



APPENDIX 2-1

SCOPING RESPONSES

Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Johnny Evans <Johnny.Evans@2rn.ie>
Sent: 21 February 2020 13:35
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Cc: Matthew Craig
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin, no, we've no links near here. Thanks for sending it in though. Regards, Johnny

Johnny Evans

Head of Projects and Coverage Planning

2RN

Block B, Cookstown Court, Old Belgard Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24, Ireland

D24 WK28

Phone: + 353 (0) 1 2082680

Mobile: + 353 (0) 86 8255653

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 21 February 2020 13:21
To: Johnny Evans <Johnny.Evans@2rn.ie>
Cc: Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Johnny,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if 2rn has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: 21 February 2020 13:44
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin,

Can you send the area in a Google Earth kml?

Thanks,
Peter

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 1:22 PM
To: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Peter,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Airspeed Communications has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: 23 June 2020 12:43
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin,

Apologies, this area shouldn't be an issue for us currently,

Regards,
Peter

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 12:38 PM
To: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Peter,

Further to our correspondence below, can you please confirm if Airspeed Communications has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Thank you

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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From: Eoin O'Sullivan
Sent: 21 February 2020 14:03
To: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>

Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Peter,

Please find attached the KML as requested.

Regards

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 73561



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From: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: 21 February 2020 13:44
To: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin,

Can you send the area in a Google Earth kml?

Thanks,
Peter

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 1:22 PM
To: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Peter,

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Could you let me know please if Airspeed Communications has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: padraig.condon@bt.com
Sent: 21 February 2020 15:47
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin,
Development will have no impact on the BT Ireland microwave network.

Regards

Padraig Condon
Core Network Operations

Tel: +353014326819
Mobile number: +353 86 604 0636
BT Meetme: + 353 1 6569053
E-mail padraig.condon@bt.com
<https://www.webjoin.com/>
Participant: 40342233#
Web: www.btireland.com



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From: Eoin O'Sullivan [mailto:eosullivan@mkoireland.ie]
Sent: 21 February 2020 13:23
To: Condon,PG,Padraig,NQE32E R <padraig.condon@bt.com>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Padraig,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if BT Communications Ireland has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



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Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Martin O Donoghue <Martin.ODonoghue@comreg.ie>
Sent: 21 February 2020 14:49
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Cc: Licensing
Subject: RE: [Confidential] 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development
Attachments: List of Operators.xlsx

Thanks Eoin,

Please find attached the list of operators within 20Km.

Kind Regards,

Martin O'Donoghue

Innealtóir Speictrim Raidió

Radio Spectrum Engineer

An Coimisiún um Rialáil Cumarsáide
Commission for Communications Regulation

1 Lárcheantar na nDugaí, Sráid na nGildeanna, BÁC 1, Éire, D01 E4X0.

One Dockland Central, Guild Street, Dublin 1, Ireland, D01 E4X0.

Teil | Tel +353 1 8049670

Rphost | Email martin.odonoghue@comreg.ie

Suíomh | Website www.comreg.ie

From: Eoin O'Sullivan [mailto:eosullivan@mkoireland.ie]
Sent: 21 February 2020 13:07
To: Martin O Donoghue <Martin.ODonoghue@comreg.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Martin,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

We are consulting with all of the main telecoms operators, but would like to check if there are any other operators in the area – would it be possible to send this information on to me please?

Many thanks,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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<https://www.comreg.ie/privacy/>

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Tá an ríomhphost seo, chomh maith le haon iatáin a bhaineann leis faoi rún agus d'fhéadfadh leis a bheith faoi phribhléid nó cosanta ó aon nochtadh. Is don seolaí(aithe) ainmnithe thuas amháin é. Níl sé ceadaithe go mbeidh rochtain ag éinne eile ar an ríomhphost seo. Más rud é nach tusa an faighteoir ainmnithe, ná cló amach, léigh, cóipeáil, nocht d'éinne nó bain úsáid as an eolas sa ríomhphost seo in aon tslí eile, le do thoil. Más rud é go bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí earráid, dean teagmháil leis an seoltóir láithreach agus scríos an t-ábhar ina iomlán, bíodh sé i gcóip leictreonach nó chrua.

User	Contact	Email
Clare County Council	Urban	umcmahon@clarecoco.ie
Eircom Ltd	Seamus	seamus.okeeffe@openeir.ie
Electricity Supply Board	Dermot	dermot.hopkins@esbtelecoms.ie
Enet Telecommunications Networks Limited	Peter	peter.obrien@enet.ie
EOBO Ltd	Gurmukh	sales@bbnet.ie
ESB Telecoms Ltd	Colm	colm.conheady@esb.ie
Imagine Networks Services Ltd	Ronnie	Ronnie.ONeill@imginegroup.ie
Lighthouse Networks Limited	Enda	enda.broderick@lightnet.ie
Meteor Mobile Communications Limited	Paul	Paul.Marron@eir.ie
Ripple Communications Ltd	Denis	denis.herlihy@ripplecom.net
Three Ireland (Hutchison) Limited	Gerry	Gerry.Callan@three.ie
Viatel Ireland Ltd	Donna	Donna.Fairbrother@viatel.com
Virgin Media Ireland Ltd (PP)	Mark	Mark.Nolan@virginmedia.ie
Vodafone Ireland Ltd	Gavin	gavin.byrne@vodafone.com

Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Ronnie O'Neill <Ronnie.ONeill@imaginegroup.ie>
Sent: 21 February 2020 15:24
To: Ali Tariq; William Morgan
Cc: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: FW: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development
Attachments: Fig 2.1 Site Location V2 - 2020.02.20 - 170224.pdf; Site Boundary Shapefile.zip

Hi Ali ,

Can you have a look at this please ?

Ronnie .

From: Eoin O'Sullivan
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 1:21 PM
To: Ronnie O'Neill <Ronnie.ONeill@imaginegroup.ie>
Cc: William Morgan <william.morgan@imaginegroup.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Ronnie,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Imagine Group has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Ali Tariq <ali.tariq@imaginegroup.ie>
Sent: 21 February 2020 15:46
To: Ronnie O'Neill; William Morgan
Cc: Eoin O'Sullivan; Lorna Brennan
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin,

Hope you are doing well.

According to the information provided, we do not have any active or planned links for the proposed area.

Best regards

Ali

From: Ronnie O'Neill <Ronnie.ONeill@imaginegroup.ie>
Sent: 21 February 2020 15:23
To: Ali Tariq <ali.tariq@imaginegroup.ie>; William Morgan <william.morgan@imaginegroup.ie>
Cc: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: FW: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Ali ,

[Can you have a look at this please ?](#)

[Ronnie .](#)

From: Eoin O'Sullivan
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 1:21 PM
To: Ronnie O'Neill <Ronnie.ONeill@imaginegroup.ie>
Cc: William Morgan <william.morgan@imaginegroup.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Ronnie,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Imagine Group has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Gerry Callan <Gerry.Callan@three.ie>
Sent: 21 February 2020 14:20
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Cc: Alan Hutchinson; DL Estates ROI; Krzysztof Szpak
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin,

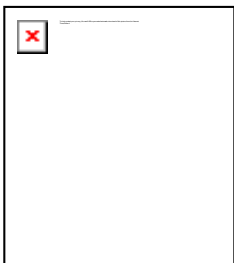
I've reviewed the proposed Glendine North windfarm development and am happy to confirm that we have no links that traverse the development area. Our closest site is 2.05km east of the development area, but doesn't have any links that would be affected by the development.

I've checked with the regional engineer as well and, while he has a new planned link in the region, it will not be affected by the windfarm either.

When you have a confirmed finalised turbine layout, could you please let us have the coordinates (in Irish Grid, preferably in an Excel file) and we'll import those to our planning tool and assess any potential impact.

Thanks for getting in touch. Good luck with the development.

Best wishes,



Gerry Callan
Transmission Engineer

086 3884246
gerry.callan@three.ie



Make it count.

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 21 February 2020 13:21
To: Gerry Callan <Gerry.Callan@three.ie>
Cc: Alan Hutchinson <alan.hutchinson@three.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Gerry,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Three Ireland Ltd has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Roger Woods <rwoods@bai.ie>
Sent: 24 February 2020 11:25
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin

The BAI does not perform an in-depth analysis of the effect of wind turbines on FM networks. However, we are not aware of any issues from existing windfarms into existing FM networks. Also, the proposed windfarms are not located close to any existing or planned FM transmission sites.

Regards

Roger

Senior Executive Engineer
Broadcasting Authority of Ireland
2-5 Warrington Place
Dublin D02 XP29

Tel: 01 6441200
Fax: 01 6441299

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From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 21 February 2020 16:09
To: Roger Woods <rwoods@bai.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Mr Woods,

Slieveacurry Ltd. is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, located in County Clare. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development.

We have attached a cover letter and Scoping Document which provides details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process for the proposed development, we would welcome any comments in relation to the proposed project.

Please note we have had to reduce the size of this file for email - if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Enda Broderick <enda@lightnet.ie>
Sent: 24 February 2020 12:44
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Cc: Barry O'Donovan
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin

Thank you for contacting us.

To answer your question, we currently do not have any point to point links crossing that area.

We have a transmission site to the North, outside Ennistymon and to the west in Miltownmalby, Might be of interest to you when site is under construction or afterwards for a broadband service.

Kind regards,

Enda Broderick

Managing Director

Lighthouse Networks Ltd.



East Point Business Park
Loughrea - Co. Galway

Tel +353 (0) 91-395804
Mob +353 (0) 86-8676410
Web www.lightnet.ie

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From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 24 February 2020 11:54
To: Enda Broderick <enda@lightnet.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Enda,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Lighthouse Networks Ltd has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Liam Allister <Liam.Allister@virginmedia.ie>
Sent: 24 February 2020 09:47
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Cc: Cathal O'Donnell; Mark Nolan
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin,

Thank you for the notification. Virgin Media do not have any microwave links that would be effected near the proposed wind farm area at Glendine North.

Regards,
Liam Allister | B2B Access Network Transmission Engineer,
Virgin Media | John F Connelly Road, Churchfield, Cork.
Liam.allister@virginmedia.ie

From: Eoin O'Sullivan [mailto:eosullivan@mkoireland.ie]
Sent: 21 February 2020 13:20
To: Liam Allister <Liam.Allister@virginmedia.ie>
Cc: Cathal O'Donnell <Cathal.ODonnell@virginmedia.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Liam,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Virgin Media has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Tuam Road, Galway
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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: John Bagnall <john.bagnall@eir.ie>
Sent: 25 February 2020 09:58
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Cc: Brendan.OFlaherty@eir.ie
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin,

We have no transmission services that will be affected by these works. Best of luck with your proposal.

Please keep sending future windfarm development analysis and large infrastructure project request to MobileNetworksTXN@eir.ie for Eir Mobile (formerly Meteor) network analysis.

Kind regards,



John Bagnall

Transmission Design & Engineering

M: +353 85 1053746

E: john.bagnall@eir.ie

Address: EirCode - D24 HX03



On Fri, 21 Feb 2020 at 13:21, Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie> wrote:

Dear John,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Eir has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway

Ireland, H91 VW84

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Byrne, Fiona, Vodafone Ireland (External) <fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com>
Sent: 25 February 2020 14:21
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Cc: Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External)
Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development
Attachments: Fig 2.1 Site Location V2 - 2020.02.20 - 170224.pdf; Site Boundary Shapefile.zip

Hi Eoin,

Using the site centre coordinates I can confirm the centre is approx. 1.6m south of one of our link paths (Link 1) in the area and approx 3m west of another of our link paths (Link 2)

- Link 1 – Lackamore (E109943.0, N182338.01) to Inagh ESB (E119946.74, N179437.25)
- Link 2 - Lackamore (E109943.0, N182338.01) to Cloonnagarnaun (E104121.7, N168075.75)

Unfortunately I am unable to open the files in the shapefile attachment you sent on, my laptop does not recognise the file formats.

Do you have any coordinates of the proposed turbine locations? I can then provide a more accurate report on the impact to our network.

Thanks,

*Kind Regards,
Fiona Byrne*

Transmission Planning/Implementation
Vodafone Ireland
Mountainview, 6th Floor,
Central Park,
Dublin 18.

Tel: +353(0)879938050
Email:fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com

C2 General

From: Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>
Sent: Tuesday 25 February 2020 07:09
To: Byrne, Fiona, Vodafone Ireland (External) <fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com>
Cc: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>
Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Fiona,

Can you look into this proposed Windfarm and see if it affects any of our links?

