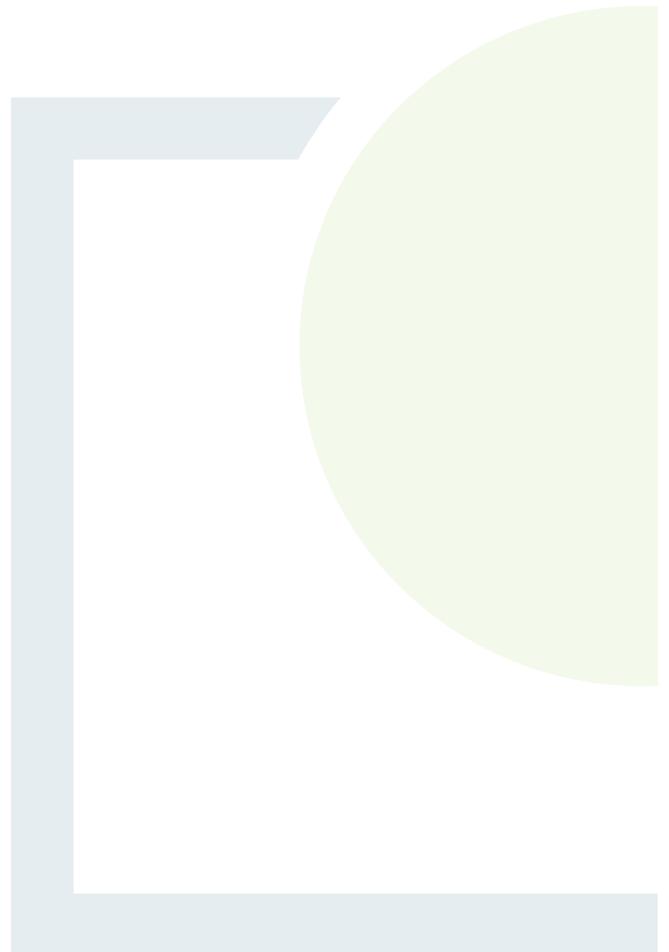




CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE  
& PLANNING

## APPENDIX 5.2

Coumnagappul Community  
Consultation report





# Coumnagappul Wind Farm Community Consultation Report

Co. Waterford 2023





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## INTRODUCTION

*Coumnagappul Wind farm Limited* (The Applicant) is seeking planning permission to construct and operate a commercially viable wind farm project on lands The Site includes lands in the townlands of Bleantasourmountain, Carrigbrack, Coumnagappul, Glennaneanmountain, Kilkeany, Knocavanniamountain and Reanadampaun Commons, in Co. Waterford, hereafter referred to as the project.

### EMPower:

EMPower is an Irish renewable energy developer with over 800 Mega Watts in development in Europe and Africa. Our senior management team comprises five Irish professionals with a combined 95 years' experience delivering projects from conception to operation across five continents. EMPower's headquarters is in Dublin.

EMPower is owned by GGE Ireland Limited, Wind Power Invest A/S and EMP Holdings Limited. EMPower commenced project development in Ireland in 2018 following the government's announcement of the Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS) and Ireland's revised electricity target of 70% renewables (updated to 80% in 2022) by 2030.

Our vision is to provide low carbon, ecologically non-invasive, affordable energy to facilitate Ireland's expanding economy and sustainable energy targets. All details in this Coumnagappul Community Engagement Report are intended to inform on the process of community engagement employed on the Coumnagappul Wind Farm project. Please refer to the main volumes of the Coumnagappul Project Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for more detailed project information. At all times, the Coumnagappul Project EIAR is to be referred to as the overriding document for planning or project information purposes.

### The Applicant:

Coumnagappul Wind Farm Limited is the applicant for the proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm project.

### The Project Development:

A full description of the proposed development for the purposes of the planning application and the additional elements that form part of the overall project, assessed as part of the projects EIA, are contained in Chapter 2 of the EIAR.

The Project refers to the development works within the Planning Redline Boundary but also includes lands along the proposed Turbine Delivery Route and Grid Connection Route.

### The Main Project Study Area:

Refers to the area depicted within the red outline in figure 1 denoted Study Area.

The Project Study Areas:

Refers to different areas within or over which the Coumnaagappul Wind Farm project surveys are undertaken for the grid route and turbine delivery route. These are specifically defined within each technical chapter of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

The Project Development’s Immediate Consultation Zone:

As per all EMPower Project Developments the Immediate Community Consultation zone refers to a 2-kilometer radius from the Main Project Study Area and consists of approximately 44 Eircodes. The Eircode’s and residence within this area are deemed the Project Developments closest neighbours. See figure 1 for illustration. The immediate consultation zone was expanded following the projects Stage 3 Community Consultation phase out to a 3km radius (Figure 2) from the Main Projects Study Area. This increased the number of households receiving project literature to 108 Eircode’s.

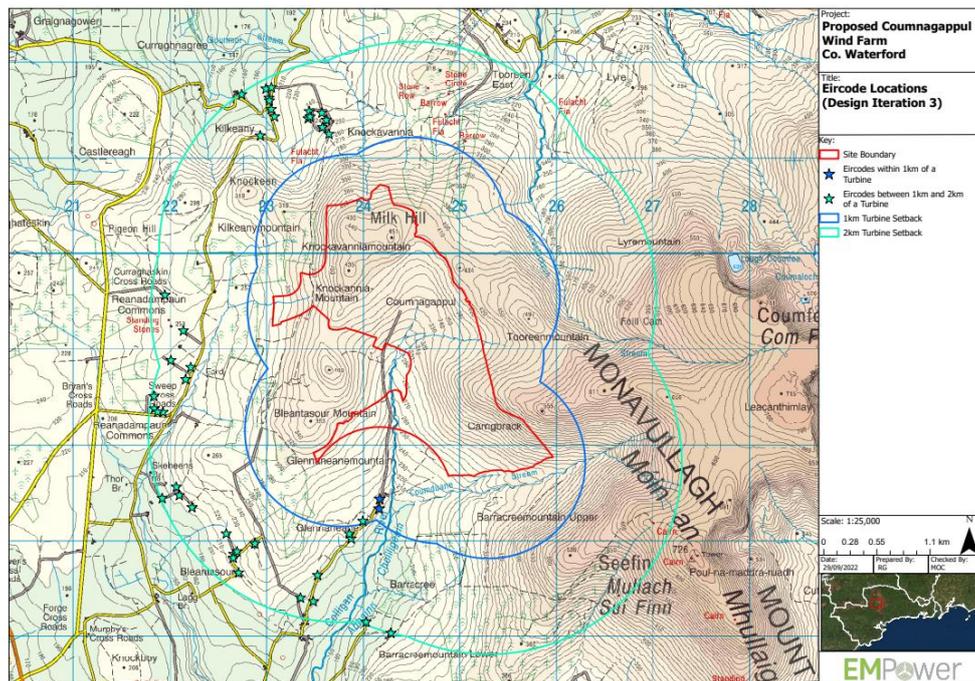


Figure 1 – Stage 1, 2 and 3 - 2km Community Consultation Zone

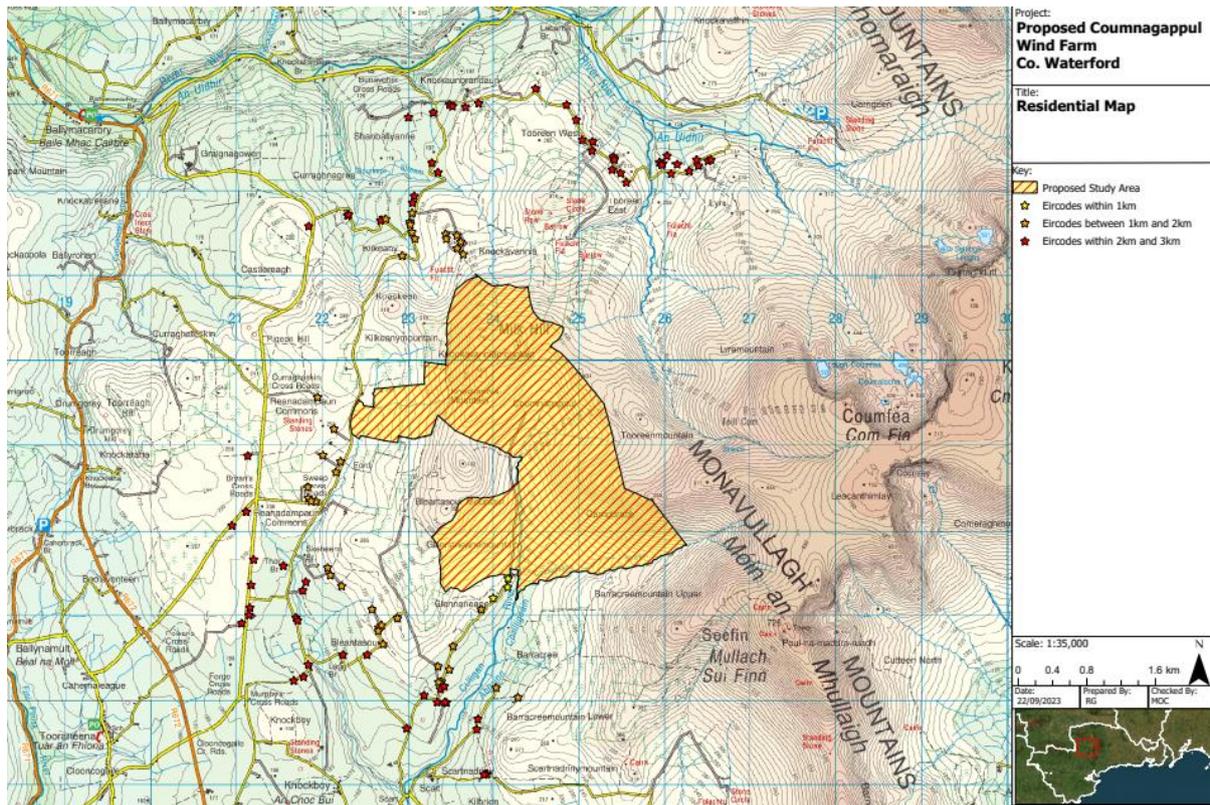


Figure 2 – Stage 4, 5 and 6 - 3km Community Consultation Zone

Stakeholder:

For the purposes of this report a Stakeholder is defined as an individual or an organization who are actively involved in the project, or whose interests may be positively or negatively affected as a result of project execution or successful project completion.

The Planning Consultant:

Fehily Timoney and Company (FT) are the appointed environmental consultant carrying out the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) compilation for the Coumna Gappul project’s planning application on behalf of EMPower. FT are a leading Irish engineering, environmental science and planning consultancy based in Cork for over 30 years and are formally registered with the National Standards Authority of Ireland. FT have over 80 members of staff including engineers, scientists, planners and technical support staff. FT will be preparing the Coumna Gappul Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Report in accordance with Irish and International best practice guidelines, the requirements of the EIA Directive and principles of sustainability, to guarantee a comprehensive assessment of any likely significant effects this Project Development could potentially have on its surrounding environment.

Community Liaison Officer

Michael O’Connor is the appointed Community Liaison Officer for the proposed Coumna Gappul Wind Farm project. Michael holds a B Eng. in Civil and Structural Engineering and a HDip in Business Management. Michael has been working as the project manager and community contact for the proposed Coumna Gappul project since 2021. Michael has over 10 years’ experience in onshore windfarm development, construction and operations and has led the community consultation process previously on similar renewable projects. Contact information for Michael, EMPower personnel and

the Coumnagappul project team have been made available to any interested stakeholders from the beginning of the project's public consultation process.

#### The Coumnagappul projects consultation approach

In the past, wind farm developers may have initiated a projects community consultation process shortly before submission of a planning application, when the key design decisions have already been made. EMPower seek to involve local communities much earlier in the Environmental Impact Assessment and project design process, to facilitate constructive dialogue at a time when it can have a meaningful impact on the final project design.

EMPower has consulted with the local community from the beginning of the detailed design and environmental assessment phases of the proposed Coumnagappul project to ensure that the views and concerns of members of the local community and interested stakeholders were considered as part of the project's design and the Environmental Impact Assessment process. EMPower believe that working as closely as possible with all stakeholders interested in our project proposals, especially the local communities in which we propose our projects, makes good sense for us as a commercial company, for our project neighbours, and for the ongoing global climate change objectives facing us all.

EMPower believes that community engagement should be undertaken in an appropriate and respectful manner with the communities in the environs of any proposed development, at all stages of a project lifecycle from Development, Construction through to Operations.

As a wind energy development company, interested stakeholders and communities will engage in conversations about our projects whether we are involved in those conversation or not.

By not being involved in our project conversation, we:

- lose the opportunity for improvement obtained from other people's views.
- lose the opportunity that open conversations can foster to deliver projects that benefit both local communities and the developer.
- lose the ability to correct misunderstandings about project details.

As with all EMPower projects the Coumnagappul project's community consultation approach initially focused on the near neighbours and dwellings within the Project Development's immediate consultation zone of 2 kilometers. This consultation area represents the closest communities, proximity wise to the Project Development's Main Study Area and will therefore be more susceptible to any potential effects caused by the Project Development.

We continue the focus on the Project Development's immediate consultation zone throughout the project's messaging and communications by ensuring project messaging is communicated to this area first.

Our community consultation approach also recognises the need to ensure interested stakeholders further away from the Project Development are also informed as the design iterations are worked through and the details of the Project Development evolve. This is achieved by project website updates and live interactive public webinars. Our project webinars are advertised beforehand in local newspapers, via project newsletters and on the project website. We also hold public information evenings, when public health guidelines permit, which again are advertised in local newspapers, the

project's website, and newsletters.

Our engagement process is designed to not just be an information giving exercise but also ensures that both community members local to our Project Development location, and interested stakeholders further away, are given the opportunity to be part of the projects design conversation and can input on project design details as they evolve towards a final design proposal.

