

Niamh McHugh

From: Phoebe Duvall <planning@antaisce.org>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 10:22
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: Out of Office Re: FAO: Built Environment and Heritage Officer 201732 - Proposed Knocknamork TDR and Grid Route Connection Scoping

Thank you for your email. The An Taisce planning office is closed until January 6th, and we will respond to your message when we return.

If your message relates to a specific planning application or issue, please provide full details of the site, building or issue of concern (with photos if possible), as well as the relevant local Council reference number if applicable.

We do have to tell you that our resources are very limited and besides referrals from planning authorities, queries from An Taisce members are prioritised. If you wish to become a member please click [here](#). Otherwise, we will reply when we can.

Thank you very much. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

--

Phoebe Duvall

*Planning and Environmental Policy Officer
An Taisce - The National Trust for Ireland
The Tailors' Hall, Back Lane, Dublin 8, Ireland
Phone: 01 454 1786
www.antaisce.org*

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Niamh McHugh

From: Phoebe Duvall <planning@antaisce.org>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 16:20
To: Niamh McHugh
Cc: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: Re: FAO: Built Environment and Heritage Officer 201732 - Proposed Knocknamork TDR and Grid Route Connection Scoping

Hello Niamh,

Received with thanks.

All the best,
Phoebe

On Mon, 20 Dec 2021 at 03:21, Niamh McHugh <nhmchugh@mkoireland.ie> wrote:

Dear Ms. Duvall/ Mr. Lumley,

Please see the attached Scoping Document and relevant Cover Letter detailing the Proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry. The attached documents provide detail on the proposed scope of this development.

Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,

Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway

Ireland, H91 VW84

+353 (0) 91 735611

www.mkoireland.ie



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--

Phoebe Duvall

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Niamh McHugh

From: Roads <Roads@CorkCoCo.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 21 December 2021 10:59
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: FAO Roads Department: 210732 - Informal Scoping Request: Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route

You don't often get email from roads@corkcoco.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good Morning,

I acknowledge receipt of your email and attached documentation.

This is being reviewed and a response will issue in due course.

Regards,

Elma Buckley
Roads Finance & Admin
Cork County Council

From: CorporateServices <CorporateServices@CorkCoCo.ie>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 13:02
To: Roads <Roads@CorkCoCo.ie>
Subject: FW: FAO Roads Department: 210732 - Informal Scoping Request: Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route

From: Niamh McHugh <nhmchugh@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 11:13
To: CustomerCare <CustomerCare@CorkCoCo.ie>
Subject: FAO Roads Department: 210732 - Informal Scoping Request: Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Informal Scoping Request:

Please see the attached Scoping Document and relevant Cover Letter detailing the Proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry. The attached documents provide detail on the proposed scope of this development.

Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed, and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

MKO

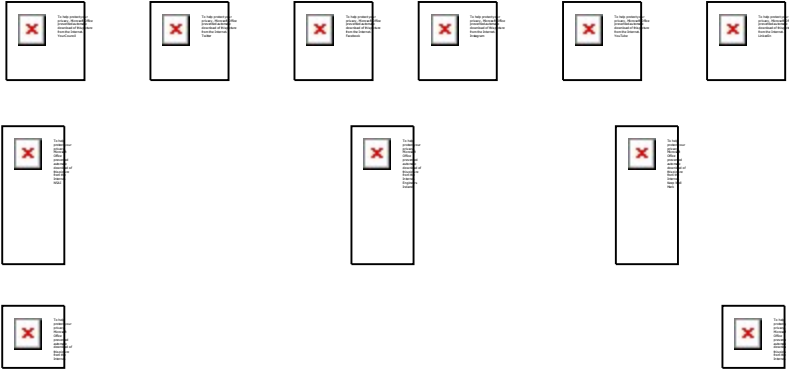
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www.corkcoco.ie



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Please consider the Environment before printing this mail.

Tá an t-eolas sa ríomhphost seo (agus in aon chomhad a ghabhann leis) rúnda agus ceaptha i gcomhair úsáide don seolaí amháin. Mura seolaí tú, níl tú údaraithe an ríomhphost nó aon cheangaltán a léamh, a chóipeáil nó a úsáid. Má bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí bhotún, ar mhiste leat é sin a chur in iúl don seoltóir trí r-phost ar ais agus ansin é a scriosadh.

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Niamh McHugh

From: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 21 December 2021 09:50
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: RE: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

PLEASE NOTE: Pre-Planning Applications to the Department is coordinated by Development Applications Unit at manager.dau@housing.gov.ie

Our Ref: G Pre00308/2021 (Please quote in all related correspondence)

A Chara

I acknowledge receipt of your recent consultation.

In the event of observations, you will receive a co-ordinated heritage-related response by email from Development Applications Unit (DAU).

The normal target turnaround for pre-planning and other general consultations is six weeks from date of receipt (plus 2 weeks over Christmas Period). In relation to general consultations from public bodies under the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 to 2011, the Department endeavours to meet deadline dates, where requested.

If you have not heard from DAU and wish to receive an update, please email manager.dau@housing.gov.ie.

Regards
Diarmuid

Diarmuid Buttimer
Executive Officer

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt
Development Applications Unit
Oifigi an Rialtais
Government Offices
Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman, Y35 AP90
Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford, Y35 AP90

—
Diarmuid.Buttimer@housing.gov.ie
Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie

From: Housing Qcsofficer <qcsofficer@housing.gov.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 21 December 2021 08:12
To: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie>
Subject: FW: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Dear Manager,

Please see the request below for a pre-application consultation plus attached documents in connection with proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry.

Kind regards,
Naomi

Naomi Donaldson
Communications

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Teach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 W6X0
Custom House, Dublin 1, D01 W6X0

www.gov.ie/tithiocht
www.gov.ie/housing

From: Niamh McHugh <nhmchugh@mkofireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 10:45
To: Housing Qcsofficer <qcsofficer@housing.gov.ie>
Subject: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

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Dear Sir/ Madam,

Please see the attached Scoping Document and relevant Cover Letter detailing the Proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry. The attached documents provide detail on the proposed scope of this development.

Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed, and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie>
Sent: 16 March 2022 13:00
To: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: DAU Ref: G Pre00308/2021 RE: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

G Pre00308/2021

A Chara,

The Department is not in a position to make specific comment on this particular referral at this time. No inference should be drawn from this that the Department is satisfied or otherwise with the proposed activity. The Department may submit observations/recommendations at a later stage in the process.