@ Gavin,

We are happy to take on some of these requests.

We do get a few each month anyways.

Thanks,

Seán Lyons B. Eng.(Hons)

Transmission Programme Manager
Converged Transmission
Tel: +353(0)877758117
Email: sean.lyons@vodafone.com

Vodafone Ireland Limited, Registered Office:
MountainView, Leopardstown, Dublin 18,
Registered in Ireland: No. 326967



C2 General

From: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>
Sent: Monday 24 February 2020 16:20
To: Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>
Cc: Neill o', Shane, Vodafone Ireland <shane.oneill2@vodafone.com>
Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Sean,

Can you ask one of the team to review the attached. I'm getting swamped with these requests, this is the 6th one since Friday.

Gavin

C2 General

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 21 February 2020 13:24
To: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>
Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Gavin,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Vodafone Ireland Ltd has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Tuam Road, Galway
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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Byrne, Fiona, Vodafone Ireland (External) <fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com>
Sent: 25 February 2020 15:43
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Cc: Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External); Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland
Subject: RE: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin,

Thanks for sending on the proposed Turbine coordinates.

Based on these coordinates there will be no impact to our network.



Kind Regards,
Fiona Byrne

Transmission Planning/Implementation
Vodafone Ireland
Mountainview, 6th Floor,
Central Park,
Dublin 18.

Tel: +353(0)879938050
Email:fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com

C2 General

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Tuesday 25 February 2020 14:26

To: Byrne, Fiona, Vodafone Ireland (External) <fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com>

Cc: Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>

Subject: RE: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Fiona,

Thank you for getting back to me. Please find set out below the coordinates for the proposed wind turbine locations in ITM format.

Turbine No.	X	Y
1	511422.7	679242.3
2	512100.5	679344.3
3	511834	679874.7
4	512439.4	679901.8
5	511518.4	680283.4
6	512119.5	680371
7	512863.2	680485.9
8	511748.8	680778.6
9	512466.7	680866.8

Regards

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
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From: Byrne, Fiona, Vodafone Ireland (External) <fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com>

Sent: 25 February 2020 14:21

To: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>

Cc: Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>

Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

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Unfortunately I am unable to open the files in the shapefile attachment you sent on, my laptop does not recognise the file formats.

Do you have any coordinates of the proposed turbine locations? I can then provide a more accurate report on the impact to our network.

Thanks,

*Kind Regards,
Fiona Byrne*

Transmission Planning/Implementation
Vodafone Ireland
Mountainview, 6th Floor,
Central Park,
Dublin 18.

Tel: +353(0)879938050
Email:fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com

C2 General

From: Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>
Sent: Tuesday 25 February 2020 07:09
To: Byrne, Fiona, Vodafone Ireland (External) <fiona.byrne2@vodafone.com>
Cc: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>
Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Fiona,

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@ Gavin,

We are happy to take on some of these requests.
We do get a few each month anyways.

Thanks,

Seán Lyons B. Eng(Hon)
Transmission Programme Manager

Converged Transmission
Tel: +353(0)877758117
Email: sean.lyons@vodafone.com

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Registered in Ireland: No. 326967



C2 General

From: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>
Sent: Monday 24 February 2020 16:20
To: Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>
Cc: Neill o', Shane, Vodafone Ireland <shane.oneill2@vodafone.com>
Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Sean,

Can you ask one of the team to review the attached. I'm getting swamped with these requests, this is the 6th one since Friday.

Gavin

C2 General

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 21 February 2020 13:24
To: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>
Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Gavin,

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Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>
Sent: 26 February 2020 16:43
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development
Attachments: Fáilte Ireland EIAR Guidelines.pdf

Hello Eoin,

Thank you for your e-mail regarding proposed renewable energy development at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, located in County Clare.

Please see attached a copy of Fáilte Ireland's Guidelines for the Treatment of Tourism in an EIS, which we recommend should be taken into account in preparing the EIAR. The purpose of this report is to provide guidance for those conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and compiling an Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR), or those assessing EIARs, where the project involves tourism or may have an impact upon tourism. These guidelines are non-statutory and act as supplementary advice to the EPA EIAR Guidelines outlined in section 2.

Regards,

Yvonne

Yvonne Jackson

Product Development- Environment & Planning Support | Fáilte Ireland
Áras Fáilte, 88/95 Amiens Street, Dublin 1. D01WR86
T +353 (0)1 884 7224 | www.failteireland.ie



From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 21 February 2020 4:06 PM
To: planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

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Dear Sir or Madam,

Slieveacurry Ltd. is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, located in County Clare. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development.



Fáilte Ireland
National Tourism Development Authority

EIAR Guidelines for the Consideration of Tourism and Tourism Related Projects



An tÚdarás Náisiúnta Forbartha Turasóireachta
Áras Fáilte, 88–95 Sráid Amiens
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 WR86
Éire

National Tourism Development Authority
Áras Fáilte, 88 - 95 Amiens Street
Dublin 1
D01 WR86
Ireland

Phone 1890 525 525
or +353 1 884 7700
Email info@failteireland.ie
www.failteireland.ie

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1. Introduction

Tourism is a growing sector and substantial part of the Irish Economy. It contributes to both urban and rural economies in every part of the country. The impact and interaction of tourism with the environment is complex and the assessment of environmental impacts is of utmost importance to creating a sustainable tourism economy and protecting the natural resources that are so often a tourism attraction.

The purpose of this report is to provide guidance for those conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and compiling an Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR), or those assessing EIARs, where the project involves tourism or may have an impact upon tourism. These guidelines are non-statutory and act as supplementary advice to the EPA EIAR Guidelines outlined in section 2.

This guidance document has been prepared by Cunnane Stratton Reynolds on behalf of Fáilte Ireland to update their EIA guidelines in line with changes in legislative requirements.

2. Background to this Document

Tourism is one of the largest and most important sectors of the economy, providing employment for approximately **260,000 people**, an economic contribution of **€8.4 billion**, and exchequer revenue of **€1.78 billion** in 2018, which helps fund other key public services.

In 2018 Ireland welcomed **10.6 million overseas visitors**.

Fáilte Ireland is the National Tourism Development Authority. Fáilte Irelands role is to support the tourism industry and work to sustain Ireland as a high-quality and competitive tourism destination. They provide a range of practical business supports to help tourism businesses better manage and market their products and services.

Fáilte Ireland also work with other state agencies and representative bodies, at local and national levels, to implement and champion positive and practical strategies that will benefit Irish tourism and the Irish economy.

Fáilte Ireland promotes Ireland as a holiday destination through a domestic marketing campaign (DiscoverIreland.ie) and manage a network of nationwide tourist information centres that provide help and advice for visitors to Ireland.

Tourism related projects cover a broad range of plans, programmes and developments, from the Wild Atlantic Way to a single hotel conversion. These guidelines apply to projects involving or impacting upon tourism. A tourism plan, strategy or programme where it is part of the statutory plan making process under the Planning and Development Acts (as amended), may be more appropriately assessed by a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as discussed in the next section.

It should be borne in mind that EIA is required where there is anticipated to be a significant impact on the environment, where tourism projects are of a prescribed type or meet thresholds identified below.

Where Natura 2000 Designated Sites are potentially affected by tourism development Appropriate Assessment must be carried out by the appropriate authority in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive.

3. Legislation and Statutory Guidance

Environmental Impact Assessment is a procedure that ensures that the environmental implications of decisions are taken into account before planning based decisions are made. The assessment results in a report, called an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

Legislation

These guidelines are produced under current EIAR legislative requirements, having regard to Directive 2011/92/EU (known as 'Environmental Impact Assessment' – EIA Directive), as amended by Directive EU 2014/52 which came into effect in May of 2017. These requirements were transposed into Irish Law on 1 September 2018 as most of the provisions of the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018) came into effect. The principle of both Directives is to ensure that plans, programmes and projects likely to have significant effects on the environment are made subject to an environmental assessment, prior to their approval or authorisation.

Statutory Guidance

In response to the changes to the EIAR requirements under Directive EU 2014/52, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed Draft guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports in August 2017. At the time of this document the guidelines have not been adopted from draft.

In addition to the EPA statutory guidance, the Department of Housing has produced Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment in August 2018.

The process of EIA is set out in the EPA EIAR Guidelines, which this document should be read in conjunction with and used as supplementary guidance to. The process for ascertaining whether an EIAR is required is known as 'screening' and the process to determine the breadth and scope of an EIAR is known as 'scoping'. Guidance on this can be found in Section 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines.

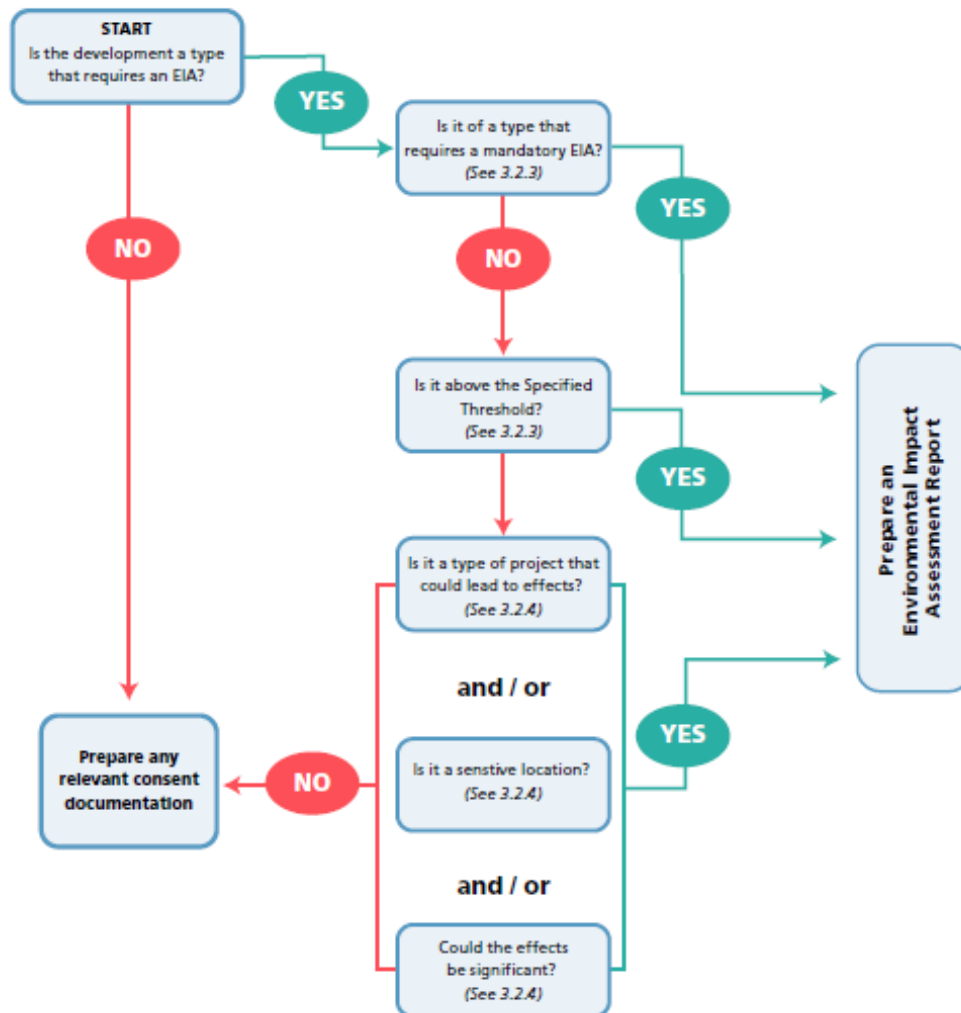
Screening

Through EIAR Screening, developments are either considered as requiring an EIAR due to the project type or because they exceed a threshold level. The screening process begins by establishing whether the proposal is a 'project' as understood by the Directive (as amended).

The prescribed development types and thresholds are set out in Annex I and II of the EIA Directive as transposed into Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2010-2018 (as amended). Development which do not exceed these thresholds but may require an EIAR are called sub threshold. Sub-Threshold considerations are outlined in Schedule 7 of European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018) as transposed from Annex III of the Directive. The Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment Reports note that projects at first glance may not appear to come under the Schedule

but on closer examination when the process is further examined, they may do so because of the sensitivity or significance of the receiving environment etc. Sub threshold developments require an EIAR if they are likely to have significant environmental impacts and must undergo assessment for likely significant impacts through an EIAR screening report. The contents of a screening report for subthreshold development are contained in Annex III of the EIA Directive.