In relation to national guidance on community engagement and consultation for wind energy developments, the *Wind Energy Development Guidelines* (Department of Environment, Heritage, and Local Government, 2006) state that:

*“While it is not a mandatory requirement, it is strongly recommended that developers of a wind energy project should engage in active consultation and dialogue with the local community at an early stage in the planning process, ideally prior to submitting a planning application.”*

This was further addressed in the *Preferred Draft Approach to Wind Energy Development in Ireland* (June 2017) which stated the following with respect to planning applications for wind farms:

*“Planning applications must contain a Community Report prepared by the applicant which will specify how the final proposal reflects community consultation. The Community Report must also outline steps taken to ensure that the proposed development will be of enduring economic benefit to the communities concerned.”*

The Draft Revised Wind Energy Guidelines (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, 2019) state that “meaningful community consultation also helps developers:

- to refine the design approach to a project reflecting a broadly based community perspective
- to explain the potential benefits of a project more clearly to communities
- to establish relationships with the community, as well as empowering communities to interact with and benefit more fully from projects.

EMPower are committed to meaningful, transparent consultation, which facilitates more informed and active engagement with our Project Developments. This Community Report details EMPower's engagement and liaison with the community local to the Coumnaagappul area of Co. Waterford and to the proposed Coumnaagappul project's Study Area as well as those interested Stakeholders further afield.

A comprehensive stakeholder register has been, and will continue to be, maintained throughout the full project life cycle. This ensures that any queries received via email, post, phone or from the website contact forms are adequately responded to as promptly as possible and any follow ups needed by project design team personnel are monitored, actioned, and recorded. At the time of writing there were no open questions or comments to be responded to on the proposed Coumnaagappul Wind Farm project. Appendix 1a collates the main queries and question themes which have been received and responded to by the project design team.

## COUMNAGAPPUL WIND FARM PROJECT CONSULTATION SUMMARY

Stage 1 – 2019 - Community Consultation – Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm

- Dedicated Project Website Goes Live – [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)
- First Project Information Newsletter distributed to Immediate consultation 2km zone (44 Eircode's)
- The project's first In Person Project Information Event was hosted on 21/08/2019 – All interested Stakeholders

EMPower started community consultation for the proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm project in 2019. The objective for Stage 1 of the proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm consultation was to introduce the initial design proposal for the Project Development as well as EMPower as a company to stakeholders local to the projects Study Area. This Stage 1 consultation aimed to generate awareness of the Project Development and begin a design conversation with the communities closest to the Project Development's location at a time when the detailed project design work and study was commencing.

The first Coumnagappul Project Information Newsletter (Appendix 1b) was distributed in July 2019 and provided details on EMPower as a company, the project location and initial design proposal, project schedule and community benefit potential for a renewable energy project such as this. It also provided information on the Environmental Impact Assessment process being initiated as well as contact information for EMPower and the project design team.

A dedicated project website, [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie) was launched at this time also, to inform any interested stakeholders of the particulars of the projects progression and also to communicate any webinars, in-person events that will be taking place.

During this stage 1 phase of the projects consultation there were many conversations facilitated with interested stakeholders who were mainly located within 2km from the Project Developments Study Area.

The Project Development's first In Person Project Information Event was hosted on 21/08/2019 in the Dungarvan Park Hotel between 4:00pm and 7:00pm. The event was advertised in the Dungarvan Observer on the 16/08/2019 (Appendix 1c) as well as on the project website, [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie). This In Person Project Information Event was hosted in order to provide information related to the design of the Coumnagappul Windfarm proposal. Empowers objective was to address any community questions or suggestions early in the development stage, provide information on the early design works underway and give an indication of the next steps for the proposal. Materials provided at various information stations during the meeting included:

- EMPower company information
- Project design information
- Environmental Impact assessment
- Frequently asked questions

- Community benefits
- Maps were provided illustration proposed site access options, the project's Study Area proposed grid routes
- The project website was launched

Approximately 50 individuals attended the event. One individual requested a follow-on individual meeting which was facilitated by EMPower. Discussion points mainly centered around the below areas:

Stakeholder Enquiry / Discussion Points	Counnagappul Wind Farm Project Team Response
Concern around noise levels and proximity to wind turbines	The project team explained the current guidelines and restrictions around decibel levels permitted with respect to wind farms and the legislation and guidelines required setback distances.
How many turbines are being proposed for the project	The project team outlined the proposed number of turbines and the reasons for selecting these turbine positions and engaged with stakeholders' observations and Queries regarding same.
Queries regarding devaluation of house prices in the vicinity of wind farms	The project team outlined the different studies that have been undertaken in this area.
Concern around Infrasound, noise & vibration	The project team explained the technological advancements in turbine production regarding noise, engaged with stakeholders on these queries and outlined that the project would be developed to the very latest legislation and guidelines.
Enquiring about potential grid route	The project team outlined the grid connection studies underway to identify the most viable options to connect to the national grid infrastructure.
Queries about traffic management during the potential construction phase	The project team outlined that traffic management during the construction phase would be fully assessed in the EIAR. A traffic management plan would be put in place to minimise the disruption to local residents and road users including the use of specialist heavy haulage transport company during the construction phase in conjunction with TII, An Garda Siochana and the Local authority.
Enquiring about the Community Benefit Fund available to the project	The project team talked through the potential benefits of the community fund, the different allocations of the fund and how the fund could be accessed.

This in-person project event also generated further local public newspaper articles and conversations which communicated the Project Developments particulars to a wider audience.

## Stage 2 – 2020 - Community Consultation – Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm

- First Project Community Letter distributed to Immediate consultation zone (44 Eircode’s)
- First Project Design Online Webinar was hosted on the 10/12/2020 – All interested Stakeholders

This Stage 2 Community Project Information letter (Appendix 2a) was distributed to the 44 Eircode’s within the Project Development’s immediate consultation zone.

This Project Community Letter was distributed from 27/11/2020 and reiterated information on EMPower as a company, details on the main project area, the potential of the associated Community Benefit Fund and contact details for the project design team.

The community letter also invited interested stakeholders to join an interactive Project Design Online Webinar on the 10/12/2020 from 7pm to 8pm where project particulars could be discussed and conversed on, in an interactive forum. The time and date for this webinar was also advertised on the project’s website and in the 04/12/2020 edition of the Dungarvan Observer (Appendix 2b) to generate awareness of the project outside of the project’s immediate consultation zone.

The first Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project Design Online Webinar (Appendix 2c) was facilitated at 7pm on the 10/12/2020. The webinar lasted approximately 1 hour. There was significant interest in the Project Development by the individuals who attended and the questions and answers session running over the allocated time period. After the event, a link to the webinar recording was posted to the project website [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)

On this first Coumnagappul project webinar, design team members described EMPower as a company and the important role renewable energy can play in Ireland’s energy system. The process EMPower employed to select the Coumnagappul Study Area as a potential renewable wind energy project was also described. The purpose of the webinar was to discuss the current project proposal, in its current design phase. Project particulars such as the Main Study Area, turbine delivery routes and grid connection routes were focused on as well as the overall Environmental Impact Assessment process. Aspects of the potential Community Benefit Fund and near neighbour scheme the project could facilitate were also talked through and discussed along with project predicted timelines, project next steps and project contact details.

Conversation points prior, during and in the weeks after the first project design online webinar included the below:

Stakeholder Enquiry / Discussion Points	Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project Team Response
Enquiring about EMPower as a company	The project team talked through the origins of the company, its inception, founding members and previous experience of the team in renewable energy projects.

<p>The reasons EMPower are scoping in this area for a wind energy project</p>	<p>The project team talked through the project selection process, the initial screening of an area, identifying of constraints, feasibility studies, County Development Plan considerations, wind speeds and all the other factors which inform project site selection.</p>
<p>The proposed project location</p>	<p>The project team outlined the project buildable area and the extent of the wider study area.</p>
<p>Enquires about the access and delivery routes being proposed for the project</p>	<p>The project team outlined the potential access routes being considered and listened to stakeholders' suggestions regarding shortening the overall delivery route. Alternative access routes were accessed as a result. Described the grid connection studies underway to identify the most viable options to connect to the national grid infrastructure.</p>
<p>Questions around the impacts to local flora and fauna</p>	<p>The project team described the full scope of environmental assessments being undertaken by various industry experts and consultants to identify and protect the biodiversity of the project area and its wider surrounds. Outlined the ecological impact assessment that will be carried out to assess the impact on the site's flora and fauna, evaluating potential impacts and work done to minimise these potential impacts on the local ecosystem in line with industry best practice.</p>
<p>What impacts are possible for peat habitats and waterbodies</p>	<p>The project team discussed the scope of environmental assessments and outlined the current legislation established to protect water quality in Ireland and also the guidelines set out to preserve and protect peatland habitat which this project will adhere to.</p>
<p>Questions about the potential noise effects from the project development</p>	<p>The project team explained the current guidelines and restrictions around decibel levels permitted with respect to wind farms and the required setback distances from housing.</p>
<p>The possible impacts for nearby European designated sites</p>	<p>The project team described how certain areas are designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Special Protection Areas (SPAs) or NHA/pNHA's and how this status ensures the protection of species and habitats within these areas.</p>
<p>The scale and number of turbines that are possible for this project</p>	<p>The project team outlined the proposed number of turbines feasible on this project site and the reasons for selecting these turbine positions. The hub height, blade length and overall scale of the proposed turbines machines was also relayed.</p>
<p>The potential visual effects of the project</p>	<p>The project team described how landscape and visual environmental consultants have been assessing the study area to identify and outline the potential visual effects of the project. Explained how a zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) will be produced outlining which turbines will be visible from various locations. Photo montages will identify the visual impact of the</p>

	project by showing the operational turbines in situ. These photo montages will be made available online for stakeholders to review and comment.
The Community Benefit Fund available to the project	The project team talked through the potential benefits of the community fund, the different allocations of the fund and how the fund could be accessed.
The projected timelines for the construction of the project	The project team outlined the estimated project schedule timelines for each of the project phases right through to potential construction.
Enquiring about the planning process and the decision timelines from the consenting authority	The project team outlined the projects pathway to submission in terms of the planning process, including details regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) that will accompany the planning submission. That all the planning documents and the EIAR will be available for public comment during the planning review process prior to the consenting authority making a judgement on the application.
Enquiring about where the generated electricity from the project would be distributed.	The project team relayed that the electricity generated from this project would be connected via the National Eirgrid / ESB managed national networks and distributed as required.

The above conversation points were used to inform future project messaging where stakeholder questions were expanded on where relevant.

Stage 2 of our Coumnagappul project community engagement process highlighted concerns from the community to the northwest of the projects Study Area regarding main project access. The design team were considering a feasibly project access route from the Kilkeany/Knockavannia area which would approach the project Study Area from the northwest. Local residents in this area raised concerns that this proposed route would increase traffic and bring larger component deliveries into this area. The residents noted that if the project delivery route was shortened, the dwellings north of the Study Area would be unaffected from an increased traffic point of view. The project design team committed to exploring alternative routes and progressed an alternative project access route from the west which shortened the overall delivery route.

### Stage 3 – 2021 - Community Consultation – Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm

- Second Project Information Newsletter distributed to the projects 2km Immediate consultation zone (44 Eircodes)
- Second Project Community Letter distributed to the projects 2km Immediate consultation zone (44 Eircodes)
- Second Online Design Webinar was hosted on 01/06/2022– All interested Stakeholders

The main aim of the May 2021 Project Newsletter and Community Letter was to generate further conversation and awareness of the Project Development in the areas local to the project’s Study Area. The Project Development’s second newsletter (Appendix 3a) was distributed to 44 Eircode’s in the 2km immediate consultation zone surrounding the Project Developments Study Area in May 2021. A community letter was also included with this second project newsletter (Appendix 3b). The May 2021 project newsletter reiterated information on EMPower as a company as well as the project location and design features at this stage of design. Updated project predicted timelines and the potential of the associated Community Benefit Fund for the Project Development at this stage of design were also discussed. The newsletter also discussed topical Environmental Impact Assessment project studies such as Noise, Biodiversity, Hydrology, Ecology, Population and Human Health and the Landscape and Visual assessment currently underway. The Newsletter also highlighted some of the frequently asked questions as well as an illustration of the project location and layout including an image of what a wind turbine project looks like in an Irish context. Project team contact information was also shared in the newsletter. One of the aims of the project newsletter was to invite interested stakeholders to attend the second Project Design Online Webinar on 01/06/2021. The time and date for this webinar was also advertised on the project’s website, [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie) and in the 28/05/2021 edition of the Dungarvan Observer (Appendix 3c) to generate awareness of the project outside of the project’s immediate consultation zone.

The second Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar (Appendix 3d) was facilitated at 7pm on the 01/06/2022. The webinar lasted approximately 1.5 hours. There was significant interest in the Project Development with the questions and answers session continuing over the webinars allocated 1 hour. After the event, a link to the webinar recording was posted to the project website [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)

On this second Coumnagappul project webinar design team members again described EMPower as a company and the important role renewable energy can play in Ireland’s energy system. The process EMPower employed to select the Coumnagappul Study Area as a potential renewable wind energy project was again touched on as this topic continued to be a question which was asked from interested stakeholders. The purpose of the webinar was to discuss project particulars such as the Main Study Area, turbine delivery routes, and grid connection routes were focused on as well as the overall Environmental Impact Assessment process. Aspects of the potential Community Benefit Fund and near neighbour scheme the project could facilitate were also talked though and discussed along with project predicted timelines, project next steps and project contact details.

