



White Hill Wind Farm

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Annex 1.8: Consultation Responses

White Hill Wind Limited

Galetech Energy Services

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan Ireland

Telephone +353 49 555 5050

www.galetechenergy.com



From: Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 13:10
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Cc: windfarms@rte.ie; Johnny Evans
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,

We have nothing to add to our original statement that the site will not impact our fixing linking services but there is a risk of interference to DTT services in the area. We would therefore ask that a Protocol be signed between 2rn and the developer should the site go ahead.

Regards

Matthew Craig

Project Engineer
Projects and Coverage Planning
2RN

Block B, Cookstown Court, Old Belgard Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24, Ireland D24 WK28
Phone: + 353 (0) 1 2082261 Mobile: + 353 (0) 87 7509955

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From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: 23 April 2021 12:37
To: windfarms@rte.ie; Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>; Johnny Evans <Johnny.Evans@2rn.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Dear Matthew & Johnny,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you both could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

Galetech Energy Services Limited
Registered in Ireland No. 352304 | Registered Office: Greaghcrottagh, Cootehill, Co. Cavan, H12 NV06

Part of the Galetech Group www.galetechgroup.com

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From: Roger Woods <rwoods@bai.ie>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 14:19
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín

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

Regards

Roger

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

Tel: 01 6441200
Fax: 01 6441299

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Tá an ríomhphost seo agus aon iatán a ghabhann leis rúnda agus is leis an duine sin amháin a bhfuil siad seolta chuige/chuici a bhaineann siad. Muna duitse an ríomhphost seo, ní ceart é a léamh ná a scaoileadh chuig aon tríú páirtí. Iarrtar ort teachtaireacht a sheoladh chuig an seoltóir nó chuig info@bai.ie, agus an ríomhphost seo a scrios.

From: Reception BAI <reception@bai.ie>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 11:49
To: Roger Woods <rwoods@bai.ie>
Subject: FW: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 11:34
To: Reception BAI <reception@bai.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

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From: Dawn Quinn <admin@batconservationireland.org>
Sent: Monday 26 April 2021 10:01
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: Re: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Dear Bláithín,

Thank you for your e-mail.

Unfortunately, as we are a very small organisation with limited resources, we do not have the capacity to get involved in planning issues.

Kind regards
Dawn

Dawn Quinn
Administrative Manager
Bat Conservation Ireland

Postal/Registered Address: Carmichael House, 4-7, North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7, D07 RHA8.

E-mail: admin@batconservationireland.org

Website: www.batconservationireland.org

Social Media: [Bat Conservation Ireland - Home](#) | [Facebook](#) | <https://twitter.com/BatConservIre>



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Bat Conservation Ireland. Company Limited by Guarantee (CRO) No. 494343. Charity Number (CRA): 20039417.

Website: www.batconservationireland.org | Registered Address: Carmichael House, 4-7, North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7, D07 RHA8.

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>

Sent: 23 April 2021 11:28

To: BCI Info <info@batconservationireland.org>; Dawn Quinn <admin@batconservationireland.org>

Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

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From: padraig.condon@bt.com
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 12:19
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín

I can confirm the proposed development will have no impact on the BT Ireland microwave network.

Regards

Padraig Condon
Core Network Operations

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



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From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: 23 April 2021 11:35
To: Condon,PG,Padraig,NQE32E R <padraig.condon@bt.com>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Dear Padraig,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE
CHEATHARLACH

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Oifigí an Chontae,
Bóthar Átha Í,
Ceatharlach, R93E7R7

County Buildings,
Athy Road,
Carlow, R93E7R7

T: 059 9170300

E: See carlow.ie/contact-us

W: carlow.ie

10th June 2021

**Galetech Energy Services
Clondargan,
Stradone,
Co.Cavan,
H12 NV06**

**RE: Pre-Application Scoping Request: Proposed Wind Farm Development in
County Carlow and County Kilkenny.**

A Chara,

I refer to your correspondence dated 23rd April 2021 on the above matter.

Following a review of the content of the scoping document, a planning appraisal of the site, and having regard to the observations received from the Council's Environment Section, Planning Authority wish to make the following comments and observations:

Grid Connection and Cumulative Impacts

You are advised to have regard to relevant case law stemming from the decision of the High Court in the judgement delivered for O'Grianna v. An Bord Pleanála (2014), namely the requirement for EIA to consider the cumulative impacts of the proposed turbines with the proposed grid connection. This follows that the proposed grid connection is an integral part of an entire wind farm project and therefore must be included in the EIAR when examining cumulative impacts. The aforesaid may have implications for the scope of the planning application and the extent of the proposed development for which permission will be sought. The '*Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines December 2019*', recently issued by the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government are further noted in this regard, which address the matter of grid connections in Section 2.7.4:

Under EU EIA guidance¹⁰, challenges in the EIA process are recognised for projects comprised of different elements which may be permitted at different stages, implemented by different parties and developed over a period of time.

Case law on this issue acknowledges that the requirements of the EIA Directive may be satisfied by multiple consents necessitated by the different stages in delivering a project. It should be noted that the EU courts have also stressed that the purpose of the Directive cannot be circumvented by the splitting of projects.

The Irish Courts have determined the need to assess such projects comprising both the wind energy development element and the subsequent grid connection element, as a single project for EIA purposes¹¹, and in particular their cumulative effects. This approach is reflected in Recital (22) and Annex II.A, Annex III and Annex IV to the 2011 EIA Directive as revised by the 2014 Directive¹². In addition, Recital (2), of the 2011 EIA Directive¹³ also emphasises that the importance of the effects on the environment should be taken into account at the earliest possible stage in all the technical planning and decision-making process.

In the context of EIA, best practice is that an integrated planning application is made for the whole project (i.e. the wind energy development and the grid connection and any other works which are ancillary to the development of the wind energy development) and that the EIAR submitted with the planning application addresses the cumulative impacts of the whole project.

It is acknowledged that an integrated application is not always possible, because of the distinction between power generation and transmission infrastructure from an energy regulatory framework perspective.

However, in order to ensure that the environmental issues arising in the overall project have been considered in an EIAR, and that neither project splitting, nor its perception arises, wind energy development proposals must demonstrate that the effects on the environment of the whole project have been taken into account at the earliest possible stage in the technical planning and decision-making process and that issues arising from cumulative effects have been properly assessed.

The EIAR and planning application(s) for the wind energy development and the grid connection must address the direct effects and any short, medium and long term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative, indirect, secondary cumulative and transboundary effects of the whole project, i.e. the wind energy development and the grid connection.

County Planning Policy

- The Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021 includes policies and related requirements and provisions for wind energy developments. Section 6.3.1 of the Plan seeks to achieve a reasonable balance between responding to overall positive Government policy on renewable energy and enabling the wind energy resources within County Carlow to be harnessed in a manner that is consistent with proper planning and sustainable development. The section further states that “Site suitability is an important factor in determining the suitability of wind farms (turbines), having regard to possible adverse impacts associated with for example, residential amenities, landscape, including views or prospects, wildlife, habitats, designated sites, protected structures or bird migration paths, public rights of way and compatibility with adjoining land uses”.

- It is the policy of the Council under Energy – Policy 5 in Section 6.3.1 to “*Promote and facilitate wind energy development in accordance with current Wind Energy Development Guidelines by the DoECLG and best international practices and standards and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards*”.
- Section 11.18.2 of the Plan requires the following to be taken into account in the assessment of wind energy developments:

All planning applications for wind energy turbines or windfarms shall be assessed against the DoEHLG’s publication Wind Energy Development Guidelines, 2006 (and any subsequent guidelines) and Carlow County Council’s Wind Strategy (see Appendix 5) and the following:

- *The Landscape Character Assessment for the County (Appendix 6)*
- *Whether an area has significant wind energy potential on the basis of the nature and extent of the wind resources in the area*
- *The suitability/strength of the grid and accessibility to it*
- *Road access to the site during the construction phase*
- *The suitability of the site, having regard to other land use policies, including the need to protect areas of important built and natural heritage from inappropriate development*
- *Any other planning considerations, including measures to minimise the impact of proposed wind farms in the local environment*
- *Distances to national primary and secondary roads*
- *Zone of visual influence and visual impact of the structures*
- *Noise Impact*
- *Potential Shadow flicker*
- *Density of residential development in the area*

Wind Energy Strategy

- The siting, layout and design of the proposed development should be informed by the Wind Energy Strategy for County Carlow, which is contained in Appendix 5 to the Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021. The ‘preferred locations’ for wind energy developments are dealt with in Section 3.0 of the Strategy and are identified at the western end of the county i.e. in the Killeshin Hills and the Ballymoon Esker.
- The proposed site is located within/adjoining an area identified as a ‘Preferred Location’ for wind farm development in the current Wind Energy Strategy. The proposed site development area should be cross referenced in detail with the mapping for these preferred areas, to ensure that full compliance with the Wind Strategy is demonstrated. The extent of the proposed development area may need to be amended in this regard.

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

- The assessment of landscape and visual impacts should take account of Carlow County Landscape Character Assessment and Schedule of Protected Views, included as Appendix 6 to the Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021. On

the basis of the landscape character assessment and associated mapping, the site is located in the Killeshin Hills landscape character area. The landscape type in which the site is located is identified as Uplands, where a high level of visibility can occur, and for which a landscape sensitivity of 5 (from 1 to 5) is listed.