Figure 1: EIAR Screening Process



(Taken from Fig 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines)

Tourism locations should be identified as sensitive receptors in screening assessments for particular impacts, depending on scale and sensitivity, as they would in a full EIAR. Section 6 below can act as guidance for Screening Reports as well as for full EIAR.

The screening process for considering where an EIAR is necessary, is summarised below in Figure 1 (excerpted from Figure 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines).

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a more strategic level of environmental assessment that examines plans, policies, objectives and programmes specifically rather than projects. For some tourism developments it may be more appropriate that they be examined through SEA, while individual projects or specific proposals are likely to be more assessed through EIAR. If a project is part of a plan, programme or policy/objective assessed by SEA there will still be a requirement for an EIAR for that development.

EIAR Scoping

Scoping an EIAR is an opportunity to look at the breadth of issues and ensure that any areas of possible significant impact are assessed. Identifying sensitivities and stakeholders should take account of tourism facilities and consider Fáilte Ireland in scoping requests where necessary.

4. Assessing Tourism

There is no legal definition of 'tourism' in Irish legislation. The UNWTO definition of sustainable tourism is "*Tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities*". This is widely accepted as a key definition of tourism as we move to a more sustainable future.

Tourism assessments are frequently carried out by economic consultants and by specific tourism consultants. It is always advisable, particular for tourism projects, that suitably qualified and experienced personnel are used to determine the impact of tourism related projects or to assess the impact of more general proposals on a tourism asset identified in a particular location. There is a requirement for EIAR under current legislation to contain a statement of competency within all EIAR documents, including screening and scoping reports.

Projects which involve a tourism element

Tourism projects are wide ranging and diverse. While there are some projects which cater to tourism and are easily identified as such - Hotels, Museums, etc. there are other projects where tourism is a key service or element, but which may not be immediately obvious - forest trails, community facilities and others. EIAR conducted for developments containing tourist elements should be completed in accordance with the current guidance from the EPA.

Projects which include a tourism element have potential particular environmental effects which differ from a non-tourism development. These impacts can be intermittent, event related, inconsistent, dependent on weather, temporal, temporary or seasonal. This is considered within the prescribed environmental topics for EIAR outlined in Section 7 below.

Projects which may have an impact upon tourism

While tourism projects may be diverse, the projects which can impact tourism are considerably more wide ranging, from large infrastructural developments to local energy developments. Disruption to or suppression of a tourist resource or amenity can have very local or more strategic impacts, directly or indirectly- for example energy projects in a rural area can have both a negative and positive impact in different regards. There can be temporary, periodic or even seasonal impacts occurring during construction or operational periods.

According to the Fáilte Ireland Tourism Facts 2018 Report, the most important factors in determining the attractiveness of tourism destinations for visitors to Ireland are;

- Beautiful Scenery and Unspoiled Environment
- Hospitality
- Safety
- Nature, Wildlife and Natural Attractions
- History and Culture
- Pace of Life

These factors used for the promotion of tourism in Ireland are also barometers of sensitivity to change in tourism sensitive or dominant locations where development may have an impact upon the tourism asset. The potential for development to impact these sensitivities, and the environmental criteria under which they can be considered, are identified in section 7 of the guidelines.

5. Guiding Principles of EIAR

As outlined in the EPA Draft EIAR Guidelines, the fundamental principles to be followed when preparing an EIAR, including screening and scoping, are:

- Anticipating, avoiding and reducing significant effects
- Assessing and mitigating effects
- Maintaining objectivity
- Ensuring clarity and quality
- Providing relevant information to decision makers
- Facilitating better consultation.

Environmental assessment should be undertaken in accordance with the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018.

6. Consideration of Competency and Qualifications

As per Section 2.5 of the EPA Guidelines, EIAR is required to be completed by 'competent experts'.

Contributors to the preparation of environmental impact assessment reports, including screening and scoping assessments, should be qualified and competent. Sufficient expertise, in the relevant field of the project concerned, is required for the purpose of its examination by the competent authorities in order to ensure that the information provided by the developer is complete and of a high level of quality so that a full and proper assessment can be undertaken.

For tourism related projects, or projects likely to affect tourism assets, competent experts in the area of tourism should be utilised in the environmental assessment.

The competency of all involved in the production of an EIAR or any related report (eg. Screening and scoping) is required to be stated at the beginning of the EIAR report with further details as necessary in each following chapter.

Where tourism projects involve for example heritage or cultural components, input from heritage consultants, conservation architects, or historians may be required.

7. EIAR Requirements

The following are the key requirements for an EIAR under the current guidance. This is not a definitive list and should be read in conjunction with regulations.

- project description;
- assessment of alternatives considered;

- baseline assessment;
- impact assessment;
- cumulative impact
- interaction of impacts
- mitigation.

Project Description

Project descriptions are required to describe the whole project including site, scale, design and key factors. It is important that the EIAR and design team have a consistent understanding of the development description in full. The key requirements are outlined in section 3.5 of the EPA Guidelines however they identify the following;

- the location of the project
- the physical characteristics of the whole project
- the main characteristics of the operational phase of the project
- an estimate, by type and quantity, of the expected residues and emissions

The location of the project should include identifying key sensitive receptors (including tourism receptors). In the operational phase of the project any tourism based, or potentially tourism related activity, should be identified.

Assessment of Alternatives

The assessment of alternatives is a requirement of EIAR

Where tourism projects are location dependent the assessment of alternatives should consider alternative methods and technologies, detail the key considerations culminating in the selection of the design, the reasoning for these and the environmental effect of these decisions. This is particularly important for tourism projects which are often location tied. The developer is expected to consider reasonable alternatives. What is considered reasonable may vary from case to case.

Baseline Assessment

Baseline descriptions are evidence based, current descriptions of environmental characteristics with consideration of likely changes to the baseline environment evidenced in planning histories, unimplemented permissions, and applications pending determination. Baseline assessments should identify any tourism sensitivities in the zone of influence of a development. This zone of influence of a development is highly dependant on its **Context, Character, Significance, and Sensitivity**, as outlined in the Draft Guidelines. These characteristics apply to both the development and the environment.

For example, in a tourism context;

The location of sensitive tourism resources that are likely to be directly affected should be highlighted, and other premises which although located elsewhere, may be the subject of in combination impacts such as alteration of traffic flows or increased urban development.

The character of an area from a tourism perspective should be described and the principal types of tourism in the area. Where relevant, the specific environmental resources or attributes in the existing environment which each group uses or values should be stated and where relevant, indicate the time, duration or seasonality of any of those activities.

The significance of the tourism assets or activities likely to be affected should be highlighted. Reference to any existing formal or published designation or

recognition of such significance should be. Where possible the value of the contribution of such tourism assets and activities to the local economy should be provided.

If there are any significant concerns or opposition to the development known to exist among tourism stakeholders and interest groups, this should be highlighted. Identify, where possible, the particular aspect of the development which is of concern, together with the part of the existing tourism resource which may be threatened or impacted.

In addition, the baseline should include any methodologies employed in the study to obtain information, if particular databases are used to locate sensitive receptors they should be acknowledged. In relation to tourism information, the suggested information sources at the end of this document are a non-exhaustive list which may be of assistance in identifying tourism receptors.

Impact Assessment

The topics for consideration of impact are prescribed in the EIA Directive and transcribed into Irish law by the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018). Impact assessment should contain the likely significant effects of a development arising from both construction and operation of a development. Advice on describing the effects is contained within the Draft Guidelines and includes the **quality, significance, extent, probability, type** and **duration** of the effect, with particular descriptors for each. In describing effects upon tourism receptors these descriptors should take account of the particular aspects and sensitivities of tourism, for example a temporary annual effect from a development may have different impacts upon tourism if it falls at peak season rather than off-peak.

Impact assessment should be carried out as per EPA guidelines and the best practice for that prescribed topic. It may be considered appropriate to consider impact on tourism assets under the 'material assets' topic below.

Population and Human Health

The consideration of tourism projects within the Population and Human Health is extensive, with impacts ranging from rural employment population impacts of seasonal tourism, to the health impact of air pollution from increased traffic in urban areas.

The impact upon tourism can be considered within this section through the sensitivities of Hospitality, Safety and Pace of Life. Changes in population can impact the perception of pace of life or safety in a particular location. Impacts upon these issues in areas which rely heavily on tourism or have a particular sensitive tourism generator should be considered in this section.

Biodiversity

Particular tourist activities can have a significant impact upon biodiversity. Landscapes which are 'unspoiled' can be attractors of tourism. However, the disturbance to ecology must be managed to minimise impact. Biodiversity is also a tourism asset and should be protected as such from other development and should be provided for in proposals where possible.

Land, Soils and Geology

A link between tourism and this prescribed environmental factor, beyond the normal development impacts, is rare, however particular activities or facilities which use geological features may have an impact upon soils and geology, such as mountain biking trails, recreational uses of old quarries etc. Indirect impacts such as material use for extensive landscaping and public realm should also be considered.

Water

Tourism uses can be water intense, depending on development type. Recreational use of a surface water feature, water-based leisure centres etc have different impacts to standard development.

Air Quality and Climate

Tourism impact upon air quality is dependent on activity proposed and sensitivity of the location.

Noise and Vibration

A link between tourism and this prescribed environmental factor, beyond the normal development impacts, is rare, however the impact upon tourism of issues of noise and vibration can be significant. Construction adjoining hotels for example should consider the sensitivity of the development and ensure mitigation is in place.

Material Assets; Traffic and Transport

The different transport patterns associated with tourism activities is a key impact of tourism and should be considered especially for tourism projects. These produce temporal and seasonal changes on the norm and specialist consideration and interpretation should be given. Tourism proposals should, where possible, be well served by public transport and should be accessible by modes other than the car. The impact of traffic on tourism assets can be substantial and can vary in severity according to season, the weather, etc. The impact of construction traffic can be a particular concern in tourism sensitive areas in terms of noise pollution and visual impact. The construction programme of developments should work to avoid peak tourism periods in tourism areas and should consider planned or anticipated tourism events and festivals.

Cultural Heritage

Cultural heritage can be a key component of tourism projects and the impact of tourism on the maintenance of cultural heritage should be given the utmost consideration, whether positive or negative. As a tourism attraction, cultural heritage should be strongly considered in non-tourism developments and the impact upon tourism considered as a potential impact.

Archaeology

Archaeology can be of tourism interest and can be an attractive or key component of tourism projects. Archaeology can be a tourism attractor but is generally not kept in situ except in key cases which could also be considered under cultural heritage.

Material Assets; Waste Management

Tourism is a resource heavy activity and can impact waste streams and waste segregation. Impacts here should be considered strongly and with knowledge of the variation that arises from the particular tourist activity. Waste and Waste disposal issues can also impact the perception of an unspoiled environment, effecting tourism, which should be considered.

Material Assets

Material assets are utilities and infrastructure. Tourism itself could be considered a material asset as its impact upon the economy and the infrastructure in place to support it is a material consideration in assessing economic impact.

Landscape

The visual impact of a tourism development, especially in locations which are visually sensitive or renowned for their scenic or landscape beauty, should be considered carefully. A

development intended to utilise or enjoy a particular vista or environment should minimise impact upon that environment.

Major Accident and Natural Disaster

There is a requirement for tourist developments to describe expected significant effects on the environment of the proposed development's vulnerability to major accidents and/or natural disasters relevant to it. Where appropriate measures should be identified to prevent or mitigate the significant adverse effects of such accidents or disasters, including resulting from climate change, on the environment and detail the preparedness for the proposed response.

Interaction of Effects

Where two or more environmental impacts combine or interact they should be considered under the prescribed topics. It is best practice to provide a table of interactions within an EIAR or EIAR Screening Report.

Mitigation

Mitigation should follow the hierarchy of minimisation in descending order of preference- Avoid, Reduce, Remedy

Avoid sensitive tourism resources- such as views, access and amenity areas including habitats as well as historical or cultural sites and structures.

Reduce the exposure of sensitive resources to excessive environmental impact

Reduce the adverse effects to tourism land uses and patterns of activities, especially through interactions arising from significant changes in the intensity of use or contrasts of character or appearance.

Remedy any unavoidable significant residual adverse effects on tourism resources or activities.

Mitigation measures must be measurable and achievable within the bounds of the project.

Cumulative Impact

The cumulative impact is that of the project combined with any known likely project which will interact or compound an environmental impact.

Transboundary Impact

Transboundary impacts should be included in EIAR. In the case of tourism, especially international travel, the transboundary impacts may not be proximate to the EIAR site.