Kind Regards
Sinéad

Sinéad O' Brien
Executive Officer

Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt
Development Applications Unit
Oifigí an Rialtais
Government Offices
Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman Y35 AP90
Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford Y35 AP90

From: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 15 March 2022 12:41
To: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@housing.gov.ie>
Cc: Niamh McHugh <nhamchugh@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

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Dear Sir/Madam,

With reference to your email dated the 21st December 2021 (attached), can you please provide an update to the scoping request for Knocknamork Grid Connection, at your earliest convenience.

Regards

Eoin



Eoin O'Sullivan MSc. CWEM CEnv
Senior Environmental Scientist

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Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
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From: Niamh McHugh

Sent: 20 December 2021 10:35

To: Manager.DAU@ahg.gov.ie

Subject: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please see the attached Scoping Document and relevant Cover Letter detailing the Proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry. The attached documents provide detail on the proposed scope of this development.

Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed, and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

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From: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental_Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>
Sent: Friday 14 January 2022 09:22
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: RE: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Hello Niamh

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.** Email: felling.forests@agriculture.gov.ie or Web [gov.ie - Tree Felling Licences \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie-TreeFellingLicences)

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; [gov.ie - Tree Felling Licences \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie/gov/ie/en/government-department/Government-Department-Agriculture-Food-and-the-Marine/Forestry/Tree-Felling-Licences) As this development is within 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 are published online at: [gov.ie - Felling Licence Applications \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie - Felling Licence Applications (www.gov.ie))
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 14 days to the Forestry Appeals Committee. Felling Licence decision are published online at: [gov.ie - Felling Licence Decisions \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie - Felling Licence Decisions (www.gov.ie))

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

www.agriculture.gov.ie

From: Niamh McHugh <nhmchugh@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 10:33

To: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental_Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>

Subject: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

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Dear Sir/ Madam,

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Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed, and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist
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Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

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An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Tá an t-eolais san ríomhphost seo, agus in aon ceanglái 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 scrios an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

Niamh McHugh

From: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Sent: Friday 22 April 2022 08:54
To: Niamh McHugh
Cc: CorporateSupport.Unit; Planning Advisory
Subject: Reply from DECC re MKO re : 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping
Attachments: Knocknamork SD F1 - 2021.12.17 - 210732 - Reduced.pdf; 210732 - Dept of EnvScoping Letter - 2021.12.17.pdf

Good morning Niamh,

Following your notice of 11/04/2022 please see below a reply from Rory Coleman on behalf of Environmental Protection Division (a division of the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications) for the subject below. Please forward an acknowledgment of receipt to CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie at your earliest convenience.

Regards,
Enda Brady,
Corporate Support Unit.

Enda Brady,
Corporate Support Unit,

An Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide
Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications

Teach Leamháin, Bóthar Ghleann an Iarla, An Cabhán, H12 A8H7
Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan, H12 A8H7

M +35387 623 7714 T +353 (0)1 6782308
CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie www.gov.ie/decc

From: Rory Coleman <Rory.Coleman@decc.gov.ie>
Sent: Thursday 21 April 2022 12:15
To: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Subject: FW: MKO re : 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Hi

Please note reply on behalf of the Environmental Protection Division.

In respect of waste in the within documentation, we would be obliged if the Local Authority would consult directly with their respective Regional Waste Management Planning Office regarding development of the final plans.

Kind regards

Rory

From: Niamh McHugh <nhmchugh@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 11 April 2022 10:19
To: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Cc: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: FW: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to an EIA Scoping Document you received in December as part of the preparation for an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed Knocknamork Grid connection and Turbine delivery route for the permitted Knocknamork renewable energy development, on the Cork-Kerry county boundary.

MKO are currently conducting an EIAR Scoping exercise for the Proposed grid connection and turbine delivery route.

Any comments in relation to this project would be welcomed.

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

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From: Niamh McHugh
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 10:38
To: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Subject: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Dear Sir/ Madam,

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Kind Regards,
Niamh.



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Graduate Environmental Scientist

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Niamh McHugh

From: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 26 April 2022 15:24
To: Niamh McHugh
Cc: CorporateSupport.Unit; Planning Advisory
Subject: Reply No.2 from DECC re EIS 22/135 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good afternoon Niamh,

Please see below a reply from Trish Smullen on behalf of Geological Survey Ireland (a division of the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications) for the subject below.

Regards,
Enda Brady,
Corporate Support Unit.

Enda Brady,
Corporate Support Unit,

An Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide
Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications

Teach Leamháin, Bóthar Ghleann an Iarla, An Cabhán, H12 A8H7
Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan, H12 A8H7

M +35387 623 7714 T +353 (0)1 6782308
CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie www.gov.ie/decc

From: GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 26 April 2022 09:19
To: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Cc: Clare Glanville <Clare.Glanville@decc.gov.ie>; GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>
Subject: RE: EIS 22/135 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Hi Enda,
Please see text below for return to MKO.
Thanks,
Trish

Dear Sir/Madam,

With reference to your email dated 11 April 2022, regarding the proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping, please note that Geological Survey Ireland has no specific comment or observations to make on this matter since our last response 21/476.

If you have any further queries or if we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me Trish Smullen, or my colleague Clare Glanville at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Trish Smullen
Geological Survey Ireland

From: GSI Planning
Sent: 11 April 2022 15:57
Cc: GSI Planning
Subject: EIS 22/135 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

EIS 22/135

Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping, Ballyvourny, Co Cork [cf. 21/476]. Request for observations by MKO Ireland to be forwarded via the CSU mailbox. Scoping document and letter are enclosed.

Regards,

John

From: Niamh McHugh <nhmchugh@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 11 April 2022 10:19
To: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Cc: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: FW: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to an EIA Scoping Document you received in December as part of the preparation for an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed Knocknamork Grid connection and Turbine delivery route for the permitted Knocknamork renewable energy development, on the Cork-Kerry county boundary.

MKO are currently conducting an EIAR Scoping exercise for the Proposed grid connection and turbine delivery route.

Any comments in relation to this project would be welcomed.

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

MKO

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Ireland, H91 VW84
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From: Niamh McHugh
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 10:38
To: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Subject: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Please see the attached Scoping Document and relevant Cover Letter detailing the Proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry. The attached documents provide detail on the proposed scope of this development.

Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed, and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

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Ms. Niamh Mc Hugh
MKO
Tuam Road,
Galway
H91 VW84Y
210732
13th January 2022

Your Ref:

Re:EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Substation and Grid Connection to Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development near Ballyvourney, Co. Cork

Dear Niamh,

The Department of Transport considers it important where the developer proposes the placement of any cables (or additional cables) in one or more trenches within the extents of the (regional and local) public road network, it is necessary to consider the following:

- Their presence within the public road could significantly restrict the Road Authority in carrying out its function to construct and maintain the public road and will likely add to the costs of those works.
- Their installation within the lands associated with the public road may affect the stability of the road. In particular where the road is a “legacy road” (where there is no designed road structure and the subgrade may be poor or poorly drained) the design needs to take account of all the variable conditions and not be based on a sample of the general conditions.
- The possible effect on the remaining available road space (noting that there may be need to accommodate other utilities within the road cross-section in the future).
- The necessity to have the power in the cables switched off where the Road Authority considers this necessary in order to carry out its function to construct and maintain the public road.

The Department consider it important that the examination of the proposal should include consideration of the following:

- Examination of options other than the routing of cables along the public road,
- Examination of options for connection to the national grid network at a point closer to the wind farm in order to reduce the adverse impact on public roads.
- Details of where within the road cross section cables are to be placed so as to minimise the effect on the Roads Authority in its role of construction and maintenance,



- Examination of details of any chambers proposed within the public road cross section so as to minimise the effect on the Roads Authority in its role of construction and maintenance and,
- Rationalisation of the number of cables involved (including existing electric or possible future cables) and their diversion into one trench, in order to minimise the impacts on the road network and the environment along the road boundary (hedgerows).

The Department considers the following should be considered when applying conditions to any approval.

- A condition requiring the specific approval of the local authority to the detail of the final route of cables through the public road space. If during construction there is a need to deviate from the detailed design then the approval of the local authority would again be sought. This would assist in minimising the impact on the public road.
- A condition requiring the developer to comply with all appropriate standards and, inter alia the Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads, 2017 in order to ensure orderly development.
- A condition requiring that the location of the cables would be recorded as exactly as possible (maybe using BIM type technology) so as to facilitate the further use of road space for utilities and the maintenance/construction of the public road by the Roads authority. This record should be lodged with the local authority and with the ESB Networks for retention on their records.
- A condition requiring the developer to route cables away from bridge structures and specifically preventing the developer from attaching cables to road bridges. This would allow for the future maintenance of bridges without interruption of the electricity supply along the cables.
- A condition requiring the developer to notify the Roads Authority of the owner of the cables (Owner) and the controller (Power Controller) of the power transmitted along the cables. In addition, the condition should require Owner and Power Controller to notify the Roads Authority of any change in ownership of the cables or change of Power Controller transmitting power along the cables. In all instances the Owner and Power Controller should be required to maintain an agreed contacts list with the Roads Authority.

Yours sincerely,

Jacqui Traynor

Reform Communications Emergency Planning

An Roinn Iompair

Department of Transport



Lána Líosain, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 TR60

Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60

gcu@transport.gov.ie

Niamh McHugh

From: esbnetworks@esb.ie
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 10:47
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: Re: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route [#426210]



Bhain do rphost ESB Networks amach. Tá muid faoi an-chuid brú faoi láthair. Seans go dtógfaidh sé níos faide orainn teacht ar ais chugat ná mar is gnách, ach tá muid ag déanamh ár ndíchill na ceistanna go léir a fhreagairt a luaithe is féidir.

Chun éigeandáil a thuairisc nó eolas a thabhairt faoi idirbhrisi soláthair glaoigh le do thoil ar 1800 372 999 nó +35321 238 2410 láithreach.
Go Raibh Maith Agat.

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Dear Sir/ Madam,

Please see the attached Scoping Document and relevant Cover Letter detailing the Proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry. The attached documents provide detail on the proposed scope of this development.

Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed, and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

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An timpeallacht? - Smaoinigh air sula bpriontáileann tú an r-phost seo.
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Is tuairimí nó dearchthaí an údair amháin aon tuairimí nó dearchthaí ann, agus ní gá gurb ionann iad agus tuairimí nó dearchthaí ESB.
Má bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí earráid, ar mhiste leat é sin a chur in iúl don seoltóir.
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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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
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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.

