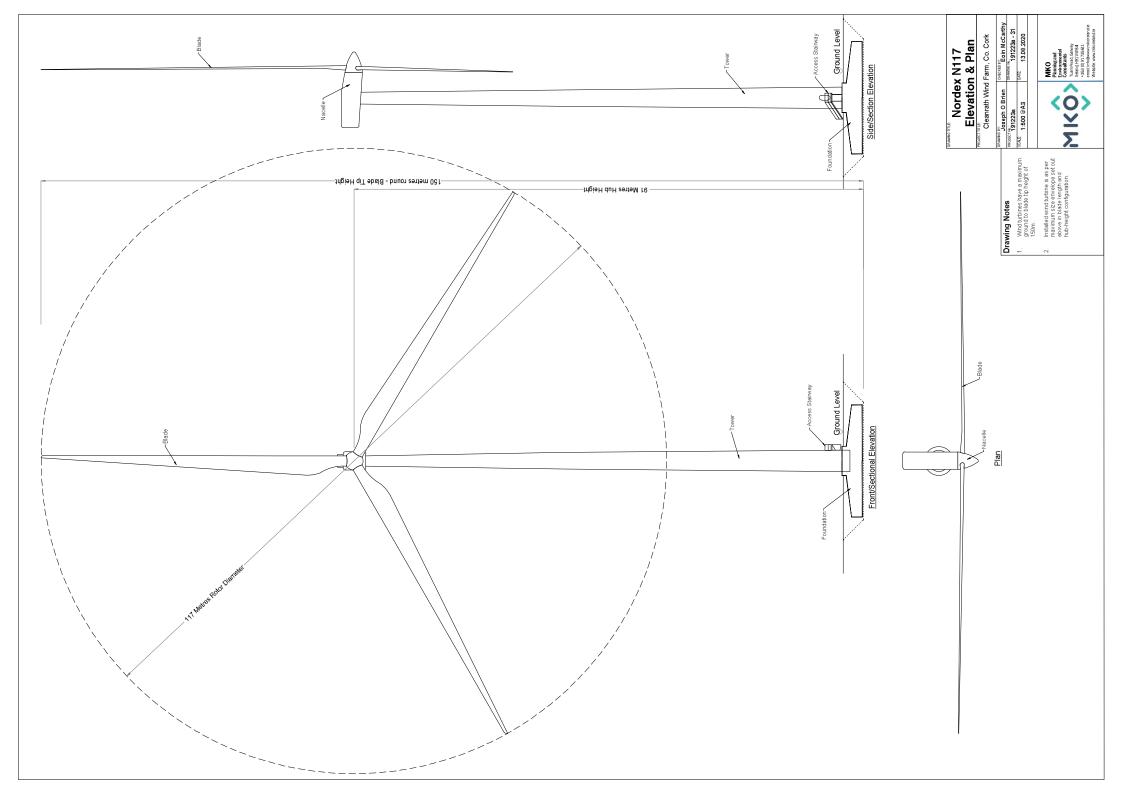






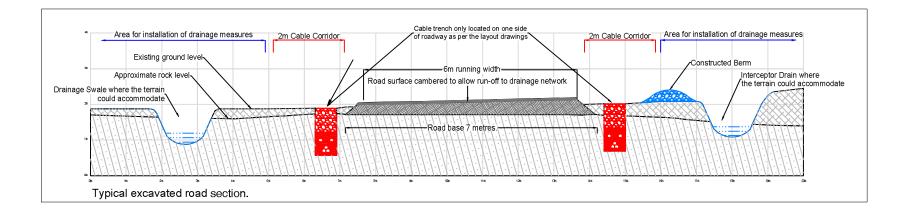


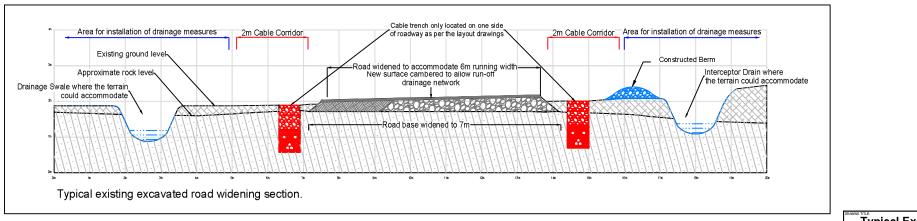




2

Drawing Notes
1. Widening occured on either side
of existing roads dependent on site conditions. Depths of road fill varied dependent on site conditions.

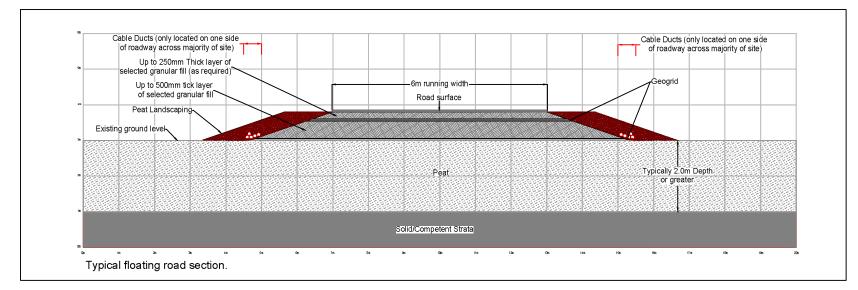


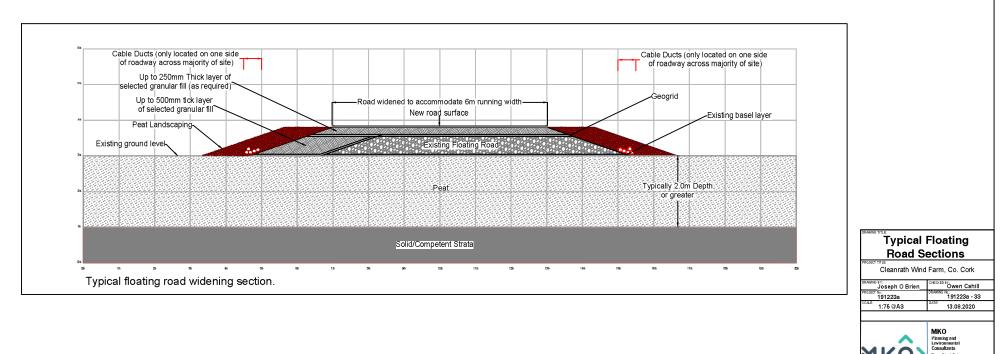


Typical Excavated Road Sections

Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co, Cork Joseph O Brien_ Owen Cahill 191223a 191223a - 32 LE 1:75 @A3 13.08.2020



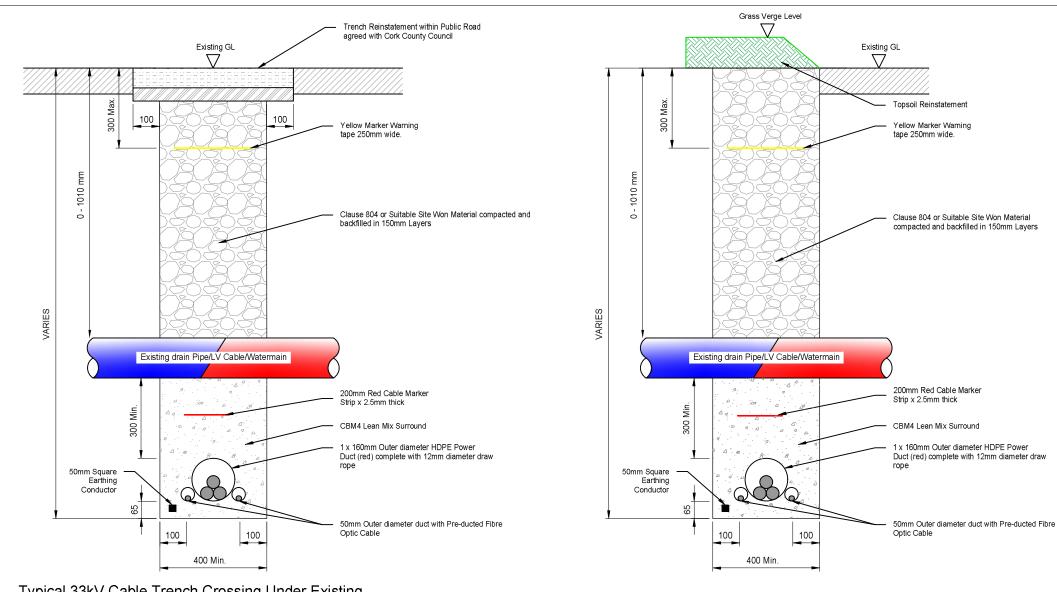




dependent on site conditions.

MKO)

Tuam Road, Galway Ireland, H91 WW84 +353 (0) 91 735611 email: Info@www.mkoireland.ie Website: www.mkoireland.ie

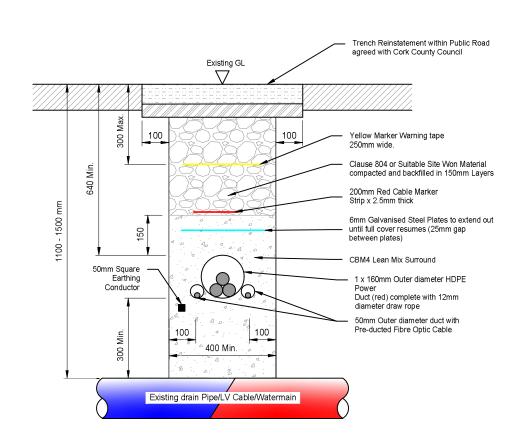


Typical 33kV Cable Trench Crossing Under Existing Services In Public Road Detail Scale 1:10

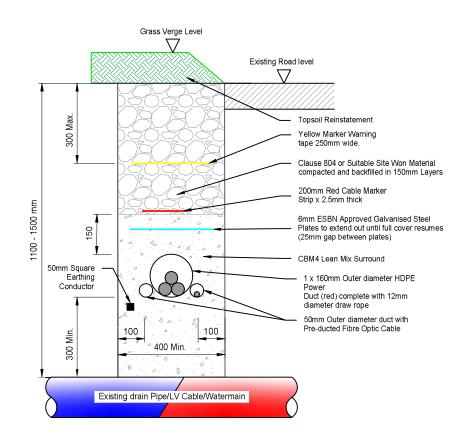
Typical 33kV Cable Trench Crossing Under Existing Services In Public Road Verge Detail Scale 1:10



>	DRAMING TITLE Typical 33kV Cable Trench Crossing Under Existing Services in Public Road & Verge Detail			DRAWING No.: 191223a - 34	
	PROJECT TITLE: Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork		PROJECT No.: 191223a		
	DRAWING/MODIFIED BY: Joseph O Brien	CHECKED BY: Owen Cahill	SCALE: 1:10@A3	DATE: 13.08.2020	
	MKO Planning & Environmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 VW84 email: Info@mkoreland.ie Tel: +363 91 735611				



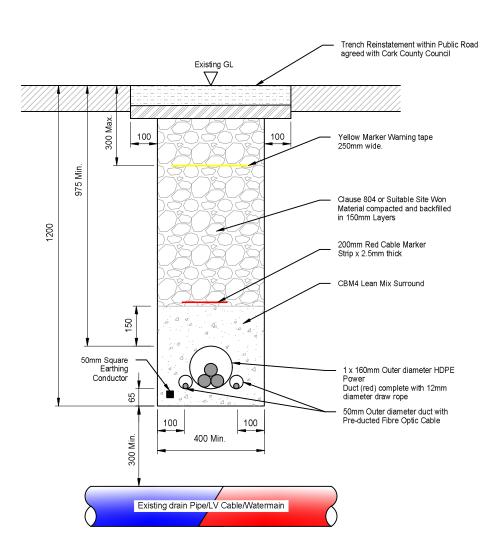
Typical 33kV Cable Trench Crossing Over Existing Services In Public Road Detail _{Scale 1:10}



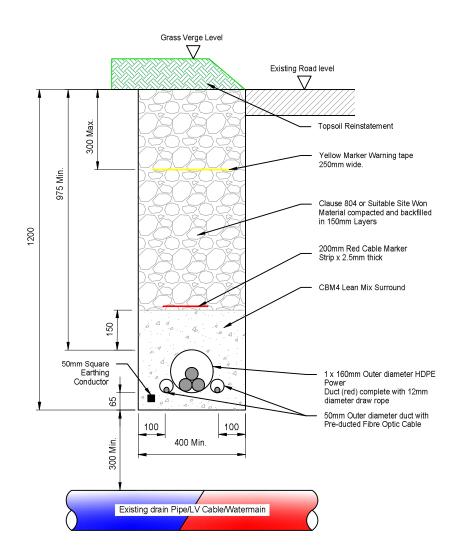
Typical 33kV Cable Trench Crossing Over Existing Services In Public Road Verge Detail _{Scale 1:10}



	DRAWING TITLE: Typical 33kV Cable Trench Crossing Over Existing Services in Public Road & Verge Detail Where Standard Separation Depth not Available		DRAWING No.: 191223a - 35	
	PROJECT TITLE: Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork		PROJECT No.: 191223a	
	DRAWING/MODIFIED BY: Joseph O Brien	CHECKED BY: Owen Cahill	SCALE: 1:10@A3	DATE: 13.08.2020
	MK O Planning & Environmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 VW84. email: info@mkoireland.ie Tel: +363 91 735611			



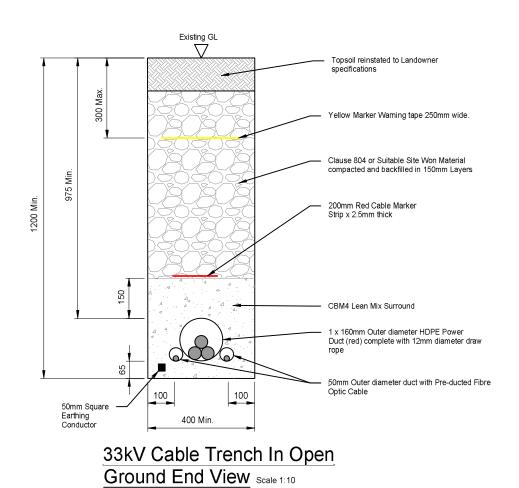
Typical 33kV Cable Trench Crossing Over Existing Services In Public Road Detail Scale 1:10

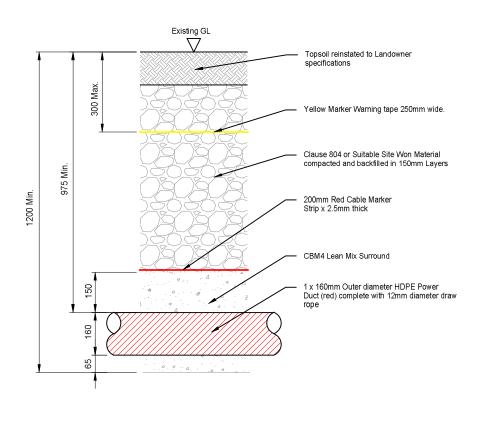


Typical 33kV Cable Trench Crossing Over Existing Services In Public Road Verge Detail Scale 1:10



>	DRAWING TITLE Typical 33kV Cable Trench Crossing Over Where Standard Separation Depth/Cover is Available DRAWING			DRAWING No.: 191223a - 36	
	PROJECT TITLE: Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork		PROJECT No.: 191223a		
	DRAWING/MODIFIED BY: Joseph O Brien	CHECKED BY: Owen Cahill	SCALE: 1:10@A3 DATE: 13.08.2020		
	15K O Planning & Environmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 VM64. email: intr@;mkoireland.ie Tel:+363 91 735611				

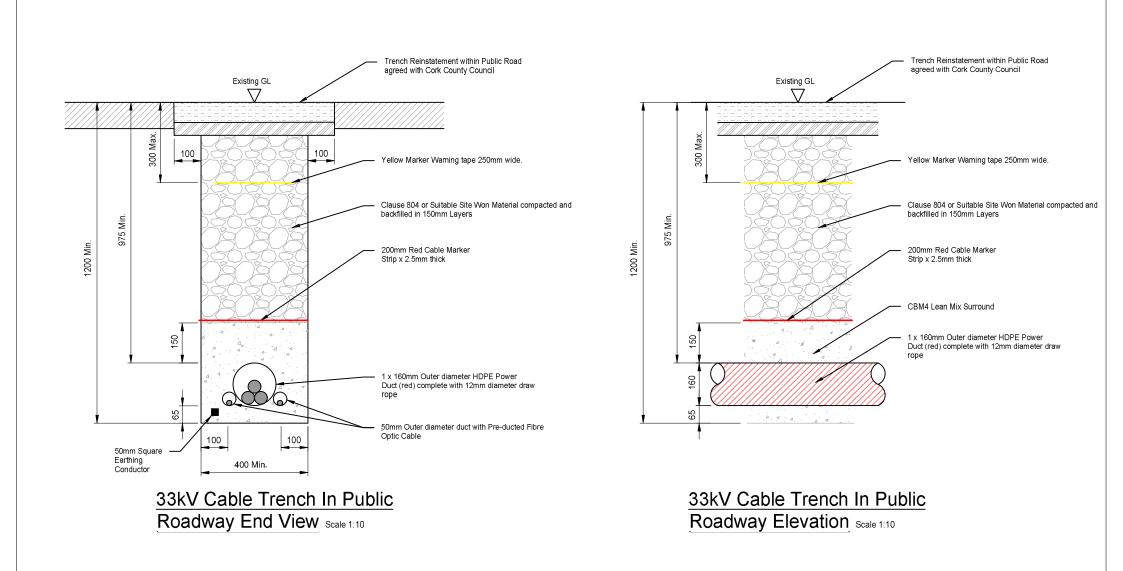




33kV Cable Trench In Open Ground Elevation Scale 1:10

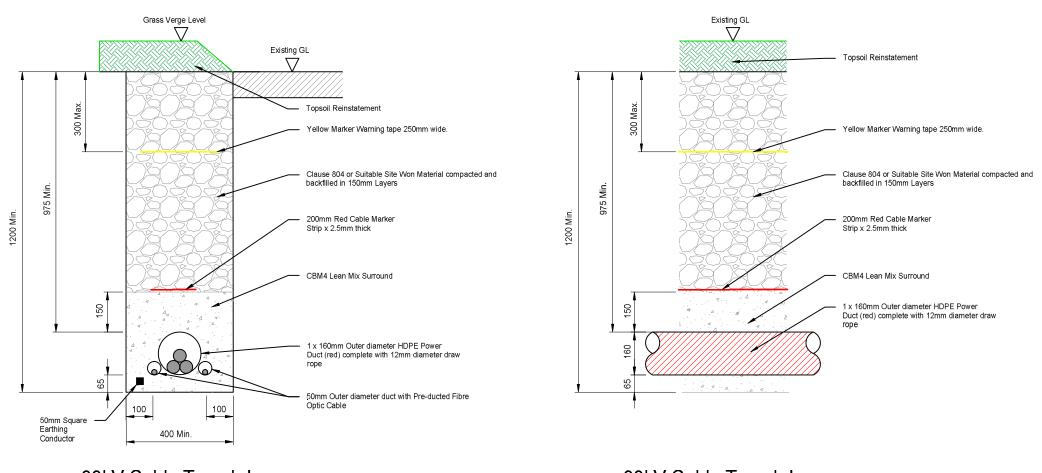


	DRAWING TITLE 33kV Cable Trench In Open Ground Details		DRAWING No.: 191223a - 37	
	PROJECT TITLE: Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork		PROJECT No.: 191223a	
	DRAWING/MODIFIED BY: Joseph O Brien	CHECKED BY: Owen Cahill	SCALE: 1:10@A3	DATE: 13.08.2020
	MKO Planning & Environmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 WM84. email: info@mkoireland.ie Tel: +353 S	91 735611		





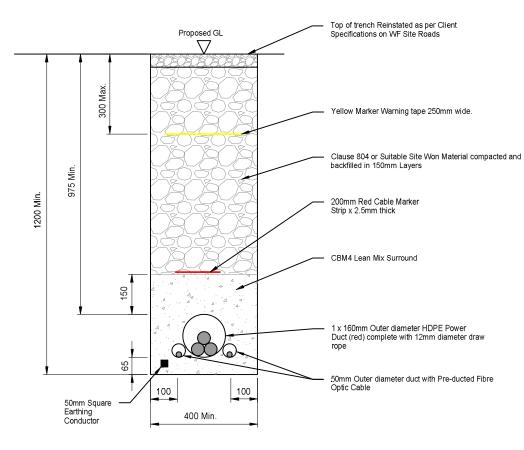
>	DRAWING TITLE 33kV Cable Trench In Roadway Details DRAWING No.: 19122:		23a - 38	
	PROJECT TITLE: Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork		PROJECT No:: 191223a	
	DRAWING/MODIFIED BY: Joseph O Brien	CHECKED BY: Owen Cahill	SCALE: 1:10@A3 DATE: 13.08.202	
	MKO Planning & Environmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 VM84. emails.info@mkoireland.ie Tel:+353.91.735611			



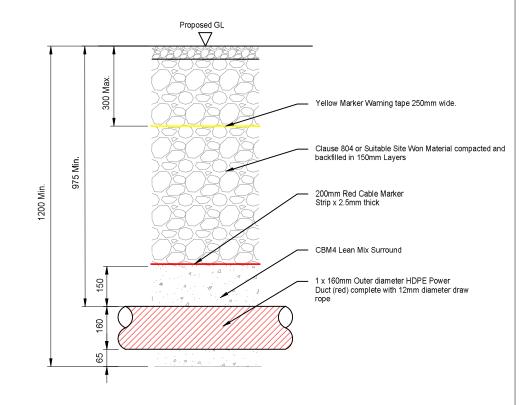
33kV Cable Trench In Road Verge End View Scale 1:10 33kV Cable Trench In Road Verge Elevation Scale 1:10



>	DRAWING TITLE 33kV Cable Trench In Road Verge Details		DRAWING No.: 191223a - 39	
	PROJECT TITLE: Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork		PROJECT No.: 191223a	
	DRAWING/MODIFIED BY: Joseph O Brien	CHECKED BY: Owen Cahill	SCALE: 1:10@A3	DATE: 13.08.2020
	MKO Planning & Environmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 VW64. email: infragmkoreland. let Tel: +353 91 735611			



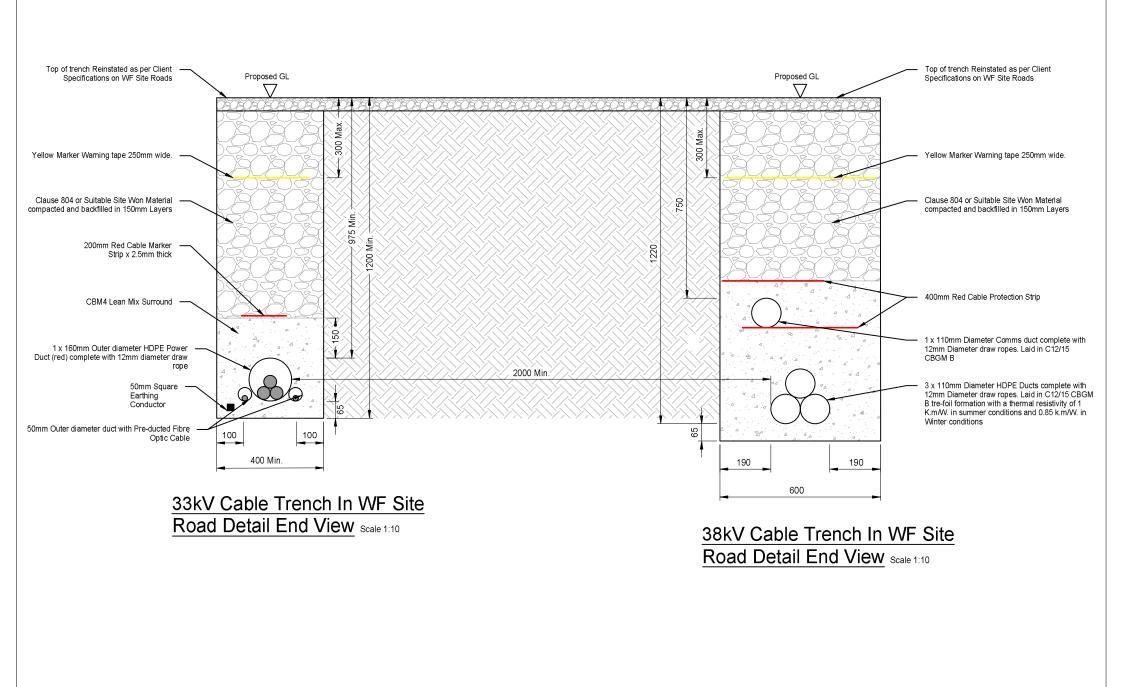
33kV Cable Trench In WF Site Road Detail End View Scale 1:10



33kV Cable Trench In WF Site Road Detail Elevation Scale 1:10

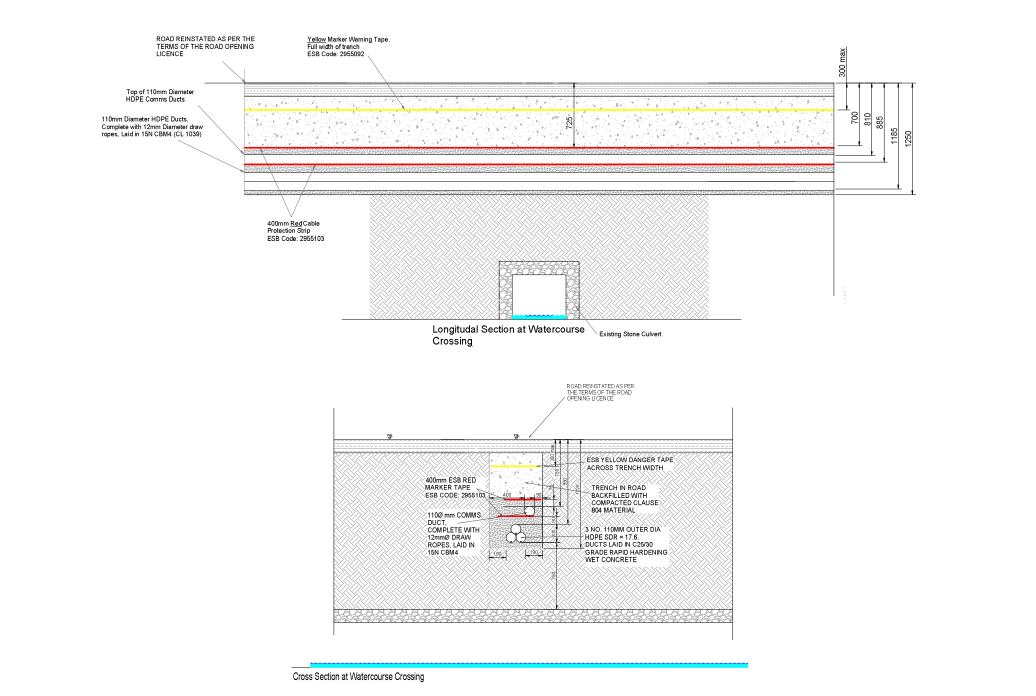


>	DRAWING TITLE Typical 33kV Cable Trench In Wind Farm Site Road Details		DRAWING No.: 191223a - 40	
	PROJECT TITLE: Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork		PROJECT No:: 191223a	
	DRAWING/MODIFIED BY: Joseph O Brien	CHECKED BY: Owen Cahill	SCALE: 1:10@A3 DATE: 13.08.2020	
	MKO Planning & Environmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 WAR4.email: tinfo@mkoireland ie Tet:+953 91 /25511			

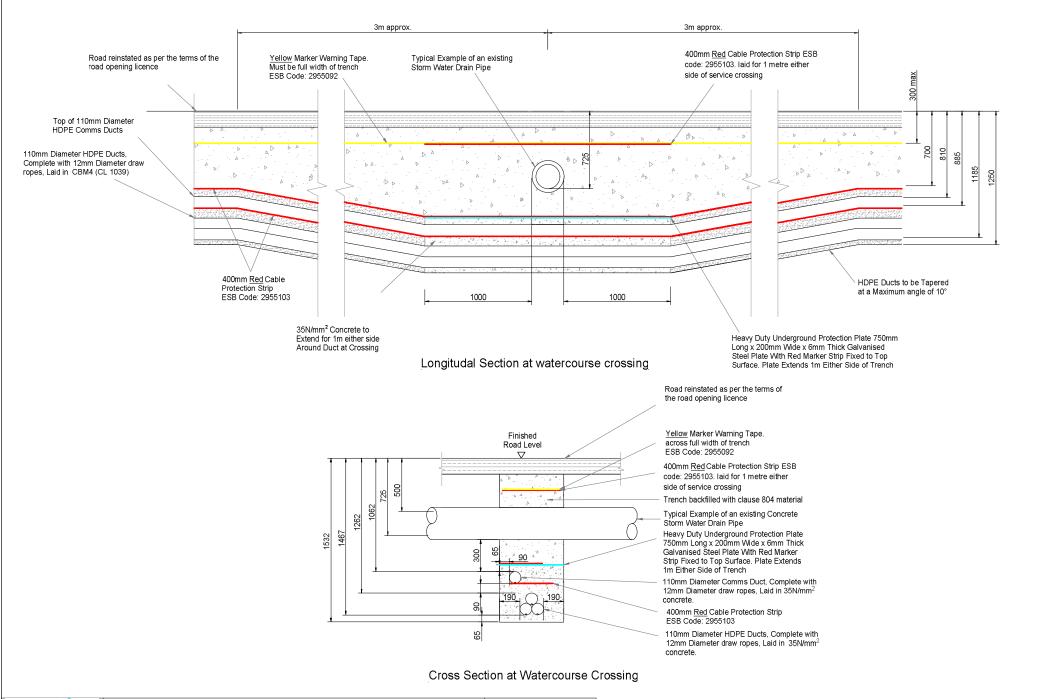




>	DRAWING TITLE Typical 33kV and 38 kV Cable Trench In Wind Farm Site Road Details		DRAWING No.: 191223a - 41		
	PROJECT TITLE: Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork		PROJECT No.: 191223a		
	DRAWING/MODIFIED BY: Joseph O Brien	CHECKED BY: Owen Cahill	SCALE: 1:10@A3	DATE: 13.08.2020	
	MKO Planning & Environmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 VM64. email: rdfog@mkoireland.le Tel:+363.917.735611				



<	~	DRAWING TITLE: Typical Cable Trench Over Culvert in Trefoil Arrangement	Trench Over Culvert in Trefoil Arrangement - Option 1		DRAWING No.: 191223a - 42	
		S	PROJECT TITLE: Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork		PROJECT No.: 1912	223 a
	U	4	DRAWING/MODIFIED BY: Joseph O Brien	CHECKED BY: Owen Cahill	SCALE: 1:30@A3	DATE: 13.08.2020
	\mathbf{V}	MKO Planning & Environmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 VW84. email: info@mkoireland.ie T	1 735611			



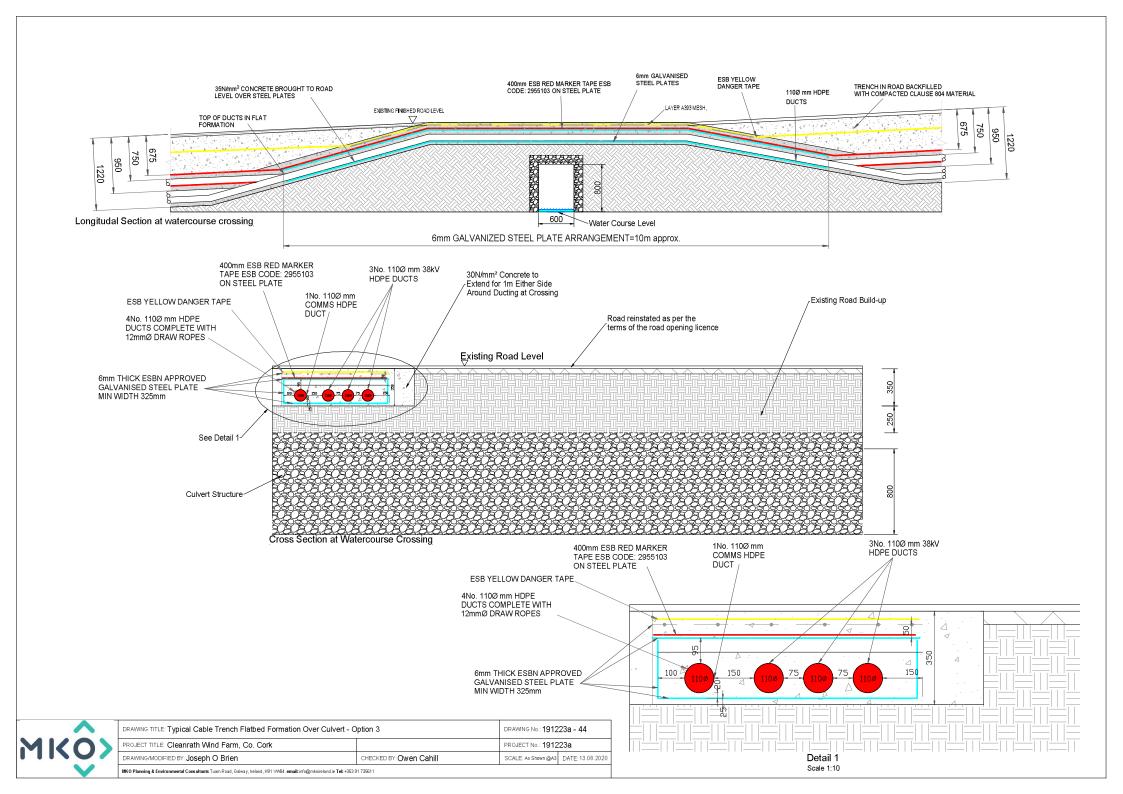
 DRAWING TITLE. Typical Cable Trench under Piped Culvert in Trefoil Arrangement - Option 2
 DRAWING No: 191223a - 43

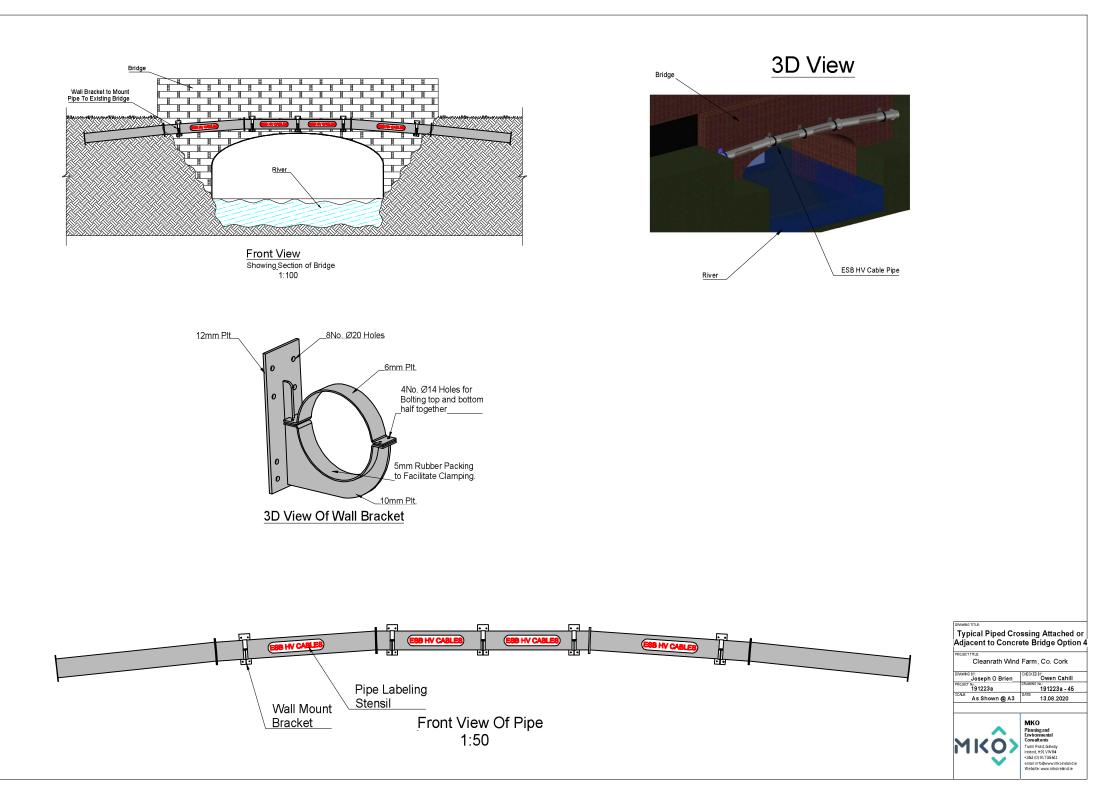
 PROJECT TITLE Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork
 PROJECT No: 191223a

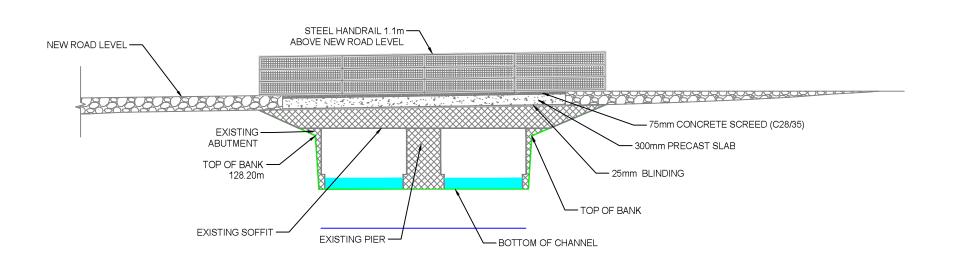
 DRAWING/MODIFIED BY. Joseph O Brien
 CHECKED BY. Owen Cahill
 SCALE: 1:25@A3
 DATE: 13.08.2020

 MK0 Planning & Evanomental Concurstants TeamRood, Galvey, Indird, H51 VW64, email: Hriggmoinered at Tet +95:317.35611
 SCALE: 1:25@A3
 DATE: 13.08.2020

MK









View of Bridge Facing South



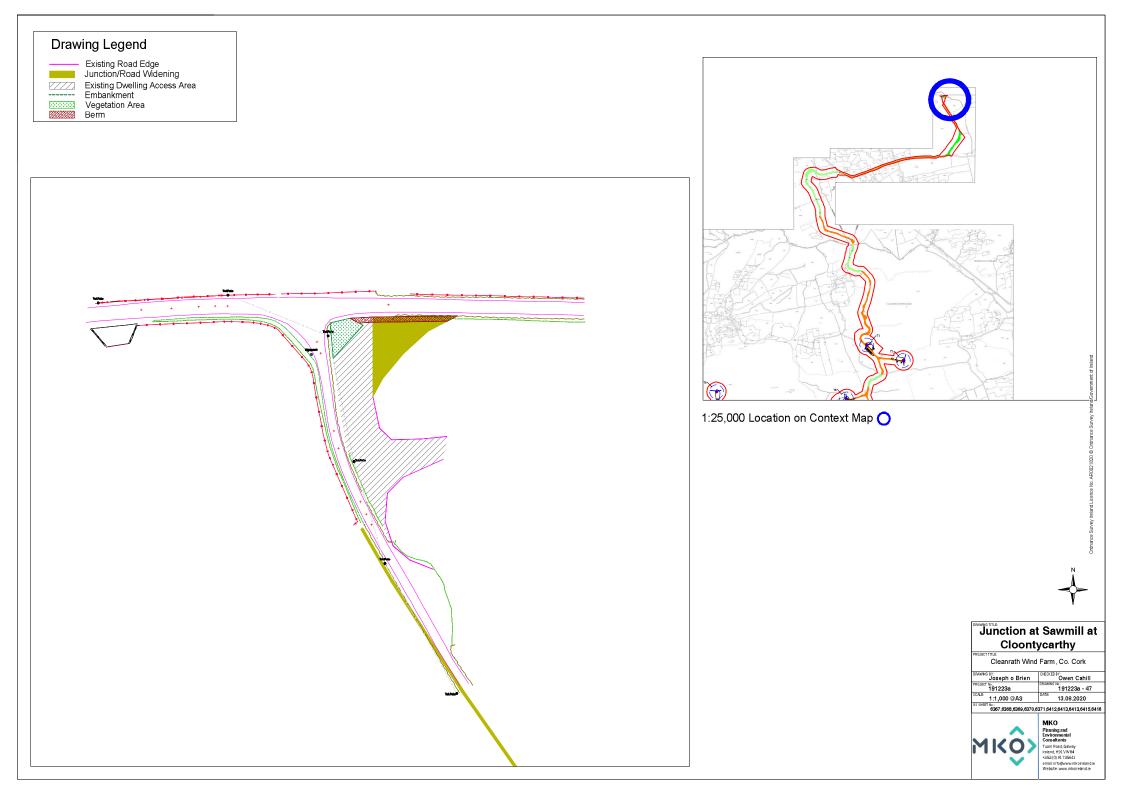
End View of Bridge Upgrade

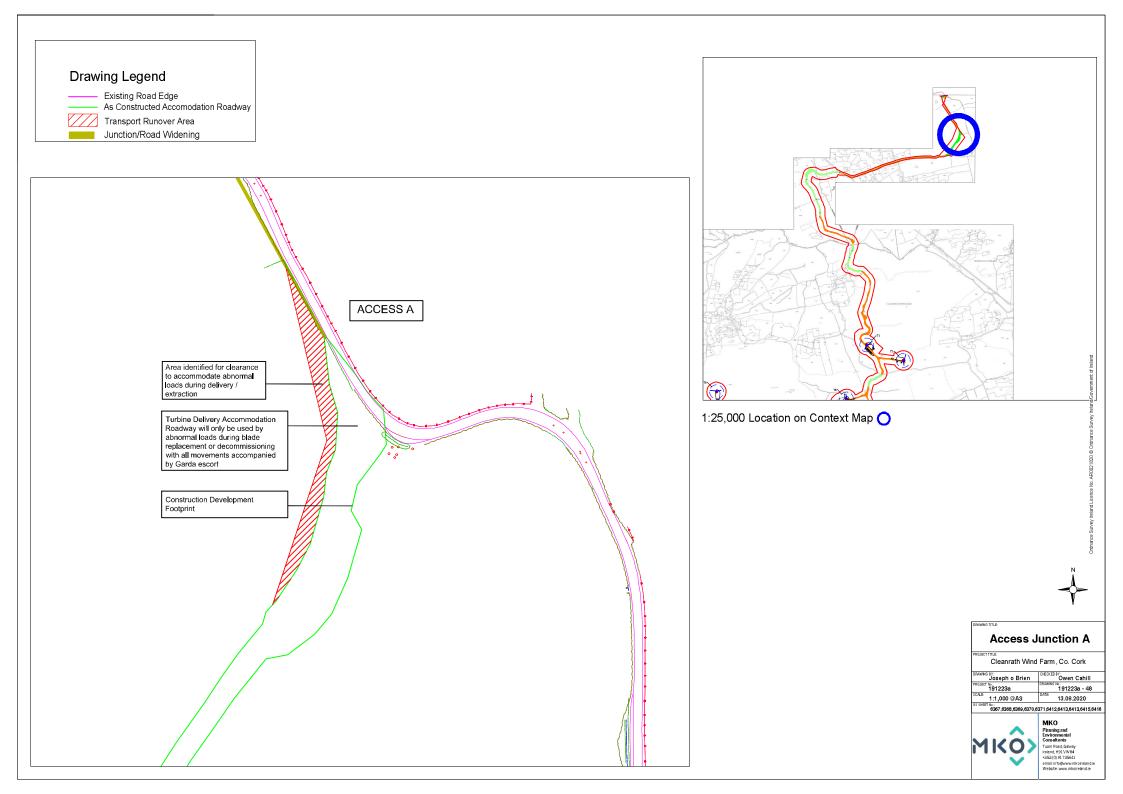
PROJECT TITLE:	ern Access
Cleanrath Win	d Farm, Co. Cork
Joseph O Brien_	CHECKED BY: Owen Cahill
PROJECT No: 191223a	191223a - 46
SCALE 1:75 @ A3	DATE 13.08.2020

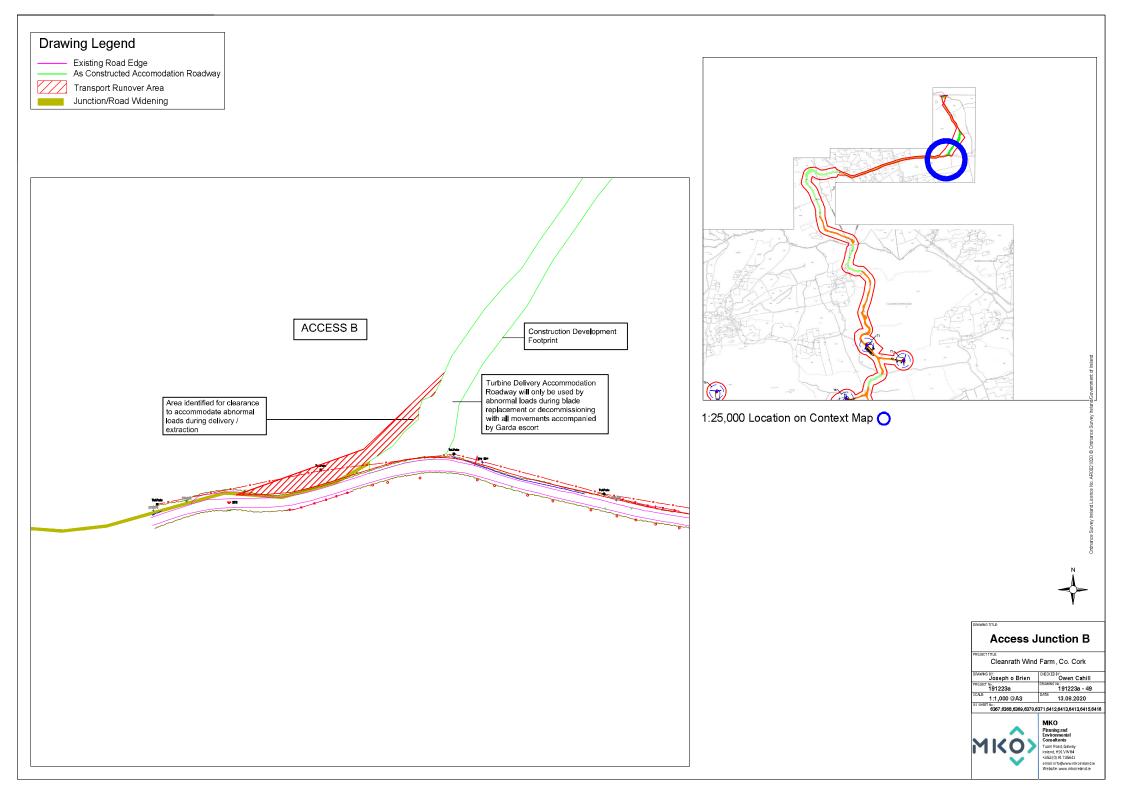
Lowironmental Consultants Tuam Road, Galway Ireland, H91 VW84 +353 (0) 91735611

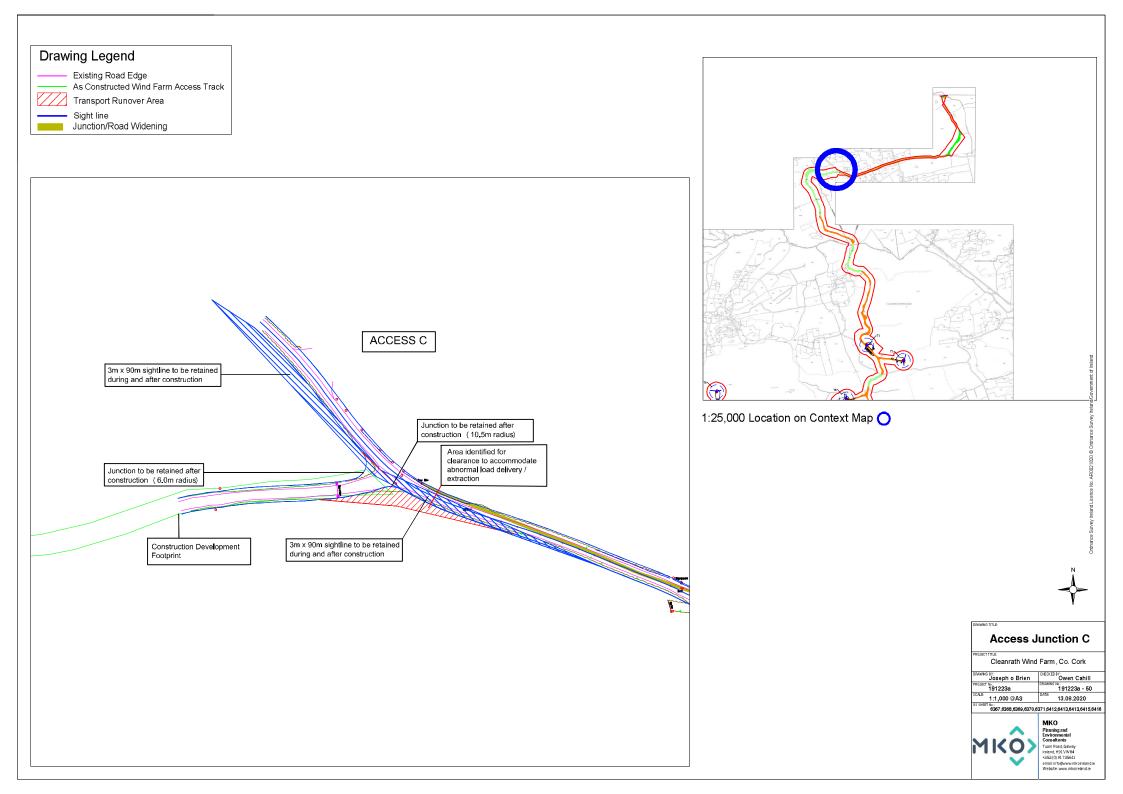
email:info@www.mkoireland.ie Website:www.mkoireland.ie

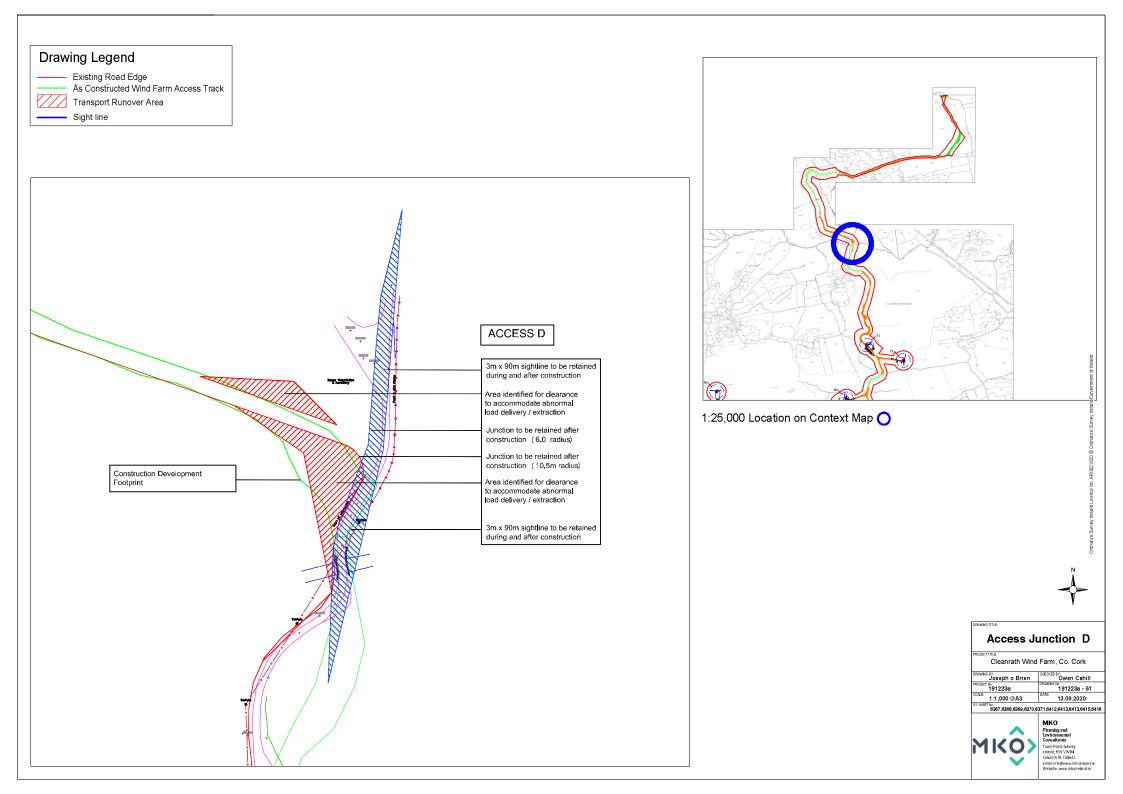
MKO>

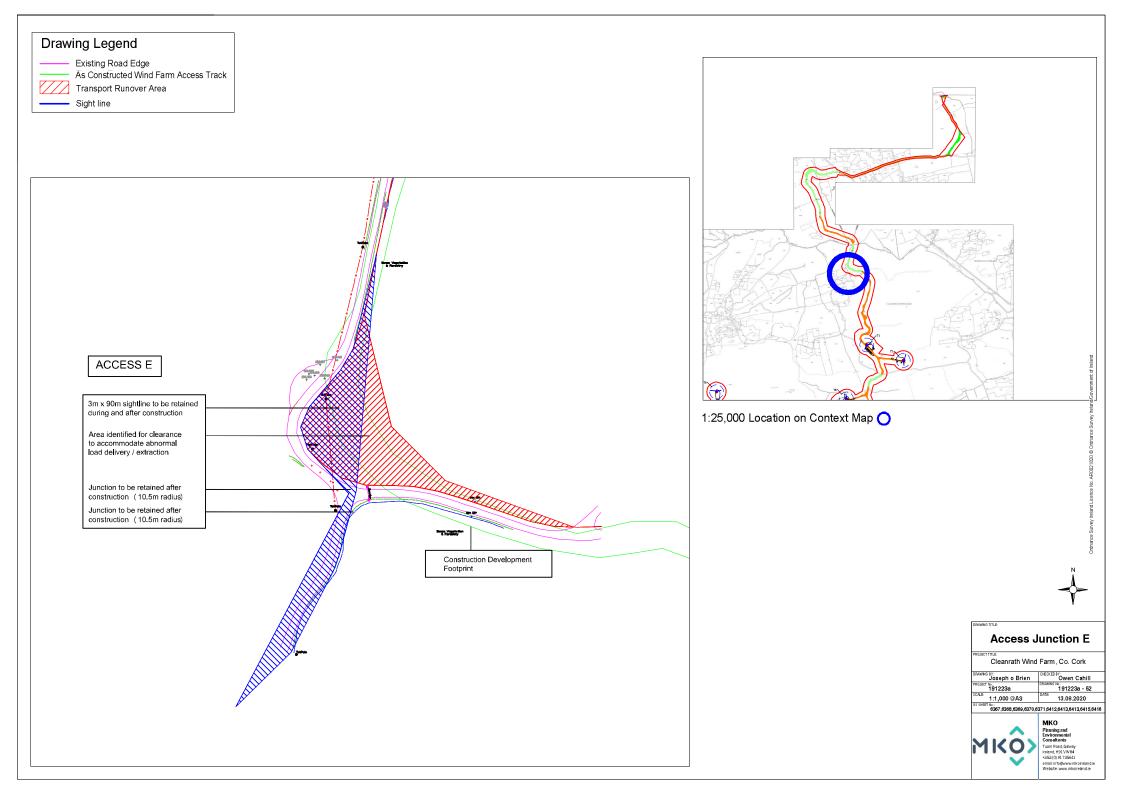


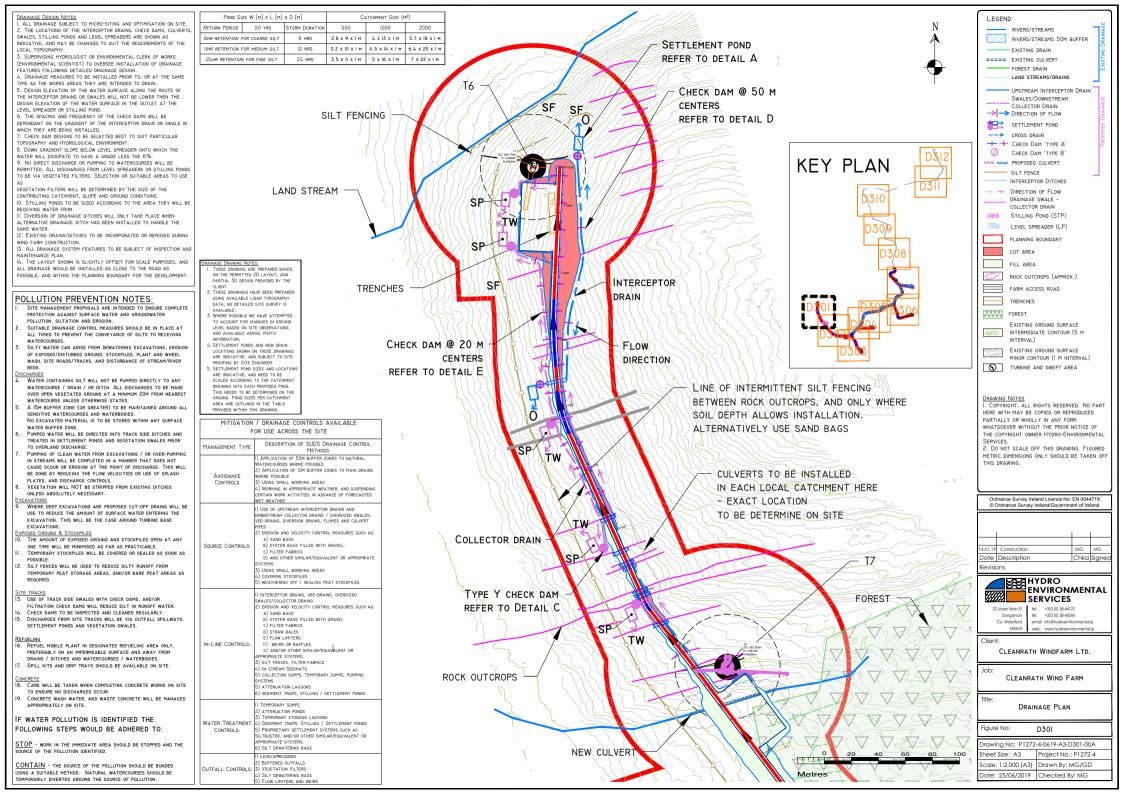


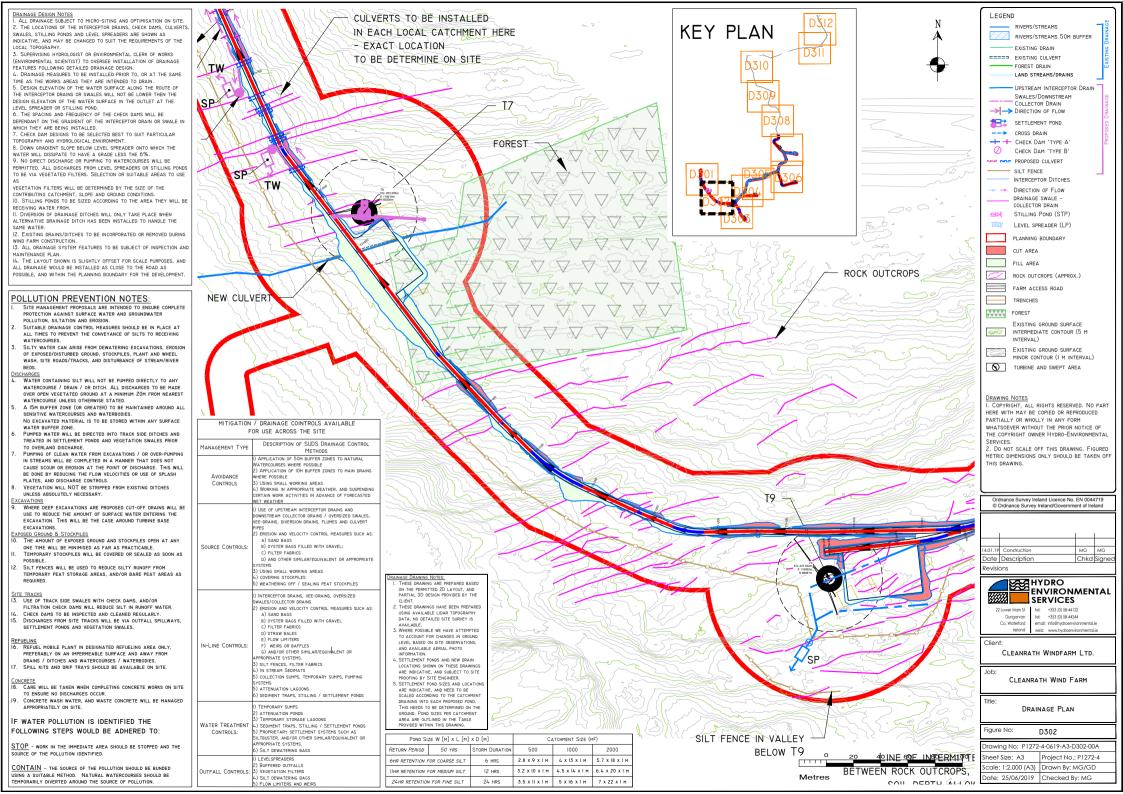


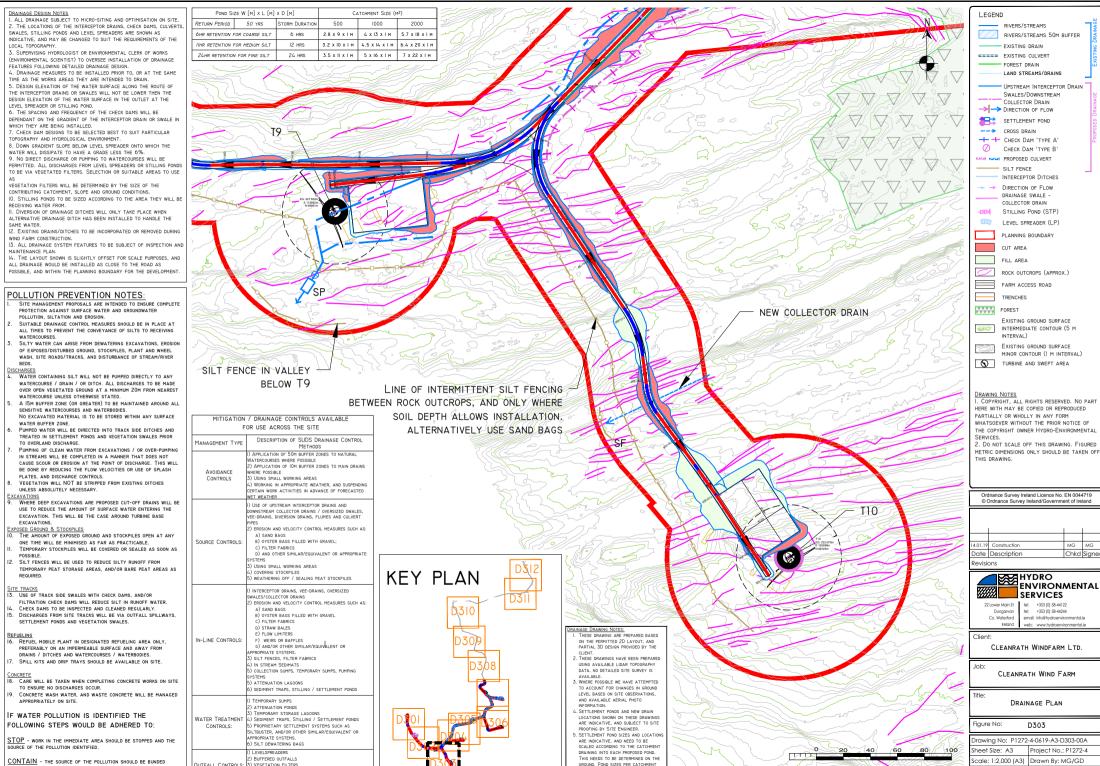












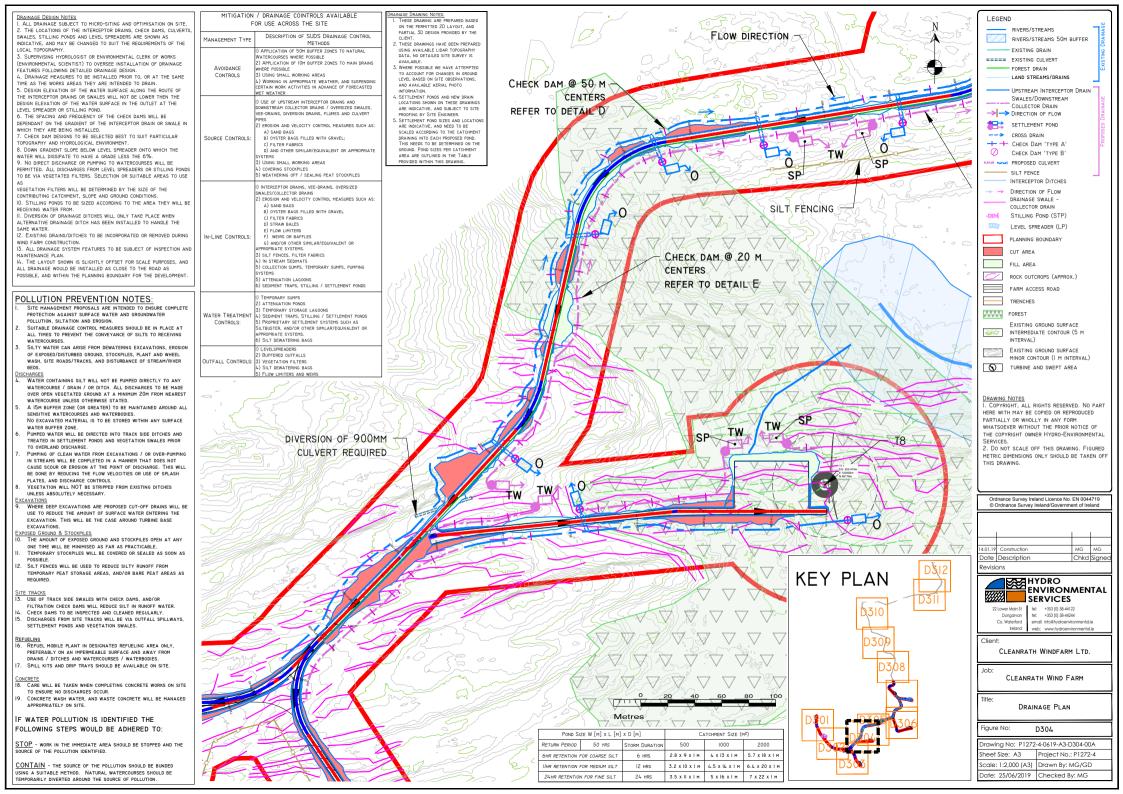
AREA ARE OUTLINED IN THE TABLE

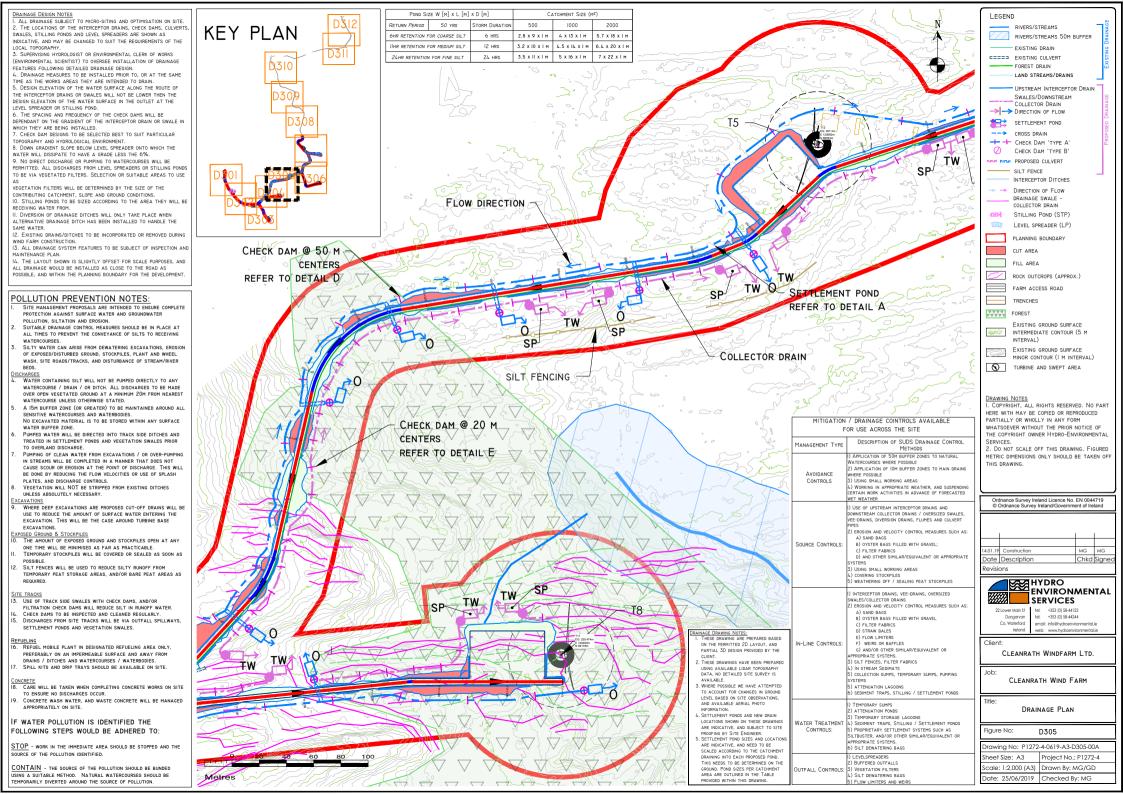
PROVIDED WITHIN THIS DRAWING

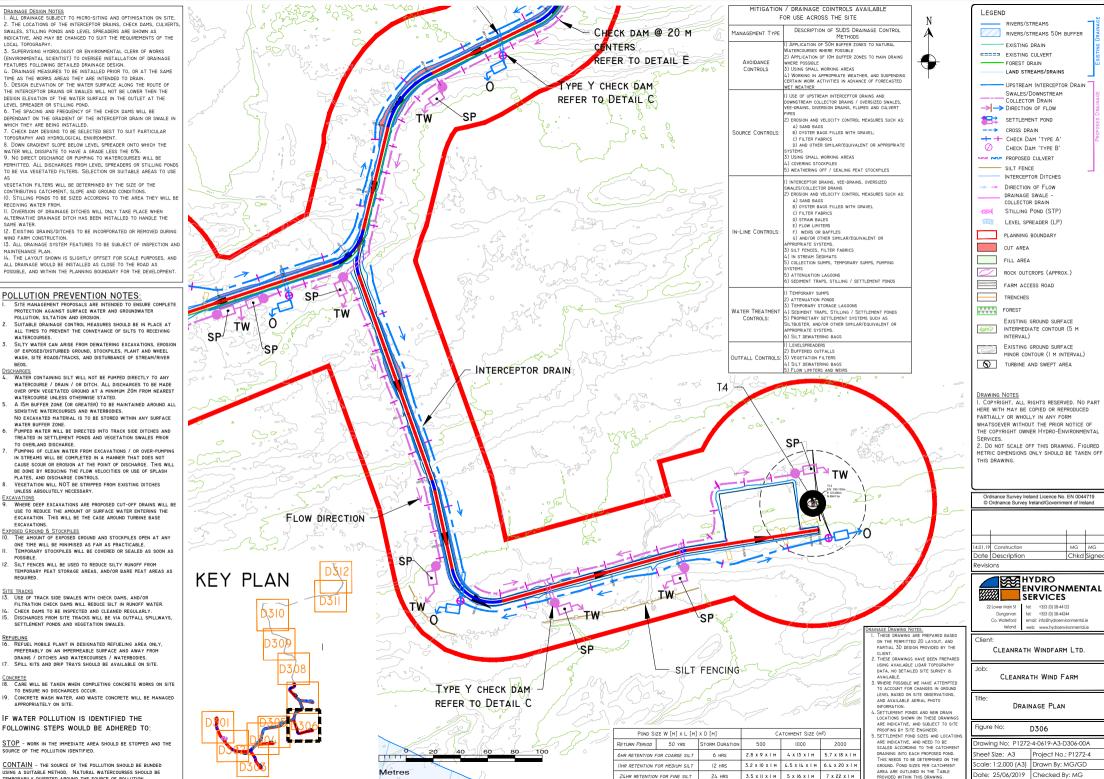
Metres

te: 25/06/2019 Checked By: MG

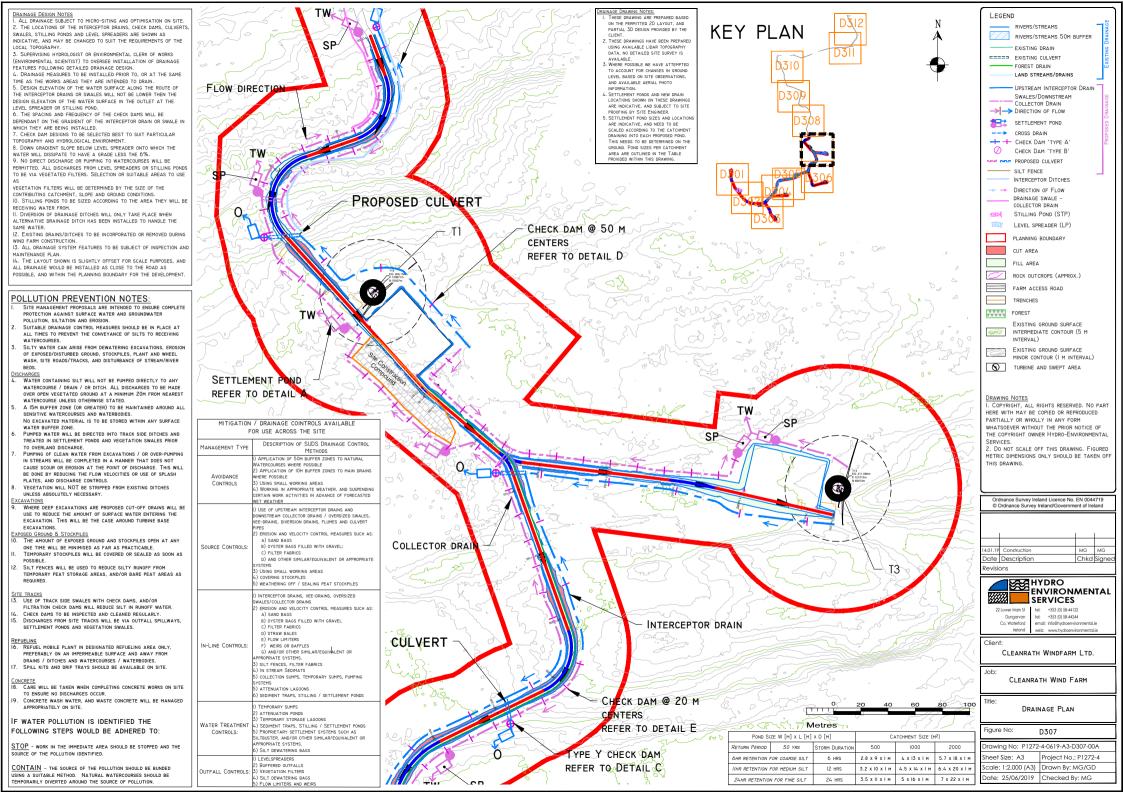
SING A SUITABLE METHOD. NATURAL WATERCOURSES SHOULD BE EMPORARILY DIVERTED AROUND THE SOURCE OF POLLUTION.