8. Sources of information on Tourism

Information available online

Fáilte Ireland

Fáilte Ireland offers detailed research analysis and insights into the Irish Tourism Industry. The National Tourism Development Authority has a portfolio of research across a number of areas including facts and figures, briefing papers and reports and visitor feedback. The Fáilte Ireland website has a dedicated research library which can be accessed [here](#)

Tourism Ireland

Tourism Ireland is responsible for marketing the island of Ireland overseas as a holiday and business tourism destination. Tourism Ireland publishes a range of research documents including; visitor facts and figures, seasonal updates and industry insights which are accessible [here](#)

Local Authorities

Local Authorities are an invaluable source of information. They produce tourism strategies and audits of tourism assets within their jurisdiction. Local authorities will also produce landscape and seascape studies. Protected views and prospects as well as the record of protected structures and other designated protected buildings are contained within the Statutory Development Plans.

Regional Authorities

Regional Authorities can also be consulted on high level strategic tourism and potential Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSEs) should be consulted.

Central Statistics Office

The Central Statistics Office (CSO) is Ireland's national statistical office and their purpose is to impartially collect, analyse and make available statistics about Ireland's people, society and economy. The Tourism and Travel Section of the Central Statistics Office is the major source for tourism statistics in Ireland and is updated regularly.

We have attached a cover letter and Scoping Document which provides details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process for the proposed development, we would welcome any comments in relation to the proposed project.

Please note we have had to reduce the size of this file for email - if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Denis Herlihy <denis.herlihy@ripplecom.net>
Sent: 28 February 2020 16:02
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Note Jarek has left the company Eoin but Adrian will respond to you.

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 28 February 2020 15:22
To: Licensing <licensing@ripplecom.net>; Adrian Carroll <adrian.carroll@ripplecom.net>; Jarek Frankiewicz <jarek.frankiewicz@ripplecom.net>
Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Adrian/Jarek,

Further to my email below, can you please confirm whether Ripplecom has any links in the area outlined red on the attached map?

Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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From: Eoin O'Sullivan
Sent: 21 February 2020 13:21
To: Licensing <licensing@ripplecom.net>; adrian.carroll@ripplecom.net
Cc: Jarek Frankiewicz <jarek.frankiewicz@ripplecom.net>

Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Adrian,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Ripplecom has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



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Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Declan Campbell <dcampbell@digiweb.ie>
Sent: 28 February 2020 16:00
To: Eoin O'Sullivan; Conor Pendlebury - VTL
Subject: RE: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Eoin, this should not impact us.

DC

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 28 February 2020 15:26
To: Conor Pendlebury - VTL <conor.pendlebury@viatel.com>
Cc: Declan Campbell <dcampbell@digiweb.ie>
Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Conor,

Further to my email below, can you please confirm whether Viatel has any links in the area outlined red on the attached map?

Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards

Eoin



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Senior Environmental Scientist

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From: Eoin O'Sullivan
Sent: 21 February 2020 13:20
To: Conor Pendlebury - VTL <conor.pendlebury@viatel.com>

Cc: Declan Campbell <dcampbell@digweb.ie>

Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Conor,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Viatel Ireland Ltd has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



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Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Thomas Barry <Tom.Barry@TETRAIRELAND.IE>
Sent: 02 March 2020 07:11
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Eoin,

This is being reviewed, once complete I'll get back to you.

Regards,
Tom

From: Eoin O'Sullivan [mailto:eosullivan@mkoireland.ie]
Sent: Friday 28 February 2020 15:23
To: Thomas Barry
Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Tom,

Further to my email below, can you please confirm whether Tetra Ireland has any links in the area outlined red on the attached map?

Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards

Eoin



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Senior Environmental Scientist

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From: Eoin O'Sullivan
Sent: 21 February 2020 13:21

To: Thomas Barry <Tom.Barry@TETRAIRELAND.IE>

Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Tom,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Thomas Barry <Tom.Barry@TETRAIRELAND.IE>
Sent: 02 March 2020 14:48
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Eoin,

We anticipate no impact from development at the proposed locations. Can you ensure the proposal is also reviewed by eir.

Regards,
Tom

From: Eoin O'Sullivan [mailto:eosullivan@mkoireland.ie]
Sent: Friday 21 February 2020 13:21
To: Thomas Barry
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Rachel Hennessy <RHennessy@towercom.ie>
Sent: 02 March 2020 10:31
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin,

From initial review, Towercom don't have any links located on our structures that would be affected in this area.

Kind regards,
Rachel

Rachel Hennessy
Towercom
M: +353 (0)86 843 9587
E: rachel.hennessy@towercom.ie

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 28 February 2020 15:24
To: Rachel Hennessy <RHennessy@towercom.ie>; Requests <requests@towercom.ie>
Subject: FW: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Rachel,

Further to my email below, can you please confirm whether Towercom has any links in the area outlined red on the attached map?

Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

MKO
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Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
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From: Eoin O’Sullivan

Sent: 21 February 2020 13:21

To: Rachel Hennessy <RHennessy@towercom.ie>; requests@towercom.ie

Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Rachel,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Towercom has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O’Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Rachel Hennessy <RHennessy@towercom.ie>
Sent: 11 March 2020 10:57
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Hi Eoin,

From review of the proposed location of the wind farm, it would not appear have an impact on Towercom's sites.

However, in order to fully assess any impact it may have, we would require coordinates showing the proposed turbines locations.

Kind regards,
Rachel

Rachel Hennessy
Towercom
M: +353 (0)86 843 9587
E: rachel.hennessy@towercom.ie

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 21 February 2020 13:21
To: Rachel Hennessy <RHennessy@towercom.ie>; Requests <requests@towercom.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Rachel,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if Towercom has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Myles Redmond <myles.redmond2@esb.ie>
Sent: 06 March 2020 11:45
To: Eoin O'Sullivan; Paul McDonagh
Cc: Wilson Dalikeni; Dermot Hopkins
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

H Eoin,

I have checked this planned development and I can confirm we don't have infrastructure in the area that may be impacted by the turbines.

Regards,

Myles

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 4 March 2020 12:05
To: McDonagh. Paul (ESB Networks) <paul.mcdonagh@esb.ie>; Redmond. Myles (ESB Networks) <myles.redmond2@esb.ie>
Cc: Dalikeni. Wilson (ESB Networks) <Wilson.Dalikeni@esb.ie>; Hopkins. Dermot (Engineering and Major Projects) <dermot.hopkins@esbtelecoms.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

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Dear Paul/Myles,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind farm at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, which is located approximately 20 kilometres northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometres to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. The Irish Transverse Mercator coordinates for the site centre are E512050, N680019. A site location map and a shape file is also attached.

Could you let me know please if ESB Telecoms has any links in this area, and we will incorporate these into our constraint map?

Many thanks. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

MKO
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Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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An timpeallacht? - Smaoinigh air sula bpriontáileann tú an r-phost seo.
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* * * * *

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Scanann ESB ríomhphoist agus ceangaltáin le haghaidh víreas, ach ní ráthaíonn sé go bhfuil ceachtar díobh saor ó víreas agus ní glacann dliteanas ar bith as aon damáiste de dhroim víreas.
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* * * * *

Eoin O'Sullivan

From: MKO-Admin
Sent: 10 March 2020 17:03
To: Collins, Kevin
Cc: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: EIA scoping document for proposed development in Glendine North, Co. Clare
Attachments: Slieveacurry EIA SD F - 2020.02.21 - 170224 RS.pdf

Dear Kevin,

Please find attached PDF Version of EIAR Scoping Document that was posted to you as requested.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Administrator

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



From: Collins, Kevin <Kevin.Collins@agriculture.gov.ie>
Sent: 10 March 2020 16:39
To: MKO-Admin <info@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: EIA scoping document for proposed development in Glendine North, Co. Clare

FAO Eoin O'Sullivan, Senior Environmental scientist, MKO Ireland

Dear Eoin,

Thanks for sending us the EIA scoping document for the proposed renewable energy development in Glendine North, Co. Clare (with cover letter, dated 21Feb20, ref. 170224).

Can I request an electronic copy of the scoping document, to facilitate circulation to my colleagues for comment?

Many thanks,

Kevin

Kevin Collins
Forestry Inspector - Environment

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

An Teach Talmhaíochta, Sráid Chill Dara, Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 WK12

Agriculture House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2, D02 WK12

M +353 (0)87 222 9200 T +353 (0)1 607 2502

www.agriculture.gov.ie

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental_Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>
Sent: 19 March 2020 16:04
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Dear Eoin

I refer to your recent correspondence concerning the above and please find comments from the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine below;

Under section 6.2.4.9 Hydrology and Hydrogeology, it would be important that the EIA study would evaluate the potential impact of the required changes to the drainage of the site and the potential to cause additional flooding downstream of the site. It is not sufficient to examine just the existing drainage of the site and site specific flood risk.

Kind regards

Cathy Hewitt

Executive Officer

An tAonad um Chomhordú Timpeallachta, An Rannóg um Athrú Aeráide agus Beartas Bithfhuinnimh,
Environmental Co-ordination Unit | Climate Change & Bioenergy Policy Division |

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Pailliún A, Páirc Gnó Grattan, Bóthar Átha Cliath, Port Laoise, Co Laoise, R32 K857

Pavilion A, Grattan Business Park, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co Laois, R32 K857

T +353 (0)57 868 9915 environmentalco-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie

www.agriculture.gov.ie

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 21 February 2020 16:07
To: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental_Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>
Subject: Re: 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

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Dear Sir or Madam,

Slieveacurry Ltd. is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, located in County Clare. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development.

We have attached a cover letter and Scoping Document which provides details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process for the proposed development, we would welcome any comments in relation to the proposed project.

Please note we have had to reduce the size of this file for email - if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv

Senior Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway

Ireland, H91 VW84

+353 (0) 91 735611

www.mkoireland.ie



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Tá an t-eolais san ríomhphost seo, agus in aon ceangláin leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le h-agmaigh an seolaí amháin. D'fhéadfadh ábhar an seoladh seo bheith faoi phribhléid profisiúnta nó dlíthiúil. Mura tusa an seolaí a bhí beartaithe leis an ríomhphost seo a fháil, tá cosc air, nó aon chuid de, a úsáid, a chóipeál, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental_Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>
Sent: 24 April 2020 09:03
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: Further Comments - 170224 - Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare - Proposed Renewable Energy Development

Re: E.I.A.R. Scoping Request for the proposed Renewable Energy Development at Glendine North & adjacent townlands, Co. Clare.

Dear Mr O'Sullivan,

Further to this office email on 19th March 2020 in relation to EIAR Scoping request for the above, the following are the comments from the Felling Division of this Department in relation to the proposed development:

If the proposed development will involve the felling or removal of any trees, the developer must obtain a Felling License from this Department before trees are felled or removed. A Felling Licence application form can be obtained from **Felling Section, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford**. Tel: 076-1064459, Web <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/tree-felling/tree-felling/>

A Felling Licence granted by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine provides authority under the Forestry Act 2014 to fell or otherwise remove a tree or trees and/or to thin a forest for silvicultural reasons. The Act prescribes the functions of the Minister and details the requirements, rights and obligations in relation to felling licences. The principal set of regulations giving further effect to the Forestry Act 2014 are the Forestry Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 191 of 2017).

The developer should take note of the contents of **Felling and Reforestation Policy** document which provide a consolidated source of information on the legal and regulatory framework relating to tree felling;

<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/forestry/tree-felling/FellingReforestationPolicy240517.pdf>. As this development is within a forest lands, particular attention should be paid to deforestation, turbulence felling and the requirement to afforest alternative lands.

In order to ensure regulated forestry operations in Ireland accord with the principles of sustainable forest management (SFM), as well fulfilling the requirements of other relevant environmental protection laws, the Department (acting through its Forest Service division) must undertake particular consultations, and give certain matters full consideration during the assessment of individual Felling Licence applications. This includes consultation with relevant bodies, the application of various protocols and procedures (e.g. Forest Service Appropriate Assessment Procedure), and the requirement for applicants on occasion to provide further information (e.g. a Natura Impact Statement).