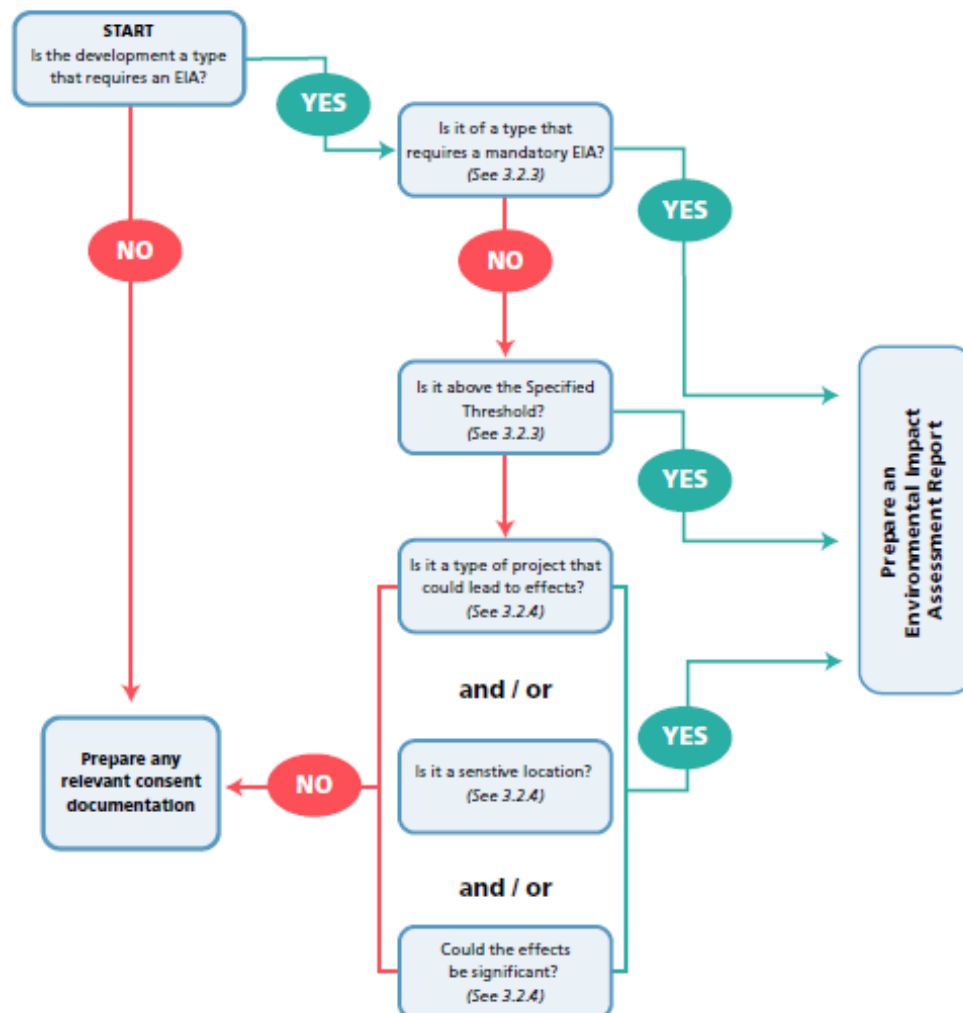
Screening

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.



MKO,
Tuam Road,
Galway,
Ireland,
H91 VW84

18 January 2022

Re: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Substation and Grid Connection to Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development near Ballyvourney, Co. Cork

Your Ref: 210732

Our Ref: 21/476

Dear Niamh,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science organisation and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and advice and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability. We recommend using these various data sets, when conducting the EIAR, SEA, planning and scoping processes. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly to 'Geological Survey Ireland'.

With reference to your email received on the 20th December, concerning the EIA Scoping Document for the proposed substation and grid connection to Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Geological Survey Ireland would encourage use of and reference to our datasets. Please find attached a list of our publicly available datasets that may be useful to the environmental assessment and planning process. We recommend that you review this list and refer to any datasets you consider relevant to your assessment. The remainder of this letter and following sections provide more detail on some of these datasets.

We are pleased to see use of our Soils, Groundwater Aquifer, and Groundwater Vulnerability datasets within the EIAR.

Geoheritage

A national inventory of geoheritage sites known as County Geological Sites (CGSs) is managed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland. CGSs, as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include sites that are of national importance which have been selected as the very best examples for NHA (Natural Heritage Areas) designation. NHA designation will be completed in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). CGSs are now routinely 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. Cork commenced in 2021 and will run for a three-year period. The CGSs for Kerry remain unaudited and as such there is limited detailed information on each site available publicly. The sites for each county are listed in a master list of unaudited sites and can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#) as sites with buffer zones but no specific site boundary. **Our records show that there are no CGSs in the vicinity of the proposed Substation and Grid Connection to the Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development.**

Groundwater

Geological Survey Ireland's [Groundwater and Geothermal Unit](#), provides advice, data and maps relating to groundwater distribution, quality and use, which is especially relevant for safe and secure drinking water supplies and healthy ecosystems.



Proposed developments need to consider any potential impact on specific groundwater abstractions and on groundwater resources in general. We recommend using the groundwater maps on our [Map viewer](#), which should include: wells; drinking water source protection areas; the national map suite - aquifer, groundwater vulnerability, groundwater recharge and subsoil permeability maps. For areas underlain by limestone, please refer to the karst specific data layers (karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels (gwlevel.ie)). Background information is also provided in the Groundwater Body Descriptions. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data.

The Groundwater Resources (Aquifers) data viewer indicates **the proposed substation and grid connection to Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development is underlain by a 'Locally Important Aquifer – Bedrock which is Moderately Productive only in Local Zones'**. The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates both **'High' and 'Extreme' groundwater vulnerability within the area covered**. We would therefore recommend use of the Groundwater Viewer to identify areas of High to Extreme Vulnerability in your assessments, as any groundwater-surface water interactions that might occur would be greater in these areas.

The Groundwater Protection Response overview and link to the main report is here: <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/projects/protecting-drinking-water/what-is-drinking-water-protection/county-groundwater-protection-schemes/Pages/default.aspx>

Geological Mapping

Geological Survey Ireland maintains online datasets of bedrock and subsoils geological mapping that are reliable and accessible. We would encourage you to use these data which can be found [here](#), in your future assessments.

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 encourage the use of this database as part of any baseline geological assessment of the proposed development as it can provide invaluable baseline data for the region or vicinity of proposed development areas. This information may be beneficial and cost saving for any site-specific investigations that may be designed as part of the project.

Geohazards

Landslides are common in areas of peat, rock near surface and in fine to coarse range materials (such as glacial tills), areas which are found within the proposed substation and grid connection for Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development. Geological Survey Ireland has information available on landslides in Ireland via the National Landslide Database and Landslide Susceptibility Map both of which are available for viewing on our dedicated [Map Viewer](#). Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me, Clare Glanville, or my colleague, Trish Smullen, at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Glanville
Senior Geologist
Geological Survey Ireland

Enc: Table - Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes.

Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes
following European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018
(S.I. No. 296 of 2018)