USING A SUITABLE METHOD. NATURAL WATERCOURSES SHOULD BE TEMPORARILY DIVERTED AROUND THE SOURCE OF POLLUTION.



DRAINAGE DESIGN NOTES

 ALL DRAIMAGE SUBJECT TO MICRO-SITING AND OPTIMISATION ON SITE.
 THE LOCATIONS OF THE INTERCEPTOR DRAINS, CHECK DAMS, CULVERTS WALES, STILLING PONDS AND LEVEL SPREADERS ARE SHOWN AS INDICATIVE, AND MAY BE CHANGED TO SUIT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE OCAL TOPOGRAPHY

3. SUPERVISING HYDROLOGIST OR ENVIRONMENTAL CLERK OF WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST) TO OVERSEE INSTALLATION OF DRAINAGE FEATURES FOLLOWING DETAILED DRAINAGE DESIGN

. DRAINAGE MEASURES TO BE INSTALLED PRIOR TO, OR AT THE SAME TIME AS THE WORKS AREAS THEY ARE INTENDED TO DRAIN.

DESIGN ELEVATION OF THE WATER SURFACE ALONG THE ROUTE OF THE INTERCEPTOR DRAINS OR SWALES WILL NOT BE LOWER THEN THE

DESIGN ELEVATION OF THE WATER SURFACE IN THE OUTLET AT THE LEVEL SPREADER OR STILLING POND.

DEPENDANT ON THE GRADIENT OF THE INTERCEPTOR DRAIN OR SWALE IN WHICH THEY ARE BEING INSTALLED.

TOPOGRAPHY AND HYDROLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT. 3. DOWN GRADIENT SLOPE BELOW LEVEL SPREADER ONTO WHICH THE

WATER WILL DISSIPATE TO HAVE A GRADE LESS THE 6%. 9. NO DIRECT DISCHARGE OR PUMPING TO WATERCOURSES WILL BE

PERMITTED. ALL DISCHARGES FROM LEVEL SPREADERS OR STILLING PONDS TO BE VIA VEGETATED FILTERS. SELECTION OR SUITABLE AREAS TO USE

VEGETATION FILTERS WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE SIZE OF THE CONTRIBUTING CATCHMENT, SLOPE AND GROUND CONDITIONS. 10. STILLING PONDS TO BE SIZED ACCORDING TO THE AREA THEY WILL BE

RECEIVING WATER FROM . DIVERSION OF DRAINAGE DITCHES WILL ONLY TAKE PLACE WHEN ALTERNATIVE DRAINAGE DITCH HAS BEEN INSTALLED TO HANDLE THE

SAME WATER 2. EXISTING DRAINS/DITCHES TO BE INCORPORATED OR REMOVED DURING WIND FARM CONSTRUCTION.

13. ALL DRAINAGE SYSTEM FEATURES TO BE SUBJECT OF INSPECTION AND AINTENANCE PLAN.

A THE LAYOUT SHOWN IS SLIGHTLY DEESET FOR SCALE PURPOSES AND ALL DRAINAGE WOULD BE INSTALLED AS CLOSE TO THE ROAD AS

DRAINAGE DRAWING NOTES: 1. THESE DRAWING ARE PREPARED BASED

ON THE PERMITTED 2D LAYOUT AND

PARTIAL 3D DESIGN PROVIDED BY THE

THESE DRAWINGS HAVE BEEN PREPAREI

LISING AVAILABLE LIDAR TOPOGRAPHY

DATA, NO DETAILED SITE SURVEY IS

WHERE POSSIBLE WE HAVE ATTEMPTED

TO ACCOUNT FOR CHANGES IN GROUND

LEVEL BASED ON SITE OBSERVATIONS. AND AVAILABLE AERIAL PHOTO

INFORMATION.

LOCATIONS SHOWN ON THESE DRAWINGS

ARE INDICATIVE, AND SUBJECT TO SITE PROOFING BY SITE ENGINEER. . SETTLEMENT POND SIZES AND LOCATION:

SCALED ACCORDING TO THE CATCHMENT DRAINING INTO EACH PROPOSED POND. THIS NEEDS TO BE DETERMINED ON THE

GROUND, POND SIZES PER CATCHMENT

MITIGATION / DRAINAGE COINTROLS AVAILABLE

FOR USE ACROSS THE SITE

ATERCOURSES WHERE POSSIBLE

5) USING SMALL WORKING AREAS

WET WEATHER

A) SAND BAGS B) OYSTER BAGS FILLED WITH GRAVEL:

C) FILTER FABRICS

OVERING STOCKPILES

WALES/COLLECTOR DRAINS

A) SAND BAGS

C) FILTER FARRICS D) STRAW BALES

E) FLOW LIMITERS

PROPRIATE SYSTEMS

) IN STREAM SEDIMATS

ATTENUATION LAGOONS

TEMPORARY SUMPS

ATTENUATION PONDS

5) SILT DEWATERING BAGS

BUFFERED OUTFALLS

SILT DEWATERING BAGS

5) FLOW LIMITERS AND WEIRS

) | EVELSPREADERS

OUTFALL CONTROLS: 3) VEGETATION FILTERS

F) WEIRS OR BAFFLES

SILT FENCES, FILTER FABRICS

) USING SMALL WORKING AREAS

DESCRIPTION OF SUDS DRAINAGE CONTROL

METHODS

APPLICATION OF 50M BUFFER ZONES TO NATURAL

() APPLICATION OF IOM BUFFER ZONES TO MAIN DRAINS (HERE POSSIBLE)

4) WORKING IN APPROPRIATE WEATHER, AND SUSPENDING CERTAIN WORK ACTIVITIES IN ADVANCE OF FORECASTED

DOWNSTREAM COLLECTOR DRAINS / OVERSIZED SWALES, VEE-DRAINS, DIVERSION DRAINS, FLUMES AND CULVERT

FROSION AND VELOCITY CONTROL MEASURES SUCH AS:

D) AND OTHER SIMILAR/EQUIVALENT OR APPROPRIATE

EROSION AND VELOCITY CONTROL MEASURES SUCH AS:

WEATHERING OFE / SEALING PEAT STOCKPILES

INTERCEPTOR DRAINS, VEE-DRAINS, OVERSIZED

G) AND/OR OTHER SIMILAR/EQUIVALENT OR

COLLECTION SUMPS, TEMPORARY SUMPS, PUMPING

SEDIMENT TRAPS. STILLING / SETTLEMENT PONDS

TEMPORARY STORAGE LAGOONS SEDIMENT TRAPS, STILLING / SETTLEMENT PONDS

) PROPRIETARY SETTIEMENT SYSTEMS SUCH AS LTBUSTER, AND/OR OTHER SIMILAR/EQUIVALENT OR PROPRIATE SYSTEMS.

B) OYSTER BAGS FILLED WITH GRAVEL

) LISE OF UPSTREAM INTERCEPTOR DRAINS AND

AREA ARE OUT INED IN THE TARLE

PROVIDED WITHIN THIS DRAWIN

MANAGEMENT TYPE

AVOIDANCE

CONTROLS

SOURCE CONTROLS

IN-LINE CONTROLS

WATER TREATMENT

CONTROL ST

ARE INDICATIVE, AND NEED TO BE

AVAILABLE

POSSIBLE, AND WITHIN THE PLANNING BOUNDARY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT

POLLUTION PREVENTION NOTES:

SITE MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS ARE INTENDED TO ENSURE COMPLETE PROTECTION AGAINST SUPFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER

- POLLUTION, SILTATION AND EROSION. SUITABLE DRAINAGE CONTROL MEASURES SHOULD BE IN DLACE AT ALL TIMES TO PREVENT THE CONVEYANCE OF SILTS TO RECEIVING WATERCOURSES.
- SILTY WATER CAN ARISE FROM DEWATERING EXCAVATIONS, EROSION OF EXPOSED/DISTURBED GROUND, STOCKPILES, PLANT AND WHEEL WASH, SITE ROADS/TRACKS, AND DISTURBANCE OF STREAM/RIVER

REDS ISCHARGES

- WATER CONTAINING SUIT WILL NOT BE PUMPED DIRECTLY TO ANY WATERCOURSE / DRAIN / OR DITCH. ALL DISCHARGES TO BE MADE OVER OPEN VEGETATED GROUND AT A MINIMUM 20M FROM NEAREST WATERCOURSE UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.
- A 15M BUFFER ZONE (OR GREATER) TO BE MAINTAINED AROUND ALL SENSITIVE WATERCOURSES AND WATERBODIES. NO EXCAVATED MATERIAL IS TO BE STORED WITHIN ANY SURFACE
- WATER BUFFER ZONE. PUMPED WATER WILL BE DIRECTED INTO TRACK SIDE DITCHES AND TREATED IN SETTIEMENT PONDS AND VEGETATION SWALES PRIOR
- TO OVERLAND DISCHARGE. PUMPING OF CLEAN WATER FROM EXCAVATIONS / OR OVER-PUMPING IN STREAMS WILL BE COMPLETED IN A MANNER THAT DOES NOT CAUSE SCOUR OR EROSION AT THE POINT OF DISCHARGE. THIS WILL
- BE DONE BY REDUCING THE FLOW VELOCITIES OR USE OF SPLASH PLATES, AND DISCHARGE CONTROLS. VEGETATION WILL NOT BE STRIPPED FROM EXISTING DITCHES

UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. EXCAVATIONS WHERE DEEP EXCAVATIONS ARE PROPOSED CUT-OFF DRAINS WILL BE

USE TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF SURFACE WATER ENTERING THE EXCAVATION. THIS WILL BE THE CASE AROUND TURBINE BASE EXCAVATIONS

EXPOSED GROUND & STOCKPILES 10. The amount of exposed ground and stockpiles open at any

- ONE TIME WILL BE MINIMISED AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE. TEMPORARY STOCKPILES WILL BE COVERED OR SEALED AS SOON AS
- POSSIBLE 12. SILT FENCES WILL BE USED TO REDUCE SILTY RUNOFF FROM TEMPORARY PEAT STORAGE AREAS, AND/OR BARE PEAT AREAS AS REQUIRED

 $\frac{\text{SITE TRACKS}}{\text{I3.}} \text{ Use of track side swales with check dams, and/or}$

FILTRATION CHECK DAMS WILL REDUCE SILT IN RUNOFF WATER. CHECK DAMS TO BE INSPECTED AND CLEANED REGULARLY.

DISCHARGES FROM SITE TRACKS WILL BE VIA OUTFALL SPILLWAYS. SETTLEMENT PONDS AND VEGETATION SWALES.

REFUELING 16. REFUEL MOBILE PLANT IN DESIGNATED REFUELING AREA ONLY, DEPOMEANIE SURFACE AND AWAY FROM PREFERABLY ON AN IMPERMEABLE SURFACE AND AWAY FROM DRAINS / DITCHES AND WATERCOURSES / WATERBODIES. SPILL KITS AND DRIP TRAYS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE ON SITE

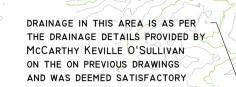
CONCRETE 18. CARE WILL BE TAKEN WHEN COMPLETING CONCRETE WORKS ON SITE TO ENSURE NO DISCHARGES OCCUR. 19. CONCRETE WASH WATER, AND WASTE CONCRETE WILL BE MANAGED

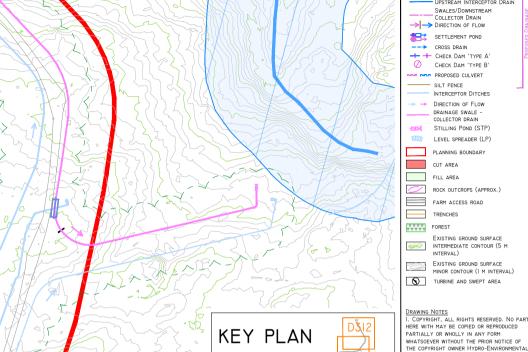
APPROPRIATELY ON SITE. IF WATER POLITION IS IDENTIFIED THE

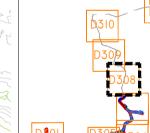
FOLLOWING STEPS WOULD BE ADHERED TO:

STOP - WORK IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA SHOULD BE STOPPED AND THE SOURCE OF THE POLLUTION IDENTIFIED.

CONTAIN - THE SOURCE OF THE POLLUTION SHOULD BE BUNDED ISING A SUITABLE METHOD. NATURAL WATERCOURSES SHOULD BE TEMPORARILY DIVERTED AROUND THE SOURCE OF POLLUTION.







FLOW DIRECTION

6HR RETENTION FOR CO

ILHR RETENTION FOR M

24HR RETENTION FOR

Ω

TW

SP

POND SIZE W RETURN PERIOD

Metres						
[[] X L [M] X D [M] CATCHMENT SIZE (M ²)		Figure No:	D308			
	X D [H]	0,	CATCHMENT SIZE (M4)			
50 YRS	STORM DURATION	500	1000	2000	Drawing No: P1272	-4-0619-A3-D308-00A
OARSE SILT	6 HRS	2.8 x 9 x I M	4 x 13 x 1 M	5.7 x I8 x I M	Sheet Size: A3	Project No.: P1272-4
1EDIUM SILT	12 HRS	3.2 x 10 x 1 M	4.5 x 14 x 1 M	6.4 x 20 x I M	Scale: 1:2,000 (A3)	Drawn By: MG/GD
FINE SILT	24 HRS	3.5 x x M	5 x 16 x 1 M	7 x 22 x I M	Date: 25/06/2019	Checked By: MG

LEGEND

RIVERS/STREAMS

EXISTING DRAIN

FOREST DRAIN

LAND STREAMS/DRAINS

SWALES/DOWNSTREAM

COLLECTOR DRAIN

CHECK DAM 'TYPE B

INTERCEPTOR DITCHES

DIRECTION OF FLOW

DRAINAGE SWALE -

STILLING POND (STP)

LEVEL SPREADER (LP)

PLANNING BOUNDARY

FARM ACCESS ROAD

ROCK OUTCROPS (APPROX.)

EXISTING GROUND SURFACE

EXISTING GROUND SURFACE

2 DO NOT SCALE OFF THIS DRAWING FIGURED

METRIC DIMENSIONS ONLY SHOULD BE TAKEN OFF

Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. EN 0044719 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland

HYDRO

SERVICES

tel: +353 (0) 58-44122

tel: +353 (0) 58-44244

CLEANRATH WINDFARM LTD.

CLEANRATH WIND FARM

DRAINAGE PLAN

email: info@hydroenvironmental.i

MG MG

ENVIRONMENTAL

Chkd Signed

MINOR CONTOUR (I M INTERVAL)

INTERMEDIATE CONTOUR (5 M

CUT AREA

FILL AREA

TRENCHES

INTERVAL)

FOREST

SERVICES.

THIS DRAWING

Date Description

22 Lower Main St

Dungarva

Co. Waterford

Revision

(HH)

Client:

Job:

Title

COLLECTOR DRAIN

SILT FENCE

ETTER EXISTING CULVERT

RIVERS/STREAMS 50M BUFFER

UPSTREAM INTERCEPTOR DRAIN

DRAINAGE DESIGN NOTES I. ALL DRAINAGE SUBJECT TO MICRO-SITING AND OPTIMISATION ON SITE. 2. THE LOCATIONS OF THE INTERCEPTOR DRAINS, CHECK DAMS, CULVERTS, WALES, STILLING PONDS AND LEVEL SPREADERS ARE SHOWN AS INDICATIVE, AND MAY BE CHANGED TO SUIT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE OCAL TOPOGRAPHY

3. SUPERVISING HYDROLOGIST OR ENVIRONMENTAL CLERK OF WORKS ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST) TO OVERSEE INSTALLATION OF DRAINAGE FEATURES FOLLOWING DETAILED DRAINAGE DESIGN.

DRAINAGE MEASURES TO BE INSTALLED PRIOR TO, OR AT THE SAME TIME AS THE WORKS AREAS THEY ARE INTENDED TO DRAIN. 5. DESIGN ELEVATION OF THE WATER SURFACE ALONG THE ROUTE OF

THE INTERCEPTOR DRAINS OR SWALES WILL NOT BE LOWER THEN THE DESIGN ELEVATION OF THE WATER SURFACE IN THE OUTLET AT THE

LEVEL SPREADER OR STILLING POND. DEPENDANT ON THE GRADIENT OF THE INTERCEPTOR DRAIN OR SWALE IN

WHICH THEY ARE BEING INSTALLED. TOPOGRAPHY AND HYDROLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT.

. DOWN GRADIENT SLOPE BELOW LEVEL SPREADER ONTO WHICH THE

NATER WILL DISSIPATE TO HAVE A GRADE LESS THE 6% 9. NO DIRECT DISCHARGE OR PUMPING TO WATERCOURSES WILL BE

PERMITTED. ALL DISCHARGES FROM LEVEL SPREADERS OR STILLING PONDS TO BE VIA VEGETATED FILTERS. SELECTION OR SUITABLE AREAS TO USE

VEGETATION FILTERS WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE SIZE OF THE CONTRIBUTING CATCHMENT, SLOPE AND GROUND CONDITIONS 0. STILLING PONDS TO BE SIZED ACCORDING TO THE AREA THEY WILL BE RECEIVING WATER FROM

. DIVERSION OF DRAINAGE DITCHES WILL ONLY TAKE PLACE WHEN ALTERNATIVE DRAINAGE DITCH HAS BEEN INSTALLED TO HANDLE THE SAME WATER

2. EXISTING DRAINS/DITCHES TO BE INCORPORATED OR REMOVED DURING WIND FARM CONSTRUCTION.

13. ALL DRAINAGE SYSTEM FEATURES TO BE SUBJECT OF INSPECTION AND AINTENANCE PLAN. 4. THE LAYOUT SHOWN IS SLIGHTLY OFFSET FOR SCALE PURPOSES, AND

ALL DRAINAGE WOULD BE INSTALLED AS CLOSE TO THE ROAD AS POSSIBLE, AND WITHIN THE PLANNING BOUNDARY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT

POLLUTION PREVENTION NOTES:

SITE MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS ARE INTENDED TO ENSURE COMPLETE PROTECTION AGAINST SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER

- POLLUTION, SILTATION AND EROSION SUITABLE DRAINAGE CONTROL MEASURES SHOULD BE IN PLACE AT ALL TIMES TO PREVENT THE CONVEYANCE OF SILTS TO RECEIVING WATERCOURSES.
- SILTY WATER CAN ARISE FROM DEWATERING EXCAVATIONS, EROSION OF EXPOSED/DISTURBED GROUND, STOCKPILES, PLANT AND WHEEL WASH, SITE ROADS/TRACKS, AND DISTURBANCE OF STREAM/RIVER

SCHARGES

- WATER CONTAINING SILT WILL NOT BE PUMPED DIRECTLY TO ANY WATERCOURSE / DRAIN / OR DITCH. ALL DISCHARGES TO BE MADE OVER OPEN VEGETATED GROUND AT A MINIMUM 20M FROM NEAREST WATERCOURSE UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.
- A 15M BUFFER ZONE (OR GREATER) TO BE MAINTAINED AROUND ALL SENSITIVE WATERCOURSES AND WATERBODIES. NO EXCAVATED MATERIAL IS TO BE STORED WITHIN ANY SURFACE
- WATER BUFFER ZONE PUMPED WATER WILL BE DIRECTED INTO TRACK SIDE DITCHES AND TREATED IN SETTLEMENT PONDS AND VEGETATION SWALES PRIOR TO OVERLAND DISCHARGE.
- PUMPING OF CLEAN WATER FROM EXCAVATIONS / OR OVER-PUMPING IN STREAMS WILL BE COMPLETED IN A MANNER THAT DOES NOT CAUSE SCOUR OR EROSION AT THE POINT OF DISCHARGE. THIS WILL
- BE DONE BY REDUCING THE FLOW VELOCITIES OR USE OF SPLASH PLATES, AND DISCHARGE CONTROLS. VEGETATION WILL NOT BE STRIPPED FROM EXISTING DITCHES UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.

EXCAVATIONS

WHERE DEEP EXCAVATIONS ARE PROPOSED CUT-OFF DRAINS WILL BE USE TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF SURFACE WATER ENTERING THE EXCAVATION. THIS WILL BE THE CASE AROUND TURBINE BASE EXCAVATIONS.

EXPOSED GROUND & STOCKPILES 0. THE AMOUNT OF EXPOSED GROUND AND STOCKPILES OPEN AT ANY

- ONE TIME WILL BE MINIMISED AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE TEMPORARY STOCKPILES WILL BE COVERED OR SEALED AS SOON AS
- POSSIBLE 12. SILT FENCES WILL BE USED TO REDUCE SILTY RUNOFE FROM TEMPORARY PEAT STORAGE AREAS, AND/OR BARE PEAT AREAS AS REQUIRED

 $\frac{\text{Site tracks}}{\text{I3.}}$ Use of track side swales with check dams, and/or

FILTRATION CHECK DAMS WILL REDUCE SILT IN RUNOFF WATER. CHECK DAMS TO BE INSPECTED AND CLEANED REGULARLY. DISCHARGES FROM SITE TRACKS WILL BE VIA OUTFALL SPILLWAYS,

- SETTLEMENT PONDS AND VEGETATION SWALES.
- REFUELING 16. REFUEL MOBILE PLANT IN DESIGNATED REFUELING AREA ONLY. PREFERABLY ON AN IMPERMEABLE SURFACE AND AWAY FROM DRAINS / DITCHES AND WATERCOURSES / WATERBODIES.

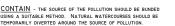
SPILL KITS AND DRIP TRAYS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE ON SITE CONCRETE

 CARE WILL BE TAKEN WHEN COMPLETING CONCRETE WORKS ON SITE TO ENSURE NO DISCHARGES OCCUR. CONCRETE WASH WATER, AND WASTE CONCRETE WILL BE MANAGED APPROPRIATELY ON SITE.

IF WATER POLLUTION IS IDENTIFIED THE

FOLLOWING STEPS WOULD BE ADHERED TO:

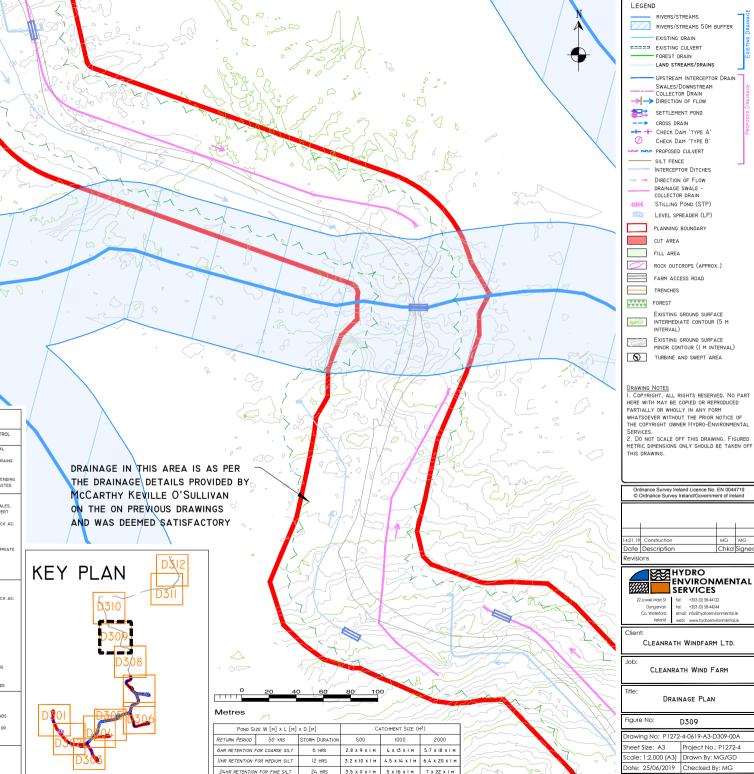
STOP - WORK IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA SHOULD BE STOPPED AND THE SOURCE OF THE POLLUTION IDENTIFIED.



DRAINAGE DRAWING NO THESE DRAWING ARE PREPARED BASED ON THE PERMITTED 2D LAYOUT AND PARTIAL 3D DESIGN PROVIDED BY THE THESE DRAWINGS HAVE BEEN PREPARED USING AVAILABLE LIDAR TOPOGRAPHY DATA, NO DETAILED SITE SURVEY IS AVAILABLE. WHERE POSSIBLE WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO ACCOUNT FOR CHANGES IN GROUND LEVEL BASED ON SITE OBSERVATIONS, AND AVAILABLE AERIAL PHOTO INFORMATION. . SETTLEMENT PONDS AND NEW DRAIN LOCATIONS SHOWN ON THESE DRAWINGS ARE INDICATIVE, AND SUBJECT TO SITE PROOFING BY SITE ENGINEER. SETTLEMENT POND SIZES AND LOCATIONS ARE INDICATIVE, AND NEED TO BE SCALED ACCORDING TO THE CATCHMENT DRAINING INTO EACH PROPOSED POND. THIS NEEDS TO BE DETERMINED ON THE GROUND, POND SIZES PER CATCHMENT AREA ARE OUTLINED IN THE TABLE PROVIDED WITHIN THIS DRAW MITIGATION / DRAINAGE COINTROLS AVAILABLE FOR USE ACROSS THE SITE DESCRIPTION OF SUDS DRAINAGE CONTROL MANAGEMENT TYPE METHODS APPLICATION OF 50M BUFFER ZONES TO NATURAL TERCOURSES WHERE POSSIBLE () APPLICATION OF IOM BUFFER ZONES TO MAIN DRAINS (HERE POSSIBLE) AVOIDANCE CONTROLS 5) USING SMALL WORKING AREAS 4) WORKING IN APPROPRIATE WEATHER, AND SUSPENDING CERTAIN WORK ACTIVITIES IN ADVANCE OF FORECASTED WET WEATHER Use of upstream interceptor drains and downstream collector drains / oversized swales, vee-drains, diversion drains, flumes and culvert EROSION AND VELOCITY CONTROL MEASURES SUCH AS: A) SAND BAGS SOURCE CONTROLS B) OYSTER BAGS FILLED WITH GRAVEL: C) FILTER FABRICS D) AND OTHER SIMILAR/EQUIVALENT OR APPROPRIATE) USING SMALL WORKING AREAS) COVERING STOCKPILES WEATHERING OFF / SEALING PEAT STOCKPILES INTERCEPTOR DRAINS, VEE-DRAINS, OVERSIZED WALES/COLLECTOR DRAINS EROSION AND VELOCITY CONTROL MEASURES SUCH AS: A) SAND BAGS B) OYSTER BAGS FILLED WITH GRAVEL C) FILTER FABRIC D) STRAW BALES E) FLOW LIMITERS F) WEIRS OR BAFFLES
 G) AND/OR OTHER SIMILAR/EQUIVALENT OR N-LINE CONTROLS ROPRIATE SYSTEMS SILT FENCES, FILTER FABRICS) IN STREAM SEDIMATS COLLECTION SUMPS, TEMPORARY SUMPS, PUMPING) ATTENUATION LAGOONS SEDIMENT TRAPS. STILLING / SETTLEMENT PONDS TEMPORARY SUMPS ATTENUATION PONDS TEMPORARY STORAGE LAGOONS SEDIMENT TRAPS, STILLING / SETTLEMENT PONDS WATER TREATMEN CONTROLS: 5) PROPRIETARY SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS SUCH AS SILTBUSTER, AND/OR OTHER SIMILAR/EQUIVALENT OR APPROPRIATE SYSTEMS. 5) SILT DEWATERING BAGS) | EVELSPREADERS BUFFERED OUTFALLS OUTFALL CONTROLS: 3) VEGETATION FILTERS

SILT DEWATERING BAGS

5) FLOW LIMITERS AND WEIRS



DRAINAGE DESIGN NOTES 1. ALL DRAINAGE SUBJECT TO MICRO-SITING AND OPTIMISATION ON SITE. 2. THE LOCATIONS OF THE INTERCEPTOR DRAINS, CHECK DAMS, CULVERTS, SWALES, STILLING PONDS AND LEVEL SPREADERS ARE SHOWN AS INDICATIVE, AND MAY BE CHANGED TO SUIT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE OCAL TOPOGRAPHY

3. SUPERVISING HYDROLOGIST OR ENVIRONMENTAL CLERK OF WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST) TO OVERSEE INSTALLATION OF DRAINAGE FEATURES FOLLOWING DETAILED DRAINAGE DESIGN

. DRAINAGE MEASURES TO BE INSTALLED PRIOR TO, OR AT THE SAME

TIME AS THE WORKS AREAS THEY ARE INTENDED TO DRAIN. 5. DESIGN ELEVATION OF THE WATER SURFACE ALONG THE ROUTE OF THE INTERCEPTOR DRAINS OR SWALES WILL NOT BE LOWER THEN THE DESIGN ELEVATION OF THE WATER SURFACE IN THE OUTLET AT THE

LEVEL SPREADER OR STILLING POND. DEPENDANT ON THE GRADIENT OF THE INTERCEPTOR DRAIN OR SWALE IN

WHICH THEY ARE BEING INSTALLED. TOPOGRAPHY AND HYDROLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT.

3. DOWN GRADIENT SLOPE BELOW LEVEL SPREADER ONTO WHICH THE WATER WILL DISSIPATE TO HAVE A GRADE LESS THE 6%

9. NO DIRECT DISCHARGE OR PUMPING TO WATERCOURSES WILL BE PERMITTED. ALL DISCHARGES FROM LEVEL SPREADERS OR STILLING POND TO BE VIA VEGETATED FILTERS. SELECTION OR SUITABLE AREAS TO USE

VEGETATION FILTERS WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE SIZE OF THE CONTRIBUTING CATCHMENT, SLOPE AND GROUND CONDITIONS 10. STILLING PONDS TO BE SIZED ACCORDING TO THE AREA THEY WILL B

RECEIVING WATER FROM . DIVERSION OF DRAINAGE DITCHES WILL ONLY TAKE PLACE WHEN ALTERNATIVE DRAINAGE DITCH HAS BEEN INSTALLED TO HANDLE THE SAME WATER

12. EXISTING DRAINS/DITCHES TO BE INCORPORATED OR REMOVED DURIN WIND FARM CONSTRUCTION.

13. ALL DRAINAGE SYSTEM FEATURES TO BE SUBJECT OF INSPECTION A MAINTENANCE PLAN. 1. THE LAYOUT SHOWN IS SLIGHTLY DEESET FOR SCALE PURPOSES AN

ALL DRAINAGE WOULD BE INSTALLED AS CLOSE TO THE ROAD AS POSSIBLE, AND WITHIN THE PLANNING BOUNDARY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT

POLLUTION PREVENTION NOTES:

SITE MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS ARE INTENDED TO ENSURE COMPLETE PROTECTION AGAINST SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER POLLUTION, SILTATION AND EROSION.

- SUITABLE DRAINAGE CONTROL MEASURES SHOULD BE IN PLACE AT ALL TIMES TO PREVENT THE CONVEYANCE OF SILTS TO RECEIVING WATERCOURSES.
- SILTY WATER CAN ARISE FROM DEWATERING EXCAVATIONS, EROSIO OF EXPOSED/DISTURBED GROUND, STOCKPILES, PLANT AND WHEEL WASH, SITE ROADS/TRACKS, AND DISTURBANCE OF STREAM/RIVER BEDS

DISCHARGES

- WATER CONTAINING SILT WILL NOT BE PUMPED DIRECTLY TO ANY WATERCOURSE / DRAIN / OR DITCH. ALL DISCHARGES TO BE MADE OVER OPEN VEGETATED GROUND AT A MINIMUM 20M FROM NEAREST WATERCOURSE UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.
- A 15M BUFFER ZONE (OR GREATER) TO BE MAINTAINED AROUND ALL SENSITIVE WATERCOURSES AND WATERBODIES. NO EXCAVATED MATERIAL IS TO BE STORED WITHIN ANY SURFACE
- WATER BUFFER ZONE PUMPED WATER WILL BE DIRECTED INTO TRACK SIDE DITCHES AND TREATED IN SETTIEMENT PONDS AND VEGETATION SWALES PRIOR
- TO OVERLAND DISCHARGE. PUMPING OF CLEAN WATER FROM EXCAVATIONS / OR OVER-PUMPING IN STREAMS WILL BE COMPLETED IN A MANNER THAT DOES NOT CAUSE SCOUR OR EROSION AT THE POINT OF DISCHARGE. THIS WILL
- BE DONE BY REDUCING THE FLOW VELOCITIES OR USE OF SPLASH PLATES, AND DISCHARGE CONTROLS. VEGETATION WILL NOT BE STRIPPED FROM EXISTING DITCHES
- UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. EXCAVATIONS
- WHERE DEEP EXCAVATIONS ARE PROPOSED CUT-OFF DRAINS WILL BE USE TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF SURFACE WATER ENTERING THE EXCAVATION. THIS WILL BE THE CASE AROUND TURBINE BASE EXCAVATIONS EXPOSED GROUND & STOCKPILES 10. THE AMOUNT OF EXPOSED GROUND AND STOCKPILES OPEN AT ANY

- ONE TIME WILL BE MINIMISED AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE TEMPORARY STOCKPILES WILL BE COVERED OR SEALED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
- 12. SILT FENCES WILL BE USED TO REDUCE SILTY RUNOFF FROM TEMPORARY PEAT STORAGE AREAS, AND/OR BARE PEAT AREAS AS REQUIRED

SITE TRACKS 13. USE OF TRACK SIDE SWALES WITH CHECK DAMS, AND/OR

FILTRATION CHECK DAMS WILL REDUCE SILT IN RUNOFF WATER. CHECK DAMS TO BE INSPECTED AND CLEANED REGULARLY. DISCHARGES FROM SITE TRACKS WILL BE VIA OUTFALL SPILLWAYS,

SETTLEMENT PONDS AND VEGETATION SWALES.

REFUELING 16. REFUEL MOBILE PLANT IN DESIGNATED REFUELING AREA ONLY. PREFERABLY ON AN IMPERMEABLE SURFACE AND AWAY FROM DRAINS / DITCHES AND WATERCOURSES / WATERBODIES. SPILL KITS AND DRIP TRAYS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE ON SITE

CONCRETE 18. CARE WILL BE TAKEN WHEN COMPLETING CONCRETE WORKS ON SITE

TO ENSURE NO DISCHARGES OCCUR. CONCRETE WASH WATER, AND WASTE CONCRETE WILL BE MANAGED APPROPRIATELY ON SITE.

IF WATER POLLUTION IS IDENTIFIED THE

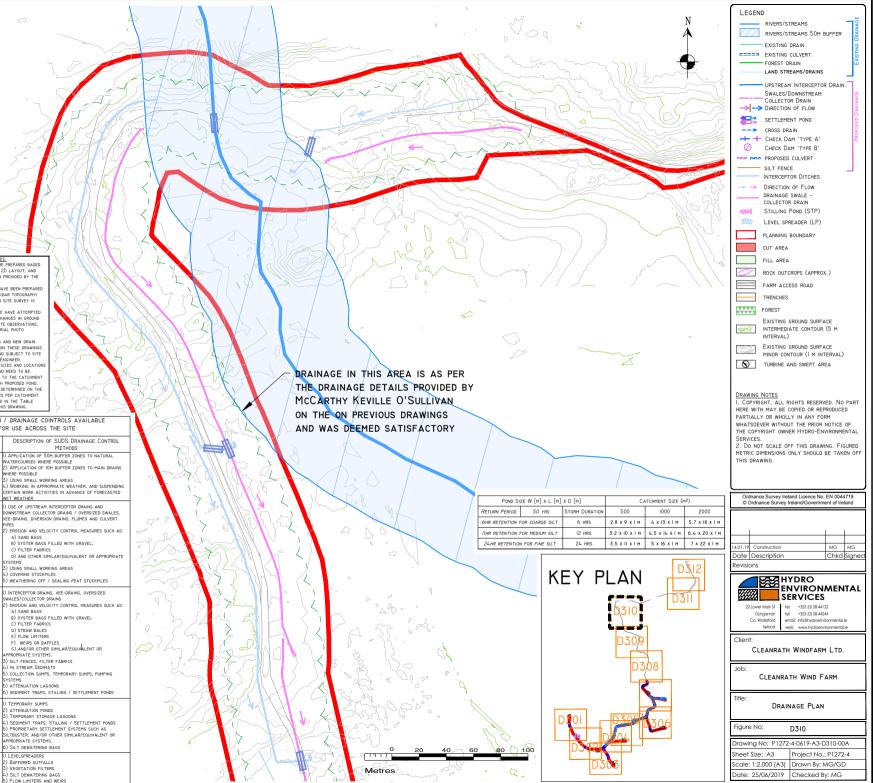
FOLLOWING STEPS WOULD BE ADHERED TO: STOP - WORK IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA SHOULD BE STOPPED AND THE

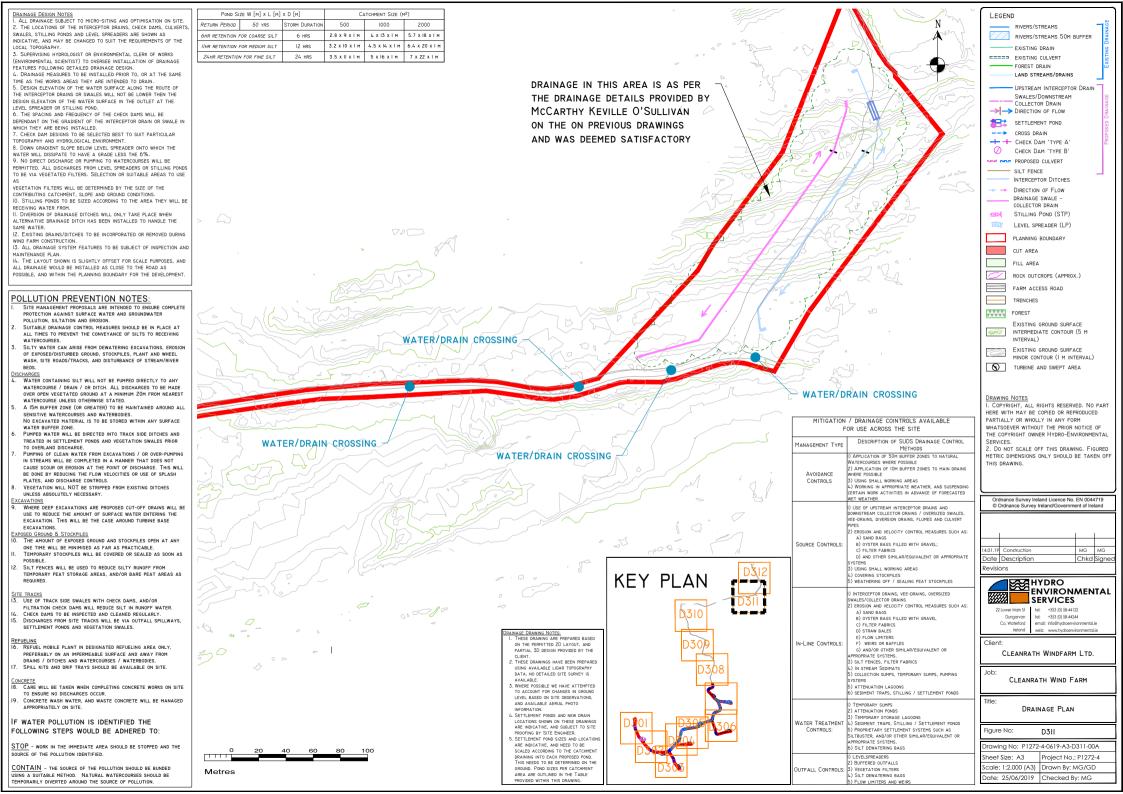
SOURCE OF THE POLLUTION IDENTIFIED. CONTAIN - THE SOURCE OF THE POLLUTION SHOULD BE BUNDED

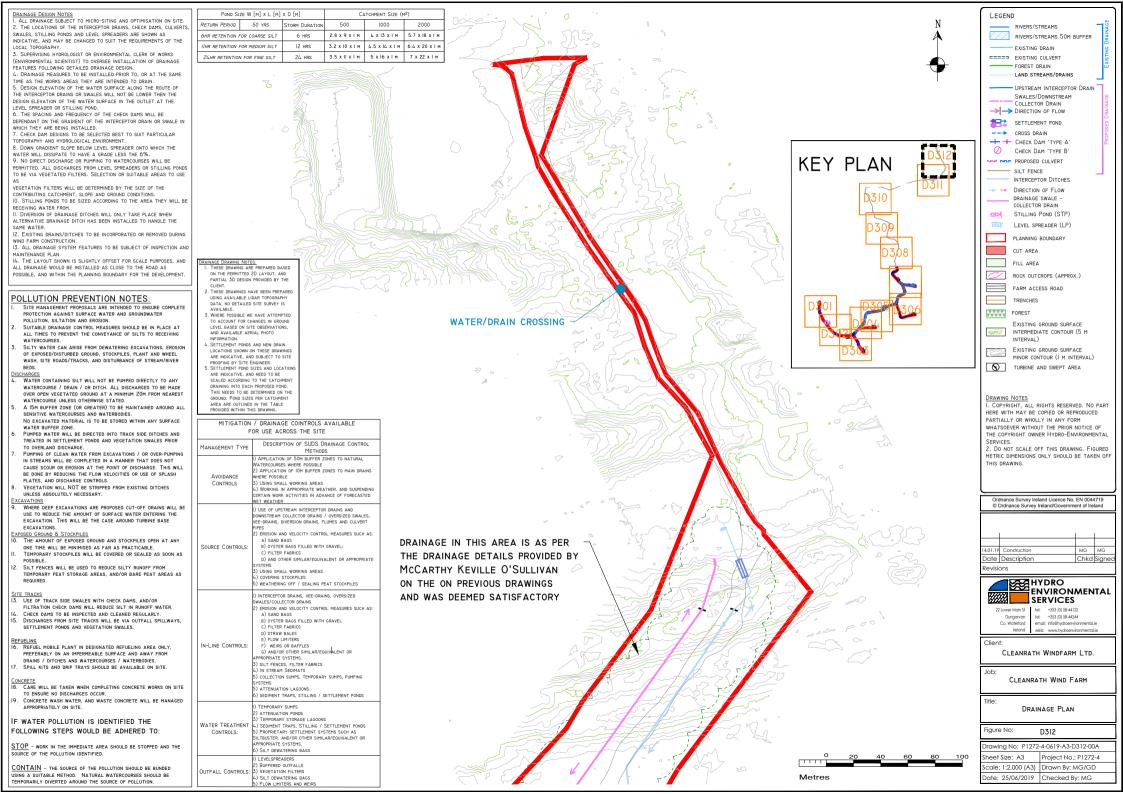
ISING A SUITABLE METHOD. NATURAL WATERCOURSES SHOULD BE TEMPORARILY DIVERTED AROUND THE SOURCE OF POLLUTION.

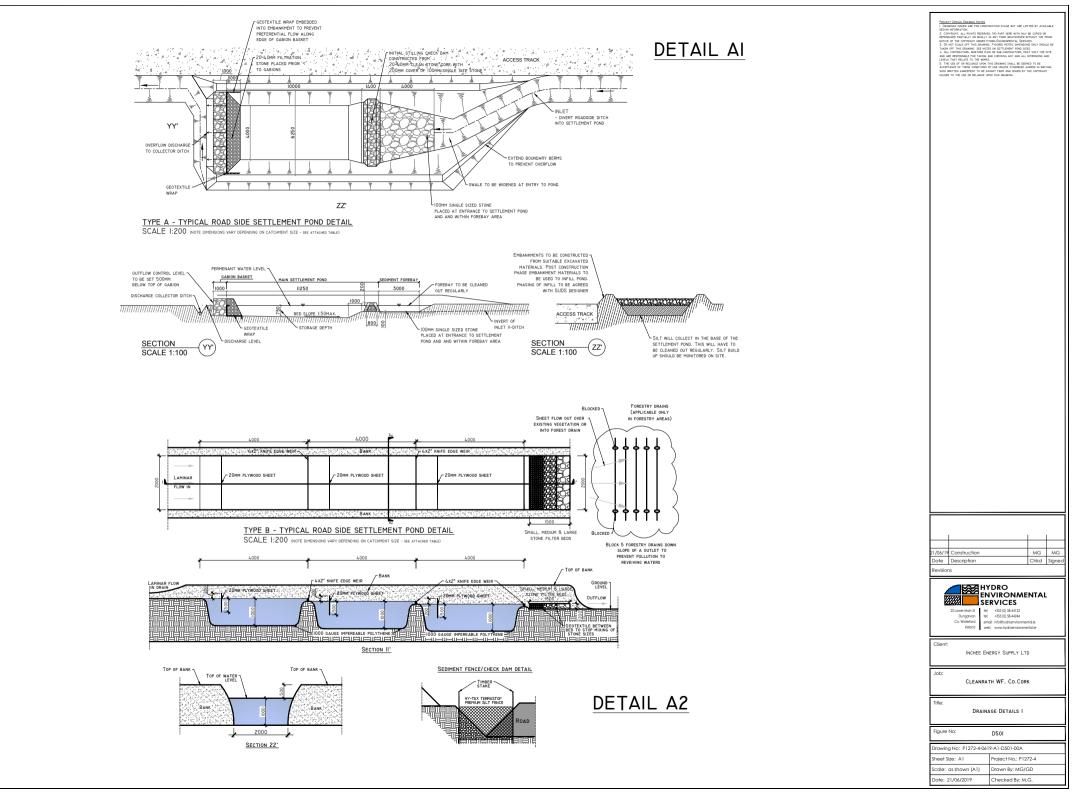
			0
N			
		~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	17
	15	S S S S BO	[]
	× •	- P & SANG	_
DS	• . &	? * ASX (1/21 14)	
E			~
BE		- 5 - 2 1 - 1 1 7 3 3	<
ЪЕ			
	Γ		<
	}		
G			
ND	\square		<
ID	DRAINAGE DRAWING NOTE	<u> </u>)
-	 THESE DRAWING AR 	E PREPARED BASED	5
r.	ON THE PERMITTED PARTIAL 3D DESIGN	PROVIDED BY THE	3
	CLIENT. 2. THESE DRAWINGS H		
	USING AVAILABLE LI	DAR TOPOGRAPHY	Ľ
Е	DATA, NO DETAILED AVAILABLE.		//
	 WHERE POSSIBLE WI TO ACCOUNT FOR CH 	IANGES IN GROUND	\geq
	LEVEL BASED ON SI AND AVAILABLE AEF	TE OBSERVATIONS,	X
	INFORMATION.		
N	4. SETTLEMENT PONDS LOCATIONS SHOWN (IN THESE DRAWINGS	12]
	ARE INDICATIVE, AN PROOFING BY SITE B	D SUBJECT TO SITE	2
	5. SETTLEMENT POND ARE INDICATIVE, AN	SIZES AND LOCATIONS	
	SCALED ACCORDING	TO THE CATCHMENT	5
	DRAINING INTO EACH THIS NEEDS TO BE	H PROPOSED POND. DETERMINED ON THE	5
	GROUND. POND SIZE AREA ARE OUTLINED	S PER CATCHMENT	Ň
L	PROVIDED WITHIN TH		Ì
	MITIGATION	/ DRAINAGE COINTROLS AVAILABLE	1K
		OR USE ACROSS THE SITE	💄
	MANAGEMENT TYPE	DESCRIPTION OF SUDS DRAINAGE CONTROL	
;	ITANAGEMENT TYPE	METHODS	'
		 APPLICATION OF 50M BUFFER ZONES TO NATURAL WATERCOURSES WHERE POSSIBLE 	
-	AVOIDANCE	2) APPLICATION OF IOM BUFFER ZONES TO MAIN DRAINS WHERE POSSIBLE	
	CONTROLS	USING SMALL WORKING AREAS	
		4) WORKING IN APPROPRIATE WEATHER, AND SUSPENDING CERTAIN WORK ACTIVITIES IN ADVANCE OF FORECASTED	
Е		WET WEATHER	1
		 USE OF UPSTREAM INTERCEPTOR DRAINS AND DOWNSTREAM COLLECTOR DRAINS / OVERSIZED SWALES, 	
		VEE-DRAINS, DIVERSION DRAINS, FLUMES AND CULVERT PIPES	
		2) EROSION AND VELOCITY CONTROL MEASURES SUCH AS: A) SAND BAGS	~
	SOURCE CONTROLS:	B) OYSTER BAGS FILLED WITH GRAVEL;	- a
		C) FILTER FABRICS D) AND OTHER SIMILAR/EQUIVALENT OR APPROPRIATE	0
		SYSTEMS	1.5
		3) USING SMALL WORKING AREAS 4) COVERING STOCKPILES	
		5) WEATHERING OFF / SEALING PEAT STOCKPILES	
		 INTERCEPTOR DRAINS, VEE-DRAINS, OVERSIZED SWALES/COLLECTOR DRAINS 	
		EROSION AND VELOCITY CONTROL MEASURES SUCH AS:	
		A) SAND BAGS B) OYSTER BAGS FILLED WITH GRAVEL	7
		C) FILTER FABRICS	É
		D) STRAW BALES E) FLOW LIMITERS	
	IN-LINE CONTROLS:	 F) WEIRS OR BAFFLES G) AND/OR OTHER SIMILAR/EQUIVALENT OR 	1.
		APPROPRIATE SYSTEMS.	15
		3) SILT FENCES, FILTER FABRICS 4) IN STREAM SEDIMATS	
		5) COLLECTION SUMPS, TEMPORARY SUMPS, PUMPING SYSTEMS	
		5) ATTENUATION LAGOONS	
,		6) SEDIMENT TRAPS, STILLING / SETTLEMENT PONDS	
		I) TEMPORARY SUMPS 2) ATTENUATION PONDS	
		E/ ATTENDATION PUNUS	1

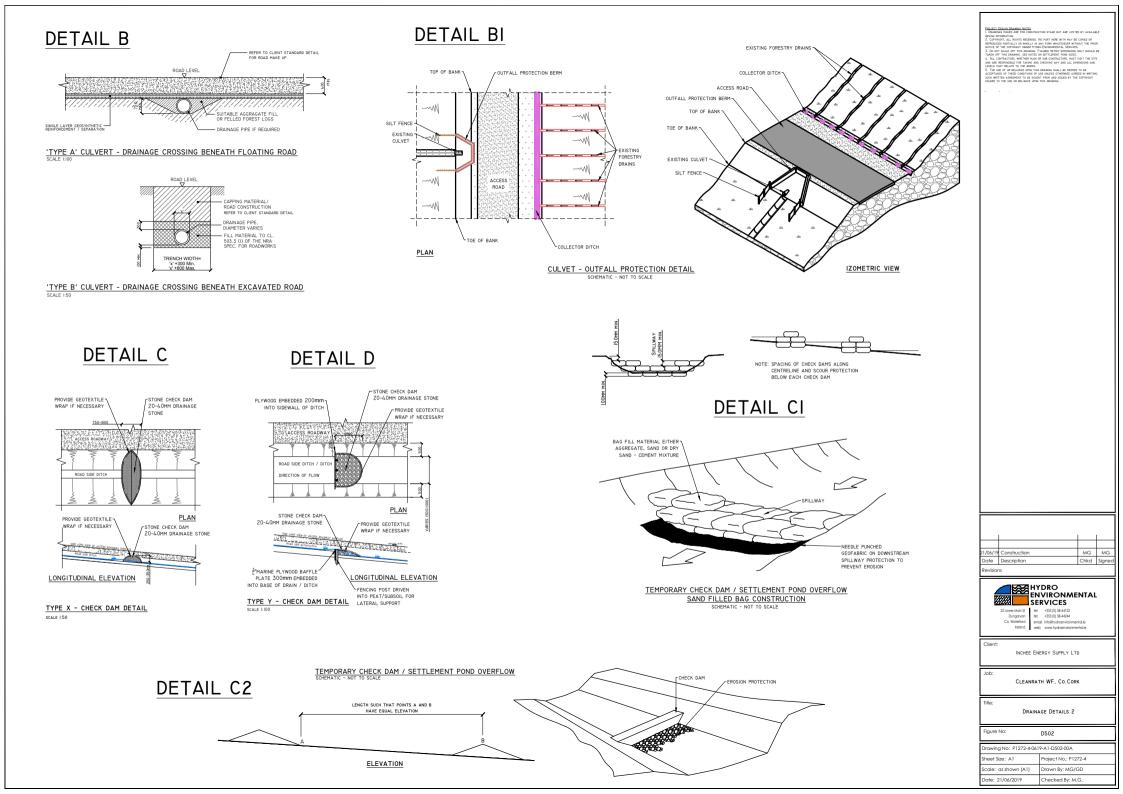
	J SLITERCES, FLIER FARNES 4) IN STREAM SEDINATS 5) COLLECTION SUMPS, TEMPORARY SUMPS, PUMPING SYSTEMS 5) ATTENUATION LAGOONS 6) SEDIMENT TRAPS, STILLING / SETTLEMENT POND:
WATER TREATMENT Controls:) TEMPORARY SUMPS 2) ATENNATION PONDS 3) TEMPORARY STORAGE LAGGONS 4) SEDIMENT TRAPS, STILLING / SETTLEMENT POND 5) PROPRIARY SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS SUCH AS SULTBUERT, AND/OR OTHER SIMILAR/EQUIVALENT O APPROPRIATE SYSTEMS. 6) SLIT DEWATENING BAGS
OUTFALL CONTROLS:	1) LEVELSPREADERS 2) BUFFERED OUTFALLS 3) VEGETATION FILTERS

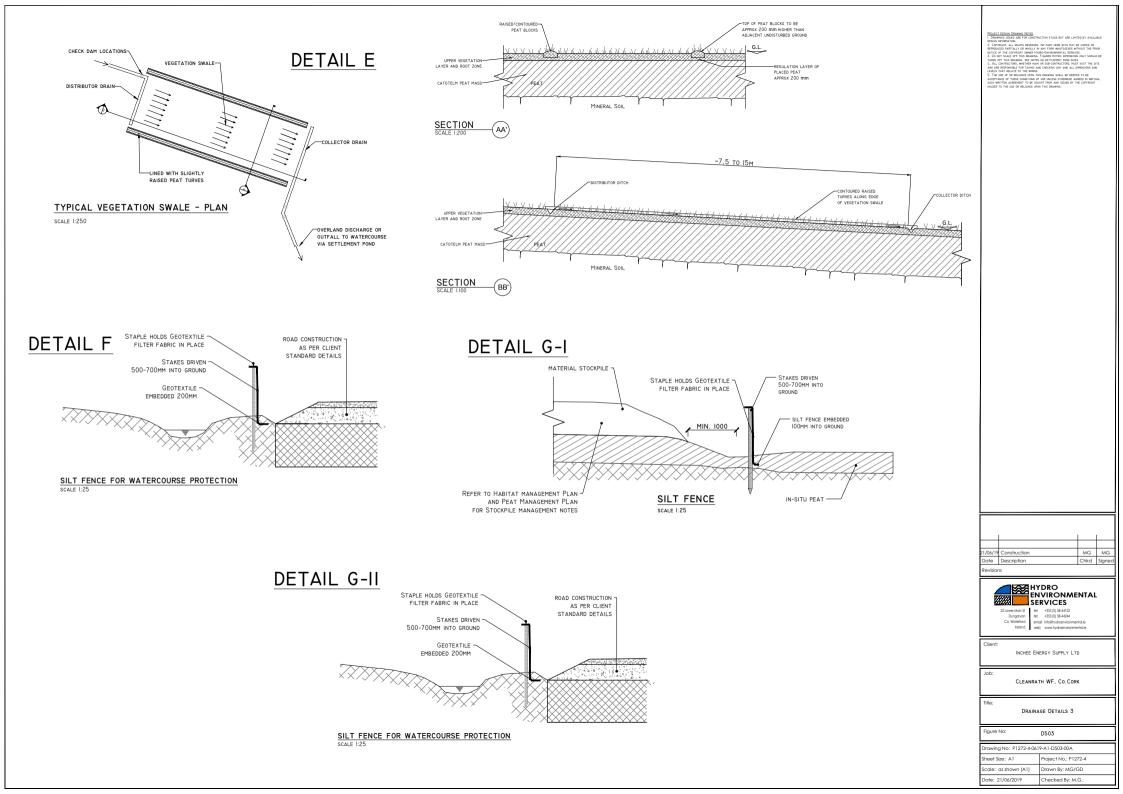








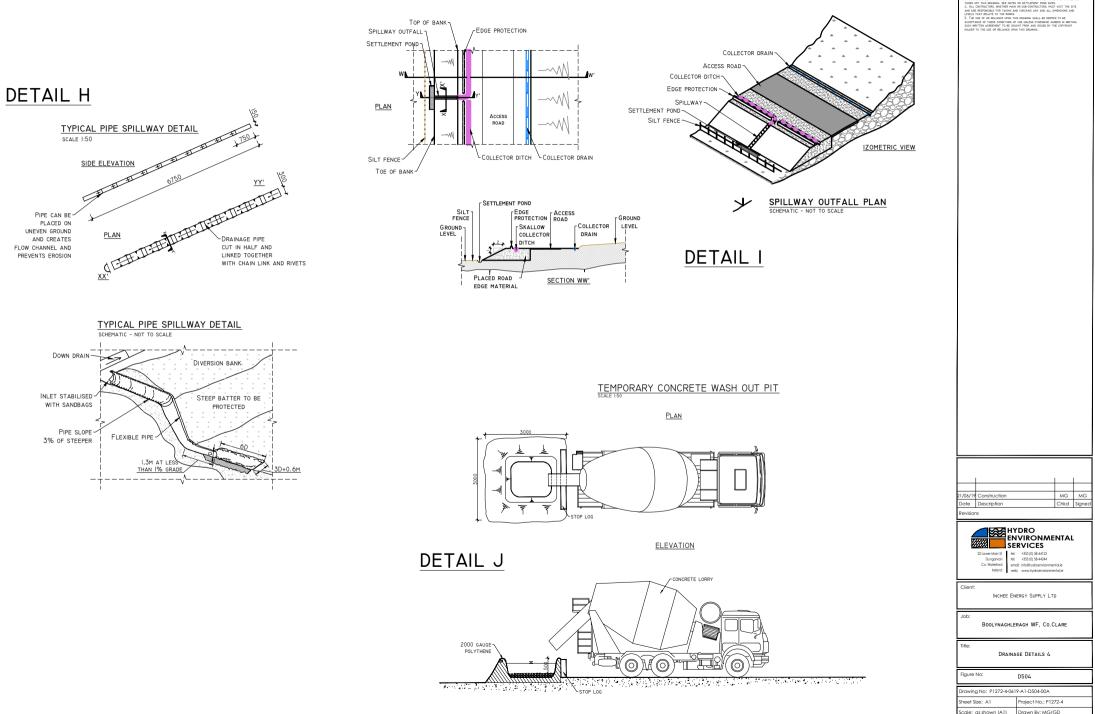




PROJECT SIGN DRAWING NOTES TION STAGE BUT ARE LIMITED BY AVAILABL RIGHTS RESERVED. NO PART HERE WITH MAY BE COPIED OR

Date: 21/06/2019

Checked By: M.G.





Cleanrath Wind Farm Natura Impact Statement NIS F – 2020.08.13 – 191223a



APPENDIX 2

PEATLAND HABITAT RESTORATION PLAN



Peatland Restoration and Management Plan

Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork





DOCUMENT DETAILS

0		
(1	ient:	
	iont.	

 \mathbf{O}

Project Title:

Project Number:

Document Title:

Document File Name:

Prepared By:

MKO **Tuam Road** Galway Ireland H91 VW84

180511



Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd.

Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork

PREP F - 2020.07.17 - 191223a

Peatland Restoration and Enhancement Plan

Planning and Environmental Consultants

Rev	Status	Date	Author(s)	Approved By
01	Final	17/07/2020	DMN	PR



Table of Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION	.1
	1.1 Background	.1
2.	PEATLAND RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT	2
	 2.1 Forestry Felling and Peatland Restoration Around Turbines	.3 .5 .5
	2.6 Reporting	.7
3.	BIBLIOGRAPHY	8



1. INTRODUCTION

Background

The EIAR that was prepared for this application prescribed the provision of a Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Plan to offset the loss of peatland habitats that are within the footprint of the subject development. The development footprint is located on 4.13 hectares of peatland habitat. This is less than Cleanrath wind farm development was originally predicted in the original application as two turbines have not been constructed. The peatland habitats on which the windfarm is located consists primarily of a mosaic of Wet Heath, Blanket Bog and Acid Flush with outcropping of Exposed siliceous rock (ER1). The areas of deep peat within the study area have been avoided in the design of the development and all areas that are within the construction footprint have been degraded through extensive grazing of sheep, cattle and/or horses, drainage, peat cutting, forestry or scrub encroachment.

This Peatland Restoration and Management Plan (PRMP) provides details of where measures will be employed to improve the ecological quality of the peatland habitats that are located outside the construction footprint but within the control of the windfarm developer.

The development has resulted in the loss of peatland habitat, associated with Turbines T3, T6, T7, part of T8, T9 & T10. Therefore, this Peatland Restoration and Management Plan (PRMP) provides for the restoration of forestry land, that has been planted on peatland mosaic habitats, back to this peatland habitat.

The extent of lands subject to peatland restoration are shown in Figure 1.1. This includes areas of forestry felling located around Turbines T1, 3, 5 and 8 as well as an additional area of 1.06 hectares of forestry located to the south of T8. Following the implementation of the measures outlined in this report, to offset the loss of peatland habitat, there will be no net loss of peatland habitats on the site.

The bog restoration programme described in this report will be implemented in accordance with the published guidelines and best practice such as the guidelines arising from the EU–LIFE/Coillte '*Irish Blanket Bog Restoration Project*" (2002-2007)', Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)'s guidance note Planning for development: *What to consider and include in Habitat Management Plans* (Version 2, January 2014).



2. PEATLAND RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT

2.1

Forestry Felling and Peatland Restoration Around Turbines

As shown in Figure 1.1, it is proposed to reinstate areas of coniferous plantation forestry around turbines T1, 3, 5 and 8. These areas have been felled as part of the construction phase of the wind farm, however, some areas will require further maintenance to complete to the required reinstatement to peatland. As shown in Plate 2.3, areas where plantation forestry have been removed, still comprise of peatland vegetation beneath the conifers. In order to facilitate the reestablishment of peatland vegetation within these areas and maintain an effective hydrological regime, the following measures are proposed in these areas:

- > Removal of brash from felled areas off-site.
- Drain blocking will be undertaken on a local scale in the immediate surroundings of felled plantation by installing dams at drainage ditches (largely remnant semi-functioning conifer forest drains) to maintain, enhance and restore the favorable baseline hydrological and ecological conditions at each site location. Drains can be dammed using peat dams.
- > No additional drainage to be installed in proximity to these habitat areas during the lifetime of the development.
- > The use of off road vehicles on the site will be restricted to the existing tracks.
- > No application of chemical and organic fertilisers or herbicides and pesticides will be undertaken within the development footprint.
- Self-seeded conifers from adjacent conifer plantation areas will be cleared and removed (by hand or brushcutter) from the newly created peatland reinstatement areas on an ongoing basis during the operational phase.



Plate 2.1 Example of forestry felling already undertaken to the north of T8 with typical peatland vegetation remaining beneath the conifers.



Additional Forestry Felling for Peatland Restoration

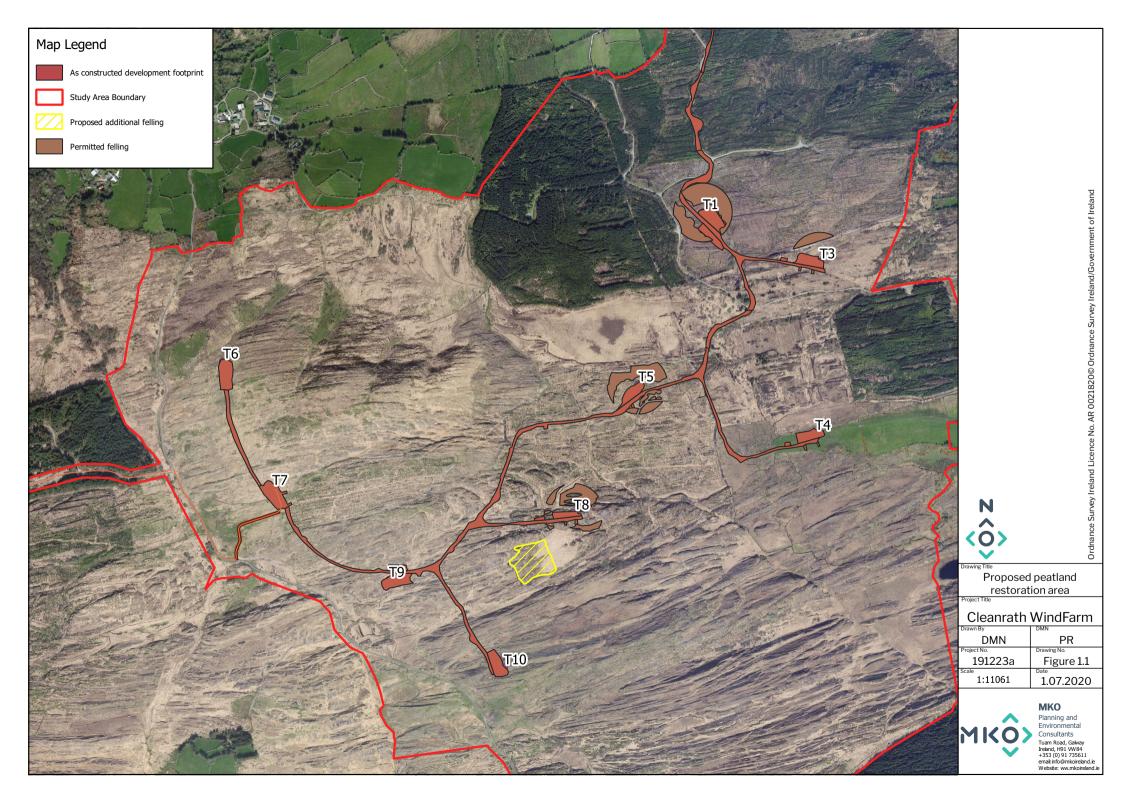
In order to achieve the required peatland restoration area, additional lands, comprising of immature forestry, located outside of the immediate development footprint will be acquired and restored to peatland habitat. The area identified as most appropriate for peatland restoration is located to the south of Turbine no. 8, see Figure 1.1. An example of the forestry occurring at this location is provided in Plate 2.2. The lands were chosen as the forestry is immature, the vegetation occurring beneath the conifers comprises of typical peatland species (see Plate 2.3) and could therefore successfully be reinstated to peatland if the conifer crop was sympathetically removed.



Plate 2.2 Location chosen for tree removal and restoration to bog, located to the south of T8.



Plate 2.3 Example of intact peatland vegetation occurring within existing forestry plantation





The management techniques to be undertaken within the replacement area located south of Turbine no. 8 are as follows:

- > All coniferous forestry will be felled.
- > Following tree felling operations, brash material will be removed off-site and disposed of appropriately to a suitable location.
- > Drains will be blocked, where appropriate, using peat dams or plastic dams, see Plate 2.4 & 2.5.
- > No additional drainage to be installed in proximity to this habitat during the lifetime of the subject development.
- > The planting of forestry will not be permitted in this area.
- > No vehicular access will be permitted to or within the dedicated peatland reinstatement area once all initial works are completed.
- > Self-seeded conifers from adjacent conifer plantation areas will be cleared and removed (by hand or brushcutter) from the newly created peatland reinstatement areas on an ongoing basis, following the felling of the existing forestry.
- > Peat extraction within the proposed peatland reinstatement area will not be permitted.
- > Burning and dumping will not be permitted.
- > No application of chemical and organic fertilisers or herbicides and pesticides will be undertaken within the development footprint.



Plate 2.4 Example of peat dams to be used for on-site drain blocking.





Plate 2.5 Example of plastic dams to be used for on-site drain blocking.

2.3 Management of peatlands adjacent to windfarm infrastructure

In addition to the reinstatement measures proposed above, this plan also sets out measures that will enhance the existing peatlands that surround the wind farm development. These are listed below:

- > Burning and dumping will not be permitted.
- > Application of artificial fertilisers within rehabilitation or enhancement areas will be prohibited.
- > The planting of forestry will not be permitted. There is currently forestry activity in the vicinity of the development and conifer seedlings are encroaching on the site on an annual basis during the lifetime of the windfarm development.
- > Seedlings of coniferous or other trees or any invasive plants will be removed from this area on an annual basis during the lifetime of the windfarm development.
- Scrub species including Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) will be removed on an annual basis during the lifetime of the windfarm development.
- > No vehicular access will be permitted to or within the dedicated habitat rehabilitation area once all initial works are completed.
- > The rehabilitation area will be monitored to assess the success of the rehabilitation plan.
- > Where possible, drains will be blocked to restore the natural hydrology of the blanket bog in the area.

2.4 **Timing of Works**

Replacement works will be conducted in line with the provisions of the Wildlife Acts 1979-2012 as amended.

2.5 **Monitoring**

To confirm that habitat restoration and enhancement has been successful, all areas of restored vegetation will be monitored post-restoration, monitoring results reported and any criteria failures



identified and corrective actions implemented as part of the Cleanrath Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) for the development.

Visual inspections of restored areas within the application site will be carried out biannually during the first two years after restoration to check for potential soil erosion or movement and degradation of replaced turves. Vegetation monitoring will be carried out in years 1, 3, 5 and 10 after restoration. Monitoring will involve the following:

Surface peat assessment

An assessment of the physical state of the surface peat with regard to:

- > Percentage bare peat not covered by vegetation;
- Moisture status (qualitative);
- > Intactness (e.g. presence of visible cracking in surface peat; and
- > General stability (e.g. presence of peat erosion).

Vegetation sampling

A number of fixed relevé sites (i.e. permanent quadrats) will be set up in areas where active management is proposed of previously forested areas. Baseline data will be recorded prior to the commencement of habitat management activities set out in this outline plan. The character of each relevé will be recorded (e.g. species proportions present, vegetation structure and height) and photographs will be taken of each relevé from a fixed point. These relevés will then be re-examined during years 1, 3, 5 and 10 following restoration in order to establish the extent of habitat improvement resulting from management practices.

Hydrological monitoring

> Water levels within areas where drains are blocked will be recorded bi-annually for two years. A number of phreatic stand pipes will be installed (prior to restoration) to allow monitoring of water levels within both the restoration and enhancement areas. In this way, any positive impacts on the local hydrology can be verified and quantified.

The efficacy of the habitat rehabilitation and enhancement measures employed will be reviewed in years 1, 3, 5 and 10 following commencement of the plan on the basis of the results of vegetation sampling and water level readings from the managed areas. Analysis of the data collected will be the basis for a review of the measures and techniques employed.

2.5.1 Monitoring of existing reinstated peatlands adjacent to existing infrastructure

Following the completion of the existing development, the roadside verges, berms and banks of hardstand infrastructure were capped with peat material. This material was initially removed during construction and temporarily stored adjacent to the development footprint for final reinstatement. This reinstatement has therefore further minimised the overall peatland loss associated with the development footprint by reinstating areas of temporarily disturbed ground adjacent to the infrastructure, see Plate 2.6. Many of these areas have begun to revegetate naturally, with purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) becoming established. In addition, some areas within temporarily disturbed ground were also reseeded with an appropriate upland seed mix to facilitate more rapid vegetation establishment.