Conversation points prior, during and in the weeks after the second project webinar included the below:

<b>Stakeholder Enquiry / Discussion Points</b>	<b>Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project Team Response</b>
The potential visual effects of the project	The project team described how landscape and visual environmental consultants have been assessing the study area to identify and outline the potential visual effects of the project. Explained how a zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) will be produced outlining which turbines will be visible from various locations. Photo montages will identify the visual impact of the

	<p>project by showing the operational turbines in situ. These photo montages will be made available online for stakeholders to review and comment on during the planning review process.</p>
How the Community Benefit Fund will be allocated	<p>The project team talked through the potential benefits of the community fund, the different allocations of the fund and how the fund could be accessed.</p>
Potential Turbine Delivery Route	<p>The project team outlined the potential access routes being considered and listened to stakeholders' queries regarding shortening the overall delivery route where possible. Alternative access routes were assessed as a result.</p>
How will the project be accessed from the public road network	<p>The project team outlined the different potential route access points from the public road still being assessed.</p>
Will there be potential damage to roads in the area	<p>The project team outlined the various mitigation measures that would be undertaken during the construction phase to limit the disruption to local residents and local roads. Any removal of street furniture, enhancement or upgrading of roads to accommodate haulage would be assessed by consultants and included in the EIAR and agreed in advance with the appropriate local authorities.</p>
Are there plans for further development in the area by EMPower	<p>The project team described the process the company takes to screen suitable areas that potentially could host a renewable energy project. The project team discussed that EMPower are constantly assessing new areas as a renewable energy developer. The process underway for the Dyrick Hill wind Farm Project was discussed. EMPower has strong links and working relationships with landowners in the Coumnaagappul area and can assess a landowner holding if asked or if buildable area exists under legislative guidelines. The Project team outlined that any future developments in the wider Coumnaagappul area or any part of the country would be subject to a separate planning application and community engagement process.</p>
The potential grid connection options	<p>The project team outlined the grid connection studies underway to identify the most viable options to connect to the national grid infrastructure.</p>
Are there potential effects on watercourses in the locality	<p>The project team relayed the current legislation established to protect water quality in Ireland under the Water Framework Directive.</p>
Are there likely impacts for local flora and fauna	<p>The project team described the full scope of environmental assessments being undertaken by various industry experts and consultants to identify and protect the biodiversity of the project area and its wider surrounds.</p>
What impacts are possible for peat habitats	<p>The project team outlined the current guidelines set out to preserve and protect peatland habitat.</p>

<p>What impacts are possible for European designated sites</p>	<p>The project team described how certain areas are designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Special Protection Areas (SPAs) This status ensures the protection of species and habitats within these areas.</p>
<p>Planning Application process in general and the Strategic Infrastructure Process</p>	<p>The project team outlined the projects pathway to submission in terms of the planning process, including details regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and The Natura Impact Statement (NIS) that will accompany the planning submission. Explained that Strategic Infrastructure Development projects are submitted to An Bord Pleanála for assessment and that all planning documents will be available for public review and comment during the planning review process prior to the consenting authority making a judgement on the application. Information on how to make a public submission or observation on a strategic infrastructure development application was also outlined.</p>

The discussion points and conversations raised during this stage 3 community consultation event were used to inform future project messaging and the overall community consultation process and the webinar recording, which included the live questions and answers session, was uploaded to the project’s website for any interested stakeholders to view.

During conversations with interested stakeholders following the release of the May 2021 Newsletter, Community Letter and also during the online webinar of the 01/06/2021, concerns were highlighted from the community regarding the immediate consultation zone and the need to expand the area further than 2km from the Project Developments study area. EMPower took on board this suggestion that widening the community consultation zone for future community literature distribution may be beneficial. This request was implemented for the next stage of the project’s communication.

#### Stage 4 – Sept. 2022 - Community Consultation – Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm

- Third Project Information Newsletter distributed to a 3-kilometer radius from the projects Study Area (108 Eircode’s)
- Third Project Community Letter distributed to a 3-kilometer radius from the project’s Study Area (108 Eircode’s)
- Third Design Online Webinar was hosted on 05/10/2022– All interested Stakeholders
- The project’s second In Person Project Information Event was hosted on 12/10/2022 – All interested Stakeholders

The September 2022 project newsletter (Appendix 4a) was distributed to 108 Eircode’s surrounding the project’s Study Area from the 28/09/2022. Taking onboard suggestions from residents local to the

Project Developments Study Area following the Stage 3 Community Consultation we increased the project Immediate Consultation Zone to 3km (Figure 2) from the previous Immediate Consultation Zone of 2km (Figure 1). This increased the households receiving project literature from the 44 Eircode's consulted during Stage 3 of the community consultation process to 108 Eircode's consulted during this Stage 4 Community Consultation. The number of Eircode's receiving project consultation material was increased to further raise awareness of the project in the wider area.

A project Community Letter was also included with this third project newsletter (Appendix 4b). The September 2022 Coumnagappul project newsletter and associated community letter invited interested stakeholders to join the third Online Project Design Webinar on the 05/10/2022 at 7pm where project particulars could be discussed and conversed on in an interactive forum. The interactive Project Design Webinar details were advertised in the 30/09/2022 edition of the Dungarvan Observer (Appendix 4c) and also on the project website in order to generate further awareness outside of the project's 3km immediate consultation zone. This project newsletter also invited interested Stakeholders to attend the second in-person project information evening in the Sliabh gCua Community Centre, Touraneena on the 12/10/2022 between 4.00pm and 8.00pm. Interested Stakeholders were invited to drop in anytime between 4pm and 8pm to discuss the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project and its associated design process with members of the project design team.

The interactive in person project information evening was advertised in the 07/10/2022 edition of the Dungarvan Observer (Appendix 4d) and also on the project website in order to generate further awareness outside of the project's 3km immediate consultation zone.

The third Coumnagappul Wind Farm project newsletter detailed the proposed Coumnagappul project particulars at this the Design Iteration 3 stage. The project's design process, how the design is formulated, why this location is suitable for a wind project and details of the company EMPower were again outlined. The Project Development's location and the surrounding topography and habitats of the Study Area were also discussed. Information on the Environmental Impact Assessment elements of the Project Development such as Population and Human Health, Biodiversity, Hydrology and Hydrogeology, Noise and Vibration and Land Soils and Geology were detailed in the newsletter in order to generate further conversation. The Coumnagappul project timelines and the potential of the associated Community Benefit Fund for the Project Development at this design stage were also listed along with again highlighting the project team's contact details.

This project messaging also illustrated a 10 Wind Turbine Project proposal for the first time. This was a reduction from a previous 11 Wind Turbine project proposal at Design Iteration 2. Turbine 9 on the east side of the project was omitted. The overall potential visual impact of the project, the buildability of this omitted turbine and local stakeholder's concerns on the sprawling nature of the development was one of the deciding factors for this omission. Also, Turbine 3 on the west side of the project Study Area was moved further south which helped minimize the potential visual impact of the proposal. As Landscape and Visual Impact was a concern to interested stakeholders this redesign was welcomed by many during conversation at the October 2022 Webinar and October 2022 In-Person Public information event.

There was some disruption to the public delivery of this project Newsletter and Community Letter to eircodes in the 3km consultation zone. This led to some residents in the community receiving the documentation ahead of others over an approximate 2-week period. This led to frustration for some stakeholders as information was not shared with the immediate community all in one go as per EMPowers usual delivery procedures. Unfortunately, this issue was outside of EMPowers control and

was a decision taken by the company employed to distribute the literature. Learnings were taken on board for future project deliveries. The material was posted to the project website and copies of the literature were posted to anyone who requested a further copy.

The purpose of the Online Design Webinar on 05/10/2022 (Appendix 4e) was to discuss the current project proposal as it moved towards advanced stages of the design. Project particulars such as the Main Study Area and project elements, turbine delivery and grid connection routes were discussed as well as the overall Environmental Impact Assessment process. Aspects of the potential Community Benefit Fund and near neighbor scheme the project could facilitate were also talked though and discussed along with the project’s predicted timelines, project next steps, the upcoming planning application process for the project and project contact details. 53 individuals registered for the webinar and 37 people attended on the night. Following the October 2022 webinar, a transcript of all the questions posed and answered given during the webinar (Appendix 4f) was uploaded to the project website along with a recording of the webinar for any interested Stakeholders who wanted to watch the webinar back in their own time. Webinar questions posed on the webinar evening were all addressed, and the answers were posted on the project website, [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)

Conversation points prior, during and in the weeks after the third project webinar included the below:

<b>Stakeholder Enquiry / Discussion Points</b>	<b>Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project Team Response</b>
The Landscape and Visual project elements	The project team described how landscape and visual environmental consultants have been assessing the study area to identify and outline the potential visual effects of the project. Explained how a zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) will be produced outlining which turbines will be visible from various locations. Photo montages will identify the visual impact of the project by showing the operational turbines in situ. These photo montages will be made available online for stakeholders to review and comment.
How will the Community Benefit Fund be allocated	The project team talked through the potential benefits of the fund to the community, the different allocations of the fund and how the fund could be accessed.
What is the potential Turbine Delivery Route	The project team outlined the potential access routes being considered and the alternative access routes being reviewed as a result of stakeholder engagement.
Traffic Management	The project team outlined that traffic management during the construction phase would be fully assessed in the EIAR. A traffic management plan would be put in place to minimise the disruption to local residents and road users including the use of specialist heavy haulage transport company during the construction phase in conjunction with TII, An Garda Siochana and the Local authority.
Future plans for EMPower in the area	The project team described the process the company takes to screen suitable areas that potentially could host a renewable energy project. The project team discussed that EMPower are constantly assessing new

	<p>areas as a renewable energy developer. The process underway for the Dyrick Hill Wind Farm Project was discussed. EMPower has strong links and working relationships with landowners in the Coumnagappul area and can assess a landowner holding if asked or if buildable area exists under legislative guidelines. The Project team outlined that any future developments in the wider Coumnagappul area or any part of the country would be subject to a separate planning application and community engagement process.</p>
<p>What is the proposed grid connection route</p>	<p>The project team outlined the grid connection studies underway to identify the most viable options to connect to the national grid infrastructure.</p>
<p>Hydrology and Hydrogeology findings</p>	<p>The project team described the current hydrological and hydrogeological assessments underway and the legislation established to protect water quality in Ireland under the Water Framework Directive.</p>
<p>Habitat assessments</p>	<p>The project team described the full scope of environmental assessments being undertaken by various industry experts and consultants to identify and protect the biodiversity of the project area and its wider surrounds. As part of the ecological assessments, species habitats will be mapped and potential impacts on the local ecosystem will be evaluated and mitigated against in line with industry best practice.</p>
<p>Next Steps and Planning Application process</p>	<p>The project team outlined the projects pathway to submission in terms of the planning process, including details regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and The Natura Impact Statement (NIS) that will accompany the planning submission. It was explained that Strategic Infrastructure Development projects are submitted to An Bord Pleanála for assessment and that all planning documents will be available for public review and comment during the planning review process prior to the consenting authority making a judgement on the application. Information on how to make a public submission or observation on a strategic infrastructure development application was also outlined.</p>

The purpose of the project’s second in-person project information evening, held in the Sliabh gCua Community Centre, Touraneena on the 12/10/2022 (Appendix 4g) was to meet with any interested stakeholders and discuss in person the various stages of the project design process underway. Interested stakeholders could drop in anytime between 4.00pm and 8.00pm to discuss the proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm project with members of the project design team and view the most up to date project information in person. The project information evening was attended by approximately 42 people who arrived at various stages throughout the evening. 5 members of the EMPower design

team were available to discuss the projects design process and any queries or conversation points relevant to the overall project proposal.

The main topics discussed during the evening were;

Stakeholder Enquiry / Discussion Points	Counnagappul Wind Farm Project Team Response
The Landscape and Visual project elements	The project team described how landscape and visual environmental consultants have been assessing the study area to identify and outline the potential visual effects of the project. Explained how a zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) will be produced outlining which turbines will be visible from various locations. Photo montages will identify the visual impact of the project by showing the operational turbines in situ. These photo montages will be made available online for stakeholders to review and comment.
Ornithology in the wider area	The project team described the extent of the ornithological assessments being carried out for the project included the wider surrounding habitats as well as the main project Study Area. Outlined that a desk-top study was conducted prior to the commencement of bird survey work, to gain an understanding of the bird populations using the area through present habitats and previous species records. Following the review of this ornithological data, several bird surveys were carried out including; Vantage Point Surveys, Transect surveys during both winter and summer season and Hinterland Surveys. The species identified during the studies were discussed.
Wind turbine capacity factors and site suitability and selection	The project team talked through the site selection process, the initial screening of an area, identifying of constraints, feasibility studies, County Development Plan considerations, wind speeds and all the other factors which inform project site selection. The project team explained that wind turbine capacity factors are dependent on many variables but can typically range from 28.3% to 35%.
Irish planning process and a renewable projects path to consent	The project team outlined the projects pathway to submission in terms of the planning process, including details regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and The Natura Impact Statement (NIS) that will accompany the planning submission. It was explained that Strategic Infrastructure Development projects are submitted to An Bord Pleanála for assessment and that all planning documents will be available for public review and comment during the planning review process prior to the consenting authority making a judgement on the application. Information on how to make a public submission or observation on a strategic

	infrastructure development application was also outlined.
Environmental Impact Assessment Process	The project team described in detail the Environmental Impact Assessment Process undertaken for this project. The study area assessments carried out over an extended period, including ecological and aquatic surveys, ornithological surveys, geotechnical and hydrological ground investigations, shadow flicker modelling, noise modelling, archaeological surveys, landscape and visual assessment and many more. To ensure that the project's Environmental Impact Assessment process is appropriately carried out, an information document detailing project particulars is prepared and circulated to a list of statutory and non-statutory consultees to ensure that the project's EIAR is addressing all relevant topics specific to the local area.
Community Benefit associated with the project	The project team talked through the potential benefits of the fund to the community, the different allocations of the fund and how the fund could be accessed.
Renewable energy in Ireland	The project team outlined the contribution of renewable energy in Ireland to date and the Governments Climate Action Plan pathway to 2030.
Traffic and component transport associated with the project	The project team outlined that traffic management during the construction phase would be fully assessed in the EIAR. A traffic management plan would be put in place to minimise the disruption to local residents and road users including the use of specialist heavy haulage transport company during the construction phase in conjunction with TII, An Garda Siochana and the Local authority.
What is the likely grid connection point for the project	The project team outlined that at this stage of the project the most viable route to connect to the national grid infrastructure would be via the Dungarvan 110kv substation near Killadangan. However, the final grid connection methodology and the exact location of the underground grid connection within the proposed site boundary will be finalized prior to construction and in consultation with Waterford City and County Council, ESB and Eirgrid having regard to all the environmental protection measures outlined in the Environmental Impact assessment Report.