Geological Survey Ireland Programme	Dataset	Relevant EIA Topic	Coverage	Description / Notes / Limitations	Link to Geological Survey Ireland map viewer
Geohazards	Landslide: National landslide database and landslide susceptibility map	Land & Soil/Climate/Landscape	National	Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a9044a5981f950e9b9c5625c
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Historic)	Water	Regional	Provide information of historic flooding, both surface water and groundwater. [A lack of flooding presented in any specific location of the map only indicates that a flood has not been detected. It does not indicate that a flood cannot occur in that location at present or in the future]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Predictive)	Water	Regional	Provides information on the probability of future karst groundwater flooding (where available). [The maps do not, and are not intended to, constitute advice. Professional or specialist advice should be sought before taking, or refraining from, any action on the basis of the flood maps]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc
Geohazards	Radon Map	Land & Soils/Air	National		http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/
Geohazards	County Geological Sites as adopted by National Heritage Plan and listed in County Development Plans	Land & Soils/Landscape	Regional	All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0b2fde2aaac3c228
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	National	1:100,000 scale and associated memoirs.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	Regional	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Sediments	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Geomorphology	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Physiographic units:	Land & Soils	National	Broad-scale physical landscape units mapped at 1:100,000 scale in order to be represented as a cartographic digital map at 1:250,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a20fc54877843aca1bc075c62b
Geological Mapping	GeoUrban: Spatial geological data for the greater Dublin and Cork areas	Land & Soils	Regional	includes 3D models	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b794c16093beb2212a850ce6&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Geotechnical database	Land & Soils	National	Digitised geotechnical and Site Investigation Reports and boreholes which can be accessed through online downloads	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a2718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c
Goldmine	Historical data sets including geological memoirs and 6" to 1 mile geological mapping records	Land & Soils/Water	National	available online	https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater resources (aquifers)	Water	National	Data limited to 1:100,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater recharge.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale; long term annual average recharge	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater vulnerability.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Group scheme and public supply source protection areas.	Water	National	Not all PWS / GWS have SPZ / ZOC. Check with IW / coco / NFGWS for private supplies.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater Protection Schemes	Water	National	Data is limited to scale of 1:40,000. Data does not include all of the source protection areas	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Catchment and WFD management units.	Water	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	karst specific data layers	water	National	For areas underlain by limestone, includes karst features, tracer test database; turf/rough water levels (gwlevel.ie)	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Wells and Springs	Water	National	Not comprehensive, there may be unrecorded wells and springs	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater body Descriptions	Water	National	Not exhaustive; only those in designated SACs; could be other GWDTEs; for more information contact NPWS / EPA / site investigations Also, Roadmap for a Policy and Regulatory Framework for Geothermal Energy, November 2020	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx
Groundwater & Geothermal	Geothermal Suitability maps	Land & Soils/Water	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ee46bee08de41278b90a9916dc0b9e
Marine & Coastal Unit	INFOMAR - Ireland's national marine mapping programme; providing key baseline data for Ireland's	Water	National		https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/
Marine & Coastal Unit	CHERISH - Coastal change project (Climate, Heritage and Environments of Reefs, Islands, and Headlands)	Water	Regional		http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/
Marine & Coastal Unit	Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI).	water / Land & Soils	Regional	Currently the project is being carried out on the east coast and will be rolled out nationally	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx
Minerals	Aggregate potential	Land & Soils/Material Assets	National	Consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a material asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Active quarries	Land & Soils	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Historic mines	Land & Soils/Cultural Heritage	National	Inventory and Risk Classification 2009. Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Minerals Division and Geological Survey Ireland (DECC).	https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?zesting=7&northing=7&lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilities_Extractive_Facilities
Tellus	Geochemical data: multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754
Tellus	Airborne geophysical data including radiometrics, electromagnetics and magnetics	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754
Tellus	urban geochemistry mapping (Dublin SURGE project).	Land & Soils	Regional		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754

Notes:

- The maps and data listed above are available on the Geological Survey Ireland map viewer <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx>
- Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data
- Geological Survey Ireland and Irish Concrete Federation published guidelines for the treatment of geological heritage in the extractive industry in 2008.

Niamh McHugh

From: Alison Harvey <aharvey@heritagecouncil.ie>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 11:33
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: Automatic reply: [External] 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Thank you for your email. I am on annual leave from the 20th December until the 4th January. I will respond to your email when I get back to the laptop.

Regards
Alison (Ali) Harvey MIPI AILI



North Lee Environmental Health Service,
Floor 2, Block 1 St Finbarr's Hospital,
Douglas Road,
Cork,

Phone: 021 4921801
E-Mail: ehonl@hse.ie

Date: 06 January 2022

Name: Ms. Niamh McHugh, MKO, Tuam Road, Galway

Consultant's reference: 210732 Proposed Substation and Grid Connection Cabling to Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork

Re: EIA Scoping Report

Proposed development: Proposed substation and grid connection, Ballyvourney, Co. Cork
Applicant: Roadstone Ltd

EHIS Reference: 2109

Dear Ms. McHugh

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 23 December 2021

- Emergency Planning – David O'Sullivan
- Estates – Helen Maher/Stephen Murphy
- Assistant National Director for Health Protection – National Clinical Director for Health Protection
- CHO – Michael Fitzgerald

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

Yours sincerely

Catherine McCarthy

Catherine McCarthy
Principal Environmental Health Officer

HSE EIAR Scoping Report
Environmental Health Service Consultation Report
(as a Statutory Consultee under the Planning and Development Acts 2000 (as amended) & Regulations made thereunder)

Date: 06 January 2022

Proposed Development: Proposed Substation and Grid Connection Cabling to
Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork

Applicant: Knocknamork Ltd.

Our reference: EHIS 2109

Report to: Niamh McHugh, Graduate Environmental Scientist, MKO,
Tuam Road, Galway

Consultant's reference: 210732

Type of consultation: Scoping Consultation

General Introduction

The following documents should be taken into consideration 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 Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment

https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidelines_for_planning_authorities_and_an_bord_pleanála_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/reviewofdrafteisguidelinesadvicenotes>

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 enhanced requirement to assess likely significant impacts on Population and Human Health. It is the experience of the Environmental Health Service (EHS) that impacts on human health are often inadequately assessed in EIAs 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

In addition to any likely significant negative impacts from the proposed development, any positive likely significant impacts should also be assessed.

The HSE will consider the final EIAR accompanying the planning application and will make comments to the relevant 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 17 December 2021.

The Environmental Health Service (EHS) recommends that the following matters are included and assessed in the EIAR

- Public Consultation
- Proposals for the substation and grid in the decommissioning phase of the wind farm.
- Noise & Vibration impacts during construction and operational phases
- Air Quality impacts during construction phase
- Surface and Groundwater Quality impacts during the construction phase
- Geological Impacts
- Ancillary facilities
- Cumulative impacts

Public Consultation

Whilst it is acknowledged that the grid connection route is located in predominantly rural area, it is recommended that early and meaningful public consultation with the local community should be carried out to ensure all potentially significant impacts particularly during the construction phase of the grid connection have been adequately addressed.

All parties affected by the proposed development must be fully informed of what the proposal entails.

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 grid connection during both its construction and operation. Any schools, pre-school facilities and medical facilities in the area should be contacted as part of the consultation process.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) should clearly demonstrate the link between any issues raised as a result of public consultation and how these issues have been addressed in the EIAR.

Construction

A construction and environmental management plan (CEMP) should be provided with the EIAR. This should comprehensively outline working procedures and any necessary mitigation measures that will be provided. The impact of construction work (noise, dust, potential rodent issues, any disturbance to water supplies, impacts on access to homes and businesses during the works) along with the impact of increased construction traffic on residents in the vicinity should be assessed in the EIAR. Mitigation and traffic management measures should be outlined.