The post construction monitoring associated with the peatland restoration measures outlined above will also continue to monitor the continued revegetation of these areas of temporally disturbed ground and



where required, additional measures will be implemented to ensure establishment of peatland vegetation and reduce noxious weeds.



Plate 2.6 Example of reinstated site access track verge with stripped peat material showing signs of revegetation with purple moorgrass (Molinia caerulea) and other grass species.

Reporting

2.6

Reports detailing the monitoring works carried out, the results obtained and a review of their success, along with any suggestions for amendments to the plan will be prepared in years 1, 3, 5 and 10 following commencement of the plan's implementation.



3. **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

EU–LIFE/Coillte '*Irish Blanket Bog Restoration Project*" (2002-2007)', Online, Available at: http://www.irishbogrestorationproject.ie/downloads/4_progress_report.pdf, Accessed: 07.07.2020

<u>%20What%20to%20consider%20and%20include%20in%20Habitat%20Management%20Plans.pdf</u>, Accessed: 07.07.2020

Cleanrath Wind Farm Natura Impact Statement NIS F – 2020.08.12 – 191223a



мко

APPENDIX 3

WATERCOURSE SURVEY REPORT



Watercourse Survey Report

Cleanrath Windfarm





DOCUMENT DETAILS

\cap	ient:	
	ient.	

 \mathbf{O}

Project Title:

Project Number:

Document Title:

Document File Name:

Prepared By:

Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd

Cleanrath Wind Farm

191223a

Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Sampling Report

AMS F - 191223a - 2020.06.05

MKO Tuam Road Galway Ireland H91 VW84

MI

Planning and Environmental Consultants

Rev	Status	Date	Author(s)	Approved By
01	Final	05.06.2020	PR	PR



Cleanrath Wind Farm AMSR F – 191223a – 2020.06.05



Table of Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION	3
2.	RESULTS	4
	 2.1 Sample Station 1	
	 2.6 Sample Station 6	15
3.	CONCLUSION	24



MKO. were appointed to conduct ecological surveys of the rivers and streams that are located downstream of the Cleanrath windfarm development. The survey work was conducted by suitably qualified ecologist, Pat Roberts. B.Sc. (Env.), MCIEEM.

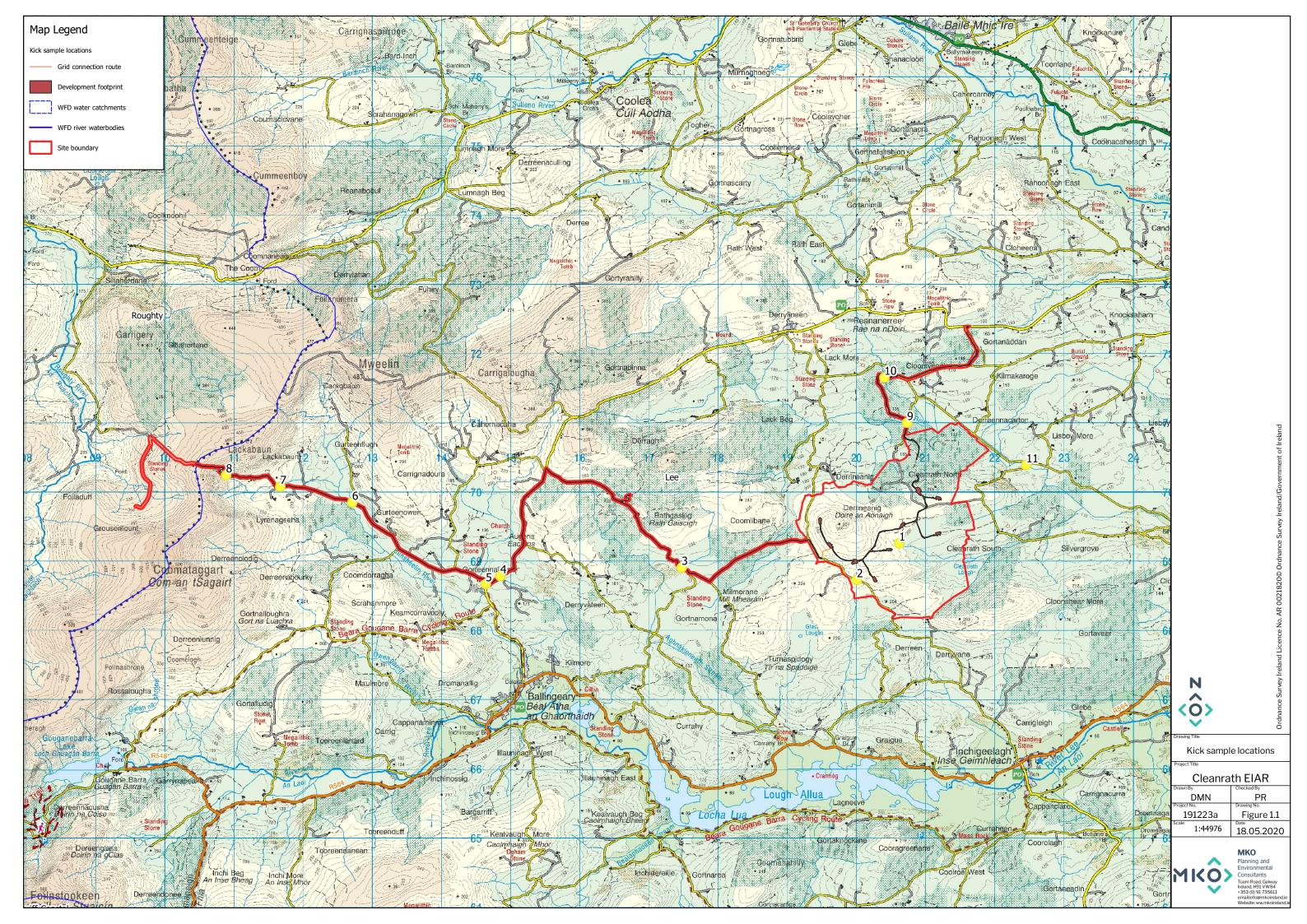
Sampling was carried out downstream of the study area at 11 sites on the 14th May 2020. Watercourses were assessed if they were located within or downstream of the wind farm development or the grid connection route and contained flowing water. The locations of each watercourse surveyed are provided in Figure 1.1.

Biological water quality was assessed through kick-sampling each of these watercourses. Macroinvertebrate samples were converted to Q-ratings as per Toner et al. $(2005)^1$. The applied Q ratings followed the EPA water quality classes and Water Framework Directive status categories. All riverine samples were taken with a standard kick sampling hand net (250mm width, 500µm mesh size) from areas of riffle/glide utilising a two-minute sample, as per ISO standards for water quality sampling (ISO 10870:2012). Large cobble was also washed at each site where present.

In addition to the biological water quality assessment, each watercourse was visually assessed for signs of pollution or instream activity that could be attributable to the construction of the windfarm.

The results of the surveys at all 11 sites are provided below.

¹ Toner, P., Bowman, J., Clabby, K., Lucey, J., McGarrigle, M., Concannon, C., & MacGarthaigh, M. (2005). Water quality in Ireland. Environmental Protection Agency, Co. Wexford, Ireland.



2. **RESULTS**

The following sections outline the findings of the surveys.

2.1 Sample Station 1

Sample Station 1 was located in a drain through bog habitat within the windfarm site itself but located over 200m from the closest infrastructure. Whilst this was likely to be a natural stream, it had been straightened and managed to improve its drainage function in the past. It was in no way modified during the construction or operation of the windfarm and no signs of any such activity were recorded at or in close proximity to this stream. It flows into Cleanrath Lough and from there, into the Toon River after approximately 2km.

No instream or emergent macrophytes were recorded at the sample point and the stream had a silty substrate. bryophytes. The bankside vegetation was typical of bog and heath habitats and contained species such as purple moor grass (*Molinia caerulea*), Devil's bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*), bog myrtle (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) and butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*)

The stream was not suitable for freshwater pearl mussel and did not support any spawning habitat for salmonid fish at the sample point. The Q rating assigned to the channel was Q4. It was assigned this value as Group A invertebrates were common but there was only one taxon recorded. This was similar with Group B invertebrates. Group C invertebrates were common but not excessive and included three taxa. No group D or E taxa were recorded.

There were no riffles in the stream close to the sampling point and the silty stream was not ideal for the undertaking of a kick sample for the purposes of biological assessment of the watercourse. However, the results demonstrate that the stream is not polluted and no signs of any impacts resulting from the construction and operation of the windfarm were recorded.

Indicator Group	Taxon	Dominance
Group A - Very Pollution Sensitive		
	Ephemeroptera - Heptageniidae	Common (stone wash)
Group B - Moderately Pollution Sensitive		
	Trichoptera - Cased	Common
Group C - Moderately Pollution Tolerant		
	Ephemoptera – <i>Baetis rhodani</i>	Common
	Trichoptera - Caseless	Few
	Gammarus spp.	Few

Table 2.1: Invertebrate Sample Station 1 Results



Group D - Very Pollution Tolerant		
Group E - Most Pollution Tolerant		
Also Present	River Limpet (<i>Ancylus fluviatilis</i>)	Few
	Oligochaeta (non Tubificidae)	Few

2.2 Sample Station 2

Sample Station 2 was located in a narrow bog stream that is located to the south of an existing public road. There was no defined channel to the north of the road and no direct surface water connectivity with the wind farm site (the stream arises out of a wetland to the north. There were no riffles in the stream and it had a substrate comprising primarily of peat and bedrock. It was approximately 1.5m in width. This stream is shown in Plate 2.1. It flows to the south of the wind farm site and enters Lough Allua after approximately 2.5km.



Plate 2.1. Sample Station 2.

The instream macrophytes included bog pondweed (*Potamogeton polygonifolius*) and stoneworts (*Chara Sp.*). There was some growth of algae within the stream. Emergent vegetation included a number of small sedges (*Carex Spp.*). The bankside vegetation was dominated by typical bog species including bog myrtle, milkwort (*Polygala serpyfolia*), cross leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) and butterwort.



The stream did not provide suitable habitat for freshwater pearl mussel and did not provide significant fisheries habitat as it was very narrow, steep and shallow with a substrate of bedrock and peat. The Q rating assigned to the channel was Q3. It was assigned this value as the density and diversity of invertebrates was low and no Group A species were present. Group B species were recorded and Groupd C species were common. This rating is likely due to the lack of riffle habitat and nature of the substrate, which was not ideal for undertaking a Q value assessment rather than any pollution within the channel. There was no luxuriant growth of algae, sewage fungus or any other slimes and the stream appeared clean – but peaty. No signs of any impacts resulting from the construction and operation of the windfarm were recorded.

Indicator Group	Taxon	Dominance
Group A - Very Pollution Sensitive		
Group B - Moderately Pollution Sensitive		
	Odonata -Zygoptera	Few
Group C - Moderately Pollution Tolerant		
	Ephemeroptera - <i>Baetis rhodani</i>	Numerous
	Trichoptera - caseless	Few
	Coleoptera	Few
Group D - Very Pollution Tolerant		
Group E - Most Pollution Tolerant		

Table 2.2: Invertebrate Sample Station 2 Results

2.3 Sample Station 3

Sample Station 3 was located along the grid connection route in the Townland of Rathgaskig. This watercourse is a tributary of the Aghnakinneigh Stream and is approximately 3.5 metres wise at the sample point. It was very shallow at the time of the survey. It had a substrate of gravels and cobbles but no riffles in the area surrounding the grid connection route. The sample was taken downstream of the grid connection (which was located in the road bed where it crossed the bridge on the public road).



There were no signs of pollution or any instream or bankside works having taken place. This stream is shown in Plate 2.2.



Plate 2.2. Sample Station 3.

No instream or emergent vegetation was recorded. The stream was very shaded and the bankside vegetation was dominated by dense bramble (*Rubus fruticosus agg*.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), Herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*), birch (*Betula pubescens*), holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) and grey willow (*Salix cinerea*). Filamentous algae, whilst present, was very sparse.

The Q rating assigned to the channel was Q4. It was assigned this value as 2 Group A taxa were recorded along with a Group B Taxon in fair numbers. Group C were well represented but not excessive. The sample was not undertaken in a riffle and thus not in ideal habitat for a biological sample. In addition, it was heavily shaded at the sample location. No suitable habitat for freshwater pear mussel was recorded at this location as the watercourse was too shallow and steep. The gravel substrate provides some potential habitat for salmonid fish. No signs of any impacts resulting from the construction of the grid connection were recorded.

|--|

Indicator Group	Taxon	Dominance
Group A - Very Pollution Sensitive		
	Ephemeroptera – <i>Heptageniidae</i> (Stone wash)	Few
	Plecoptera (Non Leuctra)	Few



Group B - Moderately Pollution Sensitive		
	Trichoptera (<i>Cased</i>) (Stone wash)	Numerous
	Odonata - Zygoptera	Few
Group C - Moderately Pollution Tolerant		
	Trichoptera - Caseless	Common
	Gammarus Sp.	Few
	Ephemeroptera (<i>Baetis</i> <i>rhodani</i>)	Few
Group D - Very Pollution Tolerant		
Group E - Most Pollution Tolerant		

2.4 Sample Station 4

Sample Station 4 was located alongside an agricultural track that had been recently surfaced with limestone chips and was surrounded by fields of improved agricultural grassland. The grid connection route passed along and within the bed of an adjacent public road with no instream works required. The sample was taken downstream of the grid connection. The drain was a managed drainage channel with a substrate of boulders and cobbles and a moderated degree of siltation. It was approximately one metre wide at the sample point. This drain converges with the River Lee at Ballinageary after approximately 3km. This drain is shown in Plate 2.3.





Plate 2.3. Sample Station 4.

The instream macrophytes included duckweed (*Lemna minor*) emergent vegetation including hemlock water dropwort (*Oenanthe crocata*) and floating sweet grass (*Glyceria fluitans*). The bankside vegetation was dominated by grassy vegetation and bramble and foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*).

The Q rating assigned to the channel was Q3. It was assigned this value as Group A were absent, group B were represented in fair numbers and Group C were also numerous. There was also moderate growth of filamentous algae present. This result is typical of a drain that is surrounded by improved agricultural lands. The stream does not provide any suitable habitat for freshwater pearl mussel or any significant habitat for salmonid fish at the sample point. The cable was laid in the public road (not in the private agricultural track that is adjacent to the stream) No signs of any impacts resulting from the construction of the grid connection were recorded.

Indicator Group	Taxon	Dominance
Group A - Very Pollution Sensitive		
Group B - Moderately Pollution Sensitive		
	Trichoptera – Cased (Stone wash)	Numerous

Table 2.4: Invertebrate Sample Station 4 Results



Group C - Moderately Pollution Tolerant		
	Ephemeroptera – (<i>Baetis</i> <i>rhodani</i>)	Numerous
	Gastropoda	Common
	Coleoptera	Common
	Trichoptera - Caseless	Few
	Hemiptera (Corixidae)	Few
Group D - Very Pollution Tolerant		
Group E - Most Pollution Tolerant		



2.5 **Sample Station 5**

Sample Station 5 was located on a tributary of the Bunsheelin River that flows into the River Lee approximately 2km downstream at Ballinageary. It was approximately 6m wide at the survey point, with an average depth of 0.3m at the time of the survey. The substrate was dominated by bedrock, boulders and cobbles ant there was little siltation. The grid connection cable was strapped to the side of the bridge in this location and there was no requirement for instream works. This sample station is shown in Plate 2.4.



Plate 2.4. Sample Station 5.

The instream macrophytes included the aquatic moss *Fontinalis antipyretica* along with other bryophytes. Emergent vegetation included hemlock water dropwort. The bankside vegetation was included grassy vegetation and woodrush (*Luzula sylvatica*), .hemlock water dropwort and bramble. Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), Birch and sycamore (*Acer campestre*) were present surrounding the banks.

The Q rating assigned to the channel was Q4. It was assigned this value as Group A and B taxa were recorded in fair numbers with Group C numerous. The sample was undertaken in a riffle and was a suitable location to undertake an accurate biological water sample. The river offered potential habitat for freshwater pearl mussel (despite the presence of bedrock) though none were recorded at the sample site. The river also provided good quality fisheries habitat, with riffles, glides and pools present and a stony substrate. No signs of any impacts resulting from the construction of the grid connection were recorded.

Indicator Group	Taxon	Dominance
Group A - Very Pollution		
Sensitive		

Table 2.5: Invertebrate Sample Station 5 Results



	Ephemoptera – heptageniidae (Mainly in stone wash)	Common	
	Plecoptera (Non Leuctra)	Few	
Group B - Moderately Pollution Sensitive			
	Trichoptera - Cased	Common	
	Plecoptera - Leuctra	Few	
Group C - Moderately Pollution Tolerant			
	Ephemoptera – <i>Baetis rhodani</i>	Numerous	
	Gammarus Sp.	Few	
	Simulidae	Few	
	Chironomidae	Few	
Group D - Very Pollution Tolerant			
Group E - Most Pollution Tolerant			



2.6 **Sample Station 6**

Sample Station 6 was located at the confluence of two streams that are downstream of the grid connection route and form part of the Bunsheelin River that flows into the River Lee at Ballinageary, approximately four kilometres downstream. This river is approximately three metres wide at the sample point with a substrate of cobbles and gravels with no appreciable siltation. The sample point is surrounded by pasture lands along with a recently constructed house and garden. The grid connection was located in the existing road and there were no signs of pollution at either crossing point or downstream at the sample site. This sample site is shown in Plate 2.5.



Plate 2.5. Sample Station 6.

The instream macrophytes included the aquatic moss *Fontinalis antipyretica* along with other bryophytes. Emergent vegetation included hemlock water dropwort. The bankside vegetation was dominated by woodrush, willow, gorse and holly scrub. The river provided suitable habitat for freshwater pearl mussel, though none were recorded at the sample site. The stream is possibly a little steep and unstable for the species. The substrate of gravels and cobbles for provides good Salmonid fish habitat.

The Q rating assigned to the channel was Q4. It was assigned this value as Group A were recorded in fair numbers with Group B recorded and Group C recorded in fair numbers. There was no filamentous algae or sewage fungus and no signs of other pollution. No signs of any impacts resulting from the construction of the grid connection were recorded.



Table 2.6: Invertebrate Sample Station 6 Results

Indicator Group	Taxon	Dominance
Group A - Very Pollution Sensitive		
	Ephemoptera - Heptageniidae	Common
Group B - Moderately Pollution Sensitive		
	Trichoptera - Cased	Few
	Plecoptera - Leuctra	Few
Group C - Moderately Pollution Tolerant		
	Ephemoptera – <i>Baetis rhodani</i>	Common
	Gammarus	Few
	Trichoptera - Caseless	Few
	Coleoptera	Few
	Chironomidae	Few
	Hydracarina	Few
Group D - Very Pollution Tolerant		
	Hirudinea	Few
Group E - Most Pollution Tolerant		



2.7 Sample Station 7

Sample Station 7 was located at the edge of a private garden downstream of the grid connection route. It is a tributary of the Bunsheelin River and is approximately one kilometre upstream of sample station 6. The stream was approximately 2.5 metres wide and 0.1m deep at the time of survey and had a substrate of cobbles and gravels. The grid connection was located in the road upstream and no signs of disturbance or instream works were recorded. This sample station is shown in Plate 2.6.



Plate 2.6. Sample Station 7.

The instream macrophytes included the aquatic moss *Fontinalis antipyretica* along with other bryophytes. No emergent vegetation was recorded. The bankside vegetation was dominated by grassy vegetation associated with the lawn of a private house. It included species such as sorrel (*Rumex acetosa*), dandelion (*Taraxicum officinale agg.*), field speedwell (*Veronica serpyfolia*) and ribwort (*Plantago lanceolota*). The channel was steep, shallow and likely to be subject to large fluctuations in water levels. In this regard it is unsuitable for freshwater pearl mussel at this location. It does provide some potential habitat for salmonid species but is very small and shallow.

The Q rating assigned to the channel was Q4. It was assigned this value as Group A were recorded in fair numbers with Group B recorded and Group C recorded in fair numbers. There was no filamentous algae or sewage fungus and no signs of other pollution. No signs of any impacts resulting from the construction of the grid connection were recorded.

Indicator Group	Taxon	Dominance
Group A - Very Pollution Sensitive		

Table 2.7: Invertebrate Sample Station 7 Results



	Ephemeroptera – Heptageniidae (Stone wash)	Common	
	Plecoptera – non leuctra	Few	
Group B - Moderately Pollution Sensitive			
	Plecoptera - Leuctra	Few	
Group C - Moderately Pollution Tolerant			
	Ephemeroptera – Baetis rhodani	Common	
	Hydracarina	Few	
	Simulidae	Few	
	Trichoptera - Caseless	Few	
	Gammarus	Few	
Group D - Very Pollution Tolerant			
Group E - Most Pollution Tolerant			

2.8 Sample Station 8

Sample Station 8 was located on a very steep mountain stream that was located alongside the grid connection route as it travels up to the Kerry border at Lackabaun. The stream was approximately one metre wide at the sample station but was less than 0.1m deep and had a substrate of bedrock and boulders. This stream flows down the steep mountain for approximately one kilometre before reaching sample station 7. There was no evidence of any impacts having resulted from the construction of the nearby grid connection.

The instream macrophytes included the aquatic moss *Fontinalis antipyretica* along with other bryophytes. No emergent vegetation was recorded. The bankside vegetation was dominated by such as butterwort, primrose (*Primula vulgaris*), sweet vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), yellow pimpernel (*Lysimachia nemorum*) and Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*). The stream was too shallow and too steep to effectively kick sample. Boulders were lifted and a rock washing exercise took was undertaken.



No Q value was assigned as no kick sample was possible. However, the stone washing revealed Group A and Group B species – indicating unpolluted waters. There was no filamentous algae or sewage fungus and no signs of other pollution. No signs of any impacts resulting from the construction of the grid connection were recorded.

Indicator Group	Taxon	Dominance
Group A - Very Pollution Sensitive		
	Ephemeroptera – Heptageniidae (Stone wash)	Common
Group B - Moderately Pollution Sensitive		
	Trichoptera - Cased	Common
Group C - Moderately Pollution Tolerant		
Group D - Very Pollution Tolerant		
Group E - Most Pollution Tolerant		

T-11- 00.	Transford	C	Chatian	O D
1 abie 2.0:	Invertebrate	Sample	Station	o resuus

2.9 Sample Station 9

Sample Station 9 was located at a location where the access road to the wind farm crosses the Toon River. The river here is approximately 5 metres wide with a mixed substrate of boulders, cobbles, gravels and fine gravels. The river provides good quality salmonid habitat. It also provides suitable habitat for freshwater pearl mussel, though none were recorded at the sample location. Evidence of road enhancement works were noted on the bridge and on the surrounding road infrastructure but no signs of any effects on the river channel were identified. This sample station is shown in Plate 2.7.





Plate 2.7. Sample Station 9.

The instream macrophytes included the aquatic moss *Fontinalis antipyretica* along with other bryophytes. Water crowfoot was recorded upstream of the bridge, where the channel conforms to the EU Habitats Directive Annex I habitat '*water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation (3260)*'. Emergent vegetation included hemlock water dropwort. The bankside vegetation was included bramble, ferns and figwort (*Scrophularia sp.*) with shading from tree species including hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), grey willow and ash.

The Q rating assigned to the channel was Q4. It was assigned this value as Group A were recorded in fair numbers with Group B recorded and Group C recorded in fair numbers. There was no filamentous algae or sewage fungus and no signs of other pollution. No signs of any impacts on the river resulting from the construction of the wind farm were recorded.

Indicator Group	Taxon	Dominance
Group A - Very Pollution Sensitive		
	Ephemeroptera – Heptageniidae (stone wash)	Numerous
	Plecoptera – non leuctra	Few
Group B - Moderately Pollution Sensitive		
	Trichoptera – Cased	Few

Table 2.9: Invertebrate Sample Station 9 Results



	Plecoptera - Leuctra	Common
Group C - Moderately Pollution Tolerant		
	Ephemeroptera – <i>Baetis rhodani</i>	Common
	Trichoptera - Caseless	Few
	Gammarus	Few
	Simulidae	Few
Group D - Very Pollution Tolerant		
Group E - Most Pollution Tolerant		

2.10 Sample Station 10

Sample Station 10 was located at a location where the access road to the wind farm crosses a tributary of the Toon River. The river here is approximately 4.5 metres wide with a mixed substrate of boulders, cobbles, gravels and silts. The river provides good quality salmonid habitat. It also provides suitable habitat for freshwater pearl mussel, though none were recorded at the sample location. Evidence of road enhancement works were noted on the bridge and on the surrounding road infrastructure. This included extensive works on the culvert. However, no signs of any instream works or effects on the river channel were identified. This sample station is shown in Plate 2.8.





Plate 2.8. Sample Station 10.

No submerged or emergent macrophytes were recorded. The bankside vegetation included meadowsweet, bramble, nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and wavy bittercress (*Cardamine flexuosa*).

The Q rating assigned to the channel was Q4. It was assigned this value as Group A were recorded in fair numbers with Group B recorded and Group C recorded in fair numbers. There was no filamentous algae or sewage fungus and no signs of other pollution. No signs of any impacts on the river resulting from the construction of the wind farm were recorded.

Indicator Group	Taxon	Dominance
Group A - Very Pollution Sensitive		
	Ephemeroptera – Heptageniidae (stone wash)	Numerous
	Plecoptera – non leuctra	Few
Group B - Moderately Pollution Sensitive		
	Trichoptera - cased	Few
	Plecoptera - leuctra	Few

Table 2.10: Invertebrate Sample Station 10 Results



Group C - Moderately Pollution Tolerant		
	Ephemeroptera – <i>Baetis rhodani</i>	Common
	Trichoptera - Caseless	Few
	Platyhelminthes	Few
Group D - Very Pollution Tolerant		
Group E - Most Pollution Tolerant		



2.11 **Sample Station 11**

Sample Station 10 was located on the Toon River approximately 1.8 kilometres downstream of sampling station 9. The river here is approximately 10 metres wide with a gravel substrate. The river provides good quality salmonid habitat. It also provides suitable habitat for freshwater pearl mussel, though none were recorded at the sample location. No signs of any effects of the windfarm on this river channel were identified. This sample station is shown in Plate 2.9.



Plate 2.9. Sample Station 11.

Submerged macrophytes included water crowfoot (*Ranunculus sp.*) and the channel conforms to the EU Habitats Directive Annex I habitat '*water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation (3260)*' at this location. Emergent vegetation included hemlock water dropwort, marsh ragwort (*Senecio aquaticus*) and figwort. The bank side vegetation included hemlock water dropwort, bramble, gorse and broom (*Sarothamnus* scoparius) scrub with willows on the banks.

The Q rating assigned to the channel was Q4. It was assigned this value as Group A were recorded in fair numbers with Group B recorded and Group C recorded in fair numbers. There was no filamentous algae or sewage fungus and no signs of other pollution. No signs of any impacts on the river resulting from the construction of the wind farm were recorded.

Indicator Group	Taxon	Dominance
Group A - Very		
Pollution Sensitive		

Table 2.11: Invertebrate Sample Station 11 Results



	1		
		Ephemeroptera – Heptageniidae (stone wash)	Numerous
		Plecoptera – non leuctra x 2 species	Common
Group B - Moderately Pollution Sensitive			
		Trichoptera - cased	Few
		Plecoptera - leuctra	Few
Group C - Moderately Pollution Tolerant			
		Ephemeroptera – <i>Baetis</i> <i>rhodani</i>	Numerous
		Simulidae	Few
Group D - Very Pollution Tolerant			
Group E - Most Pollution Tolerant			



3. CONCLUSION

The survey included a general habitat assessment and biological water quality assessment at every watercourse where flowing water was present within or downstream of the wind farm site and grid connection route following construction and operation of the wind farm. In none of the 11 survey stations was there any evidence to indicate that there had been any impact on water quality or any other aspect of the watercourse as a result of the construction or the operation of the wind farm and grid connection.

Cleanrath Wind Farm Natura Impact Statement NIS F – 2020.08.12 – 191223a



мко

APPENDIX 4

HEN HARRIER SURVEY DATA



Appendix 4 – Hen Harrier Survey Data & Figures

Cleanrath Wind Farm





DOCUMENT DETAILS

Client:

 \mathbf{O}

Project Title:

Project Number:

Document Title:

Document File Name:

Prepared By:

Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd

Cleanrath Wind Farm

191223a

Appendix 4 – Hen Harrier Survey Data & Figures

191223a – 2020.07.28– F

MKO Tuam Road Galway Ireland H91 VW84

MK

Planning and Environmental Consultants

Rev	Status	Date	Author(s)	Approved By
01	Draft	28/07/2020	DN	PC
02	Final	28/07/2020	DN	PC



Table of Contents

TABLE OF TABLES

Table 1 Hen Harrier 2015 – 2017 Survey Data	1
Table 2 Hen Harrier Operational Survey Data	5



APPENDIX 4 (HEN HARRIER SURVEY DATA & FIGURES)

Table 1 Hen Harrier 2015 – 2017 Survey Data

	Vantage Point Surveys													
Obs. Ref. No.	Date	VP	Species	No. of Birds	Time of flight	Duration of flight (s)	Band 1 (0- 10m)	Band 2 (10- 25m)	Band 3 PCH (25- 175m)	Band 4 (>175m)	Sex/Age	Notes on habitat and activity	Comments	Surveyor
HH001	21/02/2015	2	Hen Harrier	1	13:10:00	5			5		М	Male HH - Quick glimpse of bird as it rose from bracken and disappeared behind a rocky outcrop.	Headed East	SI
HH002	22/02/2015	1	Hen Harrier	1	12:03:00	45	45		0		М	Male HH - Quartering/hunting across heath/bog on the lower ground on-site, from E-W and landed in a patch of burned heather. Perched there for 20 mins (Perching spot = X on the map between flight line 2 and 3).	Headed West	SI
HH003	22/02/2015	1	Hen Harrier	1	12:23:00	60	60		0		М	Male HH - Same male left perching spot and hunted again over bog before disappearing around the hill.	Headed West	SI
HH004	22/02/2015	1	Hen Harrier	1	12:25:00	30	30		0		М	Male HH - Same male again flew over the summit of the hill behind VP 5m above summit and out of site (hence 300m) in a NE direction before lost sight of him due to glare.	Headed North East	SI
HH005	16/09/2015	1	Hen Harrier	1	08:27:00	30	10		30		F	Female seen flying east of VP 1, heading North over rough grassland, circling once before turning East and slowly declining in height heading towards area of conifer plantation, lost visual over conifer plantation.		D



	Vantage Point Surveys													
Obs. Ref. No.	Date	VP	Species	No. of Birds	Time of flight	Duration of flight (s)	Band 1 (0- 10m)	Band 2 (10- 25m)	Band 3 PCH (25- 175m)	Band 4 (>175m)	Sex/Age	Notes on habitat and activity	Comments	Surveyor
HH006	28/10/2015	2	Hen Harrier	1	14:50:00	5	5		0			Male		JC
HH007	29/10/2015	1	Hen Harrier	1	07:36:00	8			8			Male		JC
HH008	07/12/2016	3	Hen Harrier	1	14:14	25	20	5			М	WD4, (Conifer plantation) Male observed flying South over juvenile conifer plantation low to the ground hunting. Male then turned Northeast, over area of heath habitat and visual lost due to surrounding terrain.		D
HH009	20/12/2016	2	Hen Harrier	1	08:33	10	10				М	WS, (Scrub/ transitional woodland) Male observed hunting low to the ground when disturbed GP, flew North chasing after individuals where visual was quickly lost due to the terrain.		D
HH010	20/12/2016	2	Hen Harrier	1	08:34	35		35			М	E, (Exposed rock and disturbed ground) Same male observed at 08.33 seen again flying south east past VP 2. Individual proceeded to turn South directly, observed slowly declining in height and passed over juvenile forestry where visual was lost.		D
HH011	20/12/2016	2	Hen Harrier	1	08:41	20	20				F	 E, (Exposed rock and disturbed ground) Initial call of HH can be heard a short distance from VP. Female observed circling over area of rough terrain and then joined by a second female in the same area. 		D
HH012	20/12/2016	2	Hen Harrier	1	08:42	15	15				F	E, (Exposed rock and disturbed ground) Sighting of second		D

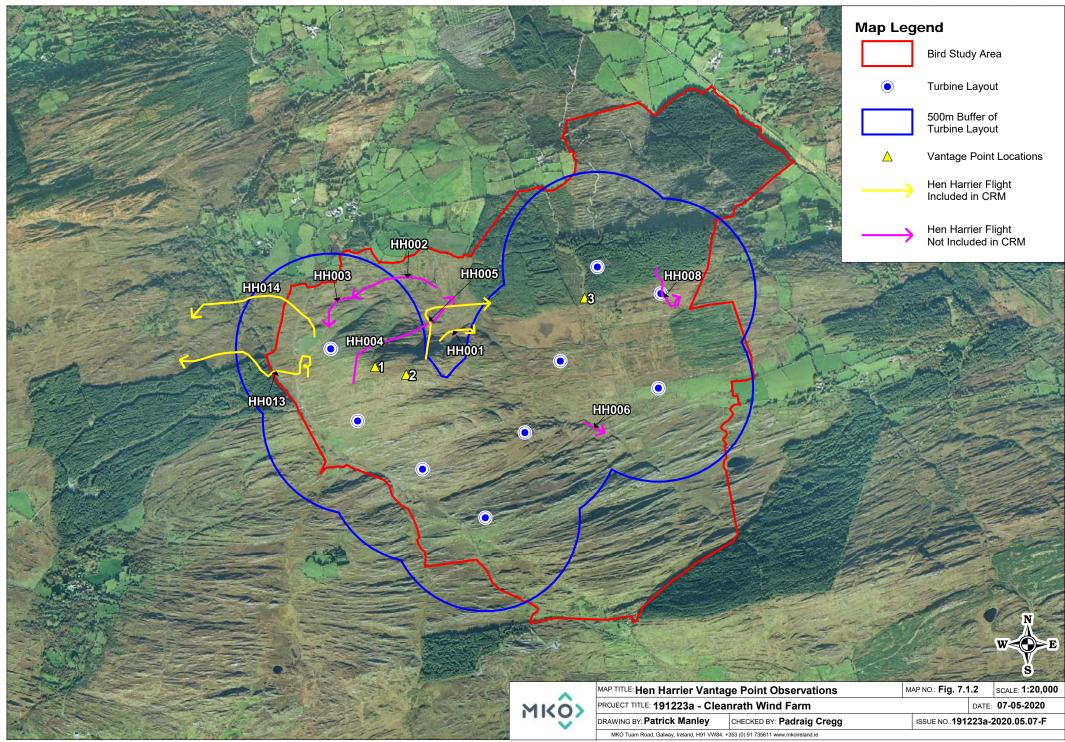


	Vantage Point Surveys													
Obs. Ref. No.	Date	VP	Species	No. of Birds	Time of flight	Duration of flight (s)	Band 1 (0- 10m)	Band 2 (10- 25m)	Band 3 PCH (25- 175m)	Band 4 (>175m)	Sex/Age	Notes on habitat and activity	Comments	Surveyor
												individual seen with first individual. Pair seen circling over area of scrub, losing visual frequently due to the terrain. Visual lost quite soon as pair moved off behind terrain and not seen again.		
HH013	13/01/2017	1	Hen Harrier	1	09:16	140	15	30	95		F	WS, (Scrub/ transitional woodland) Female observed flying North past VP 1 and dropped down low over area of scrub, turned back south briefly before turning westwards flying over area of scrub and juvenile forestry until visual was lost.		D
HH014	13/01/2017	1	Hen Harrier	1	10:12	120	20	50	50		F	WS, (Scrub/ transitional woodland) Female observed flying low over scrub heading north initially. Turned Northwest for a period of time. Seen dropping down in height over area of scrub and lost visual with distance.		D

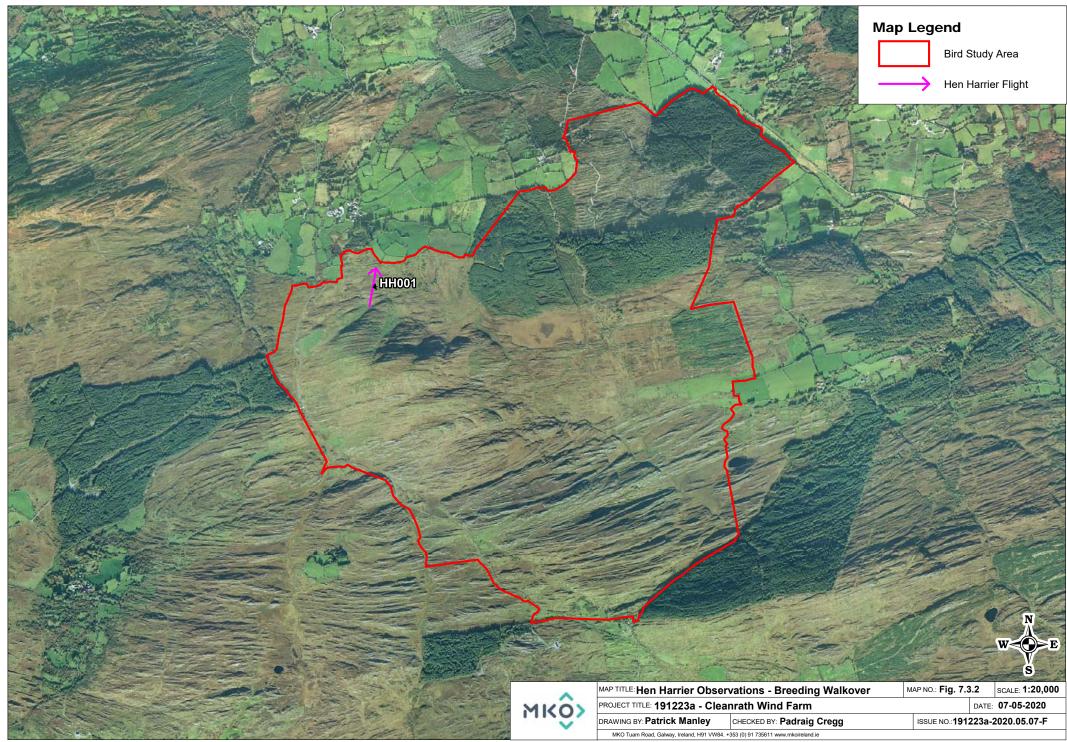
Breeding Bird Surveys												
Obs. Ref. No.	Survey Date	Time of observation	Species	Number of birds	Sex/age	Comments	Surveyor					
HH001	15/04/2015	13:05	Hen Harrier	2	F	One flying directly over site, the other seen (W) of site some distance away	on site	D				



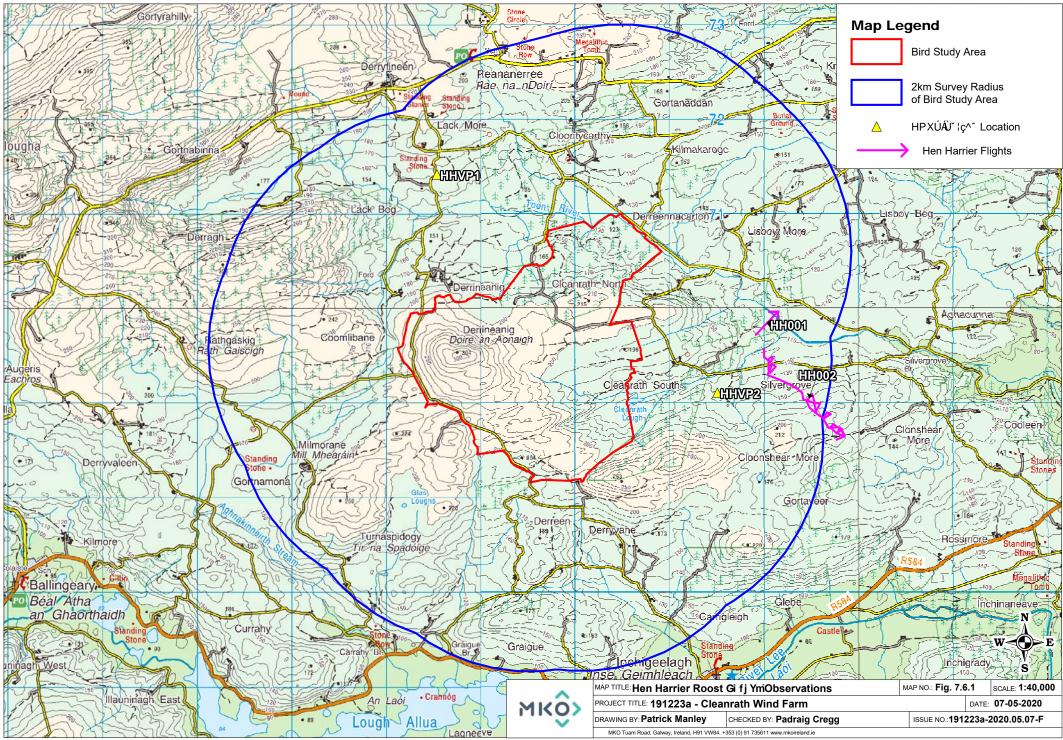
	Hen Harrier Roost Surveys								
Obs. Ref. No.	Date	Species	No. of Birds	Time of flight	Duration of flight (s)			Surveyor	
HH001	21/11/2016	Hen Harrier	1	16:12	15	WS, (Scrub/ transitional woodland) GM1, (Marsh) Sex unknown due to direct sunlight. Individual observed gliding slowly Northeast over area of habitat and seen declining in height into area of habitat.		D	
HH002	21/11/2016	Hen Harrier	1	16:25	280	WS, (Scrub/ transitional woodland) GM1, (Marsh) Distinct silhouette of HH, more than likely same individual rising out of scrub area. Individual heading Southeast and can be seen gaining a lot of height. Seen circling for long periods of time, moved a significant distance from original location. Lost visual due to distance in the end.		D	



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland

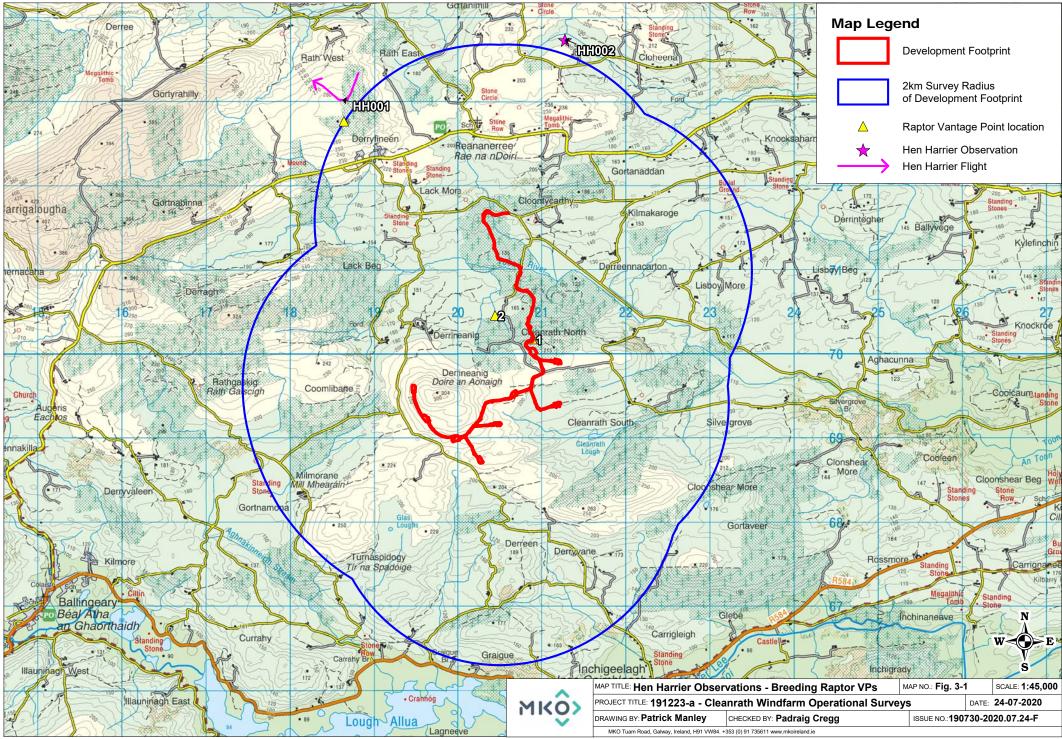


Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland

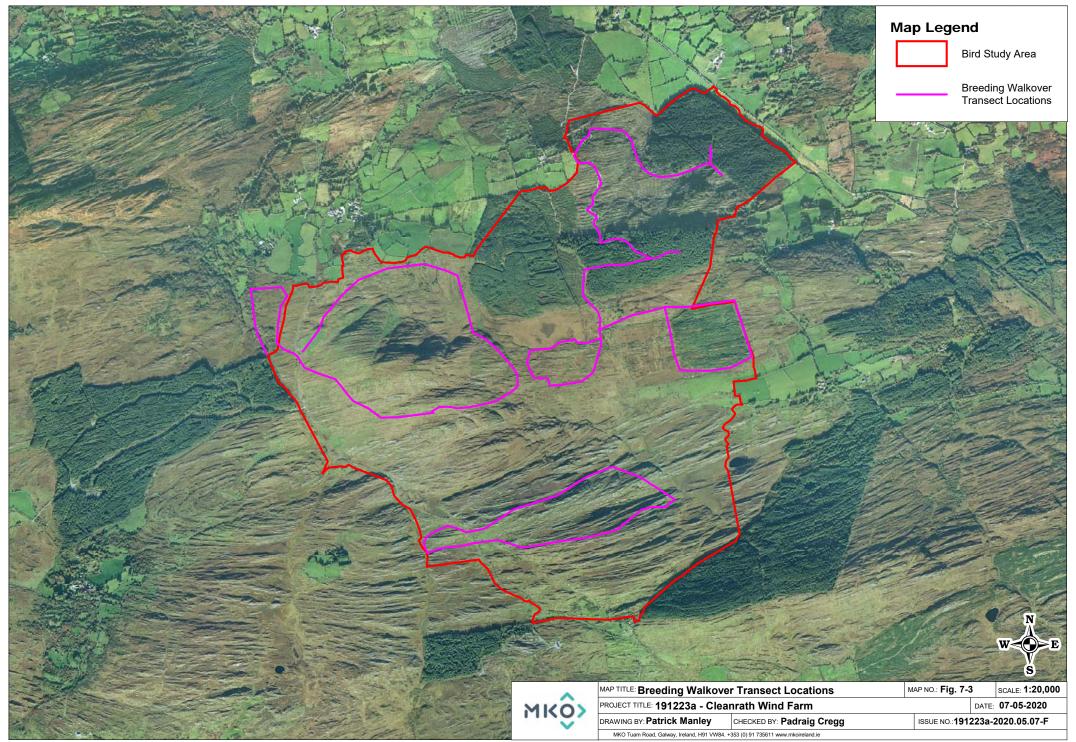


Table 2 Hen Harrier Operational Survey Data

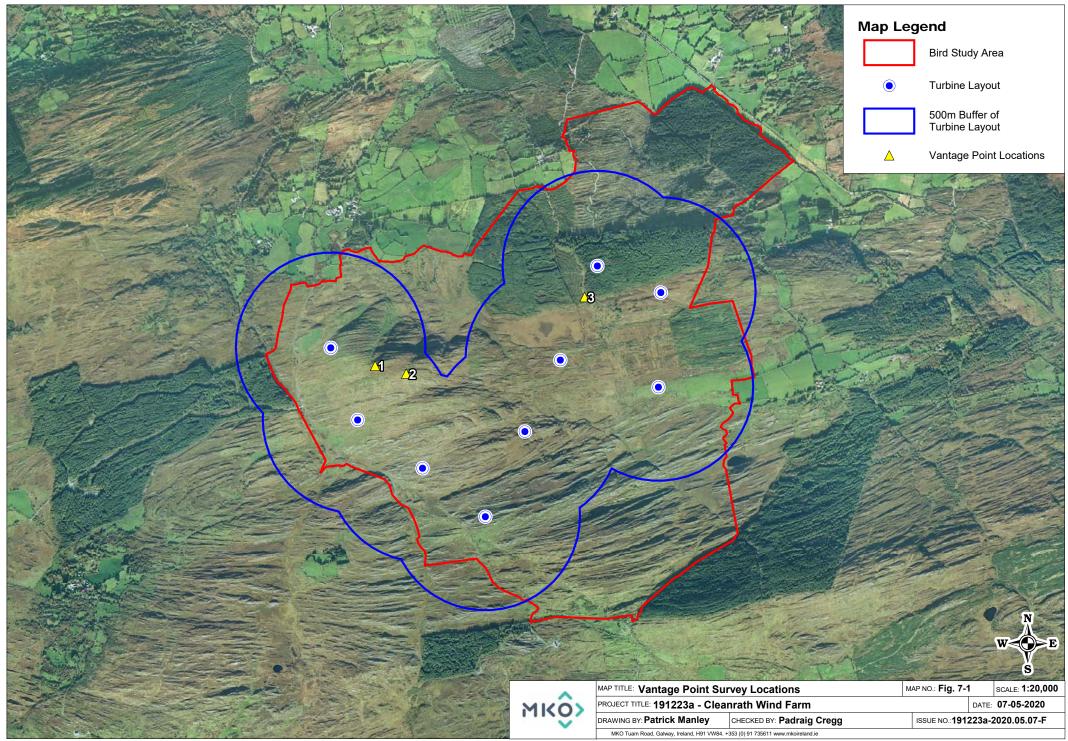
	Breeding Raptor Surveys									
Obs. Ref. No.	Date	RVP	Species	No. of Birds	Time of flight	Notes on habitat and activity	Comments	Surveyor		
HH001	15/05/2020	3	Hen Harrier	1	16:45	PB1, (Raised bog) GS4, (Wet grassland) WD4, (Conifer plantation) Hunting & Soaring	Adult Male	SA		
HH002	15/05/2020	3	Hen Harrier	1	19:30	PB1, (Raised bog) GS4, (Wet grassland) WD4, (Conifer plantation) Hunting & Soaring	Adult Male	SA		



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021820 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland

Cleanrath Wind Farm Natura Impact Statement NIS F – 2020.08.12 – 191223a



мко

APPENDIX 5

HYDROLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

9. HYDROLOGY AND HYDROGEOLOGY

9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 Background and Objectives

Hydro-Environmental Services (HES) was engaged by MKO to carry out a remedial environmental assessment (rEIAR) of the effects of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Cleanrath Wind Farm site, grid connection and junction accommodation works (the "Cleanrath wind farm development") on water aspects (hydrology and hydrogeology) of the receiving environment.

The objectives of the assessment are:

- Characterise the baseline water environment (surface water and groundwater) in the area of the Cleanrath wind farm development and associated works;
- > Identify significant effects of the Cleanrath wind farm development on surface water and groundwater during the completed construction phase and operational and decommissioning phases of the development;
- > Where required, appropriate remedial mitigation measures that were employed or that may need to be employed are described. The residual effects of the Cleanrath wind farm development are then presented; and,
- > Assess cumulative effects of the development and other local developments.

9.1.2 Statement of Authority

Hydro-Environmental Services (HES) are a specialist hydrological, hydrogeological and environmental practice which delivers a range of water and environmental management consultancy services to the private and public sectors across Ireland and Northern Ireland. HES was established in 2005, and our office is located in Dungarvan, County Waterford.

Our core areas of expertise and experience include upland hydrology and wind farm drainage design. We routinely complete impact assessments for hydrology and hydrogeology for a large variety of project types.

This chapter of the rEIAR was prepared by Michael Gill and David Broderick.

Michael Gill (BA, BAI, Dip Geol., MSc, MIEI) is an Environmental Engineer and Hydrogeologist with over 18 years' environmental consultancy experience in Ireland. Michael has completed numerous hydrological and hydrogeological impact assessments of wind farms and renewable projects in Ireland. He has substantial experience in surface water drainage design and SUDs design and surface water/groundwater interactions. For example, Michael has worked on the EIS/EIAR for Meenbog WF, Shehymore WF, and Carrigarierk WF, Oweninny WF, Cloncreen WF, and Yellow River WF, and over 100 other wind farm-related projects.

David Broderick (BSc, H. Dip Env Eng, MSc) is a hydrogeologist with over 13 years' experience in both the public and private sectors. Having spent two years working in the Geological Survey of Ireland working mainly on groundwater and source protection studies David moved into the private sector. David has a strong background in groundwater resource assessment and hydrogeological/hydrological investigations in relation to developments such as quarries and wind farms. David has completed numerous geology and water sections for input into EIARs for a range of commercial developments including Meenbog WF, Shehymore WF, and Carrigarierk WF, Oweninny WF, and Yellow River WF.

9.1.3 Scoping and Consultation

The scope for this chapter of the rEIAR has also been informed by consultation with statutory consultees, bodies with environmental responsibility and other interested parties. This consultation process and the List of Consultees is outlined in Section 2.4 of this rEIAR. Matters raised by Consultees in their responses with respect to the water environment are summarised in Table 9-1 below.

ane 5-1. Summary 61 Water Environment Related Scoping Responses						
Consultee	Description	Addressed in Section				
Irish Water (IW)	• A generic response was provided with respect potential impacts in terms of any local groundwater and surface water abstractions	Local groundwater and surface water assessments addressed at Section 9.3.21				
Geological Survey of Ireland (Groundwater Section)	• A generic response was provided with respect potential impacts on groundwater resources/sources	Groundwater resources assessment addressed at Sections 9.3.14 and 9.3.21				
Health Services Executive	• A generic response was provided with respect potential impacts on surface water and groundwater quality	Local groundwater and surface water quality assessments addressed at Section 9.5				

Table 9-1: Summary of Water Environment Related Scoping Responses

9.1.4 **Relevant Legislation**

The rEIAR is prepared in accordance with the requirements of European Union Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (the 'EIA Directive') as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU.

The requirements of the following legislation are complied with:

- S.I. No. 349 of 1989: European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations, and subsequent Amendments (S.I. No. 84 of 1994, S.I. No. 101 of 1996, S.I. No. 351 of 1998, S.I. No. 93 of 1999, S.I. No. 450 of 2000 and S.I. No. 538 of 2001, S.I. 134 of 2013 and the Minerals Development Act 2017), the Planning and Development Act, and S.I. 600 of 2001 Planning and Development Regulations and subsequent Amendments. These instruments implement EU Directive 85/337/EEC and subsequent amendments, on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment;
- Directives 2011/92/EU and 2014/52/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment, including Circular Letter PL 1/2017: Implementation of Directive 2014/52/EU on the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (EIA Directive);
- > Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended;
- S.I. No 296 of 2018: European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 which transposes the provisions of Directive 2014/52/EU into Irish law;
- S.I. No. 293 of 1988: European Communities (Quality of Salmonid Waters) Regulations, resulting from EU Directive 78/659/EEC on the Quality of Fresh Waters Needing Protection or Improvement in order to Support Fish Life;
- S.I. No. 272 of 2009: European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 (as amended by S.I. No. 296/2009; S.I. No. 386/2015; S.I. No. 327/2012; and S.I. No. 77/2019 and giving effect to Directive 2008/105/EC on environmental quality

standards in the field of water policy and Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy) and S.I. No. 722 of 2003 European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations which implement EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) establishing a framework for the Community action in the field of water policy and provide for implementation of 'daughter' Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration. Since 2000 water management in the EU has been directed by the Water Framework Directive (2006/0/EC) (as amended by Decision No. 2455/2011/EC; Directive 2008/32/EC; Directive 2008/105/EC; Directive 2009/31/EC; Directive 2013/39/EU; Council Directive 2013/64/EU; and Commission Directive 2014/101/EU ("WFD"). The WFD was given legal effect in Ireland by the European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations 2003 (S.I. No. 722 of 2003);

- S.I. No. 684 of 2007: Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2017, resulting from EU Directive 80/68/EEC on the protection of groundwater against pollution caused by certain dangerous substances (the Groundwater Directive);S.I. No. 106 of 2007: European Communities (Drinking Water) Regulations 2007and S.I. No. 122 of 2014: European Communities (Drinking Water) Regulations 2014, arising from EU Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption (the "Drinking Water Directive") and EU Directive 2000/60/EC;
- S.I. No. 9 of 2010: European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (as amended by S.I. No. 389/2011; S.I. No. 149/2012; S.I. No. 366/2016; the Radiological Protection (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014; and S.I. No. 366/2016); and,
- S.I. No. 296 of 2009: The European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009 (as amended by S.I. No. 355 of 2018).

9.1.5 **Relevant Guidance**

The Hydrology and Hydrogeology chapter of the rEIAR is carried out in accordance with guidance contained in the following:

- Institute of Geologists Ireland (2013): Guidelines for Preparation of Soils, Geology & Hydrogeology Chapters in Environmental Impact Statements;
- National Roads Authority (2005): Guidelines on Procedures for Assessment and Treatment of Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology for National Road Schemes;
- Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2006): Wind Energy Development Guidelines for Planning Authorities;
- Inland Fisheries Ireland (2016): Guidelines on Protection of Fisheries During Construction Works in and Adjacent to Waters;
- Scottish Natural Heritage (2010): Good Practice During Wind Farm Construction;
- > PPG1 General Guide to Prevention of Pollution (UK Guidance Note);
- > PPG5 Works or Maintenance in or Near Watercourses (UK Guidance Note);
- CIRIA (Construction Industry Research and Information Association) (2006): Guidance on 'Control of Water Pollution from Linear Construction Projects' (CIRIA Report No. C648, 2006);
- CIRIA 2006: Control of Water Pollution from Construction Sites Guidance for Consultants and Contractors (CIRIA C532, 2006).
- Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment (DoHPLG, 2018); and,
- Guidance on the preparation of the EIA Report (Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU), (European Union, 2017).

9.2 Methodology

9.2.1 **Desk Study**

A desk study of the site and the surrounding area was completed in advance of construction of the development and this data was reviewed and updated where relevant in the preparation of this rEIAR.

This involved collecting all relevant geological data for the site and surrounding area. This included consultation with the following data sources:

- The CEMP for the Cleanrath wind farm development updated as part of condition compliance for the 2017 Permission for the construction phase;
- Environmental Protection Agency databases (<u>www.epa.ie</u>);
- Geological Survey of Ireland Groundwater Database (www.gsi.ie);
- Met Eireann Meteorological Databases (<u>www.met.ie</u>);
- National Parks and Wildlife Services Public Map Viewer (<u>www.npws.ie</u>);
- Water Framework Directive Map Viewer (<u>www.catchments.ie</u>);
- Bedrock Geology 1:100,000 Scale Map Series, Sheet 21 (Geology of Cork-Kerry). Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI, 2003);
- > Geological Survey of Ireland (2003) Groundwater Body Initial Characterization Reports,
- > OPW Indicative Flood Maps (www.floodinfo.ie);
- > Environmental Protection Agency "Hydrotool" Map Viewer (<u>www.epa.ie</u>);
- > CFRAM Flood Risk Assessment maps (<u>www.cfram.ie</u>); and,
- Department of Environment, Community and Local Government on-line mapping viewer (www.myplan.ie).

9.2.2 **Pre-Construction Monitoring and Site Investigation** Data

A hydrological walkover survey, including detailed drainage mapping and baseline monitoring, was undertaken by HES at the site and along sections of the grid connection during the pre-construction phase.

Investigations undertaken during the pre-construction included the following:

- > Walkover surveys and hydrological mapping of the proposed site, grid connection route and the surrounding area were undertaken whereby water flow directions and drainage patterns were recorded;
- A total of over 225 no. peat probe depths were carried out by Fehily Timoney and Company FT (formerly called AGEC Ltd) to determine the depths and geomorphology of the peat at the site; and,
- > A Peat Stability Assessment was undertaken by FT (December, 2015).

9.2.3 Construction and Operational Phase Monitoring/Audit Data

In preparation of this rEIAR, walkover surveys and detailed geological mapping of the built development site were undertaken by HES during December 2019 and May 2020. A drone survey of the built development footprint was undertaken by MKO on 27th February 2020.

In addition, monitoring/audit data recorded during the construction phase and operational phase was also compiled and reviewed to address the Water Section of the rEIAR. This data includes the following:

- > Ionic Consulting Ltd. construction phase records (quantity, volumes etc);
- **ECoW (MKO)** audit reports;
- > HES construction phase site audits;
- Monthly surface water monitoring/sampling results;
- > Automated surface water turbidity monitoring results; and
- Results from automated surface water flow/level monitoring in the Toon River and the River Lee.

9.2.4 Impact Assessment Methodology

The guideline criteria (EPA, August 2017) for the assessment of significant effects require that effects are described with respect to their extent, magnitude, type (i.e. negative, positive or neutral) probability, duration, frequency, reversibility, and transfrontier nature (if applicable). The descriptors used in this rEIAR are those set out in the EPA (2017) Glossary of effects as shown in Chapter 1 of this rEIAR.

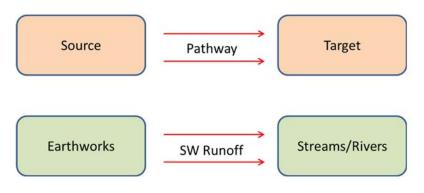
In addition to the above methodology, the sensitivity of the water environment receptors was assessed on completion of the desk study and baseline study. Levels of sensitivity which are defined in Table 9-2 are used to assess the potential effect that the Cleanrath wind farm development may have on them.

Sensitivity of I	Sensitivity of Receptor						
Not sensitive	Receptor is of low environmental importance (e.g. surface water quality classified by EPA as A3 waters or seriously polluted), fish sporadically present or restricted). Heavily engineered or artificially modified and may dry up during summer months. Environmental equilibrium is stable and is resilient to changes which are considerably greater than natural fluctuations, without detriment to its present character. No abstractions for public or private water supplies. GSI groundwater vulnerability "Low" – "Medium" classification and "Poor" aquifer importance.						
Sensitive	Receptor is of medium environmental importance or of regional value. Surface water quality classified by EPA as A2. Salmonid species may be present and may be locally important for fisheries. Abstractions for private water supplies. Environmental equilibrium copes well with all natural fluctuations but cannot absorb some changes greater than this without altering part of its present character. GSI groundwater vulnerability "High" classification and "Locally" important aquifer.						
Very sensitive	Receptor is of high environmental importance or of national or international value i.e. NHA or SAC. Surface water quality classified by EPA as A1 and salmonid spawning grounds present. Abstractions for public drinking water supply. GSI groundwater vulnerability "Extreme" classification and "Regionally" important aquifer						

Table 9-2 Receptor Sensitivity Criteria (Adapted from www.sepa.org.uk)

9.2.5 **Overview of Impact Assessment Process**

The conventional source-pathway-target model (see below, top) was applied to assess the impacts on downstream environmental receptors (see below, bottom as an example) as a result of the Cleanrath wind farm development.



Where potential impacts are identified, the classification of impacts in the assessment follows the descriptors provided in the Glossary of Impacts contained in the following guidance documents produced by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):

- Advice Notes on Current Practice in the Preparation of Environmental Impact Statements (EPA, 2003); and,
- Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements (EPA, 2002).

The description process clearly and consistently identifies the key aspects of any potential impact source, namely its character, magnitude, duration, likelihood and whether it is of a direct or indirect nature.

In order to provide an understanding of the stepwise impact assessment process applied below (Section 9.6), we have firstly presented below a summary guide that defines the steps (1 to 7) taken in each element of the impact assessment process. The guide also provides definitions and descriptions of the assessment process and shows how the source-pathway-target model and the EPA impact descriptors are combined.

Using this defined approach, this impact assessment process is then applied to all wind farm construction and operation activities which have the potential to generate a source of significant adverse impact on the geological and hydrological/ hydrogeological (including water quality) environments.

Table 9-3: Impact Assessment Process Steps

Step 1	Identification and Description of Potential Impact Source						
	This section presents and describes the activity that brings about the potential impact or the potential source of pollution. The significance of effects is briefly described.						
Step 2	Pathway / Mechanism:	The route by which a potential source of impact can transfer or migrate to an identified receptor. In terms of this type of development, surface water and groundwater flows are the primary pathways, or for example, excavation or soil erosion are physical mechanisms by which potential impacts are generated.					
Step 3	Receptor:	A receptor is a part of the natural environment which could potentially be impacted upon, e.g. human health, plant / animal species, aquatic habitats, soils/geology, water resources, water sources. The potential impact can only arise as a result of a source and pathway being present.					
Step 4	Pre-mitigation Impact:	Impact descriptors which describe the magnitude, likelihood, duration and direct or indirect nature of the potential impact before mitigation is put in place.					
Step 5	Proposed Mitigation Measures:	Control measures that will be put in place to prevent or reduce all identified significant adverse impacts. In relation to this type of development, these measures are generally provided in two types: (1) mitigation by avoidance, and (2) mitigation by (engineering) design.					
Step 6	Post-Mitigation Residual Impact:	Impact descriptors which describe the magnitude, likelihood, duration and direct or indirect nature of the potential impacts after mitigation is put in place.					
Step 7	Significance of Effects:	Describes the likely significant post-mitigation effects of the identified potential impact source on the receiving environment.					

9.3 Receiving Environment

9.3.1 Site Description and Topography

The Cleanrath wind farm development site is located approximately 13km to the southwest of Macroom, Co. Cork. The total site area is approximately 67ha. The landscape character of the region listed in the Cork County Development Plan is "Composite Middle Valley of Rugged scrub and Marginal Land". While the landscape character type is entitled "Ridged and Peaked Upland".

Access to the site is from local road at Gortanaddan and Cloontycarthy townlands which is located 1.5km east of Reananerree village. The 9 turbines and associated infrastructure are positioned around a distinct conical shaped hill feature (referred to as Derrineanig on the OSI mapping) which is located approximately 3.5km to the southwest of the site entrance. Turbines T6, T7, T9 and T10 are located on the steadily sloping western side of Derrineanig Hill (peak at 300m OD) where the ground elevation at the turbine locations varies between approximately 220m and 260m OD. Turbines T1, T3, T4, T5 and T8 are located on the more moderately sloping eastern side of Derrineanig Hill where the ground elevation at the turbine locations varies between approximately 190 and 220m OD. The total development footprint area is approximately 10ha.

Bedrock is at the surface over much of the site, particularly on the western slopes of the site, with pockets of soils or peat that are confined to small local dips/valleys between ridged outcrops of bedrock. Landuse locally comprises rough pasture or forestry where a soil and subsoil has formed. For the majority of the site where rock outcrops this precludes any use other than patchy grazing.

The Cleanrath wind farm development comprises a grid route connection route that consists of a electricity cabling (33kV) from Turbine no. 7 within cable ducting along the permitted Operational Access/Inspection Road (Pl Ref. 18/04458) southwest of Turbine no. 7 and on to the local public road until it turns onto the access track of the constructed Derragh Wind Farm development and connects to the constructed 38kV electricity substation, located approximately 3km west of the Cleanrath wind farm development in the townland of Rathgaskig. The grid connection is approximately c15km in length. The cabling loops back out of the Derragh Wind Farm Substation (38kV) and runs mainly within the public road corridor on to the 110kV Coomataggart substation located in the townland of Grousemount, Co. Kerry. The final 1.5km of the cable route within Co. Cork and the 2km of the cabling in Co. Kerry is located on existing private access tracks. There are 126 no. watercourse crossings along the grid connection route, and this includes 13 no. main existing bridge/culvert crossings (natural watercourses) and 113 no. existing smaller culvert crossings (manmade drain crossings).

9.3.2 Rainfall and Recharge

Long term rainfall and evaporation data was sourced from Met Éireann. The 30-year standard annual average rainfall (SAAR: 1981 - 2010) recorded at Ballyvourney (Cloontycarthy), 0.6km north of the site, are presented in Table 9-4. This is the closest station which is most similar to the elevation of the development site.

Station X-Coord		ď	Y-Coord		Ht (MAOD)		Opened		Closed			
Ballyvo	ourney	110700		235200		101		1963		N/A		
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
201	150.5	138	102	102.5	91.5	85	102	119.5	186	177	189.5	1645

Table 9-4 Local Average long-term Rainfall Data (mm)

The closest synoptic station where the average potential evapotranspiration (PE) is recorded is at Cork Airport, approximately 60km east of the site. The long-term average PE for this station is 540mm/yr. This value is used as a best estimate of the site PE. Actual Evaporation (AE) at the site is estimated as 513mm/yr (which is $0.95 \times PE$).

The effective rainfall (ER) represents the water available for runoff and groundwater recharge. The ER for the site is calculated as follows:

Effective rainfall (ER) = AAR – AE = 1644 mm/yr – 513mm/yr ER = 1,131mm/yr

Based on groundwater recharge coefficient estimates from the GSI (<u>www.gsi.ie</u>) an estimate of between 51 - 200mm/year average annual recharge is given for the site due to its sloping nature. As a conservative measure the lower estimate is used in this study. This means that the hydrology of the study area is characterised by high surface water runoff rates and low groundwater recharge rates. Therefore, conservative annual recharge and runoff rates for the site are estimated to be 51mm/yr and 1,080mm/yr respectively.

9.3.3 **Regional Hydrology**

Regionally the Cleanrath wind farm development site is located in the River Lee surface water catchment. The grid connection route which is approximately 15km in length is located in both the River Lee (~12.6km) and the Roughty River (~2.4km) surface water catchments. All of the 9 no. constructed turbines and access roads etc are located in the River Lee Catchment.

The River Lee is located in (Hydrometric Area 19 of the South Western River Basin District) and flows in an easterly direction approximately 2.7km to the south of the development site via Lough Allua. The Roughty River catchment, which exists ~9km to the west of the development site, is also located in the South Western River Basin District.

A regional hydrology map is shown as Figure 9-1.

9.3.4 Local Hydrology

The western section of the wind farm site drains into Lough Allua (i.e. turbines T7 to T10) which exists on the River Lee. The eastern section of the wind farm site (i.e. turbines T1, T3, T4, T5, and T8) drains to the Toon River which is a tributary to the River Lee. The wind farm site entrance and approximately 0.8km of access road is located in the Sullane Beg River which is also a tributary of the River Lee.

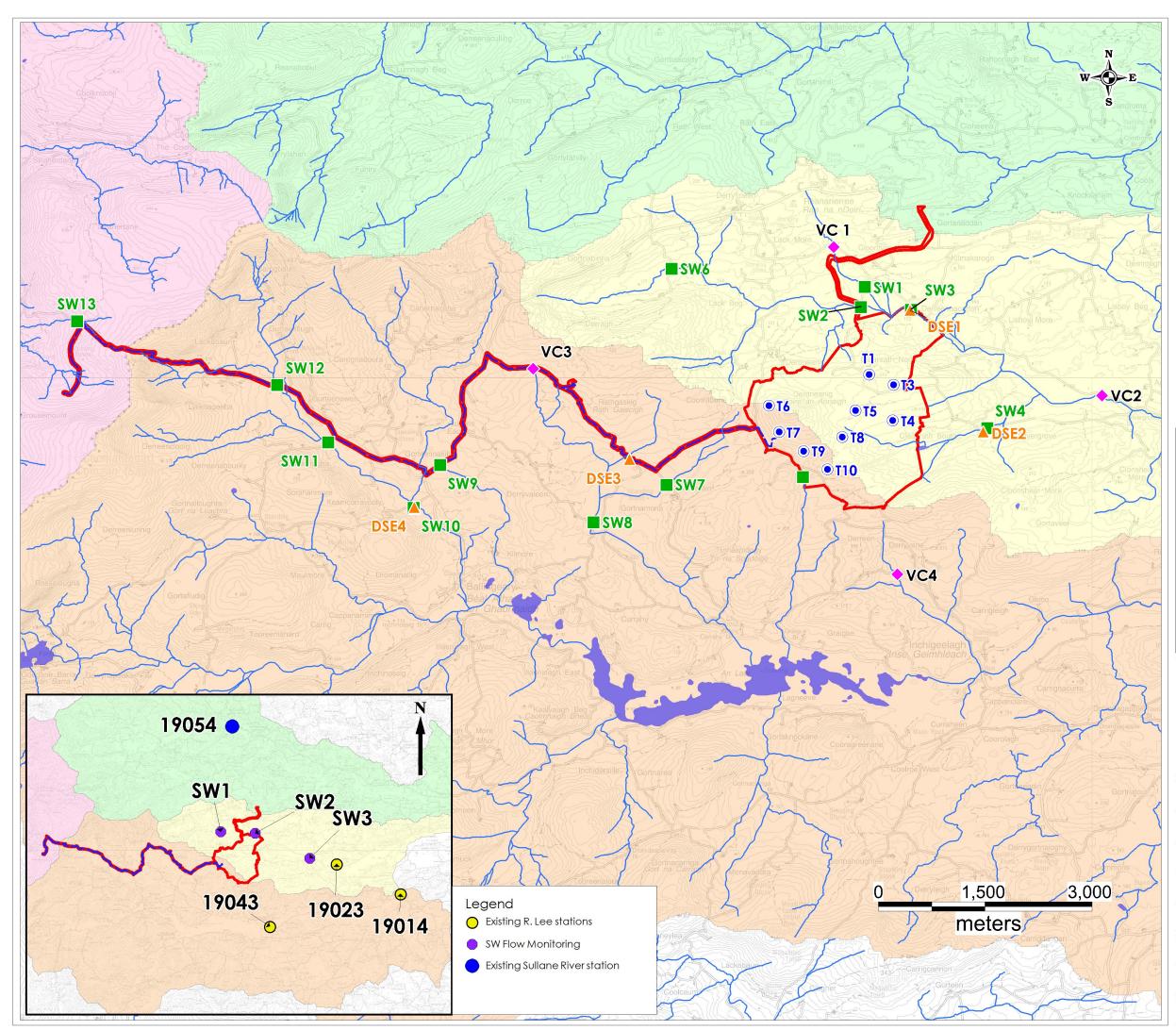
The length of the grid connection route within the River Lee catchment drains into Lough Allua. The remaining section of grid route within the Roughty River catchment drains directly into the Roughty River via minor upland streams.