Consequently, when the Forest Service is considering an application to fell trees, the following applies:

1. The interaction of these proposed works with the environment locally and more widely, in addition to potential direct and indirect impacts on designated sites and water, is assessed. Consultation with relevant environmental and planning authorities may be required where specific sensitivities

arise (e.g. local authorities, National Parks & Wildlife Service, Inland Fisheries Ireland, and the National Monuments Service);

2. Where a tree Felling Licence application is received, the Department will publish a notice of the application before making a decision on the matter. The notice shall state that any person may make a submission to the Department within 30 days from the date of the notice. The notices for 2020 are published online at:
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/publicconsultation/environmentalimpactassessment-ia-publicconsultation-for-afforestation-forest-road-construction-and-felling-licences-2020/>
3. Third parties that make a submission or observation will be informed of the decision to grant or refuse the licence, and on request, details of the conditions attached to the licence, the main reasons and considerations on which the decision to grant or refuse the licence was based, and where conditions are attached to any licence, the reasons for the conditions. Both third parties and applicants will be also informed of their right to appeal any decision within 28 days to the Forestry Appeals Committee. Felling Licence decisions for 2020 are published online at:
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/publicconsultation/environmentalimpactassessment-2020-register-of-decisions/>

It is important to note that when applying to a **Local Authority**, or **An Bord Pleanála**, for planning permission where developments are:

- a) subject to an EIA procedure (including screening in the case of a sub-threshold development) and any resulting requirement to produce an EIAR; and/or
- b) subject to an Appropriate Assessment procedure (including screening) and any resulting requirement to a Natura Impact Statement (NIS); and
- c) the proposed development in its construction or operational phases, or any works ancillary thereto, would directly or indirectly involve the felling and replanting of trees, deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use, or replacement of broadleaf high forest by conifer species,
 1. that there is a requirement inter alia under the EIA Directive for an overall assessment of the effects of the project or the alteration thereof on the environment to be undertaken, including the direct and indirect environmental impact of the project;

and

2. pursuant to Article 2(3) of the EIA Directive, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine strongly recommends that, notwithstanding the fact that a parallel consent in the form of felling licence may also have to be applied for, any EIAR and/or NIS produced in connection with the application for planning permission to the Local Planning Authority or An Bord Pleanála, should include an assessment of the impact of and measures, as appropriate, to prevent, mitigate or compensate for any significant adverse effects direct or indirect identified on the environment

arising from such felling and replanting of trees, deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use, or replacement of broadleaf high forest by conifer species.

Kind regards

Cathy Hewitt

Executive Officer

An tAonad um Chomhordú Timpeallachta, An Rannóg um Athrú Aeráide agus Beartas Bithfhuinnimh,
Environmental Co-ordination Unit | Climate Change & Bioenergy Policy Division |

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Pailliún A, Páirc Gnó Grattan, Bóthar Átha Cliath, Port Laoise, Co Laoise, R32 K857

Pavilion A, Grattan Business Park, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co Laois, R32 K857

T +353 (0)57 868 9915 environmentalco-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: MKO-Admin
Sent: 10 March 2020 12:48
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: FW: Letter in regards to proposed renewable energy development at Ennistimon Co. Clare.
Attachments: Letter IAA.pdf

From: RAFFERTY Audrey <audrey.rafferty@iaa.ie>
Sent: 10 March 2020 12:31
To: MKO-Admin <info@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: Letter in regards to proposed renewable energy development at Ennistimon Co. Clare.

Dear Sir or Madam

Please see the above the IAAs response to the proposed renewable energy development at Ennistimon Co. Clare. This response letter will also be sent to you via post.

Kind Regards

Audrey Rafferty
Corporate Affairs
Quality Management Unit
Irish Aviation Authority
11 -12 Dolier Street
Dublin 2
Ph: (01) 6031103
Email: audrey.rafferty@iaa.ie

=====

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Foirgneamh na hAmanna
11-12 Sráid D'Olier
Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 T449,
Éire

T: +353 1 671 8655
F: +353 1 679 2934
www.iaa.ie



Date 10th March 2020

Mr. Eoin O Sullivan
MKO
Tuam Road
Co Galway
H91 VW84

Development: Proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 632 hectares and is located approximately 20 kilometers northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 kilometers to the south of Ennistimon Co. Clare. Ref: 170224

Dear Sir / Madam

I refer to the request for planning permission for the above development, details of which were received by the Irish Aviation Authority from the Council.

It is the observations of the Irish Aviation Authority Aerodrome Department that in the event of planning consent being granted, the applicant should be conditioned to contact the Irish Aviation Authority to:

- (1) agree an aeronautical obstacle warning light scheme for the wind farm development,
- (2) provide as-constructed coordinates in WGS84 format together with ground and tip height elevations at each wind turbine location

<i>Turbine No.</i>	<i>WGS-84 Co-ordinates</i>	<i>Ground elevation (Malin Head OD)</i>	<i>Blade tip elevation of turbine (Malin Head OD)</i>	<i>Height of turbine (height from ground level to blade tip)</i>	<i>Confirm if turbine has obstacle lighting.</i>
T1	53.346125, -6.258288	75m	225m	150m	No

- (3) notify the Authority of intention to commence crane operations with a minimum of 30 days prior notification of their erection.'

Yours sincerely

Deirdre Forrest
Corporate Affairs

Bord Stiúirthóirí/Board of Directors

Michael McGrail (Cathaoirleach/Chairperson),
Peter Kearney (Príomhtheidmeannach/Chief Executive)
Cian Blackwell, Marie Bradley, Ernie Donnelly,
Gery Lumsden, Joan McGrath, Eimer O'Rourke

Oifig Chláraithe:

Foirgneamh na hAmanna, 11-12 Sráid D'Olier
Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 T449, Éire
Uimhir Chláraithe: 211082. Áit Chláraithe: Éire
Cuideachta Dlíteanais Theoranta

Registered Office:

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Mr. Eoin O'Sullivan
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan
Tuam Road
Co. Galway



Dáta | Date
9 March 2020

Ár dTag | Our Ref.
TII20-109032

Bhur dTag | Your Ref.
170224

RE: **EIAR Scoping Request: Proposed renewable energy development (9 no. wind turbines including grid connection) at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, Co. Clare on behalf of Slieveacurry Ltd.**

Dear Mr. O'Sullivan,

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) acknowledges receipt of your EIAR Scoping request in respect of the above proposed project, received by post on 25 February 2020.

National Strategic Outcome 2 of the National Planning Framework includes the objective to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the national roads network. It is also an investment priority of the National Development Plan, 2018 – 2027, to ensure that the extensive transport networks which have been greatly enhanced over the last two decades, are maintained to a high level to ensure quality levels of service, accessibility and connectivity to transport users.

The issuing of this correspondence is provided as best practice guidance only and does not prejudice TII's statutory right to make any observations, requests for further information, objections or appeals following the examination of any valid application referred.

The approach to be adopted by TII in making such submissions or comments will seek to uphold official policy and guidance as outlined in the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2012). Regard should also be had to other relevant guidance available at www.TII.ie.

TII notes that the consultation documentation identifies a windfarm study area of a stated 632 ha. located approximately 20km northwest of Ennis, Co. Clare and approximately 6.5 km to the south of Ennistymon, Co. Clare. This area appears approximately 5km east of the N67. With respect to EIAR Scoping issues, the recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of EIAR, which may affect the National Roads Network. The developer should have regard, *inter alia*, to the following;

1. As outlined in the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines (2012), the primary purpose of the national road network is to provide strategic transport links between the main centres of population and employment, including key international gateways such as the main ports and airports, and to provide access between all regions. The EIAR should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network in order to demonstrate that the development can proceed complementary to safeguarding the capacity, safety and operational efficiency of that network.

Próiseálann BIÉ sonraí pearsanta a sholáthraítear dó i gcomhréir lena Fhógra ar Chosaint Sonraí atá ar fáil ag www.tii.ie.
TII processes personal data in accordance with its Data Protection Notice available at www.tii.ie.

2. In relation to the proposed development site, the scheme promoter should note locations of existing and future national road schemes and develop proposals to safeguard proposed road schemes. Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office with regard to locations of existing and future national road schemes.
3. In relation to grid connection and cable routing, proposals should be developed to safeguard proposed road schemes as TII will not be responsible for costs associated with future relocation of cable routing where proposals are catered for in an area of a proposed national road scheme. In that regard, consideration should be given to routing options, use of existing crossings, depth of cable laying, etc.

In the context of existing national roads, alternatives to the provision of cabling along the national road network, such as alternative routing or the laying of cabling in private lands adjoining the national road, should be considered in the interests of safeguarding the investment in and the potential for future upgrade works to the national road network. The cable routing should avoid all impacts to existing TII infrastructure such as traffic counters, weather stations, etc. and works required to such infrastructure shall only be undertaken in consultation with and subject to the agreement of TII, any costs attributable shall be borne by the applicant/developer. The developer should also be aware that separate approvals may be required for works traversing the national road network.

4. Clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. Separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route. Consultation with relevant PPP Companies and MMarC Contractors may also be required. All structures on the haul route should be checked by the applicant/developer to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal load proposed.
5. Where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment be carried out in accordance with relevant guidelines, noting traffic volumes attending the site and traffic routes to/from the site with reference to impacts on the national road network and junctions of lower category roads with national roads. The Authority's Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the national road network. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of the TII TTA Guidelines which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA.
6. TII Standards should be consulted to determine the requirement for Road Safety Audit (RSA) and Road Safety Impact Assessment (RSIA).
7. Assessments and design and construction and maintenance standards and guidance are available at [TII Publications](#) that replaced the NRA Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) and the NRA Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works (MCDRW).
8. The developer, in conducting Environmental Impact Assessment, should have regard to TII Environment Guidelines that deal with assessment and mitigation measures for varied environmental factors and occurrences. In particular;
 - a. TII's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, including the *Guidelines for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes* (National Roads Authority, 2006),
 - b. The EIAR should consider the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 (SI 140 of 2006) and, in particular, how the development will affect future action plans by the relevant competent authority. The developer may

need to consider the incorporation of noise barriers to reduce noise impacts (see *Guidelines for the Treatment of Noise and Vibration in National Road Schemes* (1st Rev., National Roads Authority, 2004)).

Notwithstanding, any of the above, the developer should be aware that this list is non-exhaustive, thus site and development specific issues should be addressed in accordance with best practice.

I hope that the above comments are of use in your EIAR preparation.

Yours sincerely,



Michael McCormack
Senior Land Use Planner

Eoin O'Sullivan

From: PropertyManagementPlanning <PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie>
Sent: 12 March 2020 12:45
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: I Pre Application Scoping Request for Slieveacurry Windfarm Co. Clare,
Attachments: doc00447420200312123440.pdf

Hello Eoin

Please find attached letter in response to your request for observations with regard to the Proposed Windfarm by Slieveacurry Ltd at Glendine, Co. Clare.

Kind Regards,
Raymond

Raymond Myles
Property Management Branch

—

An Roinn Cosanta
Department of Defence
Bóthar an Staisiúin, An Droichead Nua, Contae Chill Dara, W12 AD93.
Station Road, Newbridge, Co.Kildare, W12 AD93.

—

T +353 (0)45 492036
raymond.myles@defence.ie

—

Fógra faoi Rúndacht: Tá an ríomhphost seo agus aon iatán a ghabhann leis rúnda. Is leis an duine / nó daoine sin amháin a bhfuil siad seolta chucu a bhaineann siad agus ní ceart iad a léamh ná a scaoileadh chuig aon tríú páirtí gan cead roimh ré ón Roinn Cosanta.

Chun amharc ar an Chairt do Chustaiméirí, cliceáil ar www.defence.ie/system/files/media/file-uploads/2018-06/customer-charter-2017-irish.pdf <<http://www.defence.ie/system/files/media/file-uploads/2018-06/customer-charter-2017-irish.pdf>>

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To view our Customer Charter, please click on www.defence.ie/system/files/media/file-uploads/2018-06/customer-charter-2017.pdf <<http://www.defence.ie/system/files/media/file-uploads/2018-06/customer-charter-2017.pdf>>



An Roinn Cosanta
Department of Defence

MKO
Tuam Road
Galway
Ireland H91 VW84
FAO: Eoin O'Sullivan

12 March 2020

Re: Pre-Application Scoping Document Request : Sileveacurry Windfarm Co. Clare

Dear Eoin,

I write with regard to the above mentioned pre planning request and your email/letter to this office on the 21st February 2020.

The Department of Defence has the following observations, based on the information given, to make on this matter.