Later Consents Required

Information on possible future monitoring requirements for the operation of the substation should be included in the EIAR

Complaints procedure

The EIAR should include proposals for dealing with complaints from members of the public should they arise.

Noise & Vibration

The potential impacts of noise and vibration from the proposed construction phase of the grid connection on 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 and vibration.

A full and thorough noise survey must be carried out to assess the impact of noise from both the construction and operation of the proposed substation on any sensitive receptors in the vicinity.

Air Quality

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

Measures should include:

- Provision of a water bowser on site, regular spraying of all public roads accessed or crossed during the construction phase.
- Inspect and clean public roads in the vicinity if necessary

Surface and Ground Water Quality

The construction phase of the proposed development has the potential to impact the quality of both surface and ground water. All drinking water sources, both surface and ground water, within the vicinity of the proposed route 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 survey of the cable route is undertaken 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

An assessment of the impact construction work may have on the future stability of ground conditions should be assessed.

Ancillary Facilities

The EIAR should include details of the location of any 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 any site office/canteen.

Cumulative Impacts

All existing or proposed developments in the vicinity should be clearly identified in the EIAR. The impact on any sensitive receptors of the proposed development combined with any other existing or proposed developments in the vicinity should be considered. The EIAR should include a detailed assessment of any likely significant cumulative impacts of the proposed development.



Vincent Heavey
Environmental Health Officer
North Lee Environmental Health
Floor 2, Block 1
St Finbarr's Hospital
Douglas Road
Cork T12 XH60



Environmental Health Officer
Environment OU
Ennistymon Health Centre
Ennistymon
Co. Clare V95 W681



HSE South Emergency Management Consultation Report				
Report to	Catherine McCarthy, PEHO, Cork		Date	10 th January, 2022
Type of consultation: EIS <input type="checkbox"/> Scoping X Screening <input type="checkbox"/> EIAR <input type="checkbox"/> EPA <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):				
Authority	HSE			
Authority Reference Number	EHIS 2109			
EM Reference Number	EMENV 117			
Applicant / Consultants	MKO, Project Management, on behalf of Knocknamork Ltd., Ballyvourney, Co. Cork.			
Proposal	Road widening works associated with the turbine delivery route for Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, near Ballyvourney, Co. Cork.			

HSE South Emergency Management Observations: Please be advised that the HSE South Emergency Management function does not have any specific observations to make with respect to this application. However, please note the following recommendations within the context of site operations:

1. Should an incident occur at the site and the site operator requires the assistance of the emergency services, the incident information should be provided in the 'ETHANE' format (please see attached).
2. Emergency Services access to the site should be clearly identified. This should be undertaken via appropriate high visibility signage, i.e.; a green sign with a yellow border and white lettering citing the abbreviation RVP
3. The site should have a mechanism in place to account for personnel during an evacuation in order to provide the responding emergency services with an estimate of the number of people accounted and unaccounted for.
4. The site should identify any critical / vulnerable facilities within the geographical catchment area, such as hospitals, schools, nursing homes, etc, that could be directly or indirectly affected by an incident at the site.
5. Where the 'off-site' impacts of an incident at the site affects a vulnerable cohort / population such as children within crèches, schools; patients / clients / residents within nursing homes, etc; the emergency services will require assistance from the site operator in determining the impact on the local community.
6. The site operator is encouraged to develop a business continuity plan that includes a plan for severe weather. For more advice on this, please see the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation, *Business Continuity Planning in Severe Weather*.
<https://dbei.gov.ie/en/Publications/Publication-files/Business-Continuity-Planning-in-Severe-Weather-Check-List-for-Businesses.pdf>

All correspondence or any queries with regard to this report should be forwarded to Ms. Maryanne Horgan, Emergency Management Office, HSE South, Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, Western Road, Cork, T12 WP62 or maryanne.horgan@hse.ie



Seirbhís Sláinte
Níos Fearr
á Forbairt

Building a
Better Health
Service



Dial 999 / 112 – Request the service you require: An Garda Síochána, Ambulance
Service and / or Fire and Rescue Service

WHEN YOU ARE CONNECTED TO THE REQUISITE SERVICE(S)

<u>GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION</u>	
This is: _____ Eircode _____ (Name, Telephone Number and Eircode Address of site)	
<i>An incident has occurred at this site - standby for ETHANE message</i>	
E	
	Exact location of the incident
T	
	Type of incident, e.g.; fire, explosion, gas leak, etc
H	
	Hazards – current and potential
A	
	Access and Egress – what is the safest approach route for responding emergency services and where is your emergency services meeting point (RVP)
N	
	Number of casualties and their condition – specify adult / children if known
E	
	The emergency services present and required
N.B. If you require another emergency service stay on the line and repeat the steps again	

R.V.P.
No.1

Niamh McHugh

From: Catherine Kerins <Catherine.Kerins@fisheriesireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 10:58
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: Automatic reply: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Thank you for your correspondence

I am currently on leave until 6th January, I will respond to your email on my return.
regards

Catherine Kerins



Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

Ms. Niamh McHugh
MKO
Tuam Road
Galway

17 January 2022

RE: Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route
Scoping

Dear Ms. Mc Hugh,

Thank you for your recent email regarding the above mentioned

The site of the proposed development encompasses the upper Clydagh and Foherish Rivers and their tributaries, significant salmonid fisheries. In this context IFI would ask that the following requirements should be taken into consideration.

There should be no drainage, crossing, bridging, culverting or other physical interference with the bed or bank of any watercourse without prior consultation with IFI.

Suspended solids and or hydrocarbon contaminated site run-off waters must be controlled adequately so that no pollution of surface waters can occur. More specifically IFI feels the following issues should be addressed

- i. Identifying and zoning the project for environmental impact should a peat slip occur
- ii. Setting out contingency plan should a peat movement occur.
- iii. Setting out a plan for the control of silt in such a scenario, including measures to be put in place at the initial stages of construction.

In the event of any watercourse crossings being bridged or culverted the following general criteria should apply;

1. The free passage of fish must not be obstructed.
2. Span watercourse crossings are the preferred option
3. Design details on any proposed crossing should be forwarded to IFI for consideration and incorporated at planning stage
4. Instream works should be carried out only in the July-September period.

I would ask you to revert when further design detail is available.

Yours sincerely,

MMP
Michael Mc Partland.
Environmental Officer.