A local hydrology map is shown as Figure 9-2.

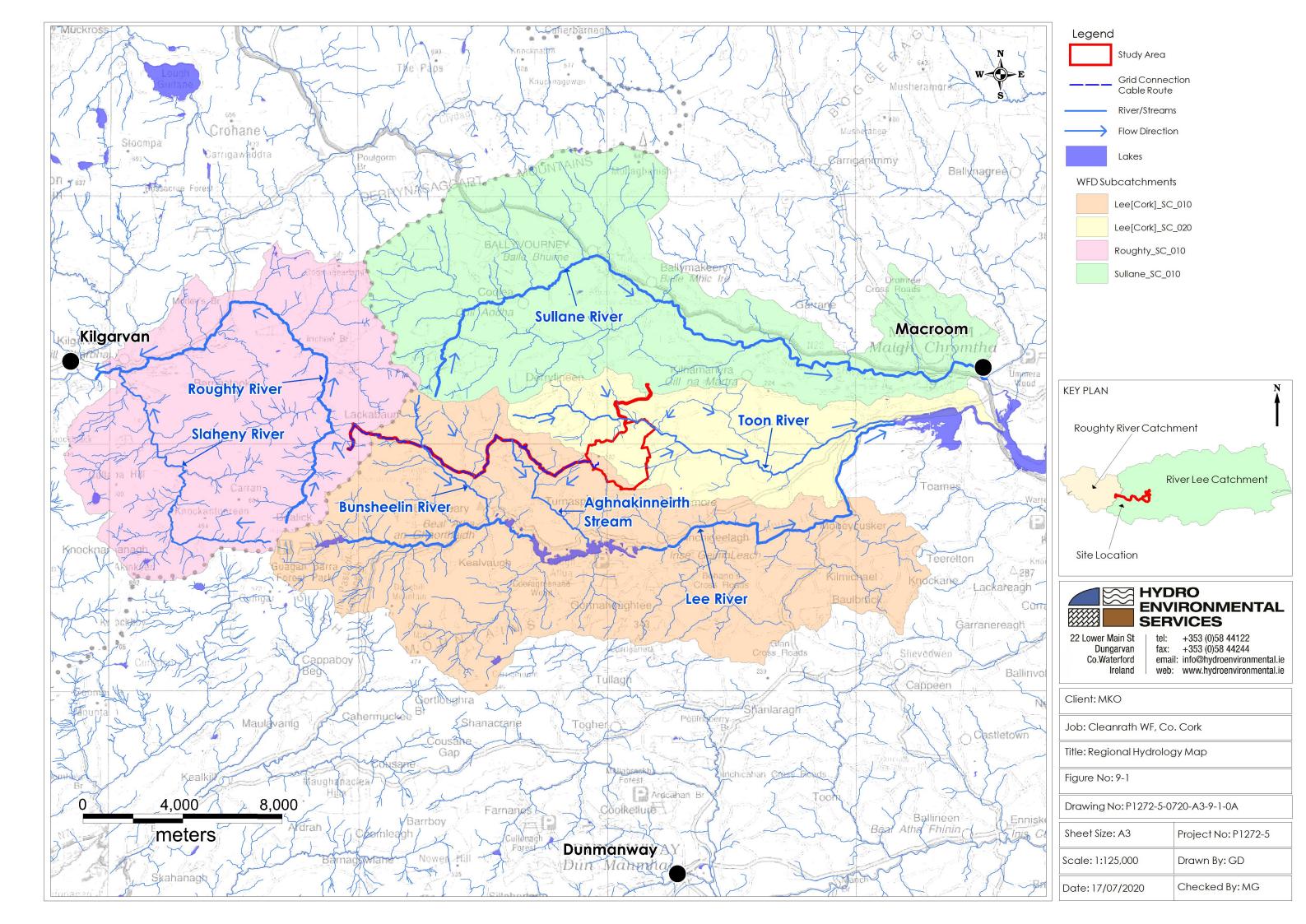
9.3.5 Wind Farm Site Natural Drainage

The topography at the wind farm site is locally undulating with the Hill of Derrineanig being the dominant feature. The ridges running below this peak slope gently off into five main sub-catchments. Two sub-catchments drain to Lough Allua and three of the sub-catchments drain to the Toon River.

The topography of the Hill of Derrineanig is characterised by rocky ridgelines which have a westerly / south-westerly orientation. The natural channels/valleys formed between the ridgelines means surface



Legend	Study Area							
۲		ted Turbine Locations						
	Grid Connection Cable Route							
	River/Streams							
\longrightarrow	> Flow Direction							
	Lakes							
	SW Sampling	Location						
A	Sonde Data (Turbidity)	Location						
٠		e Water Quality Point						
WFD Subc	catchments							
Le	ee[Cork]_SC_(010						
Le	ee[Cork]_SC_(020						
R	oughty_SC_01	0						
Su	ullane_SC_010							
KEY PLAN		N						
Site Location								
Site Loco	ation							
Site Loca		RO IRONMENTAL VICES						
22 Lower Ma Co.Wate	ain St tel: arvan fax:	IRONMENTAL vices +353 (0)58 44122 +353 (0)58 44244 I: info@hydroenvironmental.ie						
22 Lower Ma Co.Wate	ain St erford eland	+353 (0)58 44122 +353 (0)58 44244 : info@hydroenvironmental.ie						
22 Lower Ma Dunga Co.Wate Irr	ain St erford eland	+353 (0)58 44122 +353 (0)58 44244 I: info@hydroenvironmental.ie www.hydroenvironmental.ie						
22 Lower Ma Dunga Co.Wate In Client: MKC	Ain St arvan eland emai eland web:	IRONMENTAL +353 (0)58 44122 +353 (0)58 44244 I: info@hydroenvironmental.ie www.hydroenvironmental.ie . Cork						
22 Lower Ma Dunga Co.Wate In Client: MKC	Ain St erford eland tel: fax: emai eland web:	IRONMENTAL +353 (0)58 44122 +353 (0)58 44244 I: info@hydroenvironmental.ie www.hydroenvironmental.ie . Cork						
22 Lower Ma Dunga Co.Wate Irr Client: MKC Job: Clear Title: Local Figure No:	Ain St arvan erford eland tel: fax: emai emai web: D arrath WF, Co Hydrology M 9-2	IRONMENTAL +353 (0)58 44122 +353 (0)58 44244 I: info@hydroenvironmental.ie www.hydroenvironmental.ie . Cork						
22 Lower Ma Dunga Co.Wate Irr Client: MKC Job: Clear Title: Local Figure No:	Ain St erford eland tel: fax: emai eland web: D hrath WF, Co Hydrology M 9-2 0: P1272-5-07	+353 (0)58 44122 +353 (0)58 44244 I: info@hydroenvironmental.ie www.hydroenvironmental.ie						
22 Lower Ma Dunga Co.Wate Im Client: MKC Job: Clear Title: Local Figure No: Drawing N	Ain St ain St erford eland tel: fax: emai web: co hrath WF, Co Hydrology M 9-2 o: P1272-5-0; A3	IRONMENTAL +353 (0)58 44122 +353 (0)58 44244 : info@hydroenvironmental.ie www.hydroenvironmental.ie . Cork 1ap 720-A3-9-2-0A						



water runoff is constrained within these channels/valleys. The wind farm access roads intercept these channels at numerous locations across the wind farm site, particularly on the western portion of the wind farm site. The surface water flows within these natural channels have led to the formation of some local acid flushes (discussed in Section 9.3.6 below).

The eastern section of the wind farm site has existing forestry drains and man-made drains at roads and forest track side. The conifer plantation has itself got a well-developed drainage network which drains sections of the wind farm site. The main wind farm site entrance road passes through a significant area of forestry and in some instances the existing forestry tracks have been upgraded.

The installed wind farm drainage is discussed in Section 9.4.1 below.

A wind farm site drainage map is shown as Figure 9-3.

9.3.6 Flush Hydrology

This section discusses acid flush habitats that are present in the area of T9 and T4.

The topography of the area around turbine T9 is characterised by rocky ridgelines which have a westerly / south-westerly orientation. The natural channels/valleys formed between the ridgelines means surface water runoff is constrained within these channels/valleys and hence the increased surface water flows have led to the formation of local acid flushes. These acid flushes (including the ones in the area of T9) are formed solely by surface water flows and not groundwater flows. The hydrochemistry of these flush areas, which is dealt with further below, suggest that they are solely rainwater fed (meteoric in origin), hence the very low mineral content and the acidic hydrochemistry. If they were groundwater fed the hydrochemistry would indicate much higher mineral content in the water within the flushes.

Turbine T9 and its related access road are located in a localised valley (created by the rock ridgelines), which extends up-gradient of the turbine location in a predominately easterly / north-easterly upslope direction. In addition to the turbine T9 base and hardstanding area, there is approximately 200m of access roads within the catchment area to the flushes.

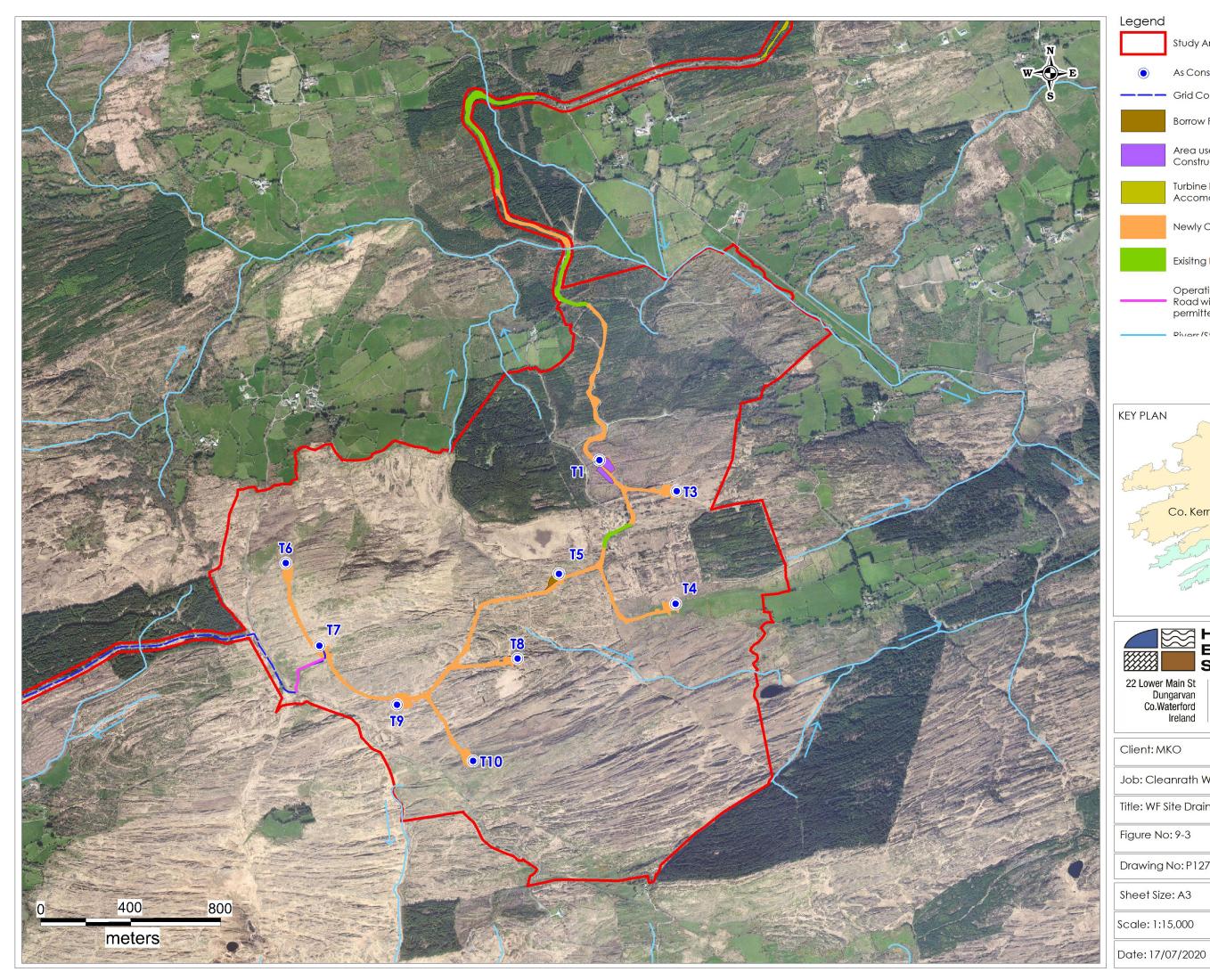
There are a number acid flush areas located in the vicinity of T9 and its access road that rely on surface water flows within this valley.

Gouge coring undertaken within the T9 flush catchment area indicate local peat depths in the range of 0 – 0.4m. The peat was found to rest directly on top of bedrock with an absence of mineral subsoils beneath the peat. Measurement of flush water hydrochemistry (i.e. pH and Electrical Conductivity – EC) indicate pH values in the 6.6 - 6.8 range and EC values less than 90μ S/cm. These values confirm that the flushes are maintained by rainfall, and not more mineralised groundwater seepages.

The predominant surface water flow path direction within the T9 flush area surface water catchment is in a south-westerly direction. Typically, surface water flows were concentrated on the vegetated valley / channel floors. Surface water flows from the T9 flush area catchment collects at a low point approximately 50m to the south of the turbine T9 location where a manmade channel appears to have been created to help drain the upstream area.

Construction drainage at T9 includes a cross-drain at the access road and an interceptor drain along the western boundary of the T9 hardstand to direct any water around the turbine and towards the flush type habitat to the south. The flush habitat is predominantly located down gradient (south) of T9 and some flow arises from the area around T9 over exposed rock towards the lower flush habitat.

The topography of the area around T4 and its local access roads is gently gentle sloping to the southeast. Surface water flow through the flush area is generally evenly distributed diffuse flow on the bog surface. The peat depth in the area of the flush habitat is measured between 0.1 and 0.8m and is underlain directly by bedrock.



	Study Area								
	As Constructe	d Turbine Locations							
	Grid Connect	on Cable Route							
	Borrow Pit Are	a							
		Area used as aTemporary Construction Compound							
	Turbine Delive Accomodatic								
	Newly Constru	cted Roads							
	Exisitng Roads	Upgraded							
	Road with unc	ccess/Inspection Ierground cabling Ier PL ref. 18/04458							
	Pivare/Straame								
KEY PLAN	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	N							
tour tour	Co. Kerry	Co. Cork Site Location							
		IRONMENTAL							
22 Lower I		+353 (0)58 44122 +353 (0)58 44244							
		l: info@hydroenvironmental.ie							
Client: MKO									
Job: Cleanrath WF, Co. Cork									
Title: WF Site Drainage Map									
Title: WF S									
Title: WF S Figure No	ite Drainage I								
Figure No	ite Drainage I :: 9-3								
Figure No	ite Drainage /): 9-3 No: P1272-5-07	Мар							

Checked By: MG

The wind farm access road in the vicinity of T4 does not intercept any PF2 habitat but it does pass upgradient of flush areas to the northwest of the turbine location. Also, the spur road leading to the T4 location intercepts some PB3-PF2 habitat to the west of the turbine location.

Along the access track to T4, the low point at these locations (old drains/semi-natural watercourses) are piped and large stone fill material is placed on top, before finer stone was used to grade the road.

9.3.7 Wind Farm Site Water Balance

The water balance calculations are carried out for the month with the highest average recorded rainfall minus evapotranspiration, for the current baseline site conditions (Table 9-5). It represents therefore, the long-term average wettest monthly scenario in terms of volumes of surface water runoff from the site.

The surface water runoff co-efficient for the area is estimated to be approximately 95% based on the underlying bedrock geology, sloping ground and poorly draining soil coverage.

The highest long-term average monthly rainfall recorded at Ballyvourney over the period 1987 - present occurred in January, at 200.8mm. The average monthly evapotranspiration for the synoptic station at Cork Airport over the same period in January was 7 mm. The water balance indicates that an average estimate of surface water runoff for the study area (525ha) during the highest rainfall month is 968,100 m³/month or 31,229m³/day as outlined in Table 9-6.

Water Balance Component	Depth (m)
Average January Rainfall (R)	0.2008
Average January Potential Evapotranspiration (PE)	0.007
Average January Actual Evapotranspiration (AE = PE x 0.95)	0.00665
Effective Rainfall January (ER = R - AE)	0.19415
Recharge co-efficient (5% of ER)	0.0097
Runoff (95% of ER)	0.1844

Table 9-5: Water Balance and Baseline Runoff Estimates for Wettest Month (January)

Table 9-6: Baseline Runoff for the Site

Study Area (ha)	Baseline Runoff per month (m ³)	Baseline Runoff per day (m^3)
525	968,100	31,229

9.3.8 Surface Water Flow Monitoring

As part of the construction compliance a surface water flow/level monitoring network was installed in the downstream Toon River. An existing network exists within the River Lee and Sullane River catchments which was used during the monitoring. A summary of local catchment characteristics upstream of the stations is provided in Table 9-7.

The locations and proposed approach were agreed with Cork County Council in advance. 3 no. suitable locations were identified along the Toon River at SW1, SW2 and SW3.

The Toon River monitoring network included the permanent installation 3 no. OTT Orpheus mini water level loggers, recording water levels at 15-minute intervals at each of the SW monitoring locations. Water level monitoring began on 20/09/2018 and is still ongoing. Hydrographs for each of the stations are shown as shown in Appendix 9-1. The locations of the sondes are shown on Figure 9-2.

Location	Toon River (SW1)	Toon River (SW2)	Toon River (SW3)	Sullane River (19054)	River Lee (19017)
Area (km ²)	7.562	14.06	24.653	55.82	171.544
BFISOIL	0.5484	0.975	0.5996	0.5602	0.4257
SAAR (mm)	1797.81	1761.92	1760.84	2029.1	2068.45
FARL	1	1	0.995	0.997	0.892
DRAIND (km/km ²)	1.314	1.193	1.191	1.35	1.53
S1085 (m/km)	16.6	12.3867	9.2964	13.8748	3.3105
ARTDRAIN2	0	0	0	0	0
URBEXT	0	0	0	0	0
Qmed (m ³ /s)	4.7108	6.9478	10.977	34.144	80.7705

Table 9-7: Summary of Catchment Characteristics Upstream of Monitoring Stations

Note: All data taken from http://opw.hydronet.com/

The data from SW1 are indicative of a small upstream river, with typical flows in the region of 100-150 L/s and with flashy responses to heavy rainfall events.

SW2 is located approximately 3.3 km downstream from SW1. Flows appear to increase as the river flows downstream i.e. from 60 l/s at SW1 to 125 l/s at SW2 on 01/10/2018. This suggests that at this point in time, the additional 6.5 km² of catchment area upstream of SW2, compared to SW1, is contributing to a near 100% increase in flow. The trend continues at different rates throughout the range of flow rates observed during the monitoring period.

Flows of up to 3000 L/s were recorded at SW3, compared with flows of 750 L/s and 2250 L/s at SW1 and SW2 respectively on these dates.

In order to determine runoff characteristics of the Toon sub-catchment, data from each individual peak event was extracted from the larger dataset and analysed for SW1 and SW3 (no rating curve was developed for SW2, as the adequate data to develop one was not captured. The data from SW1 and SW3 are sufficient to undertake the analysis presented here).

The recession constant "k" (slope of the receding flood hydrograph) for each post peak fall in the hydrograph is a simple hydrological characteristic that was calculated for stations SW1 and SW3. For SW1 the recession constant was determined for various recessions (a recession is a decline/fall in the hydrograph after a peak flow event), and varied between 0.06 and 0.19, with an average of 0.14. For SW3 the recession constant varied between 0.04 and 0.07, with an average of 0.054.

Four sample dates of peak flows in the Toon River were selected (2 no. pre-wind farm site construction and 2 no. post construction) where the preceding 72-hour rainfall depth volumes are similar (or at least equal) for the pre and post construction are shown on Plate 9-1 below. The hydrographs shown that the maximum stage height of the peaks during the pre-construction flood events are similar if not less than the post construction events. The Toon River has significantly lower flows compared to the River Lee and therefore would be more sensitive with respective site runoff. The analysis of hydrographs for the Toon River and River Lee shows that the development has no traceable/measurable impact on river flows or levels in either of the rivers. This is because the development runoff volumes are small/negligible compared to the total flows in the Toon River and River Lee. Runoff from the development site is having no measurable impact on river flows/river levels in either watercourse (i.e. the Toon River and the River Lee).

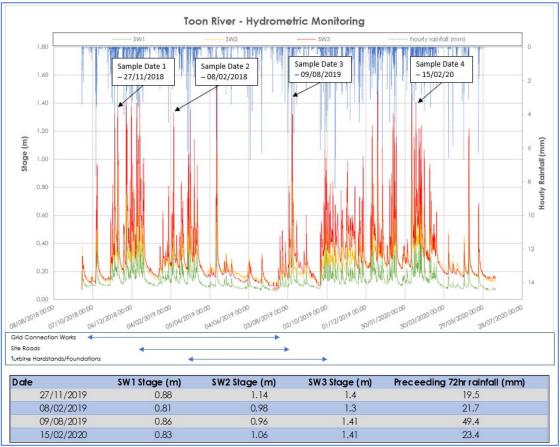


Plate 9-1: Hydrograph of the Toon River at SW1, SW2 and SW3

9.3.9 Flood Risk Assessment

To identify those areas as being at risk of flooding, OPW's indicative river and coastal flood map (www.floodmaps.ie), CFRAM Flood Risk Assessment maps and CFRAM Preliminary Flood Risk maps (PFRA) maps (www.cfram.ie), Department of Environment, Community and historical mapping (i.e. 6" and 25" base maps) were consulted.

No recurring flood incidents within the wind farm site boundary or immediately downstream were identified from OPW's indicative river and coastal flood map.

Where complete, the CFRAM OPW Flood Risk Assessment Maps are now the primary reference for flood risk planning in Ireland and supersede the PFRA maps. There are no CFRAM maps currently available for the area of the site and therefore the PFRA maps were reviewed.

The PFRA map no. 35 (www.cfram.ie) shows the extents of the indicative 1 in 100-year flood zone which relates to fluvial (i.e. river) and pluvial (i.e. rainfall) flood events. The 1 in 100-year fluvial flood zone incorporates some land area surrounding the River Toon in the vicinity the development site and the River Lee. The 1 in 100-year fluvial flood zones mapped within the study area generally occur in close proximity to the stream channel itself. All turbine locations and the majority of access roads are located at least 50m away from streams and are outside of the fluvial indicative 1 in 100-year flood zone. There

is no identifiable map text on local available historical 6" or 25" mapping for the study area that identify lands that are "prone to flooding".

There are no areas within the study area mapped as "Benefiting Lands". Benefiting lands are defined as a dataset prepared by the Office of Public Works identifying land that might benefit from the implementation of Arterial (Major) Drainage Schemes (under the Arterial Drainage Act 1945) and indicating areas of land subject to flooding or poor drainage.

The grid connection route passes through a PFRA mapped flood zone relating to the Bunsheelin River. Due to the predominately underground nature of the works, therefore, the grid connection works had no influence on the surface water flow regime in the area.

It was a key mitigation measure of the Cleanrath wind farm development to ensure all surface water runoff was treated (water quality control) and attenuated (water quantity/flood management control), prior to diffuse discharge.

9.3.10 EPA Surface Water Quality

Within the Republic of Ireland Q-rating status data for EPA monitoring points on the River Lee and the Toon River are shown in Table 9-8 below. Most recent data available (2004 to present) show that the Q-rating for the Toon River and the River Lee is Q4 (Good Status) in the vicinity of the study area.

Waterbody	EPA Location Description	Easting	Northing	EPA Q-Rating Status
Toon	Bridge South of Lack	119548	71027	Q4 Good
Toon	Bridge NE of Cleanrath North	122427	70383	Q4 Good
Lee	Footbridge D/S of Inchigeelagh	123850	66658	Q4 Good

Table 9-8:EPA Water Quality Monitoring Q-Rating Values

9.3.11 Surface Water Quality Monitoring/Sampling

Surface water quality monitoring/sampling and field hydrochemistry monitoring (electrical conductivity and pH) at 13 no. downstream locations (SW1 – SW13) commenced monthly¹ from August 2018 and continued into the operational phase up to July 2020. The locations of the monitoring points are shown in Figure 9-2 and a summary of the field hydrochemistry results are shown in Table 9-9 below for each of the monitoring locations.

The key monitoring locations with respect the Cleanrath wind farm development are SW2, SW4, SW5 and SW7 as these are the closest monitoring points surrounding the wind turbines and are located along streams that emerge from within the site and therefore are less likely to be affected by external sources and activities. The remainder of the locations are located downstream of the grid connection.

The average pH value was between 6.9 and 7.3 and the average electrical conductivity was between 53 and 123μ s/cm. There was no exceedance of the Surface Water Regulation (S.I. No. 272 of 2009) range with regard pH which is 6 to 9. There is no EQS for electrical conductivity with regard surface water.

¹ Sample events were not completed in March and April 2020 due to the Covid-19 restrictions

Overall, the pH and electrical conductivity values are typical for catchments underlain with non-calcareous bedrock and peat/acidic soil coverage.

Location	pH (pH Units)			Electrical Conductivity (μS/cm)		
	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Maximum	Minimum	Average
SW1	8.1	6.2	6.9	183	64	117
SW2	7.8	6.4	7.1	123	48	93
SW3	7.9	6.6	7.1	122	61	93
SW4	7.4	6.4	7.0	101	38	77
SW5	7.7	6.3	6.9	109	30	67
SW6	7.4	6.2	6.9	166	42	74
SW7	7.6	6.4	7.0	158	43	85
SW8	7.5	6.5	7.0	159	78	122
SW9	8.1	6.5	7.2	175	87	123
SW10	7.9	6.5	7.3	109	58	87
SW11	7.7	6.7	7.0	86	51	71
SW12	7.7	6.5	7.1	121	53	79
SW13	7.8	6.1	7.1	69	39	53

Table 9-9: Summary of Field Hydrochemistry Monitoring

Surface water quality monitoring/sampling at the 13 no. downstream locations (SW1 – SW13) was undertaken monthly between August 2018 and June 2020. Refer to Figure 9-2 for the monitoring locations.

A summary of the results for each of the parameters over the 21 no. rounds of sampling during the construction and operational phase (242 samples) are shown in Table 9-10 below.

Parameter	Max	Min	Average	EQS	Exceedances	Exceedance Location and Number ^(x)
Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	0.137	0.005	0.033	-	-	-
Chloride (mg/L)	24.0	5.5	12.13	250	0	-
Nitrate (mg/L NO3)	20.7	0.02	2.34	37.5	0	-
Nitrite (mg/L NO2)	0.066	0.02	0.023	-	-	-
Orthophosphate P (mg/L)	0.19	0.02	0.034	0.045*	14	SW4 ⁽¹⁾ , SW9 ⁽¹³⁾
Ammonia N (mg/L)	0.53	0.012	0.050	0.09*	22	$\begin{array}{c} {\rm SW1}^{(5)},{\rm SW2}^{(2)},\\ {\rm SW3}^{(1)},{\rm SW5}^{(2)},\\ {\rm SW6}^{(2)},{\rm SW7}^{(1)},\\ {\rm SW8}^{(1)},{\rm SW9}^{(4)}, \end{array}$

Table 9-10: Summary of Surface Water Sampling

Parameter	Max	Min	Average	EQS	Exceedances	Exceedance Location and Number ^(x)
						SW10 ⁽¹⁾ , SW12 ⁽²⁾ , SW13 ⁽¹⁾
BOD (mg/L)	4	1	1.074	2.2*	1	SW2 ⁽¹⁾
TSS (mg/L)	22	2	9.731	25^{+}	0	-
pH (pH units)	8.14	6.03	7.044	6 – 9*	0	-
EC (µS/cm)	183	30	87.7	-	-	-

(+) S.I. No. 293 of 1988: European Communities (Quality of Salmonid Waters) Regulations.

(*) S.I. No. 272 of 2009: European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 (as amended by S.I. No. 296/2009; S.I. No. 386/2015; S.I. No. 327/2012; and S.I. No. 77/2019 and giving effect to Directive 2008/105/EC on environmental quality standards in the field of water policy and Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy).

Results for suspended solids ranged between 2 and 22mg/L with an overall average of 9.7mg/L for all the sampling locations. The actual average is likely to be significantly less than 9.5mg/L as the vast majority of the results were reported at <10mg/L which was the laboratory detection limit. There was no exceedance of S.I. No. 293 of 1988: European Communities (Quality of Salmonid Waters) Regulations which is 25mg/L. The highest value of 22mg/L was reported at SW1 on 25th September 2018 which was during the construction phase. However, only the grid connections works had commenced in September 2018, and there were no active works upstream of SW1 when this highest TSS value was recorded. There were four smaller peaks (14-19mg/L) between 2018 and 2020. 3 of the 5 elevated TSS readings were following significant periods of heavy rainfall, and the other two are at locations where no wind farm related works were being undertaken upgradient of the sampling points at the time of sampling. So, the recorded exceedances are not related to wind farm or grid connections works activities.

BOD was reported between 1 and 4mg/L with an average of 1.07 mg/L. There was only 1 no. exceedance with regard the surface water regulation values where both the "Good Status" and "High Status" was exceeded on 31st August 2018 at SW2 when the highest recorded value of 4mg/L was reported. The sampling undertaken on 31st August 2018 was actually pre-construction baseline monitoring.

Orthophosphate values ranged between 0.02 and 0.19mg/L with an average of 0.034mg/L. 13 of the 14 exceedances with respect the surface water regulation values were at SW9 which is upstream of the wind farm site (but downstream of the grid connection route). One other exceedance occurred at SW4 in September 2018. No wind farm related works were being undertaken upgradient of the SW4 sampling points at the time of this sampling event. Results for all the other sampling locations were below the "High Status" threshold value (High status ≤ 0.025 (mean) or ≤ 0.045 (95%ile)). High orthophosphate concentrations can be related to agriculture or wastewater system discharges.

Results for ammonia N ranged between 0.01 and 0.43mg/L with an average of 0.039mg/L. There were 9 no. exceedances in total which occurred 6 no. sampling locations. High ammonia concentrations can be related to peatland runoff, or from agriculture or wastewater system discharges.

The sampling demonstrates that the development had no effect on downstream waters during the construction or operational phase of the development.

9.3.12 Automated Turbidity Monitoring

Continuous automated turbidity monitoring is ongoing at 4 no. locations in the area of the Cleanrath wind farm development by means of permanently in-situ turbidity sondes. Sondes DSE 1 and DSE 2 are located immediately downstream of the development on the east of the site (i.e. within the Toon River

catchment). Sonde DSE 3 and DSE 4 are located downstream of the grid connection route to the west of the site. The locations of the sondes are shown on Figure 9-2.

A summary of the in-situ sondes and the upstream Cleanrath wind farm development infrastructure is shown below in Table 9-11. A summary of the turbidity data is shown in Table 9-12 below. Turbidity plots for each of the sondes versus rainfall is shown in Appendix 9-2.

In general, significant turbidity spikes at the 4 no. sonde locations are associated with heavy or prolonged rainfall events and this is due to surface water runoff from within the overall catchment area. With respect DSE 1 and DES 4, the overall surface water catchment area is significantly larger than the wind farm site area (within the catchment) and therefore the potential for activities not related to the wind farm to affect turbidity levels is high.

In terms of baseline turbidity, which will be naturally higher is flood events, a range of 10 to 20 NTU would be considered a conservative natural baseline range for river turbidity in peak flows (albeit every catchment will be slightly different depending on the landuse activities). These turbidity spikes would be short term transient events with most rivers returning to an NTU of less than 5 during non-flood periods.

Therefore, assuming a baseline of 10 to 20 NTU, the readings for DSE 1 and DSE 2 in particular are very close to natural baseline conditions. The percentage of readings above 20 NTU is higher in DSE 4, but this is likely due to the topography in the catchment which is more mountainous and steep than the DSE 1 and DSE 2 catchments which would give rise to more erosional factors. Overall, the turbidity monitoring does not show any affects/trends relating to the wind farm construction or operation. Each of the sonde locations is discussed in more detail below.

Sonde Location	Catchment	Upstream Catchment Area (km ²)	Development Infrastructure in Catchment
DSE 1	Toon River	14	Turbines T1 & T3 construction compound and the Site Entrance Road (~3.5km)
DSE 2	Toon River	2.8	Turbines T4, T5 and T8, Borrow Pit 1 and 2.5km of access road
DSE 3	Aghnakinneirth Stream	1.3	~1km of grid connection
DSE 4	Bunsheelin River	16.5	7.5km of Grid Connection

Table 9-11: Summary of Turbidity Sonde Locations

Sonde DSE 1 is located on the upper channel of the Toon River and the upstream development relating to the Cleanrath Wind is described in Table 9-11 above. The overall average turbidity recorded at DSE 1 was 8NTU, with only 4.2% of the readings exceeding 10NTU and only 2.3% exceeding 20NTU.

There were very few turbidity peaks at DSE 1 during the construction civils phase (September 2018 – August 2019) which ran through the winter of 2018/2019 which suggests that the peaks during the autumn/winter 2019 are likely to be as a result of other non-wind farm development related activities within the catchment. Also, considering the footprint of the Cleanrath wind farm development upstream of DSE 1 only accounts for <1% (~0.3%) of the total catchment area of 14km², it is unlikely that the turbidity peaks that occurred in the winter of 2018/2019 were as a result of the development.

Sonde DSE 2 is located on a tributary stream of the Toon River which flows through Cleanrath Lough on the southeast of the site. The catchment area upstream of DSE 2 is relatively small (2.8km²) compared to the other sonde locations, however it is the most developed with respect Cleanrath Wind Farm infrastructure. DSE 2 has also been the most consistent with regard low levels of turbidity with 3.1% of the readings been above 10NTU and only 0.8% exceeding 20NTU. Significant turbidity spikes only occurred on a minimal number of occasions and this was during the summer of 2019. The consistently low levels of turbidity show that the development is having no effects on surface water quality.

Sonde DSE 3 is located on the Aghnakinneirth Stream where approximately 1km of the grid connection is upstream of the sonde. Sonde DSE 3 recorded the lowest number of readings above 5NTU (i.e. 2.1%). This suggest that the grid works had no influence on turbidity in the Aghnakinneirth Stream.

Sonde DSE 4 is located on the Bunsheelin River at a point where approximately 7.5km of the grid route is located upstream of its location. The overall average turbidity recorded at DSE 4 was 31NTU, with 11.2% of the readings exceeding 10NTU and 9.8% exceeding 20NTU. There were no turbidity trends evident with regard the grid connection works and therefore the elevated levels are likely to be related to local landuse practices (non-wind farm development). The catchment upstream of DSE4 is large (16.5km) and therefore there will be many off-site activities that could influence turbidity.

Sonde	Average NTU	% of Readings Above 5NTU	% of Readings Above 10NTU	% of Readings Above 20NTU
DSE 1	8	8.8	4.2	2.3
DSE 2	2.2	7.1	3.1	0.8
DSE 3	3.79	2.1	1.14	0.7
DSE 4	31	13.6	11.2	9.8

Table 9-12: Summary of Turbidity Data

9.3.13 Visual Surface Water Quality Checks

A key element of the construction phase surface water quality monitoring were the visual checks undertaken during the site inspections. As well as the on-site checks, visual checks were also undertaken at the 13 no. surface water sampling locations. Checks were also undertaken at off-site locations VC1 to VC4 (refer to Figure 9-2).

Approximately 813 no. visual checks were completed during 55 no. inspection days during the construction phase. 99% of the 813 no. visual checks show no impacts with regard surface water quality. This means that the waters inspected were visually clean with no trace of contaminants. The 1% were all minor, localised, temporary turbidity effects which were resolved by undertaking minor drainage adjustments.

9.3.14 **Hydrogeology**

The Devonian Old Red Sandstones are mapped to underlie the wind farm site and the grid connection route. The aquifer classification varies between Poor Aquifer (Bedrock which is Generally Unproductive except for Local Zones - Pl) and Locally Important Aquifer (Bedrock which is Moderately Productive only in Local Zones - LI). In terms of the wind farm site, the northern section of the site is underlain by a Locally Important Aquifer while the southern section is underlain by a Poor Aquifer. In terms of the grid connection the western half is underlain by a Poor Aquifer and the eastern half is underlain by a Locally Important Aquifer.

Devonian Old Red Sandstone units form sequences which can be several kilometres thick, however most groundwater flow occurs within the top 15-20 m of the aquifer, in the layer that comprises a weathered zone of a few metres and a connected fractured zone below this. Deeper flows occur along generally isolated faults or significant fractures. Diffuse recharge will occur via percolation or areas of outcropping rock. However, due to the generally low permeability of the aquifer and the high slopes, a high proportion of the recharge will discharge rapidly to surface watercourses via the upper layers of the aquifer, effectively reducing further the available groundwater resource in the aquifer (GSI, 2004).

9.3.15 Groundwater Vulnerability

The vulnerability rating of the aquifer within the overall wind farm site ranges between "High to Extreme (X)" and this reflects the varying depth of local subsoils (i.e. 10m to \leq 3m). In areas where subsoil is shallow or absent and where bedrock is outcropping, an Extreme (X) vulnerability rating is given. The majority of the wind farm site is mapped as Extreme (X) vulnerability.

9.3.16 Groundwater Hydrochemistry

There is no groundwater quality data for the wind farm site and groundwater sampling would generally not be undertaken for this type of development in terms of rEIAR reporting, as groundwater quality impacts would not be anticipated, which is the actual case for the Cleanrath wind farm.

Based on data from GSI publication Calcareous/Non calcareous classification of bedrock in the Republic of Ireland (WFD,2004), alkalinity for Devonian Old Red sandstones generally averages 100mg/L while electrical conductivity and hardness in the volcanic rocks interbedded in this type of bedrock were reported to have mean values of 554μ S/cm and 301mg/L respectively.

9.3.17 Water Framework Directive Water Body Status & Objectives

The River Basin Management Plan was adopted in 2018 and has amalgamated all previous river basin districts into one national river basin management district. The River Basin Management Plan (2018 - 2021) objectives, which have been integrated into the design of the Cleanrath wind farm development, include the following:

- Ensure full compliance with relevant EU legislation;
- > Prevent deterioration and maintain a 'high' status where it already exists;
- > Protect, enhance and restore all waters with aim to achieve at least good status by 2021;
- > Ensure waters in protected areas meet requirements; and,
- > Implement targeted actions and pilot schemes in focused sub-catchments aimed at (1) targeting water bodies close to meeting their objectives and (2) addressing more complex issues that will build knowledge for the third cycle.

Our understanding of these objectives is that surface waters, regardless of whether they have 'Poor' or 'High' status, should be treated the same in terms of the level of protection and mitigation measures employed, i.e. there should be no negative change in status at all.

9.3.18 **Groundwater Body Status**

Local Groundwater Body (GWB) and Surface water Body (SWB) status reports are available for download from (<u>www.catchments.ie</u>).

The Ballinhassig GWB (IE_NW_G_005) underlies the wind farm site and is assigned 'Good Status', which is defined based on the quantitative status and chemical status of the GWB.

9.3.19 Surface Water Body Status

The River Lee, Toon River and Sullane Beg River immediately downstream of the Cleanrath wind farm development have been given a "Good Status" but increases to "High Status" further downstream.

9.3.20 **Designated Sites and Habitats**

Designated sites include National Heritage Areas (NHAs), Proposed National Heritage Areas (pNHAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). The Cleanrath wind farm development site is not located within any designated conservation site. Designated sites in proximity to the Cleanrath wind farm development study area are show in Figure 9-4.

The Gearagh cSAC covers an area of 557.95ha and comprises a 7km section of the River Lee, including the confluence with the River Toon, and is located ~7.5km east of the Cleanrath wind farm development site. It is situated in a wide flat valley and the eastern part of the site has been flooded by the Carrigadrohid dam and is subject to artificial fluctuations in water levels. The site contains the only extensive alluvial forest in Western Europe west of the Rhine, and there is also a good, though small, example of an intact oak woodland. The aquatic riverine vegetation is well-developed, areas of alluvial grassland are important for wintering waterfowl, and otters occur throughout the site.

The Gearagh SPA covers an area of 322.79ha from Annahala Bridge westwards to Toon bridge and, therefore, covers the central and western parts of the cSAC. The site supports important populations of wintering waterfowl, including swans, dabbling duck, diving duck and some waders. Six of the species have populations of national importance. The principal habitat for birds is a shallow lake which is fringed by wet woodland, scrub and grassland that is prone to flooding. Habitat quality is good and the site provides both feeding and roost sites for the birds.

Lough Allua which exists approximately 3km downstream of the wind farm site is a designated pNHA. The section of the grid connection route within the River Lee catchment drains into Lough Allua.

Approximately 2.4km of the grid connection route exists within the Roughty River catchment which is a designated pNHA.

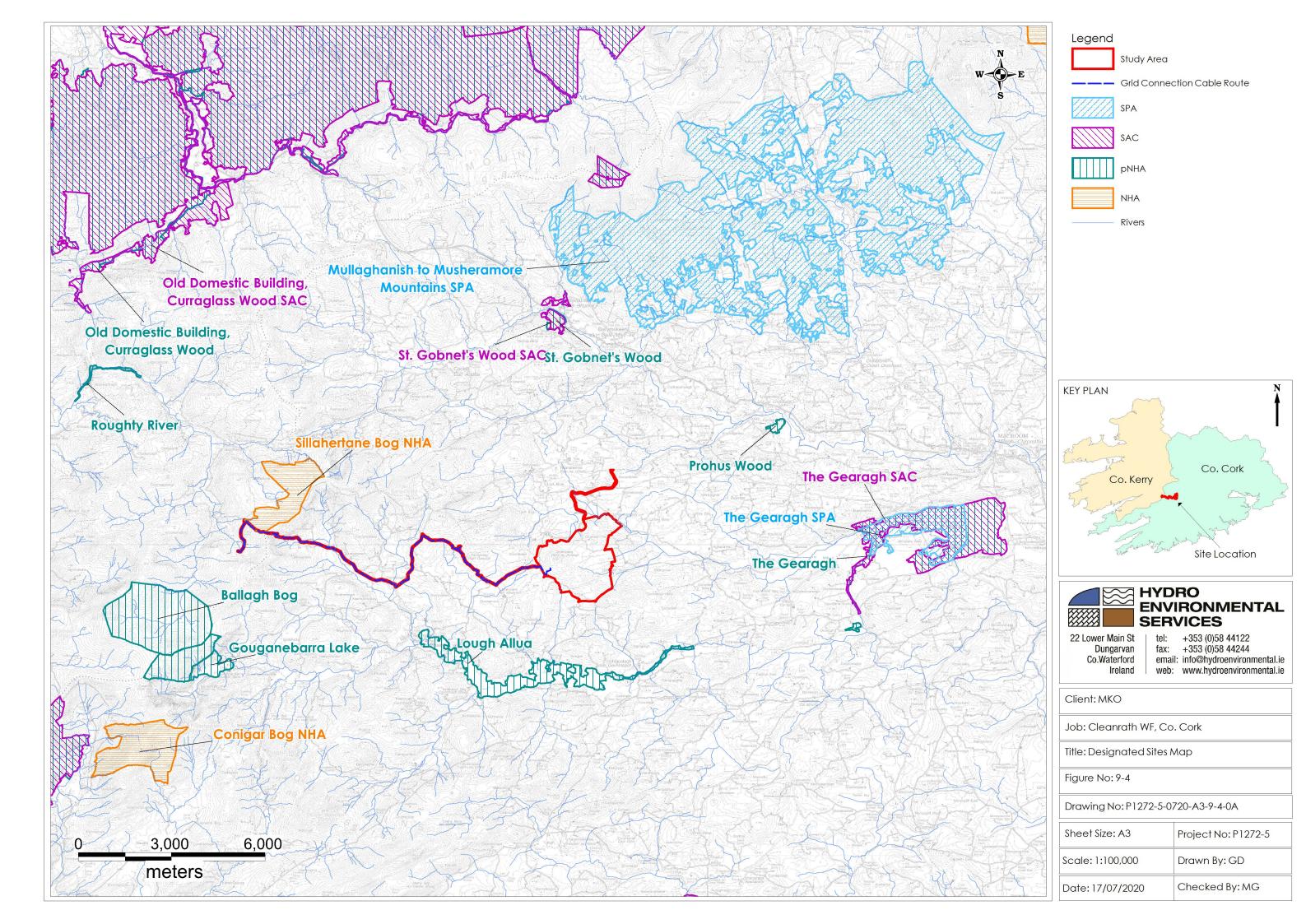
The grid connection route runs adjacent to Sillahertane Bog NHA which is located at the western end of the grid connection route within the Roughty River catchment. The grid connection cable route follows an existing track which runs along the south-western edge of the NHA for approximately 0.77km.

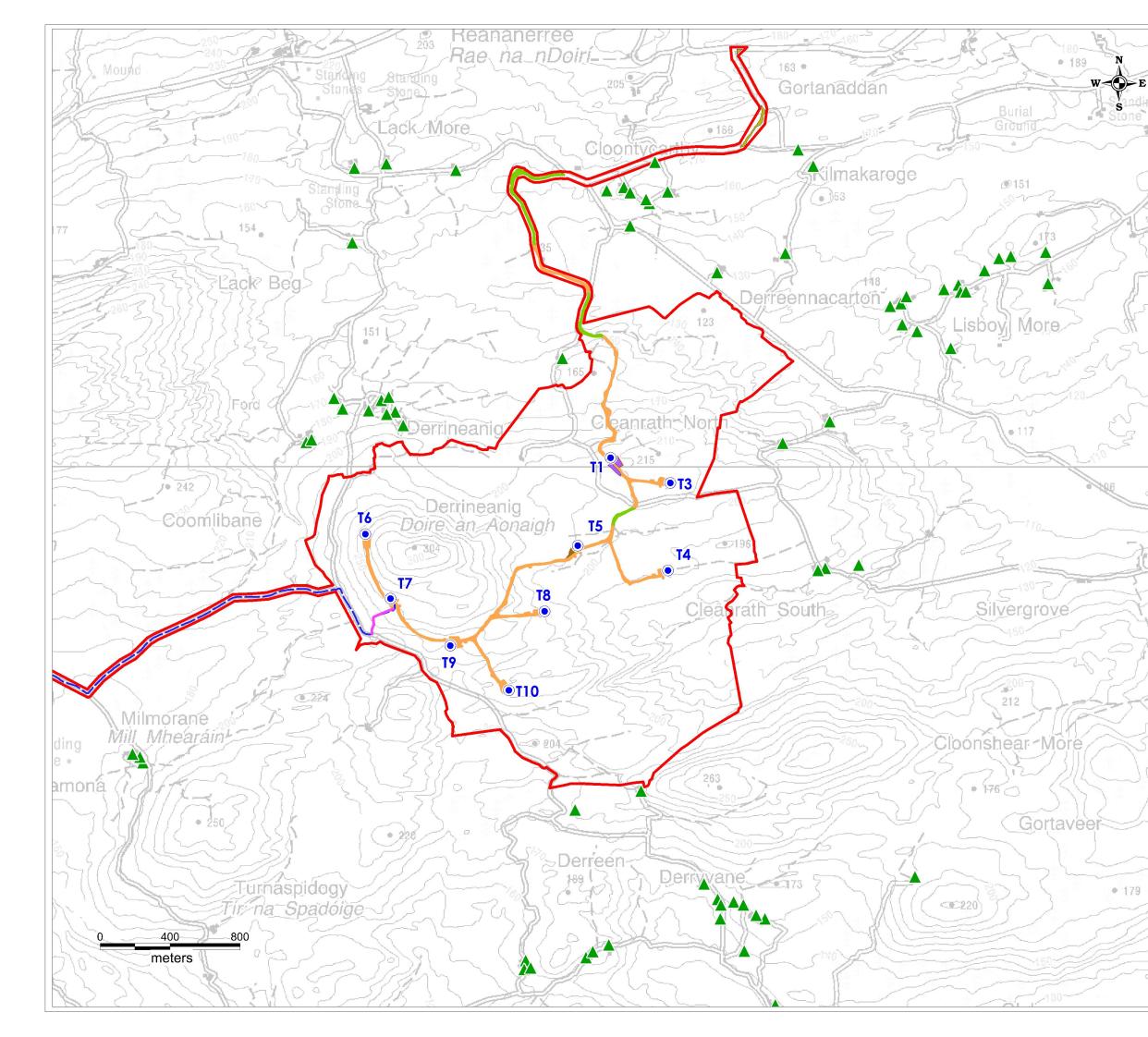
9.3.21 Water Resources

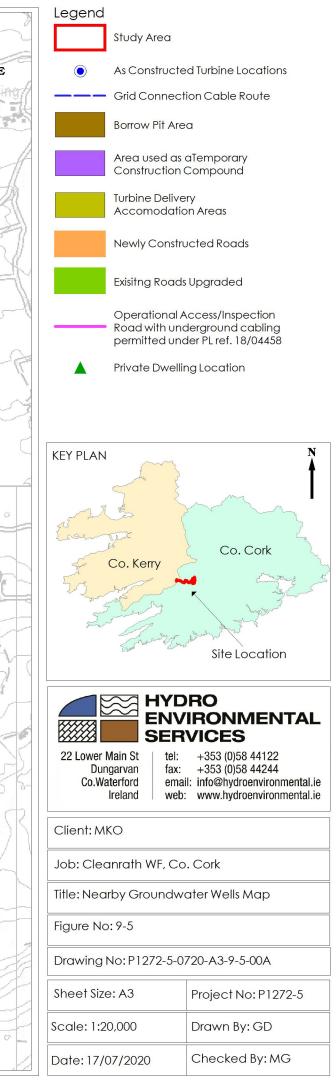
There are no groundwater protection zones mapped within the development site or study area or along the grid connection route. A search of the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) well database (www.gsi.ie) indicates that there are no private wells within 1km of the site.

As the GSI well database is not exhaustive in terms of the locations of all wells in the area (as the database relies on the submission of data by drillers and the public etc) it is assumed that every private dwelling in the vicinity of the Cleanrath wind farm development has a water supply well associated with it (this is a conservative assumption).

Shown on Figure 9-5 are the locations of private dwellings within 3km of the wind farm site boundary. The majority of development areas (i.e. all turbine locations and borrow pit etc) are very remote to these dwellings (Refer to Table 9-13 below) and it is not expected that there is any hydraulic connection between any potential wells and groundwater flow from the development areas. No issues were raised by local well users during the construction or operational phase.







Wells along the grid connection route and junction accommodation works were not assessed as these works were shallow with regard excavations, therefore the potential for effect was negligible.

Development Footprint Location ⁽¹⁾	Distance from Closest Private Dwelling (m) ⁽²⁾	Location of Turbine in relation to the Closest Private Dwelling ⁽³⁾
T1	643	Remote
ТЗ	960	Remote
T4	860	Remote
T5	1,370	Remote
Т6	612	Remote
T7	1,700	Remote
Т8	1,500	Remote
Т9	1,115	Remote
T10	783	Remote
Borrow Pit 1	1,370	Remote
Construction Compound ²	643	Remote

Table 9-13: Summary WFD Information for Surface Water Bodies

Note:

1. Distance from closest turbine, compound, borrow pit or substation (i.e. bedrock excavation). Access roads and the grid connection cable trench are not considered a potential risk due to the shallow nature of the works. The distances listed above are from the nearest wind farm infrastructure within the same surface water catchment as the dwelling.

2. Each dwelling is assumed to have an on-site private water well.

3. Hydraulically up-gradient or remote. Remote meaning there is no dwelling (assumed well) down-gradient of the Cleanrath wind farm development infrastructure.

9.4 Characteristics of the Cleanrath wind farm development

The development comprises of the following:

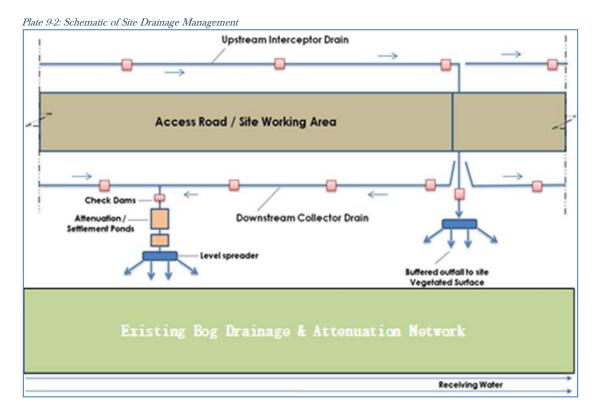
- > 9 wind turbines, having a maximum ground to blade tip height of up to 150m metres and all associated foundations and hard-standing areas;
- New access roads (4.8km) and upgrade of internal site access roads (1.3km) and the upgrade of an existing access junctions and junction accommodation works;
- > All associated site drainage;
- > 1 no borrow pit (BP1);
- > 1 no. construction compound
- > Underground electricity connection cabling;

² Please refer to Section 4.3.8 of Chapter 4 for details of the Construction Compound

9.4.1 Drainage Management

Runoff control and drainage management are key elements in terms of mitigation against impacts on surface water bodies. Two distinct methods were employed to manage drainage water within the Cleanrath wind farm development. The first method involves 'keeping clean water clean' by avoiding disturbance to natural drainage features, minimising any works in or around artificial drainage features, and diverting clean surface water flow around excavations, construction areas and temporary storage areas. The second method involves collecting any drainage waters from works areas within the site that might carry silt or sediment, and nutrients, to route them towards settlement ponds (or stilling ponds) prior to controlled diffuse release over vegetated surfaces. There were no direct discharges to surface waters. During the construction phase all runoff from works areas (i.e. dirty water) were attenuated and treated to a high quality prior to being released. A schematic of the site drainage management is shown as Plate 9-2 below. A detailed drainage plan showing the layout of the drainage design elements as shown in Plate 9-2 is shown in Appendix 4-1 of this rEIAR.

Various combinations/adaptations of the runoff control and drainage management measures described above were employed at the site depending on the local conditions and topography.



9.5 Significant Effects and Mitigation Measures

This section provides a brief overview of the potential impacts that were identified in the 2015 EIS and then the actual observed impacts. The outcome of the assessment of the construction phase and operational phase effects (as discussed below) concluded that no remedial mitigation measures were required as a result of the Cleanrath wind farm development.

9.5.1 **Do -Nothing Scenario**

A do-nothing option to developing the Cleanrath wind farm development would have been to leave the site as it was prior to construction, with no changes made to the land-use practices of low-intensity

agriculture, turf cutting and commercial forestry. This option would have no positive impact with regards to the production of renewable energy or the offsetting of greenhouse gas emissions. On the basis of the positive environmental effects arising from the Cleanrath wind farm development, the do-nothing scenario was not the chosen option. Instead, an application for planning permission was made and granted ultimately by An Bord Pleanála.

The Cleanrath wind farm development has been constructed, has been operational and is now operating in Sleep Mode with the site essentially in a shut-down mode with no export of electricity pending the outcome of the Substitute Consent process. In the event that Substitute Consent is obtained, the intention is to recommence and continue the full operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development until the end of 25 years from the formal commissioning of the turbines in July 2020 and implement the decommissioning plan for the Cleanrath wind farm development at the end of the operational period.

In the event that Substitute Consent is not granted and full operation of the development is not recommenced, it will remain in Sleep Mode which is, in effect, the "do nothing" option insofar as it represents the current situation as at the date of the application for Substitute Consent. There is the possibility that the decommissioning plan may need to be implemented early, should Substitute Consent not be granted. These scenarios are assessed in this chapter.

9.5.2 **Construction Phase**

9.5.2.1 Clear Felling of Coniferous Plantation

12.32ha (hectares) in total of existing plantation forestry was felled to allow for development of the wind farm infrastructure and the grid connection route. This includes 8.14ha that was felled within and around the development footprint and 4.18ha that was temporary felled around the turbine locations. The majority of the felling areas (92.7%) were within the Toon River catchment. The total felling area accounts for only 7.1% of the existing on-site forestry coverage. The main potential effect (in the absence of mitigation) was release of sediments to local surface waters

Pathways: Drainage and surface water discharge routes.

Receptors: Surface waters (Toon River, River Lee, Aghnakinneirth Stream, Bunsheelin River and Sullane Beg River) and associated dependant ecosystems.

Pre-Mitigation Impact: Indirect, negative, moderate, temporary, high probability impact.

Mitigation Measure Implemented During the Construction Phase:

Best practice methods related to water incorporated into the forestry management and mitigation measures were derived from:

- Forestry Commission (2004): Forests and Water Guidelines, Fourth Edition. Publ. Forestry Commission, Edinburgh;
- > Coillte (2009): Forest Operations and Water Protection Guidelines;
- Coillte (2009): Methodology for Clear Felling Harvesting Operations;
- Forest Service (Draft): Forestry and Freshwater Pearl Mussel Requirements Site Assessment and Mitigation Measures; and,
- Forest Service (2000): Forestry and Water Quality Guidelines. Forest Service, DAF, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford.

Mitigation by Avoidance:

There is a requirement in the Forest Service Code of Practice and in the FSC Certification Standard for the installation of buffer zones adjacent to aquatic zones at planting stage. Minimum buffer zone widths recommended in the Forest Service (2000) guidance document "Forestry and Water Quality Guidelines" are shown in Table 9-14.

Average slope leading to the aquatic zone		Buffer zone width on either side of the aquatic zone	Buffer zone width for highly erodible soils	
Moderate	(0 – 15%)	10 m	15 m	
Steep	(15 – 30%)	15 m	20 m	
Very steep	(>30%)	20 m	25 m	

Table 9-14: Minimum Buffer Zone Widths (Forest Service, 2000)

During the wind farm design and construction phase a self-imposed buffer zone of 50m was maintained for all streams. These buffer zones are shown on Figure 9-6.

With the exception of existing road upgrades and existing stream crossings all tree felling areas were located outside of imposed buffer zones. The large distance between felling areas and sensitive aquatic zones meant that potential poor quality runoff from felling areas was adequately managed and attenuated prior to even reaching the aquatic buffer zone and primary drainage routes. Where tree felling was required in the vicinity of streams, the following additional design mitigation measures were employed.

Mitigation by Design:

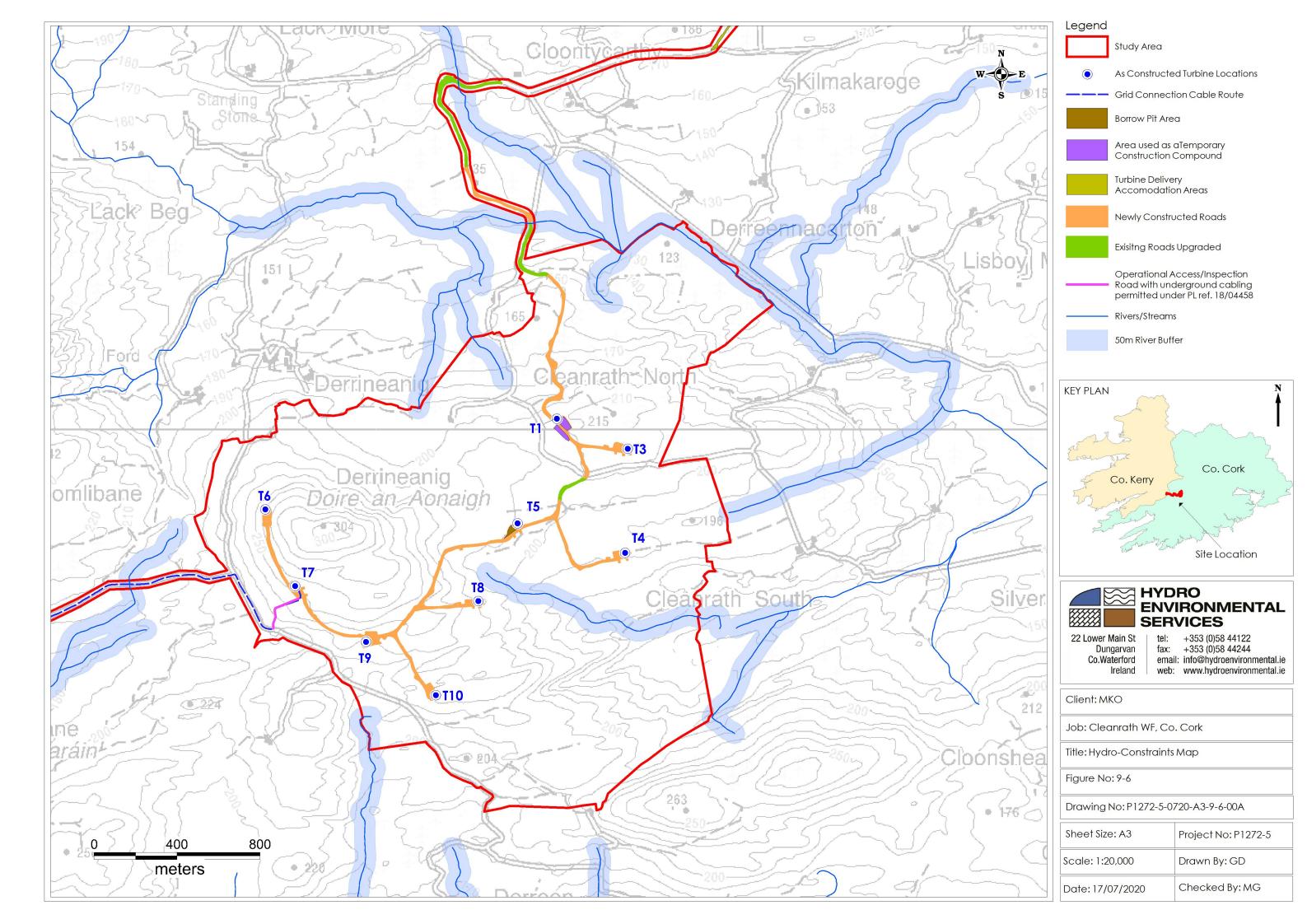
Mitigation measures that reduced the risk of entrainment of suspended solids and nutrient release in surface watercourses comprise best practice methods which were followed during the construction of the Cleanrath wind farm development are set out as follows:

- > Machine combinations were chosen which were most suitable for ground conditions at the time of felling;
- > Checking and maintenance of roads and culverts was on-going through the felling operation;
- Ditches which drained from the felling areas towards existing surface watercourses were blocked, and temporary silt traps were constructed. No direct discharge of such ditches to watercourses was allowed;
- Drains and sediment traps were installed during ground preparation. Collector drains were excavated at an acute angle to the contour (~0.3%-3% gradient), to minimise flow velocities. Main drains to take the discharge from collector drains included water drops and rock armour, as required, where there were steep gradients;
- Sediment traps were installed in drains downstream of felling areas. Machine access was maintained to enable the accumulated sediment to be excavated. Sediment was carefully disposed of in the peat disposal areas; and,
- > In areas particularly sensitive to erosion, double or triple sediment traps were installed.

Silt Traps:

Silt traps were strategically placed down-gradient within forestry drains near streams. The main purpose of the silt traps and drain blocking was to slow water flow, increase residence time, and allow settling of silt in a controlled manner.

Drain Inspection and Maintenance:



The following items were carried out during inspection pre-felling and after:

- Communication with tree felling operatives in advance to determine whether any areas had reported where there were unusual water logging or bogging of machines;
- > Inspection of all areas reported as having unusual ground conditions;
- > Inspection of main drainage ditches and outfalls. During pre-felling inspection the main drainage ditches were identified.
- Following tree felling all main drains were inspected to ensure that they are functioning;
- Extraction tracks nears drains were broken up and diversion channels created to ensure that water in the tracks spread out over the adjoining ground;
- Culverts on drains exiting the site were unblocked; and,
- > All accumulated silt was removed from drains and culverts, and silt traps, and this removed material was deposited away from watercourses to ensure that it would not be carried back into the trap or stream during subsequent rainfall.

Surface Water Quality Monitoring:

As described in Section 9.3.11, Section 9.3.12 and Section 9.3.13, construction phase surface water quality monitoring was undertaken by means of regular visual inspections, monthly surface water quality sampling and automated turbidity monitoring.

Impact Assessment:

Over 800 no. visual inspection were carried out during the construction phase (which included tree felling) and there was no visual evidence of tree felling operations impacting on surface water quality locally within the site itself, therefore downstream effects did not occur as demonstrated by the surface water quality monitoring.

The majority of the tree felling occurred in the catchment upstream of turbidity sonde DSE 1. Tree felling mainly occurred in the early construction phase (i.e. November 2018 – February 2019) and there was a lack of significant turbidity spikes during this period. Monthly surface water sampling was completed downstream of the felling area at sampling location SW2. There were no exceedances with respect suspended solids or nutrients at monitoring location SW2.

Residual Impact

The potential for the release of suspended solids to watercourse receptors is a risk to water quality and the aquatic quality of the receptor. Best practice tree felling measures to mitigate the risk of releases of sediment were used to break the pathway between the potential sources and the receptor. The residual effect is assessed as - Negative, imperceptible, indirect, temporary, low probability effect on downstream water quality and aquatic habitats.

Significance of Effects: For the reasons outlined above, no significant effects on the water environment have occurred or are likely to occur as a result of the Cleanrath wind farm development.

9.5.2.2 Earthworks (Removal of Vegetation Cover, Excavations and Stock Piling) Resulting in Suspended Solids Entrainment in Surface Waters

Construction phase activities included access road construction, turbine base/hardstanding construction and grid cable trench excavation (including the loop in to Derragh substation) and this resulted in removal of vegetation cover and excavation of peat mineral subsoil and bedrock where present.

In the absence of mitigation these activities had the potential to release suspended solids to surface watercourses and which could have resulted in an increase in the suspended sediment load to local surface waters.

Pathways: Drainage and surface water discharge routes.

Receptors: Down-gradient rivers (Toon River, River Lee, Aghnakinneirth Stream, Bunsheelin River and Sullane Beg River) and dependant ecosystems.

Pre-Mitigation Impact Indirect, negative, significant, temporary, medium probability impact.

Mitigation Measure Implemented During the Construction Phase:

Mitigation by Avoidance:

The key mitigation measure during the construction phase was the avoidance of sensitive aquatic areas where possible. From Error! Reference source not found. it can be seen that all of the key development areas are actually significantly away from the delineated buffer zones with the exception of existing stream crossings that required upgrading. Additional control measures, which are outlined further on in this section, were undertaken at these locations).

Mitigation by Design:

The following control measures were used during the construction phase:

- > Source controls:
 - Interceptor drains, vee-drains, diversion drains, flume pipes, erosion and velocity control measures such as use of sand bags, oyster bags filled with gravel, filter fabrics, and other similar/equivalent or appropriate systems.
 - Small working areas, covering stockpiles, weathering off stockpiles, cessation of works in certain areas or other similar/equivalent or appropriate measures.
- > In-Line controls:
 - Interceptor drains, vee-drains, oversized swales, erosion and velocity control measures such as check dams, sand bags, oyster bags, straw bales, flow limiters, weirs, baffles, silt bags, silt fences, sedimats, filter fabrics, and collection sumps, temporary sumps/attenuation lagoons, sediment traps, pumping systems, settlement ponds, temporary pumping chambers, or other similar/equivalent or appropriates systems.
- > Treatment systems:
 - Temporary sumps and attenuation ponds, temporary storage lagoons, sediment traps, and settlement ponds.

It should be noted for this site that a network of forestry and roadside drains already existed on the northeast of the site mainly, and these were integrated and enhanced as required and used within the Cleanrath wind farm development drainage system. The key elements being the upgrading and improvements to water treatment elements, such as in line controls and treatment systems, including silt traps, settlement ponds and buffered outfalls.

Silt Fences:

Silt fences were placed within drains and surface water flowpaths down-gradient of all construction areas. Silt fences were effective at removing heavy settleable solids. This prevented entry to watercourses of sand and gravel sized sediment, released from excavation of mineral sub-soils of glacial and glacio-fluvial origin, and entrained in surface water runoff. Inspection and maintenance of these structures was undertaken during the construction phase.

They were left in place throughout the entire construction phase. Double silt fences were placed within drains down-gradient of all construction areas inside the hydrological buffer zones, this also included off-road sections of grid connection cable route within hydrological buffer zones.

Silt fences were installed along the grid connection cable trench, where required. The emplacement of silt fences within the trench occurred where the terrain allowed. The specific locations are not shown as part of the drainage plan included in Appendix 4-1 of this rEIAR.

Silt Bags:

Silt bags were used where small to medium volumes of water needed to be pumped from excavations. As water was pumped through the bag, most of the sediment was retained by the geotextile fabric allowing filtered water to pass through. Silt bags were used with natural vegetation filters.

Pre-emptive Site Drainage Management:

The works programme for the initial construction stage of the development took account of weather forecasts, and predicted rainfall in particular. Large excavations and movements of peat/subsoil or vegetation stripping were suspended or scaled back if heavy rain was forecasted. The extent to which works were scaled back or suspended related directly to the amount of rainfall forecasted at that time.

Timing of Site Construction Works:

Construction of the site drainage system was only carried out during periods of low rainfall, and therefore minimum runoff rates. This minimised the risk of entrainment of suspended sediment in surface water runoff, and transport via this pathway to surface watercourses. Construction of the drainage system during low flow period also ensured that attenuation features associated with the drainage system was in place and operational for all subsequent construction works.

Monitoring:

The inspection of the on-site drainage system was carried out by an on-site ECoW as part of the daily visual monitoring and inspections by HES. Any maintenance requirements were then reported to the Site Manager. Regular inspections of all installed drainage systems was undertaken, especially after heavy rainfall, to check for blockages and ensure that there was no build-up of standing water in parts of the systems where it is not intended.

Any excess build-up of silt levels at dams, the settlement pond, or any other drainage features that decreased the effectiveness of the drainage feature, was removed.

As described in Section 9.3.11, Section 9.3.12 and Section 9.3.13, surface water quality monitoring was undertaken by means of regular visual inspections, monthly surface water quality sampling and automated turbidity monitoring.

Impact Assessment:

Over 800 no. visual inspections were carried out during the construction phase and 99% of these show no impact locally or at the 13 no. surface water monitoring locations with respect surface water quality impacts. The 1% were all minor, localised, temporary turbidity effects which were resolved by undertaking minor drainage adjustments. The affected watercourse returned to natural background turbidity after the drainage adjustments.

242 no. surface water samples were taken at the 13 no. surface water monitoring locations during the construction phase and there was no exceedance of suspended solids with respect the relevant surface water regulation value (i.e. 25mg/L).

The automated turbidity monitoring shown that levels were typically very low during the construction phase with the vast majority of readings been within the expected background range for surface waters (10 - 20NTU). The average NTU was highest at DSE4, however there were no turbidity trends evident with regard the grid connection works and the therefore the elevated levels are likely to be related to local landuse practices (non-wind farm development). The catchment upstream of DSE4 is large (16.5km) and therefore there will be many off-site activities that could influence turbidity.

Residual Effects: The potential for the release of suspended solids to watercourse receptors is a risk to water quality and the aquatic quality of the receptor. Proven and effective measures to mitigate the risk of releases of sediment were undertaken to break the pathway between the potential sources and the receptor. The residual effect is assessed to be - Negative, imperceptible, indirect, temporary, low probability effect on downstream water quality and aquatic habitats.

Significance of Effects: For the reasons outlined above, no significant effects on the water environment have occurred or are likely to occur as a result of the Cleanrath wind farm development.

9.5.2.3 Impacts on Groundwater Levels During Excavation Works & from the Borrow Pit

Dewatering of borrow pits (if required) and other deep excavations (i.e. turbine bases) have the potential to impact on local groundwater levels. However, no significant dewatering was required during the construction phase and this was due the local topographical and hydrogeological regime as well as the borrow pit excavation method as outlined below.

Pathway: Groundwater flowpaths.

Receptor: Groundwater levels.

Pre-Mitigation Impact: Direct, negligible, slight, short term, low probability impact.

Impact Assessment

No groundwater dewatering was required at BP1 as rock excavation progressed in a horizontal manner into the side of elevated outcropping bedrock. No groundwater inflows were encountered and there was only a requirement to manage surface water runoff at BP1 during wet periods.

Similarly, at the turbine base locations there was only a requirement to manage surface water runoff as no groundwater was encountered. Due to the fact that bedrock was close to the ground surface over much of the site, no deep excavations were required for the turbine bases.

Relevant environmental management guidelines from the EPA quarry 2006 guidance document – "Environmental Management in the Extractive Industry" in relation to groundwater issues were implemented during the construction phase.

Residual Impact: No residual impact on groundwater levels occurred as a result of borrow pit and turbine base excavation works as no significant groundwater inflows were encountered.

Significance of Effects: No impact on groundwater levels occurred as a result of borrow pit and turbine base excavation works.