- The Killeshin Hills is listed as an area as almost entirely a rural agricultural landscape with a moderate level of sensitivity and moderate potential capacity to absorb different types of development. Subject to appropriate mitigation measures there may also be moderate scope to absorb extractive industry and wind farming. Overhead cables and masts would have to be selectively located, for example on farmed secondary ridges where the primary ridge would form the backdrop, or in the lowland farming area.
- The Carlow County Landscape Character Assessment also identifies a number of designated scenic views and routes in the rural area in which the proposed site is located. These scenic views and routes should also inform the examination and assessment of visual impacts, as the proposed development has the potential to negatively impact on designated scenic views and routes.
- In addition to the foregoing, the Killeshin Hills on its east facing slopes enjoy sweeping panoramic views over most of the County which should be protected from inappropriate development. The potential for the proposed development to impact negatively on these panoramic vistas needs to be assessed in detail. Combined visual impacts with existing, permitted and proposed wind farm developments in the area will also need to form part of this assessment.
- There are a number public roads proximate to the site, meaning that the proposed development will be able to be seen at closer distances, which can lead to the amplification of visual impacts.
- Figures 1 and 2 included with the submitted scoping report identifies indicative turbine locations close to the public road to the north of the site, the L30371. The L7123 and L3937 are designated scenic routes (no. 6 – Ridge Cross, no.7 road to Butts). The proposed development has the potential to negatively impact on the scenic value of this route.
- Views from individual residential properties in the area should be taken into account.
- Note the use of wide angle views in proposed photomontages tend to make images of proposed wind turbines in the landscape appear smaller as they occupy less of the area of the image. The use of photomontages should therefore be cognisant of what a member of the public would likely see and perceive in terms of what a photograph from a normal camera would show.
- The assessment of landscape and visual impacts should consider cumulative effects with regard to existing and permitted wind farm/turbine developments in the area.

- Photomontages should detail existing and permitted wind farm developments in the study area.
- Consideration should be given to landscaping and replanting proposals to mitigate potential visual impacts.
- The proposed siting and design must be able to demonstrate that the integrity of the landscape character area will be maintained.

Natural Heritage

The assessment of the existing and proposed development, in respect of the content of both EIA and Appropriate Assessment, needs to consider the following:

- The proximity of the River Barrow and River Nore SAC boundary to the proposed site circa 1.6km to the north/northeast of the nearest turbine site.
- Existing watercourses that traverse the proposed site, which drain to the River Dinin and which are hydrologically connected to the River Barrow and River Nore SAC.
- Field studies should be carried out at optimal survey times and be supported by an Ecological Report.
- Field studies should examine the potential for biodiversity within the proposed site, including habitats for protected species.
- The extent of clearfelling to facilitate the proposed development should be clearly detailed.
- Information should be provided regarding the protection of retained ecological features, in particular the protection of trees and hedgerows during on-site construction activities.
- Consideration should be given to a tree replanting proposal to compensate for the loss of trees and to mitigate ecological impacts.

In relation to the Appropriate Assessment, you are advised to have regard to the following:

- Must clearly identify all European Sites potentially impacted by the proposed development and explain the basis on which these have been identified in a way that makes it clear that there is no scientific doubt that there could be adverse effects on the integrity of any other European sites (ecological or hydrological corridors).
- Must clearly explain why each of the identified European sites have been designated.

- Must clearly identify the conservation objectives for each European site (by reference to NPWS published data).
- Must clearly set out all relevant and available data in relation to each qualifying interest including all documentary sources available.
- Must set out all investigations and examinations that have been carried out.
- Must be apparent that regard has been had to the best scientific knowledge.
- Must contain a detailed analysis and evaluation of all available data with no lacunae or gaps.
- Must identify and analyse, in the light of the best scientific knowledge in the field, all aspects of the proposed development which can, by itself or in combination with other projects or plans, affect the European Sites in the light of its conservation objectives. That analysis should distinguish between temporary and permanent impacts and has to address the impacts on the flora, fauna and habitats for which the site was designated and the impacts on the conservation objectives for the site.
- Must identify mitigation measures which will reduce impacts on the European Site and specify precisely how they will be implemented and why they will be effective. There cannot be any scientific doubt about the effectiveness of the mitigation measures and it will not be acceptable to say that these will be developed post-consent.
- Must contain clear, precise and definitive findings as to what the residual impacts will be on the European Site.
- Complete project details including a construction environmental management plans (CEMP) needs to be provided in order to allow an adequate appropriate assessment to be undertaken. It should be demonstrated that the CEMP and other such plans are adequate and effective mitigation, supported by scientific information and analysis, and that they are feasible within the physical constraints of the proposed site. The CEMP should also include methods to ensure invasive alien species are not introduced or spread.
- The positions, locations and sizes of construction infrastructure and mitigation, such as settlement ponds, disposal sites and construction compounds, borrow pits, may significantly affect European sites, designated sites, habitats, and species in their own right and could have an effect for example on drainage, water quality, habitat loss, and disturbance. If these are undetermined at time of the assessment, all potential effects of the development on the site are not being considered. If applicants are not in a position to decide the exact location and details of these at time of application, then they need to consider the range of options that may be used in their assessment so that all issues are covered.
-

Archaeological Heritage

- There are recorded monuments in the general area, including CW011-006 (Enclosure) and CW011-015 (Ringfort). It is advisable to consult with the Development Applications Unit, Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to determine whether an Archaeological Impact Assessment is required given the proximity to same and the overall large scale nature of this proposed development site.

Impacts on Residential Amenity and Adjoining Land Uses

- Potential impacts on residential properties and on existing adjoining land uses should be examined and assessed. Proximity to (inter alia) proposed turbines, site entrance(s), access roads, grid connection route, and other site infrastructure should be considered in detail.
- The assessment of impacts on residential amenity and other sensitive land uses in the area should be accompanied by accurate mapping of all such properties clearly identifying the distance to same.
- Consideration should be given to the mapping of shadow flicker results and overlapping this with mapping for dwellings. This would be beneficial to clarify potential impacts as identified and assessed in text.

Noise, Vibration and Dust

- Suitably scaled mapping should be provided which accurately identifies existing and proposed noise and dust monitoring stations relative to sensitive receptors.
- The assessment of noise impacts needs to consider noise generated from construction activities and operational noise e.g. rotating turbine noise and blade swish noise.
- Noise associated with the construction of access roads and cable routes should be assessed, and should include restrictions on the hours of operation to prevent noise nuisance at dwellings and other adjoining land uses/sensitive locations.

Flora and Fauna

The existing site and proposed site should be surveyed for invasive species and recommendations for control measures made as part of EIAR, and in an invasive species management plan.

Water Quality

Geological Survey and EPA mapping should be referred to regarding potential surface water and groundwater vulnerability in the area.

Surface Water Drainage

- A detailed survey of all existing and proposed on site drainage should be provided, clearly identifying where all on site water drains will discharge to and how drainage will be maintained.
- Detailed drainage design must be shown on the submitted plans.

Traffic and Transportation

The assessment of traffic and transportation issues should take account of the following:

- The provision of a traffic impact assessment for the construction phase.
- Details of the anticipated traffic types and volumes for the development should be provided and assessed, and broken down in daily, weekly and monthly figures. Details should also include expected peak site traffic, day to day hours and duration.
- Proposed access route(s) for turbine delivery should be clearly identified on suitably scaled maps. Access routes should seek to predominantly utilise main roads, and therefore minimise the use of and impacts on county and local roads.
- Potential traffic impacts from HGVs negotiating built up areas should be considered, as well as the feasibility of avoiding routing HGV traffic through such locations.
- Full design details for the entrance(s) to the site should be provided to demonstrate adequate turning movements for HGVs and sightlines. Accommodation works on third party lands must have written agreement of third party landowners.
- A swept path analysis should be carried for the proposed turbine delivery route(s).
- Estimated load of turbine components should be provided.
- All structures on the proposed access route(s) to the site should be evaluated for ability to carry respective weights of transportation vehicles and turbines i.e. including width and structural capacity of proposed access routes.
- A condition survey of the public roads from which the site is proposed to be accessed should be carried out.
- Proposals to upgrade a road or structure where it is shown to be structurally unsuitable should be provided.

Environment Department Comments

The applicant is advised that the Council's Environment Department have requested the following to be considered in the preparation of the EIAR Report;

- Compliance with Schedule 6 requirements of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.
- Compliance with "Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports" (EPA, 2017).
- Grid connection works should be included, as set out in the relevant case law on project splitting.
- Transport routes should be included.
- Consideration is required for the main alternatives, taking into account at least environmental effects, as set out in the relevant case law.
- Compensatory planting, if being considered, should be included.

- Population and Human Health: EMF effects should be included.
- Biodiversity: Appropriate Assessment should be carried out, Ecological Impact Assessment should be carried out (CIEEM guidelines).
- Land & Soil: A Geological Report should be done (include slope stability assessment).
- Water: Consideration of impacts on water supplies should be included.

If you have any further queries in relation to this matter, please contact us at (059) 9136229 or planningdevman@carlowcoco.ie.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Scanlon', written over a horizontal line.

Alison Scanlon
Planning Department

From: Martin O Donoghue
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 14:28
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Cc: Sinead French
Subject: RE: [Confidential] Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,

Thank you for your email.
I have attached a list of operators within 25km of the proposed windfarm.
Can you use the email address licensing@comreg.ie instead of the industry one for any future emails?