In all locations where windfarms are permitted it should be a condition that they meet the following lighting requirements :

1. Single turbines or turbines delineating corners of a windfarm should be illuminated by high intensity obstacle strobe lights (Red).
2. Obstruction lighting elsewhere in a windfarm will be of a pattern that will allow the hazard be identified and avoided by aircraft in flight.
3. Obstruction lights used should be incandescent or of a type visible to Night Vision Equipment. Obstruction lighting fitted to obstacles must emit light at the near Infra-Red (IR) range of the electromagnetic spectrum specifically at or near 850nanometres (nm) of wavelength. Light intensity to be of similar value to that emitted in the visible spectrum of light. Obstruction lights used should be incandescent or of a type visible to Night Vision Equipment.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond Myles
Planning and Disposals
Property Management
Ph : 045-492036
E mail : Raymond.myles@defence.ie

Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Clare Glanville <Clare.Glanville@DCCAE.gov.ie>
Sent: 13 March 2020 12:56
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Cc: John Butler
Subject: 20_49_EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Glendine North and adjacent townlands in County Clare
Attachments: 20_49_Planning application for composting facility at Windtown Summerhill Co Meath.pdf

Re: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Glendine North and adjacent townlands in County Clare

Your Ref: 170224

Our Ref: 20/49

Dear Eoin,

With reference to your letter received on 21 February 2020, in relation to the above referenced proposed development, please see attached Geological Survey Ireland's response.

If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact me (Clare.Glanville@gsi.ie).

Yours Sincerely,
Dr. Clare Glanville



Dr Clare Glanville Senior Geologist Geoheritage & Geological Mapping.

Geological Survey Ireland, Beggars Bush, Haddington Road, Dublin D04 K7X4, Ireland.

T +353 (0)1 678 2837 E clare.glanville@DCCAE.gov.ie www.gsi.ie

A division of the Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment.

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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar sheol an teachtaireacht ar an eolas láithreach. Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aims odh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.



Eoin O'Sullivan
MKO
Tuam Road
Galway
H91 VW84

13 March 2020

Re: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Glendine North and adjacent townlands in County Clare

Your Ref: 170224

Our Ref: 20/49

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and has datasets on Bedrock Geology, Quaternary Geology, Geological Heritage Sites, Mineral deposits, Groundwater Resources and the Irish Seabed. These comprise maps, reports and extensive databases that include mineral occurrences, bedrock/mineral exploration groundwater/site investigation boreholes, karst features, wells and springs. Please see our [website](#) for data availability and we recommend using these various data sets, when undergoing the EIAR, planning and scoping processes. Geological Survey Ireland should be referenced to as such and should any data or geological maps be used, they should be attributed correctly to Geological Survey Ireland.

Dear Eoin,

With reference to your email and letter received on the 21 of February 2020, concerning the EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Glendine North and adjacent townlands in County Clare. I refer you to the above abstract of services and data provided by Geological Survey Ireland (a division of Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment) and information available to support the EIAR process.

Geological Survey Ireland welcomes the opportunity to provide input to the process at this early stage of the planning and the EIAR process.

Geoheritage

Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) is in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs) to identify and select important geological and geomorphological sites throughout the country for designation as geological NHAs (Natural Heritage Areas). This is addressed by the Irish Geoheritage Programme (IGH) of GSI, under 16 different geological themes, in which the minimum number of scientifically significant sites that best represent the theme are rigorously selected by a panel of theme experts.

County Geological Sites (CGS), as adopted under the National Heritage Plan are now included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#). The audit for Co. Clare was completed in 2005. A published version is available and can be downloaded from [here](#). **Our records show that there are no CGS located in close proximity of the proposed development site but that there are sites recorded within the 15km radius marked on drawing 2.2 of the scoping document. We would like to draw your attention to this dataset.**

Geotechnical Database Resources

Geological Survey Ireland continues to populate and develop our national geotechnical database and viewer with site investigation data submitted voluntarily by industry. The current database holding is over 7500 reports with 134,000 boreholes; 31,000 of which are digitised which can be accessed through downloads from our



[Geotechnical Map Viewer](#). We would strongly recommend that this database be consulted as part of any baseline geological assessment of the proposed development as it can provide invaluable baseline data for the region or vicinity of the proposed development area. This information may be beneficial and cost saving for any site specific investigations that may be designed as part of the development.

Groundwater

Groundwater is important as a source of drinking water, and it supports river flows, lake levels and ecosystems. It contains natural substances dissolved from the soils and rocks that it flows through, and can also be contaminated by human actions on the land surface. As a clean, but vulnerable, resource, groundwater needs to be understood, managed and protected. Through our [Groundwater Programme](#), Geological Survey Ireland provides advice and maps to members of the public, consultancies and public bodies about groundwater quality, quantity and distribution. Geological Survey Ireland monitors groundwater nationwide by characterising aquifers, investigating karst landscapes and landforms and by helping to protect public and group scheme water supplies. With regard to Flood Risk Management, there is a need to identify areas for integrated constructed wetlands. We recommend using the GSI's National Aquifer and Recharge maps on our [Map viewer](#) to this end. We recommend that other groundwater related data available on our online databases is also used within the EIAR assessment in terms of groundwater wells and springs, aquifer vulnerability, subsoil permeability, and drinking water protection areas.

Geohazards

Geohazards can cause widespread damage to landscapes, wildlife, human property and human life. In Ireland, landslides are the most prevalent of these hazards. Geological Survey Ireland has information available on past landslides for viewing as a layer on our [Map Viewer](#). Geological Survey Ireland also engages in national projects such as Landslide Susceptibility Mapping and GWflood Groundwater Flooding, and in international projects, such as the Tsunami Warning System, coordinated by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. We recommend that geohazards be taken into consideration, especially when developing areas where these risks are prevalent, and we encourage the use of our data when doing so.

Natural Resources (Minerals/Aggregates)

Geological Survey Ireland is of the view that the sustainable development of our natural resources should be an integral part of all development plans from a national to regional to local level to ensure that the materials required for our society are available when required and potential recourses do not suffer from inadvertent sterilisation. The Active Quarries, Mineral Localities and the Aggregate Potential maps are available on our [Map Viewer](#). Geological Survey Ireland highlights the consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a material asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process. Geological Survey Ireland provides data, maps, interpretations and advice on matters related to minerals, their use and their development in our [Minerals section](#) of the website. **The EIAR should also consider potential for resource sterilisation as part of the planning process, and if further information is required beyond that available on our website please do not hesitate to contact us.**

Other Comments

Should development go ahead, all other factors considered, Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. Should any significant bedrock cuttings be created, we would ask that they will be designed to remain visible as rock exposure rather than covered with soil and vegetated, in accordance with safety guidelines and engineering constraints. In areas where natural exposures are few, or deeply weathered, this measure would permit on-going improvement of geological knowledge of the subsurface and could be included as additional sites of the geoheritage dataset, if appropriate. Alternatively, we ask that a digital photographic record of significant new excavations could be provided. Potential visits from Geological Survey Ireland to personally document exposures could also be arranged. The data would be added to GSI's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to Beatriz Mozo, Geological Mapping Unit, at Beatriz.Mozo@gsi.ie, 01-678 2795.



**Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe
ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil**
Department of Communications,
Climate Action & Environment



Geological Survey
Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta
Ireland | Éireann

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me, , Dr. Clare Glanville (clare.glanville@dcae.gov.ie)

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Clare Glanville
Planning and Geoheritage Programmes Lead

Eoin O'Sullivan

From: MKO-Admin
Sent: 27 March 2020 09:09
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: FW: Proposed Renewable Energy Deveopment Scoping EHIS 1125
Attachments: HSE submission Renewable Energy Scoping - Glendine Co Clare EHIS 1125.doc; Cover letter Scoping report - Proposed renewable energy development.doc

From: Leen, Gerry
Sent: Thursday 26 March 2020 16:48
To: MKO-Admin <info@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: Proposed Renewable Energy Deveopment Scoping EHIS 1125

For the attention of Mr. Eoin O'Sullivan.

Attached please see scoping report and cover letter from this office regarding the above.

Kind Regards,
Gerry

Gerard Leen, Principal Environmental Health Officer, Environmental Health Service, HSE, Unit 6, Quin Road Business Park, Quin Road, Ennis, Co. Clare. Tel: 065 6706660

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Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

An tSeirbhís Sláinte Comhshaoil
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,
Ionad 6, Páirc Ghnó Bothar Chuinche,
Inis, Co. An Chlár.

Environmental Health Service,
Health Service Executive,
Unit 6, Quin Road Business Park,
Ennis, Co. Clare.

 (065) 6706660

Date: 26th March 2020
Name: Mr Eoin O'Sullivan, McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd., MKO,
Tuam Road, Galway
Consultant's reference: 170224
Re: Scoping Report
Proposed development: Proposed Renewable Energy Development at Glendine North and
adjacent townlands, Co. Clare
Applicant: Slieveacurry Ltd
EHIS ref: 1125

Dear Mr O'Sullivan,

Please find enclosed the HSE Consultation Report in relation to the above proposal.
The following HSE departments were made aware of the consultation request for the proposed
development on 11th March 2020

- Emergency Planning – Kay Kennington
- Estates – Helen Maher
- Assistant National Director for Health Protection – Kevin Kelleher/ Laura Murphy
- CHO – Maria Bridgeman

If you have any queries regarding this report the initial point of contact is the undersigned, Mr Gerard Leen,
Principal Environmental Health Officer, who will refer your query to the appropriate person.

Yours sincerely,

Gerard Leen
Principal Environmental Health Officer



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

An tSeirbhís Sláinte Comhshaoil
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,
Ionad 6, Páirc Ghnó Bothar Chuinche,
Inis, Co. An Chlár.

Environmental Health Service,
Health Service Executive,
Unit 6, Quin Road Business Park,
Ennis, Co. Clare.

☎ (065) 6706660

**HSE EIA Scoping
Environmental Health Service Submission Report**

Date: 26th March 2020
Our reference: EHIS 1125
Report to: Mr Eoin O'Sullivan, McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd., MKO, Tuam Road, Galway
Type of Consultation: EIA Scoping
Applicant: Slieveacurry Ltd

Proposed Development:

Proposed renewable energy development encompassing approximately 9 No. wind turbines, access roads, electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, battery storage facility, burrow pits, electrical underground cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent anemometry mast on a proposed area of 632 km at Glendine North and adjacent townlands, Co. Clare.

General Introduction

The following documents should be considered when preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment Report:

- Guidelines on the information to be contained in EIS (2002), 187kb
- Advice Notes on Current Practice in the preparation of EIS (2003), 435kb
- Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanala on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment

https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidelines_for_planning_authorities_and_an_bord_pleanala_on_carrying_out_eia_-_august_2018.pdf

EU publication: Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects Guidance on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, EU, 2017

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/pdf/EIA_guidance_EIA_report_final.pdf

Adoption of the Directive (2014/52/EU) in April 2014 initiated a review of the above guidelines. The draft new guidelines can be seen at:

<http://www.epa.ie/pubs/consultation/reviewofdraftteisguidelinesadvicenotes/>

Generally the Environmental Impact Assessment should examine all likely significant impacts and provide the following information for each:

- a) Description of the receiving environment;
- b) The nature and scale of the impact;
- c) An assessment of the significance of the impact;
- d) Proposed mitigation measures;
- e) Residual impacts.

Directive 2014/52/EU has an increased requirement to assess likely significant impacts on Population and Human Health. In the experience of the Environmental Health Service (EHS) impacts on human health are generally inadequately assessed in EIA in Ireland. It is recommended that the wider determinants of health and wellbeing are considered in a proportionate manner when considering the EIA. Guidance on wider determinants of health can be found at www.publichealth.ie

It should be noted that the positive likely significant impacts should be identified and assessed, not just any likely negative significant impacts from the proposed development.

The HSE will consider the final EIAR accompanying the planning application and will in particular make comments to the Planning Authority on the methodology used for assessing the likely significant impacts and the evaluation criteria used in assessing the significance of the impact.

This report only comments on Environmental Health Impacts of the proposed development. It is based on an assessment of the correspondence submitted to this office dated 21 February 2020. In addition to supporting the requirement for assessment of those factors identified in your correspondence, the Environmental Health Service (EHS) also recommends that the following matters are highlighted for your attention.

- Public Consultation
- Decommissioning phase
- Siting and location of turbines
- Opportunity for Health Gain
- Noise & Vibration
- Shadow Flicker
- Air Quality
- Surface and Groundwater Quality
- Geological Impacts
- Ancillary facilities
- Cumulative impacts

Public Consultation

It is strongly recommended that early and meaningful public consultation with the local community should be carried out to ensure all potentially significant impacts have been adequately addressed. All parties affected by the proposed development, **including those who may benefit financially from the project**, must be fully informed of what the proposal entails, especially with regard to potential associated effects on surrounding areas. Sensitive receptors and other stakeholders should be identified to ensure all necessary and appropriate mitigation measures are put in place to avoid any complaints about the proposed wind farm development in the future.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) should clearly demonstrate the link between public consultations and how those consultations have influenced the decision-making process in the EIA.