9.5.2.4 Excavation Dewatering and Potential Impacts on Surface Water Quality

Only surface water seepages/runoff occurred in turbine base excavations and borrow pit and this created a small additional volumes of water to be treated by the runoff management system. Inflows required management and treatment to reduce suspended sediments. No contaminated land was noted at the site and therefore pollution issues did not occur.

Pathway: Overland flow and site drainage network.

Receptor: Down-gradient surface water bodies (Toon River and River Lee).

Pre-Mitigation Impact: Indirect, negative, significant, temporary, low probability impact to surface water quality.

Mitigation Measure Implemented During the Construction Phase

Mitigation by Design:

Management of excavation seepages and subsequent treatment prior to discharge into the drainage network was undertaken as follows:

- > Appropriate interceptor drainage, to prevent upslope surface runoff from entering excavations was put in place;
- Regular pumping of excavation inflows was undertaken to prevent build up of water in the excavation;
- > The interceptor drainage was discharged to the site constructed drainage system or onto natural vegetated surfaces and not directly to surface waters;
- >
- > There was no direct discharge to surface watercourses, and therefore no hydraulic loading or contamination did occur;
- Daily monitoring of excavations by a suitably qualified person was undertaken during the construction phase. If high levels of seepage inflow did occur, excavation work was immediately stopped and a geotechnical assessment was undertaken; and,
- All pumped water was discharged through a silt bag or upslope of silt fencing.

Impact Assessment:

There were no records/reports of any dirty water been released during the construction phase as a result of excavation pumping. No instances of dirty water been released occured during any of the site inspections/audits completed by HES or MKO and none have been reported by the site engineer or contractor. Due to the appropriate interceptor drainage been put in place, minimal excavation dewatering was required. **Residual Impact:** The potential for the release of suspended solids to watercourse receptors is a risk to water quality and the aquatic quality of the receptor. Proven and effective measures to mitigate the risk of releases of sediment were undertaken to break the pathway between the potential sources and the receptor. The residual effect is assessed to be - Imperceptible, indirect, temporary, low probability effects on local surface water quality and associated aquatic habitats.

Significance of Effects: For the reasons outlined above, no significant effects on surface water quality have occurred or are likely to occur as a result of the Development.

9.5.2.5 **Release of Hydrocarbons during Construction and Storage**

Accidental spillage during refuelling of construction plant with petroleum hydrocarbons is a significant pollution risk to groundwater, surface water and associated ecosystems, and to terrestrial ecology. The accumulation of small spills of fuels and lubricants during routine plant use can also be a pollution risk. Hydrocarbon has a high toxicity to humans, and all flora and fauna, including fish, and is persistent in the environment. It is also a nutrient supply for adapted micro-organisms, which can rapidly deplete dissolved oxygen in waters, resulting in death of aquatic organisms.

Pathway: Groundwater flowpaths and site drainage network.

Receptor: Groundwater and surface water.

Pre-Mitigation Impact Indirect, negative, slight, short term, medium probability impact to local groundwater quality. Indirect, negative, significant, short term, low probability impact to surface water quality.

Mitigation Measure Implemented During the Construction Phase:

Mitigation by Design:

- > Off-site refuelling of site vehicles was undertaken, where possible;
- > On site re-fuelling was undertaken at the wind farm at designated refuelling areas using a fuel truck which came to site and in more remote areas of the site using a double skinned bowser with spill kits on the ready for accidental leakages or spillages. Refuelling was undertaken, where possible, outside of the self-imposed buffer zones to local watercourses;
- > On site re-fuelling was only undertaken by suitably trained personnel;
- No refuelling was undertaken inside watercourse buffer zones;
- > Fuel stored on site during the construction phase was minimised;
- > The plant used during the construction phase were inspected regularly for leaks and fitness for purpose;
- No major spills or environmental incidents were recorded during the construction phase; and,
 An emergency plan for the construction phase to deal with accidental spillages was contained within the Construction and Environmental Management Plan, but no emergency measures had to be implemented during the construction phase.

Impact Assessment:

There were no records/reports of soil contamination incidences during the construction phase or operational phase of the development. There were no contamination issues/spills during any of the site inspections/audits. There were no visual residues of oils noted at any of the water quality inspection sites.

Residual Effect Assessment: The use and storage of hydrocarbons and small volumes of chemicals is a standard risk associated with all construction sites. Proven and effective measures to mitigate the risk of spills and leaks were applied during the construction phase. The residual effect is assessed as - Negative, imperceptible, direct, short-term, low probability effect on groundwater and surface water quality.

Significance of Effects: For the reasons outlined above, no significant effects on water have occurred or are likely to occur as a result of the Development.

9.5.2.6 Groundwater and Surface Water Contamination from Wastewater Disposal

Release of effluent from domestic wastewater treatment systems has the potential to impact on groundwater and surface waters if site conditions are not suitable for an on-site percolation unit.

Pathway: Groundwater flowpaths and site drainage network.

Receptor: Down-gradient well supplies, groundwater quality and surface water quality.

Pre mitigation Impact: Indirect, negative, significant, temporary, low probability impact to surface water quality. Indirect, negative, slight, temporary, low probability impact to local groundwater.

Mitigation Measure Implemented During the Construction Phase:

Mitigation by Avoidance:

- > A self contained port-a-loo with an integrated waste holding tank was used at the site compound, maintained by the providing contractor, and removed from site on completion of the construction works;
- > Water supply for the site office and other sanitation was brought to site and removed after use from the site to be discharged at a suitable off-site treatment location; and,
- No water was sourced on the site, or discharged to the site.

Impact Assessment:

No impact as there was no release of wastewater into the natural environment at the site.

Residual Effect: During the construction phase the measures listed above were implemented, therefore there are no residual effects.

Significance of Effects: For the reasons outlined above, no significant effects on water have occurred or are likely to occur as a result of the Development.

9.5.2.7 Release of Cement-Based Products

Concrete and other cement-based products are highly alkaline and corrosive and can have significant negative impacts on water quality. They generate very fine, highly alkaline silt (pH 11.5) that can physically damage fish by burning their skin and blocking their gills. A pH range of $\geq 6 \leq 9$ is set in S.I. No. 293 of 1988 Quality of Salmonid Water Regulations, with artificial variations not in excess of ± 0.5 of a pH unit. Entry of cement based products into the site drainage system, into surface water runoff, and hence to surface watercourses or directly into watercourses represents a risk to the aquatic environment. Peat ecosystems are dependent on low pH hydrochemistry. They are extremely sensitive to introduction of high pH alkaline waters into the system. Batching of wet concrete on site and washing out of transport and placement machinery are the activities most likely to generate a risk of cement based pollution.

Pathway: Site drainage network.

Receptor: Surface water and peat water hydrochemistry.

Pre-Mitigation Impact

Indirect, negative, moderate, short term, medium probability impact to surface water.

Mitigation Measure Implemented During the Construction Phase:

Mitigation by Avoidance:

- > No batching of wet-cement products was carried out on site. Ready-mixed supply of wet concrete products was used and where possible, emplacement of pre-cast elements, took place;
- Where possible pre-cast elements for culverts and concrete works was used;
- Where concrete was delivered on site, only the chute was cleaned, using the smallest volume of water possible.
- > The small volume of water generated from washing of the concrete lorry's chute were directed into a temporary lined impermeable containment area;
- No discharge of cement contaminated waters to the construction phase drainage system or directly to any artificial drain or watercourse was allowed. Chute cleaning water was tanked and removed from the site to a suitable, non-polluting, discharge location;
- > Weather forecasting was used to plan dry days for pouring concrete; and,
- Pour sites were made free of standing water and plastic covers were ready in case of sudden rainfall event.

Impact Assessment:

There were no records/reports of water contamination incidences as a result of cement during the construction phase of the development. There were no cement contamination issues observed during any of the site inspections/audits completed by HES/MKO. All the pH values recorded at the 13 no. downstream monitoring locations were within the EQS range (i.e. pH 6 - 9).

Residual Effect: The potential for the release of cement-based products or cement truck wash water to groundwater and watercourse receptors is a risk to surface water and groundwater quality, and also the aquatic quality of the surface water receptors. Proven and effective measures to mitigate the risk of releases cement-based products or cement truck wash water were undertaken to break the pathway between the potential source and each receptor. The residual effect is assessed to be - Negative, imperceptible, indirect, short term, low probability impact.

Significance of Effects: For the reasons outlined above, no significant effects on surface water quality have occurred.

9.5.2.8 Impacts on Hydrologically Connected Designated Sites

As outlined above the Cleanrath wind farm development is situated upstream of the Gearagh and Lough Allua which is a designated SAC and pNHA respectively. An approximate 2.4km section of the grid connection route exists within the Roughty River catchment which is a designated pNHA in places. Possible effects include water quality impacts which could be significant if mitigation was not put in place.

The grid connection route also runs adjacent to Sillahertane Bog NHA which is located at the western end of the grid route. The grid cable connection follows an existing track which runs along the southwestern edge of the NHA for approximately 0.77km. The cable was installed within a trench along this track.

Pathway: Surface water and groundwater flowpaths.

Receptor: Down-gradient surface water quality (Toon River, River Lee, Aghnakinneirth Stream, Bunsheelin River and Sullane Beg River) and designated sites.

Pre-Mitigation Impact: Indirect, negative, imperceptible, temporary, low probability.

Mitigation Measure Implemented During the Construction Phase

In relation to the downstream designated sites (i.e. The Gearagh SAC, Lough Allua pNHA and Roughty River pNHA), the mitigation measures for protection of surface water quality which included buffer zones and drainage control measures (i.e. interceptor drains, swales, settlement ponds) ensured that the quality of runoff from development areas was very high.

As stated in impact Section 9.5.2.1 and Section 9.5.2.2 above, there was only an "imperceptible and temporary impact" on local streams and rivers but this would have been very localised and over a very short time period (i.e. hours). Therefore, significant direct, or indirect impacts on the Gearagh SAC, Lough Allua pNHA or Roughty River pNHA did not occur.

The nature of the existing ground conditions, the shallow trench and hydrogeology and hydrology in the vicinity of Sillahertane Bog NHA, meant no mitigation measures were required with respect the underground grid cable works. This is described below.

Impact Assessment

As stated in impact Section 9.5.2.1 and Section 9.5.2.2 above, there was only an "imperceptible and temporary impact" on local streams and rivers but this would have been very localised and over a very short time period (i.e. hours). This lack of significant effects was demonstrated by the construction surface water quality monitoring data.

In relation to Sillahertane Bog NHA, the construction and presence of the cable trench did not alter any further the hydrological / drainage regime in the vicinity of the existing track and NHA. The initial 300m of the grid connection route is upslope (up-gradient) of Sillahertane Bog NHA and therefore the presence of the trench did not result in any significant groundwater seepages from the subsoils beneath the down-gradient NHA designed peat. The mineral subsoils comprise mainly of relatively low permeability silts and clays and therefore no significant groundwater seepages occurred during the construction. Surface water runoff from the upslope non-designated bog already enters the track (which acts as a drainage conduit) and the presence of the cable trench had no impacts in this respect.

Approximately 300m downslope of the NHA, the track is already cut into the peat and underlying mineral soil. On the lower section of the route the depth of the cut below the base of the NHA peat is extended even further by the presence of the drainage gully. The presence of cut track section and drainage gully means the subsoils beneath Sillahertane Bog NHA are already being drained to some extent. The temporary trench excavation and reinstatement, and ultimately the presence of the cable trench (which was placed on the opposite side of the track from the NHA which is at least 2.5m away from the subsoils at the base of the NHA peat) will not result in any additional drainage of subsoils beneath the NHA peat.

Also, the backfill material placed within the trench which comprised of concrete followed by gravel fill and provided with low permeability material plugs, the potential for the backfilled trench to act as a drainage conduit is very low. In addition, the backfilled trench was constructed in low permeability clays and silts and therefore the potential to impact on groundwater levels away from the trench does not exist.

In addition, the lower section of the route runs perpendicular to the ground contours, which means the cable trench is neither up-gradient nor down-gradient of Sillahertane Bog NHA (i.e. it is across gradient) and therefore significant groundwater seepages from the NHA into the cable trench will not occur.

Residual Effects: No hydrological or hydrogeological effects on designated sites have occurred or are likely to occur.

Significance of Effects: For the reasons outlined above, no significant impacts on any designated occurred.

9.5.2.9 Impact on Freshwater Pearl Mussel Populations within the River Lee Catchment

There are small non SAC designated freshwater pearl mussel (FWPM) sites downstream of the development site in the River Lee catchment. The closest known site is 1.5km downstream of the development site in the Toon River. FWPM are also present in the River Lee both upstream and downstream of Lough Allua and in the Sullan River catchment.

Pathway: Site drainage network.

Receptor: The River Lee and freshwater pearl mussel populations.

Potential Impact: Indirect, negative, moderate, temporary, low probability impact.

Mitigation Measure Implemented During the Construction Phase:

Best guidance in relation to protection of freshwater pear mussel (FPM) sites was obtained from guidance document Forestry and Freshwater Pearl Mussel Requirements – Site Assessment and Mitigation Measures (Draft).

Within catchments that contain FPM and especially populations that are designated (i.e. SAC) particular emphasis is placed upon forestry sites (i.e. or wind farm development sites) that lie less than 6km upstream of an identified FPM population. Table 9-15 shows the screening criteria taken from the FPM requirements guidance document.

Distance from nea population (Note	urest downstream FPM 1)	Soil (Note 2)	Requirements (see *below)
PART A within 6km from a FPM site	Site Adjoins Population	Erodible Peaty Mineral	FPM Requirements FPM Requirements FPM Requirements
	Site contains or adjoins an aquatic zone	Erodible Peaty Mineral	FPM Requirements FPM Requirements FPM Requirements
	Site does not contain or adjoin an aquatic zone	Erodible Peaty Mineral	FPM Requirements FPM Requirements FS Guidelines*
PART B greater than 6km from a FPM site		Erodible Peaty	FS Guidelines* FS Guidelines*

 Table 9-15: Forest Operations Screening Table (FPM Requirements)

*Note 1: Forestry Services Guidelines apply except in the following situations where the Forestry and FPM Requirements apply.

- >10% of catchment (Note 3)
- > Afforestation >50ha (Note 4)
- Clear felling >25ha (Note 4)

The Cleanrath wind farm development is less than 6km upstream of the nearest mapped FPM site in the Toon River and therefore the Forestry Services Guidelines along with the FPM requirements were applied as outlined below.

Mitigation measures from best practice Forestry Service Guidelines along with the FPM requirements were applied during the construction phase to reduce the risk of entrainment of suspended solids and nutrient release in surface watercourses.

In addition to the Forestry Service Guidelines and FPM requirements the protection of surface watercourses during the construction phase of the wind farm was achieved by a combination of mitigation by avoidance and mitigation by design as described in the above sections.

The avoidance of sensitive hydrological features within the site and the drainage system ensured that the existing quality of surface waters was maintained and protected. The high level of protection provided to surface water bodies within the catchments of the development ensured that there was no potential to impact on freshwater pearl mussel sites downstream of the Cleanrath wind farm development site.

Impact Assessment: As stated above impacts on surface water quality locally was assessed to be imperceptible by means of the visual inspections/audits and the surface water quality monitoring and therefore there was no potential to impact on freshwater pearl mussel sites further downstream of the development.

Residual Effects: Due to the imperceptible effects on surface water quality locally to the development, there are no residual effects on freshwater pearl mussel sites.

Significance of Effects: For the reasons outlined above, no significant effects on freshwater pearl mussel sites have occurred or are likely to occur as a result of the Development.

9.5.2.10 Surface Water Impacts due to the Grid Connection and Temporary Junction Works

There was a requirement for 126 no. watercourse crossings along the grid connection route and this included 13 no. main existing bridge/culvert crossings and 113 no. existing smaller culvert crossings. Instream works were required at the 113 no. existing smaller crossings where some of the culverts were replaced/upgraded as well as any watercourse crossings which required upgrade where delivery accommodation works occurred.

No in-stream works were required at any of the 13 no. main existing crossings, these crossings and the existing bridge/culverts were left in-situ, however due to the proximity of the streams to the construction work at the crossing locations, there was a potential for surface water quality impacts during trench excavation work.

Due to the shallow nature of the grid connection and temporary junction works impacts on groundwater flows and levels did not occur.

Pathway: Surface water and groundwater flow paths.

Receptor: Down-gradient surface water quality (Toon River, River Lee, Aghnakinneirth Stream, Bunsheelin River and Sullane Beg River) & designated sites.

Potential Impact: Indirect, negative, slight, temporary, high probability impact on surface water quality.

Indirect, negative, slight, temporary, medium probability impact on groundwater quality.

Mitigation Measure Implemented During the Construction Phase:

Mitigation by Avoidance:

A self-imposed constraint/buffer zone was maintained for all crossing locations where possible whereby all watercourses were fenced off. In addition, measures which are outlined below were implemented to ensure that silt laden or contaminated surface water runoff from the excavation work did not discharge directly to the watercourse.

The purpose of the constraint zone was to:

- > Avoid physical damage to surface water channels;
- > Provide a buffer against hydraulic loading by additional surface water run-off;
- > Avoid the entry of suspended sediment and associated nutrients into surface waters from excavation and earthworks;
- > Provide a buffer against direct pollution of surface waters by pollutants such as hydrocarbons; and,
- > Provide a buffer against construction plant and materials entering any watercourse.

General Pollution Prevention Measures also included:

- Protection of the riparian zone watercourses by implementing a constraints zone around stream crossing crossings, in which construction activity was limited to the minimum, i.e. works solely in connection with duct laying at the stream crossing;
- > No stock-piling of construction materials took place within the constraints zone. No refuelling of machinery or overnight parking of machinery was permitted in this area;
- No concrete truck chute cleaning was permitted within constraint zones
- Works did not take place at periods of high rainfall, and were scaled back or suspended if heavy rain was forecasted;
- > Plant travelled slowly across bare ground at a maximum of 5km/hr. Wide pad machines were employed to protect tracked areas as necessary;
- Any excess construction material was immediately removed from the area and taken to a licensed waste facility;
- > No stockpiling of materials was permitted in the constraint zones;
- > Spill kits were made available in all plant machines; and,
- > Silt fencing was erected on ground sloping towards watercourses at the stream crossings as required.

Impact Assessment: As stated above impacts on surface water quality locally was assessed to be imperceptible by means of the visual inspections/audits and the surface water quality monitoring. Surface water monitoring locations SW7 to SW13 are located downstream of the grid connection route and there were no reported exceedances with respect suspended solids which would have been the primary potential contaminant during the works. Turbidity sondes DSE 3 & DSE 4 are also located down-gradient of the route and the data suggests no impact from the grid connection works which is consistent with the visual inspections and surface water quality monitoring data.

Residual Effects: Proven and effective measures to mitigate the risk of releases cement-based products, oils/fuels and suspended solids were undertaken to break the pathway between the potential source and each receptor. The residual effect is assessed to be - Negative, imperceptible, indirect, short term, low probability impact.

Significance of Effects: For the reasons outlined above, no significant effects on surface water quality have occurred or are likely to occur as a result of the Development.

9.5.2.11 Potential Impacts on Flush Habitats

Access roads etc emplaced in peat substrates can act as drains or barriers to flow, depending on their permeability relative to peat permeability. These potential effects of road construction could potentially impact the hydrology of the peat bog and flushes at the site. Access roads which cross flush areas have the potential to impact on groundwater and surface water flows that create and maintain the flush.

Turbine T9, and the associated access roads in a radius of around 200-300 m around the turbine, are in an extensive area of acid (surface water) flush habitat. The flush extends down slope below the footprint of these works. Flushes also occur along the access road to turbine location T4.

Pathway: Surface water flowpaths.

Receptor: Flush hydrology

Pre-Mitigation Impact

Direct, negative, moderate, permanent, high probability.

Impact Assessment/Mitigation Measure Implemented During the Construction Phase:

An ecological assessment of the flush areas was carried out by an ecologist from MKO post construction and there was no evidence of flush drainage being impeded or altered by the wind farm infrastructure. Windfarm drainage was installed as necessary to maintain flush hydrology along access road and at the turbine base locations.

There was no evidence of ponding of flush water upstream of the access tracks or any excessive/new drainage of existing wet areas of peatland/flush type vegetation as a result of the construction.

Impact Assessment: An inspection of the flush areas at T9 and T4 were undertaken post construction and the natural drainage of the flush areas has been maintained. There is no evidence of drying out along the main surface water flowpaths through the flush. Standing water levels within the body of the flush also appear to have been maintained.

Residual Effects: Due to the design measures implemented during the wind farm construction within the flush areas there has been no significant alteration of the hydrology of the flush. Therefore, the residual effect is assessed to be - Negative, imperceptible, direct, long term, low probability impact

Significance of Effects: For the reasons outlined above, no significant effects on surface water quality have occurred or are likely to occur as a result of the Development.

9.5.3 **Operational Phase**

9.5.3.1 Progressive Replacement of Natural Surface with Lower Permeability Surfaces

Progressive replacement of the vegetated surface with impermeable surfaces could potentially result in an increase in the proportion of surface water runoff reaching the surface water drainage network. The footprint comprises turbine hardstandings, upgraded access roads and compound (~10ha footprint in total). During storm rainfall events, additional runoff coupled with increased velocity of flow could increase hydraulic loading, resulting in erosion of watercourses and impact on aquatic ecosystems.

Pathway: Site drainage network.

Receptor: Surface waters and dependent ecosystems.

Pre-Mitigation Impact

Direct, negative, moderate, permanent, moderate probability impact.

Mitigation Measures Implemented During the Operational Phase

Mitigation by Design:

Various combinations/adaptations of the runoff control and drainage management measures during the operational phase are employed at the site depending on the local conditions and topography:

- > Natural vegetation filters are used regularly across the site where the local drainage and topography allowed attenuation of surface water runoff.
- > Where possible, interceptor drains are installed up-gradient of infrastructure to collect clean surface runoff, in order to minimise the amount of runoff reaching areas where suspended sediment could become entrained. It is now directed to areas where it can be re-distributed onto natural vegetation.
- Swales/roadside drains are used to collect runoff from access roads and turbine hardstanding areas of the site, likely to have entrained suspended sediment, and channeled it onto natural vegetation.

Impact Assessment:

Runoff Calculations

This section assesses the effect of the development site footprint on site runoff volumes compared to predevelopment site runoff volumes. The water balance calculations were carried out for the month with the highest average recorded rainfall minus evapotranspiration, for the current baseline site conditions (refer to Table 9-5).

The emplacement of the permanent development footprint (9.5ha), as described in Chapter 4 of the rEIAR, (assuming emplacement of impermeable materials as a worst case scenario) is estimated to result in an average total site increase in surface water runoff of 7,378 m^3 /month and 238 m^3 /day for the site (Table 9-16).

This represents a potential increase of 0.76% in the average daily/monthly volume of runoff from the study area in comparison to the pre-development site runoff conditions. This is a very small increase in average runoff and results from a relatively small area of the study area being developed, the total permanent development footprint being approximately 9.5ha, representing 1.8% of the total study area of 525ha.

The additional volume in all sub-catchments is low due to the fact that the runoff potential from the site is naturally high (95%). Also, the calculation assumes that all hardstanding areas are impermeable which will not be the case as access tracks and hardstanding areas are constructed of permeable stone aggregate). The increase in runoff from the site is therefore be negligible.

Table 9-16: Water Balance and Estimated Post Development Runoff Volumes

Study Area (ha)	Site Baseline Runoff/month (m ³)	Baseline Runoff/day (m ³)	Permanent Hardstanding Area (m ²)	Hardstanding Area 100% Runoff (m ³)	Hardstanding Area 95% Runoff (m ³)	Net Increase/month (m^3)	Net Increase/day (m3)	% Increase from Baseline Conditions (m ³)
525	968,100	31,229	95,000	18,444	11,067	7,378	238	0.76

Toon River and River Lee Surface Water Level/Flow Monitoring

As described in Section 9.3.8, analysis of the hydrographs for the Toon River and River Lee shown that the development has no traceable/measurable impact on flows or levels in either of the rivers. This is because the development runoff volumes are less than negligible compared to the flows in the Toon River and River Lee. Runoff from the development site is having no measurable impact on flows/levels in either watercourse.

Residual Effects: Due to the sites natural hydrology, with its high surface water runoff rates, the overall small footprint of the development compared to the overall landholding (1.8%) and the introduced wind farm drainage measures, the increase in runoff from the site is negligible. Therefore, the residual effect is assessed to be - Negative, imperceptible, indirect, long term, low probability impact.

Significance of Effects: For the reasons outlined above, no significant effects on downstream surface water flows/levels have occurred or are likely to occur as a result of the Development.

9.5.3.2 **Operational Phase Works**

In conjunction with the above operational phase activities, and subject to substitute consent being granted, a peatland habitat restoration will be undertaken within a 4.3Ha area of the wind farm site during the operational phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development. The works will involve felling, chipping and removal of brash and restoring the peatland habitat to its original condition prior to planting which will include the blocking of drains with no further drainage to be installed around the area. During the initial restoration process, erosion of peat and subsoil and potential surface water quality effects is considered to be a potential negative, short term effect, however, over the long term the restored peatland will provide a positive impact on the wind farm site in terms of the water quality.

Ongoing maintenance with regard the turbines and the wind farm drainage will also form part of the operational phase works, but these activities will have no effect on the local hydrological or hydrogeological regime.

Pathway: Vehicle movement, surface water and wind action.

Receptor: Down-gradient surface water quality (Toon River, River Lee, Aghnakinneirth Stream, Bunsheelin River and Sullane Beg River)

Pre-Mitigation Potential Impact: Negative, slight, direct, short-term, medium probability effect on surface water quality.

Positive, significant, direct, long-term, likely effect on surface water quality (following stabilisation and growth of acrotelm).

Proposed Mitigation Measures for Habitat Restoration:

- Brash removed during the restoration process will be stored up slope of the cleared area, to provide a buffer to surface water flows which may have the potential to erode;
- > During tree felling brash mats will be used to support vehicles on soft ground, reducing peat and mineral soils erosion and avoiding the formation of rutted areas; and,
- > Drain blocking and use of silt fencing and check dams until stabilisation has taken place.

Residual Effect Assessment: The potential for the release of suspended solids to watercourse receptors is a risk to water quality and the aquatic quality of the receptor. Proven and effective measures to mitigate the risk of releases of sediment were undertaken to break the pathway between the potential sources and the receptor. The residual effect is assessed to be - Positive, indirect, long term, high probability effect on downstream water quality and aquatic habitats.

Significance of Effects: Overall Significant positive effect.

9.5.4 **Decommissioning Phase**

The potential impacts associated with decommissioning of the Development will be similar to those during the construction phase, but of reduced magnitude.

Turbine foundations would remain in place underground. Leaving the turbine foundations in-situ is considered a more environmentally prudent option, as to remove that volume of reinforced concrete from the ground could result in environment emissions such as dust and sediment.

The electrical cabling connecting the Cleanrath wind farm development to the substation in the townland of Rathgaskig will be removed from the underground cable ducting at the end of the useful life of the Cleanrath wind farm development or should early decommissioning be required. The cable ducting will be left in-situ as it is considered the most environmentally prudent option, avoiding unnecessary excavation, soil disturbance and potential surface water quality effects.

During decommissioning, it may be possible to reverse or at least reduce some of the impacts observed during construction phase by rehabilitating construction areas such as turbine bases after the dismantling of turbines. This will be completed using material imported to site as the required quantity of material does not currently exist at the site. This will require 1,547m³ of inert soil to be imported to the site which will be sourced locally. Temporary drainage measures such as silt fencing, check dams and settlement ponds may be installed if required until the imported material has being stabilised by natural vegetation growth. However it is anticipated that the revegetation of the site during operation will have resulted in a return to the natural drainage management that will have existed prior to any construction. It is not anticipated that the restoration of turbine bases will impact this natural drainage system during decommissioning and turbine foundation reinstatement.

The decommissioning phase will also include the removal of underground cabling from the ducting on the grid connection route as described in Section 4.10 of this rEIAR. Other works during decommissioning will include the removal of soil berm at the temporary junction accommodation works and the turbine delivery accommodation roadway will also need to be removed during decommissioning to provide access to and from the site with abnormal loads. These works will be short-term, temporaray with no potential for impact on the local hydrology.

Other impacts such as possible soil compaction and contamination by fuel leaks will remain but will be of reduced magnitude.

A Decommissioning Plan has been prepared (Appendix 4-9) for an early decommission of the Cleanrath wind farm development the detail of which will be agreed with the local authority prior to any decommissioning. Should the Cleanrath wind farm development continue operation for the intended lifespan of approximately 25 years, 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 agreed with the competent authority at that time.

Mitigation measures applied during decommissioning phase activities will be similar to those applied successfully during construction phase where relevant. Some of the impacts will be avoided by leaving elements of the Development in place where appropriate (i.e. turbine bases). The turbine bases will be rehabilitated by covering with local soil in order to regenerate vegetation which will reduce runoff and sedimentation effects. Mitigation measures to avoid contamination by accidental fuel leakage and compaction of soil by on-site plant will be implemented as per the construction phase mitigation measures.

No significant impacts on the water environment are expected during the decommissioning phase of the Development.

9.5.5 **Cumulative Effects**

In terms of hydrological cumulative impacts arising from the wind farm infrastructure, grid connection route and junction accommodation works, no significant impacts have occurred, and this has been demonstrated by the surface water quality monitoring data and flow/level monitoring data as described above.

A hydrological cumulative impact assessment with regard to other wind farm developments within a 20km radius of the development site within the River Lee catchment was also undertaken. The wind farm developments assessed are listed in Table 9-17 below.

	1		
Catchment	Wind Farm Name	Status	Potential No. of
Area			Turbines in
11100			
			Catchment
River Lee	Knocknamork WF	7no. permitted	7
		1	
	Bawnmore 2 WF	6 no. existing	6
	Bawnmore 1 WF	5 no. existing	5
	Dawinnoic 1 W1	5 Ho. existing	5
	Garranereagh WF	4 no. existing	4
	Shehy More WF	11 no. under construction	8
	Shelly More WI	11 no. under construction	0
	Derragh WF	6 no. existing	6
		~	
Detential Tetal			26
Potential Total			36

Table 9-17: Other Wind Farm Developments in the River Lee catchment within a 20km radius of the site

The total number of turbines that will be operating inside a 20km radius within the River Lee catchment, including the existing Cleanrath 9 no. turbines is 45.

The catchment area of the River Lee within a 20km radius of the site is $\sim 662 \text{km}^2$ and therefore this equates to one turbine for approximately every $\sim 15 \text{km}^2$ which is considered imperceptible in terms of potential operational cumulative hydrological impacts.

As demonstrated by the surface water monitoring data, the drainage mitigation as implemented will ensure there will be no cumulative significant adverse impacts on the water environment from the

Cleanrath wind farm development, and other wind farm developments and non-wind farm developments within the River Lee catchment.

In terms of the overall Cleanrath wind farm development, approximately 2.4km of the total 15km grid route extends into the Roughty River catchment. Derragh wind Farm and Grousemount wind Farm, which are both located in the Roughty River catchment, were constructed over the same period as Cleanrath Wind Farm. Due to the fact that works within the Roughty River catchment relating to the Cleanrath wind farm development were limited to only 2.4km of grid connection, no hydrological cumulative impacts on watercourses within the Roughty River catchment occurred.

9.5.6 Assessment of Health Effects

Potential health effects arise mainly through the potential for groundwater and surface water contamination.

A wind farm is not a recognized source of pollution and so the potential for effects during the operational phase are negligible. Hydrocarbons were used onsite during the construction phase, however the volumes used were small in the context of the scale of the Development. In addition, they were handled and stored in accordance with best practice mitigation measures. There were no records/reports of groundwater or surface water contamination incidences during the construction phase or operational phase of the development.

Private wells are present along the grid connection route but due to the shallow nature of the works within the corridor of the public roads, there was no effect on these wells with respect water quality or quantity.

There were no soil contamination issues observed during any of the site inspections/audits completed by HES. As such, there are no impacts associated with water contamination and subsequent/associated health effects.

9.5.7 **Conclusion**

Extensive hydrological monitoring carried out during the construction and operational phase show that there were no observed significant effects on the downstream receiving waters. This is backed up by numerous site inspections/visual checks which showed that 99% of the time the waters inspected on-site were visually clean with no trace of contaminants. The 1% were all minor, localised, temporary turbidity effects which were resolved by undertaking minor drainage adjustments. There is no requirement to carry out any remedial mitigation measures as a result of the Cleanrath wind farm development.

During the decommissioning phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development, the majority of the site infrastructure will be removed from the wind farm site. The decommissioning phase will essentially involve the reverse procedures implemented during construction. No significant effects on the water environment will occur.

In summary, no significant effects on the water environmental occurred during the construction or operational phase of the wind farm.

Effects during the decommissioning would be similar to the construction phase but of much less magnitude. No cumulative impacts on the water environmental occurred nor were there are health effects reported.

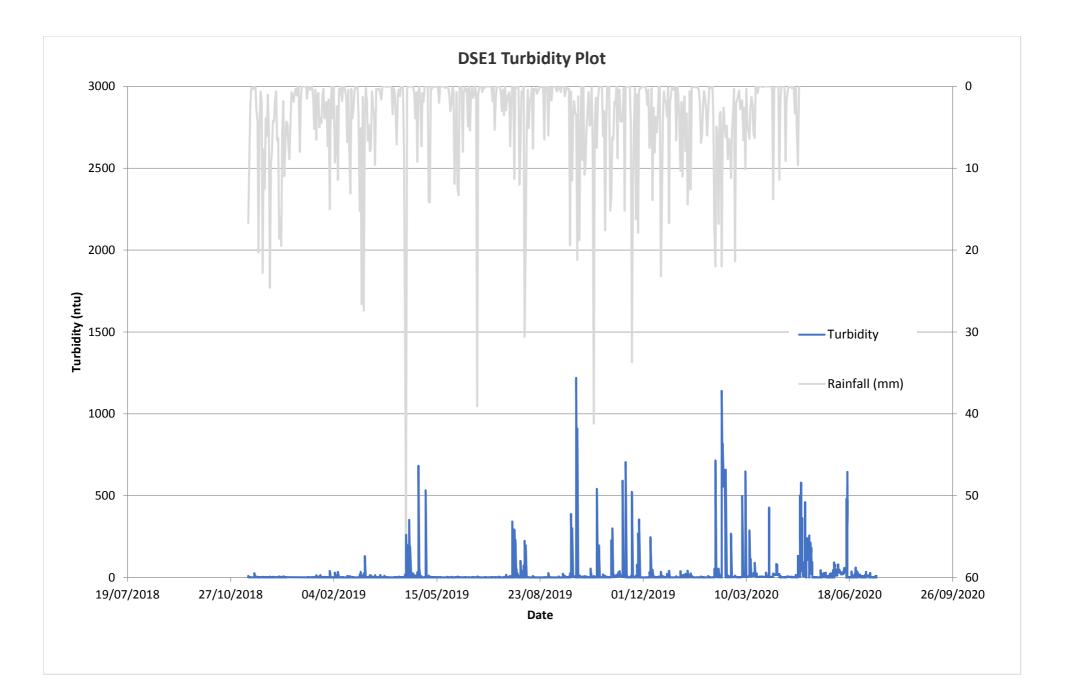
Cleanrath Wind Farm Remedial Environmental Impact Assessment Report rEIAR-F – 2020.08.12 – 191223-a

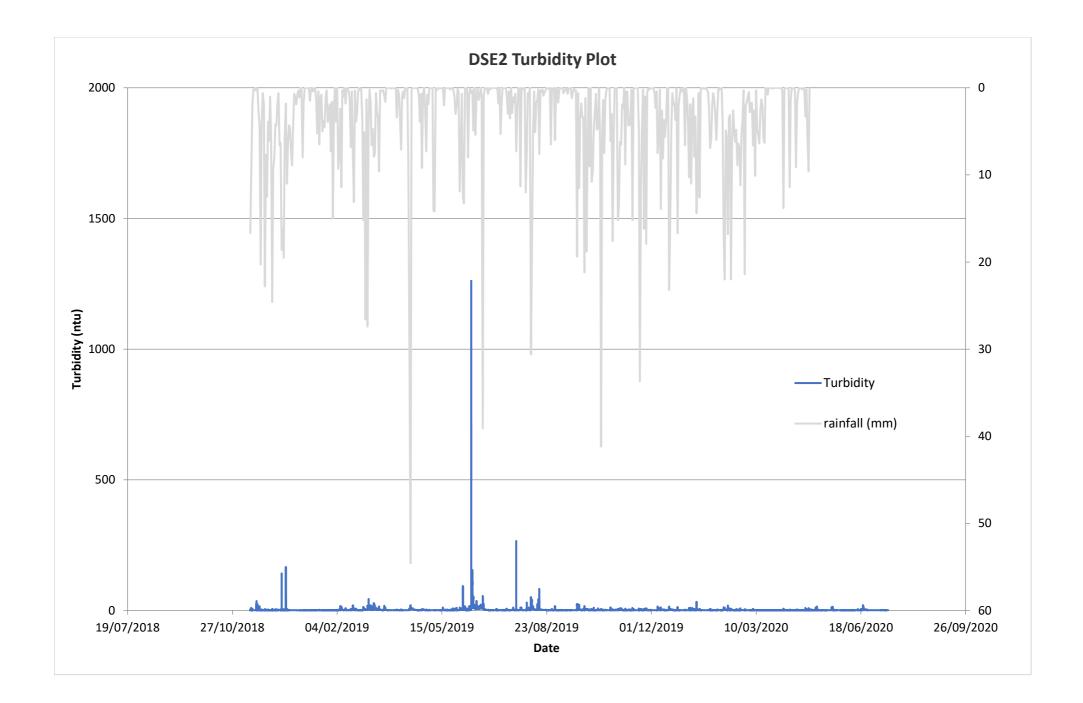


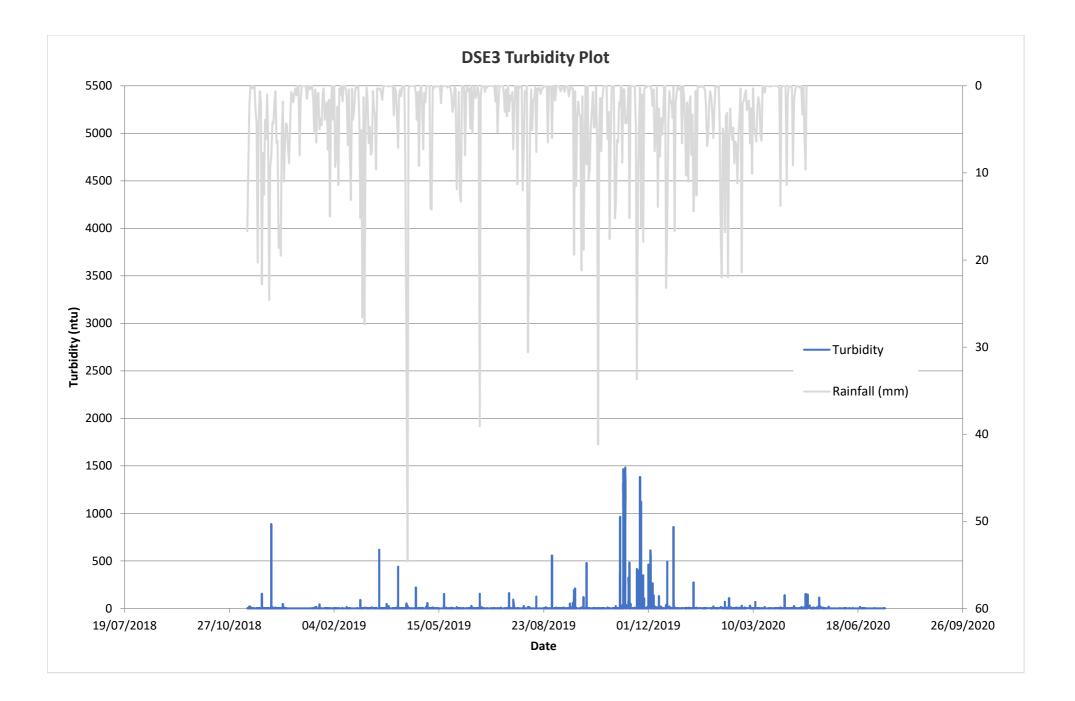
мко

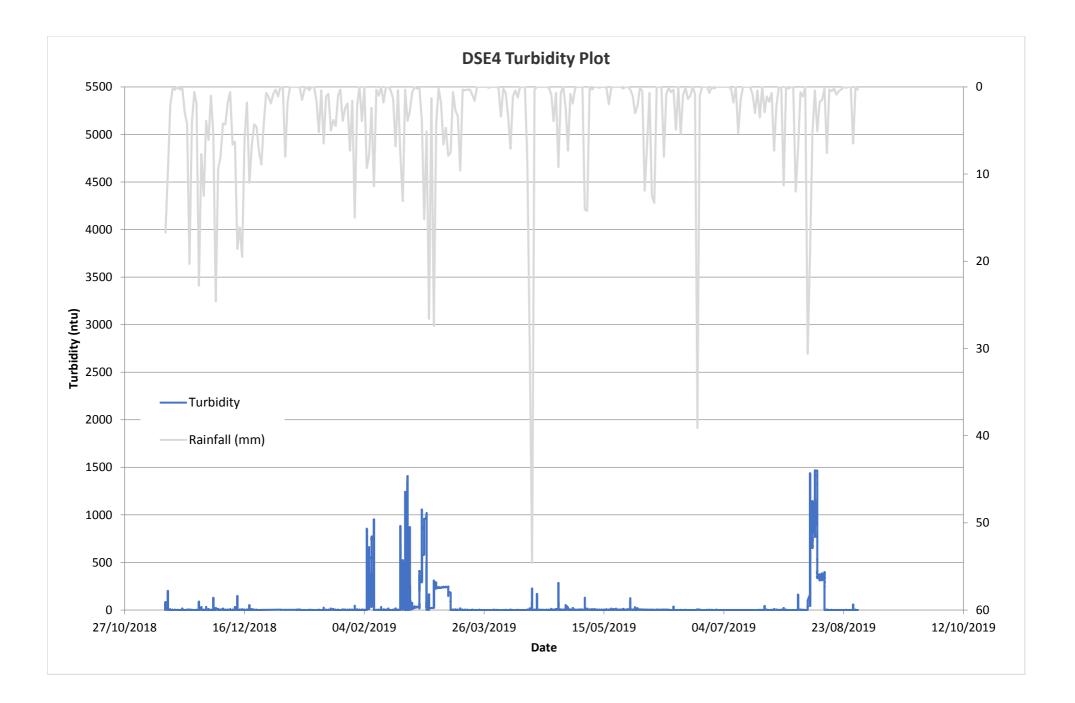
APPENDIX 9-1

WATER MONITORING DATA









Cleanrath Wind Farm Natura Impact Statement NIS F – 2020.08.12 – 191223a



мко

APPENDIX 6

PRE-CONSTRUCTION OTTER SURVEY

Ecological Pre-Commencement Surveys

Pre-construction survey of Cable Route and Cleanrath Wind Farm at Derrineanig, Co. Cork



Planning & Environmental Consultants

DOCUMENT DETAILS

Client:	Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd	
Project title:	Cleanrath Windfarm	
Project Number:	180655	
Document Title:	Ecological Pre-Commencement Surveys	
Doc. File Name:	180655 – EPCS – 2018.11.29 – F	
Prepared By:	McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. Planning & Environmental Consultants Block 1, G.F.S.C. Moneenageisha Road, Galway	



Document Issue:

Rev	Status	Issue Date	Document File Name	Author(s)	Approved By:
01	Final	29/11/2018	180655–0BISR – 2018.11.26 – F	JOS/DMN	PR

Table of Contents

1	Introduction			
	1.1.1 1.1.2	Objectives Statement of Authority	.1 .1	
2 Methods		hods	2	
	2.1	Field surveys	.2	
	2.2	GIS Mapping	.2	
3	Res	ults	3	
	3.1	Otter Survey	.3	
	3.2	Badger Survey	.3	
4	Con	clusions and recommendations	4	
	4.1	Otter and Badger	.4	
5	Ref	erences	5	

1 INTRODUCTION

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan were commissioned by Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd., to undertake Otter and Badger surveys prior to the construction of a windfarm and grid connection route at Cleanrath. The site location and survey area (grid connection route and development footprint) is shown in Figure 1.1.

The purpose of these surveys were to satisfy the pre-construction survey requirements, in relation to otters and badgers as per commitments made in all the various planning documentation and consolidated in the CEMP of Planning Reference No. 15/06966 (ABP Ref. PL 04.246742).

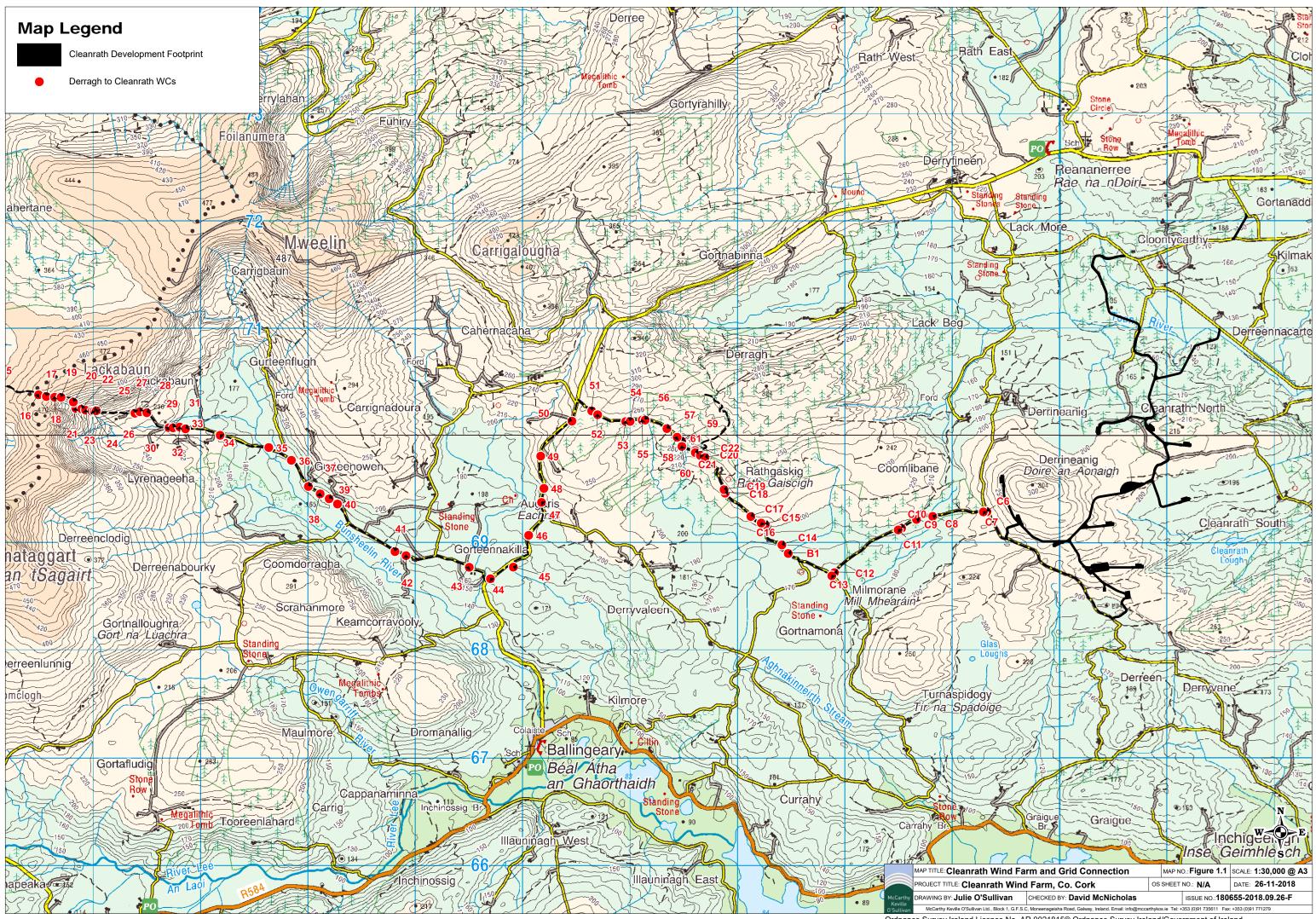
1.1.1 Objectives

The objectives of this site visit and report are summarised below:

- Identify signs of otter usage and otter breeding holts within 150 m upstream and 150 m downstream of watercourses within the footprint of the windfarm development and along the grid connection route.
- Identify badger setts within the footprint of the windfarm development and along the grid connection route.
- Produce maps of findings.
- Report on findings of field surveys.

1.1.2 Statement of Authority

The surveys were undertaken on the 13th, 14th and 15th of November 2018 by Julie O'Sullivan (BSc, MSc) and on the 10th Sept 2018 by Pat Roberts (B.Sc., MCIEEM) of McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. This report has been prepared by Julie O'Sullivan and David McNicholas (B.Sc., M.Sc., MCIEEM). Julie has four years professional experience. David has over eight years professional consultancy experience and is a full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). This report has been reviewed by Pat Roberts (B.Sc. Environmental Science, MCIEEM) who has over 13 years' experience in management and ecological assessment.



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021815© Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland

2 METHODS

2.1 Field surveys

During the field survey, potentially suitable habitat for badgers was searched for evidence of setts, tracks and signs. All proposed works areas were walked for signs of badger or setts, including a 150m buffer around each turbine.

Otter surveys were undertaken at all locations where the proposed construction footprint occurs in close proximity or crosses watercourses. Watercourses were searched for a distance of 150m adjacent to any works or crossing point.

All results were recorded using a Garmin Montana 650 hand-held GPS to mark grid reference locations.

All surveys were undertaken with reference to the following guidelines:

- Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected Flora and Fauna during the Planning of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2009)
- Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2009)
- Guidelines for the Treatment of Otters Prior to the Construction of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2006)
- Guidelines for the Treatment of Badgers Prior to the Construction of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2006)

2.2 GIS Mapping

Maps were produced using GIS Software application packages (MapInfo (Version 10.0)) detailing the location of all records identified during the survey.

3 **RESULTS**

3.1 Otter Survey

Development foot print

No potential tree roots, riverbank excavations or rock formations with the potential to support an otter holt (breeding or resting site) (Reid *et al* 2013) were found within the survey area. Many of the watercourses within the survey area comprise of field drains and are too small to provide significant otter habitat. However, evidence of otter usage (otter slide and spraints) was recorded during the survey at a number of locations where suitable habitat occurred. The results of the otter survey are presented in Table 3.1, Table 3.2 and in Figure 3.1. No other signs were identified at any of the other watercourse crossings shown in Figure 1.1.

Table 3.1 Otter survey results – development footprint

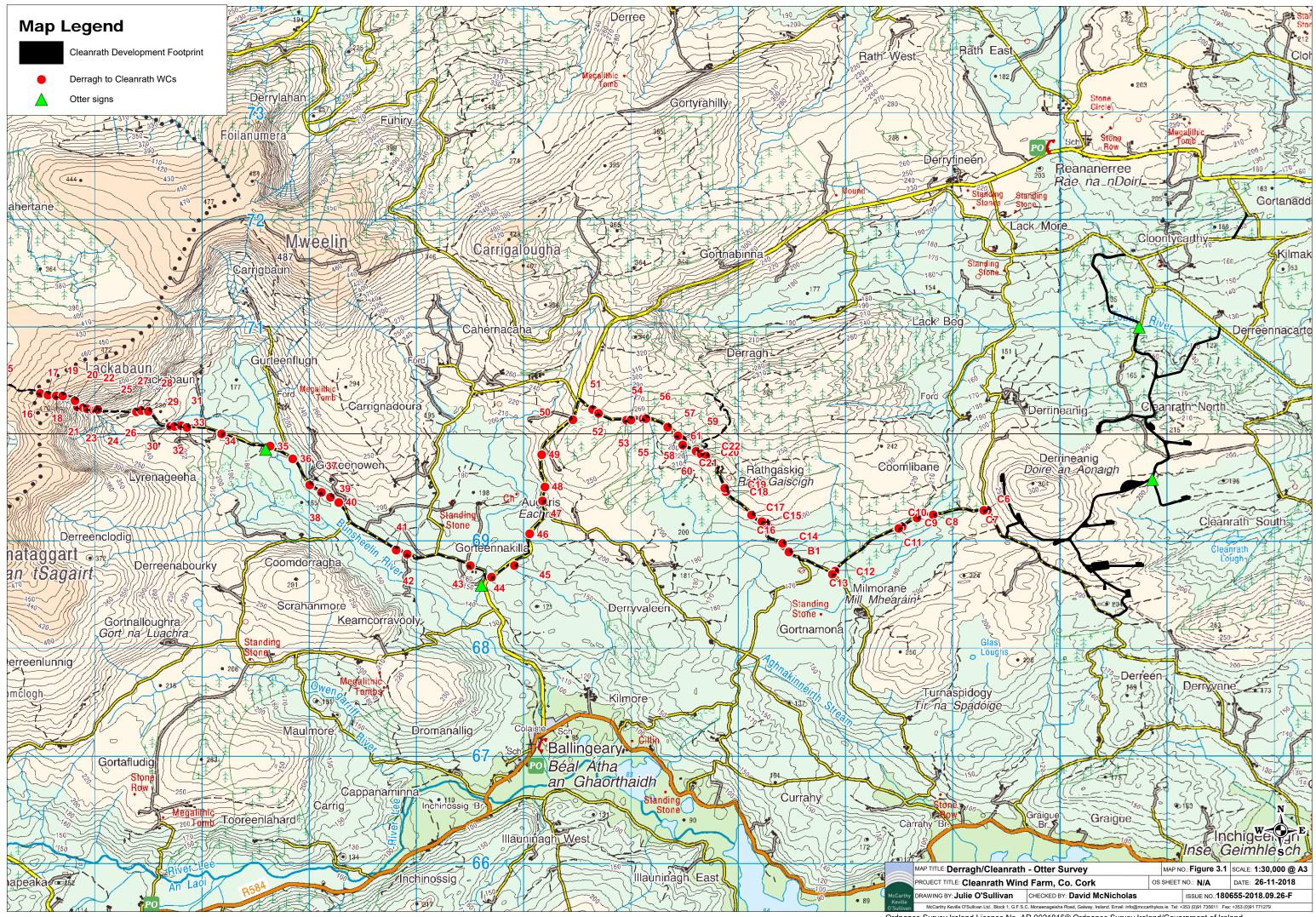
Location on site	Grid reference	Comment
Bridge over the River Toon	W 20739, 70999	Spraint on bridge
East of Derrineanig hill	W 20998, 69552	Spraint on rock

Table 3.2 Otter survey results – Watercrossings along grid connection route.

Watercrossings				
WC number (see Figure 1.1)	Grid reference	Comment		
44	W 14603, 68593	Spraint on rock on the bank of the Cathair Na Cáithe River		
35	W 12597, 69861	Otter slide; recorded on the banks of the Bunsheelin River		

3.2 Badger Survey

No signs of badger or badger setts were recorded during the survey. Much of the heathland habitat within the development footprint does not provide good quality badger habitat, with large areas of rocky outcrop and shallow peat/soils.



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021815© Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland

4 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Otter and Badger

During the pre-commencement walkover surveys of the site, signs of otter were recorded at 4 locations across the study area. These were associated with existing watercourse crossings. No additional signs of the species were recorded i.e. spraints on rocks along the river channel, prints, slides or holts. Although signs of otter recorded during the visit suggest that the species does occur in the area, there will be no impact on the resting or breeding places of the species as a result of the scheduled works as no holts (breeding or resting places) were recorded. Impacts are therefore likely to be restricted to temporary disturbance during the construction phase.

No evidence of badger was recorded during the surveys and there are therefore no predicted impacts on the species as a result of the scheduled works.

5 **REFERENCES**

Reid, N., Hayden, B., Lundy, M.G., Pietravalle, S., McDonald, R.A. & Montgomery, W.I. (2013) National Otter Survey of Ireland 2010/12. Irish Wildlife Manuals No. 76. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin, Ireland.

Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected Flora and Fauna during the Planning of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2009)

Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2009)

Guidelines for the Treatment of Otters Prior to the Construction of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2006)

Guidelines for the Treatment of Badgers Prior to the Construction of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2006)

Cleanrath Wind Farm Natura Impact Statement NIS F – 2020.08.12 – 191223a

\mathbf{O}

мко

APPENDIX 7

DECOMMISSIONING PLAN



Decommissioning Plan

Cleanrath Wind Farm



DOCUMENT DETAILS

\sim	1 .	
(.I	ient:	
0		

 \mathbf{O}

Project Title:

Project Number:

Document Title:

Document File Name:

Prepared By:

Cleanrath Wind Farm

Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd.

191223-a

Decommissioning Plan

Decommissioning Plan F - 2020.08.12 -191223-a

MKO **Tuam Road** Galway Ireland H91 VW84



Rev	Status	Date	Author(s)	Approved By
01	Draft	15/07/2020	00	MW
02	Final	12/08/2020	OC	MW

Table of Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION	
	1.1 Scope of the Decommissioning Plan	3
2.	SITE AND PROJECT DETAILS	4
	 2.1 Site Location and Description	4 8 8 8 9 9 9 9 9 9 9
3.	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT	11
4	 3.1.1 Site Drainage	$\begin{array}{c} 11 \\ 12 \\ 12 \\ 12 \\ 12 \\ 13 \\ 13 \\ 13 \\$
4.	EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN	
	 4.1 Emergency Response Procedure	
5.	PROGRAMME OF WORKS	23
	5.1 Decommissioning Schedule	23
6.	MITIGATION PROPOSALS	24
7.	MONITORING PROPOSALS	35
8.	COMPLIANCE AND REVIEW	
	 8.1 Site inspections and Environmental Audits 8.2 Auditing 8.3 Environmental Compliance	40 40

8.5	Decommissioning Phase Plan Review	41
-----	-----------------------------------	----

TABLE OF TABLES

Table 3-1 Expected waste types arising during the Decommissioning Phase	14
Table 4-1 Hazards associated with potential emergency situations	18
Table 4-2 Emergency Contacts	21
Table 4-3 Emergency Response Plan Items Applicable to the Site Induction Process	22
Table 6-1 Mitigation Measures	25
Table 7-1 Schedule of Monitoring Proposals	36

TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 2-1 Site Layout Map – Wind Farm Site	6
Figure 2-1 Site Layout - Grid Connection Route	7
Figure 4-1 Emergency Response Procedure Chain of Command	.17
Figure 5-1 Indicative Decommissioning Schedule	23

INTRODUCTION

1.

This Decommission Plan has been prepared by MKO on behalf of Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd. for the decommissioning of Cleanrath Wind Farm and relevant infrastructure including the grid connection to the national electricity grid which is hereafter referred to as the Cleanrath wind farm development . This document has been prepared as part of a Remedial Environmental Impact Assessment Report (rEIAR) for a substitute consent application to An Bord Pleanála. Decommissioning of the Cleanrath wind farm development is intended to take place after the planned 25-year lifespan of the Cleanrath wind farm development pending the outcome of the substitute consent process.

Should the Cleanrath wind farm development not be consented, there is the possibility that the decommissioning may need to be implemented early. If that situation were to arise, the content of this document will be agreed with the local authority prior to any decommissioning. Should the Cleanrath wind farm development continue operation for the intended lifespan of approximately 25 years, the Decommissioning Plan will be updated prior to the end of the 25-year operational period in line with decommissioning methodologies that may exist at the time and will be agreed with the competent authority at that time.

This report provides the environmental management framework to be adhered to during the decommissioning phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development 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.

Scope of the Decommissioning Plan

This report is presented as a guidance document for the decommissioning of the Cleanrath wind farm development including its connection to the national grid. Where the term 'site' is used in the Decommissioning Plan it refers to all works associated with the Cleanrath wind farm development including enabling works. 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 six 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 Emergency Response Procedure to be adopted in the event of an emergency in terms of site health and safety and environmental protection.

Section 5 sets out a programme for the timing of the works.

Section 6 outlines the proposals for reviewing compliance with the provisions of this report.

2. SITE AND PROJECT DETAILS

2.1 Site Location and Description

The Cleanrath wind farm development is located in the townlands of Cloontycarthy, Cleanrath North, Cleanrath South, Derrineanig, Derreennacarton and adjacent townlands in Co. Cork. The Cleanrath wind farm development comprises a total of 9 No. wind turbines, with a maximum ground to top blade tip height of up to 150 metres and all associated infrastructure.

The electrical connection from the main wind farm site to the national grid will be via an underground cable which will run within the public road corridor through the townlands of Cleanrath South, Derrineanig, Milmorane, Coomlibane, Rathgaskig, Derragh, Augeris, Gorteenakilla, Carrignadoura, Gurteenowen, Gurteenflugh, Lyrenageeha, Lackabaun, Co. Cork and Grousemount, Co. Kerry.

The town of Macroom is located approximately 12 kilometres northeast of the Cleanrath wind farm development and Inchigeelagh is located approximately 2.5 kilometres to the south.

Description of the Cleanrath Wind Farm Development

The construction phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development comprised civils works which included constructing the reinforced concrete foundations; access road construction and widening of existing access roads and junctions; construction of a temporary compound; upgrading existing an installation of new watercourse crossings and construction of underground cabling.

The design life of the project is expected to be 25 years.

2.2

The key components of the Cleanrath wind farm development include the following:

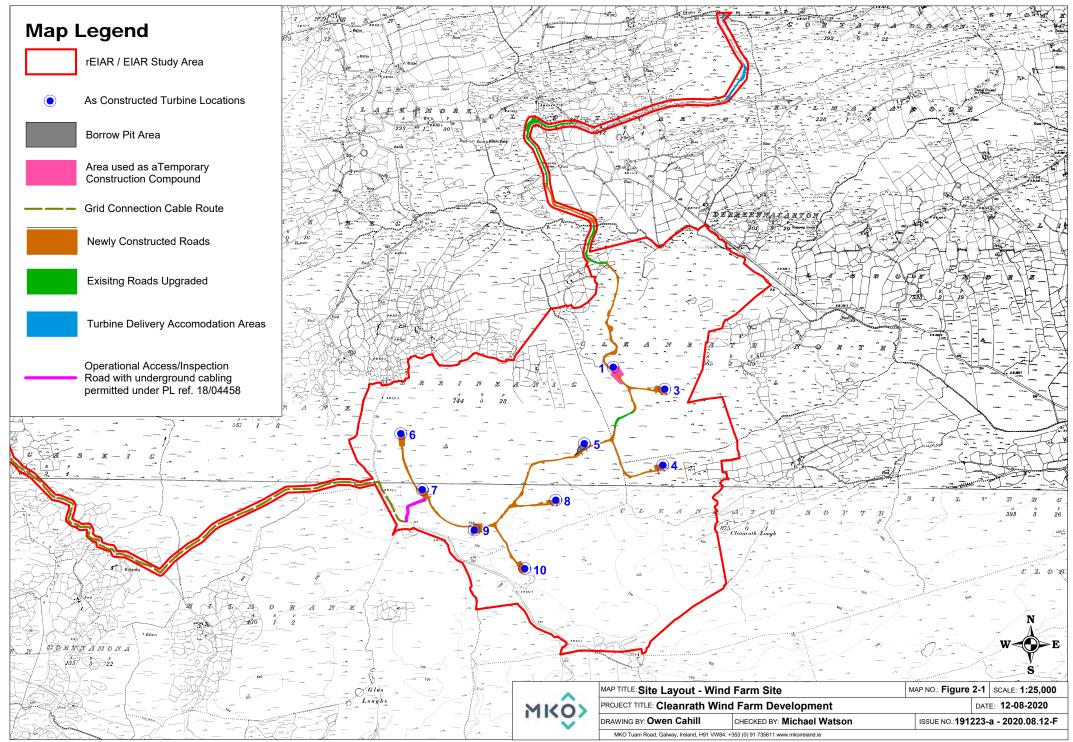
- > 9 no. Wind Turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 150 metres;
- 9 no. Hardstand Areas to facilitate cranes for turbine erection and to act as construction material storage compounds;
- 1 no. temporary construction compound for the location of the site office and staging facilities, on-site car-parking for site workers during the construction phase, material storage and construction refuse storage prior to its removal from the site;
- New and upgraded access tracks;
- > 1 no. borrow pit;
- > Underground cabling, including connection to the national grid
- > Accommodation works along the turbine delivery route
- > Site drainage
- > All associated site development and ancillary works.

The site layout showing individual elements of the Cleanrath wind farm development is shown in Figure 2-1 and 2-2.

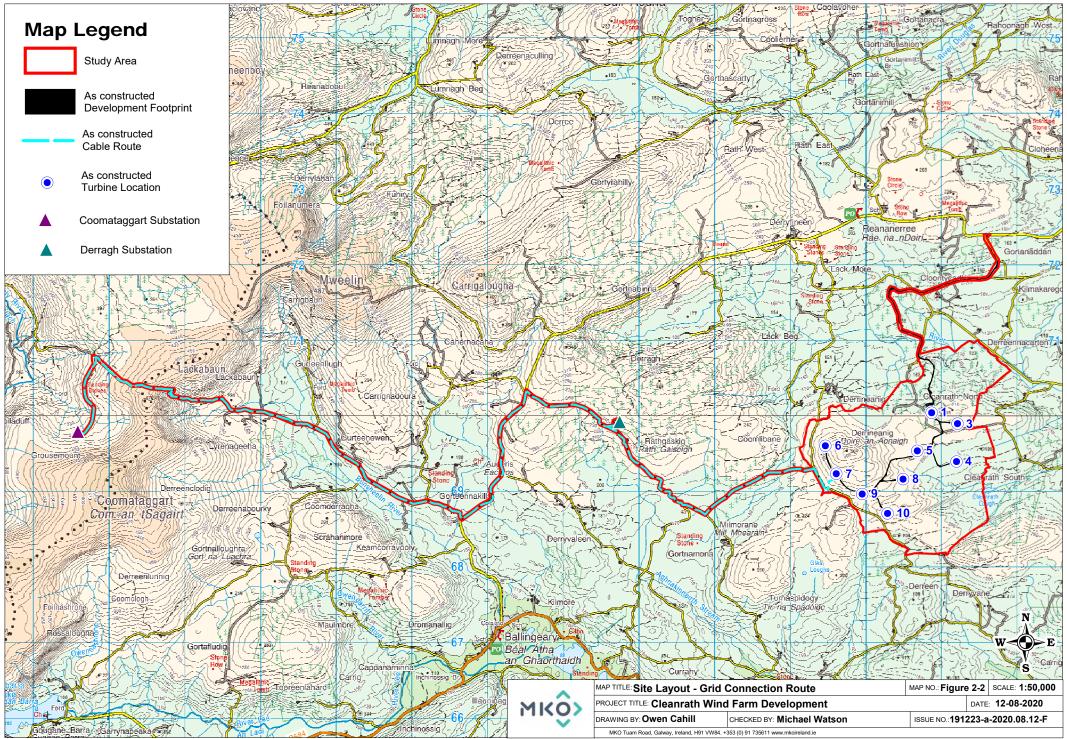
As construction has been completed, elements of the project that were developed as a temporary facilitator have either been removed, restored to its original condition or will have naturally revegetated. These include the temporary construction compound and the borrow pit. All access roads and hardstandings areas form part of a site roadway network which will be required by the ongoing farming and forestry operations, and therefore will be left in situ for future use. It is intended that decommissioning will remove all above ground components from the site, underground cabling and reinstate areas where infrastructure is removed. The following elements are included:

4

- > Wind turbines dismantling and removal off site.
- >
- Underground cabling removal (ducting remaining) Turbine foundation backfilling (Underground reinforced concrete remaining in-situ) >



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland

2.3 Targets and Objectives

The decommissioning phase works will be completed to approved standards, which include specified materials, standards, specifications and codes of practice. This decommissioning plan has considered environmental issues and this is enhanced by the works proposals as part of decommissioning.

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 Remedial Environmental Impact Assessment Report (rEIAR), the accompanying Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and associated planning documentation;
- > Ensure decommissioning works and activities have minimal impact/disturbance to local landowners and the local community;
- > Ensure decommissioning works and activities have minimal impact on the natural environment;
- > Adopt a sustainable approach to decommissioning; and,
- > Provide adequate environmental training and awareness 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;
- Avoidance of any pollution incident or near miss as a result of working around or close to existing watercourses and having 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 house-keeping 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. Decommissioning methods will be altered where it is found there is the potential to have an adverse effect on the environment;

2.4 **Decommissioning Methodologies Overview**

2.4.1 **Introduction**

An experienced main contractor will be appointed to undertake the of the decommissioning of the Cleanrath wind farm development . The main contractors will comply with the Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) prepared for the construction phase and the Operation and Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) implemented during operation and any revisions made to those documents throughout the phases in which they were adopted. An overview of the anticipated decommissioning methodologies is provided below.

2.4.2 **Decommissioning Methodology**

The proposed anticipated decommissioning methodology is summarised under the following main headings:

- Wind turbines
- > Turbine Foundations;
- > Underground Cabling;
- > Transport Route Accommodation Works.

2.4.2.1 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 and Eirgrid. The dismantling and removal of wind turbines of this scale is a specialist operation which will be undertaken by the turbine supplier that completed the installation where possible. Turbine dismantling will be undertaken in reverse order to methodology employed during their construction. A number of large-scale cranes will be brought back to site utilising the existing hard stand areas. The dismantling of turbines will be bound by the same safety considerations as was the case during construction in terms of weather conditions where works will not be undertaken during adverse weather conditions and in particular not during high winds.

The turbines will most likely be removed from site in a similar manner to how they were transported to the site originally in extended articulated trucks the details of which are assessed in Chapter 14 of the rEIAR and the EIAR which accompany this application. The destination of the turbines post decommissioning is unclear at this time as a re-use option may be sourced if early decommissioning occurs. Therefore the removal of turbines from site is considered in terms of all turbine components being removed intact and as they transported to site.

The transport of disassembled turbines from the site will be undertaken in accordance with a Transport Management Plan which will be issued to and agreed with the competent 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 Transport Management Plan 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.

2.4.2.2 **Turbine Foundations**

On the dismantling of turbines, 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 having potential effects on the environment. Therefore, the nine turbine foundations will be backfilled and covered with soil material. As there is no usable soil or overburden material on the site after construction, this material 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.

2.4.2.3 Underground Cabling

The electrical and fibre optic cabling that connects each turbine to Turbine no.7 on the wind farm as well as the 33kV cabling from Turbine no. 7 to the existing substation in the townland of Rathgaskig will be removed from the cable ducting. The cabling will be pulled from the cable duct using a mechanical winch which will extract the cable and re-roll it on to a cable drum. This will be undertaken at each of the joint bays/pull pits along the cable. The road will be excavated using a mechanical excavator at each cable pulling pit location and will be fully re-instated once the cables are removed. A

decommissioning phase Traffic Management Plan has been prepared for these works (Appendix 1) The cable ducting will be left in-situ as it is considered the most environmentally prudent option, avoiding unnecessary excavation and soil disturbance for an underground element that is not visible.

The 38kV grid connection cabling from the existing substation at Rathgaskig to the existing substation in Coomataggart will be an ESB networks asset and will be part of the national electricity grid and therefore it is not proposed to remove this cable. However, should its removal be required it will be completed using the same methodology as outlined here.

2.4.2.4 Transport Route Accommodation Works

During the construction of the Cleanrath wind farm development, a number of road and junction improvements and the provision of a turbine delivery accommodation roadway were completed to provide access to the site during turbine delivery. All these accommodation areas remain in place for use during decommissioning and turbine component removal. The turbine delivery accommodation roadway and the junction upgrade adjacent to the sawmill in Cloontycarthy have boundary treatments and roadside berms installed to prevent access to these areas when not in use. This will all be removed temporarily for turbine component transport from the Cleanrath wind farm development and will be reinstated after the works. The berm will be reinstated using an excavator and will again be allowed to revegetate naturally.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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

3.1.1 Site Drainage

The site drainage features for this site during its construction and operation are outlined in Section 4.6 of the rEIAR and Section 4.4 the EIAR which accompany this application. As this Decommissioning Plan is a working document and is presented as an Appendix to the rEIAR and EIAR, the drainage measures are not included in this document. When the final plan is prepared prior to decommissioning and presented as a standalone document, all 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, early decommissioning or after the planned 25-year lifespan of the Cleanrath wind farm development, the areas within the site 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.

3.1.2 Refuelling, Fuel and Hazardous Materials Storage

The plant and equipment used during decommissioned will require refuelling during the works. Appropriate management of fuels will be required to ensure that incidents relating to refuelling are avoided. The following mitigation measures are proposed to avoid release of hydrocarbons at the site:

- > Road-going vehicles will be refuelled off site wherever possible;
- On-site refuelling will be carried out at designated refuelling areas at various locations throughout the site. Machinery will be refuelled directly by a fuel truck that will come to site as required
- Only designated trained and competent operatives will be authorised to refuel plant on site. Mobile measures such as drip trays and fuel absorbent mats will be used during all refuelling operations.
- > Fuel volumes stored on site should be minimised. Any fuel storage areas will be bunded appropriately;
- > The plant used will be regularly inspected for leaks and fitness for purpose; and,
- > An emergency plan for the decommissioning phase to deal with accidental spillages will be developed (refer to Section 4) Spill kits will be available to deal with and 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.

3.2 **Dust Control**

Dust can be generated from on-site activities during decommissioning such as backfilling 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.

