Your ref
Our ref 271
File ref

271715-00/COD/LK

**ARUP** 

Mr. Frank Curran Chief Executive Wicklow County Council County Buildings Station Road Wicklow Town A67 FW96 One Albert Quay
Cork
T12 X8N6
Ireland
t+353 21 422 3200
clodagh.odonovan@arup.com
www.arup.com

26 April 2021

Dear Sir

Notice of Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2 – Onshore Grid Infrastructure

Please be advised that Sure Partners Limited (SPL) is applying to An Bord Pleanála for approval for development in respect of the Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2 Onshore Grid Infrastructure, under Section 182A of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

The proposed development will comprise the Onshore Grid Infrastructure (OGI) including 220kV export circuits and fibre optic cables, from the landfall of the offshore export circuits at Johnstown North, to a proposed new 220kV substation at Shelton Abbey and connection from the new substation to the National Electricity Transmission Network (NETN), and associated ancillary works as described below, with an overall proposed development site area of 65.43 ha. The proposed development will comprise the following elements:

- Landfall for two offshore export cable circuits from the High Water Mark (HWM) to two Transition Joint Bays (TJB) at Johnstown North, located approximately 4.5km northeast of Arklow Harbour,
- Connection by two underground 220kV high voltage alternating current cable circuits, and fibre optic cables over a distance of c. 6km, from the landfall to the new onshore 220kV substation,
- A new onshore 220kV substation, to be located at Shelton Abbey, north of the Avoca River, approximately 2.1km northwest of Arklow town consisting of two connected compounds:

**Directors** Joe Burns Eva Hinkers (German) Donal McDaid **Company Secretary** Ken Freeman

- 1. The transmission compound with the infrastructure to physically connect to the NETN, and
- 2. The connection compound with the infrastructure to allow the connection of the windfarm in accordance with EirGrid grid code requirements.
- Flood defence improvement works to the existing Avoca River Business Park flood defences located c. 500m west of the substation site;
- A 220kV overhead line connection from the new 220kV substation at Shelton Abbey to the existing 220kV transmission network located c. 200m from the substation site.

The proposed development will be located in the townlands of Johnstown North, Johnstown South, Seabank, Ballymoney, Killiniskyduff, Templerainy, Coolboy, Kilbride, Shelton Abbey, Ballyraine Lower and Ballyraine Middle in County Wicklow.

The proposed development is fully described in the planning application documentation, including Public Notices, Planning Drawings, Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement. 5 hard copies and 2 electronic copies of the application documentation accompanies this cover letter submitted to you on behalf of Sure Partners Limited, Red Oak South, South County Business Park, Leopardstown, Dublin 18.

A schedule of the documents and drawings submitted to you is attached.

An Bord Pleanála (the Board) requires that the application documentation be made available for public inspection/or purchase by Wicklow County Council in accordance with the public notice (copy of which is attached herein). It is the Board's intention that all of the application documentation will remain available for public inspection during the currency of the application.

All of this information will also be available to view at the following dedicated website: www.arklowbankwindparkogiplanning.com.

Submissions or observations may be made in writing to An Bord Pleanála ('the Board') 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 in the period 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021 relating to:

- i. the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development,
- ii. the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
- iii. the likely significant effects or adverse effects on any European Site.

Any submissions/observations must be received by An Bord Pleanála (the Board) not later than 5.30pm on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

Please note that An Bord Pleanála may make the following types of decision, under section 182B of the Planning Acts, in respect of the application:

- i. approve the proposed development, or
- ii. make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in the approval and approve the proposed development as so modified, or

- iii. approve, in part only, the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind), and any of the above decisions may be subject to such conditions as An Bord Pleanála considers appropriate, or
- iv. refuse to approve the proposed development.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Section of An Bord Pleanála (Tel: 01 8588100), sids@pleanala.ie.

Yours sincerely for Ove Arup & Partners Ireland Ltd t/a Arup

Clodagh O'Donovan (Agent)

Director

## **Arklow Bank Wind Park Onshore Grid Infrastructure**

## **List of Planning Application Documents and Drawings**

5 no. hard copies and 2 no. electronic copies (Hard Drive) of the following items are included within the application to Wicklow County Council.

- 1. SID Application Form
- 2. Copy of the relevant page of the Irish Independent and Wicklow People containing the project Newspaper Notice, as published on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021.
- 3. Copy of the Site Notice, as erected, on yellow background at 10 no. locations across the extent of the proposed development, the locations of same being shown on the following drawings accompanying this planning application
  - ONS-LF-001 Landfall Site Location Map
  - ONS-SM-001 Cable Route Map Sheet 1 of 9
  - ONS-SM-002 Cable Route Map Sheet 2 of 9
  - ONS-SM-003 Cable Route Map Sheet 3 of 9
  - ONS-SM-004 Cable Route Map Sheet 4 of 9
  - ONS-SM-005 Cable Route Map Sheet 5 of 9
  - ONS-SM-006 Cable Route Map Sheet 6 of 9
  - ONS-SM-007 Cable Route Map Sheet 7 of 9
  - ONS-SM-008 Cable Route Map Sheet 8 of 9
  - ONS-SM-009 Cable Route Map Sheet 9 of 9
  - ONS-SS-001 Substation Site Location Plan
  - ONS-NC-001 NETN Connection Location Map
- 4. Letters of consent received to date from the legal owners of the lands in question as per the schedule in the copy of the application form enclosed
- 5. A schedule of Prescribed Bodies to whom notice of the application, and a copy of the application, in accordance with Section 182A (4)(b) of the Act, has been sent
- 6. Environmental Impact Assessment Report, comprising:
  - EIAR Volume 1 Non-Technical Summary
  - EIAR Volume 1 Main Volume
  - EIAR Volume 2 Appendices
- 7. Confirmation Notice from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government re provision of required information for its EIA portal
- 8. Natura Impact Statement
- 9. 5 hard copies at A1 size of the set of the Planning Application Drawings, as per attached Schedule