Niamh McHugh

From: Mark O'Sullivan <mark.osullivan@kerrycoco.ie>
Sent: Friday 7 January 2022 09:35
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: FW: 210732 - Informal Scoping Request: Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route

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Hi Niamh,

We have reviewed the scoping documentation for the proposed Knocknamork turbine delivery route and grid connection route. I note that the proposed development straddles two waterbodies. The uppermost waterbody, the Flesk (KERRY)_010 is described as not at risk as per WFD Risk 3rd cycle. The lower water body, the Flesk (KERRY)_020 is described as at risk as per WFD Risk 3rd cycle. Our overriding concern would be the potential impact on surface water quality downstream of the proposed development particularly during the construction phase of the proposed development. I would suggest that attention is placed on any potential downstream impacts particularly as the Clydagh River is a tributary of the River Flesk, which in turn constitutes the main water body flowing into Lough Leane.

Regards Mark

Mark O' Sullivan,
Environment Section,
Kerry County Council
066 7162000

From: Niamh McHugh <nhmchugh@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 11:28
To: environ <environ@kerrycoco.ie>
Subject: 210732 - Informal Scoping Request: Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route

[CAUTION FROM KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL I.T. DEPARTMENT: EXTERNAL SENDER] This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Informal Scoping Request:

Please see the attached Scoping Document and relevant Cover Letter detailing the Proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry. The attached documents provide detail on the proposed scope of this development.

Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed, and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,

Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

MKO

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



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Niamh McHugh

From: roads <roads@kerrycoco.ie>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 12:22
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: RE: 210732 - Informal Scoping Request: Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route

Dear Ms McHugh,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your e-mail below and I wish to inform you that I have forwarded your correspondence to Stephen Sheehan, Killarney MD Engineer and John Ahern, Senior Executive Engineer, Killarney Municipal District, for their attention.

Kerry County Council, Killarney Municipal District Office, Town Hall, Killarney; Phone: 064 6631023; E-Mail: Killarneymd@kerrycoco.ie

Regards
Ann-Marie Crean
Assistant Staff Officer
Roads, Transportation and Marine
Kerry County Council
(066 – 7183588 or Ext. 3907)
amcrean@kerrycoco.ie

From: Niamh McHugh <n timer> nhmchugh@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 11:26
To: roads <roads@kerrycoco.ie>
Subject: 210732 - Informal Scoping Request: Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route

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Dear Sir/ Madam,

Informal Scoping Request:

Please see the attached Scoping Document and relevant Cover Letter detailing the Proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry. The attached documents provide detail on the proposed scope of this development.

Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed, and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

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Niamh McHugh

From: Maeve Ryan <mryan@lawsat.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 4 January 2022 16:11
To: Niamh McHugh
Cc: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: RE: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork TDR and Grid Connection Scoping Exercise

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Dear Niamh

LAWPRO doesn't have any role in the planning arena for Local Authorities or An Bord Pleanála. We're not statutory consultees and wouldn't normally get involved in EIA scoping or in any part of the planning process. You may have already forwarded the documents to the relevant local authority staff but if not, I can send you on details of the appropriate contact people in the environment sections of Kerry and Cork County Council if you need that information?

Kind Regards

Maeve

Maeve Ryan | Catchments Manager
South West Region
M 085 8025273 ✉ mryan@lawaters.ie

Local Authority Waters Programme
Clár Uisce na nÚdarás Áitiúil
Limerick City and County Council
Corporate Headquarters
Merchants Quay
Limerick V94 EH90

 lawaters.ie catchments.ie



facebook.com/LAWPROteam [@WatersProgramme](https://twitter.com/WatersProgramme)

NSAI Certified



From: Niamh McHugh <nhamchugh@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 4 January 2022 14:58
To: Maeve Ryan <mryan@lawsat.ie>
Cc: Eoin O'Sullivan <eosullivan@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork TDR and Grid Connection Scoping Exercise

Dear Ms. Ryan,

Please find the attached scoping document and relevant cover letter detailing the Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route, which are located along the Cork-Kerry Border. The relevant details for this project are contained within the scoping document which is attached with this email.

Should you have any queries, questions or general feedback, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Wishing you a happy New Year.

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

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Niamh McHugh

From: MKO-Admin
Sent: Tuesday 4 January 2022 12:25
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: FW: EIA scoping document for grid connection to Knocknamurk Renewable Energy Development - your ref 210732

Kind Regards,
Anna.



Anna O'Gara
Administrator

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



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From: Colum O'Dwyer <colum.odwyer@mottmac.com>
Sent: 04 January 2022 12:23
To: MKO-Admin <info@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: EIA scoping document for grid connection to Knocknamurk Renewable Energy Development - your ref 210732

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Sir/Madam,

We have received a copy of the above referenced EIA Scoping Document addressed to the South-Western RBD Project Office in the past few weeks. Please note that the RBD project office is no longer at this address. I suggest any correspondence is addressed to the relevant local authorities.

Regards,
Colum

Colum O'Dwyer

BE CEng FIEI
Associate

D +353 (0)21 480 9843

colum.odwyer@mottmac.com
[LinkedIn](#)



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Niamh McHugh

From: INFO <Information@tii.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 21 December 2021 13:04
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: RE: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route Scoping. TII Ref: TII21-116625.

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Dear Ms. McHugh,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence of 20 December 2021, regarding the above.

The matter is receiving attention and a further reply will issue as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Moore
Regulatory and Administration Executive



From: Niamh McHugh <nhmchugh@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 11:35
To: Landuse Planning <LandUsePlanning@tii.ie>
Subject: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route Scoping

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Dear Sir/ Madam,

Please see the attached Scoping Document and relevant Cover Letter detailing the Proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry. The attached documents provide detail on the proposed scope of this development.

Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed, and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

MKO

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Niamh McHugh

From: INFO <Information@tii.ie>
Sent: Thursday 6 January 2022 10:53
To: Niamh McHugh
Subject: EIAR Scoping - Proposed Knocknamork Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route. TII Ref: TII21-116625.

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Dear Ms. McHugh,

Thank you for your correspondence of 20 December 2021 regarding an EIAR scoping for a proposed Knocknamork grid connection route and turbine delivery route. The position in relation to your enquiry is as follows.