Proposed measures to control dust include:

- Any site roads with the potential to give rise to dust will be regularly watered, as appropriate, during dry and/or windy conditions;
- > The designated public roads outside the site and along the main transport routes to the site will be regularly inspected by the Site Manager for cleanliness, and cleaned as necessary;
- > Material handling systems and material storage areas will be designed and laid out to minimise exposure to wind;
- > Water misting or sprays will be used as required if particularly dusty activities are necessary during dry or windy periods;
- > The transport of soils or other material, which has significant potential to generate dust, will be undertaken in tarpaulin-covered vehicles where necessary;
- > All site related traffic will have speed restrictions on un-surfaced roads to 15 kph;
- > Daily inspection of the site to examine dust measures and their effectiveness.
- > When necessary, sections of the haul route will be swept using a truck mounted vacuum sweeper; and,

3.3 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. Proposed measures to control noise include:

- > Diesel generators will be enclosed in sound proofed containers to minimise the potential for noise impacts;
- Plant and machinery with low inherent potential for generation of noise and/or vibration will be selected. All plant and equipment to be used on-site will be modern equipment and will comply with the European Communities (Construction Plant and Equipment) (Permissible Noise Levels) Regulations;
- Regular maintenance of plant will be carried out in order to minimise noise emissions. Particular attention will be paid to the lubrication of bearings and the integrity of silencers;
- > All vehicles and mechanical plant will be fitted with effective exhaust silencers and maintained in good working order for the duration of the works;
- Compressors will be of the "sound reduced" models fitted with properly lined and sealed acoustic covers which will be kept closed whenever the machines are in use and all ancillary pneumatic tools shall be fitted with suitable silencers;
- Machines, which are used intermittently, will be shut down during those periods when they are not in use;
- Training will be provided by the Site Manager to drivers to ensure smooth machinery operation/driving, and to minimise unnecessary noise generation; and,
- Local areas of the haul route will be condition monitored and maintained, if necessary.

3.4 Invasive Species Management

The soil material that will be imported to site as part of the foundation backfilling 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 this sourcing suitably clean 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 berms that will be temporarily removed during decommissioning at the turbine delivery accommodation roadway and the junction upgrade adjacent to the sawmill in Cloontycarthy. The invasive species survey will also be undertaken along the cable route to identify invasive species at joint bay locations where excavation to expose the cabling for removal will be required.

3.5 Traffic Management

The Traffic Management Plan has been prepared to consider the decommissioning as a standalone project. The removal of turbines from site will be undertaken for a specialist haulier. The traffic management arrangements although similar to that implement for turbine delivery as outlined in the rEIAR will be agreed in advance of decommission (early or after 25 years of operation) with the competent authority.

A Traffic Management Plan for the decommissioning phase for the grid connection cabling is included in Appendix 1. Where grid connection decommissioning works are ongoing, the contractor will schedule and phase these works accordingly to ensure that these works do not coincide with turbine component transport from site and thus reduce the impact of concurrent construction specific to the wind farm.

3.6 Waste Management

This section of the Decommissioning Plan provides a waste management plan (WMP) which outlines the best practice procedures during the decommissioning of the Cleanrath wind farm development . The WMP will outline the methods of waste prevention and minimisation by recycling, recovery and reuse at each stage of decommissioning. Disposal of waste will be seen as a last resort.

3.6.1 Legislation

The Waste Management Act 1996 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 of the Cleanrath wind farm development to ensure that all contractors hired to remove waste from the site 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.

The Department of the Environment provides a document entitled, '*Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects' (2006).* It is important to emphasise that no demolition will take place at this site, however, this document was referred to throughout the process of completing this WMP.

13

3.6.2 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 WMP will be to prevent and thereby reduce the amount of waste generated at each stage of the 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 a number of established markets available for the beneficial use of Construction and Demolition waste such as using waste concrete as fill for new roads.

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

3.6.3 Waste Arising from Decommissioning

The relevant components will be removed from site 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 Cleanrath wind farm development are outlined in Table 3-1 below.

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

TIL OIT I			1 1	D	701
Table 3-1 Expected	waste types	arising	during the	Decommissioning	r Phase

3.6.3.1 **Reuse**

Many construction materials can be reused a number of 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 as well as when decommissioning actually takes place.

3.6.3.2 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 Cleanrath wind farm development is low which provides the justification for adopting this method of waste management.

3.6.3.3 Implementation

3.6.3.3.1 Roles and Responsibilities

Prior to the commencement of the decommissioning, a Construction Waste Manager will be appointed by the Contractor. The Construction Waste Manager will be in charge of 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 management plan.

3.6.3.3.2 **Training**

It is important for the Construction 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 project 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.

3.6.3.3.3 Record Keeping

The WMP 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 WMP 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)
- > 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
- > Site Address of Destination Facility

3.6.3.4 Waste Management Plan Conclusion

The WMP will be properly adhered to by all staff involved in the 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 WMP has been prepared to outline the main objectives that are to be adhered to and it will be updated as required prior to decommissioning.

3.7 **Environmental Management Implementation**

3.7.1 Roles and Responsibilities

The Site Manager and/or Environmental 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 Cork County Council 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. **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.

4.1 **Emergency Response Procedure**

The site 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 on site 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 project.

4.1.1 **Roles and Responsibilities**

The chain of command during an emergency response sets out who is responsible for coordinating the response. The Site Supervisor/Construction 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 4-1. In a situation where the Site Supervisor/ Construction 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 4-1. This will be updated throughout the various stages of the project.

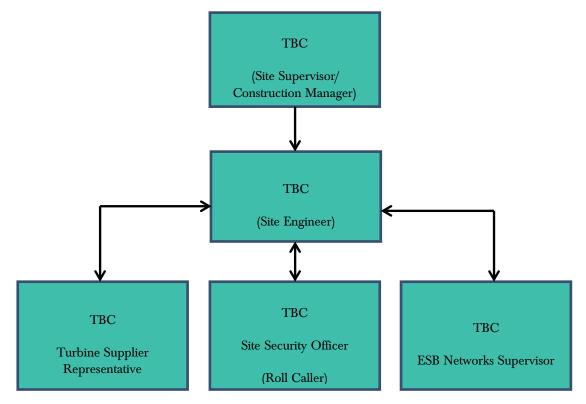


Figure 4-1 Emergency Response Procedure Chain of Command

4.1.2 Initial Steps

In order to establish the type and scale of potential emergencies that may occur, the following hazards have been identified as being potential situations that may require an emergency response in the event of an occurrence.

Table 4-1 Hazards associated with potential emergency situat	0115				
Hazard	Emergency Situation				
Construction Vehicles: Dump trucks, tractors,	Collision or overturn which has resulted in				
excavators, cranes etc.	operator or third-party injury.				
	Entanglement, amputation or electrical shock				
Abrasive wheels/Portable Tools	associated with portable tools				
	Electrical shock or gas leak associated with an				
Contact with services	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				
	Illness unrelated to site activities of an operative				
Sickness	e.g. heart attack, loss of consciousness, seizure				
	This will be included the turbine manufacturers'				
Turbine Specific Incident	emergency response plan.				

Table 4-1 Hazards associated with potential emergency situations

In the event of an emergency situation associated with, but not restricted to, the hazards outlined in Table 4-1 the Site Supervisor/Construction 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/fog-horn that activates an emergency evacuation on the site. The Site Supervisor/Construction Manager must proceed to the assembly point if the emergency poses any significant threat to their welfare <u>and if</u> there are no injured personnel at the scene that require assistance. The Site Supervisor/Construction Manager will be required to use their own discretion at that point. In the case of fire, the emergency evacuation of the site should proceed, without exception. The site evacuation procedure is outlined in Section 4.1.3.
- > 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 4.2 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 4.3.
- > Contact the next of kin of any injured personnel where appropriate.

4.1.3 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 fog-horn 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/Construction Manager when all personnel have been accounted for. The Site Supervisor/Construction 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.

4.1.4 **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 source of the spill 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.
- > The ECoW will notify the appropriate regulatory body such as Cork 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.
- > If the incident has impacted on a sensitive receptor such as an archaeological feature the ECoW will liaise with the Project Archaeologist.
- 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 Cork County Council, 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.

4.2 **Contact the Emergency services**

In the event of requiring the assistance of the emergency services the following steps should 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 <u>location</u> 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 remoteness 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.

4.3 **Contact Details**

A list of emergency contacts is presented in Table 4-2. 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 4-2 Emergency Contacts	
Contact	Telephone no.
Emergency Services – Ambulance, Fire, Gardaí	999/112
Doctor – Macroom Health Centre	026 20650
Hospital – Cork University Hospital	021 492 2000
ESB Emergency Services	1850 372 999
Gas Networks Ireland Emergency	1850 20 50 50
Gardaí – Local Garda Station. Ballingeary	026 47002
Health and Safety Co-ordinator - Health & Safety Services	ТВС
Health and Safety Authority	1890 289 389
Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI)	1890 347 424
Project Supervisor Construction Stage (PSCS): TBC	TBC
Project Supervisor Design Stage (PSDS): TBC	TBC
Client: Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd.	021 7336034

Table 4-2 Emergency Contacts

4.3.1 **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.

4.4 Induction Checklist

Table 4-3 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 project.

Table 4-3 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.	

5. **PROGRAMME OF WORKS**

5.1 **Decommissioning Schedule**

The decommissioning phase will take approximately 3-6 months to complete from commencing the removal of turbines to the final reinstatement of the site.

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 Figure 5-1 below, where the 1st January has been shown as an indicative start date for decommissioning to commence.

	Task Name	Tech Description	Q1		Q2			Q3				
ID	rask ivame	Task Description	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
1	Site Health & Safety											
2	Turbine Decommissioning	Disconnect power output		I								
3	Turbine Dismantling	Disassemble turbine components					I					
4	Turbine Removal	Transport of all turbine components off site					I					
5	Cable Removal	Remove underground cables from ducting										
6	Turbine Foundations Backfill	Reinstate foundation areas by covering with soil material										
7	Accomodation Areas Reinstatement	Reinstate soil berm and boundary treatments										

Figure 5-1 Indicative Decommissioning Schedule

MITIGATION PROPOSALS

All mitigation measures relating to the operational phases of the Cleanrath wind farm development were set out in the various sections of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) which accompanies this substitute consent application.

This section of the DP groups together all of the mitigation measures presented in the planning documentation. The mitigation measures are presented in the following pages.

By presenting the mitigation proposals in the below format, it is intended to provide an easy to audit list that can be reviewed and reported on during the operational phase of the project. The tabular format in which the below information is presented, can be further expanded upon during the course of operation and provides a reporting template for site compliance audits.

Table 6-1 N	Table 6-1 Mitigation Measures					
Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required		
	Operational Phase					
MM1	EIAR Chapter 6 OEMP Section 2	A habitat restoration and enhancement plan has been prepared to mitigate for peatland habitat loss				
MM2	EIAR Chapter 4 OEMP Section 2	An additional hectare of immature forestry will be removed to provide an area of enhanced peatland. Any further felling proposed for the site will be the subject of a Limited Felling Licence (LFL) application to the Forest Service. Replanting will be undertaken for any further felling				
MM3	EIAR Section 6,	The removal of woody vegetation will be undertaken in full compliance with Section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976 – 2018.				
MM4	EIAR Chapter 8	 As part of peatland restoration works, the following measures are proposed: Brash removed during the restoration process should be stored up slope of the cleared area, to provide a buffer to surface water flows which may have the potential to erode, During tree felling brash mats will be used to support vehicles on soft ground, reducing peat and mineral soils erosion and avoiding the formation of rutted areas. 				
MM5	EIAR Chapter 8, 9	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				

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
	OEMP Section 3	Machinery will be refuelled on site by a fuel truck. This will only take place for a short period during peatland habitat restoration works.		
MM6	REIAR Chapter 8	The electrical control building was bunded appropriately to the volume of oils likely to be stored, and to prevent leakage of any associated chemicals and to groundwater or surface water. The bunded area was fitted with a storm drainage system and an appropriate oil interceptor;		
MM7	EIAR Chapter 6 OEMP Section 3	The operational phase drainage of the development has been operated in full accordance with the design and mitigation measures that are fully described in Section 9.6 of Chapter 9: 'Water' and in the Operation and Environmental Management Plan. In addition, the same measures will be employed during any future operation. The Habitat Restoration Plan that is provided in Appendix 6.8 provides details of additional measures that will be implemented to protect water quality during the operation of the wind farm and the felling associated with the habitat restoration should it be granted permission.		
MM8	EIAR Chapter 9	 Various combinations/adaptations of the runoff control and drainage management measures during the operational phase are employed at the site depending on the local conditions and topography: Natural vegetation filters are used regularly across the site where the local drainage and topography allowed attenuation of surface water runoff. Where possible, interceptor drains are installed up-gradient of infrastructure to collect clean surface runoff, in order to minimise the amount of runoff reaching areas where suspended sediment could become entrained. It is now directed to areas where it can be re-distributed onto natural vegetation. 		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		Swales/roadside drains are used to collect runoff from access roads and turbine hardstanding areas of the site, likely to have entrained suspended sediment, and channeled it onto natural vegetation.		
MM9	EIAR Chapter 9	 As part of peatland restoration works, the following water protection measures are proposed: Brash removed during the restoration process will be stored up slope of the cleared area, to provide a buffer to surface water flows which may have the potential to erode; During tree felling brash mats will be used to support vehicles on soft ground, reducing peat and mineral soils erosion and avoiding the formation of rutted areas; and, Drain blocking and use of silt fencing and check dams until stabilisation has taken place. 		
MM 10	EIAR Chapter 7	Operational monitoring at the Cleanrath wind farm development commenced in January 2020 and continued into May 2020. Appendix 7-6 of this EIAR contains the Post-Construction Bird Monitoring Programme. Post construction monitoring included and will include the following surveys: Flight activity surveys: Vantage Point Surveys Breeding Bird Surveys: Adapted Brown & Shephard. Winter Walkover Surveys Breeding Raptor surveys Hen Harrier Winter Roost Surveys		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		Targeted bird collision surveys (corpse searches) were/will be undertaken with training dogs. The surveys included detection and scavenger trials, to correct for these two biases and ensure the resulting data is robust.		
MM 11	EIAR Section 6	All mitigation measures as specified by the survey report and derogation licence was implemented by the client. Compensation habitat was provided to replace the relatively small area of habitat affected by the development and no significant impact on Kerry slug populations was predicted to occur as a result of this development.		
MM 12	EIAR Chapter 7	Following the precautionary principle and in accordance with the SNH (2019) guidelines, any future operation of the wind farm will be the subject of ongoing monitoring as described in Appendix 6-4. If, following monitoring, there is any uncertainty as to the impacts on bat species, mitigation will be implemented		
MM 13	EIAR Chapter 5 OEMP Section 3	During the operational phase there will be ongoing maintenance of the wind turbines and associated infrastructure. Access to the turbines is through a door at the base of the structure, which is locked at all times outside maintenance visits. An Operational and Maintenance Health and Safety Plan has been prepared for the wind farm and is included as Appendix A of the OEMP (Appendix 4-3).		
MM 14	EIAR Chapter 5, 11 OEMP Section 3	 Best practice measures for noise control will be adhered to onsite during the operational phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development in order to mitigate the slight short-term negative impact associated with this phase of the development. These measures included: No plant used on site will be permitted to cause an on-going public nuisance due to noise. 		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		 The best means practicable, including proper maintenance of plant, will be employed to minimise the noise produced by on site operations. All vehicles and mechanical plant will be fitted with effective exhaust silencers and maintained in good working order for the duration of the contract. Compressors will be attenuated models fitted with properly lined and sealed acoustic covers which will be kept closed whenever the machines are in use and all ancillary pneumatic tools were fitted with suitable silencers. Machinery that will be used intermittently will be shut down or throttled back to a minimum during periods when not in use. During the course of the construction programme, supervision of the works will be undertaken to ensure compliance with the limits detailed in Chapter 11 using methods outlined in British Standard BS 5228-1:2014+A1:2019 Code of practice for noise and vibration control on construction and open sites – Noise. 		
MM 15	EIAR Chapter 5 OEMP Section 3	In periods of extended dry weather, dust suppression may be necessary along haul roads within the site to ensure dust does not cause a nuisance during use of plant or machinery. Where necessary, water will be spread with a bowser or water spreader to dampen down haul roads and the temporary site compound to prevent the generation of dust. Silty or oily water will not be used for dust suppression		
MM 16	EIAR Chapter 5 OEMP Section 2	All mitigation as outlined under noise and vibration, dust, traffic, visual amenity and shadow flicker in the EIAR, will be implemented in order to reduce insofar as possible impacts on residential amenity at properties located in the vicinity of the Cleanrath wind farm development works, including along the turbine and construction materials haul route.		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		The installed wind turbines have been fitted with shadow flicker control units to allow the turbines to be controlled to prevent the occurrence of shadow flicker at properties surrounding the wind farm where necessary.		
MM 17	EIAR Chapter 10 OEMP Section 3	Any vehicles or plant brought onsite during the operational phase will be maintained in good operational order that comply with the Road Traffic Acts 1961 as amended, thereby minimising any emissions that arise.		
MM 18	EIAR Chapter 5, 11 OEMP Section 3	 Best practice measures for noise control was adhered to onsite during the construction phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development in order to mitigate the slight short-term negative impact associated with this phase of the development. The measures include: Sensitive location of equipment, taking account of local topography and natural screening. Working methods: construction noise was controlled by prescribing that standard construction work was restricted to the specified working hours. Any construction work carried out outside of these hours shall be restricted to activities that did not generate noise of a level that may cause a nuisance. The phasing of works had also been designed with regard to avoidance of noise impacts. Plant was selected taking account of the characteristics of noise emissions from each item. All plant and machinery used on the site shall comply with E.U. and Irish legislation in relation to noise emissions. The timing of on-and off-site movements of plant near occupied properties was controlled. Operation of plant: all construction operations shall comply with guidelines set out in British Standard documents 'BS 5338: Code of Practice for Noise 		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		 Control on Construction and Demolition Sites' and 'BS5228: Part 1: 1997: Noise & Vibration Control on Construction and Open Sites'. The correct fitting and proper maintenance of silencers and/or enclosures, the avoidance of excessive and unnecessary revving of vehicle engines, and the parking of equipment in locations that avoid possible effects on noise-sensitive locations were employed. Training and supervision of operatives in proper techniques to reduce site noise, and self-monitoring of noise levels, if appropriate. 		
MM 19	EIAR Chapter 14 OEMP Section 3	For a period of three weeks, a number of HGVs and excavator delivery vehicles will come to site as part of peatland habitat restoration works. These works will be undertaken in accordance with the Traffic Management Plan prepared for the construction phase which is included within Appendix 4-4 of the remedial EIAR		
MM 20	EIAR Chapter 14	In the event of further scoping responses being received from the EIA consultees, the comments of the consultees and any mitigation measures are considered during operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development, subject to the outcome of the Substitute Consent process. The terms of the signed 2RN Protocol Document for the Cleanrath wind farm development will be adhered to throughout operation		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		Decommissioning Phase		
MM 21	EIAR Chapter 4	Prior to the end of the operational period the Decommissioning Plan (Appendix 4- 4) will be updated in line with decommissioning methodologies that may exist at the time and will agreed with the competent authority at that time.		
MM 22	DP Section 3	Prior to decommissioning, a suitably qualified ecologist will complete an invasive species survey of the berms that will be temporarily removed during decommissioning at the turbine delivery accommodation roadway and the junction upgrade adjacent to the sawmill in Cloontycarthy. The invasive species survey will also be undertaken along the cable route to identify invasive species at joint bay locations where excavation to expose the cabling for removal will be required.		
MM 23	EIAR Chapter 9	Best guidance in relation to protection of freshwater pear mussel (FPM) sites will be followed from guidance document Forestry and Freshwater Pearl Mussel Requirements – Site Assessment and Mitigation Measures (Draft).		
MM 24	EIAR Section 6	All mitigation measures as specified by the survey report and derogation licence or any revision or renewals of this licence was implemented by the client. Compensation habitat was provided to replace the relatively small area of habitat affected by the development and no significant impact on Kerry slug populations was predicted to occur as a result of this development.		
MM 25	EIAR Chapter 6	Trees did not be replanted in the future within the felled areas. In areas of felling close to turbine bases brash was removed from the site, where not required for the upgrade of existing roads and to prevent rutting of the ground surface during felling operations, and management was put in place to keep the growth of regenerating scrubby/bushy vegetation down.		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
MM 26	EIAR Chapter 4 DP Section 2	On removal of turbines, the covering of the foundation will be completed using material imported to site as the required quantity of material does not currently exist at the site. 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		
MM 27	EIAR Chapter 4 DP Section 3	 The following mitigation measures are proposed to avoid release of hydrocarbons at the site: Road-going vehicles will be refuelled off site wherever possible; On-site refuelling will be carried out at designated refuelling areas at various locations throughout the site. Machinery will be refuelled directly by a fuel truck that will come to site as required Only designated trained and competent operatives will be authorised to refuel plant on site. Fuel volumes stored on site should be minimised. Any fuel storage areas will be bunded appropriately; The plant used will be regularly inspected for leaks and fitness for purpose; and, An emergency plan for the decommissioning phase to deal with accidental spillages will be developed (refer to Section 4) Spill kits will be available to deal with and 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. 		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
MM 28	EIAR Section 7	 A Decommissioning Plan has been prepared (see Appendix 4-4) The following measures are proposed for the decommissioning phase: During the decommissioning phase, disturbance limitation measures will be as per the construction phase (see Chapter 7 of the rEIAR). Plant machinery will be turned off when not in use. All plant and equipment for use will comply with the Construction Plant and the European Communities (Noise Emission by Equipment for Use Outdoors) Regulations 2001 (S.I. No. 632 of 2001). A project ecologist will be appointed to oversee the decommissioning phase, with similar duties to those outlined above during the construction phase. 		
MM 29	EIAR Chapter 14 DP Section 3	The Traffic Management Plan has been prepared to consider the decommissioning as a standalone project. The removal of turbines from site will be undertaken for a specialist haulier. The traffic management arrangements although similar to that implement for turbine delivery as outlined in the rEIAR will be agreed in advance of decommissioning (early or after 25 years of operation) with the competent authority. A traffic management plan has been prepared for the removal of cabling from cable duct on the grid connection route		

MONITORING PROPOSALS

All monitoring proposals relating to the operational phases of the Cleanrath wind farm development were set out in the various sections of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) which accompanies this substitute consent application.

This section of the DP groups together all of the monitoring proposals presented in the planning documentation. The monitoring proposals are presented in the following pages.

By presenting the monitoring proposals in the below format, it is intended to provide an easy to audit list that can be reviewed and reported on during the operational phase of the project. The tabular format in which the below information is presented, can be further expanded upon during the course of operation to provide a reporting template for site compliance audits.

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Monitoring Measure	Frequency	Reporting	Responsibility
				Period	
		Operational Phase & Decommissioning	Phases		
MX1	EIAR Chapter 4 OEMP Section 3	Monthly sampling for laboratory analysis for a range of parameters as adopted during pre-commencement and construction phases has continued for 6 months (although sample events were not completed in March and April 2020 due to the Covid-19 restrictions) after construction was completed Sampling will now continue quarterly into the operational phase for a period of one year	Quarterly	As Necessary	Site Manager
MX2	EIAR Chapter 4 OEMP Section 3	Turbidity monitors or sondes have been installed at locations surrounding the wind farm site as outlined in Figure 3-1. The sondes provide continuous readings for turbidity levels in the watercourse and are scheduled for removal at the next quarterly surface water sampling event	Ongoing	As Necessary	Site Manager
MX3	EIAR Chapter 7	Operational monitoring at the Cleanrath wind farm development commenced in January 2020 and continued into May 2020. The programme of works monitored and will continue to monitor parameters associated with collision, displacement/barrier effects and habituation during the lifetime of the project. Surveys commenced in January 2020 of Years 1. Thereafter surveys will be scheduled to coincide with Years 2, 3, 5, 10 and 15 of the lifetime of the wind farm. Monitoring measures were broadly based on guidelines issued by the Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH, 2009). Post construction monitoring included and will include the following surveys:			

Table 7-1 Schedule of Monitoring Proposals

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Monitoring Measure	Frequency	Reporting Period	Responsibility
		 Flight activity surveys: Vantage Point Surveys Breeding Bird Surveys: Adapted Brown & Shephard. Winter Walkover Surveys Breeding Raptor surveys Hen Harrier Winter Roost Surveys Targeted bird collision surveys (corpse searches) were/will be undertaken with training dogs. The surveys included detection and scavenger trials, to correct for these two biases and ensure the resulting data is robust. 			
MX4	EIAR Chapter 4, 6	Post-construction surveys for badger and otter will be completed on the site for five years. These surveys will be undertaken following the same scope and methodology as proposed for the pre-construction surveys. All results will be sent to the Planning Authority and to the NPWS.	Annually for 5 years	Annually	Project Ecologist
MX5	EIAR Chapter 4, 6	The Kerry Slug Management Plan will be implemented in full, as will the conditions of the derogation licence. This provides for post-construction surveys that cover a five year period	Annually for 5 years	Annually	Project Ecologist
MX6	EIAR Chapter 4, 6	Post-construction monitoring and reporting programmes for birds (particularly Hen Harrier and Merlin), otter, badger and Kerry slug shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of	As required	As required	Project Ornithologist

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Monitoring Measure	Frequency	Reporting	Responsibility
		development. The surveys shall be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced specialists. Surveys shall be completed annually for a period of five years following commissioning of the wind farm and copies of the reports to the planning authority shall also be submitted to the National Parks and Wildlife Service.		Period	
MX7	EIAR Chapter 5, 11	Post commissioning of the proposed turbine units it is recommended that the noise monitoring detailed in the relevant section of this report is repeated with a view to confirming that the operational units are compliant with the relevant day and night time noise criteria curves as presented in the body of this assessment. If this study work identifies any exceedances of the appropriate criteria relevant corrective actions will be taken/implemented.	Once	As required	Site Manager
MX8	DP Section 3	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.	As required	As required	Site Manager
MX9	EAIR Chapter 6 DP Section 3	Prior to decommissioning, a suitably qualified ecologist will complete an invasive species survey of the berms that will be temporarily removed during decommissioning at the turbine delivery accommodation roadway and the junction upgrade adjacent to the sawmill in Cloontycarthy. The invasive species survey will also be undertaken along the cable route to identify invasive species at joint bay locations	As required	As required	Project Ecologist

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Monitoring Measure	Frequency	Reporting Period	Responsibility
		where excavation to expose the cabling for removal will be required.			
MX10	EAIR Chapter 6	Current and ongoing bat monitoring being conducted on site, where turbines are operating in sleep mode, will be utilised in conjunction with the 2015 bat survey findings. This will be used to assess bat activity patterns and to inform the design of any advanced site-specific mitigation requirements, including curtailment if deemed necessary, to ensure that there are no significant residual effects on bat species.	As required	As required	Project Ecologist

8. **COMPLIANCE AND REVIEW**

8.1

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/Construction 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.

8.2 Auditing

An Environmental audit will first be carried out prior to the decommissioning phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development to ensure the construction and/or operational phase mitigation measures that are still in place as required are adequate. Further environmental audits will be carried out on a monthly basis during the decommissioning phase of the project and on completion of the decommissioning works.

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. 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.

8.3 Environmental Compliance

The following definitions shall apply in relation to the classification of Environmental Occurrences during the decommissioning of the 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 boundary.

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 Decommissioning Plan.

8.4 **Corrective Action Procedure**

A corrective action is implemented to rectify an environmental problem on-site. Corrective actions will be implemented by the Site Supervisor/Construction Manager, as advised by the Site Environmental Clerk of Works. 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/Construction 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.

8.5 **Decommissioning Phase Plan Review**

This Decommissioning Plan will be updated and reviewed prior to commencement of decommissioning.



APPENDIX 1

DECOMMISIONG PHASE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CABLE ROUTE





Civil Engineering

Traffic Management Plan: Cleanrath WF Decommissioning 33kV & 38kV Cables Along Public Road



July 2020

Telephone: +353 (0) 21 733 6034, Fax: +353 (0) 21 733 6145 Web: www.mceengineering.ie, Email: office@mceengineering.ie Lissarda Industrial Estate, Lissarda, Cork, Ireland.



<u>MCE – Cleanrath Windfarm Traffic Management Plan</u>

Contractor: MCE ltd.

Project name: Cleanrath Windfarm

Address: Cleanrath, Co. Cork.

Name :James Crowley 086 3979248 Chris Murnane 086 7955083

Email: james.crowley@turnkeydev.com chris.murnane@gmail.com

Site supervisor: TBC

Safety officer: TBC

Description of task: Traffic Management Plan for Cleanrath Windfarm cable decommissioning along public road

Key plant: 360 excavators 8 tonne dumper Lorries Roller Submersible Pumps Plate compactor Generator Spill Kit Diesel Bowser Drip Trays

Specific Training: FAS safe pass CSCS plant ticket Site induction



]	MCE – Cleanrath WF Traffic Management Plan
Method of Access and Egress to the work Area	All operatives must complete pre works MCE Ltd. site induction before commencing work on the ducting route.
Fall Protection Measures: (Where work at height cannot be eliminated)	No persons are permitted within 2 meters of excavation. Trench support will be utilized if required. Open trenches will be fenced off or backfilled every evening to ensure the areas are safe for workers and local traffic. No persons allowed in trench when exclusion zone is not achievable for passing vehicles or when deemed unsafe.
Hazardous Substances: Applicable:	No No No No Yes No
Storage Arrangements:	No material will be used or generated during the course of this task
Mandatory and Additional PPE as Required:	Image: Safety Boots Image: Safety Bo
Emergency Procedures:	MCE Emergency Procedures (All employees informed at site inductions) All employees to be made aware of the nearest exit routes from site. All personnel to be in possession of the site coordinates at all times in case of need to contact emergency services for any reasons.
First Aid Facilities:	On-Site First Aider: Chris Murnane First Aid Box Location: MCE Site Vehicle & Site Office Nearest Hospital: Macroom Community Hospital – (026) 41002 Other Hospital: Cork University Hospital – (021) 4922000
Welfare Facilities:	Site office, canteen and toilet supplied by Mid Cork Electrical at site compound across from substation and assembly point.



MCE – Cleanrath WF Traffic Management Plan

Introduction:

This traffic management plan outlines the affected roadways for the 33kV & 38 kV cable decommissioning between Cleanrath WF and Coomataggart 110kV substation (Grousemount). This is to be read in conjunction with the works method statement in order to provide a safe system of work.

The total length of roadway affected is approximately 12.1km and can be seen in more detail in Fig. 1.0. It is proposed that a Stop/Go system will be put in place for the duration of the works as they progress along the route at each of the potential pull locations (see Fig. 1.1 for an overview and Fig.'s 2.0 - 14.0 for more detail). In the event that the road is too narrow for a Stop/Go to be feasible, an All-Stop system will be used. Access will be prioritised for emergency vehicles and local householders who are unable otherwise to access their homes. Traffic calming measures will be utilized to slow down vehicles and ensure the works can be carried out safely.

Prior to any works commencing a dilapidation survey will be completed of the entire route, photographing and noting any existing damage or defects to property or road surfaces. A copy of this will be submitted to Cork County Council prior to work commencing.



<u> MCE – Cleanrath WF Traffic Management Plan</u>

Local Access for Residents

As part of the traffic management plan local residents affected by the works will be alerted through the use of letter drops and prior consultation.

Every effort will be made to limit the effect on local residents and any residents who require special provisions to be made will be accommodated (i.e. Home carer, etc.). Traffic management plans will be reviewed on a daily basis and take into account all local parameter in the area where work is being carried out. All required traffic management calculation forms will be completed and kept on site.

Pedestrian & Cyclist Management

Pedestrians and cyclists will be accommodated along the routes. Operatives will be made aware to watch out for oncoming pedestrians / cyclists and to advise them accordingly.

Dealing With Emergency Services

Gardaí will be advised of the intended works to be carried out prior to commencement on the Gardaí Consultation form. Emergency services using the local roads will be prioritised and areas where the works are being carried out will be covered immediately with road plates so as to allow access.

Signage Plan

All works will be signed in accordance with the "Guidance for the Control and Management of Traffic at Road Works" (Second Edition 2010). The Routine Works Traffic Management Design, including the layout parameters is illustrated on attachment.



<u> MCE – Cleanrath WF Traffic Management Plan</u>

All traffic management will comply with guidance given in Chapter 8, Traffic Signs Manual, Department of Transport November 2010 and Control and management of Traffic at Road Work November 2007.

A fully certified and competent 'Signing Lighting & Guarding ' officer will sign off on the works before commencement and carry out routine monitoring. A qualified supervisor will be onsite at all times.

✓ See attached traffic management design sheet for signage etc.

 \checkmark The entire traffic management system will be set up prior to any works commencing.

 \checkmark Only approved signs will be used along the works area.

✓ All signs will be clean and clearly visible.

 \checkmark Once signs are in place the route will be assessed to ensure adequate visibility for drivers and pedestrians.

 \checkmark All signs will be secured and weighted down where appropriate.

 \checkmark Traffic will be reduced to single flow during all excavations on the roadside along sections which do not require a closure.

 \checkmark At the end of each day the excavation is back filled and all materials will be removed from the roadside.

✓ Contractor vehicles will be parked with consideration given to traffic management plan.

 \checkmark Where flag men are required, both flag men, the foreman and guarding officer will all communicate via two-way radios.



MCE – Cleanrath WF Traffic Management Plan

Traffic Management Plan Drawings:

The following drawings are included at the end of this document:

- Fig. 1.0 Route Overview Sections
- Fig. 1.1 Route Overview Cable Pull Locations
- Fig. 2.0 Section 2 Pull Location 1
- Fig. 3.0 Section 2 Pull Location 2
- Fig. 4.0 Section 3 Pull Location 3
- Fig. 5.0 Section 4 Pull Location 4
- Fig. 6.0 Section 4 Pull Location 5
- Fig. 7.0 Section 5 Pull Location 6
- Fig. 8.0 Section 6 Pull Location 7
- Fig. 9.0 Section 6 Pull Location 8
- Fig. 10.0 Section 6 Pull Location 9
- Fig. 11.0 Section 7 Pull Location 10
- Fig. 12.0 Section 8 Pull Location 11
- Fig. 13.0 Section 9 Pull Location 12
- Fig. 14.0 Section 9 Pull Location 13



MCE – Cleanrath WF Traffic Management Plan

Signage Layout

The following is the layout for signage that will be in place on the approach to the road works. See attached drawings showing signage layout for the road closure which will be occurring.

✓ Sign no 1: WK 001 Man with Shovel.

✓ Sign no 2: Do Not Pass/No Overtaking.

✓ Sign no 3: Flagman or Traffic Light Ahead

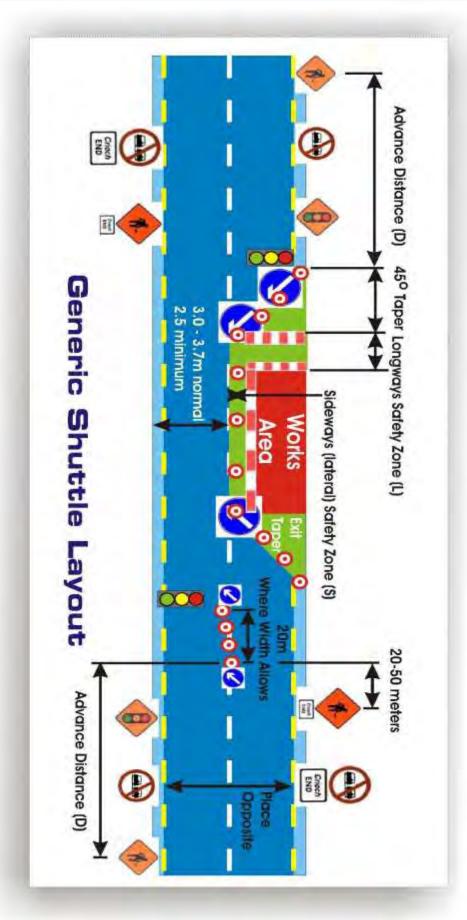
✓ Cones with reflectors start 50m before works location.

✓ Signage after road words will indicate 'No Overtaking Ends' and 'End of Road Works'.

 \checkmark Traffic entering and exiting existing secondary road will continue as normal with construction traffic kept to a minimum.

 \checkmark See attached generic shuttle layout system for one-way stop and go. This shuttle layout will be set up onsite by the qualified signing lighting and guarding officer.





Guidance for the Control and Management of Traffic at Roadworks - October 2007



¢1

Civil & Electrical Engineering Specialists

SHUTTLE CONTROL SELECTION	ONTROL S	ELECTION							-	1110101	1.10	(unter				thank th
Method	Max Speed	Length of Works (m)	Max Traffic	3 Min	Notes							_	44			
All Stop	8	Autoniona 100	DOF THE AND		5-10 mms max	ITTRO:		_	gnr					Y		
Give and Take	- 50	50	00		Dear Visibility both directions	20 Cear Visibility required from both directions	differen		nce S							
Priority	100 These Distar	100 80 840 These Distances indicate the clear visibility	E40 The clear vis	ibity 43	Speed Lim 50 km/h	R.	Distance		Adva		_					
	distance fron equal distance If used at nic	distance from before an obstruction to a point an equal distance beyond the obstruction. If used at right, will require a warning beacon.	e abstruction to	a point en	60 km/h B0 km/h 100 km/h		70m 80m 100m		3				-			
Stop/Go	100		100 1400 1200 1250	ខ្លួន	Can be sin	Can be Single Man/Single Sign Can be single Man-Auto Sign Can be single Man-Auto Sign	ngit Sign to Sign		5	Direct	20					Dumpadaŭ
1	100 00	400			Has to be	Has to be Two Man-Two Sign Has to be Two Man-Two Sign	wo Sign		Ks as	Direct	10-	a Signs e	Part Contract of the advance	sign dista	NOR	
Traffic Lights	100	500	INB	nia -	Venice Actuated	fueled	16 C CM		Wor Sigi		ann storeday	10	A com	e	9	
NOTE: WHEN USING SHUTTLE CONTROL, TAPERS ARE AT 45 DEGREES	RAMETER	ILE CONTR	ON SHEE	IS ARE AT	45 DEGRE	Ø	21	1	End Signs	Eng			• •			
Type of Road	Advance Sign Distance	Min No. A Type Of Advance Signs In	Min clear vtsibility of Signs	Min size of signs	Min height of conves	Long. Safety Zone (L)	Side. Safety Zone (S)	Long.	Long.	Lane Taper Multiply	Taper	Taper	Lead-In come tapers. (See Notes below) Recommended lengths	Width of NOTE: TJ	hazard (in IPERS AR	Width of hazard (including safety zone) NOTE: TAPERS ARE ONLY WHERE TWO WAY TRAFFIC MAINTAINED
1000		Sequence	(m)	(mm)	(mm)	(m)	(m)		Space	-	Spacing		-	11	211	3.00
Single carnageway	50	t (r.w.a.) 1 (t.m.)	50	600	450	U	0,5	ດ	12	8	ω	9	Length of taper (T) in (m) Minimum No. of Cones	4 00	76	24
the second second	20		-	200	1EN	7	20	0	3	•	5		Minimum No. of Lamps		5 4	 04
onigie carnageway 60km/h	00	(tm)	00	000	400	c	6.0	0	Ĩ.	0	0	a	Minimum No. of Cones Minimum No. of Lamps	NAO	61-6	 467
Single Canlageway	600	1 (r.w.a.)	90	900	.750	A	1.2	12	24	35	25	9	Length of taper (T) in (m) Minimum No. of Cones	16	30	 105
BOKININ		1 (t.m.)		2									Minimum No: of Lamps	in	9	13
Single Carrageway	800	1 (n.o.)	120	750*	750	8	1.2	12	24	40		9	Langth of taper (T) in (m). Minimum No. of Cones	88	88	120
100 km/h		2 (Cm.)		1									Minimum No. of Lamps	67	10	15
Duel Carriegeway	600	1 (r.w.a.)	50	006	450	ch	0.5	0	12	8	ω	9	Length of taper (T) in (m)	A 00	16	10
50 km/h		×2			, T	-	ć		i.				Minimum No. of Lamps	1	ω-	4 2
Duai Carrageway B0 km/h	600	(m)2 (m)2	90	906	750	đ	0,75	12	24	35	τφ.	6	Length of taper (T) in (m) Minimum No. of Cones	× 13 36	0 23 3	3 3 10
Dual Carriegeway 100 km/h	1000	2(r.wa) 3(l.m) X 2	120	1200	750	đ	1.2	12	24	40	+	9		o 42 6	588	522

Guidance for the Control and Management of Traffic at Roadworks - October 2007



Guidance for the Control and Management of Traffic at Roadworks - October 2007

	bad Schem	A		A		0	A		BA	D	в	A		D
		6	В	- 1		В.	_	C.		С		_	С	
		-		_			-	_		-			_	
Tr	affic Mana	aem	ent Sel	ection										
	Classifica		Road		Roa	d Widt	hs	peed	Limit	Urb	an/Ru	ral	Tra	ffic
				·IF-									Heat	
	_	_							_	1	_		Ligh	R.
2)	Selection		All St	op G	lve	& Take	Pri	ority	Stop	/ Go	Light	s	Тар	oers
			11111											-
3)	Semi-Stat	tic	WILLS	emi-St	atic	Manad	emer	t be	used?		Ye	as l	N	0
-	Denni Dita	ci e	tim 5	cim se	aure	manag		it be	adea.				1.0	
	gnage (Wa											_		
•	Sign	Dir	No	Sigr	1	Dir	No	Si	gn	Dir	No	s	ign	D
_		A	-	-		A	-	1	2 -	A	-		1	A
		BC	6	1		BC	11			BC	- 16		. T	B
	SELECT PLATE HELOW	D	-		S	D	-		-	D	-		estrian	D
1	Devisita Both	air]	-		_	A		-		A		150	inci	A
	ROAD REPA			1		B				B	1.0			B
	ORAINAGE W	ORKS	7	1	1	C	12	Ľ		C	17			C
	Bearnadh F HEDUE CUT	TING				D				D			~	D
		A		-		A			-	A			~	A
		B	8	A	>	B	13			B	- 18		1	B
-	2 km ar fad FOR 2 km	C		~		C			9	C	-		1	C
-	FOR 2 km	D	-	-	-	D	-			D	-	-		D
	-	A	-	YIEL		A		D		AB	-			AB
	(8)	BC	- 9			BC	14		ard	C	- 19			C
	V	D	-	(Priori	int	D		DO	aru	D	-	F	Dent	D
-	-	A	-	(THON	uy)	A		-	-	A	-			-
	5	B	-	-		B		1		B	-	6	2	AB
	(m)#)	C	- 10		>	C	15	< 1	-	C	- 20		2	C
	9	D	-	4		D	-			D		1	ND	D
							1.00	1		10		1		10

8) Workforce Induction & Communication

eir role? Operatives	to sign below		-	



Guidance for the Control and Management of Traffic at Roadworks - October 2007

onder the follotting it	oad Traffic Acts/Regulations
> Section 37 of the R	oad Traffic Act, 1994
> Road Traffic (Signs) Regulations 2006 (S.I. No. 637 of 2006)
> Road Traffic (Contr	ol of Traffic) Regulations 2006 (S.I. No. 638 of 2006
The Roads Authority o	of .
The new of Planterry of	
Hereby notifies	
Of the use of	
TEMPORARY TRAFFIC	
STOP-GO BOARD(s)	
at the following locati	
Road	511.
From a point	
From a point	
From a point	
From a point To a point	as appropriate) the following dates
From a point To a point	as appropriate) the following dates
From a point To a point ON/ BETWEEN (delete	

On behalf of the Roads Authority



Guidance for the Control and Management of Traffic at Roadworks - October 2007

PROJECT NAME: Date: 1) TRAFFIC MANAG 1-1) Installation	-			
1) TRAFFIC MANAG	and in the second		Phase:	
	Time:	1).	2).	
	EMENT SET-UP/ M	ODIFICATION, IN	NSPECTIONS	
Does the Traffic Manage	ement conform to the I	Design Layout and F	Parameters?	
lave all hazards been a	ddressed in the Traffic	Management Plan?	N	
las allowance been mad	de for the delivery and	removal of materia	ls?	
Have Gardai been inform	ned of any Traffic Ligh	ts/ Stop-Go Boards	in use?	
Have Gardaí been Inforn	ned of Roadworks Spec	ed limits being intro	oduced?	
2) TRAFFIC MANAG	EMENT OPERATION	INSPECTIONS		-
2-1) Operation	Checks			1
Are Safety Zones being I	kept clear of operative	s, plant and materia	als?	
Are all the signs in good				
Are sign vision lines free	e from bends, hills/dip	s in the road, parke	ed vehicles, hedges etc?	
Will the site be safe at n	ight or in wind, fog, sr	now or rain? (delete	as appropriate)	
Are all misleading perma	anent signs and road r	markings covered?	and the second second	
s the carriageway/footv	way being kept clear of	mud and surplus e	quipment?	
re materials/ plant that	t are left on verges or	lay-bys being prope	erly guarded and lit?	
2-2) Traffic Che	ecks			
s there safe access to a	djacent premises?			
Does Signing and Guard		and the second se		
Are traffic control arrang				
f present, are the needs		and the second se	nto the layout?	
	& Vulnerable Road Us			
lave the needs of pedes				
f pedestrian route block		1.11	provided?	
Are pedestrian routes cl			cha h	
f a footway in the road Are pedestrian hazards			laear	
and the second se	and the second sec	And a strange ward		
3) TRAFFIC MANAG		INPECTIONS		
3-1) Works Cor lave all signs, cones, ba	nplete Checks	n removed?		
lave any covered perma				
lave Gardal been inform			-Co removed?	
4) EXCEPTIONS REP		manie signals/ stor	-do removed:	
+) EACEPTIONS KEP				
(Append attachmen	(a aa necessary)			



Guidance for the Control and Management of Traffic at Roadworks - October 2007

PRO	ECT	CL	OSEC	DUT	SH	EET
1.11.03						

PROJECT NAME:	
PROJECT NAME:	

1) Procedures	100
The extents of construction have been completed per the plans	
Pavement Surface has been visually inspected and deemed satisfac	tory
(incl. sweeping of surfaces that have been surface dressed)	
Temporary Traffic Management arrangements (incl. Orders) have b	een removed
Any Permanent Road Markings, Road Studs, and Signs have been in	nstalled
2) Works Extents	
The length of work completed was (m)	
The average width of work completed was (m)	
3) Appointments	
PSDP appointment terminated	
Designer appointment terminated	
PSCS appointment terminated	
Contractor given completion certificate	
4) Records	
The safety file is complete and will be stored	
5) Site Inspection	
The site has been inspected by (print name) and deemed to be satisfactory:	
Signature:	
Date of inspection:	
6) Procedure Monitoring (to be completed by supervisor of person	listed in 5 above)
I recommend that the Project be deemed complete (print name)	
Signature:	
Date:	



Guidance for the Control and Management of Traffic at Roadworks - October 2007

INCIDENT/ ACCIDENT REPORT FORM

1) Job Details	
1.1) Job Name	
1.2) Job Location	

2.1)	Date of Incident	1	_			2.2)	Time	of	Incid	ent			
2.3)	Incident Involves	Public	Layo	ut Op							ntract	orE	nvironmen
2.4)	Incident Classification	Class 1 Long T Dela				Class Near Miss	Mino	TIC	and the second se	Class 4 Road 1 Acci	raffic		ious Injury or Death
2.5)	Weather Conditions	Light:	Sun		Clou		Fo			i/Dusk	Nigi		Floodlit
	eonations_	Rain:	D)ry	L	ght Ra	In	Hea	wy Rain	n Hai	stones	5	Snow
		Wind:	N	a Win	d	B	reeze		-	Windy			Gale
		Temper	ature:		V	Varm		F	Co	oid	1	Fr	eezing
2.6)	Locus	Carriag	leway	/	Footp	ath	_	s	afety 2	Zone	W	orkir	ng Space
2.7)	Pavement Conc	ition	Clear	Dir	ty Dry	Wet	Gran	ula	r Wear	ing Ba	se Ch	ips	Markings
2.8)	Number involve	d (Clas	s 2 o	r gre	ater)								

3) Traffic Management	N/A	Yes	No
3.1) Were the appropriate signs in their correct place?			
3.2) Were the signs in a good condition?	_		1
3.3) Were all cones in place and in good condition?			
3.4) Were all TM Lamps in place and operating?	· · · · ·		
3.5) Were all TM Beacons in place and operating?			
3.6) Were Plant Hazard Beacons operating?	1		

4) Site Health and Safety	N/A	Yes	No
4.1) Had operative appropriate CSCS card?			
4.2) Had plant/ equipment been checked for suitability?	-		
4.3) Were Safety Guards in place and in good condition?			
4.4) Were correct operating procedures/ guidelines used?		1	
4.5) Were operatives wearing appropriate PPE?			
4.6) Was there good housekeeping on site?		-	

5) Emergency Procedure

5.1) Services	None	First Ai	d Driv	en to A	id	Ambular	ice	Fire Brigade	Gardai
5.2) Procedure		1	Good	Bad	N	one	-		
	Traini	ng	-	_					
	Equip	ment		1					



Guidance for the Control and Management of Traffic at Roadworks - October 2007.

6) Operatives (List operatives on site at time of incident)

7) Incident Description

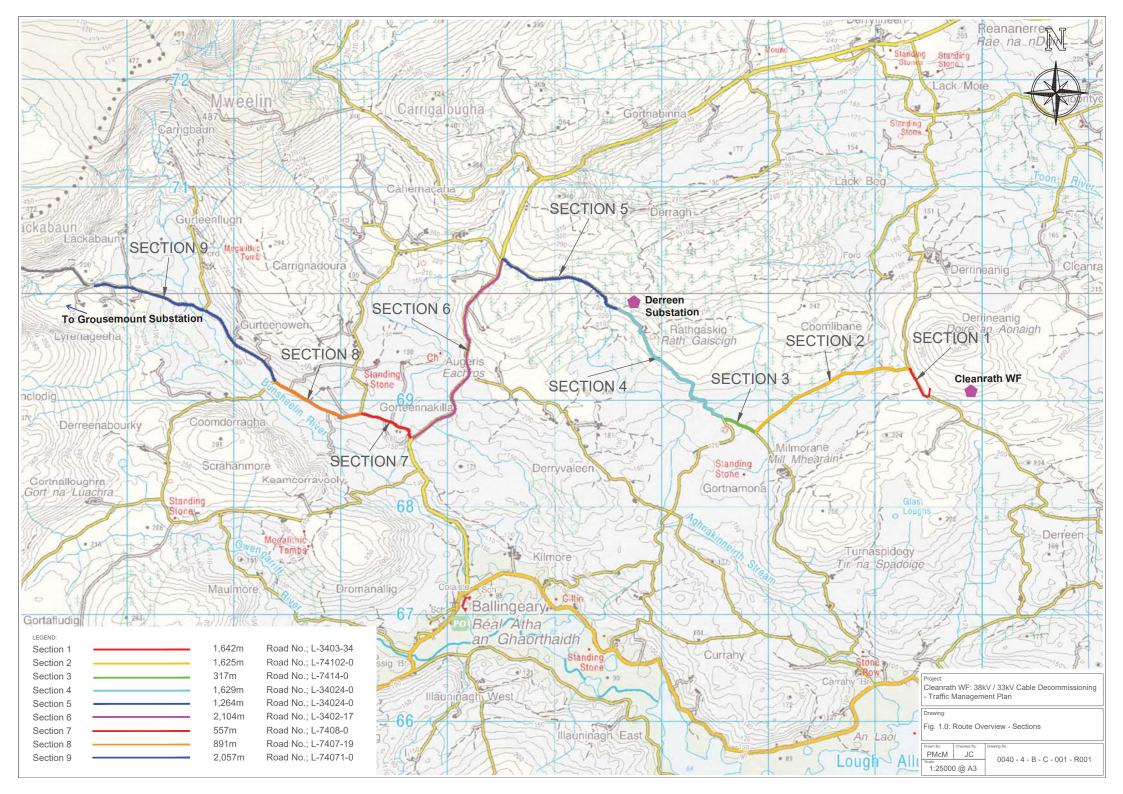
8) Suggested Control Measures to Prevent Re-Occurance

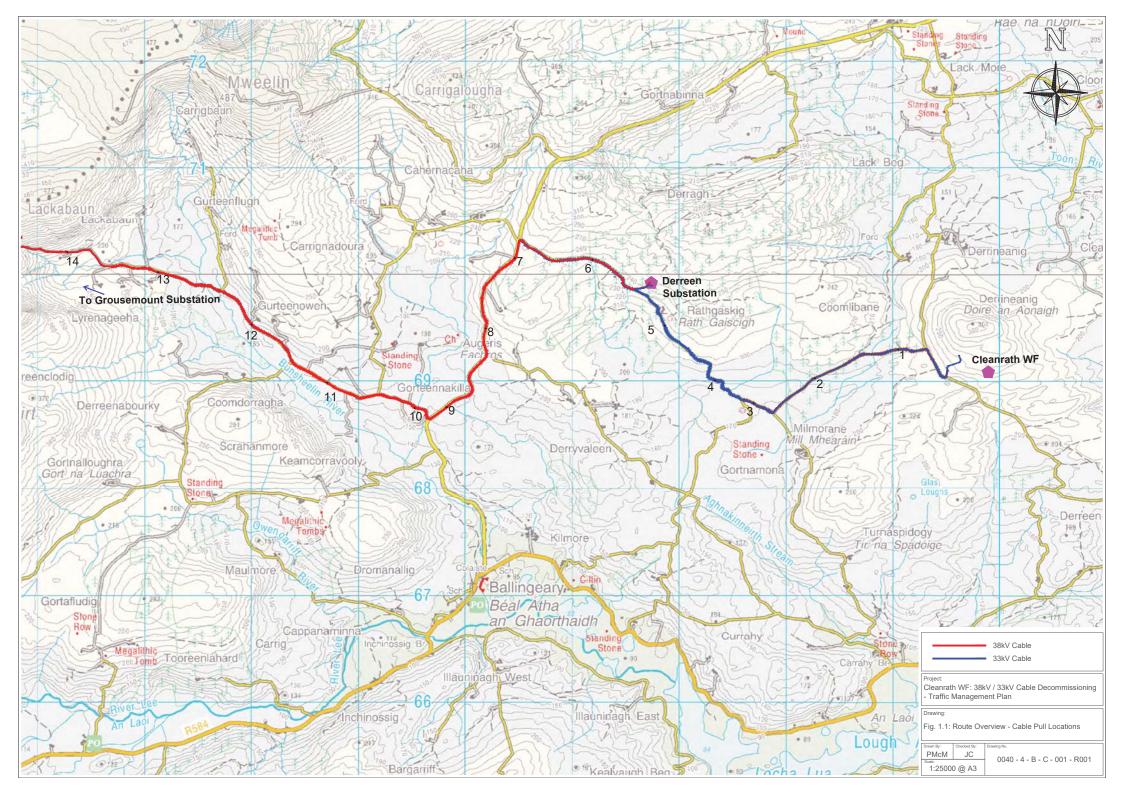
) Incident Sketch		
0) Report completed By:	11) Report Noted By:	

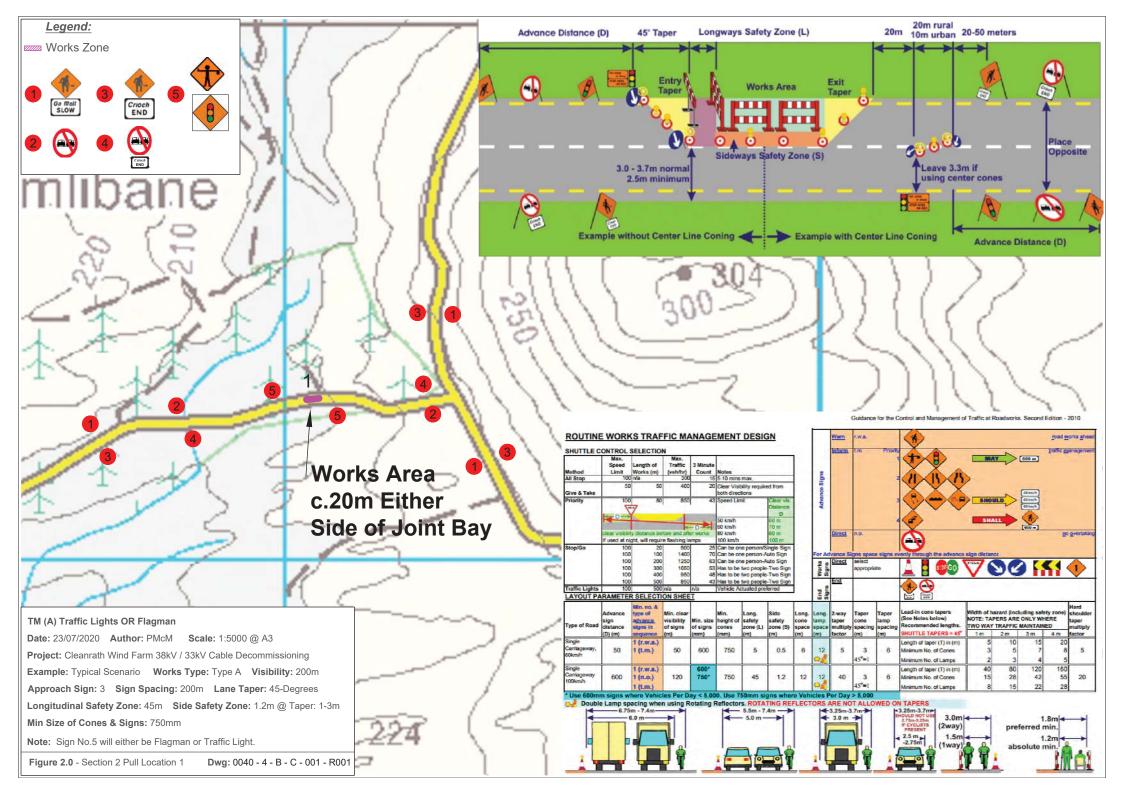


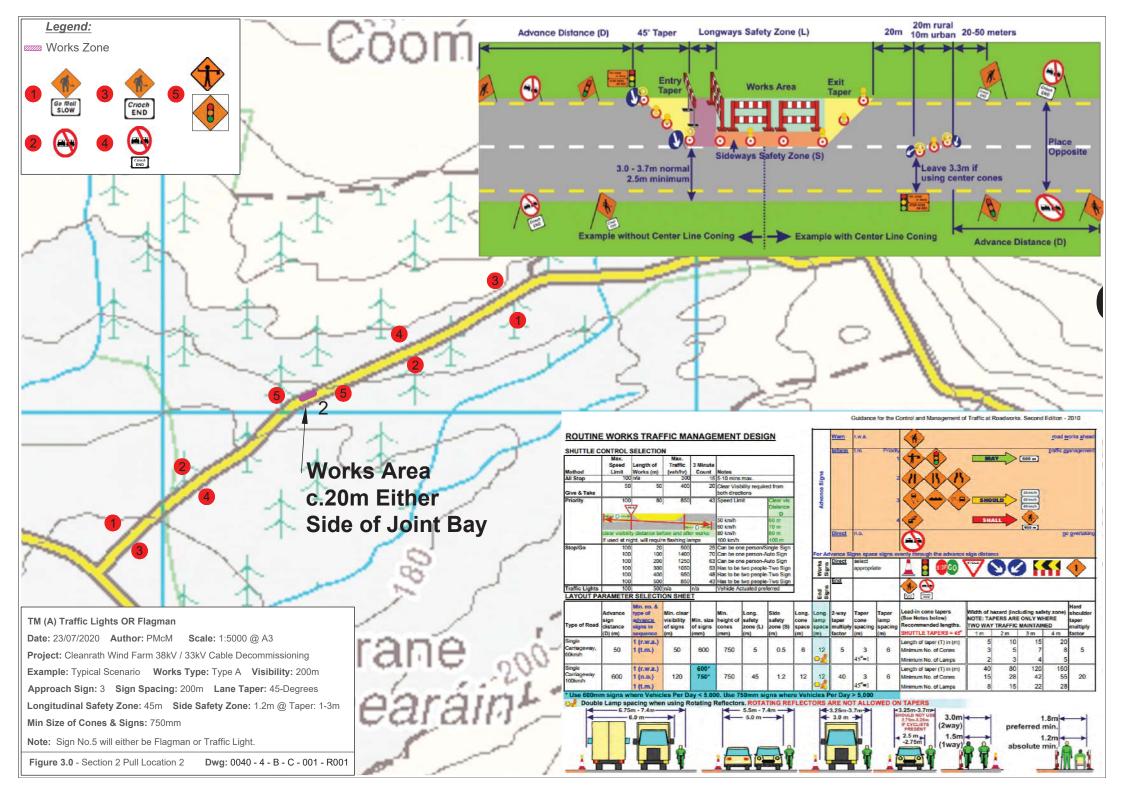
	MCE – Cleanrain wr Trainc Management Flan									
	Name (Print)	Signature	I understand the details in the traffic management plan and agree to sign off (tick)	Date						
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										
12										
13										
14										
15										
16										
17										
18										
19										
20										

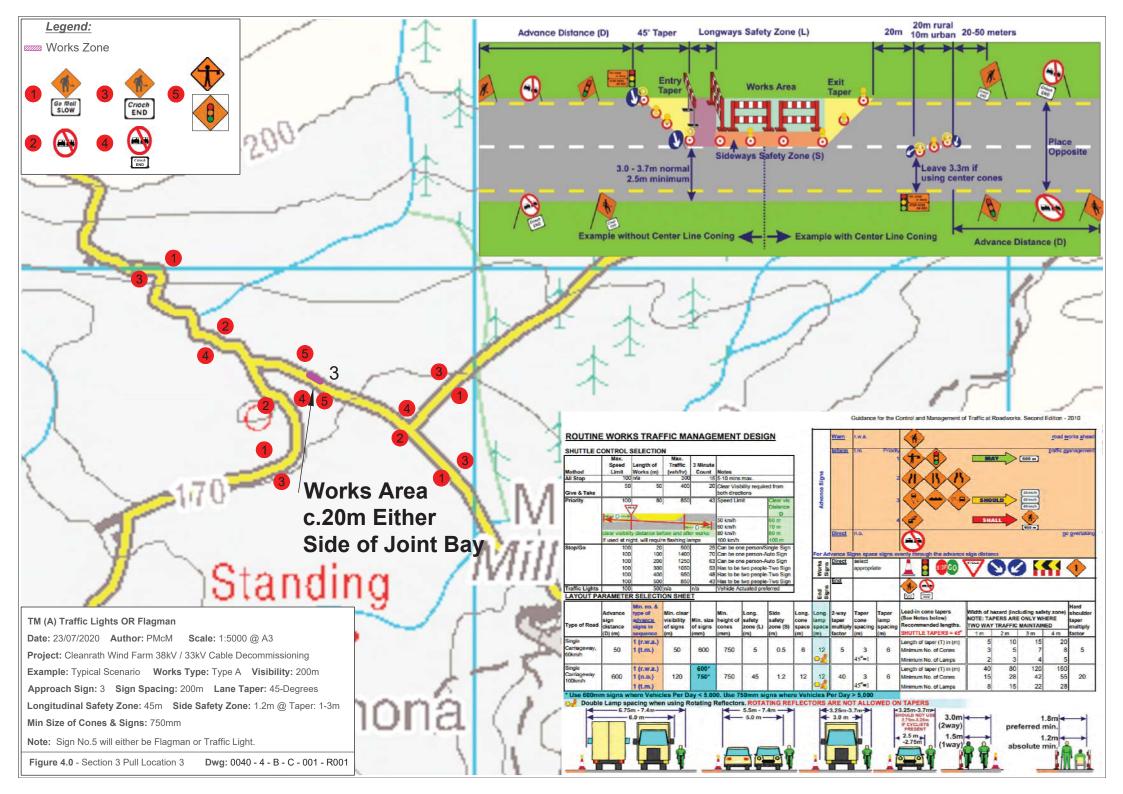
<u> MCE – Cleanrath WF Traffic Management Plan</u>