Kind Regards,

Martin O'Donoghue

Innealtóir Speictrim Raidió

Radio Spectrum Engineer

An Coimisiún um Rialáil Cumarsáide
Commission for Communications Regulation

1 Lárcheantar na nDugaí, Sráid na nGildeanna, BÁC 1, Éire, D01 E4X0.
One Dockland Central, Guild Street, Dublin 1, Ireland, D01 E4X0.
Teil | Tel +353 1 8049670
Rphost | Email martin.odonoghue@comreg.ie
Suíomh | Website www.comreg.ie

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 11:40
To: Sinead French <sinead.french@comreg.ie>; Martin O Donoghue <Martin.ODonoghue@comreg.ie>
Cc: Industry <industry@comreg.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Dear Sinead and Martin,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if either of you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

Galetech Energy Services Limited

Registered in Ireland No. 352304 | Registered Office: Greaghcrotagh, Cootehill, Co. Cavan, H12 NV06

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

From: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental_Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>
Sent: Monday 26 April 2021 09:50
To: 'brafferty@galetechenergy.com'
Subject: FW: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping
Attachments: Carlow Wind Limited, Co. Carlow and Kilkenny.pdf

Good morning,

Please see comments attached from our Felling Division.

Kind Regards

Breeda

Breeda Hennebry

Clerical 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 9914 environmentalco-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie

www.agriculture.gov.ie

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com [<mailto:brafferty@galetechenergy.com>]

Sent: 23 April 2021 11:45

To: Info@agriculture.gov.ie; Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox); Felling Forest Service

Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

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To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,

Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondorgan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

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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 scríos an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

26/04/2021

Galetech Energy Services,

Clondargan,

Stradone,

Cavan,

H12 NV06.

Re: E.I.A.R. Scoping Request for the proposed for development Carlow Wind Limited at Ridge, Knocknabranagh, Knockbaun, Baunreagh in County Carlow; and Coolcullen, County Kilkenny.

Dear Sir/Madam,

The following are the comments from this Division in relation to the proposed development:

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

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

The developer should take note of the contents of **Felling and Reforestation Policy** document which provide a consolidated source of information on the legal and regulatory framework relating to tree felling; <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/forestry/tree-felling/FellingReforestationPolicy240517.pdf>. As this development is within forest lands, particular attention should be paid to deforestation, turbulence felling and the requirement to afforest alternative lands.

In order to ensure regulated forestry operations in Ireland accord with the principles of sustainable forest management (SFM), as well fulfilling the requirements of other relevant environmental protection laws, the Department (acting through its Forest Service division) must undertake particular consultations, and give certain matters full consideration during

the assessment of individual Felling Licence applications. This includes consultation with relevant bodies, the application of various protocols and procedures (e.g. Forest Service Appropriate Assessment Procedure), and the requirement for applicants on occasion to provide further information (e.g. a Natura Impact Statement).

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

1. The interaction of these proposed works with the environment locally and more widely, in addition to potential direct and indirect impacts on designated sites and water, is assessed. Consultation with relevant environmental and planning authorities may be required where specific sensitivities arise (e.g. local authorities, National Parks & Wildlife Service, Inland Fisheries Ireland, and the National Monuments Service);
2. Where a tree Felling Licence application is received, the Department will publish a notice of the application before making a decision on the matter. The notice shall state that any person may make a submission to the Department within 30 days from the date of the notice. The notices for 2020 are published online at:
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/publicconsultation/environmentalimpactassessment-eia-publicconsultation-for-afforestation-forest-road-construction-and-felling-licences-2020/>
3. Third parties that make a submission or observation will be informed of the decision to grant or refuse the licence, and on request, details of the conditions attached to the licence, the main reasons and considerations on which the decision to grant or refuse the licence was based, and where conditions are attached to any licence, the reasons for the conditions. Both third parties and applicants will be also informed of their right to appeal any decision within 28 days to the Forestry Appeals Committee. Felling Licence decisions for 2020 are published online at:
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/publicconsultation/environmentalimpactassessment-2020-register-of-decisions/>

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

- a) subject to an EIA procedure (including screening in the case of a sub-threshold development) and any resulting requirement to produce an EIAR; and/or
- b) subject to an Appropriate Assessment procedure (including screening) and any resulting requirement to a Natura Impact Statement (NIS); and

- c) the proposed development in its construction or operational phases, or any works ancillary thereto, would directly or indirectly involve the felling and replanting of trees, deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use, or replacement of broadleaf high forest by conifer species,
1. that there is a requirement inter alia under the EIA Directive for an overall assessment of the effects of the project or the alteration thereof on the environment to be undertaken, including the direct and indirect environmental impact of the project;
- and
2. pursuant to Article 2(3) of the EIA Directive, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine strongly recommends that, notwithstanding the fact that a parallel consent in the form of felling licence may also have to be applied for, any EIAR and/or NIS produced in connection with the application for planning permission to the Local Planning Authority or An Bord Pleanàla, 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.

Yours sincerely,

Tara Hendley

Tara Hendley

Felling Section

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Johnstown Castle

Co Wexford

From: John Bagnall <john.bagnall@eir.ie>
Sent: Friday 7 May 2021 07:57
To: B Rafferty
Cc: Mobile Networks TXN
Subject: Re: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,

We have no transmission services that will be affected by this proposed wind farm study area.

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

Kind regards,



John Bagnall

Transmission Design & Engineering

M: +353 85 1053746

E: john.bagnall@eir.ie

Address: EirCode - D24 HX03

On Fri, 23 Apr 2021 at 12:06, <brafferty@galetechenergy.com> wrote:

Dear John,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,

Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

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From: Peter O'Brien
Sent: Wednesday 8 December 2021 11:07
To: 'brafferty@galetechenergy.com'
Cc: 'Marcus Magee'
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & CountyKilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Blaithin,

As per e-mail attachment, we are happy with the link re-route proposal,

Best Regards,
Peter

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:12 PM
To: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Cc: 'Marcus Magee' <marcus@galetechenergy.com>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

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Hi Peter,

Further to your discussion with the developer, can you please confirm that Enet's services will no longer be disrupted by this proposed development?

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
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From: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: Monday 26 April 2021 13:58
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Blaithin,

The following link will be affected:

A-End Coordinates	E-End Antenna Height	B-End Coordinates	B-End Antenna Height	Frequency
52°43'1.51"N 7° 8'37.19"W	30m	52°48'40.26"N 7° 0'24.38"W	12m	18GHz

Regards,
Peter

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 12:28 PM
To: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Peter,

Please see attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: [+44 7892885101](tel:+447892885101) | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

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From: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: Monday 26 April 2021 12:02
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com

Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Blaithin,

Can you send the proposed wind farm in Google Earth kml please so that I can review against our network?

Regards,
Peter

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>

Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:18 AM

To: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>

Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Dear Peter,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

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From: Redmond. Myles (ESB Networks) <myles.redmond2@esb.ie>
Sent: Friday 4 June 2021 14:08
To: 'brafferty@galetechenergy.com'
Cc: Haslam. Donal (ESB Networks)
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,

I apologise about the delay in my response.

I have carried out an impact assessment and can confirm that this development will have no impact to ESB's Point to Point and Point to Multipoint radio network.

Regards,

Myles

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 12:10
To: esbnetworks@esb.ie; Dalikeni. Wilson (ESB Networks) <wilson.dalikeni@esb.ie>; dermot.hopkins@esbtelecoms.ie; Redmond. Myles (ESB Networks) <myles.redmond2@esb.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

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Dear all,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

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

Tá an t-eolas sa ríomhphost seo agus in aon chomhad a ghabhann leis rúnda agus ceaptha le haghaidh úsáide an té nó an aonáin ar seoladh chuige iad agus na húsáide sin amháin.

Is tuairimí nó dearcthaí an údair amháin aon tuairimí nó dearcthaí ann, agus ní gá gurb ionann iad agus tuairimí nó dearcthaí 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.

<https://www.esb.ie/contact>

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* * * * *

brafferty@galetechenergy.com

From: planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 7 May 2021 10:15
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping
Attachments: Fáilte Ireland EIAR Guidelines.pdf
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Bláithín,

Thank you for your email and the pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny.

For your convenience I have attached the updated copy of Fáilte Ireland's Guidelines for the Treatment of Tourism in an EIA, which you may find informative for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed project. The purpose of this report is to provide guidance for those conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and compiling an Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR), or those assessing EIARs, where the project involves tourism or may have an impact upon tourism. These guidelines are non-statutory and act as supplementary advice to the EPA EIAR Guidelines outlined in section 2.

Regards,

Yvonne

Yvonne Jackson

Product Development-Environment & Planning Support | Fáilte Ireland
Áras Fáilte, 88/95 Amiens Street, Dublin 1. D01WR86
T +353 (0)1 884 7224 | M +353 (0) 860357590 | www.failteireland.ie



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From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 12:11
To: planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

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To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

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From: Donncha O'Sullivan <Donncha.OSullivan@gasnetworks.ie>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 13:39
To: 'brafferty@galetechenergy.com'
Cc: Ray Cummins
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Bláithín,

We've reviewed the proposed Windfarm Site and Cable Route. We have no comment to make on either.

Carlow Co Co and / Kilkenny Co Co / ABP will refer the proposal to GNI for comment before Planning Permission. All things being equal, our response will mirror the above.