Decommissioning Phase

The EIAR should detail not only how the existing turbines will be decommissioned, but what the eventual fate of the turbines and associated material will be, i.e. will the material be reused or how will it be disposed of.

Information should also be provided regarding the proposed methodology to be used for the disposal of the materials forming the foundations of the wind turbines.

Siting and Location of Turbines

The EIAR should include a map and a description of the proposed location of each of the proposed wind turbines.

Opportunity for Health Gain

The EPA has issued guidance with regard to meeting the requirements of Directive 2014/52/EU. The proposed development should be assessed with a view to including opportunities for health gain within the site of the proposed wind farm by including greenways, cycle-paths or walking routes within the development site.

Noise & Vibration

The potential impacts for noise and vibration from the proposed development on all noise sensitive locations must be clearly identified in the EIAR. The EIAR must also consider the appropriateness and effectiveness of all proposed mitigation measures to minimise noise/vibration

A baseline noise monitoring survey should be undertaken to establish the existing background noise levels. Noise from any existing turbines in the area should not be included as part of the back ground levels. In addition, an assessment of the predicted noise impacts during the construction phase and the operational phase of the proposed wind farm development must be undertaken which details the change in the noise environment resulting from the proposed wind farm development

Shadow Flicker

It is recommended that a shadow flicker assessment is undertaken to identifying all dwellings and sensitive receptors which may be impacted by shadow flicker. The assessment must include all proposed mitigation measures

Air Quality

Due to the nature of the proposed construction works, generation of airborne dust has the potential to have significant impacts on sensitive receptors. A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) should be included in the EIAR which details dust control and mitigation measures. Measures should include:

- Sweeping of hard road surfaces
- Provision of a water bowser on site, regular spraying of haul roads
- Wheel washing facilities at site exit
- Restrict speed on site
- Provide covers to all delivery trucks to minimise dust generation
- Inspect and clean public roads in the vicinity if necessary
- Material stockpiling provided with adequate protection from the wind
- Dust monitoring at the site boundary
- Truck inspection and maintenance plan
- Details of a road maintenance agreement between the wind farm operator and the Local Roads Authority to clarify responsibility for the upkeep and repair of access roads during the construction phase of the project.

Surface and Ground Water Quality

The proposed development has the potential to have a significant impact on the quality of both surface and ground water. All drinking water sources, both surface and ground water must be identified. Public and Group Water Scheme sources and supplies should be identified. Measures to ensure that all sources and supplies are protected should be described. The Environmental Health Service recommends that a walk over survey of the site is undertaken in addition to a desktop analysis of Geological Survey of Ireland data in order to identify the location of private wells used for drinking water purposes.

Any potential significant impacts to drinking water sources should be assessed. Details of bedrock, overburden, vulnerability, groundwater flows, aquifers and catchment areas should be considered when assessing potential impacts and any proposed mitigation measures.

Geological impacts

A detailed assessment of the current ground stability of the site for the proposed wind farm development and all proposed mitigation measures should be detailed in the EIAR. The assessment should include the impact construction work may have on the future stability of ground conditions, taking into consideration extreme weather events, site drainage and the potential for soil erosion.

Ancillary Facilities

The EIAR should include details of the location of the site office, construction compound, fuel storage depot, sanitary accommodation and canteen, First Aid facilities, disposal of wastewater and the provision of a potable water supply to the site canteen.

Cumulative Impacts

All existing and proposed wind farms in the vicinity of the proposed renewable energy development at Glendine should be clearly identified in the EIAR. The impact on sensitive receptors of the proposed development combined with any other wind farm developments in the vicinity should be considered. The EIAR should include a detailed assessment of any likely significant cumulative impacts of the proposed renewable energy development.



Rory O'Dea
Senior Environmental Health Officer
HSE West
Unit 6, Quin Road Business Park
Quin Road
Ennis
Co. Clare



Environmental Health Officer
Environment Operational Unit
HSE West
Ennistymon Health Centre
Ennistymon
Co. Clare



Our Ref: **G Pre00110/2020**
(Please quote in all related correspondence)

26 August 2020

MKO
Tuam Road
Galway
H91 VW84
Via email eosullivan@mkoireland.ie

Re: Proposed renewable energy development at Glendine North and adjacent Townlands, Co. Clare.

A chara

On behalf of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, I refer to correspondence received in connection with the above.

Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations of the Department under the stated heading(s).

Nature Conservation

Ecological Survey

With regard to scoping for an EIAR for a proposed development, in order to assess impacts on biodiversity, fauna, flora and habitats, an ecological survey should be carried out of the site of the proposed development site including the route of any access roads, pipelines or cables etc. to survey the habitats and species present. Any improvement or reinforcement works required for access and transport anywhere along any proposed haul route(s) should be included in the EIAR and subjected to ecological impact assessment with the inclusion of mitigation measures, as appropriate. It should be noted by the applicant that where bridges require strengthening this may involve grouting of crevices which may function as bat roosts. Where ex-situ impacts are possible survey work may be required outside of the development sites.

Surveys should be carried out by suitably qualified persons at an appropriate time of the year depending on the species being surveyed for. The EIAR should include the results of the surveys, and detail the survey methodology and timing of such surveys. It is expected by this Department that in any survey methodology used that best practice will be adhered to and if necessary non Irish methodology adapted for the Irish situation. The EIAR should cover the whole project, including construction, operation and, if applicable, restoration or decommissioning phases. Alternatives examined should also be included in the EIAR. Inland Fisheries Ireland should be consulted with regard to fish species if applicable. For information on Geological and Geomorphological sites the Geological Survey of Ireland should be consulted.



Baseline data

With regard to the scope of baseline data, details of designated sites can be found at www.npws.ie/. For flora and fauna the data of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) should be consulted at www.npws.ie/. Where further detail is required on any information on the website, a data request form should be submitted. This can be found at www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/general/Data%20request%20form.doc. Further information may be found at <http://dahg.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html>. Other sources of information relating to habitats and species include that of the National Biodiversity Data Centre (www.biodiversityireland.ie), Inland Fisheries Ireland (www.fisheriesireland.ie), BirdWatch Ireland (www.birdwatchireland.ie) and Bat Conservation Ireland (www.batconservationireland.org). Data may also exist at a County level within the Planning Authority.

Impact assessment

The impact of the development on the flora, fauna and habitats present should be assessed. In particular the impact of the proposed development should be assessed, where applicable, with regard to.

- Natura 2000 sites, i.e. Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated under the EC Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA) designated under the EC Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147 EC).
- Other designated sites, or sites proposed for designation, such as Natural Heritage Areas and proposed Natural Heritage Areas, Nature Reserves and Refuges for Fauna or Flora, designated under the Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2018.
- Species protected under the Wildlife Acts including protected flora.
- '*Protected species and natural habitats*', as defined in the Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) and European Communities (Environmental Liability) Regulations, 2008, including Birds Directive – Annex I species and other regularly occurring migratory species, and their habitats (wherever they occur) and Habitats Directive – Annex I habitats, Annex II species and their habitats, and Annex IV species and their breeding sites and resting places (wherever they occur). Of particular relevance to this site is that the Birds Directive Annex I species Hen Harrier has been recorded in the area and the Habitats Directive Annex II species Marsh Fritillary has also been recorded in the area, this department expects that these species will be surveyed for at the appropriate times and that any impact of the proposed development on them will be assessed.
- Important bird areas such as those identified by Birdlife International.
- Features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild flora and fauna, such as those with a "stepping stone" and ecological corridors function, as referenced in Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.
- Other habitats of ecological value in a national to local context (such as those identified as locally important biodiversity areas within Local Biodiversity Action Plans and County Development Plans).
- Red data book species.
- Biodiversity in general.

Reference should be made to the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 and any relevant County Biodiversity Plan, as well as the All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020.



It should be noted that the National Biodiversity Action Plan sets out Government policy on nature conservation and includes as Objective 1 to “mainstream biodiversity into decision making” , including for all public authorities to move towards no net loss of biodiversity. It also requires Local Authorities to develop policies and objectives for the protection and restoration of biodiversity.

Any losses of biodiverse habitat associated with this proposed development (including for example from access roads and cabling) such as blanket bog, heath, woodland, scrub, hedgerows and other habitats should be mitigated for.

In order to assess the above impacts it may be necessary to obtain hydrological and/or geological data. In particular any impact on water table levels or groundwater flows may impact on wetland sites some distance away. The EIAR should assess cumulative impacts with other plans or projects if applicable. Where negative impacts are identified suitable mitigation measures should be detailed if appropriate. As EU Member States have to report every 6 years on the National resource of habitats and species listed under the Habitats Directive it is important that any impact on such habitats and species both inside and outside of Natura 2000 sites is recorded.

Alien invasive species

The EIAR should also address the issue of invasive alien plant and animal species, such as Japanese Knotweed, and detail the methods required to ensure they are not accidentally introduced or spread during construction. Information on alien invasive species in Ireland can be found at <http://invasives.biodiversityireland.ie/> and at <http://invasivespeciesireland.com/>.

Hedgerows and protected species

Hedgerows form important wildlife corridors and provide areas for birds to nest in. In addition badger setts may be present. If suitable trees are present bats may roost there and they use hedgerows as flight routes. It is important that the connectivity of routes for the movement these species are not compromised should any hedgerows have to be removed. Adverse impacts from the removal of hedgerows could result in the natural range for bat species being reduced, thus impacting on their favourable conservation status.

Badgers are listed on annex III of the Berne Convention and are protected under the Wildlife Acts. Hedgerows also provide a habitat for woodland flora. Some hedgerows will be of historical significance, such as townland or county boundaries which are also in many instances legal property boundaries. Such hedgerow boundaries will therefore be old hedgerows and will be likely to be of more importance to biodiversity than a newer hedgerow. Every effort should be made to retain hedgerows. The EIAR should provide an estimate of the length of hedgerow that will be lost, if any.

Where trees or hedgerows have to be removed there should be suitable planting of native species in mitigation. Hedgerows and trees should not be removed during the nesting season (i.e. March 1st to August 31st).

Bats

Bat roosts may be present in trees, buildings and bridges. Bat roosts can only be destroyed under licence under the Wildlife Acts and a derogation under the Birds and Natural Habitats Regulations and such a licence would only be given if suitable mitigation measures were



implemented. Where so called bat friendly lighting is proposed as mitigation then it should be proven to work as mitigation. However please note that the recently published *Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK, Guidance Note 08/18, Bat Conservation Trust and Institution of Lighting Professionals*, which can be downloaded from <https://www.theilp.org.uk/documents/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/>, has found that artificial lighting has been found to be particularly harmful if used along river corridors, near woodland edges and near hedgerows. Therefore lighting in woodlands and ecological corridors should be avoided.

Rivers and Wetlands

Wetlands are important areas for biodiversity. Any watercourse or wetland impacted on should be surveyed for the presence of protected species and species listed on Annexes II and IV of the Habitats Directive. These species could include otters (*Lutra lutra*), which are protected under the Wildlife Acts and listed on Annexes II and IV of the Habitats Directive, Salmon (*Salmo salar*) and Lamprey species listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive, Freshwater Pearl Mussels (*Margaritifera species*) and White-clawed Crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*) which are protected under the Wildlife Acts and listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive, Frogs (*Rana temporaria*) and Newts (*Triturus vulgaris*) protected under the Wildlife Acts and Kingfishers (*Alcedo atthis*) protected under the Wildlife Acts and listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409 EEC).

One of the main threats identified in the threat response plan for otter is habitat destruction (see www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/2009_Otter_TRP.pdf).

In addition a 10 m riparian buffer on both banks of a waterway is considered to comprise part of the otter habitat. Therefore any proposed development should be located at least 10 m away from the waterway.

A suitable riparian habitat should be left along each watercourse. Construction work should not be allowed impact on water quality and measures should be detailed in the EIAR to prevent sediment and/or fuel runoff from getting into watercourses which could adversely impact on aquatic species. Flood plains, if present, should be identified in the EIAR and left undeveloped to allow for the protection of these valuable habitats and provide areas for flood water retention. If applicable the EIAR should take account of the guidelines for Planning Authorities entitled "The Planning System and Flood Risk Management" and published by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in November 2009.

IFI should be consulted with regard to impacts on fish species.