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) will endeavour to consider and respond to planning applications referred to it, given its status and duties as a statutory consultee under the Planning Acts. The approach to be adopted by TII in making such submissions or comments will seek to uphold official policy and guidelines, as outlined in the Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DoECLG, 2012). Regard should also be had to other relevant guidance available at www.TII.ie.

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 planning application referred.

National Strategic Outcome 2 of the National Planning Framework includes the objective to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the national road 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. This requirement is further reflected in the recent publication of the Draft National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland and also the existing Statutory Section 28 Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities'.

With respect to EIAR scoping issues, the recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of an EIAR, which may affect the national road network.

The developer/scheme promoter should have regard, inter alia, to the following:

- It appears that the proposed windfarm site accesses the local and regional road network prior to access to the national road network. Access to the road network shall be developed in accordance with official policy and road safety considerations, as outlined above. Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office, with regard to the locations of existing and future national road schemes.
- TII would be specifically concerned as to potential significant impacts the development would have on the national road network (and junctions with national roads) in proximity to the proposed development.
- The developer should assess visual impacts from existing national roads.
- The developer should have regard to any EIAR/EIS and all conditions and/or modifications imposed by An Bord Pleanála regarding road schemes in the area. The developer should, in particular, have regard to any potential cumulative impacts.

- The developer, in preparing EIAR, should have regard to TII Publications (formerly DMRB and the ‘Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works’).
- The developer, in preparing EIAR, should have regard to 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 (NRA), 2006).
- The EIAR/EIS 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., NRA, 2004)).
- It would be important that, where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment (TTA) 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. In relation to national roads, TII’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 TII’s TTA Guidelines, which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA. Any improvements required to facilitate development should be identified. It will be the responsibility of the developer to pay for the costs of any improvements to national roads to facilitate the private development proposed, as TII will not be responsible for such costs.
- The designers are asked to consult TII Publications to determine whether a Road Safety Audit is required.
- In the interests of maintaining the safety and standard of the national road network, the EIAR should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network.
- TII recommends that that applicant/developer should clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. Where abnormal ‘weight’ loads are proposed, separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route and all structures on the haul route through all the relevant County Council administrative areas should be checked by the applicant/developer, to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal ‘weight’ load proposed.

The national road network is managed by a combination of Public Private Partnership (PPP) Concessions, Motorway Maintenance and Renewal Contracts (MMaRC) and local road authorities, in association with TII.

The applicant/developer should also consult with all PPP Companies, MMaRC Contractors and road authorities over which the haul route traverses, to ascertain any operational requirements such as delivery timetabling, etc. and to ensure that the strategic function of the national road network is safeguarded.

Additionally, any damage caused to the pavement on the existing national road arising from any temporary works due to the turning movement of abnormal ‘length’ loads (e.g., tearing of the surface course, etc.) shall be rectified in accordance with TII Pavement Standards and details in this regard shall be agreed with the road authority prior to the commencement of any development on site.

Designers should consult TII Publications to determine whether a Road Safety Audit is required for any of the temporary works proposed. Any recommendations should be incorporated into designs.

- 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 the existing national road network, in accordance with the National Planning Framework National Strategic Outcome no. 2 'Enhanced Regional Accessibility', there is a requirement to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the network. This requirement is further reflected in the National Development Plan, the recent publication of the Draft National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland and also the existing Statutory Section 28 Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities'.

There are around 99,000km of roads in Ireland. The national road network, which caters for strategic inter-urban travel, consists of approx. 5.4% of this. There is a critical requirement to ensure the strategic capacity and safety of this national road network is maintained and significant Government investment already made in the national road network is safeguarded.

The provision of cabling along the national road network represents a number of significant implications for TII and road authorities in the management and maintenance of the strategic national road network and TII is of the opinion that grid connection cable routing should reflect the foregoing provisions of official policy. Therefore, TII advises that grid connection cable routing should seek to utilise the extensive existing local road network, or alternatives, as opposed to the strategic national road network, contrary to the provisions of official policy.

Other consents or licences may be required from the road authority for any trenching or cabling proposals crossing the national road. TII requests referral of all proposals agreed and licensed between the road authority and the applicant, which affect the national road network.

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.

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 this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Alban Mills

Senior Regulatory and Administration Executive



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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Niamh McHugh
Sent: 11 April 2022 10:17
To: planning@cru.ie
Cc: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: FW: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping
Attachments: Knocknamork SD F1 - 2021.12.17 - 210732 - Reduced.pdf; 210732 - Com Reg Scoping Letter - 2021.12.17.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to an EIA Scoping Document you received in December as part of the preparation for an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed Knocknamork Grid connection and Turbine delivery route for the permitted Knocknamork renewable energy development, on the Cork-Kerry county boundary.

MKO are currently conducting an EIAR Scoping exercise for the Proposed grid connection and turbine delivery route.

Any comments in relation to this project would be welcomed.

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

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+353 (0) 91 735611
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From: Niamh McHugh
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 10:29
To: planning@cru.ie
Subject: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Please see the attached Scoping Document and relevant Cover Letter detailing the Proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry. The attached documents provide detail on the proposed scope of this development.

Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed, and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

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Eoin O'Sullivan

From: Niamh McHugh
Sent: 11 April 2022 10:20
To: StatutoryNotifications@Eirgrid.com
Cc: Eoin O'Sullivan
Subject: FW: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping
Attachments: Knocknamork SD F1 - 2021.12.17 - 210732 - Reduced.pdf; 210732 - EirGrid Scoping Letter - 2021.12.17.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to an EIA Scoping Document you received in December as part of the preparation for an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed Knocknamork Grid connection and Turbine delivery route for the permitted Knocknamork renewable energy development, on the Cork-Kerry county boundary.

MKO are currently conducting an EIAR Scoping exercise for the Proposed grid connection and turbine delivery route.

Any comments in relation to this project would be welcomed.

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



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From: Niamh McHugh
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 10:49
To: StatutoryNotifications@Eirgrid.com
Subject: 210732 - Proposed Knocknamork Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route Scoping

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Please see the attached Scoping Document and relevant Cover Letter detailing the Proposed Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route for the Permitted Knocknamork Renewable Energy Development, Co. Cork/ Kerry. The attached documents provide detail on the proposed scope of this development.

Any comments or queries you may have in relation to the Proposed Development would be welcomed, and can be returned to this email address at your earliest convenience.

Nollaig Shona!

Kind Regards,
Niamh.



Niamh McHugh B.Sc (Env)
Graduate Environmental Scientist

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