Regards,

Donncha

Donncha Ó Sullivan BE CEng MIEI MIGEM
Development Liaison Engineer

Gas Networks Ireland
P.O. Box 51, Gasworks Road, Cork, Ireland

T +353 21 453 4613 | **M** +353 87 982 2437
E donncha.osullivan@gasnetworks.ie

gasnetworks.ie | Find us on [Twitter](#)

You are reminded that all work in the vicinity of Gas Networks Ireland Pipelines and Installations must be completed to comply fully with the relevant guidelines to be found in the current editions of the Health & Safety Authority publications, 'Code Of Practice For Avoiding Danger From Underground Services' and 'Guide To Safety In Excavations'. Both documents are available free of charge from The Health And Safety Authority. www.hsa.ie, 1890-28 93 89.

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 12:12
To: Donncha O'Sullivan <Donncha.OSullivan@gasnetworks.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Dear Donncha,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,

Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

Galetech Energy Services Limited

Registered in Ireland No. 352304 | Registered Office: Greaghcrotagh, Cootehill, Co. Cavan, H12 NV06

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Tá an fhaisnéis á seachadadh dírithe ar an duine nó ar an eintiteas chuig a bhfuil sí seolta amháin agus féadfar ábhar faoi rún, faoi phribhléid nó ábhar atá íogair ó thaobh tráchtála de a bheith mar chuid de. Tá aon athsheachadadh nó scaipeadh den fhaisnéis, aon athbhreithniú ar nó aon úsáid eile a bhaint as, nó aon ghníomh a dhéantar ag brath ar an bhfaisnéis seo ag daoine nó ag eintitis nach dóibh siúd an fhaisnéis seo, toirimisceithe agus féadfar é a bheith neamhdhleathach. Níl Líonraí Gáis Éireann faoi dhliteanas maidir le seachadadh iomlán agus ceart na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo nó maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann léi. Ní ghlacann Líonraí Gáis Éireann le haon dliteanas faoi ghnímh nó faoi iarmhairtí bunaithe ar úsáid thoirmisceithe na faisnéise seo. Níl Líonraí Gáis Éireann faoi dhliteanas maidir le seachadadh ceart agus iomlán na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo nó maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann léi. Má fuair tú an teachtaireacht seo in earráid, más é do thoil é, déan teagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó gach aon ríomhaire.

Féadfar ríomhphost a bheith soghabhálach i leith truailithe, idircheaptha agus i leith leasaithe neamhúdaráithe. Ní ghlacann Líonraí Gáis Éireann le haon fhreagracht as athruithe nó as idircheapadh a rinneadh ar an ríomhphost seo i ndiaidh é a sheoladh nó as aon dochar do chórais na bhfaighteoirí déanta ag an teachtaireacht seo nó ag a ceangaltáin. Más é do thoil é, tabhair faoi deara chomh maith go bhféadfar monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar theachtairreachtaí chuig nó ó Líonraí Gáis Éireann chun comhlíonadh le polasaithe agus le caighdeáin Líonraí Gáis Éireann a chinntiú agus chun ár ngnó a chosaint. Líonraí Gáis Éireann cuideachta ghníomhaíochta ainmnithe, faoi theorainn scaireanna, atá corpraithe in Éirinn leis an uimhir chláráithe 555744 agus a tá hoifig chláráithe ag Bóthar na nOibreacha Gáis, Corcaigh, T12 RX96.

Go raibh maith agat as d'aird a thabhairt.

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Thank you for your attention.



Bláithín Rafferty
Galetech Energy Services
Clondargan,
Stradone,
Co. Cavan, H12 NV06

17 May 2021

Re: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Your Ref: n/a
Our Ref: 21/134

Dear Bláithín,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency 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 23 April 2021, concerning the proposed wind farm development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application scoping, Geological Survey Ireland would encourage use of and reference to our datasets. This data can add to the content and robustness of the EIA or SEA process. With this in mind 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.

Geoheritage

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

County Geological Sites (CGSs), as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include additional sites that may also be of national importance, but which were not selected as the very best examples for NHA designation. All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by 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. Carlow was carried out in 2004. The audit for Co. Kilkenny was completed in 2007 and revised in 2012. The full report details can be found [here](#) and [here](#). **Our records show that there are no CGSs in the vicinity of the proposed wind farm 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.

Two aquifers underlie the proposed wind farm, as indicated on the Groundwater Data Viewer. These are classed as a 'Locally Important Aquifer - Bedrock which is Generally Moderately Productive' and a 'Poor Aquifer - Bedrock which is Generally Unproductive'. Additionally, the proposed underground 110kV connection between the wind farm substation and the existing Kilkenny substation is underlain by both the above aquifers, including a 'Poor Aquifer - Bedrock which is Generally Unproductive except for Local Zones' and a 'Regionally Important Aquifer - Karstified (diffuse)'. The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates the area covered is variable. We would therefore recommend use of the Groundwater Viewer to identify areas of High to Extreme Vulnerability and 'Rock at or near surface' in your EIAR.

Our records show that there are a groundwater drinking water abstractions ([Paulstown Public Water Supply \(PWS\)](#) and [Castlewarren Group Water Scheme \(GWS\)](#)) with zones of contribution/source protection areas close to the proposed wind farm substation and grid connection route. Key to groundwater protection in general, and protection of specific drinking water supplies, is preventing ingress of runoff to the aquifer. Design of haul road drainage and substation construction will need to be cognisant of the public water schemes and the interactions between surface water and groundwater as well as run-off. Appropriate design should be undertaken by qualified and competent persons to include mitigation measures as necessary, such as SUDs or other drainage mitigation measures.

Any excavation/cuttings required for realignment should ensure that groundwater flow within the zones of contribution to the groundwater abstraction points is not disrupted, resulting in diminished yields. Note that there could be other groundwater abstractions in the locality for which Geological Survey Ireland has not undertaken studies, and a robust assessment should be undertaken by qualified and competent persons including a survey of all current wells and water abstractions within the vicinity.

Given the nearby drinking water sources (Public Water Scheme and Group Water Scheme), the effects of any potential contamination as a result of the project would need to be assessed.

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

Geohazards can cause widespread damage to landscapes, wildlife, human property and human life. In Ireland, landslides, flooding and coastal erosion are the most prevalent of these hazards. We recommend that geohazards be taken into consideration, especially when developing areas where these risks are prevalent, and we encourage the use of our data when doing so.

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 wind farm area. 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.

Natural Resources (Minerals/Aggregates)

Geological Survey Ireland provides data, maps, interpretations and advice on matters related to minerals, their use and their development in our [Minerals section](#) of the website. The Active Quarries, Mineral Localities and the Aggregate Potential maps are available on our [Map Viewer](#).

We would recommend use of the Aggregate Potential Mapping viewer to identify areas of High to Very High source aggregate potential within the area. In keeping with a sustainable approach we would recommend use of our data and mapping viewers to identify and ensure that natural resources used in the proposed wind farm development are sustainably sourced from properly recognised and licensed facilities, and that consideration of future resource sterilization is considered.

Geochemistry of soils, surface waters and sediments

Geological Survey Ireland provides baseline geochemistry data for Ireland as part of the Tellus programme. Baseline geochemistry data can be used to assess the chemical status of soil and water at a regional scale and to support the assessment of existing or potential impacts of human activity on environmental chemical quality. Tellus is a national-scale mapping programme which provides multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water in Ireland. At present, mapping consists of the border, western and midland regions. Data is available at <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/Geochemistry.aspx>. This page also hosts Geochemical Mapping of Agricultural and Grazing Land Soil of Europe (GEMAS) and litho-geochemistry (rock geochemistry) from southeast Ireland datasets. Geological Survey Ireland and partners are undertaking applied geochemistry projects to provide data for agriculture ([Terra Soil](#)), waste soil characterisation ([Geochemically Appropriate Levels for Soil Recovery Facilities](#)) and mineral exploration ([Mineral Prospectivity Mapping](#)).

Geophysical data

Geological Survey Ireland produces high-resolution geophysical data (Magnetic field, electrical conductivity, natural gamma-ray radiation) of soils & rocks as part of the [Tellus programme](#). These data currently cover approximately 75% of the country and provide supporting geological information on a regional scale useful for assessing environmental impact and risk.

Other Comments

Should development go ahead, all other factors considered, Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. Should any significant bedrock cuttings be created, we would ask that they will be designed to remain visible as rock exposure rather than covered with soil and vegetated, in accordance with safety guidelines and engineering constraints. In areas where natural exposures are few, or deeply weathered, this measure would permit on-going improvement of geological knowledge of the subsurface and could be included as additional sites of the geoheritage dataset, if appropriate. Alternatively, we ask that a digital photographic record of significant new excavations could be provided. Potential visits from Geological Survey Ireland to personally document exposures could also be arranged.

The data would be added to Geological Survey Ireland's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to Beatriz Mozo, Geological Mapping Unit, at Beatriz.Mozo@gsi.ie, 01-678 2795.



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



Geological Survey
Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta
Ireland | Éireann

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

From: Planning <planning@iaa.ie>
Sent: Monday 26 April 2021 10:53
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: House Development Co Carlow & Co Kilkenney

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Bláithín

The Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) Air Navigation Services Division (ANSD) does not get involved in the planning process. The IAA ANSD is to be notified as detailed hereafter:

According to [S.I. 215 of 2005, Irish Aviation Authority \(Obstacles to Aircraft in Flight\)](#), the IAA ANSD requires any person who seeks to erect a manmade object to notify the aerodrome operator of the intended operation **at least thirty days** in advance if the structure is to be erected in the vicinity of the aerodrome or the areas around the aerodrome and other protected surfaces associated with the aerodrome. Aerodrome Operators can be contacted via [IAA AIP AD 1.3 INDEX TO AERODROMES AND HELIPORTS](#), to evaluate the impact of the intended operation on the protected airspace established for the aerodrome.