The discussion points and conversations raised during this October 2022 community consultation phase were used to inform future project messaging and the overall community consultation process.

One particular point was a request for any future project open evening events to be held in the nearby Ballymacarby Community Centre, as it may allow a greater number of interested stakeholders to attend. EMPower committed to considering this request.

#### Stage 5 – Dec. 2022 Community Consultation – Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm

- Fourth Project Information Newsletter distributed to a 3-kilometer radius from the projects Study Area (108 Eircode's)
- Fourth Project Community Letter distributed to a 3-kilometer Immediate consultation zone (108 Eircode's)
- Projects Online Virtual Exhibition Room Goes Live

This fourth project Newsletter (Appendix 5a) was distributed to 108 Eircode's surrounding the project's Study Area from the 14/12/2022. A project Community Letter was also included with this fourth project newsletter (Appendix 5b).

This newsletter detailed the proposed Coumnagappul project information at this the Design Iteration 3a stage of the project's development. All elements of the project proposal were listed and the reasons why the Coumnagappul area is suitable for wind energy and details on EMPower as a company were again discussed, including details of the project design process. Five photomontages illustrating what the project will look like if constructed were also illustrated along with the overall landscape and visual assessment process.

The Coumnagappul project timelines and the potential of the associated Community Benefit Fund for the Project Development at this stage of design along with project contact details were also listed.

One of the main aims of this project Newsletter was to highlight the fact that the Coumnagappul Project's Community Consultation Online Exhibition Room was now open (Appendix 5c) and that it can be accessed from the home page of the project website. This project engagement feature allows interested stakeholders to access and view detailed project information presented by members of the project design team.

The online exhibition contains interactive information videos and high-definition drawings and illustrations on topics such as:

- The project team and project contact details.
- The project location and general project overview.
- Wind energy and community benefits.
- Project Development delivery timelines and grid route.
- Landscape and visual mapping and the landscape and visuals assessment process.
- Design iteration 1, 2 and 3 illustrations
- Interactive 360° Google Map styled viewer showing how the project will look if built out from 29 separate viewpoints surrounding the project's Study Area.
- Environmental Impact Assessment information relative to the proposed Coumnagappul Wind

- Farm project.
- Frequently asked questions.
- Transport and delivery routes and maps with added functionality.

The Community Consultation Online Exhibition Rooms photomontage viewer depicting what the Project Development will look like in the landscape if built out proved a particular success in helping interested stakeholders visualize what the project will look like.

#### Stage 6 - April 2023 - Community Consultation – Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm

- Fifth Project Information Newsletter distributed to a 3-kilometer radius from the projects Study Area (108 Eircode's)
- Fifth Project Community Letter distributed to Immediate consultation zone (108 Eircode's)
- The project's third In Person Project Information Event was hosted on 26/04/2023 – All interested Stakeholders

This Project Newsletter (Appendix 6a) was distributed to 108 Eircode's surrounding the project's Study Area from the 15/04/2023. A project Community Letter was also included with this fifth project Newsletter (Appendix 6b).

The April 2023 Newsletter detailed the proposed Coumnagappul project information at this Design Iteration 3b stage of the project's development.

The fifth Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project Newsletter and associated Community Letter detailed the proposed Coumnagappul project information at this, Design Iteration Stage 3b. All elements of the project proposal were listed along with maps detailing the proposed wind farm layout, grid connection access and turbine component delivery routes. Further information on some of the Environmental Impact Assessment topics that were undertaken for the Project Development such as Archaeology and Ornithology was illustrated, along with more detailed outlines of the proposed grid and turbine delivery route options being assessed. An explanation of how wind turbines work, a topic raised during Stage 5 of the community consultation was described. Three photomontages illustrating what the project would look like if constructed were discussed along with the planning process for the proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm and how members of the public can make observations and comments on the final submitted project proposal.

The Coumnagappul project timelines and the potential of the associated Community Benefit Fund for the Project Development at this design stage were also listed along with highlighting project contact details. This fifth project newsletter also invited interested Stakeholders to attend the third in-person project information evening in the Ballymacarbry Community Centre, Ballymacarbry, on the 26/04/2023 between 4.00pm and 8.00pm. Interested Stakeholders were invited to drop in anytime between 4pm and 8pm to discuss the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project and its associated design process with members of the project design team.

This project information evening was advertised on the project newsletter, the dedicated project

website and in the 14/04/2023 edition of the Dungarvan Observer (Appendix 6c) to generate further awareness of the project outside of the project's immediate consultation zone. Posters (Appendix 6d) were also erected in the shop at Beary's Cross, Ballymacarbry Post Office, the Ballymacarbry Community Centre and Doocey's Shop on 18/04/2023. Emails were sent to all stakeholders on the 24/04/2023 who had contacted the project previously by email or the project website, informing them of the Public Consultation Evening.

*Hi Ms W,*

*I hope you are keeping well.*

*As you have contacted our Coumnagappul project website previously I just wanted to let you know that the project team are facilitating the third Coumnagappul project in-person information evening in the **Ballymacarbry Community Centre, Ballymacarbry on the 26/04/2023 between 4.00pm and 8.00pm.***

*If it suits, you can drop in anytime between 4.00pm and 8.00pm to discuss the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project with members of the design team and view the most up to date project information.*

*Also attached you will find a Newsletter recently distributed within 3km of the Project Developments Study Area.*

*Thank you for your continued interest in this Project Development.*

*Kind Regards,*

*Michael O'Connor*

*The Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project*

The Project Consultation Evening (Appendix 6e) was attended by approximately 50 - 55 people who arrived at various stages throughout the evening. 6 members of the EMPower design and Land team were available to discuss the projects design process and any queries or conversation points relevant to the overall project proposal. As landscape and visual project elements had been of particular interest to some of the local residents through previous project consultations, EMPower set up a projector at this project consultation evening to facilitate a 360-photomontage viewing point for stakeholders to engage with and view how the Project Development would look from different vantage points around the wider Study Area.

3 to 4 stakeholders who felt negatively about the Project Development maintained a presence outside the community center and handed out literature during the event. The local radio station was also in attendance. EMPower's managing director facilitated an interview with the local radio station in question on the day after the event to discuss the project's design.

Conversation points during and in the weeks after the third in-person design consultation event

included the below:

Stakeholder Enquiry / Discussion Points	Counnagappul Wind Farm Project Team Response
Biodiversity and habitat management of the area including Bat species	The project team described the full scope of environmental assessments being undertaken by various industry experts and consultants to identify and protect the biodiversity of the project area and its wider surrounds. As part of the ecological assessments, species habitats, including birds and bats will be mapped and potential impacts on the local ecosystem will be evaluated and mitigated against in line with industry best practice.
Landscape and Visual project elements	The project team described how landscape and visual environmental consultants have been assessing the study area to identify and outline the potential visual effects of the project. Explained how a zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) will be produced outlining which turbines will be visible from various locations. Photo montages will identify the visual impact of the project by showing the operational turbines in situ. These photo montages will be made available online for stakeholders to review and comment.
Ornithology	The project team described the extent of the ornithological assessments being carried out for the project included the wider surrounding habitats as well as the main project Study Area. Outlined that a desk-top study was conducted prior to the commencement of bird survey work, to gain an understanding of the bird populations using the area through present habitats and previous species records. Following the review of this ornithological data, several bird surveys were carried out including; Vantage Point Surveys, Transect surveys during both winter and summer season and Hinterland Surveys.
Proximity of turbines to houses and noise implications	The project team explained the current guidelines and restrictions around decibel levels permitted with respect to wind farms and the required setback distances from housing.
Planning application process	The project team outlined the projects pathway to submission in terms of the planning process, including details regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and The Natura Impact Statement (NIS) that will accompany the planning submission. Explained that Strategic Infrastructure Development projects are submitted to An Bord Pleanála for assessment and that all planning documents will be available for public review and comment during the planning review process prior to the consenting authority making a judgement on the application. Information on how to make a public submission or observation on a strategic

	infrastructure development application was also outlined.
Hydrology of the Study Area	The project team described the current hydrological assessments underway, and the legislation established to protect water quality in Ireland under the Water Framework Directive.
Timelines for the project's submission	The project team outlined the estimated project schedule timelines for each of the project phases right through to construction.
Community Benefit	The project team talked through the potential financial benefits of the fund to the community, the different allocations of the fund and how the fund could be accessed.
Other developments in the general area	The project team described the process the company takes to screen suitable areas that potentially could host a renewable energy project. The project team discussed that EMPower are constantly assessing new areas as a renewable energy developer. The process underway for the Dyrick Hill wind Farm Project was discussed. Empower has strong links and working relationships with landowners in the Coumnagappul area and can assess a landowner holding if asked or if buildable area exists under legislative guidelines. The Project team outlined that any future developments in the wider Coumnagappul area or any part of the country would be subject to a separate planning application and community engagement process.
Local property prices pre and post project consent	The project team outlined the different peer reviewed studies that have been undertaken in this area and these were also emailed onto stakeholders as requested and added to our project messaging on this topic. These included studies from Scotland, England and the US. Discussion points around projects that adhere to legislation for adequate setback distance from houses and noise conditions, carry out early community engagement and adhere to planning conditions can ensure that a project is correctly sited. The community elements and benefits for local houses from a potential fund was also discussed which can help to offset any perceived property devaluation.

The discussion points and conversations raised during this April 2023 community consultation phase were used to inform future project messaging and the overall community consultation process.

## Stage 7 – October 2023 - Community Consultation – Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm

- Sixth Project Information Newsletter distributed to a 3-kilometer radius from the projects Study Area (108 Eircode's)
- Sixth Project Community Letter distributed to Immediate consultation zone (108 Eircode's)

The Project Development's sixth newsletter (Appendix 6a) was distributed to 108 Eircode's surrounding the project's Study Area on the weekend of the 07-10-2023. A community letter (Appendix 6b) was also included with this sixth project newsletter.

The sixth Coumnagappul Wind Farm project newsletter detailed the proposed Coumnagappul project information at this, the Final Design stage. All project proposal elements were listed along with maps detailing the final wind farm layout. Final grid connection access and turbine component delivery routes were detailed. A description of the planning process for the proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm and how members of the public can make observations and comments on the final submitted project proposal was outlined. Information on where the planning application and its associated Environmental documents could be viewed by members of the public was also listed.

The Coumnagappul project timelines and the potential of the associated Community Benefit Fund for the Project Development at this final design stage were also listed along with highlighting project contact details. The main aim of this sixth project Newsletter was to highlight the fact that the project design team was now in the process of submitting the planning application to An Bord Pleanála for assessment.



# Appendix



## Appendix 1a – Coumnagappul Community Engagement - Main Conversation Themes

Date	Question/Query/Comment	Response
26.08.2022	How to access the Community Consultation Room	Yes- Email
20.10.2022	Copy of the LVIA OSI map requested	Yes- Email
30.11.2022	Distance of proposal from specific residence	Yes- Email
13.10.2022	Coordinates of Turbine 12's position	Yes- Email
05.03.2021	Location of Project Access point	Yes- Email
03.10.2022	Request for slides from the last webinar	Yes- Email
01.07.2021	Request to assess lands for project involvement	Yes- Email
03.10.2022	Clarification on Webinar date	Yes- Email
14.11.2021	Project traffic, project access point and project deliveries in proximity to dwelling	Yes- Email
16.10.2022	Location of Project Access point	Yes- Email
27.10.2022	Project planning submission timelines – Community engagement procedures in place	Yes- Email
08.11.2022	Project Planning Submission Timelines	Yes- Email
08.03.2022	Landscape and Visual photomontages	Yes- Email
05.02.2021	Turbine predicted noise and effect on sheep herding	Yes- Email
05.01.2022	Details on Projects Community Exhibition Room	Yes- Email
13.10.2022	Request for LVIA Map and photomontage query	Yes- Email
28.01.2021	Request for community Material and follow on call	Yes – Phone call
27.09.2022	Request for further public information evenings	Yes- Email
03.10.2022	Request for details on number of Turbines in proposal	Yes- Email
05.10.2022	Query on how to access community engagement fund	Yes- Email
05.10.2022	Request for an update on any further public open evenings	Yes- Email
06.10.2022	Location of Project Access point/Delivery route	Yes- Email
12.10.2022	Coordinates for Turbine 12's position	Yes- Email
16.10.2022	Likely electricity generation from project	Yes- Email
16.10.2022	Wind Assessment records	Yes- Email

18.10.2022	At what windspeeds do Wind Turbines operate	Yes- Email
19.10.2022	Coordinates for Turbine 2's position	Yes- Email
20.10.2022	Wind Turbine generation capacity	Yes- Email
21.10.2022	Nearest Weather stations to the project area	Yes- Email
24.10.2022	Coordinates for the positions of all proposed turbines	Yes- Email
25.10.2022	Projects Export Grid Route direction	Yes- Email
31.10.2022	Coordinates for the positions of all proposed turbines	Yes- Email
01.11.2022	Coordinates for the positions of all proposed turbines	Yes- Email
23.11.2022	Average windspeed at project Study Area	Yes- Email
14.12.2022	Incorrect Project Newsletter delivered	Yes- Email
09.02.2023	Proposed transmission route: from the indicative substation in Coumnagappul to the Dungarvan 110KV Substation on the Military Rd	Yes - Email
25.04.2023	Project Newsletter not delivered	Yes - Email
26.04.2023	Distance from a wind turbine to a residential property	Yes - Email
27.04.2023	Concerns about health issues and protecting watercourses	Yes-Email
27.04.2023	Query regarding local school and community benefit fund	Yes –Phone call
21.05.2023	Wind Farm effects on property prices	Yes - Email



# Appendix 1b – July 2019

## Project Information Newsletter

### Coumnaagappul Wind Farm

Statement of Community Consultation



#### EMPower

EMPower is an Irish based international renewable energy developer with over 700 MW in development in Europe and Africa. Our senior management team has a combined 95 years' experience delivering projects from conception to operation across five continents.