Freshwater Pearl Mussel

The freshwater pearl mussel is a species of bivalve mollusc that dwells in rivers and lakes. It is a highly threatened animal and is critically endangered across Europe including in Ireland. The main causes of the poor status and the ongoing decline of the species across Ireland and Europe are sedimentation and enrichment (eutrophication) of its habitat. The reason for this is damage and destruction of the juvenile mussel habitat. Juvenile freshwater pearl mussels live in interstitial spaces in the river substratum for at least the first five years of life. Sedimentation clogs these spaces and accumulates on the substratum, blocking the flow of oxygen- and food-rich water to the juveniles. Freshwater Pearl Mussels are listed on annex II of the Habitats Directive. Filamentous algae have a similar impact, smothering the substratum, contributing fine particulate organic matter on decay and causing oxygen depletion at night and during decay. Higher plants have similar impacts, and further stabilise



fine material with their root structure. In many Irish rivers, both SAC and non-SAC, sedimentation and nutrient enrichment is so severe that adult mussels are dying of oxygen and/or food starvation.

Owing to its threatened status and the dramatic declines in numbers across its range, the freshwater pearl mussel is listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive. 19 Special Areas of Conservation have been selected for the species in Ireland. It is a protected species under the Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2018, being listed on the Fifth Schedule by S.I. 112 of 1990. Consequently, it is an offence to hunt, injure, wilfully interfere with or destroy its breeding place or resting place. Owing to the risk of exploitation of the species for its freshwater pearls, it is also listed on Appendix 3 of the Bern Convention and Annex V of the Habitats Directive.

It is important that the needs of the Freshwater Pearl Mussels are considered in relation to water quality. The aim is to restore the population to good conservation status. Where Freshwater Pearl Mussels could potentially be impacted by a proposed development, the applicant should have due regard to, and incorporate any measures from, the Freshwater Pearl Mussel sub-basin plans, as appropriate. Copies of the draft sub basin plans and Programmes of Measures for Freshwater Pearl Mussels can be downloaded from http://www.wfdireland.ie/docs/5_FreshwaterPearlMusselPlans/ or through www.environ.ie. The applicant should also refer to The European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009, SI 296 of 2009. The website www.npws.ie also has useful reference material on freshwater pearl mussels including volumes 8-9 of The Irish Wildlife Manuals, which can be found on www.npws.ie/publications/irishwildlifemanuals/.

Water quality

Ground and surface water quality should be protected during the construction and operation of the proposed development and if applicable the applicant should ensure that adequate sewage treatment facilities are or will be in place prior to any development. The applicant should also ensure that adequate water supplies are present prior to development.

Bridges and Flora

Masonry bridges are a valuable habitat for a myriad of saxicolous vascular, bryophyte and lichen species. Many species have as their preferred habitat such structures whilst a smaller, restricted number of rarer species are dependant solely on such structures (usually on the mortar between the masonry). There is a very good chance that cleaning the mosses off bridges and walls could have a real impact on Irish biodiversity. The recommendations below are made in the interests of maintaining this aspect of Ireland's biodiversity (recently highlighted in the publication of 'The Rare and Threatened Bryophytes of Ireland'.

- Only lime mortar should be used for repointing, grouting etc. (as per NRA guidelines as stated).
- The "Removal of vegetation from the bridge surface, parapets and embankments", should be carried out judiciously so as to avoid the wholesale removal of small vascular plants, bryophytes and lichens – their removal should be deemed only necessary for imperatives reasons of engineering integrity.

Note however that a bat survey should be carried out before any pointing or grouting.



Bird and bat flight paths

Wind turbines and associated cables have the potential to impact on bird flight paths, therefore the survey work required should include 2 years of bird data. Survey methodologies should follow best practice and if necessary be modified to reflect the Irish situation. When survey results are being presented in an EIAR and NIS it is important that best practice is followed and that the full survey methodology, including dates and times, is detailed. Results for species need to be referenced back to the overall a species could be considered significant. It is important that bird migration routes are considered as well as routes of birds travelling on a daily basis between roosting and feeding areas. Hen Harrier has been recorded in this area and should be surveyed for during both the breeding and non-breeding seasons.

As wind turbines can also impact on bats a bat survey will be required.

Monitoring

This Department recognises the importance of pre and post construction monitoring, such as recommended in Drewitt et al. (2006), and Bat Conservation Ireland (2012). The applicant should not use any proposed post construction monitoring as mitigation to supplement inadequate information in the assessment. Please refer to Circular Letter PD 2/07 and NPWS 1/07 on this issue. This can be downloaded from the Department's website at <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/general/circular-pd-02-07.pdf>.

The EIAR process should identify any pre and post construction monitoring which should be carried out. The post construction monitoring should include bird and bat strikes/fatalities including the impact on any such results of the removal of carcasses by scavengers. Monitoring results should be made available to the competent Authority and copied to this Department. A plan of action needs to be agreed at planning stage with the Planning Authority if the results in future show a significant mortality of birds and/or bat species.

Bird and Bat References

Bat Conservation Ireland (2012) Wind Turbine/Wind Farm Development Bat Survey Guidelines. Version 2.8 December 2012.

Drewitt, Allan L. and Longston Rowena H. W. (2006) Assessing the impacts of wind farms on birds. Ibis 148, 29-42.

Turbine specification

Should the exact height and rotor diameter of the turbines to be used not be known at EIAR stage then the assessment of impacts must be applicable to a variety of turbine heights and rotor diameters which could be used. This should be made clear in the EIAR.

Guidance and References

In addition you may wish to refer to the documents listed below, some of which may be of assistance.

The final draft EU Guidance on Wind Energy Developments and Natura 2000 which can be downloaded from



ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/Wind_farms.pdf.

The Departmental Wind Energy Planning Guidelines which can be downloaded from <http://www.environ.ie/en/Publications/DevelopmentandHousing/Planning/FileDownLoad.1633.en.pdf>.

Windfarms on Peatland (2008-2010) Mires and Peat volume 4 which can be found on <http://www.mires-and-peat.net/mpj3.html>.

Best Practice guidance for Habitat Survey and Mapping by George F Smith, Paul O'Donoghue, Katie O'Hora and Eamon Delaney, 2011, The Heritage Council, which can be downloaded from their website at <http://www.heritagecouncil.ie/wildlife/publications/>.

Pearce-Higgins, James W., Stephen, Leigh, Langston, Rowena H. W., Bainbridge, Ian P. and Bullman, Rhys (2009). The distribution of breeding birds around upland wind farms. *Journal of Applied Ecology*, 46, 1323-1331.

Pearce-Higgins, James W., Stephen, Leigh, Douse, Andy, and Langston, Rowena H. W. (2012). Greater impacts of wind farms on bird populations during construction than subsequent operation: results of a multisite and multi-species analysis. *Journal of Applied Ecology*, 49, 386-394.

Rodrigues, L et al, (2014). Guidelines for consideration of bats in wind farm projects. Eurobats Publication Series No. 6 UNEP and Eurobats.

Johnson, Gregory D. and Arnett Edward B. A Bibliography of Bat Fatality, Activity, and Interactions with Wind Turbines (June 2004 updated February 2010) Bat Conservation International. <http://www.batsandwind.org/pdf/Bibliography%202-3-10.pdf>.

The Departmental guidance document on Appropriate Assessment available on the NPWS web site at <http://www.npws.ie/media/npws/publications/codesofpractice/AA%20Guidance%2010-12-09.pdf>.

The EU Commission guidance entitled "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" which can be downloaded from http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/art6/natura_2000_assess_en.pdf.

Appropriate Assessment

Guidance

Guidance on AA is available in the Departmental guidance document on Appropriate Assessment, which is available on the NPWS web site at www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/NPWS_2009_AA_Guidance.pdf and in the EU Commission guidance entitled "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" which can be downloaded from http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/art6/natura_2000_assess_en.pdf.



However CJEU and Irish case law has clarified some issues and should also be consulted.

Conservation objectives

In order to carry out the appropriate assessment screening, and/or prepare the Natura Impact Statement (NIS), information about the relevant Natura 2000 sites including their conservation objectives will need to be collected. Details of designated sites and species and conservation objectives can be found on www.npws.ie/. Site-specific, as opposed to generic, conservation objectives are now available for some sites. Each conservation objective for a qualifying interest is defined by a list of attributes and targets and are often supported by further documentation. Where these are not available for a site, an examination of the attributes that are used to define site-specific conservation objectives for the same QIs in other sites can be usefully used to ensure the full ecological implications of a proposal for a site's conservation objective and its integrity are analysed and assessed. It is advised, as per the notes and guidelines in the site-specific conservation objectives that any reports quoting conservation objectives should give the version number and date, so that it can be ensured and established that the most up-to-date versions are used in the preparation of Natura Impact Statements and in undertaking appropriate assessments.

Where further detail is required on any information on the website a data request form should be submitted. This can be found at www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/general/Data%20request%20form.doc.

Cumulative and ex situ impacts

A rule of thumb often used is to include all Natura 2000 sites within a distance of 15 km. It should be noted however that this will not always be appropriate. In some instances where there are hydrological connections a whole river catchment or a groundwater aquifer may need to be included. Similarly where bird flight paths are involved the impact may be on an SPA more than 15 km away.

Other relevant Local Authorities should be consulted to determine if there are any projects or plans which, in combination with this proposed development, could impact on any Natura 2000 sites

CMPs

Complete project details including outline construction management plans (CMPs) need to be provided in order to allow an adequate appropriate assessment to be undertaken. Applicants need to be able to demonstrate that CMPs and other such plans are adequate and effective mitigation, supported by scientific information and analysis, and that they are feasible within the physical constraints of the site. The positions, locations and sizes of construction infrastructure and mitigation, such as settlement ponds, disposal sites and construction compounds, may significantly affect European sites, designated sites, habitats, and species in their own right and could have an effect for example on drainage, water quality, habitat loss, and disturbance. If these are undetermined at time of the assessment, all potential effects of the development on the site are not being considered. If applicants are not in a position to decide the exact location and details of these at time of application, then they need to consider the range of options that may be used in their assessment so that all issues are covered. The CMP should also include methods to ensure invasive alien species are not introduced or spread. This Department understands that it may not be possible to have final cable route details until a grid connection agreement is given. However, if



applicants are not in a position to decide the exact location and details at time of application, then they need to consider the range of options that may be used in their assessment so that all issues are covered.

Licences

Where there are impacts on protected species and their habitats, resting or breeding places, licenses may be required under the Wildlife Acts or derogations under the Habitats Regulations. In particular bats and otters and cetaceans are strictly protected under annex IV of the Habitats Directive. A copy of Circular Letter NPWS 2/07 entitled “Guidance on Compliance with Regulation 23 of the Habitats Regulations 1997 – strict protection of certain species/applications for derogation licences” can be found on the Departmental web site at www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/general/circular-npws-02-07.pdf. It should be noted however that the Regulations of 1997 have since been revoked and that Part 6 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011-2015 is now the relevant part dealing with the protection of flora and fauna. In particular reference to Regulation 23 in the circular letter should be taken to mean Regulation 51 in the current Regulations. Applicants should be aware of the need to comply with the requirements of Regulation 51 in the first instance and should be aware of the strict criteria that must be met for a derogation licence to be granted by the Minister.

In addition the applicant and the planning authority will be required to take account of species protected under sections 21, 22 and 23 of the Wildlife Acts if there are any impacts on other protected species or their resting or breeding places, such as on protected plants, badger setts or birds’ nests. They will also need to be cognisant of article 5 (d) of the Birds Directive. For that reason vegetation, including hedges and trees, should not be removed during the nesting season (i.e. March 1st to August 31st).

In order to apply for any such derogations as mentioned above the results of a survey should be submitted to the National Parks and Wildlife Service of this Department. Such surveys are to be carried out by appropriately qualified person/s at an appropriate time of the year. Details of survey methodology should also be provided. Such licences should be applied for in advance of planning to avoid delays and in case project modifications are necessary.

Should this survey work take place well before construction commences, it is recommended that an ecological survey of the development site should take place immediately prior to construction to ensure no significant change in the baseline ecological survey has occurred. If there has been any significant change mitigation may require amendment and where a licence has expired, there will be a need for new licence applications for protected species.

You are requested to send further communications to this Department’s Development Applications Unit (DAU) at manager.dau@chg.gov.ie (team monitored); if this is not possible, correspondence may alternatively be sent to:

The Manager
Development Applications Unit (DAU)
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Is mise, le meas

Connor Rooney
Development Applications Unit