Additionally, any person who seeks to erect a manmade object in excess of 45 metres anywhere within the state above ground or water surface level must also notify the IAA ANSD of the intended crane erection **at least thirty days** in advance, as a crane operating at or above this height may constitute an obstacle to air navigation. The IAA ANSD can be contacted via airspace@iaa.ie.

The State requires electronic terrain and obstacle data (eTOD) in accordance with International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) [Annex 15](#) requirements which shall be surveyed by [Ordnance Survey Ireland \(OSi\)](#). The cost of this OSi surveyed data is to be borne by the developer. Additionally, the following data is to be supplied once construction is planned or commenced or available to the airspace team via airspace@iaa.ie:

- The WGS84 coordinates (In degrees, minutes and seconds) for each turbine?
- Height above ground level (to blade tip) and elevation above mean sea level (to blade tip)?
- Verification if it's a standalone wind farm or is merged with others. Does the wind farm have any alternative names?
- Horizontal extent (rotor diameter) of turbines and blade length where applicable?
- Lighting of the wind farm, which turbine(s) is/are lit, and what type of lighting?

ICAO Light Type	Colour
Low-intensity Type A (fixed obstacle)	Red
Low-intensity Type B (fixed obstacle)	Red
Low-intensity Type C (mobile obstacle)	Yellow/Blue
Low-intensity Type D (follow-me vehicle)	Yellow
Low-intensity Type E	Red
Medium-intensity Type A	White
Medium-intensity Type B	Red
Medium-intensity Type C	Red
High-intensity Type A	White
High-intensity Type B	White

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the airspace team at airspace@iaa.ie.

Kind regards,

Audrey Rafferty
Corporate Affairs
Irish Aviation Authority
11-12 Dolier Street
Dublin 2
01 603 1103

=====
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Ireland A limited liability company
=====
=====

From: RAFFERTY Audrey <audrey.rafferty@iaa.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 28 April 2021 11:48
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: Proposed Wind Farm Development (White hill WF) in County Carlow and County Kilkenny

Dear Ms. Rafferty

Thank you for your email regarding the preparation of an Environmental impact Assessment Report for the proposed White Hill Wind Farm Development in Co. Carlow and Co. Kilkenny.

Given the information supplied Safety Regulation Division - Aerodromes cannot make any specific comments at this time.

The development appears to be approximately 17kms North East of Kilkenny Airport. As such, it is likely that the following general observations would be proffered during a formal planning process:

In the event of planning consent being granted, the applicant should be conditioned to contact the Irish Aviation Authority to:

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

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

(3) notify the Authority of intention to commence crane operations with at least 30 days prior notification of their erection.

Kind Regards

Audrey Rafferty
Corporate Affairs
Irish Aviation Authority
11-12 Dolier Street
Dublin 2
01 603 1103



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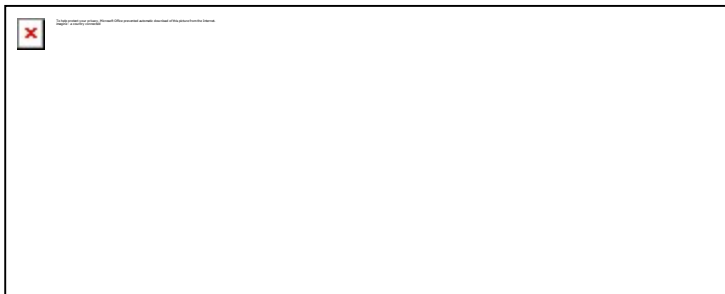
From: Paul Brunel <Paul.Brunel@imaginegroup.ie>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 13:05
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Cc: Ronnie O'Neill
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,
Imagine have no microwave links Traversing this proposed development.

Kind Regards,

Paul Brunel.
Transmission Planning.
Ph: 086 388 1962

Imagine Group.
Sandyford Business Centre.
Blackthorn Road, Sandyford, D18 AW89



From: [Ronnie O'Neill](#)
Sent: 23 April 2021 12:22
To: [Paul Brunel](#)
Cc: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: FW: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Paul ,

Can you have a look at this please .

Bláithín , please update your records , Will does not work with us anymore .

Thanks ,
Ronnie .

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 12:18
To: Customer Support <support@imagine.ie>; Ronnie O'Neill <Ronnie.ONeill@imaginegroup.ie>; william.morgan@imaginegroup.ie
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

This email originated outside of the organisation - please exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

Dear Ronnie & William,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you both could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

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From: Kieran O'Regan <koregan@water.ie>
Sent: Monday 24 May 2021 11:37
To: 'brafferty@galetechenergy.com'
Cc: Ali Robinson
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping
Attachments: IrishWaterResponse_EIAR_Wind Farm Development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny.pdf

Morning Blaithin,

Please find attached Irish Water response to your EIAR scoping request for the proposed Windfarm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny.

If you need anything else please let me know.

Kind regards,

Kieran

Kieran O'Regan *B.A, MPlan*
Development Management Planning

Uisce Éireann

Teach na hAbhann Móire, Páirc Ghnó Mhala, Mala, Contae Chorcaí, Éire
Irish Water
Blackwater House, Mallow Business Park, Mallow, County Cork, Ireland

P: +353 22 52285 / **M:** 087 3550100
E: koregan@water.ie
www.water.ie

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 12:25
To: Planning <Planning@water.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondorgan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

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Thank you for your attention.

Tá an fhaisnéis á seachadadh dírithe ar an duine nó ar an eintiteas chuig a bhfuil sí seolta amháin agus féadfar ábhar faoi rún, faoi phribhléid nó ábhar atá íogair ó thaobh tráchtála de a bheith mar chuid de. Tá aon athsheachadadh nó scaipeadh den fhaisnéis, aon athbhreithniú ar nó aon úsáid eile a bhaint as, nó aon ghníomh a dhéantar ag brath ar an bhfaisnéis seo ag daoine nó ag eintitis nach dóibh siúd an fhaisnéis seo, toirimiscithe agus féadfar é a bheith neamhdhleathach. Níl Uisce Éireann faoi dhliteanas maidir le seachadadh iomlán agus ceart na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo nó maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann léi. Ní ghlacann Uisce Éireann le haon dliteanas faoi ghnímh nó faoi iarmhairtí bunaithe ar úsáid thoirmiscithe na faisnéise seo. Níl Uisce Éireann faoi dhliteanas maidir le seachadadh ceart agus iomlán na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo nó maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann léi. Má fuair tú an teachtaireacht seo in earráid, más é do thoil é, déan teagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó gach aon ríomhaire. Féadfar ríomhphost a bheith soghabhálach i leith truaillithe, idircheaptha agus i leith leasaithe neamhúdairithe. Ní ghlacann Uisce Éireann le haon fhreagracht as athruithe nó as idircheapadh a rinneadh ar an ríomhphost seo i ndiaidh é a sheoladh nó as aon dochar do chórais na bhfaighteoírí déanta ag an teachtaireacht seo nó ag a ceangaltáin. Más é do thoil é, tabhair faoi deara chomh maith go bhféadfar monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar theachtairreachtaí chuig nó ó Uisce Éireann chun comhlíonadh le polasaithe agus le caighdeáin Uisce Éireann a chinntiú agus chun ár ngnó a chosaint. Fochuideachta gníomhaíochta de chuid Ervia is ea Uisce Éireann atá faoi theorainn scaireanna, de bhun fhorálacha an tAcht um Sheirbhísí Uisce 2013, a bhfuil a bpríomh ionad gnó ag 24-26 Teach Colvill, Sráid na Talbóide, BÁC 1.

Go raibh maith agat as d'aird a thabhairt.



Galetech Energy Services,
Clondargan,
Stradone,
Co. Cavan,
Ireland,

H12 NV06

24th May 2021

Uisce Éireann
Bosca OP 6000
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 WA07
Éire

Irish Water
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D01 WA07
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T: +353 1 89 25000
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www.water.ie

Re: EIAR Scoping Request – Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny

Dear Mrs Rafferty,

Irish Water (IW) has received notification of your request in respect of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) scoping for the Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny.