EMPower is owned by GGE Ireland Limited, Wind Power Invest A/S and EMP Holdings Limited. We commenced project development in Ireland in 2019 following the government's announcement of the Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS) and Ireland's revised electricity target of 70% renewables by 2030.

Our vision is to provide low carbon, ecologically non-invasive, affordable energy to facilitate Ireland's expanding economy and sustainable energy targets. We are currently preparing for a Strategic Infrastructure Development planning submission to An Bord Pleanála, intended in Summer 2021. This is a legal requirement for applications above 50 MW. EMP follows Equator Principles and IFC Performance Standards throughout all stages of development in order to ensure the protection of our local ecology and communities.

Our project website ([www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie)) will be updated regularly with reports as they are made available and the final Environmental Impact Assessment will be published for comments prior to submission. Please submit comments through the website or email us directly at [coumnaagappul@emp-group.com](mailto:coumnaagappul@emp-group.com)

**95 Years**

Combined Experience of EMPower Management Team in Renewable Energy

**700 MW+**

Wind Energy Capacity Currently Under Development By EMPower

**5 Continents**

Combined Geographical Experience of EMPower Team in Renewable Energy



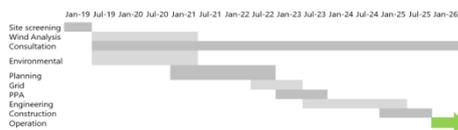
#### Coumnaagappul Wind Farm



- 11 Turbines
- 61.6 MW
- Clean power for 36,000 Irish Homes
- No Overhead Transmission Lines

The proposed development area of Coumnaagappul Wind Farm consists of a 832 acre site which is privately owned by local landowners, located 4km North of Kilbrien Village and 16km north of Dungarvan. The final footprint of the project will be approximately 18 acres. EMPower proposes to develop up to 11 turbines, of 185m tip-height, subject to environmental impact assessment and planning permission. The site was identified in the Waterford County Development Plan as a preferred area for wind development.

#### Project Schedule

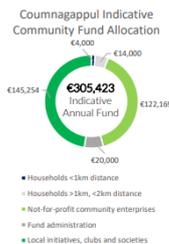


#### Community Benefit

Coumnaagappul wind farm will require a €68.1 million investment and will provide sustainable, low carbon energy generation infrastructure to meet Ireland's growing demand. The development benefits to the local community include significant investment in local infrastructure such as roads and electrical systems, local job creation, and a contribution of €11 million in county council rates over the project lifetime.

Coumnaagappul Wind Farm will also provide a community fund calculated in accordance with the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) Terms and Conditions at **€2 per MWh** of electricity produced by the project. This is to be made available to the local community for the duration of the RESS (15 years). The average capacity factor of wind energy projects in Ireland is 28.3% (SEAI, 2019). Assuming this efficiency, and a capacity of 61.6 MW, the community benefit fund would amount to an average of €305,423 per annum. The actual fund will vary around the average from year to year, depending on wind conditions. Onsite wind measurement suggests that Coumnaagappul will be capable of achieving an above average capacity factor, and therefore a larger community fund.

This scheme is proposed to be divided as per the illustration in the chart below. An annual payment of **€1,000** will be provided to each household within 1km of any Coumnaagappul Wind Farm turbine. An annual payment of **€500** will be provided to each household located between 1km and 2km of a turbine. These payments will be fixed and will not fluctuate: 40% of the fund, amounting to approximately €122,169 per year in this example, will be allocated to not-for-profit community enterprises, with an emphasis on low-carbon initiatives. The remainder of the fund will be directed towards local clubs, societies and initiatives. We welcome any suggestions from the community on suitable local projects that could be supported under this initiative.



- 105** Direct jobs in construction phase
- 25** Highly skilled jobs over project lifetime
- € 68.1 million** Investment in Irish Infrastructure
- € 4.6 million** Total Community Fund Contribution
- € 11 million** County Council Rates Contribution

#### Environmental Impact Assessment

Following initial site screening activities, EMPower have commissioned an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Coumnaagappul Wind Farm to assess what effects the project might have on the environment and local community. This is being carried out by the independent environmental and engineering consultancy, Facility Timoney & Company Consultants and the resulting reports will be issued to the planning & regulatory authorities. The EMPower team held the project's first public consultation event in August 2019, with the aim of providing information to the local residents and collecting their feedback. A description of some key ESIA activities is presented to the right.



##### Social Impact Assessment

This involves examining the social effects of infrastructure projects on the surrounding community, examining land use, employment, health and safety, tourism and local amenities.



##### Ecology

An ecological impact assessment will be carried out in order to assess the impact on the site's flora and fauna, evaluating potential impacts on the local ecosystem. In line with industry best practice, EMPower are conducting 2 years bird surveys prior to planning application submission.



##### Shadow Flicker

Shadow flicker refers to alternating changes in light intensity caused by the moving turbine rotors impacting dwellings. EMPower will carry out a shadow flicker analysis to avoid any impact of shadow flicker on local buildings in line with current guidelines.



##### Noise Assessment

A noise assessment will be carried out to assess the impact of noise on the surrounding community by installing sound meters at noise sensitive locations (houses) and using turbine noise curves to establish noise emissions and design out any potential impacts.



##### Landscape and Visual

A zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) will be produced outlining which turbines will be visible from various locations. Photo montages will identify the visual impact of the project by showing the operational turbines in situ.

#### Wind Energy FAQ

##### How efficient is wind energy?

Wind turbines produce electricity approximately 85% of the time. The other 15% of the time they are not turning for reasons, such as very low wind speeds, very high wind speeds, and maintenance/repair work. After six to seven months, a wind turbine will have produced as much energy as has gone into constructing it. Coumnaagappul Wind Farm is anticipated to produce enough electricity to power 36,000 Irish homes.

##### Do wind farms affect house prices?

Several studies from the United Kingdom by the Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR), The Institute of Chartered Surveyors, The House of Commons Library and Renewable UK conclude wind farms have little or no impact on property values.

##### Are turbines linked to health issues?

The balance of scientific evidence and human experience to date clearly concludes that wind turbines are not harmful to human health – in fact, wind energy reduces harmful air emissions and creates no harmful waste products when compared with other sources of electricity.

##### What is a turbine's lifetime emissions?

Wind energy emits no toxic substances such as mercury and air pollutants like smog-creating nitrogen oxides, acid rain-forming sulphur dioxide and particulate deposits. A 2014 study by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) found onshore wind energy to have the lowest mean lifecycle emissions of all viable sources, such as solar, nuclear energy and natural gas, at just 11 grams CO2e per kWh.



#### Get in touch

Website: [www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie)  
 Email: [coumnaagappul@emp-group.com](mailto:coumnaagappul@emp-group.com)  
 Phone: 01 588 0178  
 Write: EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1

# Appendix 1c – 16/08/2019 Dungarvan Observer Notice

## Councillor raises concerns over a large number of late additions to Register of Electors

A COUNCILLOR has raised concerns about a large number of late additions of people whom he described as "from outside of the country" being added to the Register of Electors shortly before the last Local Elections.

Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell initially raised his concerns at the recent Plenary meeting of Waterford City and County Council, querying what the procedure was in regards to

people "from outside of the country" going onto the register at a late date.

Cllr. O'Donnell informed the Council "there were at least 110 people that I counted who went onto the Supplementary Register".

"I'm wondering if any of those people had passports, or were they entitled to go on the register?" he asked.

"Why should anyone come

into this country one week and be put on the register the following week? It shouldn't be allowed at all," he said.

Director of Services, Kieran Kehoe pointed out that someone looking to be included on the Supplementary Register has to have their registration form signed and stamped by a member of An Garda Síochána before the form is submitted to the Council.

"This is to ensure the person is who they say they are and that the Garda has seen and witnessed the necessary documentation to verify the person's identity," Mr. Kehoe said.

He said the possibility of someone being included on the Supplementary Register of the Register of Electors without a valid form stamped by a Garda "was highly unlikely".

### NOTICES

**EMPower**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENT**

EM Power, a company with an address at 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, Dublin 2, are investigating the potential to develop a windfarm on the townlands of Courmagappul, Carrigbrack, and Glensaneane in Co. Waterford. We are hosting a public information event in **The Park Hotel, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, on Wednesday the 21st of August between the hours of 4.00 and 7.00 p.m.** This event will be open to all members of the public to attend in order to learn more about the current feasibility studies underway.

**EM Power, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin D01 V4AS, Ireland**

## Kilmac' housing project expected to proceed to Stage two approval by September

A PROPOSAL to build 16 houses in Kilmacthomas is expected to proceed to Stage two of the approval process by September, and then onto Stage three approval by the end of the year.

There are four stages of approval given by the Department of Housing before a housing development can proceed.

Director of Services for Housing, Ivan Crimes, told the recent Plenary meeting of Waterford City and County Council that last

year, Housing Minister, Eoghan Murphy gave a commitment last year that the four stages of the approval process should take no more than 59 weeks in total, in a bid to speed up house building to tackle the current housing crisis.

Mr. Crimes was responding to a question from Cllr. Thomas Phelan who had sought more details about the stages of approval each of the capital housing projects are currently at.

Mr. Crimes said that members of the previous Council will remember that some of the stages "went on forever".

"But, the newer scheme should be delivered quicker, and I point out, in particular, the Kilmacthomas housing scheme which received Stage one approval last April. That project will be moving to Stage two approval in September and should be at Stage three approval before the end of the year," Mr. Crimes said.



Paul Conroy, James Conroy, Tony Eisted and Liam Simms pictured at the Ballinacourty School Reunion which took place recently at the Gold Coast Hotel.

**Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge**  
Waterford City & County Council

**TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROADS**  
**SECTION 75 ROADS ACT 1993**

Notice is hereby given that Waterford City and County Council, in exercise of its powers pursuant to Section 75 Roads Act 1993, will close the following public road to through traffic from 11.30am to 1.30pm on **Sunday, 8th September 2019** to facilitate the **Tried and Tested Junior Triathlon Club Kids Triathlon**:

**Road to be closed:**

- L3011 from Greenway Carpark to Clonea Beach.

**Diversion Route:**

- Access to Clonea Beach via L3014. Greenway Carpark will remain open. Local access will be facilitated.

Fergus Galvin  
Director of Services  
Roads, Water and Environment

14th August, 2019

**Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge**  
Waterford City & County Council

**TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROADS**  
**SECTION 75 ROADS ACT 1993**

Notice is hereby given that Waterford City and County Council, in exercise of its powers pursuant to Section 75 Roads Act 1993, propose to close the following road to through traffic from **16th September to 18th October 2019** to facilitate **Watermains Rehabilitation Works**:

**Road to be closed:**

- L5035 Tallow Hill, Tallow, Co. Waterford.

**Diversion Route:**

- N72 Tallowbridge Lands.

Objections or submissions may be made in writing to the Director of Services, Roads, Water and Environment, Waterford City and County Council, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford not later than **4pm on 28th August, 2019**.

Fergus Galvin  
Director of Services  
Roads, Water and Environment

14th August, 2019

# Appendix 2a – 27/11/2020

## Project Information Letter

**EMPOWER**  
2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay  
North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3  
E: [info@emp.group](mailto:info@emp.group)  
T: +353 (0)1 588 0178



27/11/2020

**Re: Proposed Wind Farm Development at Coumnagappul, Co. Waterford**

Dear Resident,

EMPower (EMP) is an international wind energy developer, managing a development portfolio of over 700MW in Europe and Africa. Founded by three Irish directors, our goal is to support Ireland's climate objectives through the development of appropriately located, clean, indigenous energy infrastructure.

We are currently preparing a proposal to develop an 11-turbine wind farm at Coumnagappul, Co. Waterford, located approximately 4km North of Kilbrien Village and 16km north of Dungarvan. This wind farm would be around 61.6 MW in capacity and would produce enough renewable electricity to power over 36,000 Irish homes per year. Our intention is to submit a Strategic Infrastructure Development planning application to An Bord Pleanála in the Summer/Autumn of 2021 as this is a legal requirement for wind farm applications of this scale.

Coumnagappul Wind Farm will also provide a community fund calculated in accordance with the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) Terms and Conditions at **€2 per MWh** of electricity produced by the project. This is to be made available to the local community for the duration of the RESS (15 years). The average capacity factor of wind energy projects in Ireland is 28.3% (SEAI, 2019). Assuming this efficiency, and a capacity of 61.6 MW, the community benefit fund would amount to an average of €305,423 per annum. The actual fund will vary around the average from year to year, depending on wind conditions. Onsite wind measurement suggests that Coumnagappul will be capable of achieving an above average capacity factor, and therefore a larger community fund.

As a component of this fund, an annual payment of **€1,000** will be provided to each household within 1km of any Coumnagappul Wind Farm turbine. An additional annual payment of **€500** will be provided to each household between 1km and 2km of any Coumnagappul Wind Farm turbine. If you would like to enquire as to the distance of your home from this project, please feel free to contact us at [coumnagappul@emp.group](mailto:coumnagappul@emp.group)

Local not-for-profit enterprises, clubs, and societies will also be eligible to receive funding from the community benefit scheme, as is further detailed in the enclosed Community Consultation Leaflet. We would be grateful for your suggestions of projects that you believe should be supported by this fund.