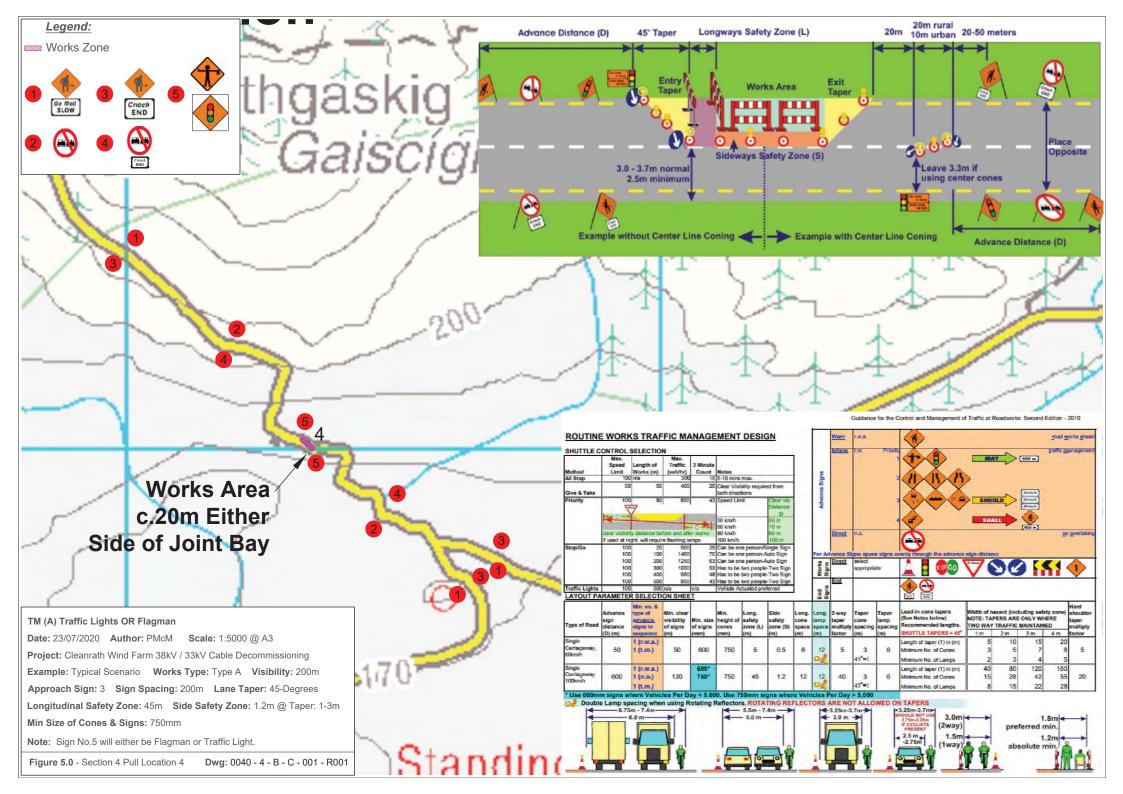


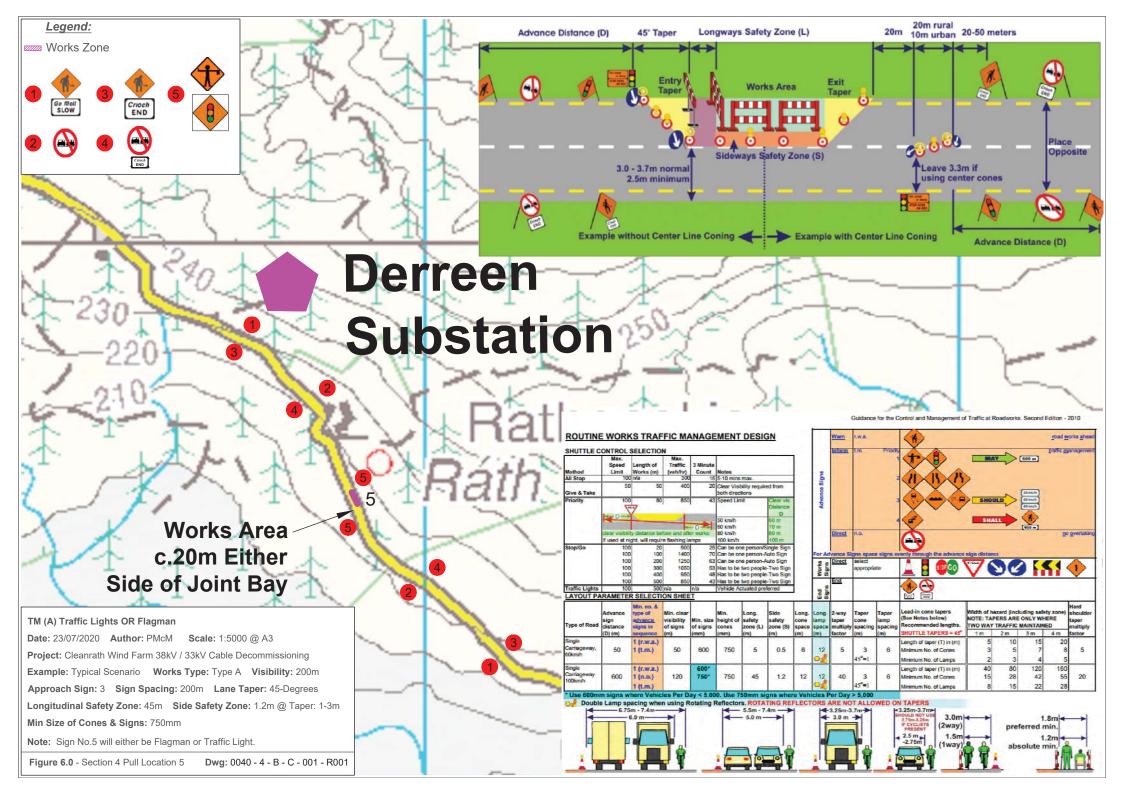


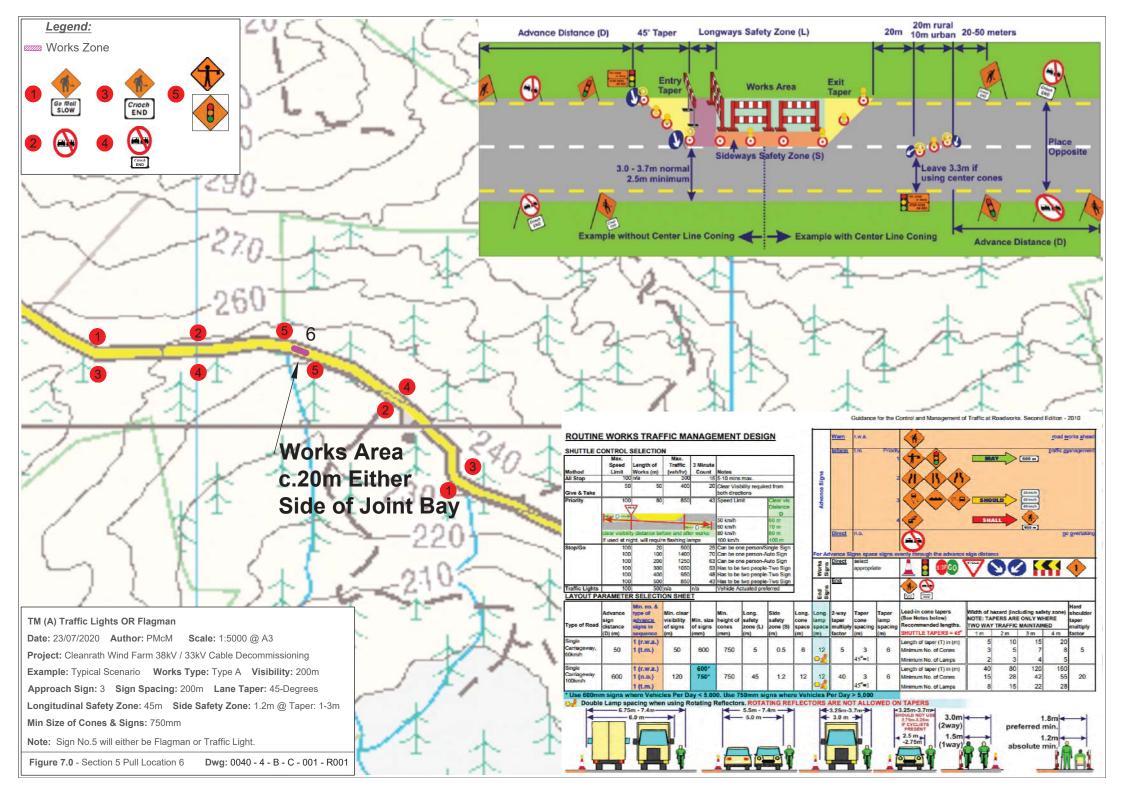


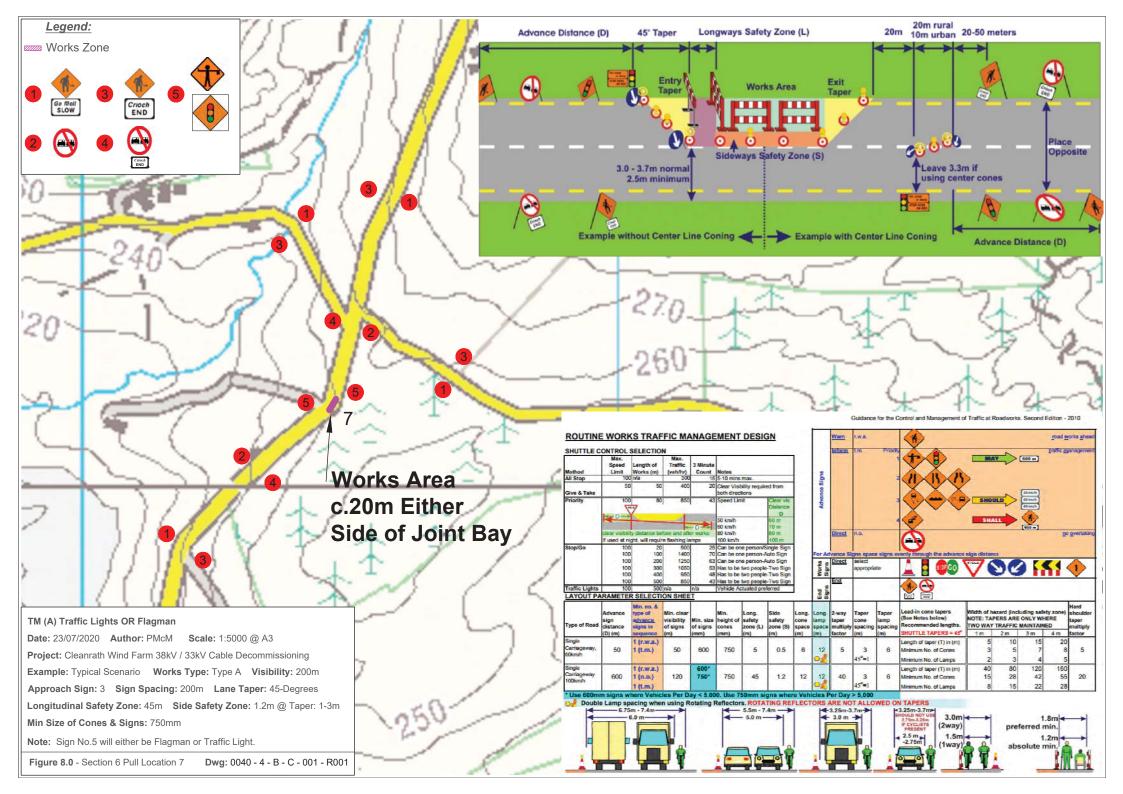


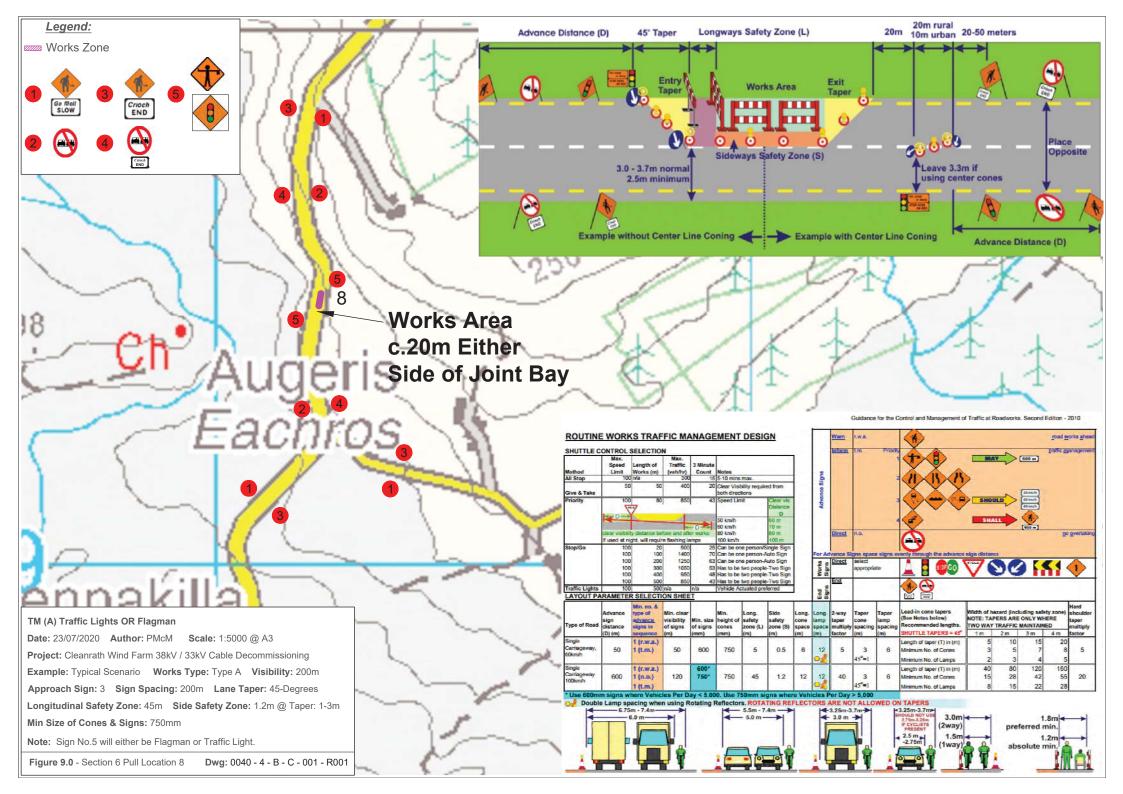


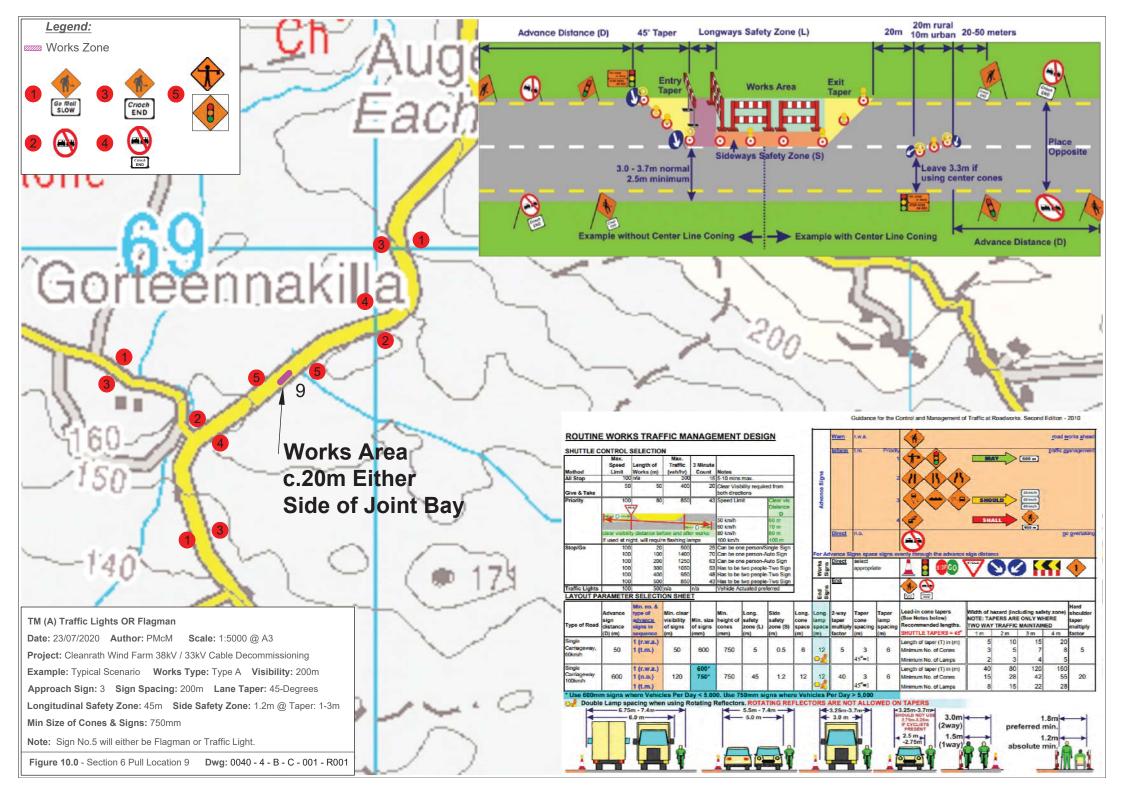


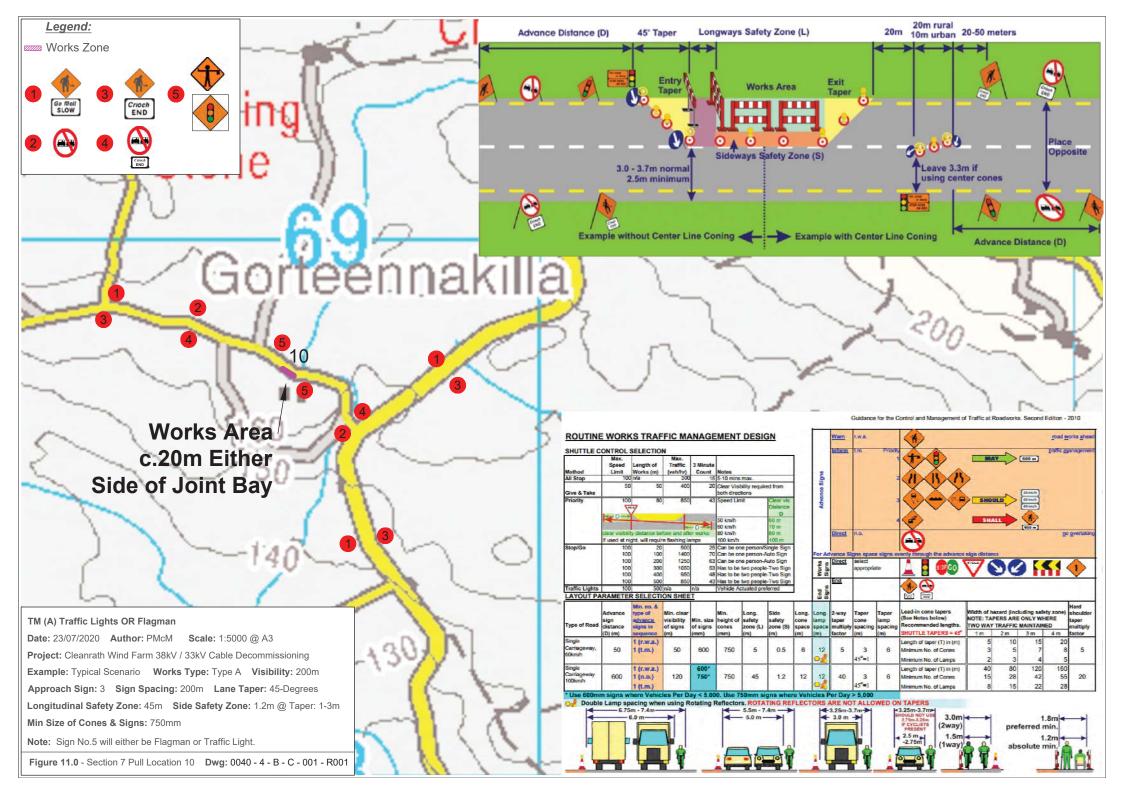


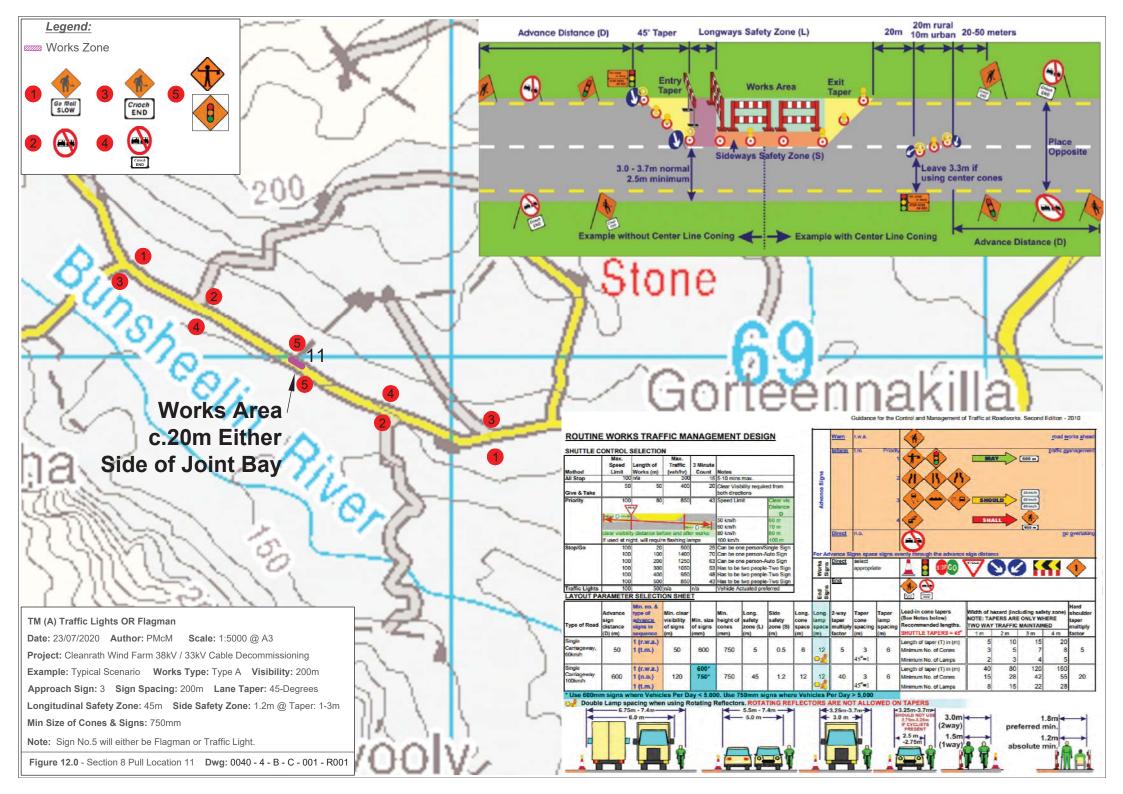


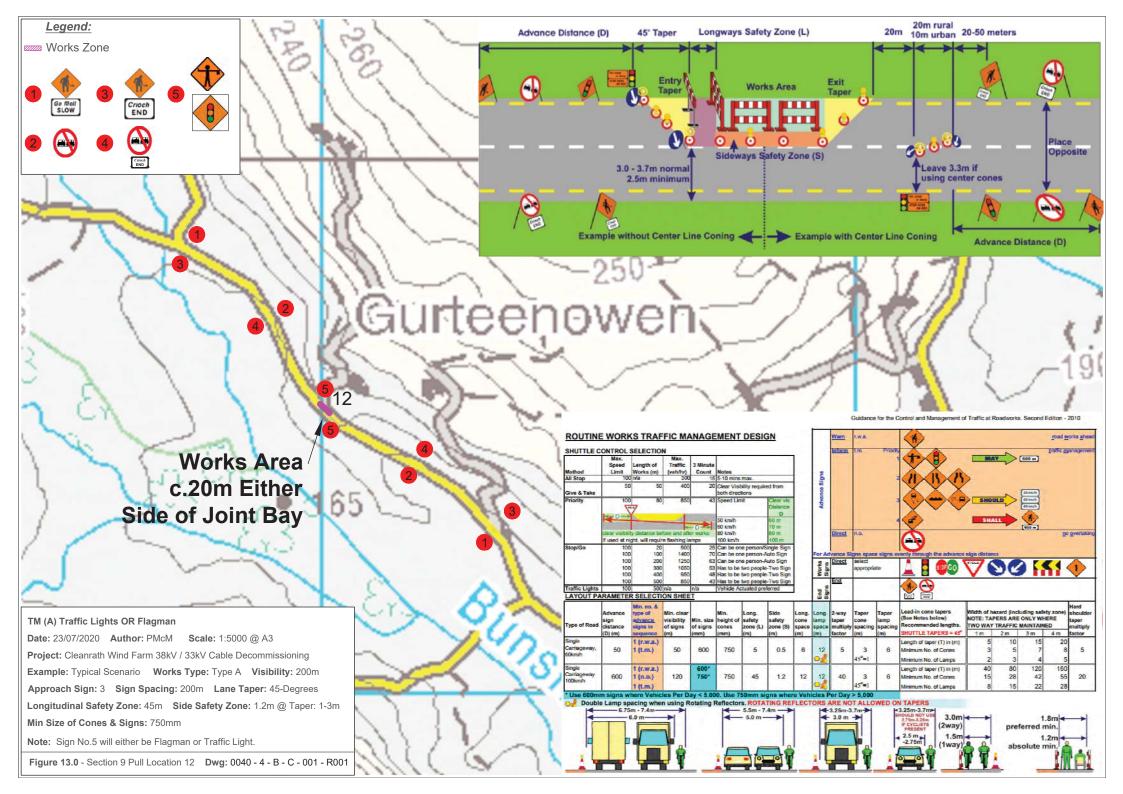


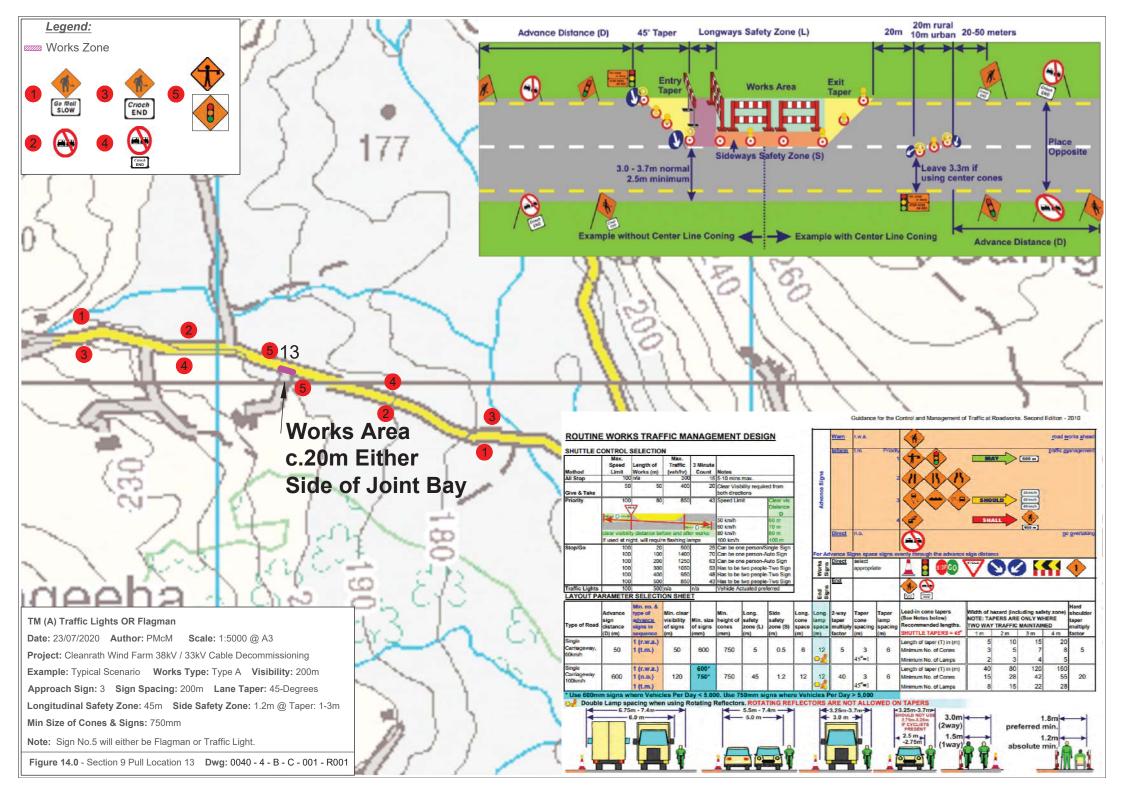












Cleanrath Wind Farm Natura Impact Statement NIS F – 2020.08.12 – 191223a



MKQ

APPENDIX 8

OPERATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN



Operation and Environmental Management Plan

Cleanrath Wind Farm



DOCUMENT DETAILS

\mathbf{O}		I DETAILS	
	Client:	Cleanrath Windfarm	Ltd.
	Project Title:	Cleanrath Wind Farm	
	Project Number:	191223-a	
	Document Title:	Operation and Enviro Plan	nmental Manageme
	Document File Name:	OEMP Plan F – 2020	.08.12 – 191223-a
	Prepared By:	MKO Tuam Road Galway Ireland H91 VW84	
		мкố>	Planning and Environmental Consultants

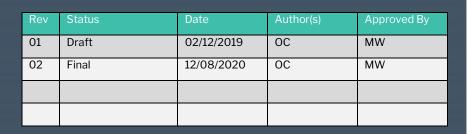




Table of Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION	3
	1.1 Scope of the Operation and Environmental Management Plan	3
2.	SITE AND PROJECT DETAILS	4
	 2.1 Site Location and Description	
3.	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT	8
	 3.1 Site Drainage	
4.	MITIGATION PROPOSALS	15
5.	MONITORING PROPOSALS	26
6.	COMPLIANCE AND REVIEW	31
	 6.1 Site inspections and Environmental Audits	31 31 32



TABLE OF TABLES

Table 4-1 Mitigation Measures	16
Table 5-1 Schedule of Monitoring Proposals	

TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 2-1 Site Layout Map	5
Figure 3-1 Surface Water Monitoring Locations	13



1. INTRODUCTION

This Operation and Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) has been prepared by MKO on behalf of Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd. for the operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development. This document has been prepared for the operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development for the 25-year lifespan of the project.

This report provides the environmental management framework to be adhered to during the operational phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development and it incorporates the mitigating and monitoring principles that minimises the potential for any environmental impacts to occur.

This document has been prepared to accompany the Remedial Environmental Impact Assessment Report (rEIAR) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) prepared as part of the substitute consent process.

11 Scope of the Operation and Environmental Management Plan

This report is presented as a guidance document for the operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development and is intended to replace the Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) which was provided during construction and the initial operation of the site up to July 2020. The OEMP is intended to provide a more concise document targeted specifically at the operation of the wind farm site. Where the term 'site' is used in this OEMP it refers to all works associated with the operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development. The OEMP clearly outlines the mitigation measures and monitoring proposals that are required to be adhered to in order to operate the site in an appropriate manner.

The report is divided into six 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 methodologies for works that will be carried out during the operational phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development.

Section 3 sets out details of the environmental controls to be implemented on site including the mechanisms for implementation.

Section 4 consists of a summary table of all mitigation proposals to be adhered to during the operational-phase of the project.

Section 5 consists of a summary table of all monitoring proposals to be adhered to during the operational-phase of the project.

Section 6 outlines the proposals for reviewing compliance with the provisions of this report.

3



2. SITE AND PROJECT DETAILS

2.1 Site Location and Description

The Cleanrath wind farm development is located in the townlands of Cloontycarthy, Cleanrath North, Cleanrath South, Derrineanig, Derreennacarton and adjacent townlands in Co. Cork. The Cleanrath wind farm development comprises a total of 9 No. wind turbines, with a maximum ground to top blade tip height of up to 150 metres and all associated infrastructure.

The electrical connection from the wind turbines to the national grid will be via an underground cable which runs predominately within the public road corridor through the townlands of Cleanrath South, Derrineanig, Milmorane, Coomlibane, Rathgaskig, Derragh, Augeris, Gorteenakilla, Carrignadoura, Gurteenowen, Gurteenflugh, Lyrenageeha, Lackabaun, Co. Cork and Grousemount, Co. Kerry.

The town of Macroom is located approximately 12 kilometres northeast of the Cleanrath wind farm development and Inchigeelagh is located approximately 2.5 kilometres to the south.

Description of the Cleanrath wind farm development

The design life of the project is expected to be 25 years.

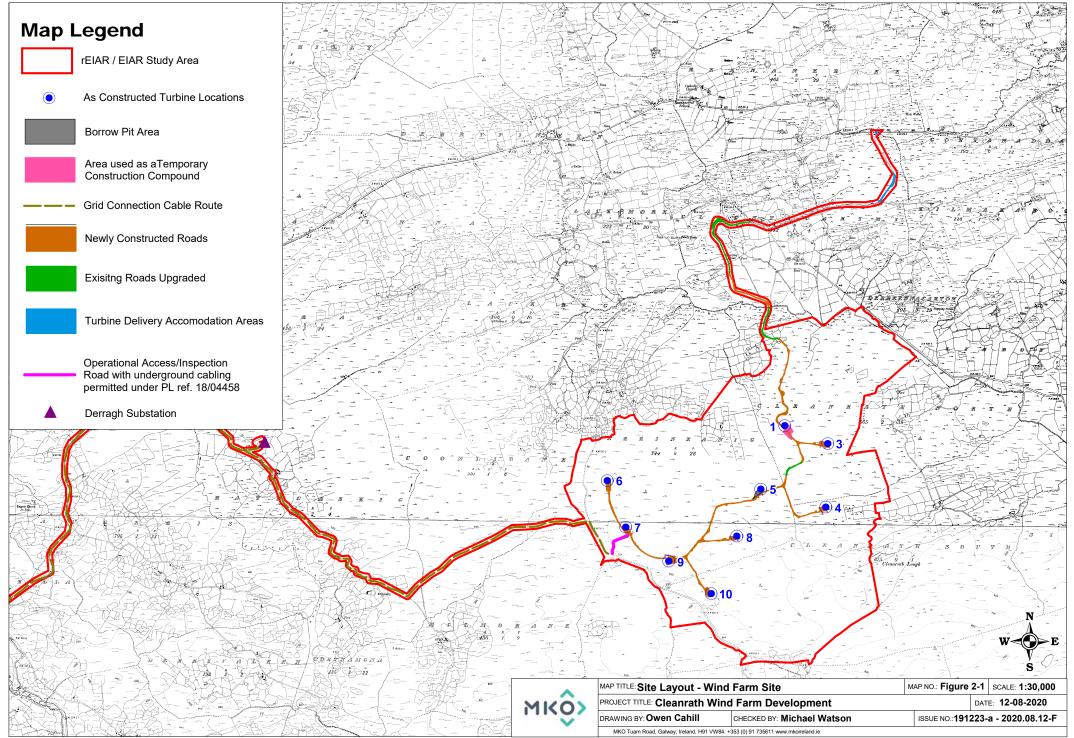
The key components of the Cleanrath wind farm development include the following:

- > 9 no. Wind Turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 150 metres;
- > 9 no. Hardstand Areas
- > Access tracks;
- > Underground cabling, including connection to the national grid
- > Site drainage
- > All associated site development and ancillary works including the electricity substation and control building at Derragh Wind Farm.

The site layout showing individual elements of the Cleanrath wind farm development is shown in Figure 2-1.

As construction has been completed, elements of the project that were developed as a temporary facilitator have either been removed, restored to its original condition or will have naturally revegetated. These include the temporary construction compound and the borrow pit. All access roads and hardstandings areas form part of a site roadway network.

2.2



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



2.3 **Targets and Objectives**

The site will be operated to an approved standard and codes of practice as outlined throughout the various chapters of the rEIAR and EIAR. This OEMP considers environmental issues and this is enhanced by the works proposals during operation.

The key site targets are as follows;

- > Ensure works and activities are completed in accordance with mitigation and best practice approach presented in the all planning documentation prepared for the site;
- > Ensure operational phase works and activities have minimal impact/disturbance to local landowners and the local community;
- > Ensure operation and works have minimal impact on the natural environment;
- > Adopt a sustainable approach to site operation; and,
- > Provide adequate environmental training and awareness for all project personnel.

The key site objectives are as follows;

- > Using recycled materials if 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 having 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 operation to a minimum on the local environment, watercourses, and wildlife;
- Correct fuel storage and refuelling procedures to be followed;
- **>** Good waste management and house-keeping 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. Working methods will be altered where it is found there is the potential to have an adverse effect on the environment;

2.4 Wind Farm Operation Overview

An appointed Operators Controller will install a Site Manager to manage the day to day operation of the wind farm. The Site Manager will be responsible for ensuring compliance with this OEMP and any revisions made to this documents throughout the operation. An overview of the anticipated operational phase activities is provided below.

2.4.1 **Turbine Maintenance**

The wind farm site will be the subject of on-going maintenance of the wind turbines throughout the operational life of the site. This will be undertaken by turbine suppliers and site personnel who will manage and operate the site from the substation and associated control building at Derragh Wind Farm located approximately 3km west of the Cleanrath wind farm development. The turbine maintenance will not require significant plant and equipment with all works localised in nature with operatives using vans to access the site and transport their equipment. Further details on the ongoing maintenance and scheduling is included in the Operational and Maintenance Health and Safety Plan (Appendix A).



2.4.2 **Peatland Habitat Restoration**

The restoration of peatland habitat as discussed in Chapter 6 of the rEIAR will be undertaken during the future operation of the site. The restoration will comprise the management of an area of forestry that was felled during construction along with an additional hectare of immature forestry which will be felled to establish suitable peatland habitat. The removal of woody vegetation will be undertaken in full compliance with Section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976 – 2018. The works will involve felling, chipping and removal of brash and restoring the peatland habitat to its original condition prior to planting which will include the blocking of drains with no further drainage to be installed around the area. Further details are included in Appendix B.

2.4.3 Shadow Flicker Monitoring

An assessment of the potential effects associated with shadow flicker was undertaken using the WindPRO computer software was used to model the predicted daily and annual shadow flicker levels in significant detail. As part of this assessment it was determined that exceedances of the 2006 DoEHLG guidelines daily threshold for shadow flicker would be experienced at 14 properties. The operators of the wind farm have completed an assessment of the properties that were predicted to potentially exceed the daily shadow flicker threshold to determine whether either or both of the factors outlined above relate to any of the properties and therefore eliminate or reduce any shadow flicker below the acceptable threshold. The assessment found that of the 14 properties predicted to exceed the daily threshold for shadow flicker, 7 properties had a clear line of site between the turbine and the relevant section of the dwelling with no obstruction and therefore may require the mitigation strategy to be implemented with 3 of these properties directly involved in the Cleanrath wind farm development. The remaining 7 properties had either no clear line of sight to a turbine due to vegetation coverage or did the property did not have any windows orientated in the direction of a turbine. All predicted incidents of shadow flicker have been pre-programmed into the wind farm's control software. The wind farm's SCADA control system has been programmed to shut down any particular turbine at any particular time on any given day to ensure that shadow flickers occurrences at properties which are not naturally screened or cannot be screened with measures outlined above.

However, the prediction model will still require verification on resumption of operation due to the limitations of the computer modelling. Where an exceedance of the daily threshold is experienced, the appropriate mitigation will be implemented.

2.4.4 **Turbine Noise Monitoring**

A commissioning noise survey has been undertaken for the site. The survey has been completed to determine compliance with the noise condition of attached to a previous grant of permission for the site. The survey has determined that the relevant noise criteria have been complied with during operation of the windfarm

Details of this survey are included in Appendix 11-9 or the rEIAR.

The future operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development will adhere to any noise compliance requirements that may be conditioned subject to the outcome of the substitute consent process.



3. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The following sections give an overview of the drainage design, 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

During the operational phase, various combinations/adaptations of the runoff control and drainage management measures will be employed at the site depending on the local conditions and topography. These include:

- > Natural vegetation filters are used regularly across the site where the local drainage and topography allowed attenuation of surface water runoff.
- > Where possible, interceptor drains are installed up-gradient of infrastructure to collect clean surface runoff, in order to minimise the amount of runoff reaching areas where suspended sediment could become entrained. It is now directed to areas where it can be re-distributed onto natural vegetation.
- Swales/roadside drains are used to collect runoff from access roads and turbine hardstanding areas of the site, likely to have entrained suspended sediment, and channel it onto natural vegetation filters.

Site drainage measures were installed during the construction phase some of which have been retained. The retention of these drainage features has occurred in areas where revegetation has not yet fully been established. As the operation of the wind farm continues, these areas within the site will revegetate resulting in a resumption of the natural drainage management that will have existed prior to any construction. It is not anticipated that the operation of the wind farm will interrupt this restored drainage regime in any way.

Any drainage infrastructure retained in the operational phase will be the subject of ongoing maintenance where required. This will comprise the repairing and replacement of silt fencing along with the servicing of check dams, settlement ponds and any other infrastructure requiring maintenance. As outlined above, the revegetation of disturbed areas and return to the pre-construction drainage regime at the site will result in the requirement for maintenance of drainage infrastructure reducing as the operational phase progresses.

The water quality monitoring data collected during construction has shown that the site was constructed without having any impact on water quality and will continue to do so during operation. The water quality monitoring has continued for a period of 6 months post construction and will continue quarterly into the operational phase for a period of one year thereafter.

3.2 **Refuelling, Fuel and Hazardous Materials Storage**

Any plant and equipment used during the operational phase will require refuelling during the works. Appropriate management of fuels will be required to ensure that incidents relating to refuelling are avoided. The following mitigation measures are proposed to avoid release of hydrocarbons at the site:

- > Road-going vehicles will be refuelled off site wherever possible;
- On-site refuelling will be carried out at designated refuelling areas at various locations throughout the site. Machinery will be refuelled directly by a fuel truck that will come to site as required



- Only designated trained and competent operatives will be authorised to refuel plant on site. Mobile measures such as drip trays and fuel absorbent mats will be used during all refuelling operations.
- > Fuel volumes stored on site should be minimised. Any fuel storage areas will be bunded appropriately for the fuel storage volume;
- > The electrical substation at Derragh Wind Farm which the Clenarath Wind Farm loops into on route to the national grid is bunded appropriately to the volume of oils being stored to prevent leakage to groundwater or surface water. The bunded area is fitted with a storm drainage system and an appropriate oil interceptor;
- > The plant used will be regularly inspected for leaks and fitness for purpose; and,
- An emergency plan for the operational phase to deal with accidental spillages will be developed (refer to Appendix A) Spill kits will be available to deal with and 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 operational phase.

3.2.1 Spill Control Measures

Every effort will be made to prevent an environmental incident during the operational 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 source of the spill 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 Site Manager immediately giving information on the location, type and extent of the spill so that they can take appropriate action.
- > The Site Manager will inspect the site and ensure the necessary measures are in place to contain and clean up the spill and where necessary appoint a specialist contractor to undertake the clean-up and prevent further spillage from occurring.
- > The Site Manager will notify the appropriate regulatory body such as Cork 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 Site Manager must be immediately notified.
- > If necessary, the Site Manager 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.



- > If the incident has impacted on a sensitive receptor such as an archaeological feature the Site Manager will liaise with the Project Archaeologist.
- A record of all environmental incidents will be kept on file by the Site Manager and the Main Contractor. These records will be made available to the relevant authorities such as Cork County Council, EPA if required.

The Site Manager 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 Operators Controller as appropriate.

3.3 **Dust Control**

Dust can be generated from on-site activities during operation such as 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.

Proposed measures to control dust include:

- Any site roads with the potential to give rise to dust will be regularly watered, as appropriate, during dry and/or windy conditions;
- > The designated public roads outside the site and along the main transport routes to the site will be regularly inspected by the Site Manager for cleanliness, and cleaned as necessary;
- Material handling systems and material storage areas will be designed and laid out to minimise exposure to wind;
- Water misting or sprays will be used as required if particularly dusty activities are necessary during dry or windy periods;
- > The transport of soils or other material, which has significant potential to generate dust, will be undertaken in tarpaulin-covered vehicles where necessary;
- > All site traffic will have speed restrictions on un-surfaced roads to 15 kph;
- > Daily inspection of the site to examine dust measures and their effectiveness.
- > When necessary, sections of the haul route will be swept using a truck mounted vacuum sweeper; and,

Given the reduced scale of traffic movement during operations in comparison to the construction phase, it is not anticipated that impacts associated with dust from site traffic will be experienced during operation when considering no significant impact was experienced during construction. However, the appropriate mitigation has been provided above for implementation as required.

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. Proposed measures to control noise include:

- > Diesel generators will be enclosed in sound proofed containers to minimise the potential for noise impacts;
- Plant and machinery with low inherent potential for generation of noise and/or vibration will be selected. All plant and equipment to be used on-site will be modern equipment and will comply with the European Communities (Construction Plant and Equipment) (Permissible Noise Levels) Regulations;
- Regular maintenance of plant will be carried out in order to minimise noise emissions. Particular attention will be paid to the lubrication of bearings and the integrity of silencers;



- > All vehicles and mechanical plant will be fitted with effective exhaust silencers and maintained in good working order for the duration of the works;
- > Compressors will be of the "sound reduced" models fitted with properly lined and sealed acoustic covers which will be kept closed whenever the machines are in use and all ancillary pneumatic tools shall be fitted with suitable silencers;
- Machines, which are used intermittently, will be shut down during those periods > when they are not in use;
- > Training will be provided by the Site Manager to drivers to ensure smooth machinery operation/driving, and to minimise unnecessary noise generation; and,
- > Local areas of the haul route will be condition monitored and maintained, if necessary.

Given the reduced scale of plant and equipment that will be used during operations in comparison to the construction phase, it is not anticipated that impacts associated with noise from plant and equipment will be experienced during operation when considering no significant impact was experienced during construction. However, the appropriate mitigation has been provided above for implementation as required.

Traffic Management 3.5

A Traffic Management Plan (TMP) was prepared for the construction phase of the wind farm and is included in the Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP, Appendix 2) included as Appendix 4-4 of the rEIAR. The TMP will be adopted for the operational phase as required although, the peatland habitat restoration is the only significant works proposed for the operational phase that will require its implementation. The ongoing turbine and general site maintenance will be completed by personnel using normal road going vehicles with an average of 3 vans on a normal day for the operational phase.

Environmental Management Implementation 3.6

Roles and Responsibilities 3.6.1

The Site Manager will be the project focal point relating to operation-related environmental issues.

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

The Operation Controller will be responsible for employing the services of a suitably qualified ecologist, ornithologist and any other suitably qualified professionals as required throughout the operational phase.

Health and Safety 3.6.2

During the operational phase there will be ongoing maintenance of the wind turbines and associated infrastructure. Access to the turbines is through a door at the base of the structure, which will be locked at all times outside maintenance visits. ESB retains the rights to access the grid connection cables and substation as part of their routine infrastructure inspections.

Staff associated with the project will conduct frequent visits, which will include inspections to establish whether any signs have been defaced, removed or are becoming hidden by vegetation or foliage, with prompt action taken as necessary.



An Operational and Maintenance Health and Safety Plan has been prepared for the wind farm and is included as Appendix A.

3.7 **Monitoring of Surface Water Quality**

3.7.1 Monthly Laboratory Analysis Sampling

Monthly sampling for laboratory analysis for a range of parameters as adopted during precommencement and construction phases has continued for 6 months (although sample events were not completed in March and April 2020 due to the Covid-19 restrictions) after construction was completed Sampling will now continue quarterly into the operational phase for a period of one year.

It should be noted that additional monitoring locations were added during the construction phase and theses additional locations will continue to be sampled as appropriate. Flow monitoring will continue for a period of 12 months post construction of the wind farm and will be then be the subject of a review. The supervising hydrologist will monitor and advise on the readings being received from the testing laboratory.

Laboratory analysis of a range of parameters with relevant regulatory limits and EQSs will continue throughout the operational phase for each watercourse e.g. at SW-A – SW-C as outlined in Figure 3-1. All samples will be sent for analysis to an independent laboratory.

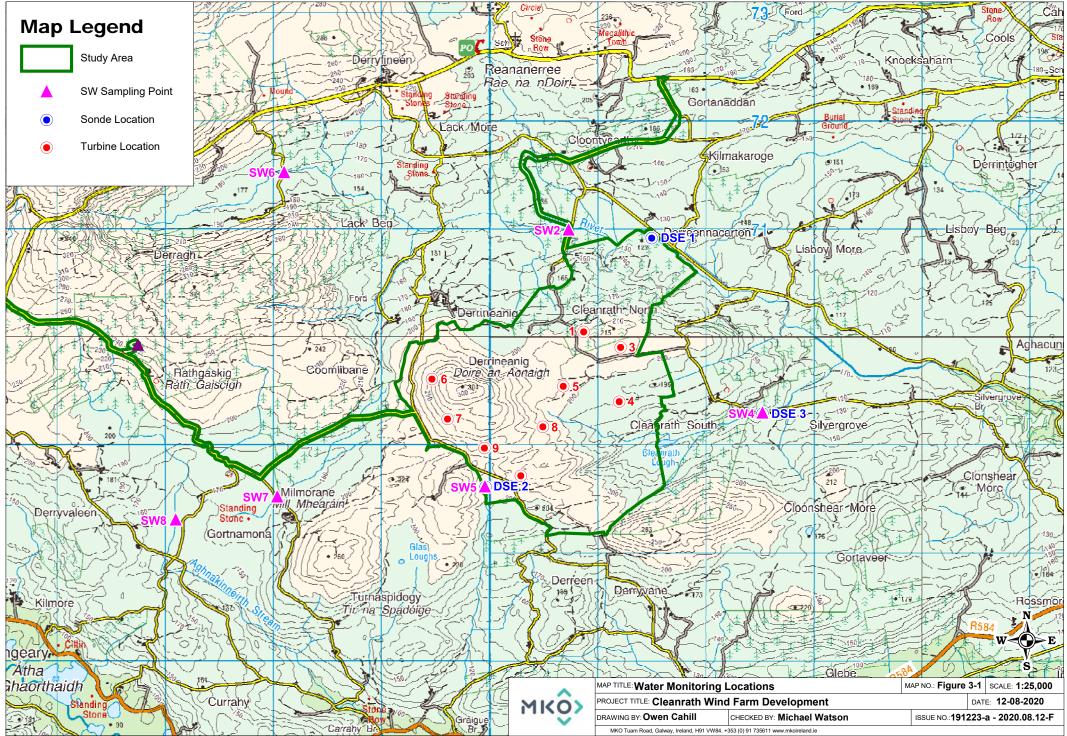
3.7.2 Continuous Turbidity Monitoring

Turbidity monitors or sondes have been installed at locations surrounding the wind farm site as outlined in Figure 3-1. The sondes provide continuous readings for turbidity levels in the watercourse and are scheduled for removal at the next quarterly surface water sampling event.

3.7.3 Monitoring Parameters

The analytical determinants of the monitoring programme (including limits of detection and frequency of analysis) will be as per S.I. No. 272 of 2009 European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations, S.I. No. 722 of 2003 European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations and European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009. The likely suite of determinants will include:

- > pH (field measured)
- > Electrical Conductivity (field measured)
- > Temperature (field measured)
- Dissolved Oxygen (field measured)
- > Turbidity (NTU) (sonde measured)
- > Flow (m/s)
- Total Suspended Solids (mg/l)



Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021819 © Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



- > Ammoniacal Nitrogen as NH3 (mg/l)
- Ammoniacal Nitrogen as NH4 (mg/l)
- Nitrite (NO2) (mg/l)
- > Ortho-Phosphate (P) (mg/l)
- > Nitrate (NO3) (mg/l)
- > Phosphorus (unfiltered) (mg/l)
- > Chloride (mg/l)
- > BOD

3.8 Environmental Awareness and Training

3.8.1 Environmental Induction

The Environmental Induction will be integrated into the general site induction on a case by case basis for each member of staff employed on-site depending on their assigned roles and responsibilities on site. Where necessary, the Environmental Induction will as a minimum include:

- > A copy of the OEMP and discussion of the key environmental risks and constraints;
- > A discussion of the applicable Works Method Statement;
- > The roles and responsibilities of staff, including contractors, in relation to environmental management; and,
- > An outline of the Environmental Incident Management Procedure.

3.8.2 **Toolbox Talks**

Toolbox talks would be held by the Site Manager at the commencement of each day, or at the commencement of new activities particularly during the peatland habitat restoration works. The aims of the toolbox talks are to identify the specific work activities that are scheduled for that day or phase of work. In addition, the necessary work method statements and sub plans would be identified and discussed prior to the commencement of the day's activities.

Site meetings would be held on a regular basis involving all site personnel. The objectives of site meetings is to discuss the coming weeks activities and identify the relevant work method statements and sub plans that will be relevant to that weeks activities. Additionally, any non-compliance identified during the previous week would also be discussed with the aim to reduce the potential of the same non-compliance reoccurring.



4. **MITIGATION PROPOSALS**

All mitigation measures relating to the operational phases of the Cleanrath wind farm development were set out in the various sections of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) which accompanies this substitute consent application.

This section of the OEMP groups together all of the mitigation measures presented in the planning documentation. The mitigation measures are presented in the following pages.

By presenting the mitigation proposals in the below format, it is intended to provide an easy to audit list that can be reviewed and reported on during the operational phase of the project. The tabular format in which the below information is presented, can be further expanded upon during the course of operation and provides a reporting template for site compliance audits.



Table 4-1 M	htigation Measures			
Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		Operational Phase		
MM1	EIAR Chapter 6 OEMP Section 2	A habitat restoration and enhancement plan has been prepared to mitigate for peatland habitat loss		
MM2	EIAR Chapter 4 OEMP Section 2	An additional hectare of immature forestry will be removed to provide an area of enhanced peatland. Any further felling proposed for the site will be the subject of a Limited Felling Licence (LFL) application to the Forest Service. Replanting will be undertaken for any further felling		
MM3	EIAR Section 6,	The removal of woody vegetation will be undertaken in full compliance with Section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976 – 2018.		
MM4	EIAR Chapter 8	 As part of peatland restoration works, the following measures are proposed: Brash removed during the restoration process should be stored up slope of the cleared area, to provide a buffer to surface water flows which may have the potential to erode, During tree felling brash mats will be used to support vehicles on soft ground, reducing peat and mineral soils erosion and avoiding the formation of rutted areas. 		
MM5	EIAR Chapter 8, 9	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		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
	OEMP Section	Machinery will be refuelled on site by a fuel truck. This will only take place for a short period during peatland habitat restoration works.		
MM6	REIAR Chapter 8	The electrical control building was bunded appropriately to the volume of oils likely to be stored, and to prevent leakage of any associated chemicals and to groundwater or surface water. The bunded area was fitted with a storm drainage system and an appropriate oil interceptor;		
MM7	EIAR Chapter 6 OEMP Section 3	The operational phase drainage of the development has been operated in full accordance with the design and mitigation measures that are fully described in Section 9.6 of Chapter 9: 'Water' and in the Operation and Environmental Management Plan. In addition, the same measures will be employed during any future operation. The Habitat Restoration Plan that is provided in Appendix 6.8 provides details of additional measures that will be implemented to protect water quality during the operation of the wind farm and the felling associated with the habitat restoration should it be granted permission.		
MM8	EIAR Chapter 9	 Various combinations/adaptations of the runoff control and drainage management measures during the operational phase are employed at the site depending on the local conditions and topography: Natural vegetation filters are used regularly across the site where the local drainage and topography allowed attenuation of surface water runoff. Where possible, interceptor drains are installed up-gradient of infrastructure to collect clean surface runoff, in order to minimise the amount of runoff reaching areas where suspended sediment could become entrained. It is now directed to areas where it can be re-distributed onto natural vegetation. 		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		Swales/roadside drains are used to collect runoff from access roads and turbine hardstanding areas of the site, likely to have entrained suspended sediment, and channeled it onto natural vegetation.		
MM9	EIAR Chapter 9	 As part of peatland restoration works, the following water protection measures are proposed: Brash removed during the restoration process will be stored up slope of the cleared area, to provide a buffer to surface water flows which may have the potential to erode; During tree felling brash mats will be used to support vehicles on soft ground, reducing peat and mineral soils erosion and avoiding the formation of rutted areas; and, Drain blocking and use of silt fencing and check dams until stabilisation has taken place. 		
MM 10	EIAR Chapter 7	Operational monitoring at the Cleanrath wind farm development commenced in January 2020 and continued into May 2020. Appendix 7-6 of this EIAR contains the Post-Construction Bird Monitoring Programme. Post construction monitoring included and will include the following surveys: > Flight activity surveys: Vantage Point Surveys > Breeding Bird Surveys: Adapted Brown & Shephard. > Winter Walkover Surveys > Breeding Raptor surveys > Hen Harrier Winter Roost Surveys		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		Targeted bird collision surveys (corpse searches) were/will be undertaken with training dogs. The surveys included detection and scavenger trials, to correct for these two biases and ensure the resulting data is robust.		
MM 11	EIAR Section 6	All mitigation measures as specified by the survey report and derogation licence was implemented by the client. Compensation habitat was provided to replace the relatively small area of habitat affected by the development and no significant impact on Kerry slug populations was predicted to occur as a result of this development.		
MM 12	EIAR Chapter 7	Following the precautionary principle and in accordance with the SNH (2019) guidelines, any future operation of the wind farm will be the subject of ongoing monitoring as described in Appendix 6-4. If, following monitoring, there is any uncertainty as to the impacts on bat species, mitigation will be implemented		
MM 13	EIAR Chapter 5 OEMP Section 3	During the operational phase there will be ongoing maintenance of the wind turbines and associated infrastructure. Access to the turbines is through a door at the base of the structure, which is locked at all times outside maintenance visits. An Operational and Maintenance Health and Safety Plan has been prepared for the wind farm and is included as Appendix A of the OEMP (Appendix 4-3).		
MM 14	EIAR Chapter 5, 11 OEMP Section 3	 Best practice measures for noise control will be adhered to onsite during the operational phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development in order to mitigate the slight short-term negative impact associated with this phase of the development. These measures included: No plant used on site will be permitted to cause an on-going public nuisance due to noise. 		



Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		 The best means practicable, including proper maintenance of plant, will be employed to minimise the noise produced by on site operations. All vehicles and mechanical plant will be fitted with effective exhaust silencers and maintained in good working order for the duration of the contract. Compressors will be attenuated models fitted with properly lined and sealed acoustic covers which will be kept closed whenever the machines are in use and all ancillary pneumatic tools were fitted with suitable silencers. Machinery that will be used intermittently will be shut down or throttled back to a minimum during periods when not in use. During the course of the construction programme, supervision of the works will be undertaken to ensure compliance with the limits detailed in Chapter 11 using methods outlined in British Standard BS 5228-1:2014+A1:2019 Code of practice for noise and vibration control on construction and open sites – Noise. 		
MM 15	EIAR Chapter 5 OEMP Section 3	In periods of extended dry weather, dust suppression may be necessary along haul roads within the site to ensure dust does not cause a nuisance during use of plant or machinery. Where necessary, water will be spread with a bowser or water spreader to dampen down haul roads and the temporary site compound to prevent the generation of dust. Silty or oily water will not be used for dust suppression		
MM 16	EIAR Chapter 5 OEMP Section 2	All mitigation as outlined under noise and vibration, dust, traffic, visual amenity and shadow flicker in the EIAR, will be implemented in order to reduce insofar as possible impacts on residential amenity at properties located in the vicinity of the Cleanrath wind farm development works, including along the turbine and construction materials haul route.		

Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		The installed wind turbines have been fitted with shadow flicker control units to allow the turbines to be controlled to prevent the occurrence of shadow flicker at properties surrounding the wind farm where necessary.		
MM 17	EIAR Chapter 10 OEMP Section 3	Any vehicles or plant brought onsite during the operational phase will be maintained in good operational order that comply with the Road Traffic Acts 1961 as amended, thereby minimising any emissions that arise.		
MM 18	EIAR Chapter 5, 11 OEMP Section 3	 Best practice measures for noise control was adhered to onsite during the construction phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development in order to mitigate the slight short-term negative impact associated with this phase of the development. The measures include: Sensitive location of equipment, taking account of local topography and natural screening. Working methods: construction noise was controlled by prescribing that standard construction work was restricted to the specified working hours. Any construction work carried out outside of these hours shall be restricted to activities that did not generate noise of a level that may cause a nuisance. The phasing of works had also been designed with regard to avoidance of noise impacts. Plant was selected taking account of the characteristics of noise emissions from each item. All plant and machinery used on the site shall comply with E.U. and Irish legislation in relation to noise emissions. The timing of on-and off-site movements of plant near occupied properties was controlled. Operation of plant: all construction operations shall comply with guidelines set out in British Standard documents 'BS 5338: Code of Practice for Noise 		



Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		 Control on Construction and Demolition Sites' and 'BS5228: Part 1: 1997: Noise & Vibration Control on Construction and Open Sites'. The correct fitting and proper maintenance of silencers and/or enclosures, the avoidance of excessive and unnecessary revving of vehicle engines, and the parking of equipment in locations that avoid possible effects on noise-sensitive locations were employed. Training and supervision of operatives in proper techniques to reduce site noise, and self-monitoring of noise levels, if appropriate. 		
MM 19	EIAR Chapter 14 OEMP Section 3	For a period of three weeks, a number of HGVs and excavator delivery vehicles will come to site as part of peatland habitat restoration works. These works will be undertaken in accordance with the Traffic Management Plan prepared for the construction phase which is included within Appendix 4-4 of the remedial EIAR		
MM 20	EIAR Chapter 14	In the event of further scoping responses being received from the EIA consultees, the comments of the consultees and any mitigation measures are considered during operation of the Cleanrath wind farm development, subject to the outcome of the Substitute Consent process. The terms of the signed 2RN Protocol Document for the Cleanrath wind farm development will be adhered to throughout operation		



Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
		Decommissioning Phase		
MM 21	EIAR Chapter 4	Prior to the end of the operational period the Decommissioning Plan (Appendix 4- 4) will be updated in line with decommissioning methodologies that may exist at the time and will agreed with the competent authority at that time.		
MM 22	DP Section 3	Prior to decommissioning, a suitably qualified ecologist will complete an invasive species survey of the berms that will be temporarily removed during decommissioning at the turbine delivery accommodation roadway and the junction upgrade adjacent to the sawmill in Cloontycarthy. The invasive species survey will also be undertaken along the cable route to identify invasive species at joint bay locations where excavation to expose the cabling for removal will be required.		
MM 23	EIAR Chapter 9	Best guidance in relation to protection of freshwater pear mussel (FPM) sites will be followed from guidance document Forestry and Freshwater Pearl Mussel Requirements – Site Assessment and Mitigation Measures (Draft).		
MM 24	EIAR Section 6	All mitigation measures as specified by the survey report and derogation licence or any revision or renewals of this licence was implemented by the client. Compensation habitat was provided to replace the relatively small area of habitat affected by the development and no significant impact on Kerry slug populations was predicted to occur as a result of this development.		
MM 25	EIAR Chapter 6	Trees did not be replanted in the future within the felled areas. In areas of felling close to turbine bases brash was removed from the site, where not required for the upgrade of existing roads and to prevent rutting of the ground surface during felling operations, and management was put in place to keep the growth of regenerating scrubby/bushy vegetation down.		



Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
MM 26	EIAR Chapter 4 DP Section 2	On removal of turbines, the covering of the foundation will be completed using material imported to site as the required quantity of material does not currently exist at the site. 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		
MM 27	EIAR Chapter 4 DP Section 3	 The following mitigation measures are proposed to avoid release of hydrocarbons at the site: Road-going vehicles will be refuelled off site wherever possible; On-site refuelling will be carried out at designated refuelling areas at various locations throughout the site. Machinery will be refuelled directly by a fuel truck that will come to site as required Only designated trained and competent operatives will be authorised to refuel plant on site. Fuel volumes stored on site should be minimised. Any fuel storage areas will be bunded appropriately; The plant used will be regularly inspected for leaks and fitness for purpose; and, An emergency plan for the decommissioning phase to deal with accidental spillages will be developed (refer to Section 4) Spill kits will be available to deal with and 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. 		



Ref. No.	Reference Location	Mitigation Measure	Audit Result	Action Required
MM 28	EIAR Section 7	 A Decommissioning Plan has been prepared (see Appendix 4-4) The following measures are proposed for the decommissioning phase: During the decommissioning phase, disturbance limitation measures will be as per the construction phase (see Chapter 7 of the rEIAR). Plant machinery will be turned off when not in use. All plant and equipment for use will comply with the Construction Plant and the European Communities (Noise Emission by Equipment for Use Outdoors) Regulations 2001 (S.I. No. 632 of 2001). A project ecologist will be appointed to oversee the decommissioning phase, with similar duties to those outlined above during the construction phase. 		
MM 29	EIAR Chapter 14 DP Section 3	The Traffic Management Plan has been prepared to consider the decommissioning as a standalone project. The removal of turbines from site will be undertaken for a specialist haulier. The traffic management arrangements although similar to that implement for turbine delivery as outlined in the rEIAR will be agreed in advance of decommissioning (early or after 25 years of operation) with the competent authority. A traffic management plan has been prepared for the removal of cabling from cable duct on the grid connection route		



5. MONITORING PROPOSALS

All monitoring proposals relating to the operational phases of the Cleanrath wind farm development were set out in the various sections of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) which accompanies this substitute consent application.

This section of the OEMP groups together all of the monitoring proposals presented in the planning documentation. The monitoring proposals are presented in the following pages.

By presenting the monitoring proposals in the below format, it is intended to provide an easy to audit list that can be reviewed and reported on during the operational phase of the project. The tabular format in which the below information is presented, can be further expanded upon during the course of operation to provide a reporting template for site compliance audits.



Table 5-1 Schedule of Monitoring Proposals

Ref.	Reference	Monitoring Measure	Frequency	Reporting	Responsibility
No.	Location			Period	
		Operational Phase & Decommissioning	Phases		
MX1	EIAR Chapter 4 OEMP Section 3	Monthly sampling for laboratory analysis for a range of parameters as adopted during pre-commencement and construction phases has continued for 6 months (although sample events were not completed in March and April 2020 due to the Covid-19 restrictions) after construction was completed Sampling will now continue quarterly into the operational phase for a period of one year	Quarterly	As Necessary	Site Manager
MX2	EIAR Chapter 4 OEMP Section 3	Turbidity monitors or sondes have been installed at locations surrounding the wind farm site as outlined in Figure 3-1. The sondes provide continuous readings for turbidity levels in the watercourse and are scheduled for removal at the next quarterly surface water sampling event	Ongoing	As Necessary	Site Manager
MX3	EIAR Chapter 7	Operational monitoring at the Cleanrath wind farm development commenced in January 2020 and continued into May 2020. The programme of works monitored and will continue to monitor parameters associated with collision, displacement/barrier effects and habituation during the lifetime of the project. Surveys commenced in January 2020 of Years 1. Thereafter surveys will be scheduled to coincide with Years 2, 3, 5, 10 and 15 of the lifetime of the wind farm. Monitoring measures were broadly based on guidelines issued by the Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH, 2009). Post construction monitoring included and will include the following surveys:			



Ref. No.	Reference Location	Monitoring Measure	Frequency	Reporting Period	Responsibility
		 Flight activity surveys: Vantage Point Surveys Breeding Bird Surveys: Adapted Brown & Shephard. Winter Walkover Surveys Breeding Raptor surveys Hen Harrier Winter Roost Surveys Targeted bird collision surveys (corpse searches) were/will be undertaken with training dogs. The surveys included detection and scavenger trials, to correct for these two biases and ensure the resulting data is robust. 			
MX4	EIAR Chapter 4, 6	Post-construction surveys for badger and otter will be completed on the site for five years. These surveys will be undertaken following the same scope and methodology as proposed for the pre-construction surveys. All results will be sent to the Planning Authority and to the NPWS.	Annually for 5 years	Annually	Project Ecologist
MX5	EIAR Chapter 4, 6	The Kerry Slug Management Plan will be implemented in full, as will the conditions of the derogation licence. This provides for post-construction surveys that cover a five year period	Annually for 5 years	Annually	Project Ecologist
MX6	EIAR Chapter 4, 6	Post-construction monitoring and reporting programmes for birds (particularly Hen Harrier and Merlin), otter, badger and Kerry slug shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of	As required	As required	Project Ornithologist



Ref. No.	Reference Location	Monitoring Measure	Frequency	Reporting	Responsibility
				Period	
		development. The surveys shall be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced specialists. Surveys shall be			
		completed annually for a period of five years following			
		commissioning of the wind farm and copies of the reports to			
		the planning authority shall also be submitted to the			
		National Parks and Wildlife Service.			
1075	DIAD		Once	As required	Site Manager
MX7	EIAR Chanton 5, 11	Post commissioning of the proposed turbine units it is			
	Chapter 5, 11	recommended that the noise monitoring detailed in the relevant section of this report is repeated with a view to			
		confirming that the operational units are compliant with the			
		relevant day and night time noise criteria curves as			
		presented in the body of this assessment. If this study work			
		identifies any exceedances of the appropriate criteria			
		relevant corrective actions will be taken/implemented.			
			As required	As required	Site Manager
MX8	DP Section 3	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.	As required	As required	Project
MX9	EAIR	Prior to decommissioning, a suitably qualified ecologist will	As required	As required	Ecologist
101210	Chapter 6	complete an invasive species survey of the berms that will			Leologist
	chimptor o	be temporarily removed during decommissioning at the			
	DP Section 3	turbine delivery accommodation roadway and the junction			
		upgrade adjacent to the sawmill in Cloontycarthy. The			
		invasive species survey will also be undertaken along the			
		cable route to identify invasive species at joint bay locations			



Ref. No.	Reference Location	Monitoring Measure	Frequency	Reporting Period	Responsibility
		where excavation to expose the cabling for removal will be required.			
MX10	EAIR Chapter 6	Current and ongoing bat monitoring being conducted on site, where turbines are operating in sleep mode, will be utilised in conjunction with the 2015 bat survey findings. This will be used to assess bat activity patterns and to inform the design of any advanced site-specific mitigation requirements, including curtailment if deemed necessary, to ensure that there are no significant residual effects on bat species.	As required	As required	Project Ecologist



6.

COMPLIANCE AND REVIEW

6.1 Site inspections and Environmental Audits

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

Environmental inspections will ensure that the works are undertaken in compliance with this OEMP and all other planning application documents. The Site Manager will be suitably trained to undertake environmental site inspections.

6.2 Auditing

An Environmental audit will first be carried out monthly during the operational phase of the Cleanrath wind farm development to ensure the operational phase mitigation measures that are still in place as required are adequate.

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 Site Manager on behalf of the Operation Controller. It is important that an impartial and objective approach is adopted. Environmental audits will be conducted at planned intervals to determine whether the OEMP is being properly implemented and maintained. The results of environmental audits will be provided to project management personnel.

6.3 Environmental Compliance

The following definitions shall apply in relation to the classification of Environmental Occurrences during the operation of the 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 boundary.

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 OEMP.



6.4 **Corrective Action Procedure**

A corrective action is implemented to rectify an environmental problem on-site. Corrective actions will be implemented by the Site Manager. 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 Manager 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.

6.5 **Operation and Environmental Management Plan Review**

This OEMP will be reviewed after every 6 months of operation and may also require updating after the substitute consent process to comply with any conditions should substitute consent be granted.





APPENDIX A

OPERATIONAL AND MAINTENANCE HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

Cleanrath Wind Farm Ltd.

Operational and Maintenance H&S Plan and Scheduled Activities Jan 2020 – Dec 2020



Document prepared by WFSO Ltd. for Cleanrath Wind Farm, Inchigeelagh, Co Cork

Confidentiality

This document must not be reproduced or provided in any manner to any third party without the consent of WFSO Ltd. This work and the information contained in it are the copyright of WFSO. No part of this document may be reprinted or reproduced without the consent of WFSO.

The content of this report is for the exclusive use for the Cleanrath Wind Farm and Cleanrath 38kV Substation. If other parties, choose to rely on the contents of this report they do so at their own risk.

This document has been prepared by

.....

Eamonn Lyons, WFSO Ltd. Operators Controller, Cleanrath Wind Farm.

This document has been approved by

.....

Christopher Murnane, PSDP / PSCS Manager, WFSO Ltd.

Contents

Conten	nts	3
1.0	Introduction	5
Scope.		6
2.1 Apj	proach	6
	Work Type 1 (Routine maintenance)	7
	Approach	
	Work Type 2 (Major Turbine maintenance)	8
	Approach	8
	Work Type 3 (Non-Turbine Contractor Works)	8
	Approach	
	Work Type 4 [Operations Staff Works]	
	Approach	
3. Proje	ect Details	9
	3.1 Location	9
	3.2 Nature of Work	10
	3.3 Information for Inclusion in the Safety File	10
3.4	Cleanrath Substation	
3.4.	1 Location	
	Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath	10
3.4.2	2 Nature of work	13
3.4.	3 Information for inclusion in the Safety File	13
4. The	Environment	14
	4.1 Access and Egress	14
	4.2 Existing Services	
	4.3 Site Access	
	4.4 Other activities on-site	14
	4.5 Storage of plant and materials	14
	4.6 Disposal of waste	
	4.7 Security arrangements	
5. Man	agement Arrangements	16
	5.1 Construction Regulations Duty Holders	16
	5.2 PSDP / PSCS Manager Responsibilities	
	5.3 Relevant Legislation	
6. Info	rming Contractors	
7. Cont	tractor Selection Procedures	17
8. Wor	ks Authorization and Coordination	17
	8.1 Work Authorization Procedure	17

8.3 Contractor Co-ordination 18 9. Risk Management (Including Particular Risks) 18 9.1 Particular Risks Identified During the Design Stage 18 9.2 Other Significant Hazards 18 9.3 Change of Construction Method/Design 19 10. Emergency Procedures 20 10.1 General Emergency Procedures 20 10.1.1 Fire- No Personnel in WTG or Building (employee or member of public) 20 10.1.2 Fire- Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public) 20 10.1.3 Fire- Moorland or Forest (Employee or Member of Public) 24 10.1.4 Fire- Vehicle or Plant (Employee or Member of Public) 26 10.1.5 Injury- Walking Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 28 10.1.6 Injury- Stretcher Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 32 10.1.7 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 34 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation. 37 10.3 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 10.3 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38
9.1 Particular Risks Identified During the Design Stage 18 9.2 Other Significant Hazards 18 9.3 Change of Construction Method/Design 19 10. Emergency Procedures 20 10.1 General Emergency Procedures 20 10.1.1 Fire- No Personnel in WTG or Building (employee or member of public) 20 10.1.2 Fire- Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public). 22 10.1.3 Fire- Moorland or Forest (Employee or Member of Public). 24 10.1.4 Fire- Vehicle or Plant (Employee or Member of Public). 24 10.1.5 Injury- Walking Casualty (Employee or Member of Public). 28 10.1.6 Injury- Stretcher Casualty (Employee or Member of Public). 32 10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Employee or Member of Public). 34 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public). 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates. 36 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates. 37 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 38 13. Information and Training 38 38 3.3 Statutory training 38
9.2 Other Significant Hazards 18 9.3 Change of Construction Method/Design 19 10. Emergency Procedures 20 10.1 General Emergency Procedures 20 10.1.1 Fire- No Personnel in WTG or Building (employee or member of public) 20 10.1.2 Fire- Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public) 20 10.1.3 Fire- Moorland or Forest (Employee or Member of Public) 24 10.1.4 Fire- Vehicle or Plant (Employee or Member of Public) 26 10.1.5 Injury- Walking Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 28 10.1.6 Injury- Stretcher Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 30 10.1.8 Injury- Fatality (Employee or Member of Public) 32 10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 34 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation. 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 13. Information and Training 38 13. Statutory training 39
9.2 Other Significant Hazards 18 9.3 Change of Construction Method/Design 19 10. Emergency Procedures 20 10.1 General Emergency Procedures 20 10.1.1 Fire- No Personnel in WTG or Building (employee or member of public) 20 10.1.2 Fire- Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public) 20 10.1.3 Fire- Moorland or Forest (Employee or Member of Public) 24 10.1.4 Fire- Vehicle or Plant (Employee or Member of Public) 26 10.1.5 Injury- Walking Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 28 10.1.6 Injury- Stretcher Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 30 10.1.8 Injury- Fatality (Employee or Member of Public) 32 10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 34 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation. 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 13. Information and Training 38 13. Statutory training 39
9.3 Change of Construction Method/Design 19 10. Emergency Procedures 20 10.1 General Emergency Procedures 20 10.1.1 Fire- No Personnel in WTG or Building (employee or member of public) 20 10.1.2 Fire- Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public) 20 10.1.3 Fire- Moorland or Forest (Employee or Member of Public) 24 10.1.4 Fire- Vehicle or Plant (Employee or Member of Public) 24 10.1.5 Injury- Walking Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 28 10.1.6 Injury- Stretcher Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 30 10.1.8 Injury- Fatality (Employee or Member of Public) 30 10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Coverspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 34 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital 37 Access information 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks
10. Emergency Procedures 20 10.1 General Emergency Procedures 20 10.1.1 Fire- No Personnel in WTG or Building (employee or member of public) 20 10.1.2 Fire- Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public)
10.1.1 Fire- No Personnel in WTG or Building (employee or member of public) 20 10.1.2 Fire- Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public). 22 10.1.3 Fire- Moorland or Forest (Employee or Member of Public). 24 10.1.4 Fire- Vehicle or Plant (Employee or Member of Public). 26 10.1.5 Injury- Walking Casualty (Employee or Member of Public). 28 10.1.6 Injury- Stretcher Casualty (Employee or Member of Public). 30 10.1.8 Injury- Fatality (Employee or Member of Public). 30 10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Employee or Member of Public). 34 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public). (Employee or Member of Public). 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates. 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates. 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation. 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13. Information and Training. 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training. 39
20 10.1.2 Fire- Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public)22 10.1.3 Fire- Moorland or Forest (Employee or Member of Public)
10.1.2 Fire- Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public)
10.1.3 Fire- Moorland or Forest (Employee or Member of Public) 24 10.1.4 Fire- Vehicle or Plant (Employee or Member of Public) 26 10.1.5 Injury- Walking Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 28 10.1.6 Injury- Stretcher Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 30 10.1.8 Injury- Fatality (Employee or Member of Public) 30 10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Employee or Member of Public) 32 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public) (Employee or Member of Public) 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital 37 Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13. Information and Training 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
10.1.4 Fire- Vehicle or Plant (Employee or Member of Public) 26 10.1.5 Injury- Walking Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 28 10.1.6 Injury- Stretcher Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 30 10.1.8 Injury- Fatality (Employee or Member of Public) 32 10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Employee or Member of Public) 34 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public) (Employee or Member of Public) 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital 37 Access information 37 Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13. Information and Training 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
10.1.5 Injury- Walking Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 28 10.1.6 Injury- Stretcher Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 30 10.1.8 Injury- Fatality (Employee or Member of Public) 32 10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Employee or Member of Public) 34 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 35 (Employee or Member of Public) 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital 37 Access information 37 Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
10.1.6 Injury- Stretcher Casualty (Employee or Member of Public) 30 10.1.8 Injury- Fatality (Employee or Member of Public) 32 10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Employee or Member of Public) 34 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital 37 Access information 37 Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation. 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
10.1.8 Injury- Fatality (Employee or Member of Public) 32 10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Employee or Member of Public) 34 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 35 (Employee or Member of Public) 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital 37 Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Employee or Member of Public) 34 10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building 35 (Employee or Member of Public) 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital 37 Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public) 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital 37 Access information 37 Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
(Employee or Member of Public) 35 10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital 37 Access information 37 Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13. Information and Training 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates 36 Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital 37 Access information 37 Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation. 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13. Information and Training 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates. 37 10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital. 37 Access information. 37 Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation. 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13. Information and Training 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital. 37 Access information. 37 Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation. 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13. Information and Training. 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training. 39
Access information
Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation. 37 Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13. Information and Training 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath 37 11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13. Information and Training 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences 38 12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13. Information and Training 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
12. Welfare Arrangements 38 13. Information and Training 38 13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
13. Information and Training
13.1 Site Induction 38 13.2 Toolbox Talks 38 13.3 Statutory training 39
13.2 Toolbox Talks3813.3 Statutory training39
13.2 Toolbox Talks3813.3 Statutory training39
13.3 Statutory training
-
15. Site Rules
16. Safety File
17. Arrangements for Monitoring (Inspections/Audits)40
Appendix 1: Site Location Drawing
Appendix 2: Construction and Maintenance Projects Site Rules
Appendix 3: Tasks Scheduled for Completion under This Plan

Appendix 4: Items of Particular Risk Thought Likely to Arise During Planned Activities	.45
Appendix 5: Information for Inclusion in the Safety File	.48
Appendix 6 Site Plan for Scheduled Maintenance 2020	.49
Appendix 7 Tasks planned for Completion Cleanrath Substation	.49
Appendix 8 Telemess Procedures at Substation	.50
GENERATOR INTERFACES (WINDFARMS) – User's Guide	50
To Disconnect a Windfarm the Telemess procedure is as follows:	51
To Reconnect a Windfarm the Telemess procedure is as follows:	53

1.0 Introduction

The Health and Safety Plan has been prepared for the works associated with the maintenance and upkeep of Cleanrath Wind Farm, Inchigeelagh, Co Cork. The plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013.

WFSO Ltd. is committed to the philosophy that all accidents are preventable and that the prevention of accidents through identification and control of the hazards inherent in the work being undertaken is a primary objective for all operations and maintenance projects undertaken at Cleanrath Wind Farm. The purpose of the plan is to describe the arrangements that are in place for OEM activities planned on-site during 2020 and to ensure the health and safety of all personnel involved in these activities. The PSDP / PSCS Manager will retain the master copy of this document. Documents and files associated with this plan will be held by the wind farm operations manager. The PSDP / PSCS Manager's office is located at Lissarda Industrial Estate, Lissarda, Co. Cork and the operations manager's office will be located on site in the Cleanrath wind farm.

Scope

Operation and maintenance activities at Cleanrath Wind farm come under the definition of "construction work" under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005. WFSO Ltd. has put in place a procedure for managing the PSDP / PSCS role for these works. Operations management on site will ensure that all procedures are adhered to and executed in an appropriate manner.

The works to which this plan applies are listed in Appendix 3. This plan is reviewed and revised as required every year in advance of the commencement of scheduled maintenance activities for the forthcoming calendar year and is valid for just over one year. It is not anticipated that new projects may arise during the 12-month period.