Please see attached our suggested scope in relation to Water Services. On receipt of the planning referral, Irish Water will review the EIAR as part of the planning process

Queries relating to the terms and observations above should be directed to planning@water.ie

Yours sincerely,

Signed on behalf of Irish Water:

PP: Ali Robinson

Yvonne Harris
Connections and Development Services

Response to EIAR Scoping Report Requests

IW currently does not have the capacity to advise on scoping of individual projects. However, in general we would like the following aspects of Water Services to be considered in the scope of an EIAR where relevant;

- a) Impacts of the development on the capacity of water services (do existing water services have the capacity to cater for the new development if required). This is confirmed by IW in the form of a Confirmation of Feasibility (COF). If a development will require a connection to either a public water supply or sewage collection system the developer is advised to submit a Pre Connection Enquiry (PCE) enquiry to IW to determine the feasibility of connection to the Irish Water network. All pre-connection enquiry forms are available from <https://www.water.ie/connections/get-connected/>
- b) Where the development proposal has the potential to impact an IW Drinking Water Source the applicant shall provide details of measures to be taken to ensure that there will be no negative impact to IWs Drinking Water Source during construction and operational phases of the development. It is a requirement of the Water Framework Directive that waters used for the abstraction of drinking water are protected so as to avoid deterioration in quality.
- c) Any up-grading of water services infrastructure that would be required to accommodate the development.
- d) In relation to a development that would discharge trade effluent – any upstream treatment or attenuation of discharges required prior to discharging to an IW collection network
- e) In relation to the management of surface water; the potential impact of surface water discharges to combined sewer networks & potential measures to minimise/stop surface waters from combined sewers
- f) Any physical impact on IW assets – reservoir, drinking water source, treatment works, pipes, pumping stations, discharges outfalls etc. including any relocation of assets
- g) If you are considering a development proposal, you are advised to determine the location of public water services assets, possible connection points from your site/lands to the public network and any drinking water abstraction catchments to ensure these are included and fully assessed in any pre planning proposals. Details, where known, can be obtained by emailing an Ordnance Survey map identifying the proposed location of your intended development to datarequests@water.ie Other indicators or methodologies for identifying infrastructure located within your lands are

- h) the presence of registered wayleave agreements, visible manholes, vent stacks, valve chambers, marker posts etc. within the proposed site.
- i) Any potential impacts on the assimilative capacity of receiving waters in relation to IW discharge outfalls including changes in dispersion /circulation characterises
- j) Any potential impact on the contributing catchment of water sources either in terms of water abstraction for the development (and resultant potential impact on the capacity of the source) or the potential of the development to influence/ present a risk to the quality of the water abstracted by IW for public supply.
- k) Where a development proposes to connect to an IW network and that network either abstracts water from or discharges wastewater to a “protected”/sensitive area, consideration as to whether the integrity of the site/conservation objectives of the site would be compromised.
- l) Mitigation measures in relation to any of the above ensuring a zero risk to any IW drinking water sources (Surface and Ground water).

This is not an exhaustive list.

Please note

- The Confirmation of Feasibility from IW, to the applicant, should be issued prior to applying for planning permission.
- Irish Water will not accept new surface water discharges to combined sewer networks

The applicant is advised of the opinion of Kilkenny County Council as follows in response to Scoping Document received on 27th April 2021 as part of pre-planning consultation process for Wind Farm development for Whitehill Windfarm’:

The applicant shall formally consult inter-alia the following bodies:

Prescribed Bodies

- the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications
- the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government,
- the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht,
- the Environmental Protection Agency
- the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources,
- An Board Pleanala,
- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- Health and Safety Authority
- Geological Survey Ireland
- An Taisce
- Irish Water
- National Monuments Service
- National Parks and Wildlife Service
- Bord Failte
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland
- Department of Heritage - Architectural Heritage
- Failte Ireland
- The Heritage Council
- Waterways Ireland
- Carlow County Council

In accordance with Circular Letter PL 1/2017, Kilkenny County Council has contacted the above listed agencies; where responses have been received by the Council the recommendation of these agencies are set out below and shall be taken into consideration by the applicant in the preparation of the EIAR.

The applicant is advised to request a pre-planning meeting with Kilkenny County Council.

Kilkenny County Council’s comments are set out below. In addition to the comments below the combined and cumulative impacts of the development should be assessed.

Legislation:

The applicant is advised to fully comply with the requirements of Directive 2014/52/EU on the effects of certain public and private projects on the Environment (EIA Directive) and any resulting amendments to the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2021 to provide for the transposition of the Directive into the Irish planning code. The applicants should also comply with any the requirements of the ‘Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanala on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment’ and any updates subsequent to the above Directive.

Responses Received

Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Outlined below are underwater archaeological observations/recommendations co-ordinated by the Development Applications Unit.

Underwater Archaeology

The Department refers to the pre-planning scoping for the above proposed windfarm and the intention to have an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) undertaken which will include an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA). The AIA should include comprehensive assessment of all watercourses within the footprint of the windfarm, to include wading survey/dive survey (if depth is beyond wading limits) and this should be accompanied by a metal detection survey.

The Department will await the results of the EIAR before making additional comments.

Reason:

To ensure the continued preservation (either *in situ* or by record) of our underwater cultural heritage and all associated features, objects and structures.

Transport Infrastructure Ireland

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;

- TII notes that the subject site accesses the local road network prior to access to the national road network. Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office with regard to 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 the proximity of 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, 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., National Roads Authority, 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 TTA Guidelines (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the national road network. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of the NRA/TII 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.
- In relation to haul route identification, the EIAR Scoping Report indicates that turbine components will be transported from the Port of Waterford using the N29, N25, N9, M9, N78, national roads, before reverting to the local road network and that temporary works may be required along the route.

The EIAR Scoping Report also outlines that it is proposed to construct a temporary access at the junction of the N78 and L1834, to accommodate the delivery of abnormal-sized loads as the current junction is not capable of accommodating such loads. It is stated that the construction of the temporary access will be fully reinstated immediately following the delivery of turbine components.

As noted above, 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.

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 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 at the temporary access 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.

- 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 Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities.

There is around 99,000km of roads in Ireland, the national road network which caters for strategic inter-urban travel consists of only 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. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is noted that the grid connection routing indicated in the EIAR Scoping Consultation does not propose utilising sections of national roads, however, an underground crossing point of the N10 in the vicinity of the Scart Substation, Kilkenny, is proposed. 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.

Kilkenny County Council

Planning Section

The *Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021-2027* has been adopted, however a Draft Ministerial Direction on the new Development Plan, in relation to the wind energy policy has been received and the sections referred to in the notice shall be taken not to have not come

into effect, been made or amended; namely Chapter 11, Renewable Energy Section 11.4 Kilkenny Targets, Section 11.5.1 Current status and targets and Figure 11.4 Wind Strategy areas.

The EIAR shall address potential impacts pertaining to both County Kilkenny and County Carlow and any other potential impacts outside of the county boundaries.

The applicant should address the visual impacts and cumulative visual impacts with any other existing and permitted windfarms within a reasonable vicinity of the site.

Environment Section

The following should be taken into consideration of part of this application as a minimum:

Section on earthworks

- Borrow pits
- Peat on site? Risks assessment
- Road construction – type, is there excess material?
- Foundation construction– type, is there excess material? Concrete works and washout?
- Hardstand construction– type, is there excess material?
- Grid connection and substation earthworks – type – surplus material?

Watercourses

- Assess full network of watercourses which are affected by the proposed works – regional and local hydrology
- Detail methodology of installing infrastructure such as roads, hardstands, foundations, substation, cabling and other in proximity or crossing watercourses
- Grid connection route location, geology assessment relating to bedrock, karst, important aquifer
- Directional drilling or other crossing of watercourses proposals
- Baseline and project monitoring

Health

- Noise impacts construction and operation
- Shadow flicker
- electromagnetic

Biodiversity

- ecology
- flora fauna
- habitats
- forest tree felling

Waste management plan

- excess subsoils, rock peat
- construction materials
- canteen waste
- toilet waste

Roads Section

The following should be taken into consideration of part of this application as a minimum:

Section on Traffic Generation

- Traffic generation volumes and types
- Assessment of materials imported/ exported from site.
- Construction traffic and routes
- Abnormal loads and delivery routes
- Long term traffic for maintenance/ decommissioning/restoration
- Forestry felling and transportation if required

Construction Traffic and Abnormal Loads

- Routes for construction traffic
- Route Selection for Abnormal Loads
- Temporary junction at N78/ L1834 (Moneenroe Cross) and access road link to L1834 (including consultation with TII)
- Assessment of local road route along L1834 & L1837 to Carlow Co Bounds
- Assessment of local network to consider pavement condition, structures, road width restrictions, overhead services and identification of other constraints
- Structural pavement analysis (Fall Weight Deflectometer - Pre and post works) and recommendations
- Visual and photographic record for pre and post works phases to monitor road condition and damage arising from works
- Traffic Management Plans

Access points and temporary junctions/ road modifications

- Entrance design and layout
- Visibility Splays and sightlines
- Road Safety Audits
- Temporary works/ layout for abnormal load deliveries
- Traffic management plans

Underground Cabling to 110kv ESB station

- Route selection
- Assessment of structures and watercourses
- Cross- section detail
- Trench reinstatement requirements
- Traffic Management
- Road opening licences
- ESB chamber/drawpit locations
- Consultation with Municipal District Office

It is noted that some preliminary consultation was undertaken by Galetec with the Municipal District Office and the Road Design Section in Dec 2020 in relation to route selection for the abnormal loads and works to the N78 and some further discussion re proposals for some of the masonry structures on the route to facilitate construction traffic in April 2021.



National Federation of Group Water Schemes
Co-operative Society Ltd.

12 Henry Street

Tullamore

Co Offaly

Tel/Fax: 057 9328068

Mobile: 0873527439

Email: roisin@nfgws.ie Website: www.nfgws.ie

13th May 2021

Dear Ms. Rafferty,

On behalf of the National Federation of Group Water Schemes, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to respond to the pre-application scoping request for the proposed White Hill Wind Farm. Following on from a review of the material provided, we can confirm that the drinking water catchment for Castlewarren Group Water Scheme, is in close proximity to the proposed White Hill Wind Farm. This Group Water Scheme supplies water to approximately 180 houses and 50 farms in the local area.