Due to public health guidelines in relation to preventing the spread of COVID-19, we are unable to host a local face-to-face consultation event. The safety of the public and our staff is of paramount importance to us. It is our intention to arrange a public consultation event locally once health guidelines allow it. **In the interim, we will host a live webinar on Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020 from 7-8pm, the details of which will be provided at [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie).**

Our project website ([www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)) will be updated regularly with reports as they are made available and the final Environmental Impact Assessment will be published prior to submission. You may submit comments through the website, write to us at Coumnagappul Windfarm, EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1. Or alternatively email us directly at [coumnagappul@emp.group](mailto:coumnagappul@emp.group).

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Diarmuid Twomey  
Director

EMPOWER is a registered trading name of EMP Energy Limited, a private limited company registered in Ireland under company number 630312. **Directors:** Diarmuid Anthony Twomey, Iñigo Sabater Elizaguirre, Ingmar Wilhelm, Vimal Vallabh, Seán mac Cann. **Registered office:** 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3.

# Appendix 2b – 04/12/2020 Dungarvan Observer Notice

**FILM LISTING**  
Wednesday, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> - Thursday, Dec 10<sup>th</sup>

**Staggered Seating**  
No matter what seat you book in the cinema, it will not be possible for another customer to book a seat behind you. In front of you or behind you, but please, each of these seats together can be seated together.

**Your Safety Always Comes First**  
Sanitiser stations throughout the building and extra cleaning procedures have been added.

**New Normals**  
To ensure the safety of both our customers and staff, we have implemented new procedures throughout our cinema.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT [WWW.MOVIES-AT.IE](http://WWW.MOVIES-AT.IE)

**MOVIE SHOWTIMES**  
Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> - Thursday, Dec 10<sup>th</sup>

**Wolfwalker (PG) 104 mins**  
Daily: 2.40, 5.20 also Sat, Sun 12.00

**Pixie (16) 94 mins**  
Daily: 8.10

**Die Hard (15A) 132 mins**  
Daily: 8.00

**Love Actually (15A) 7.30**  
Daily: 7.50

**The Secret Garden (PG) 100 mins**  
Daily: 3.00 also Sat, Sun 12.20

**Saint Maud (16) 84 mins**  
Daily: 8.20

**Home Alone (PG) 103 mins**  
Daily: 5.30

**Elf (PG) 97 mins**  
Daily: 5.10

**Two By Two: Overboard (G) 83 mins**  
Daily: 3.10 also Sat, Sun 12.30

**Muppets Christmas Carol (G) 85 mins**  
Daily: 5.40

**The Grinch (G) 85 mins**  
Daily: 2.50 also Sat, Sun 12.10

[WWW.MOVIES-AT.IE](http://WWW.MOVIES-AT.IE)

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENT**

EM Power, a company with an address at 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, Dublin 2 are investigating the potential to develop a windfarm on the townlands of Coumragapple, Carrigbrack and Glennaneane in Co. Waterford.

As part of our community consultation campaign, we are hosting a **webinar at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday the 10th of December 2020** in order to engage with local residents while observing public health guidance and restrictions surrounding COVID-19. The webinar will last for one hour and we would be grateful for your feedback on any issues you would like to raise regarding the wind farm and the community fund allocation. You can register and find project information at our website [www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie)

EM Power, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3, Ireland

**Cinema Watch Party On-Demand**  
Rent Your Own Private Screen

Have the space to reunite or celebrate any occasion with your Family and Friends.

Watch any film we have, bring your own disc or use your own streaming service. Play video games on the big screen or just catch up. Your Screen, Your Choice!

Just your nearest and dearest!  
— Feel totally safe and secure, no strangers in your screen.

For more details and booking  
**Call: 058 45796**  
Email: [eugene@movies-at.ie](mailto:eugene@movies-at.ie)

The Dungarvan Observer, in association with SGC Dungarvan, has a pair of tickets to give away each week to the lucky winner of our competition for the movie of your choice when they re-open again. All you have to do is answer the following question and post your entries into SGC Competition, Dungarvan Observer, Shandon, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, on or before 12 noon on Tuesday, 8th December. Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Question: What website can you log in to book the best movies in Dungarvan?

Answer: .....

Name: .....

Address: .....

..... Tel. No. ....

**DUNGARVAN ANNUAL APPEAL**

The Annual Christmas Appeal for the Society will be held in the coming weeks. Due to Covid-19 restrictions we cannot hold Church Gate collections as in other years.

People in our Community need your help more than ever before.

Please support the work of our Society by posting or delivering your donation to our office at Emmet Street, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford

Our sincere thanks to all who have supported the work of the Society during the year.

Contact **087 7747870** or [svpdungarvan@gmail.com](mailto:svpdungarvan@gmail.com) if you need further information.

(11-12)

**Observer Competitions Winners**

**Alice Taylor**  
KATHLEEN BERESFORD, 1 Stephen Street, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford. Winner can collect prize at Dungarvan Observer offices, Shandon, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.

**The Bloodied Field**  
COLETTE O'CONNELL, 4 Davis Street, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford. Winner can collect prize at Dungarvan Observer offices, Shandon, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.

**Movies@Dungarvan**  
CHRISTINE MOORE, Ballysaggart, Lismore, Co. Waterford. Winner can collect prize at SGC Dungarvan.

Who's taking you home tonight?

<b>Call a cab ...</b>	<b>Joe Cliffe</b> 087 7935393 / 058 44570	<b>Ann O'Dwyer</b> 058 44043	<b>Nicholas Drohan</b> 087 8144777	<b>Liam McCarthy</b> 68101 / 087 2630666
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Appendix 2c – 10/12/2020

First project Online Design Webinar

Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm  
2<sup>nd</sup> Public Consultation Webinar



## Coumnagappul Wind Farm Proposal

- Company Introduction
- Wind Farm Design
- Community Fund
- Q&A
- EIA Activities
- Q&A
- Conclusion



# Company Introduction

**95 Years**

Combined Experience of  
EMPower Management Team  
in Renewable Energy

**700 MW**

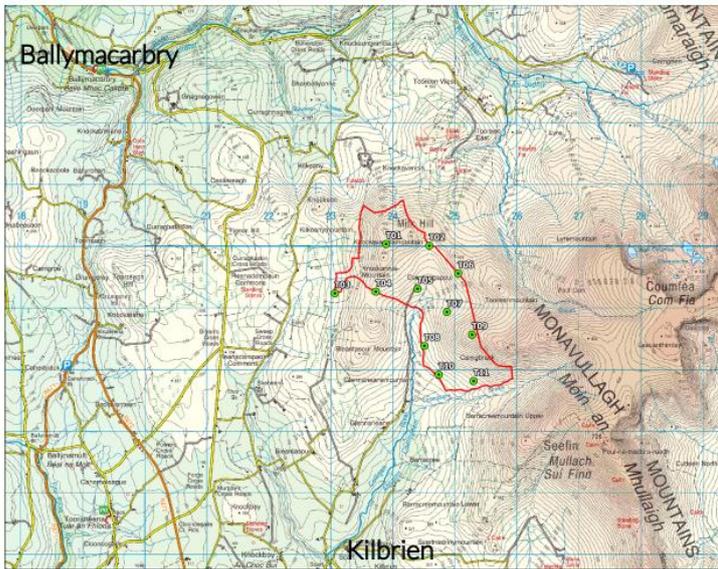
Wind Energy Capacity  
Currently Under  
Development By EMPower

**5 Continents**

Combined Geographical  
Experience of EMPower  
Team in Renewable Energy



# Project Introduction



Coumna Wind Farm - Proposed Site Location



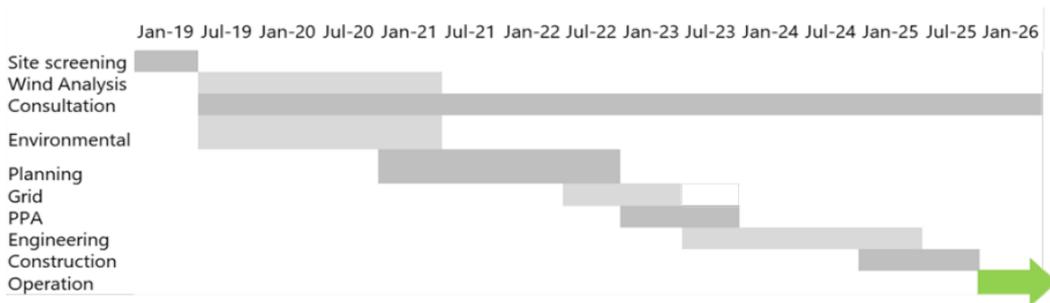
- Coumna Wind Farm
- 
- Coumna, Knockavania,  
Knockanna Mountain and  
Carrigbrack in Co. Waterford
- 
- 12 Turbines
- 
- 61.6 MW
- 
- Tip height of 185m
- 
- Enough clean electricity to  
power over 36,000 Irish homes
- 
- Estimated community benefit  
fund of €305,000 per annum





## Project Schedule

Planning Submission An Bord Pleanála as a Strategic Infrastructure Development	Q2 2021
Grid Connection Submission	Q2 2022
Renewable Electricity Support Scheme Submission	Q1 2023
Construction Commences	Q1 2025



## Energy Targets in Ireland

In 2018 a Climate Emergency was declared The Climate Action Plan 2019 is Ireland's all of Government Plan to tackle climate break down and achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050

Key Metrics	2017	2025 Based on MACC	2030 Based on MACC
Share of Renewable Electricity, %	~30% <sup>20</sup>	52%	70%
Onshore Wind Capacity, GW	~3.3	6.5	8.2
Offshore Wind Capacity, GW	NA	1.0	3.5
Solar PV Capacity, GW	NA	0.2	0.4
CCGT Capacity, GW	~3.6	5.1	4.7

**70%**  
Renewables by 2030

**8.2 GW**  
Onshore wind by 2030

Source – Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment  
Climate Action Plan 2019  
Marginal Abatement Cost Curve (MACC) Analysis



## Site Screening



Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland incorporating constraints such as:

- Wind speed
- Grid connection
- Environmental Designations
- Culture and heritage
- Tourism
- County Development Plans
- Existing, planned and permitted projects
- Housing



## Site Screening

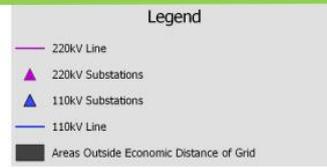


Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.





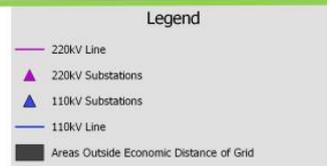
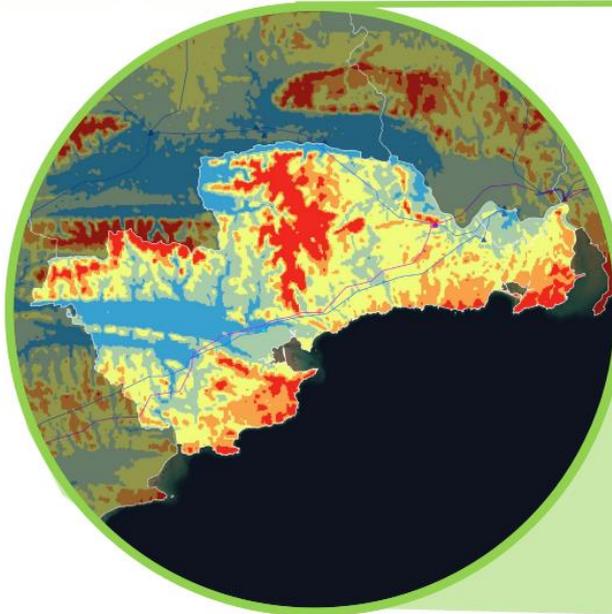
## Site Screening



Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.



## Site Screening

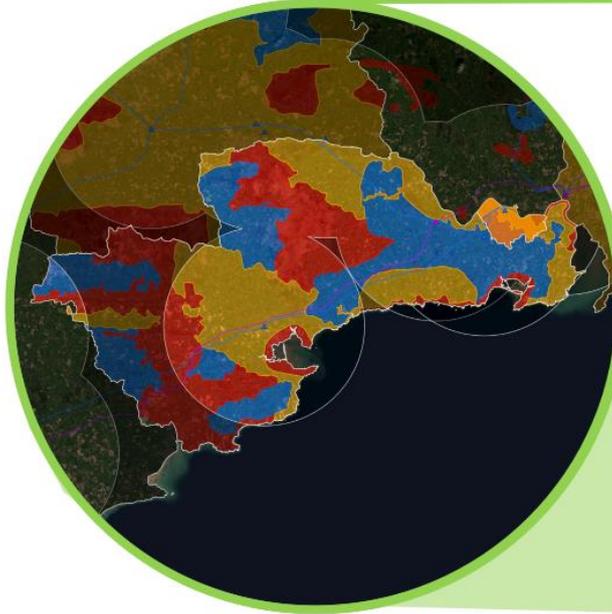


Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.





## Site Screening



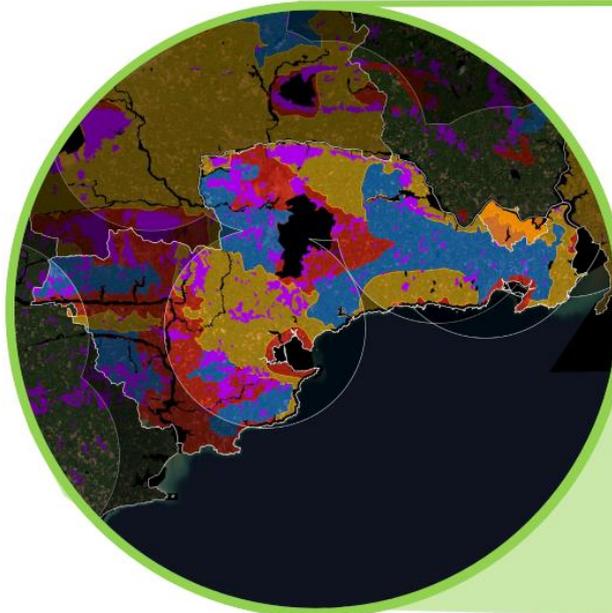
Legend

- 220kV Line
- ▲ 220kV Substations
- ▲ 110kV Substations
- 110kV Line
- Areas Outside Economic Distance of Grid
- Waterford Strategic
- Waterford OTC
- Waterford Unsuitable

Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.