WFSO ltd. recognize that each individual activity will have hazards which will be specific to that task. This plan requires that tasks are risk assessed and a method statement prepared by the appropriate contractor. The PSDP / PSCS will review method statements in advance of works to ensure that a safe system of work is being employed. This task specific review and details of any additional specific control measures to be employed will be included in Appendix 4 which details the hazards of particular risk thought likely to occur during the completion of this plan. All operatives visiting the site are to complete an online site induction beforehand whereby they can upload training certificates and following successful completion of the induction they will be able to download a copy of;

- Cleanrath Site Layout
- Cleanrath Emergency Procedures
- Catastrophic Event Flowchart

2.1 Approach

To ensure a consistent and efficient approach, different work types and methods for ensuring a safe system of work have been defined for the site as follows:

Work Type 1 (Routine maintenance)

• Approximately 90% of turbine related work involves minor repairs, component replacement, troubleshooting, adjustment etc. These works will often require access to the nacelle. The works can be either planned or reactive (e.g. to a fault condition). Work is carried out by trained technicians from either the turbine manufacturer or an appointed OEM contractor. These works do not have a large design element as replacement of turbine components is done on a "like for like" basis. The work comes under the definition of "construction work" and involves particular risks (working at height, high voltage) and so requires appointment of Project Supervisors.

Approach

The site will operate under the Nordex Wind Turbine Safety Rules (Revision 3). WFSO will act as the Operational Controller for the site and no work will commence on a turbine unless WFSO are happy to "hand over control" of a turbine to an Approved Technician (AT).

The Approved Written Procedures (AWP), associated Risk Assessments and Method statements for these works will be reviewed by the PSDP / PSCS at the start of the contract period. Any new AWPs or amendments to existing AWPs will be reviewed as they occur. The method statements will typically consist of standard operation and maintenance procedures from the turbine manufacturers which will have been previously risk assessed by the turbine manufacturers. The PSDP / PSCS will document this review process, review any deficiencies in the procedure with the turbine vendor and carry forward any specific control actions to the construction stage safety and health plans for the appropriate site.

On receipt of method statements from a contractor, the PSDP / PSCS will review and ensure that:

- It details the work to be undertaken
- Includes a formal risk assessment
- Clearly identifies the area in which the work will happen
- Lists the plant and equipment that will be used for the work
- Clearly identifies hazards and controls in place
- There is First Aid provision

If there is any doubt about the contents of the method statements, these will be sent for further review by the WFSO Health and Safety Advisor.

Once the induction, training and certification details of contractor personnel assigned to a type 1 work task are in order AND the standard method statement for the task has been pre-approved by the PSDP / PSCS AND the work is to be carried out without deviation to that method

statement THEN work will be authorized by the PSDP / PSCS remotely using the WFSO Controller System as described in Section 8.1 of this document. Following authorization, the PSDP / PSCS will periodically inspect on-site the implementation of the safe working procedures and will address any non-compliance with approved method statements as appropriate. WFSO Ltd. will carry out monthly H&S inspections which will cover all aspects on the site from signage, to roads condition, to substation inspection, etc.

Work Type 2 (Major Turbine maintenance)

- Approximately 10% of turbine related work involves major repair works such as large component replacement or blade repair. These works typically involve additional sub-contractors such as crane companies and may involve other specialist sub-contractors. Approval of the contractors will be based on the procedure described in Section 7 of this document.
- The work is generally planned in advance. The work may have a design element (e.g. design of the crane lift). The work comes under the definition of "construction work" and involves particular risks (working at height, high voltage, lifting heavy prefabricated components) and so requires appointment of Project Supervisors

Approach

Method statements for these works will be reviewed by the PSDP / PSCS before work commences. Method statements will typically consist of standard turbine OEM procedures but there will be elements which may be specific to the exact task being carried out at the particular location i.e. the method statement will take account of site and task specific risks. The PSDP / PSCS will review the method statements, document this review process, action any deficiencies in the procedure with the turbine vendor and any other contractors before authorising the works.

The PSDP / PSCS will be present at the site at the commencement of the works to ensure that a safe system of work is being employed and that all PSDP / PSCS duties are addressed and periodically inspect the works thereafter.

Typically for these works, the turbine supplier will be appointed as the PSDP / PSCS for the works area in question for the duration of the works with WFSO Ltd. onsite and offering assistance where required.

Work Type 3 (Non-Turbine Contractor Works)

- General site maintenance work which involves road repairs, unblocking of drains, control building maintenance works
- Repair and maintenance activities within the onsite substation and HV switching which will typically involve electrical subcontractors (employed either by the client directly or by the turbine service contractor).

The above works comes under the definition of "construction work" and involve particular risks (working at height, high voltage) and so requires appointment of Project Supervisors.

Approach

Method statements for these works will be reviewed by the PSDP / PSCS before work commences. The method statements will typically be specific to the exact task being carried out at the particular location and will take account of site and task specific risks. The PSDP / PSCS will document this review process, review any deficiencies and action them with the contractors before authorising the works. The PSDP / PSCS will be present at the site at the commencement of the works by any new contractor to ensure that a safe system of work is being employed and that all PSDP / PSCS duties are addressed.

Work Type 4 [Operations Staff Works]

• The WFSO operations team is trained in working at height and is involved periodically in climbing turbines for the purpose of inspection, audit or contractor supervision.

These works involve the risks of working at height and working in the proximity of high voltage but do not come under the definition of "construction works" under the construction regulations.

Approach

The PSDP / PSCS will ensure that WFSO staff are inducted at the particular site and will authorize personnel to access the site remotely using the WFSO Work Authorization System. (Note Risk Assessment of these activities will be covered under the WFSO Safety Statement)

3. Project Details

3.1 Location

The site is located at the Cleanrath Wind farm, Inchigeelagh, Cork and is shown on the map in Appendix 1.

3.2 Nature of Work

A list of the works to be carried out is detailed in Appendix 3.

3.3 Information for Inclusion in the Safety File

Due to the nature of the work which involves routine maintenance it is not expected that a significant amount of information necessary for inclusion in the safety file should be generated during this project WFSO as the PSDP / PSCS shall ensure that the checklist attached in Appendix 3 is updated on an annual basis and information identified as being necessary for inclusion shall be added to the safety file.

3.4 Cleanrath Substation

3.4.1 Location

Accident Area: Cleanrath

Site Entrance Co-ordinates:

Irish Grid:	E 120600	N 71674	
GPS (degree/decimal):	Lat: 51.8919	92	Lon: -
9.1541867 ➤ GPS (deg/min/sec):	N: 51º 53' 30	0.9"	W 9º 9' 15.1"
Closest Eircode:	P12 H289		

Closest townland:
Cloontycarthy

Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath

- After going straight through Macroom from the Cork city side continue following the road west for 6.00km until you reach Moon's bar.
- Take the left at Moon's bar.



• Continue following this road for another 5.5km until you reach a left-hand turn:



• Continue on this road until you reach a T junction. Take the right-hand turn.



• After 1.00km at the next junction turn right. Directly after the house with the Eircode **P12 H289**.



• The entrance will be 0.3km down this road on the left-hand side.

3.4.2 Nature of work

A list of all work to be carried out is detailed in Appendix 7.

3.4.3 Information for inclusion in the Safety File

This 38kV substation serves all sections of the wind farm. Due to the nature of the work which involves routine maintenance it is not expected that a significant amount of information necessary for inclusion in the safety file should be generated during this project. WFSO as the PSDP / PSCS shall ensure that the checklist attached in Appendix 5 is updated on an annual basis and information identified as being necessary for inclusion shall be added to the safety file. The PSDP / PSCS requires no lone working on any electrical equipment in the substation.

4. The Environment

4.1 Access and Egress

Parking is available on site at the base of each turbine and in front of the substation. All cars should reverse into the chosen parking space. Access to the turbines is along a farm laneway and through two gates which are normally closed. All gates should be left in the state they were found. The access way is in continuous use for farming or bog activities.

4.2 Existing Services

All turbines are serviced by a single substation at Cleanrath which is in turn connected to an interconnector. As a result, there are underground cables present on the site. These are outlined on the as built services drawing in the Safety File. Should works be planned which may affect existing services on the site the exact location will be verified before work commences. Works likely to affect existing services are not envisaged as part of the existing scope of works to be undertaken under this plan. Overhead cables are present on potential access routes to the site and may affect the bringing to site of equipment such as cranes.

4.3 Site Access

Construction and maintenance activities will be restricted to daylight hours unless otherwise agreed with the PSDP / PSCS. Works will be scheduled so as to minimize disruption to local traffic and the ongoing agricultural activities on the Wind farm.

4.4 Other activities on-site

The normal functions of the farm will continue throughout the project. Where there are, any potential impact arising from works being by PSDP / PSCS before commencing carried out under this plan and agricultural activities, this will be coordinated by the PSDP / PSCS. The site operator will collaborate and coordinate with all personnel who will have accesses to roads on site to gain entry to forestry. Any non-day to day activities will need to be assessed and passed

4.5 Storage of plant and materials

Storage of plant and materials whilst on site shall only be in designated areas which will be pre-agreed with the PSDP / PSCS prior to works commencing. All materials shall be stored in a safe and tidy manner. Whilst on-site, contractors will be expected to maintain the site in a clean and tidy fashion. It is expected that all parts used in service and a small number of electrical and mechanical components will be store in the storage facilities provided to Nordex by WFSO. Nordex have a bunded storage cabin located next to the site office which is used to house COSHH plant and equipment.

4.6 Disposal of waste

Disposal of all waste from the construction activities must be in compliance with all relevant statutory provisions. The PSDP / PSCS requires contractors to ensure that all waste which is generated is disposed of in an appropriate manner. Waste generated should be removed from the site every evening. Oils and Coolants withdrawn from Turbines will be stored in the storage facility on site and will be disposed of by Nordex under their environmental standard.

4.7 Security arrangements

The works involved in this project will not generally require additional security arrangements to be put in place.

Contractors are required to erect appropriate signage and barriers at the area of work to ensure that persons do not enter the work area during works or after hours.

In accordance with normal safety procedures within the industry contractors shall also be obliged to ensure that exclusion zones are established and maintained during crane activities and when overhead working is taking place.

5. Management Arrangements

5.1 Construction Regulations Duty Holders

Client:

Inchee Energy Supply Ltd., Lissarda, Co. Cork, Ireland.

PSDP / PSCS: WFSO Ltd., Lissarda Industrial Estate. Lissarda, Co. Cork, Ireland.

PSDP / PSCS Manager Christopher Murnane (086 7955083).

5.2 PSDP / PSCS Manager Responsibilities

Mr. Christopher Murnane, will be PSDP / PSCS manager with assistance from the WFSO Ltd. team.

5.3 Relevant Legislation

The legislation that is relevant to this project is as follows: Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (SHWW) Act, 2005. Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2013. Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (General Applications) Regulations, 2007. Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Chemical Agents) Regulations, 2001. European Communities (Classification, Packaging and Labeling and notification of Dangerous Substances) (Amendment) Regulations, 2006.

6. Informing Contractors

The PSDP / PSCS will manage the flow of information to inform the contractors and others of health and safety issues. The means of distributing information to contractors on the site are as follows:

- Site specific induction is given to the work force as well as any other personnel who require access to the site.
- Development and review of this safety and health plan when required.
- Review of contractor's site-specific safety statements, method statements and risk assessments
- Conducting site audits of safety compliance and awareness.

Ensuring that information concerning particular risks which are likely to be encountered during the completion of these works and which have been identified at design stage are included in this plan and are considered by contractors when preparing safe systems of work

7. Contractor Selection Procedures

Contractors are obliged to assess their sub-contractors and suppliers and submit documentation to this effect when requesting approval for the sub-contractor. The PSDP / PSCS will monitor the compliance of individual contractors with site safety rules and approved method statements and will issue any appropriate directions to contractors as necessary. All contractors will be requested to provide the following information prior to starting work at Cleanrath Wind Farm:

- All relevant Training records for personnel who will work at Cleanrath.
- Method Statements and Risk Assessments for Maintenance at Cleanrath.
- Contact Details for personnel who will carry out work at Cleanrath.
- Insurance Certificates and Up to date Safety Statement.

8. Works Authorization and Coordination

8.1 Work Authorization Procedure

Approval to work will be based on detailed approved method statements and risk assessments for the works. A formal written permit to work system will not be in operation for this project. Approval to visit the site and work on the site must be sought and granted through the WFSO Operational Controller with online inductions completed before coming to site.

The turbines on the wind farm are operated under Nordex Wind Turbine Safety Rules and WFSO Operations are appointed as the Operational Controller. Nordex, the HV Operator and any contractor or personnel visiting Cleanrath wind farm for the purposes of work, inspection or testing on the wind farm plant or infrastructure must notify the WFSO duty Operational Controller of their presence before entering the wind farm.

Personnel entering the wind farm will provide the following information:

- work party details,
- reason for visit,
- expected finish time,
- any known issues or work being undertaken at the wind farm
- Relevant AWPs or ROPs where work is being carried out under the WTSRs.
- All non WTSR activity happening on site, the WFSO Operational Controller should have prior notice of the work, personnel involved and have been supplied with Risk Assessments and Method Statements where appropriate.

The WFSO Operational Controller Contact Number is 021 7355898. Notification of all planned work on site should be emailed to <u>wfsoteam@tunkeydev.com</u>.WFSO Operational Controller will use a Work Order system so that each package of work can be assigned a number for reference and record keeping.

8.2 Design Changes

Contractors will not undertake any design stages without seeking the approval of the PSDP / PSCS. Where a change in design is identified as being necessary this shall be brought to the immediate attention of the PSDP / PSCS manager. Contractors are required to notify any changes to the design as early as possible to ensure that sufficient time to assess the impact of this change is allowed.

8.3 Contractor Co-ordination

Where a number of contractors are working in one area or on one system the contractors are required to cooperate with the PSDP / PSCS in ensuring that all works being undertaken on site are coordinated. Where potential conflicts arise, this should be brought to the immediate attention of the PSDP / PSCS.

The PSDP / PSCS manager may arrange meetings with contractors at which safety and coordination issues will be discussed so that works is coordinated and a safe schedule of work is implemented.

9. Risk Management (Including Particular Risks)

9.1 Particular Risks Identified During the Design Stage

The SHWW Construction Regulations requires that the PSDP / PSCS includes in this plan specific measures concerning work which involves a particular risk, including but not limited to any risk referred to in Schedule 1 of the Regulations. Information which has been identified during the design stage and which is contained within the Preliminary Safety and Health plan is included in Appendix 4 and must be taken into account by those working on the site. In reviewing drafted safe systems of work the PSDP / PSCS will also consider any particular risks which have been identified in the Preliminary safety and Health Plan by the PSDP or Designers.

9.2 Other Significant Hazards

There may be other significant hazards which have been identified by the designers during the design process. For each of these contractors will be required to assess and control these hazards during the completion of construction activities. This information must be documented in a method statement which will need to be reviewed and approved by the PSDP / PSCS prior to the commencement of the work on-site.

9.3 Change of Construction Method/Design

No deviation from approved method statements will be undertaken without obtaining appropriate written approval of the revised method statement. Implementation of non-approved change represents a significant general hazard. The PSDP / PSCS reserves the right to halt any construction activity which deviates significantly from the activity as set out in a method statement.

9.4 Work Involving Hazardous Substances

Contractors shall be responsible for obtaining Safety Data Sheets and producing suitable and sufficient written risk assessments of all risks associated with the use of hazardous substances. The content of the risk assessments shall be communicated with all workers that are working with or affected by the substances. Copies of all hazardous substance Safety Data Sheets shall be made available to the PSDP / PSCS manager prior to bringing such a chemical on-site.

10. Emergency Procedures

10.1 General Emergency Procedures

10.1.1 Fire- No Personnel in WTG or Building (employee or member of public)

Immediate Reporting Checklist			
Contact	Telephone number	Tick box	
Fire and rescue	999 or 112		
Site manager	00353 86 4109155		
Nordex Lead Technician	00353 86 7719707		
OEM	0049 40 30030 1820		

Step	Actions to complete	m: 1 1
	I	Tick box
1.	On receiving the call assure the caller to be calm and follow your	
	instructions.	
2.	Ask caller for a full description of the incident, if there are any injuries	
	and to confirm what emergency services or if additional assistance is	
	required	
3.	Inform the caller that you are going to call emergency services/additional	
	assistance. Instruct the caller to go to assembly point if safe to do so or	
	make their immediate area as safe as possible. Instruct the caller you	
	will phone them back as soon as possible.	
4.	Raise alarm with the emergency services passing on all information we	
	have received from the caller about the incident. Give the emergency	
	services the following information:	
	• OC phone number	
	Incident controllers phone number	
	• Site address & gate entrance coordinates	
	Nearest Eircode to site entrance	
	Contact other people on site and inform them of the situation and ask for	
	assistance where possible or to meet the emergency services at the site	
	entrance where possible	
	Contact the site manager and inform him of the situation	
7.	Contact the OEM to inform them of the situation.	
8.	Contact ESB/NCC to see if they have any workers at their side of the	
	substation	
9.	Call back the incident controller and inform them of what assistance is	
	on the way	
10.	If safe to so, ask for the HV trip button to be pushed in the substation	

Actions to Complete When No Staff on Site

In the instance of a fire starting in a WTG or a building and there is no one present on site; a member of the public is most likely to be the one to raise the alarm and directly call fire and rescue services or else they will contact the control room number which is present on site.

In this case the fire and rescue services will access the site using the signage or will be directed by the party reporting the fire.

Under these circumstances the operational controller is to assume the role of the incident controller until the site manager can attend the site and take control

	Follow Up Action- Steps to Take			
Steps	Follow up action	Tick box		
1.	Contact site manager and get update.			
2.	Contact OEM and give feedback from site manager			
3.	Complete incident report form and send to site manager			
4.	Contact initial caller and ensure everything is OK and thank them for their			
	help.			

10.1.2 Fire- Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public)

Immediate Reporting Checklist			
Contact	Telephone number	Tick box	
Fire and rescue	999 or 112		
Site manager	00353 86 4109155		
Nordex Lead Technician	00353 86 7719707		
Nordex Area Manager	00353 87 2893344		

Emergency Procedures - Steps to Take		
Step	Actions to complete	Tick box
1.	On receiving the call assure the caller to be calm and follow your	
	instructions.	
2.	Ask caller for a full description of the incident, if there are any injuries	
	and to confirm what emergency services or if additional assistance is	
	required	
3.	Inform the caller that you are going to call emergency services/additional	
	assistance. Instruct the caller to go to assembly point if safe to do so or	
	make their immediate area as safe as possible. Instruct the caller you	
	will phone them back as soon as possible.	
	If normal exit routes are blocked, instruct the caller to exit the turbine	
	using the escape/self-rescue kit if safe to do so	
4.	Raise alarm with the emergency services passing on all information we	
	have received from the caller about the incident. Give the emergency	
	services the following information:	
	• OC phone number	
	Incident controllers phone number	
	Site address & gate entrance coordinates	
_	Nearest Eircode to site entrance	
5.	Contact other people on site and inform them of the situation and ask for	
	assistance where possible or to meet the emergency services at the site	
6	entrance where possible	
6.	Contact the site manager and inform him of the situation	
7.	Contact the OEM to inform them of the situation.	
8.	Contact ESB/NCC to see if they have any workers at their side of the	
	substation	
9.	Call back the incident controller and inform them of what assistance is	
	on the way.	
	Instruct them to:	
	1. Nominate a person or person to establish a secure exclusion zone	
	2. If safe to do so, operate the emergency HV switch in the substation control room	
	3. If possible, nominate someone to meet the emergency services at	
	the site entrance/nearest village	

	Follow up action- Steps to take		
Steps	Follow up action	Tick box	
1.	Contact site manager and get update.		
2.	Contact OEM and give feedback from site manager		
3.	Complete incident report form and send to site manager		
4.	Contact initial caller and ensure everything is OK and thank them for their		
	help.		

10.1.3 Fire- Moorland or Forest (Employee or Member of Public)

Immediate Reporting Checklist		
Contact	Telephone number	Tick box
Fire and rescue	999 or 112	
Site manager	00353 86 4109155	
Nordex Lead Technician	00353 86 7719707	
Nordex Area Manager	00353 87 2893344	

Emergency Procedures - Steps to Take		
Step	Actions to complete	Tick box
1.	On receiving the call assure the caller to be calm and follow your	
	instructions.	
2.	Ask caller for a full description of the incident, if there are any injuries	
	and to confirm what emergency services or if additional assistance is	
	required	
3.	Inform the caller that you are going to call emergency services/additional	
	assistance. Instruct the caller to go to assembly point if safe to do so or	
	make their immediate area as safe as possible. Instruct the caller you	
	will phone them back as soon as possible.	
4.	Raise alarm with the emergency services passing on all information we	
	have received from the caller about the incident. Give the emergency	
	services the following information:	
	• OC phone number	
	Incident controllers phone number	
	Site address & gate entrance coordinates	
-	Nearest Eircode to site entrance	
5.	Contact other people on site and inform them of the situation and ask for	
	assistance where possible or to meet the emergency services at the site	
	entrance where possible	
6.	Contact the site manager and inform him of the situation	
7.	Contact the OEM to inform them of the situation.	
8.	Contact ESB/NCC to see if they have any workers at their side of the	
	substation	
9.	Call back the incident controller and inform them of what assistance is	
	on the way.	
	Ask them to:	
	1. If safe to do so evacuate adjacent buildings and WTG by raising	
	alarm.	
	 Nominate a person or person to establish a secure exclusion zone If safe to do so, operate the emergency HV switch in the 	
	substation control room	
	4. If possible, nominate someone to meet the emergency services at	
	the site entrance/nearest village	

Actions to complete when no staff on site

In the instance of a fire-starting moorland or forest and there is no one present on site, a member of the public is most likely to be the one to raise the alarm and directly call fire and rescue services or else they will contact the control room number which is present on site.

In this case the fire and rescue services will access the site using the signage or will be directed by the party reporting the fire.

Under these circumstances the operational controller is to assume the role of the incident controller until the site manager can attend the site and take control

Follow up action- Steps to take		
Steps	Follow up action	Tick box
1.	Contact site manager and get update.	
2.	Contact OEM and give feedback from site manager	
3.	Complete incident report form and send to site manager	
4.	4. Contact initial caller and ensure everything is OK and thank them for their	
	help.	

10.1.4 Fire- Vehicle or Plant (Employee or Member of Public)

	Immediate Reporting Checklist	
Contact	Telephone number	Tick box
Fire and rescue	999 or 112	
Site manager	00353 86 4109155	
Nordex Lead Technician	00353 86 7719707	
OEM	0049 40 30030 1820	

	Emergency Procedures - Steps to Take	
Step	Actions to complete	Tick box
1.	On receiving the call assure the caller to be calm and follow your	
	instructions.	
2.	Ask caller for a full description of the incident, if there are any injuries	
	and to confirm what emergency services or if additional assistance is	
	required	
	If safe to do so, ask them to make a brief attempt to fight the fire.	
3.	Inform the caller that you are going to call emergency services/additional	
	assistance. Instruct the caller to go to assembly point if safe to do so or	
	make their immediate area as safe as possible. Instruct the caller you	
	will phone them back as soon as possible.	
4.	Raise alarm with the emergency services passing on all information we	
	have received from the caller about the incident. Give the emergency	
	services the following information:	
	• OC phone number	
	Incident controllers phone number	
	• Site address & gate entrance coordinates	
5.	Nearest Eircode to site entrance	
5.	Contact other people on site and inform them of the situation and ask for	
	assistance where possible or to meet the emergency services at the site	
6.	entrance where possible	
0. 7.	Contact the site manager and inform him of the situation Contact the OEM to inform them of the situation.	
7. 8.		
8.	Contact ESB/NCC to see if they have any workers at their side of the	
0	substation Call back the incident controller and inform them of what assistance is	
9.		
	on the way. Ask them to:	
	 If safe to do so evacuate adjacent buildings and WTG by raising alarm. 	
	2. Nominate a person or person to establish a secure exclusion zone	
	3. If safe to do so, operate the emergency HV switch in the	
	substation control room	
	If possible, nominate someone to meet the emergency services at the site	
	entrance/nearest village	

Actions to Complete When No Staff on Site

In the instance of a fire-starting in a vehicle or plant and there is no one present on site, a member of the public is most likely to be the one to raise the alarm and directly call fire and rescue services or else they will contact the control room number which is present on site. In this case the fire and rescue services will access the site using the signage or will be directed by the party reporting the fire. Under these circumstances the operational controller is to assume the role of the incident controller until the site manager can attend the site and take control

	Follow Up Action- Steps to Take		
Steps	Follow up action	Tick box	
1.	Contact site manager and get update.		
2.	Contact OEM and give feedback from site manager		
3.	Complete incident report form and send to site manager		
4.	Contact initial caller and ensure everything is OK and thank them for their		
	help.		

10.1.5 Injury- Walking Casualty (Employee or Member of Public)

Immediate Reporting Checklist		
Contact	Telephone number	Tick box
Fire and rescue	999 or 112	
Site manager	00353 86 4109155	
Nordex Lead Technician	00353 86 7719707	
Nordex Area Manager	00353 87 2893344	

	Emergency Procedures - Steps to Take	
Step	Actions to complete	Tick box
1.	On receiving the call assure the caller to be calm and follow your	
	instructions.	
2.	Ask caller for a full description of the incident, if there are any injuries	
	and to confirm what emergency services or if additional assistance is	
	required.	
3.	If emergency services are not required, ask the caller:	
	1. If they are suitably trained, to give first aid using the first aid kit if available.	
	2. Ask them if possible, to go to the substation and wait for further assistance.	
	Using Baze, check to see if there are other people available on site to	
	assist. Arrange for the casualty to be collected and brought to the nearest	
	hospital/doctor for treatment if required.	
	If there is any doubt as to the seriousness of an injury, medical treatment	
	must always be sought.	
3(A).	Inform the caller that you are going to call emergency services/additional	
	assistance. Instruct the caller to go to assembly point if safe to do so or	
	make their immediate area as safe as possible. Instruct the caller you	
	will phone them back as soon as possible.	
4.	Raise alarm with the emergency services passing on all information we	
	have received from the caller about the incident. Give the emergency	
	services the following information:	
	• OC phone number	
	Incident controllers phone number	
	Site address & gate entrance coordinates	
5	Nearest Eircode to site entrance	
5.	Contact other people on site and inform them of the situation and ask for	
	assistance where possible or to meet the emergency services at the site	
6	entrance where possible	
6.	Contact the site manager and inform him of the situation	
7.	Contact the OEM to inform them of the situation.	
8.	Contact ESB/NCC to see if they have any workers at their side of the	
	substation	
9.	Call back the incident controller and inform them of what assistance is	
	on the way	

Actions to complete when no first aid staff on site

All work parties should include at least Two persons trained in first aid; however, should a situation arise where suitably trained staff are not available to render first aid, a suitably trained person is to attend site immediately; where this cannot be achieved within 30 minutes the casualty is to be conveyed to the nearest medical facility.

During any delay in attending to the casualty, first aid advice is to be given by telephone by the operational controller or by emergency services.

Follow up action- Steps to take		
Steps	Follow up action	Tick box
1.	Contact site manager and get update.	
2.	Contact OEM and give feedback from site manager	
3.	Complete incident report form and send to site manager	
4.	Contact initial caller and ensure everything is OK and thank them for their	
	help.	

10.1.6 Injury- Stretcher Casualty (Employee or Member of Public)

Immediate Reporting Checklist		
Contact	Telephone number	Tick box
Fire and rescue	999 or 112	
Site manager	00353 86 4109155	
Nordex Lead Technician	00353 86 7719707	
Nordex Area Manager	00353 87 2893344	

	Emergency Procedures - Steps to Take	
Step	Actions to complete	Tick box
1.	On receiving the call assure the caller to be calm and follow your	
	instructions.	
2.	Ask caller for a full description of the incident, if there are any injuries	
	and to confirm what emergency services or if additional assistance is required	
3.	Inform the caller that you are going to call emergency services/additional	
	assistance. Instruct the caller to go to assembly point if safe to do so or	
	make their immediate area as safe as possible. Instruct the caller you	
	will phone them back as soon as possible.	
4.	Raise alarm with the emergency services passing on all information we	
	have received from the caller about the incident. Give the emergency	
	services the following information:	
	• OC phone number	
	Incident controllers phone number	
	Site address & gate entrance coordinates	
~	Nearest Eircode to site entrance	
5.	Contact other people on site and inform them of the situation and ask for	
	assistance where possible or to meet the emergency services at the site	
6	entrance where possible	
6. 7.	Contact the site manager and inform him of the situation Contact the OEM to inform them of the situation.	
8.	Contact ESB/NCC to see if they have any workers at their side of the substation	
0	Call back the incident controller and inform them of what assistance is	
9.		
	on the way Instruct the caller to:	
	 Prepare the casualty for evacuation and await assistance Evacuate the casualty using evacuation equipment stored at your 	
	location; if this is inappropriate due to the nature of the injury,	
	ask the caller to monitor the casualty and await assistance	
	Transfer the casualty to the emergency services when they are in	
	attendance.	

Actions to Complete by Operational Controller

All work parties should include at least Two persons trained in first aid and evacuation equipment is located in the nacelle of each WTG; however, should a situation arise where suitably trained staff are not available to render First aid or manage the casualty, suitably trained personnel must attend the situation to provide assistance. Emergency services must always be dispatched to site. During any delay in attending to the casualty, first aid advice is to be given by telephone by the

operational controller or by emergency services.

Follow Up Action- Steps to Take		
Steps	Follow up action	Tick box
1.	Contact site manager and get update.	
2.	Contact OEM and give feedback from site manager	
3.	Complete incident report form and send to site manager	
4.	Contact initial caller and ensure everything is OK and thank them for their	
	help.	

10.1.8 Injury- Fatality (Employee or Member of Public)

Immediate Reporting Checklist		
Contact	Telephone number	Tick box
Fire and rescue	999 or 112	
Site manager	00353 86 4109155	
Nordex Lead Technician	00353 86 7719707	
Nordex Area Manager	00353 87 2893344	

	Emergency Procedures - Steps to Take	
Step	Actions to complete	Tick box
1.	On receiving the call assure the caller to be calm and follow your	
	instructions.	
2.	Ask caller for a full description of the incident, if there are any injuries	
	and to confirm what emergency services or if additional assistance is	
	required	
3.	Inform the caller that you are going to call emergency services/additional	
	assistance. Instruct the caller to go to assembly point if safe to do so or	
	make their immediate area as safe as possible. Instruct the caller you	
	will phone them back as soon as possible.	
4.	Raise alarm with the emergency services passing on all information we	
	have received from the caller about the incident. Give the emergency	
	services the following information:	
	• OC phone number	
	Incident controllers phone number	
	• Site address & gate entrance coordinates	
5	Nearest Eircode to site entrance	
5.	Contact other people on site and inform them of the situation and ask for	
	assistance where possible or to meet the emergency services at the site	
6	entrance where possible	
6.	Contact the site manager and inform him of the situation Contact the OEM to inform them of the situation.	
7.		
8.	Contact ESB/NCC to see if they have any workers at their side of the	
0	substation	
9.	Call back the incident controller and inform them of what assistance is	
	on the way	
	Instruct caller to:	
	1. Arrange for the emergency services to be met at the site entrance and escort them to site.	
	 If it is safe to do so, make the plant safe and isolate the 	
	equipment from all sources of energy supply	
	3. Secure the scene of the accident by establishing an exclusion	
	zone	
	Remain at the scene until the necessary support is in attendance, then	
	transfer control of the incident to the emergency services that are in	
	attendance.	

WFSO Ltd., Lissarda Industrial Estate, Lissarda, Cork.

Follow up action- Steps to take		
Steps	Follow up action	Tick box
1.	Contact site manager and get update.	
2.	Contact OEM and give feedback from site manager	
3.	Complete incident report form and send to site manager	
4.	Contact initial caller and ensure everything is OK and thank them for their	
	help.	

10.1.9 Adverse Weather (Employee or Member of Public)

Immediate Reporting Checklist		
Contact	Telephone number	Tick box
Fire and rescue	999 or 112	
Site manager	00353 86 4109155	
Nordex Lead Technician	00353 86 7719707	
Nordex Area Manager	00353 87 2893344	

	Emergency Procedures - Steps to Take		
Step	Actions to complete	Tick box	
1.	If the weather exceeds the safe parameters, immediately contact all parties on site (find on Bazefield) and advise that the cease all works and proceed to a safe area.		
2.	Contact site manager and inform him of the situation		
3.	Contact OEM and inform them of the situation		
4.	Instruct all parties to stay in CLEANRATH substation and monitor condition using Scada or lightning detection.		
5.	If conditions continue to get worse evacuate site full on earliest safe opportunity.		
6.	Instruct parties to ensure access gate is fully locked and no access is permitted		
7.	Confirm all parties have left site		
8.	Should weather conditions deteriorate to the extent that it is unsafe to attempt to leave site, instruct all parties to stay in substation until it's possible to leave.		

Actions to Complete When No Staff on Site

If the Weather Conditions Exceed the Safe Parameters, Contact Site Manager to Advise That No Work May Proceed and Access to Site Is to Be Restricted. Also, Prevent Transfer of Control for All Assets at Site Until Conditions Are Safe.

For Planned Work, Site Manager Is to Notify Working Parties in Advance to Prevent Attempt of Access.

	Follow Up Action- Steps to Take		
Steps	Follow up action	Tick box	
1.	If a dangerous event has occurred, complete incident report form and send		
	to relevant parties.		
2.	Infor site manager of all actions taken and downtime due to adverse		
	weather.		

10.1.10 Adverse Weather (Overspeed) - Personnel in WTG Or Building (Employee or Member of Public)

	Emergency Procedures - Steps to Take		
Step	Actions to complete	Tick	
		box	
1.	Instruct caller to:		
	1. Cease all operations and evacuate the site by the route furthest		
	from the affected turbine if safe to do so		
	2. Instruct all personnel to proceed to the furthest assembly point		
	from the overspeed at CLEANRATH windfarm		
	3. Inform neighboring windfarm.		
	4. Secure the site and post sentries at all likely points of access		
2.	Instruct OEM to remove all turbines from service via Scada		
3.	Contact site manager and inform them of the situation		

Immediate Reporting Checklist		
Contact	Telephone number	Tick box
Fire and rescue	999 or 112	
Site manager	00353 86 4109155	
Nordex Lead Technician	00353 86 7719707	
Nordex Area Manager	00353 87 2893344	

Actions to Complete When No Staff on Site

In the instance of a turbine over-speed and there is no one present on site, a member of the public is most likely to be the one to raise the alarm and directly call fire and rescue services or else they will contact the control room number which is present on site.

Under these circumstances the operational controller is to assume the role of the incident controller until the site manager can attend the site and take control

Follow up action- Steps to take		
Steps	Follow up action	Tick box
1.	Contact site manager and check if situation is under control	
2.	Complete incident report form.	

10.2 Site Entrance Coordinates



	Irish	Grid	GPS (Degre	ee Decimal)			GPS (Degre	e Min Sec)					
Cleanrath	Easting	Northing	Latitude		Latitude (N) Longitude (W)								
	Easting	Northing	Latitude	Longitude	Deg	Min	Sec	Deg	Min	Sec			
Entrance 2	120600	71674	51.89192	-9.15419	51	53	30.9	9	9	15.1			
T7	119446	69620	51.8733	-9.17047	51	52	23.9	9	10	13.7			
Т8	119610	69251	51.87	-9.168	51	52	12	9	10	4.8			
Т9	119952	68981	51.86763	-9.16297	51	52	3.5	9	9	46.7			
T10	120288	68725	51.86537	-9.15804	51	51	55.3	9	9	28.9			
T11	120493	69178	51.86947	-9.15517	51	52	10.1	9	9	18.6			
T12	120682	69553	51.87287	-9.15251	51	52	22.3	9	9	9			
T13	121200	69411	51.87167	-9.14496	51	52	18	9	8	41.8			
T14	121213	69913	51.87618	-9.14488	51	52	34.3	9	8	41.6			
T15	120871	70057	51.87743	-9.14988	51	52	38.7	9	8	59.6			
Substatio	116745	69916	51.87556	-9.20975	51	52	32	9	12	35.1			
Mast	120416	68562	51.86393	-9.15614	51	51	50.1	9	9	22.1			

Turbine and Entrance Co-Ordinates.

10.3 Directions to Cork University Hospital

Site Entrance Turbines 7 - 15



Access information

Directions from Cork University Hospital to Cleanrath Substation.

Directions from Macroom to Cleanrath

- After going straight through Macroom from the Cork city side continue following the road west for 6.00km until you reach Moon's bar.
- Take the left at Moon's bar.
- Continue on this road of 12.00km and the windfarm entrance will be on your left-hand side.
- The site entrance will be 1.00km before the house with the Eircode P12 N704.
- The substation is located past the entrance for turbine 6.

11. Notification of Accidents/Dangerous Occurrences

All Contractors shall inform the Project Supervisor for the Construction Stage of any accidents/dangerous occurrences immediately and without unreasonable delay in accordance with the SHWW (General Application) Regulations 2007.

The PSDP / PSCS shall investigate all accidents, incidents and near misses which occur on the site including all accidents involving contractor personnel. The PSDP / PSCS Manager shall be responsible for ensuring that any action items which are raised are closed out as soon as possible. The PSDP / PSCS manager shall ensure that full and comprehensive records of all accident, incident and near miss report and investigations are maintained on file.

12. Welfare Arrangements

The site compound being provided is in the Cleanrath Substation. Provided in the compound is a toilet, an office with broadband and a stores facility for spare parts for the turbines.

13. Information and Training

13.1 Site Induction

A site-specific online induction has been developed by the PSDP / PSCS Manager and this is to be completed by all operatives before proceeding onto the windfarm site. During this induction operatives, will be able to upload a copy of their training certificates for review.

Once the induction has been successfully completed, operatives will be able to download a copy of:

- Cleanrath Site Layout
- Cleanrath Emergency Procedures
- Catastrophic Event Flowchart

13.2 Toolbox Talks

Toolbox talks will take place when deemed necessary by risk assessment or method statement. Where required they shall involve the PSDP / PSCS Manager, Contractor Supervisor and the work force that are involved in the work activity. In addition to giving the employees information on a specific topic, the supervisor will encourage feedback and questions from the operatives.

Records of toolbox talks will be made and be passed to the PSDP / PSCS manager. The records will include the Supervisor's name, topic discussed, attendee's names and signatures and the questions raised, complete with the answers given and any remaining concerns of the employees and supervisors.

13.3 Statutory training

In order to comply with the provisions made under regulations 4, 19, 25 and 29 of the SHWW (Construction) Regulations 2013, The PSDP / PSCS requires that all employees working on this project are in possession of a valid FAS Safe Pass card prior to commencing works onsite.

WFSO Operation's further requires that all plant operators be in possession of a valid registration card (Construction Skills Certification Scheme, or accredited equivalent). The particulars of this card shall be in compliance with schedule 4 of the SHWW (Construction) Regulations 2013. It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure that valid training records for all employees are provided to the PSDP / PSCS Manager prior to an employee commencing work on-site.

14. Consultation with People on Site

Employees will be consulted through the site induction's and site safety meetings. Given the small number of employees likely to be on site at any one time it is not considered likely that a safety representative will be nominated. However, employees are encouraged to make the PSDP / PSCS Manager aware of any issues which concern health and safety on site. Should the number of employees on-site exceed 20 people the PSDP / PSCS Manager shall facilitate the election and appointment of a site safety representative in accordance with the relevant legislation.

15. Site Rules

Site Rules are detailed in Appendix 2. A copy of these site rules shall be made available to all employees at induction. Site rules may also be posted in the project area.

16. Safety File

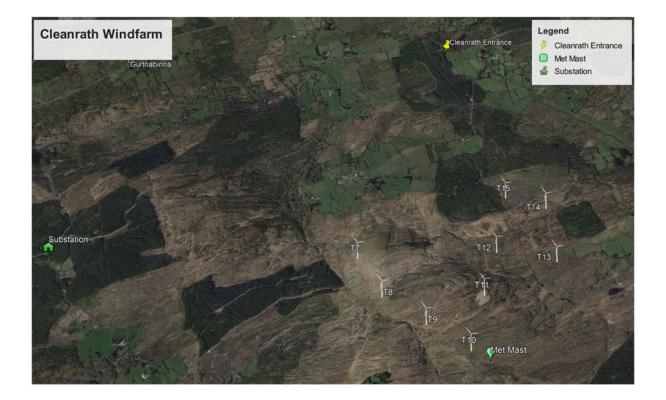
It is not envisaged that any additions to the safety file will be required as all replacements will be on a like for like basis, however any changes will be recorded. Contractors are required to provide details to the PSDP / PSCS Manager for inclusion in the Safety file. In particular, any modification to services must be redlined on to the master site drawings / documents and included in the Safety file. This should be done immediately after the modification is made. Operation and maintenance manuals for equipment are required for any new equipment installed on the Windfarm. Specifications and data sheets for materials are required.

17. Arrangements for Monitoring (Inspections/Audits)

The PSDP / PSCS will monitor the Contractor's health and safety activities. This monitoring will involve inspections appropriate to the scale and complexity of the works. The inspection will be led by the PSDP / PSCS manager or his representative and involve representatives from the contractor's supervisory staff.

The results of inspections and audits will be published and reviewed by the PSDP / PSCS manager and the contractor supervisors. The PSDP / PSCS Manager will ensure that corrective actions are subsequently completed

Appendix 1: Site Location Drawing



Appendix 2: Construction and Maintenance Projects Site Rules

(A) Personnel Identification & Safety Induction

All personnel must attend site induction, signing on completion that they understand the site rules.

(B) Personal Protective Equipment

It is a mandatory requirement for all construction and maintenance personnel and their visitors including vendors and truck drivers to wear the following protective equipment at all times on site. Safety Boots Hi-Visibility Vests Hard Hats Gloves For certain specific tasks personnel, will also be required to additional PPE such as eye/hearing protection, personal fall arrest equipment and respiratory protection.

(C) Smoking

SMOKING is not permitted in enclosed areas at Cleanrath Wind Farm. Smoking is only allowable in external areas but is not allowed whilst working. In addition, all cigarettes and matches must be properly quenched to eliminate potential bush fires.

(D) Clean-up

A daily clean-up of all areas is required to prevent the accumulation of combustible materials such as paper, wood, etc.

(E) Compressed Gas

Secure all compressed gas cylinders in an upright position so they cannot be knocked over. Do not drop from a height. Close the main cylinder valve when left unattended for extended period of time. Compressed gas cylinders should be stored in a safe manner when not in use. Flammable gas cylinders should be fitted with flash back arrestors when in use.

(F) Motor Vehicles

Only authorized vehicles are allowed onsite. Authorization must be sought from the PSDP / PSCS. Speed limits within the site access roads are restricted to 15 kmph.

(G) Alcoholic beverages and Drugs

The consumption of alcohol or drugs is strictly prohibited. Any person found under the influence of either substance will be escorted from the project.

(H) Eating

The eating of food of any kind on site is prohibited other than in contractor's own vehicles. And in the compounds provided

(I) Tools and Equipment

Contractors are responsible for providing all of their own tools and equipment. They are also responsible for ensuring that this equipment is kept in a safe and usable manner. Contractors will also be responsible for ensuring that tools are stored in safe location when not in use.

(J) Transport of Fuels / Solvents

The transport of any liquid type solvent onto site for construction and maintenance purposes must be in an appropriate type, fully labeled container. An appropriate type container does not mean soft drink bottles or such like. Specific permission must be obtained from the PSDP / PSCS prior to bringing in and storing any flammable liquid.

(K) Contractors Safety Management

Contractors shall have a safety statement that is in compliance with statutory and company policy and shall implement effective safety programs accordingly. Contractors shall manage the activities of their own employees. Contractors must also co-operate with each other and the PSDP / PSCS, any areas of contention should be immediately brought to the attention of the PSDP / PSCS for resolution.

(L) Contractor Responsibilities

Each new Contractor employee arriving at the work site shall be clearly instructed on the contents of the contractor's safety statement and their role in emergencies. Before being allowed to commence work, contractor's employees shall be made fully aware of the potential hazards of their particular working environment. Hazardous areas must be explained and identified to the employees.

Contractor's employees shall be made fully aware of the safety regulations applicable to the work site including the smoking regulations, traffic/parking restrictions etc., and properly instructed regarding the danger of handling hazardous materials with which they may be involved.

Contractors shall ensure that employees are provided with appropriate personal protective equipment (at no cost to the employees). The equipment shall be used in accordance with job requirements and replaced as necessary.

All Contractors equipment and tools shall be kept in a good and safe condition and be inspected at regular intervals as determined by the company. They should be replaced when, damaged or broken and never used on work for which they were not designed. Contractors will be required to conduct risk assessments and submit detailed written method statements for part, or all of their scope of operations as required by the PSDP / PSCS.

(M) PSDP / PSCS Roles & Responsibilities

The PSDP / PSCS will monitor and enforce these rules and regulations. If necessary, PSDP / PSCS Supervision may stop or suspend all or part of a Contractors operation when safety hazards or poor work practices exist. Such suspension may remain in effect until all discrepancies are corrected.

(N) Contractors Supervision

Contractor's Supervision will be held responsible for:

- Maintaining safe working conditions with their work crews.
- Correcting unsafe practices of his workmen and instructing same in proper methods.
- Enforcement of the wearing of personal protective equipment as deemed necessary for the job being performed.
- Attending safety meetings as required.
- Setting a good example for all personnel.
- Reporting all injuries and incidents involving bodily harm, property damage and near misses regardless of the craft involved.
- Assisting in accident investigations when required.
- Instructing new employees on job specific safe work practice, procedures and ensuring they are familiar with safety features of tools and equipment used.
- Continually inspecting work locations as work is in progress. Noting and take corrective action on any discrepancies.

(O) Employees Responsibilities

Every employee is responsible for their own safety and the safety of other personnel on the project. Every employee is responsible for ensuring work is carried out in a safe manner. It is therefore necessary for each employee to know and adhere to all applicable regulations which apply to them and to identify and report hazards. It is also important that accidents, incidents and near misses are reported to avoid reoccurrence. The responsibilities of the employees shall include but not be limited to the following:

- Carry out their duties in a safe manner with due regard to safety.
- Work in compliance with statutory regulations and the instructions of their supervisors and comply with safe working practices and procedures.
- Maintain tools and equipment in good work order and report defects to supervision.
- Obtain necessary work permits and abide by their respective requirements.
- Report all unsafe acts or conditions including near misses without delay to supervision.
- Wear personal protective equipment and clothing correctly as and when required and maintain these in good order.
- Reports any accident, incident or, near miss to their immediate supervisor without delay.

Appendix 3: Tasks Scheduled for Completion under This Plan

No.	Activity	Details
1	Routine maintenance to the wind turbine machinery and systems	 There are two types of turbine on site. N117 3.6MW N117 2.4MW The N100 & N117 will require different maintenance schedules and these are given in detail in Appendix 6 Nordex will carry out this work under the wind turbine safety rules version 3
2	Closure of original snag items	There are a number of outstanding snags on numerous Turbines and are to be repaired by Nordex to meet their specifications.
3	High Voltage switching equipment maintenance.	The High Voltage electrical switching equipment will undergo routine maintenance during the year by a company called H&MV and it is expected that this work will be completed during the summer and the work will last one week.
4	Site Infrastructure upkeep	 All roads will be maintained to a high standard on site. This will involve spraying and general maintenance work and will be carried out when required by an appointed contractor. Site welfare unit's sewage system to be emptied and maintained by an appointed contractor. This work will commence when required by the appointed contractor. Site drainage will be constantly monitored to ensure no blockages occur in any silt traps work carried out weekly by site operation manager
5	Health and Safety Audit	Two Health and safety Audits will be carried out by WFSO. Christopher Murnane the PSDP / PSCS Manager will conduct monthly Audits on site.

Appendix 4: Items of Particular Risk Thought Likely to Arise During Planned Activities

Work which puts persons at work at risk of -

(a) Falling from a height, where the risk is particularly aggravated by the nature of the work, process or environment.

Identified Work Activities:

- Work on the fairing of the nacelle.
- Routine maintenance activities requiring access to the roof of the nacelle.
- Mitigation measures taken / required:
- Detailed method statements are required for working at height during turbine maintenance or snagging activities.
- Competence and Experience of Crane Company engaged by contractor to be addressed prior to any crane operations.

(b) Burial under earth falls where the risk associated with working in an excavation is aggravated by the nature of the work, process or environment.

Identified Work Activities:

It is not envisaged that this risk will occur.

Mitigation measures taken / required:

None required

(c) Engulfment in swampland where the risk is aggravated by the nature of the work, process or environment

Identified Work Activities:

It is not envisaged that this risk will occur.

Mitigation measures taken / required:

None required b

Work which puts persons at work at risk from chemical or biological substances constituting a particular danger to the safety and health of such persons or involving a statutory requirement for health monitoring.

Identified Work Activities:

- Works involving cleaning, degreasing of component parts of turbines.
- Maintenance activities involving oils or lubricants

Mitigation measures taken / required:

- Safe systems of work identifying and risk assessing the chemicals to be used during these works to be developed by the contractor during these works.
- Appropriate means of disposing of chemically contaminated waste material to be identified by the contractor prior to commencement of works.

Work with ionising radiation requiring the designation of controlled or supervised areas as defined in Directive 96/29/Euratom.

Identified Work Activities:

It is not envisaged that this risk will occur. Mitigation measures taken / required: None required

Work near high voltage power lines.

Identified Work Activities:

At Site:

- Underground cables on site supplying power from the turbines to the substation
- Overhead cables present on access routes to the site.

Mitigation measures taken / required:

- All contractors must verify the extent and location of all existing services and take all appropriate precautions in respect of these services before carrying out any work. The approach of contractors to the carrying out of any excavations must be in accordance with the HSA "Code of Practice for Avoiding Danger from Underground Services" and must be detailed in a method statement. Work in the vicinity of ESB cables must be coordinated with ESB in advance and the appropriate permissions sought and precautions taken.
- For works or any ancillary works in the vicinity of HV lines the contractor must take all measures to deal with the risks and ensure that the ESB Guidance on working near Overhead Lines is fully complied with.
- When bringing high loads or machinery to site a road survey must be completed to ensure that adequate clearance is in place to ensure safe access to the site for all machinery.

Work exposing persons at work to the risk of drowning

Identified Work Activities:

• Water samples to be taken from specific rivers on site

Mitigation measures taken / required:

- Employee must notify PSDP / PSCS manager of when the work is starting and when job is complete.
- PSDP / PSCS manager to have detailed maps of sample locations.
- Proper standing banks to be allocated where employee is competent to withdraw water from the river

Work on wells, underground earthworks and tunnels.

Identified Work Activities:

None envisaged.

Mitigation measures taken / required:

None required

Work carried out by divers at work having a system of air supply.

Identified Work Activities: None envisaged

Mitigation measures taken / required: None required

Work carried out in a caisson with a compressed-air atmosphere.

Identified Work Activities: None Envisaged

Mitigation measures taken / required: None required

Work involving the use of explosives.

Identified Work Activities: None Envisaged.

Mitigation measures taken / required: None required

Work involving the assembly or dismantling of heavy prefabricated components.

Identified Work Activities: It is not envisaged that this risk will occur. **Mitigation measures taken / required:** None required

Appendix 5: Information for Inclusion in the Safety File

1. General Health and Safety

- 1.1. Operational and Maintenance H&S Plan and Emergency Procedure Documents
 - 1.1.1.H&S plan
 - 1.1.2. Catastrophic Event Flowchart
 - 1.1.3. Emergency Plan
 - 1.1.4. Emergency Response Plan
 - 1.1.5.Layout
 - 1.1.6.Site Access Procedure
 - 1.1.7. Word documents
- 1.2. Site Inductions
- 1.3. AF1 & AF2 Documents
- 1.4. Site Documents
 - 1.4.1.AWP's
 - 1.4.2.As Builds
 - 1.4.3.Site Layout
 - 1.4.4. Accident Incident Register
 - 1.4.5. Turbine Conformity Certs
- 1.5. Statutory Inspections
- 1.6. Health and Safety Audits
- 1.7. Windfarm Company Documents 1.7.1.Safety Statement
 - 1.7.2.WFSO RAMS

Call Operational Controller for Most Recent Documents (021 7355 898)

Appendix 6 Site Plan for Scheduled Maintenance 2020

Month	2021	1	Jan	uary			Feb	oruary				March			A	pril			N	lay					June		
Week		2	3		4	5 6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13 14	4 1	5 1	i 1	7 18	19	2	0	21	22	23	24	25	26
Type 1 Maintenance														Туре 1													
Type 2 Maintenance																											
Type 3 Maintenance																											
Type 4 Maintenance (optional)																											
HV Maintenance																											
Stat Inspections																											
Statilispections															1												
EOW inspections																											
	2020		Jul	1			Augu	st			S	eptember			I	October	I			lovember					Decemb	ier	
EOW inspections	2020	27	Jul 28	29	30	31	Augu 32	st 33	34	35	S 36	eptember 37	38	39	40	October 41	42	43	44	November 45	46	47	48	4	1		51 5
EOW inspections Month	2020				30	31			34	35		· ·	38	39	40	October 41	42	43	_	-		47	48	4	1		1 5
EOW inspections Month Week	2020				30	31			34	35		· ·	38	39	40	October 41	42	43	_	-		47	48	4	1		i1 :
EOW inspections Month Week Type 1 Maintenance	2020				30	31			34	35		· ·	38	39	40	October 41	42	43	_	-		47	48	4	1		51 5
EOW inspections Month Week Type 1 Maintenance Type 2 Maintenance	2020				30	31			34	35		· ·	38	39	40	October 41	42	43	_	-		47	48	4	1		51 5
EOW inspections Month Week Type 1 Maintenance Type 2 Maintenance Type 3 Maintenance	2020				30	31			34	35		· ·	38	39	40	October 41	42	43	_	-		47	48	4	1		51 5
EOW inspections Month Week Type 1 Maintenance Type 3 Maintenance Type 4 Maintenance Type 4 Maintenance (optional)	2020				30	31			34	35		· ·	38	39	40	October 41	42	43	_	-		47	48	4	1		51 5

Appendix 7 Tasks planned for Completion Cleanrath Substation

No.	Activity	Details
1	High voltage Switching	 All switching will be conducted to contractor's HMV Telemess procedures. Lock out systems will be in operation this is included in Appendix 8 PSDP / PSCS will be notified on any switching taking place on site.
2	SCADA	 Data files to be backed up weekly on a Monday. Faults on system will require specialist attention any such work will be reviewed by the PSDP / PSCS.
3	Fire Alarm	• Routine inspections and service will take place on all detectors and panel once every three months first service due is in March. Any faults and extra works required will be inspected before completion by PSDP / PSCS.
4	Security Alarm	 One-year service on system. It is planned that this work will be carried out in September. Any further works to be accessed by PSDP / PSCS and passed before work completion

5	Transformers	 Oil samples to be taken on all transformers this work will commence in the summer Routine service to also be carried out once a year and the summer months is scheduled for this also.
6	HV Circuit Breaker	• All CB's will need to be greased and serviced on a yearly basis. This work will coincide with transformers inspections in the summer months.
7	Forestry	• Coillte will have full access to all roads through the site they shall inform the PSDP / PSCS on entering and leaving the site.

Appendix 8 Telemess Procedures at Substation

GENERATOR INTERFACES (WINDFARMS) – User's Guide

Each DG (Dispersed Generation) must nominate their Operators, whether their own staff or an Electrical Contractor's staff. In the case of dealing with Wind Generation these must be approved Windfarm Operators. These names must be advised in writing to the controller of the ESB's System. The nominated Operators must be contactable within one hour and be at the DG site within two hours

Note: Approved Windfarm Operator = DeCorkd as competent to act as an Operator by the Windfarm owner/Management and have successfully completed Telemess Assessment.

ESB's Operations staff must never operate customer's equipment – except in a life-threatening situation.

The Telemess procedure requires six Telemess to disconnect the Windfarm and another six to reconnect the Windfarm from the system.

The Windfarm Operations staff must be familiar with their own electrical installation, and in particular they must know how to operate their own equipment, use of voltage detectors, and how and when to apply earths to their own equipment.

The ESB Operator in Charge should be familiar with the type of switchgear used by a Dispersed Generator – including the switching and earthing mechanisms – and be satisfied re same.

ESB and the Dispersed Generation staff will familiarize themselves with the installation by carrying out a site visit and checking that the installation is as shown on the SLD.

ESB Operator in Charge must be the first to apply Main Earths.

ESB Operator in Charge must be the first to connect to the system.

To Disconnect a Windfarm the Telemess procedure is as follows<u>:</u> Telemess

1. The Windfarm Operator gives a Request for Disconnection to the ESB Operator in Charge.

2. The ESB Operator in Charge then receives permission from the Controller of the System to proceed with the switching. The ESB Operator in Charge then gives a Request for Disconnection to the Windfarm Operator.

This must include the statement "Do Not Apply Main Earths".

The Windfarm Operator disconnects at 20kV & at 38kV. The Windfarm Operator applies a HOLD OFF notice at the 20kV side, (ESB Operator in Charge may have to remove a DANGER LOCK to allow this.)

3. The Windfarm Operator gives a Proof of Disconnection to the ESB Operator in charge. The ESB Operator OPENS the ESB incomer to the Windfarm & applies a HOLD OFF to the DL.ESB Operator in Charge checks for loss of Voltage then applies Main Earths with Main Earth Notice.

4. The ESB Operator in Charge then gives a Request for Application of Main Earths (RAME) to the Windfarm Operator. The Windfarm Operator checks for Loss of Voltage, Applies Main Earth & affixes a Main Earth Notice. (ESB Operator in Charge may have to remove a DANGER LOCK to allow this. If so the DANGER LOCK should be re-applied after Main Earths are applied)

5. The Windfarm Operator then gives a Proof of Application of Main Earths to the ESB Operator in Charge.

6. The ESB Operator in Charge then gives an overall Proof of Disconnection to the Windfarm Operator. Windfarm Operator will now fit a Not to Be Operated notice on all LV supplies.

THIS TELEMESS PROCEEDURE CANNOT AND MUST NOT BE SHORTENED IN ANY WAY

To Reconnect a Windfarm the Telemess procedure is as follows:

The Windfarm Operator removes all Local Earths ONLY and all Not to Be Operated notices.

Telemess

1 The Windfarm Operator gives a Request for Connection (which includes a Proof of Readiness in the body of the text) to the ESB Operator in Charge. A Declaration of Fitness may be required by the Controller of the ESB System prior to permission being given to allow reconnection of plant.

2 The ESB Operator in Charge then receives permission from the Controller of the System to proceed with the switching. The ESB Operator in Charge then gives a Request for Removal of Main Earth to the Windfarm Operator (which includes the statement Do Not Remove any Hold Off notice & Do Not Connect)

The Windfarm Operator removes the Main Earth notice & OPENS the Main Earth switch. (ESB Operator in Charge may have to remove a DANGER LOCK for this. If so the lock should be refitted once the Main Earth is removed)

4 The Windfarm Operator then gives a Proof of Removal of Main Earth to the ESB Operator in Charge.

The ESB Operator in Charge removes the Main Earth Notice & Main Earth from the ESB side of the 110kV Cubicle, then Removes the HOLD OFF notice from the DL. Following a verbal request from the Windfarm Operator the ESB Operator in Charge then Closes the DL.

4 The ESB Operator in Charge then gives a Request for Connection to the Windfarm Operator to allow removal of HOLD OFF notice (which includes the statement DO NOT CLOSE the CB at this stage.

The Windfarm Operator removes the HOLD OFF from the 20kV side and racks back in the CB, but Does Not Close the CB.

5: The Windfarm Operator then gives a Proof of Connection to the ESB Operator in Charge.

6: The ESB Operator in Charge then gives an overall Proof of Connection to the Windfarm Operator.

The Windfarm Operator may now under normal operating procedure with ESB Networks as the 110kV system controller for permission to close their 38kV CB. THIS TELEMESS PROCEEDURE CANNOT AND MUST NOT BE SHORTENED IN ANY WAY.

WFSO Ltd., Lissarda Industrial Estate, Lissarda, Cork.





APPENDIX B

PEATLAND HABITAT RESTORATION PLAN



Peatland Restoration and Management Plan

Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork





DOCUMENT DETAILS

0		
(1	ient:	
	iont.	

 \mathbf{O}

Project Title:

Project Number:

Document Title:

Document File Name:

Prepared By:

MKO **Tuam Road** Galway Ireland H91 VW84

180511



Cleanrath Windfarm Ltd.

Cleanrath Wind Farm, Co. Cork

PREP F - 2020.07.17 - 191223a

Peatland Restoration and Enhancement Plan

Planning and Environmental Consultants

Rev	Status	Date	Author(s)	Approved By
01	Final	17/07/2020	DMN	PR



Table of Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION	.1
	1.1 Background	.1
2.	PEATLAND RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT	2
	 2.1 Forestry Felling and Peatland Restoration Around Turbines	.3 .5 .5
	2.6 Reporting	.7
3.	BIBLIOGRAPHY	8



1. INTRODUCTION

Background

The EIAR that was prepared for this application prescribed the provision of a Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Plan to offset the loss of peatland habitats that are within the footprint of the subject development. The development footprint is located on 4.13 hectares of peatland habitat. This is less than Cleanrath wind farm development was originally predicted in the original application as two turbines have not been constructed. The peatland habitats on which the windfarm is located consists primarily of a mosaic of Wet Heath, Blanket Bog and Acid Flush with outcropping of Exposed siliceous rock (ER1). The areas of deep peat within the study area have been avoided in the design of the development and all areas that are within the construction footprint have been degraded through extensive grazing of sheep, cattle and/or horses, drainage, peat cutting, forestry or scrub encroachment.

This Peatland Restoration and Management Plan (PRMP) provides details of where measures will be employed to improve the ecological quality of the peatland habitats that are located outside the construction footprint but within the control of the windfarm developer.

The development has resulted in the loss of peatland habitat, associated with Turbines T3, T6, T7, part of T8, T9 & T10. Therefore, this Peatland Restoration and Management Plan (PRMP) provides for the restoration of forestry land, that has been planted on peatland mosaic habitats, back to this peatland habitat.

The extent of lands subject to peatland restoration are shown in Figure 1.1. This includes areas of forestry felling located around Turbines T1, 3, 5 and 8 as well as an additional area of 1.06 hectares of forestry located to the south of T8. Following the implementation of the measures outlined in this report, to offset the loss of peatland habitat, there will be no net loss of peatland habitats on the site.

The bog restoration programme described in this report will be implemented in accordance with the published guidelines and best practice such as the guidelines arising from the EU–LIFE/Coillte '*Irish Blanket Bog Restoration Project*" (2002-2007)', Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)'s guidance note Planning for development: *What to consider and include in Habitat Management Plans* (Version 2, January 2014).



2. PEATLAND RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT

2.1

Forestry Felling and Peatland Restoration Around Turbines

As shown in Figure 1.1, it is proposed to reinstate areas of coniferous plantation forestry around turbines T1, 3, 5 and 8. These areas have been felled as part of the construction phase of the wind farm, however, some areas will require further maintenance to complete to the required reinstatement to peatland. As shown in Plate 2.3, areas where plantation forestry have been removed, still comprise of peatland vegetation beneath the conifers. In order to facilitate the reestablishment of peatland vegetation within these areas and maintain an effective hydrological regime, the following measures are proposed in these areas:

- > Removal of brash from felled areas off-site.
- Drain blocking will be undertaken on a local scale in the immediate surroundings of felled plantation by installing dams at drainage ditches (largely remnant semi-functioning conifer forest drains) to maintain, enhance and restore the favorable baseline hydrological and ecological conditions at each site location. Drains can be dammed using peat dams.
- > No additional drainage to be installed in proximity to these habitat areas during the lifetime of the development.
- > The use of off road vehicles on the site will be restricted to the existing tracks.
- > No application of chemical and organic fertilisers or herbicides and pesticides will be undertaken within the development footprint.
- Self-seeded conifers from adjacent conifer plantation areas will be cleared and removed (by hand or brushcutter) from the newly created peatland reinstatement areas on an ongoing basis during the operational phase.



Plate 2.1 Example of forestry felling already undertaken to the north of T8 with typical peatland vegetation remaining beneath the conifers.



Additional Forestry Felling for Peatland Restoration

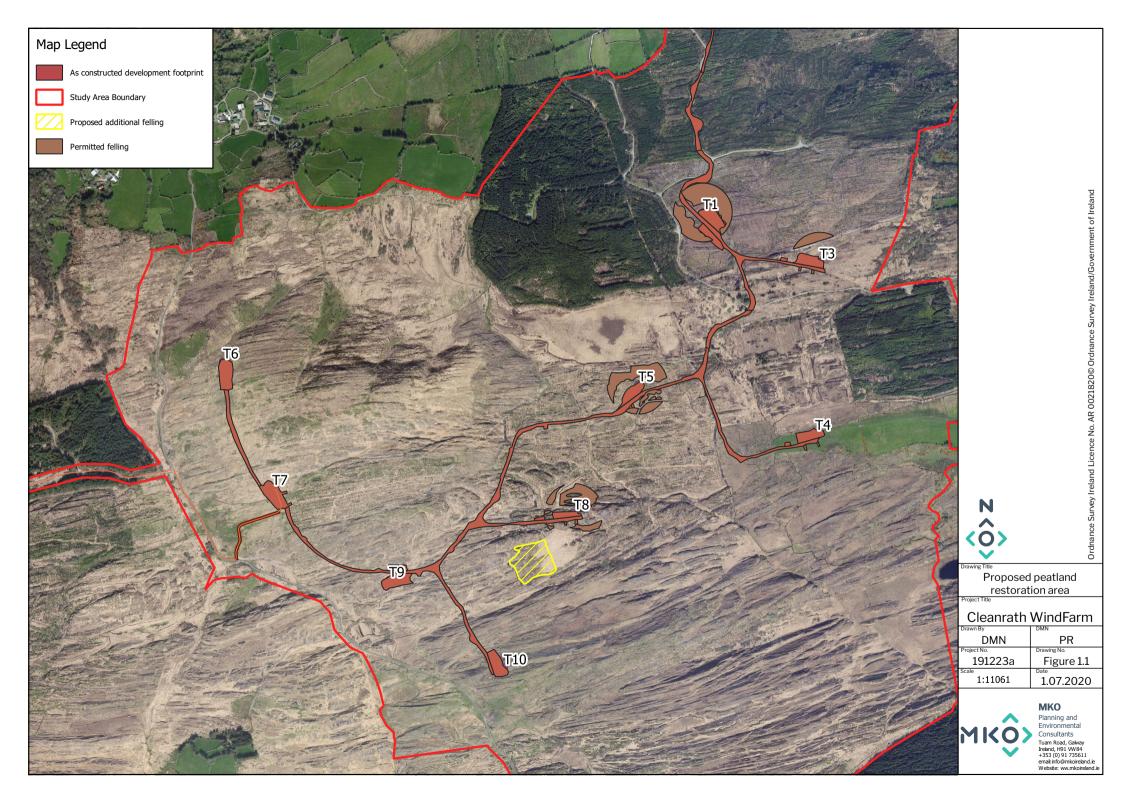
In order to achieve the required peatland restoration area, additional lands, comprising of immature forestry, located outside of the immediate development footprint will be acquired and restored to peatland habitat. The area identified as most appropriate for peatland restoration is located to the south of Turbine no. 8, see Figure 1.1. An example of the forestry occurring at this location is provided in Plate 2.2. The lands were chosen as the forestry is immature, the vegetation occurring beneath the conifers comprises of typical peatland species (see Plate 2.3) and could therefore successfully be reinstated to peatland if the conifer crop was sympathetically removed.



Plate 2.2 Location chosen for tree removal and restoration to bog, located to the south of T8.



Plate 2.3 Example of intact peatland vegetation occurring within existing forestry plantation





The management techniques to be undertaken within the replacement area located south of Turbine no. 8 are as follows:

- > All coniferous forestry will be felled.
- > Following tree felling operations, brash material will be removed off-site and disposed of appropriately to a suitable location.
- > Drains will be blocked, where appropriate, using peat dams or plastic dams, see Plate 2.4 & 2.5.
- > No additional drainage to be installed in proximity to this habitat during the lifetime of the subject development.
- > The planting of forestry will not be permitted in this area.
- > No vehicular access will be permitted to or within the dedicated peatland reinstatement area once all initial works are completed.
- > Self-seeded conifers from adjacent conifer plantation areas will be cleared and removed (by hand or brushcutter) from the newly created peatland reinstatement areas on an ongoing basis, following the felling of the existing forestry.
- > Peat extraction within the proposed peatland reinstatement area will not be permitted.
- > Burning and dumping will not be permitted.
- > No application of chemical and organic fertilisers or herbicides and pesticides will be undertaken within the development footprint.



Plate 2.4 Example of peat dams to be used for on-site drain blocking.





Plate 2.5 Example of plastic dams to be used for on-site drain blocking.

2.3 Management of peatlands adjacent to windfarm infrastructure

In addition to the reinstatement measures proposed above, this plan also sets out measures that will enhance the existing peatlands that surround the wind farm development. These are listed below:

- > Burning and dumping will not be permitted.
- > Application of artificial fertilisers within rehabilitation or enhancement areas will be prohibited.
- > The planting of forestry will not be permitted. There is currently forestry activity in the vicinity of the development and conifer seedlings are encroaching on the site on an annual basis during the lifetime of the windfarm development.
- > Seedlings of coniferous or other trees or any invasive plants will be removed from this area on an annual basis during the lifetime of the windfarm development.
- Scrub species including Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) will be removed on an annual basis during the lifetime of the windfarm development.
- > No vehicular access will be permitted to or within the dedicated habitat rehabilitation area once all initial works are completed.
- > The rehabilitation area will be monitored to assess the success of the rehabilitation plan.
- > Where possible, drains will be blocked to restore the natural hydrology of the blanket bog in the area.

2.4 **Timing of Works**

Replacement works will be conducted in line with the provisions of the Wildlife Acts 1979-2012 as amended.

2.5 **Monitoring**

To confirm that habitat restoration and enhancement has been successful, all areas of restored vegetation will be monitored post-restoration, monitoring results reported and any criteria failures



identified and corrective actions implemented as part of the Cleanrath Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) for the development.

Visual inspections of restored areas within the application site will be carried out biannually during the first two years after restoration to check for potential soil erosion or movement and degradation of replaced turves. Vegetation monitoring will be carried out in years 1, 3, 5 and 10 after restoration. Monitoring will involve the following:

Surface peat assessment

An assessment of the physical state of the surface peat with regard to:

- > Percentage bare peat not covered by vegetation;
- Moisture status (qualitative);
- > Intactness (e.g. presence of visible cracking in surface peat; and
- > General stability (e.g. presence of peat erosion).

Vegetation sampling

A number of fixed relevé sites (i.e. permanent quadrats) will be set up in areas where active management is proposed of previously forested areas. Baseline data will be recorded prior to the commencement of habitat management activities set out in this outline plan. The character of each relevé will be recorded (e.g. species proportions present, vegetation structure and height) and photographs will be taken of each relevé from a fixed point. These relevés will then be re-examined during years 1, 3, 5 and 10 following restoration in order to establish the extent of habitat improvement resulting from management practices.

Hydrological monitoring

> Water levels within areas where drains are blocked will be recorded bi-annually for two years. A number of phreatic stand pipes will be installed (prior to restoration) to allow monitoring of water levels within both the restoration and enhancement areas. In this way, any positive impacts on the local hydrology can be verified and quantified.

The efficacy of the habitat rehabilitation and enhancement measures employed will be reviewed in years 1, 3, 5 and 10 following commencement of the plan on the basis of the results of vegetation sampling and water level readings from the managed areas. Analysis of the data collected will be the basis for a review of the measures and techniques employed.

2.5.1 Monitoring of existing reinstated peatlands adjacent to existing infrastructure

Following the completion of the existing development, the roadside verges, berms and banks of hardstand infrastructure were capped with peat material. This material was initially removed during construction and temporarily stored adjacent to the development footprint for final reinstatement. This reinstatement has therefore further minimised the overall peatland loss associated with the development footprint by reinstating areas of temporarily disturbed ground adjacent to the infrastructure, see Plate 2.6. Many of these areas have begun to revegetate naturally, with purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) becoming established. In addition, some areas within temporarily disturbed ground were also reseeded with an appropriate upland seed mix to facilitate more rapid vegetation establishment.

The post construction monitoring associated with the peatland restoration measures outlined above will also continue to monitor the continued revegetation of these areas of temporally disturbed ground and



where required, additional measures will be implemented to ensure establishment of peatland vegetation and reduce noxious weeds.



Plate 2.6 Example of reinstated site access track verge with stripped peat material showing signs of revegetation with purple moorgrass (Molinia caerulea) and other grass species.

Reporting

2.6

Reports detailing the monitoring works carried out, the results obtained and a review of their success, along with any suggestions for amendments to the plan will be prepared in years 1, 3, 5 and 10 following commencement of the plan's implementation.



3. **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

EU–LIFE/Coillte '*Irish Blanket Bog Restoration Project*" (2002-2007)', Online, Available at: http://www.irishbogrestorationproject.ie/downloads/4_progress_report.pdf, Accessed: 07.07.2020

<u>%20What%20to%20consider%20and%20include%20in%20Habitat%20Management%20Plans.pdf</u>, Accessed: 07.07.2020