The Group Water Scheme is supplied by six different sources, five boreholes and one spring source, located across four separate sites north of the village of Castlewarren. Three of the boreholes are located in the townland of Baunreagh. The locations of these sources are listed below.

BH1; 660542 664189

BH2; 660469 664231

BH3; 660486 664303

BH4; 660219 665425

BH5; 6602485 664319

Spring; 660599 662704

These sources are critically important to the community from a public health perspective and must be protected. Any proposed development must take the location of these sources into account, ensuring any impacts as a result of the proposed development are duly considered and documented and necessary steps taken to protect this vital community resource. Included with this correspondence please find the GIS shapefile for the group water schemes drinking water catchment/zone of contribution.

In addition, the GWS has a significant amount of distribution mains in this area. This network of pipes is essential to deliver drinking water to the entire community. Any proposed construction in this area must also consider the impact to the GWS network such as potential intersections and how interruptions to water the supply are avoided. Please also find a copy of the GWS distribution network included with this correspondence.

We ask you to please take the location of all Castlewarren Group Water Scheme assets into consideration whilst undertaking your Environmental Impact Assessment. We have also notified the Castlewarren Group Water Scheme of the proposed development.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Róisín Dowd Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Development Officer

National Federation of Group Water Schemes

From: Ronan O'Connor <ronan@radioservices.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 12 May 2021 18:32
To: Marcus Magee
Cc: B Rafferty; John Purcell; Ken McGuire
Subject: Re: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping
Attachments: Possible Mast Location.jpg

Hi Marcus,

As per our phone call, this would be my suggestion to put a mast on the site in this location.

Many Thanks

Ronan

On Wed, 12 May 2021 at 16:58, Marcus Magee <marcus@galetechenergy.com> wrote:

Thanks Bláithín

Hi Ronan

Please feel free to contact me anytime or pass on your contact details and we can organise a call

Many thanks

Marcus

Marcus Magee

Project Manager

Galetech Energy Developments

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Stradone,
Co. Cavan
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On 12 May 2021, at 16:19, <brafferty@galetechenergy.com> <brafferty@galetechenergy.com> wrote:

Hi Ronan,

Could you please contact Marcus Magee regarding the below matter to discuss further?

I have cc'd in his email, or if you would prefer to phone call his number is 085 1632985

Kind Regards,

Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

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From: B Rafferty <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>

Sent: Wednesday 12 May 2021 11:30

To: Ronan O'Connor <ronan@radioservices.ie>; John Purcell <johnpurcell@kclr96fm.com>; Ken McGuire <ken@kclr96fm.com>

Subject: RE: FW: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & CountyKilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Ronan,

Sorry - Yes I did receive your email.

I have forwarded your email on to our Client and I am awaiting response.

We will be in touch with you again

Kind Regards

Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

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From: Ronan O'Connor

Sent: Wednesday 12 May 2021 11:26

To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com; John Purcell; Ken McGuire

Subject: Re: FW: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & CountyKilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,

I was just thinking since we have had email problems. Can you email me back to confirm you received my email yesterday evening at 18:42 outlining my concerns for my client KCLR96FM?

Many Thanks

Ronan

On Tue, 11 May 2021 at 18:42, Ronan O'Connor <ronan@radioservices.ie> wrote:

Hi Bláithín,

Hope this finds you well.

Yes, I didn't receive the email on the 4th. However, I have it now thank you very much.

So I do the RF engineering for the local Radio Station KCLR96FM.

Your Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny will cause our radio links between Kilkenny and Carlow to fail as you presently have your turbines laid out.

This will lead to a failure of broadcasting to our Carlow transmitters along with a failure for us to receive our local Carlow content and finally, it will cause a failure of our telemetry system in the Carlow area. All of this, will also lead to a breach of contract with the Broadcasting Authority Of Ireland with who we hold our license to broadcast with.

The turbines in question that are going to cause the problems are turbine E,F,G and Turbine A could cause a problem on a Fresnel zone of the Radio Links.

Our transmission sites are in Johnswell Kilkenny 52°43'18.85"N and 7° 8'50.26"W along with Rossmore in Carlow at 52°48'40.11"N and 7° 0'25.73"W.

We would be happy to work with you on your project to see could you reposition your Turbines so they are not causing interference on our radio links.

However, at the present layout, we would have to present very strong objections if this went to planning.

Finally, I am aware this will also affect Three Ireland and also Viatel.

Many Thanks

Ronan

On Tue, 11 May 2021 at 15:07, <brafferty@galetechenergy.com> wrote:

Hi Ronan,

I had replied to you on the 4th of May, but maybe you did not see or receive it.

Please see attached

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

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From: Ronan O'Connor <ronan@radioservices.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 11 May 2021 14:58
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: Re: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,

Could you please respond to this request?

We note you are looking to get re[plies back by the 21st of this month and this is now pushing the time lines.

Many Thanks

Ronan

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Tuesday 4 May 2021 08:47
To: 'Ronan O'Connor' <ronan@radioservices.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Ronan,

Yes, please see attached

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44
7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

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From: Ronan O'Connor <ronan@radioservices.ie>
Sent: Monday 3 May 2021 22:20
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: Re: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,

Would you be able to send me this proposal with the proposed turbines as a google earth file?

Many Thanks

Ronan

On Mon, 26 Apr 2021 at 10:39, <brafferty@galetechenergy.com> wrote:

Dear Ronan,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
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--

Ronan O'Connor
Radio Services

--

Ronan O'Connor
Radio Services

--

Ronan O'Connor
Radio Services

--

Ronan O'Connor
Radio Services

brafferty@galetechenergy.com

From: Thomas Barry <Tom.Barry@TETRAIRELAND.IE>
Sent: Monday 26 April 2021 06:58
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL MAIL:- RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Bláithín,

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

Regards,
Tom

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com [mailto:brafferty@galetechenergy.com]
Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 12:39
To: Info; Thomas Barry
Cc: Derek Rosarius
Subject: EXTERNAL MAIL:- RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

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Dear Thomas,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
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From: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 28 April 2021 15:00
To: B Rafferty
Cc: Sean Kelly; DL Estates ROI
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & CountyKilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Blaithin,

Thank you for sending the coordinates.

I have reviewed the area/Turbine locations for the proposed White Hill windfarm, and 3Ireland have no Microwave links that could potentially be affected.

For any future correspondence could you please also copy Sean Kelly (CC'd).

Best regards,

Alister



Alister Cole
Transmission Engineer
Mobile: 086 6024556
Email: Alister.Cole1@three.ie

From: B Rafferty <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: 27 April 2021 15:37
To: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & CountyKilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

CAUTION! External Email.

Hi Alister,

Please see Irish Grid co-ordinates below

Easting	Northing	Object description
261529	167018	TA
262004	166776	TB
261089	166165	TC
261097	165467	TD
260934	166607	TE

260865	167086	TF
261153	167583	TG

Kind Regards
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
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From: [Alister Cole](#)
Sent: Tuesday 27 April 2021 15:06
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & CountyKilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Thanks Blaithin,

Could you also supply the turbine coordinates in Irish Grid?

Cheers,

Alister



Alister Cole
Transmission Engineer

Mobile: 086 6024556
Email: Alister.Cole1@three.ie

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: 26 April 2021 11:52
To: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

CAUTION! External Email.

Hi Alister,

No problem. Please see attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

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From: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Sent: Monday 26 April 2021 09:51
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Blaithin,

Please could you supply a Google Earth kml/kmz file for the proposed windfarm?

Best regards,

Alister



Alister Cole
Transmission Engineer

Mobile: 086 6024556
Email: Alister.Cole1@three.ie

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: 26 April 2021 09:42
To: anthony.malone@three.ie; brendan.mcaloon@three.ie; Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

CAUTION! External Email.

Dear all,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

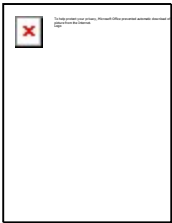
Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
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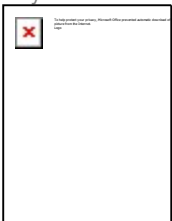
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From: INFO <Information@tii.ie>
Sent: Monday 17 May 2021 11:56
To: 'brafferty@galetechenergy.com'
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Dear Ms. Rafferty,

I refer to your email of 23 April relating to the above EIAR Scoping exercise.

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.

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;

- TII notes that the subject site accesses the local road network prior to access to the national road network. Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office with regard to 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 the proximity of 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, 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., National Roads Authority, 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 TTA Guidelines (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the national road network. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of the NRA/TII 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.
- In relation to haul route identification, the EIAR Scoping Report indicates that turbine components will be transported from the Port of Waterford using the N29, N25, N9, M9, N78, national roads, before reverting to the local road network and that temporary works may be required along the route.

The EIAR Scoping Report also outlines that it is proposed to construct a temporary access at the junction of the N78 and L1834, to accommodate the delivery of abnormal-sized loads as the current junction is not capable of accommodating such loads. It is stated that the construction of the temporary access will be fully reinstated immediately following the delivery of turbine components.

As noted above, 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.

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 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 at the temporary access 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.

- 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 Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities.

There is around 99,000km of roads in Ireland, the national road network which caters for strategic inter-urban travel consists of only 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.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is noted that the grid connection routing indicated in the EIAR Scoping Consultation does not propose utilising sections of national roads, however, an underground crossing point of the N10 in the vicinity of the Scart Substation, Kilkenny, is proposed. 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 trust that the above comments are of use in your EIAR preparation.