## Site Screening



Legend

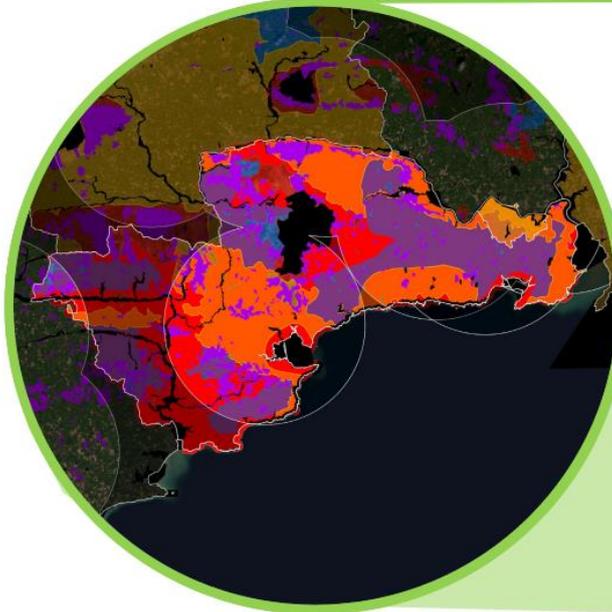
- Waterford Strategic
- Waterford OTC
- Waterford Unsuitable
- Environmental Designations
- Collite Land

Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.





## Site Screening

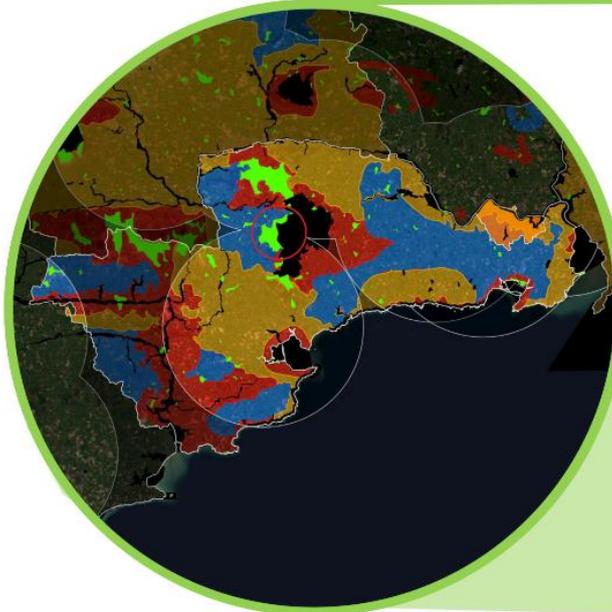


Legend	
	Waterford Strategic
	Waterford OTC
	Waterford Unsuitable
	Environmental Designations
	Coillte Land
	700m Buffers on Residential and Commercial Buildings

Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.



## Site Screening



Legend	
	Waterford Strategic
	Waterford OTC
	Waterford Unsuitable
	Coumragappul Buildable Area

Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.

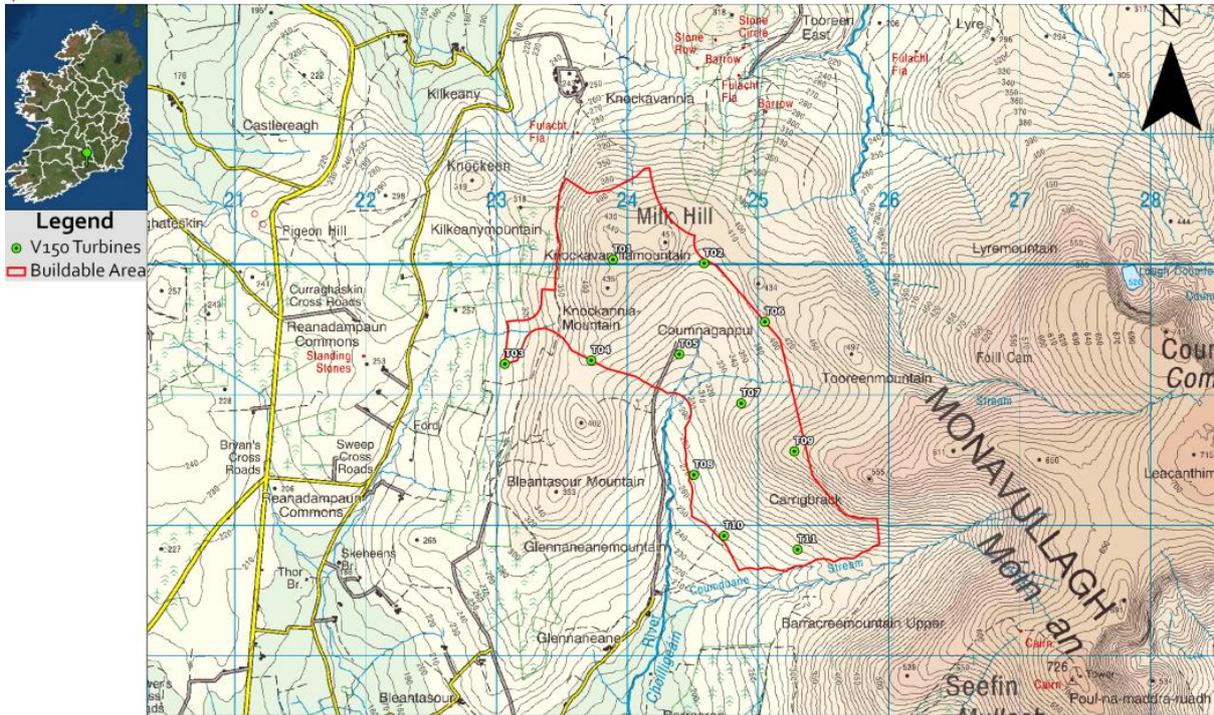


Site Screening



**Legend**  
■ Coumna gappul Buildable Area

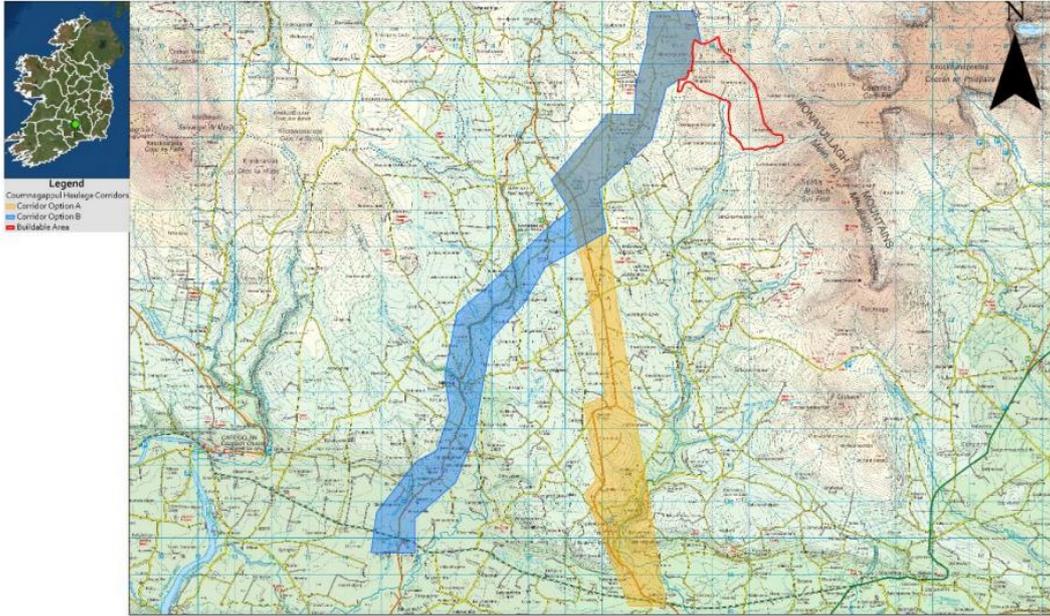
Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.



Coumna gappul WF - Proposed Layout



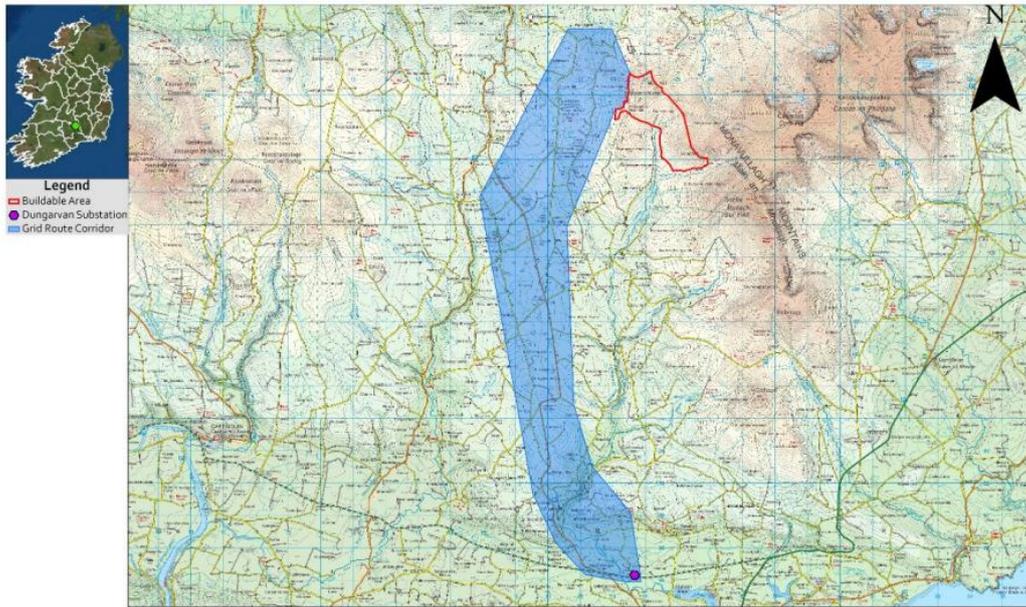
# Transport Maps



Coumnagappul WF - Proposed Haulage Corridor



# Grid Maps



Coumnagappul WF - Proposed Grid Connection Corridor





# Coumngappul Community Benefits

Total Annual Fund of €305,423

Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS)  
High Level Design

**105**  
Direct jobs in construction phase

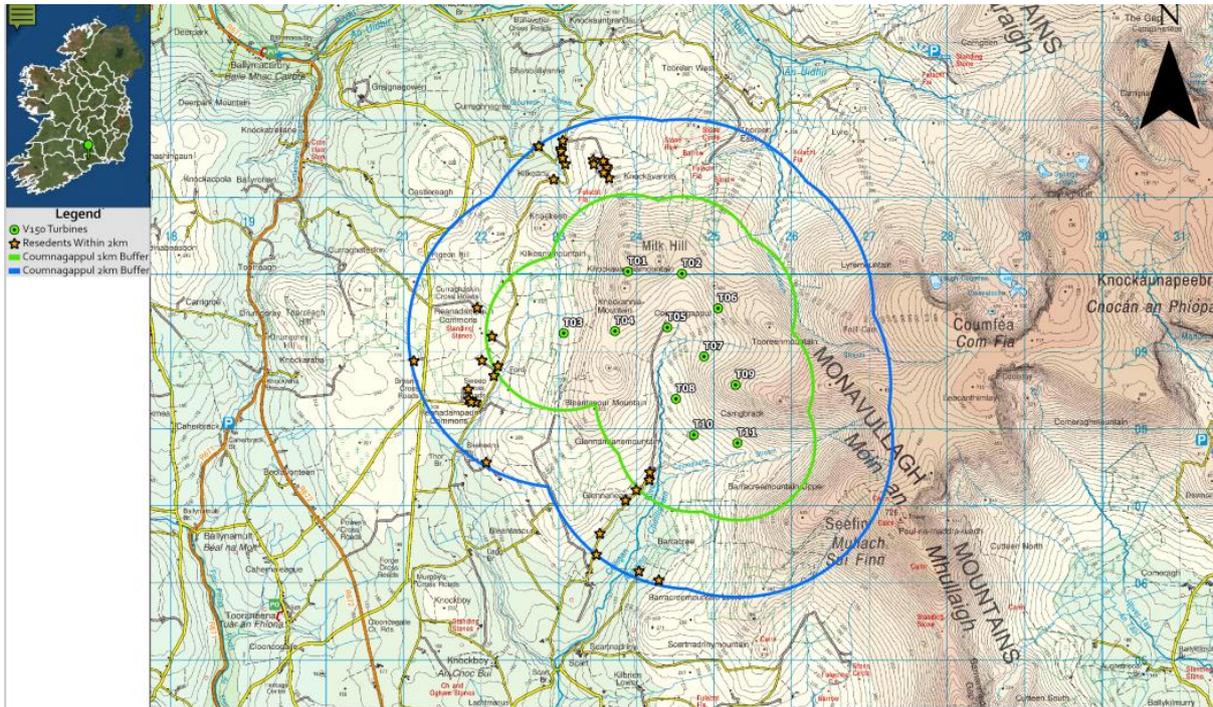
**25**  
Highly skilled jobs over project lifetime