Yours sincerely,

Alban Mills
Senior Regulatory and Administration Executive



From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>

Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 12:43

To: INFO <Information@tii.ie>; Landuse Planning <LandUsePlanning@tii.ie>

Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of TII. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and are sure that the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

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From: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>
Sent: Wednesday 24 November 2021 09:40
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com; Power, Robert, Vodafone (External)
Cc: 'Marcus Magee'
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping
Attachments: Fwd: Galetech Energy Developments - Proposed Wind Farm in Co Carlow (158 KB)
Flag Status: Flagged

Thanks Bláithín for you clarifications to our queries.

Based on that, our position remains unchanged based on previous conversations and analysis. We do not anticipate any impact to VF services but the turbine location for TB does remain close. Therefore this conclusion is subject to accuracy of co-ordinates for both Turbine locations and VF services. It is assumed that all co-ordinates are accurate.



Gavin Byrne

TX Planning & Design Engineer
Converged Transmission
+353 876448159
gavin.byrne@vodafone.com

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vodafone.ie

**The future is exciting.
Ready?**

C2 General

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Tuesday 2 November 2021 12:12
To: Power, Robert, Vodafone (External) <robert.power1@vodafone.com>
Cc: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>; 'Marcus Magee' <marcus@galetechenergy.com>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

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Hi Robert,

Further to your discussion with the developer and following a design change to the project which includes relocating Turbine B, can you please confirm that Vodafone's services will no longer be disrupted by this proposed development?

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**
Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06
T: +353 49 555 5050 | D: +353 49 489 0026 | M: +44 7892885101 | brafferty@galetechenergy.com

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From: Power, Robert, Vodafone Ireland (External) <robert.power1@vodafone.com>
Sent: Monday 26 April 2021 14:25
To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Thanks Bláithín,

I've added that. Turbine B is the only one that might be an issue.

Kind Regards,
Rob

C2 General

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>
Sent: Monday 26 April 2021 13:49
To: Power, Robert, Vodafone Ireland (External) <robert.power1@vodafone.com>
Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

CYBER SECURITY WARNING: This email is from an external source - be careful of attachments and links. Please follow the Cyber Code and report suspicious emails.

Hi Robert,

Apologies, the MM co-ords are incorrect. Here are the correct co-ordinates for the Turbines and the Met Mast.

	Easting	Northing
TA	661467.8	667060.7
TB	661941	666818
TC	661027	666207
TD	661035.3	665509.6
TE	660872.3	666649.6
TF	660803.3	667128.6
TG	661091.3	667625.6
MM	661509.4	666403.7

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

Bláithín Rafferty | Junior Planner | **Galetech Energy Services**

Clondargan, Stradone, Co. Cavan, Ireland, H12 NV06

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Galetech Energy Services Limited

Registered in Ireland No. 352304 | Registered Office: Greaghcrottagh, Cootehill, Co. Cavan, H12 NV06

Part of the Galetech Group www.galetechgroup.com

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From: Power, Robert, Vodafone Ireland (External) <robert.power1@vodafone.com>

Sent: Monday 26 April 2021 11:30

To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com

Cc: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>; Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>

Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,

There is one link passing around 100m from the proposed Turbine B location, CKLKN-KK006. There should be sufficient clearance but this would have to be looked at again once turbine diameter etc have been decided.

Site ID: KK006

Easting: 256909

Northing: 175053

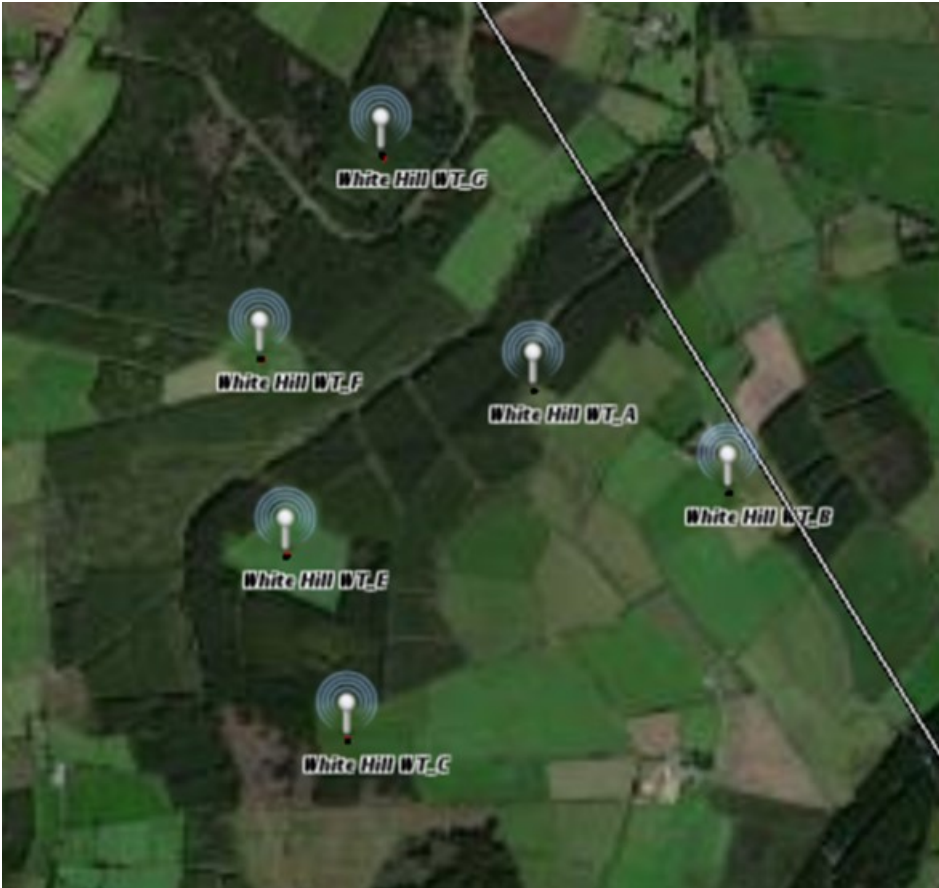
Site ID: CWLKN

Easting: 264216

Northing: 163465

Also, on the list of co-ordinates provided Turbine A and the Meteorological Mast are at the same location. Is this correct?

Kind Regards,
Robert



C2 General

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>

Sent: Friday 23 April 2021 12:45

To: Power, Robert, Vodafone Ireland (External) <robert.power1@vodafone.com>

Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

CYBER SECURITY WARNING: This email is from an external source - be careful of attachments and links. Please follow the Cyber Code and report suspicious emails.

Dear Robert,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,
Bláithín

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Subject: FW: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,

Hope this finds you well.

Yes, I didn't receive the email on the 4th. However, I have it now thank you very much.

So I do the RF engineering for the local Radio Station KCLR96FM.

Your Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny will cause our radio links between Kilkenny and Carlow to fail as you presently have your turbines laid out.

This will lead to a failure of broadcasting to our Carlow transmitters along with a failure for us to receive our local Carlow content and finally, it will cause a failure of our telemetry system in the Carlow area. All of this, will also lead to a breach of contract with the Broadcasting Authority Of Ireland with who we hold our license to broadcast with.

The turbines in question that are going to cause the problems are turbine E,F,G and Turbine A could cause a problem on a Fresnel zone of the Radio Links.

Our transmission sites are in Johnswell Kilkenny 52°43'18.85"N and 7° 8'50.26"W along with Rossmore in Carlow at 52°48'40.11"N and 7° 0'25.73"W.

We would be happy to work with you on your project to see could you reposition your Turbines so they are not causing interference on our radio links.

However, at the present layout, we would have to present very strong objections if this went to planning.

Finally, I am aware this will also affect Three Ireland and also Viatel.

Many Thanks

Ronan

On Tue, 11 May 2021 at 15:07, <brafferty@galetechenergy.com> wrote:

Hi Ronan,

I had replied to you on the 4th of May, but maybe you did not see or receive it.

Please see attached

Kind Regards,

Bláithín

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From: Ronan O'Connor <ronan@radioservices.ie>

Sent: Tuesday 11 May 2021 14:58

To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com

Subject: Re: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,

Could you please respond to this request?

We note you are looking to get re[plies back by the 21st of this month and this is now pushing the time lines.

Many Thanks

Ronan

From: brafferty@galetechenergy.com <brafferty@galetechenergy.com>

Sent: Tuesday 4 May 2021 08:47

To: 'Ronan O'Connor' <ronan@radioservices.ie>

Subject: RE: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Ronan,

Yes, please see attached

Kind Regards,

Bláithín

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From: Ronan O'Connor <ronan@radioservices.ie>

Sent: Monday 3 May 2021 22:20

To: brafferty@galetechenergy.com

Subject: Re: Proposed Wind Farm Development in County Carlow & County Kilkenny: Pre-Application Scoping

Hi Bláithín,

Would you be able to send me this proposal with the proposed turbines as a google earth file?

Many Thanks

Ronan

On Mon, 26 Apr 2021 at 10:39, <brafferty@galetechenergy.com> wrote:

Dear Ronan,

Please find attached a pre-application scoping request for a proposed wind farm development in County Carlow and County Kilkenny. I would appreciate if you could revert with any comments you may have in relation to this development within the timeframe specified in the attached.

Kind Regards,

Bláithín

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Ronan O'Connor
Radio Services

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