**€ 68.1 million**  
Investment in Irish infrastructure

**€ 4.6 million**  
Total Community Fund Contribution

**€ 11 million**  
County Council Rates Contribution

Coumngappul Indicative Community Fund Allocation



Coumngappul WF - Near Neighbour Scheme



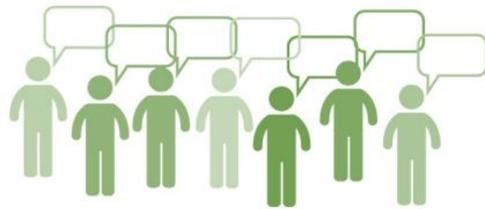


## Question Time



## Environmental Impact Assessment

Population &  
Human Health



Flora & Fauna



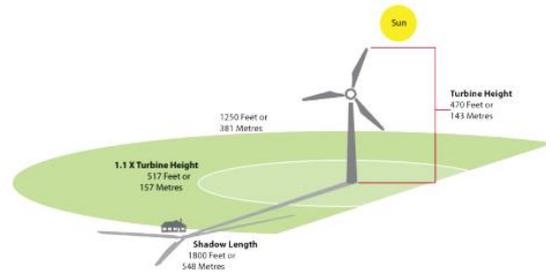
Hydrology



Ornithology



Shadow Flicker



Sound



Environmental Impact Assessment

Construction and Civil Engineering



Archaeology



Environmental Impact Assessment

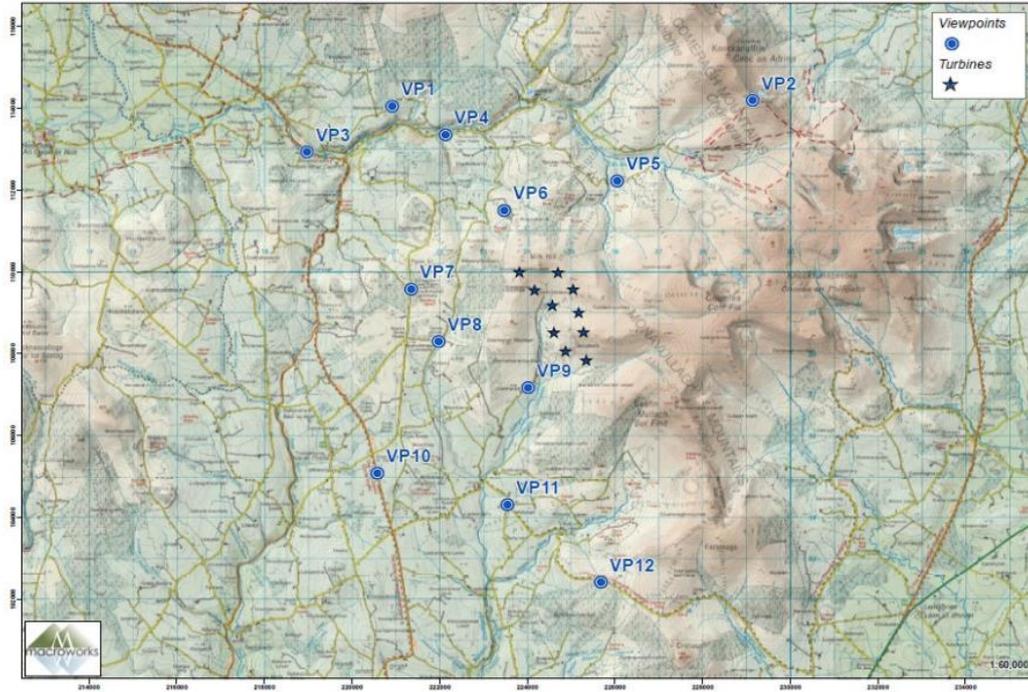
Landscape and Visuals





# Environmental Impact Assessment

LVIA viewpoint locations selected for the Coumnagappul Wind Farm project



# Environmental Impact Assessment





## Virtual Consultation Room



## Question Time





## Conclusion

- **Proposed Coumngappul Wind Farm**
  - 11 turbines
  - 61.6 MW
  - 36,000 Irish homes powered
- **Community Fund**
  - €305,000 per year
  - €1,000 per year (households < 1km)
  - €500 per year (households > 1km < 2km)
- **Next Steps**
  - Virtual consultation room Q1 2021
  - Submission for planning in Q2/3 2021



### Get in Touch

A : EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1

E : [coumngappul@emp.group](mailto:coumngappul@emp.group)

T : 01 588 0178

Web: [www.coumngappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumngappulwindfarm.ie)

# Appendix 3a – 21/05/2021

## Project Information Newsletter

### Counmagappul Wind Farm

Project Newsletter – May 2021



#### Who Are EMPower

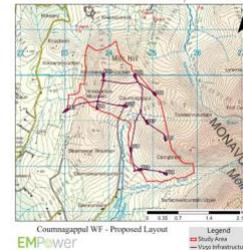
EMPower is an Irish renewable energy developer with over 700 MW in development in Europe and Africa. Our senior management team comprises five Irish professionals with a combined 95 years' experience delivering projects from conception to operation across five continents. EMPower's headquarters is in Dublin.

EMPower is owned by GGE Ireland Limited, Wind Power Invest A/S and EMP Holdings Limited. We commenced project development in Ireland in 2018 following the government's announcement of the Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS) and Ireland's revised electricity target of 70% renewable by 2030.

Our vision is to provide low carbon, ecologically non-invasive, affordable energy to facilitate Ireland's expanding economy and sustainable energy targets. We are currently preparing planning documents to submit a Strategic Infrastructure Development planning application to An Bord Pleanála in Summer/Autumn 2021. This is a legal requirement for applications above 50 MW. As well as all current best practice Irish wind energy development guidelines in place, EMPower follows Equator Principles and IFC Performance Standards throughout all stages of development in order to ensure the protection of the local ecology and communities where our projects are proposed.

Our project website ([www.counmagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.counmagappulwindfarm.ie)) will be updated regularly with project information as it becomes available, and the final Environmental Impact Assessment will be published for comments prior to submission. Please submit comments through the website or email us directly at [counmagappul@empower.com](mailto:counmagappul@empower.com)

#### Proposed Counmagappul Wind Farm Study Area



#### 95 Years

Combined Experience of EMPower Management Team in Renewable Energy

#### 700 MW+

Wind Energy Capacity Currently Under Development By EMPower

#### 5 Continents

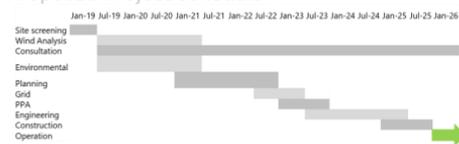
Combined Geographical Experience of EMPower Team in Renewable Energy



- 11 Turbines
- 66 MW
- Clean power for 38,957 Irish Homes
- No Overhead Transmission Lines

The proposed Counmagappul Wind Farm project consists of a 832-acre Study Area owned by local landowners. The Study Area is located approximately 1.6km North of Dungarvan. The final footprint of the proposed project will be approximately 28 acres. EMPower is currently proposing a 11 turbine project, with a maximum blade tip height of 185m, subject to environmental impact assessment and planning permission. The Study Area is identified in the Waterford County Development Plan as 'Preferred' for wind development.

#### Proposed Project Schedule

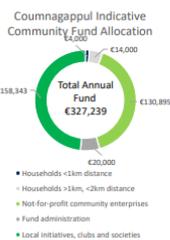


#### Community Benefit

If consented the proposed Counmagappul Wind Farm will require a €72.6 million investment and will provide sustainable, low carbon energy generation infrastructure to meet Ireland's growing demand. The development benefits to the local community would include significant investment in local infrastructure and electrical systems, local job creation, and a contribution of approximately €15.8 million in Waterford county council rates over the project lifetime.

If consented the proposed Counmagappul Wind Farm will also provide a community fund calculated in accordance with the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) Terms and Conditions at €2 per MWh of electricity produced by the project. This is to be made available to the local community for the duration of the RESS (15 years). The average capacity factor of wind energy projects in Ireland is 28.3% (SEAL 2019). Assuming this efficiency, and a capacity of around 66 MW, the community benefit fund would amount to an average of €327,239 per annum. The actual fund will vary around this average from year to year, depending on each year's wind conditions. Wind measurements at the Study Area suggest that Counmagappul could be capable of achieving an above average capacity factor, and therefore a larger community fund.

This scheme is proposed to be divided as per the illustration in the chart below. An annual minimum payment of €1,000 will be provided to each household within 1km of any proposed Counmagappul wind turbine. An annual minimum payment of €500 will be provided to each household located between 1km and 2km of any final turbine position. These payments will be fixed and will not fluctuate. 40% of the fund, amounting to approximately €130,895 per year in this example, will be allocated to not-for-profit community enterprises, with an emphasis on low-carbon initiatives. The remainder of the fund will be directed towards local clubs, societies and other initiatives. EMPower strongly believe that the communities nearest our projects are those that should benefit most from any Community Fund. We welcome any suggestions from the community for suitable local projects that could be supported under this initiative.



112 Direct jobs in construction phase

26 Highly skilled jobs over project lifetime

€72.6 million Investment in Irish infrastructure

€4.9 million Total Community Fund Contribution

€15.8 million<sup>1</sup> County Council Rates Contribution

<sup>1</sup> - Estimated €1000 per acre with installed for 30 year project lifetime.

#### Environmental Impact Assessment

Following initial Study Area assessments, EMPower have commissioned an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed Counmagappul Wind Farm to assess what effects the proposed project might have on the environment and local community. The result of this assessment will be an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). The proposed Counmagappul Wind Farm project will include the final EIAR with the planning package submitted to the planning & regulatory authorities. The compilation of the Counmagappul EIAR is currently being carried out by the Cork based environmental and engineering consultancy, Fehly Timoney & Company Consultants. The final design will ensure that any sensitive areas of the Study Area are protected throughout the projects ongoing development.

The EMPower team will host a Counmagappul project consultation webinar event in June 2021, with the aim of providing ongoing design information to the local residents and to respond to any questions or comments on the proposed project.

The proposed Counmagappul Wind Farm EIAR will cover a number of topics, including:

- Population and Human Health;
- Biodiversity;
- Land;
- Soil;
- Water;
- Air;
- Climate;
- Material Assets;
- Cultural Heritage;
- Landscape.

A further description of some key EIAR activities is presented to the right.



**Population and Human Health**  
This involves examining the effects of infrastructure projects on the surrounding community, examining land use, employment, health and safety, tourism and local amenities.



**Ecology**  
An ecological impact assessment will be carried out in order to assess the impact on the Study Area's flora and fauna, evaluating potential impacts on the local ecosystem. In line with industry best practice, EMPower are currently conducting 2 years bird surveys at the projects Study Area.



**Shadow Flicker**  
Shadow flicker refers to alternating changes in light intensity caused by the moving turbine rotors impacting dwellings. EMPower will carry out a shadow flicker analysis to avoid any potential impact of shadow flicker on local buildings in line with current guidelines.



**Noise Assessment**  
The evolution of wind farm technology over the past decade has reduced mechanical noise from turbines significantly with the main sound being the aerodynamic 'whoosh' of the blades passing the tower. However, strict guidelines on wind turbines and noise emissions remain to ensure the protection of residential amenity. A noise assessment will be carried out to assess the potential impact of noise on the surrounding community by installing sound meters at noise sensitive locations and using turbine simulations to ensure that the project complies with all relevant noise guidelines.



**Landscape and Visual**  
A zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) will be produced outlining which turbines will be visible from various locations. Photo montages will identify the visual impact of the project by showing the operational turbines in situ. This information will be publicly available before a submission is made to the consenting planning authority.



**Water & Hydrology**  
Hydrology and hydrogeology refers to the study of how water flows under and through the landscape. A desktop survey to establish the baseline conditions within and adjacent to the Study Area will be undertaken. Following this desktop survey, field visits will confirm a number of these findings and inform any required actions or mitigation strategies for the various stages of the proposed project's development, most notably construction. The final project design will minimise the risk of construction materials disturbing local water courses, streams and rivers in the proposed project's vicinity.



## Wind Energy Frequently Asked Questions

### How efficient is wind energy?

Wind turbines produce electricity approximately 85% of the time. The other 15% of the time they are not turning for reasons, such as: very low wind speeds, very high wind speeds, and maintenance/repair work. Studies suggest that after six to seven months, a wind turbine will have produced as much energy as has gone into constructing it. The output of a wind turbine depends on the turbine's size and the wind's speed through the rotor. A wind turbine with a net capacity factor of 26% and a capacity of 6 MW can produce more than 14,900 MWh in a year - enough to supply approximately 3,500 average Irish households. If consented the proposed Coumnaagappul Wind Farm's current proposal is anticipated to produce enough electricity to power over 38,957 Irish homes.

### Do wind farms affect house prices?

There is no peer reviewed evidence that a correctly developed and constructed wind farm will lower property prices or that they impact on property prices in Ireland. Concerns on this topic have driven a great deal of research in many different countries, including the UK, Germany, Australia and the USA, over the last 20 years examining house prices in communities close to wind farms and all have varying conclusions. The majority of research aligns with detailed studies by The Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR), The Institute of Chartered Surveyors, The House of Commons Library and Renewable UK where conclusions that wind farms have little or no impact on property values are reached.

### What is a wind turbine's lifetime emissions?

Wind energy emits no toxic substances such as mercury and air pollutants like smog-creating nitrogen oxides, acid rain-forming sulphur dioxide and particulate deposits. A 2014 study by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) found onshore wind energy to have the lowest mean lifecycle emissions of all viable sources, such as solar, nuclear energy and natural gas, at just 11 grams CO<sub>2</sub>(e) per kWh.

### Are wind turbines linked to health issues?

EMPower are committed to ensuring that we design, develop, construct and operate our projects and carry out our work to the highest possible health and safety standards. In 2018 the World Health Organisation (WHO) assessed the environmental noise guidelines for a range of noise sources including traffic, noise, aircraft, railways, leisure and activities and wind turbines. The WHO findings align with the view of the Irish Department of Health which states that, "There is no reliable or consistent evidence that wind farms directly cause adverse health effects in humans". The Irish Department of Health based these findings on research carried out by the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council. The balance of scientific evidence and human experience to date has concluded that wind turbines are not harmful to human health - in fact, wind energy reduces harmful air emissions and creates no harmful waste products when compared with other sources of electricity. However, EMPower are conscious that the potential exists for someone who does not like wind turbines or wind energy to become frustrated, annoyed and possibly anxious on any wind energy project proposal. Please contact us if you would like further detail on this topic.

### Do wind farms make noise?

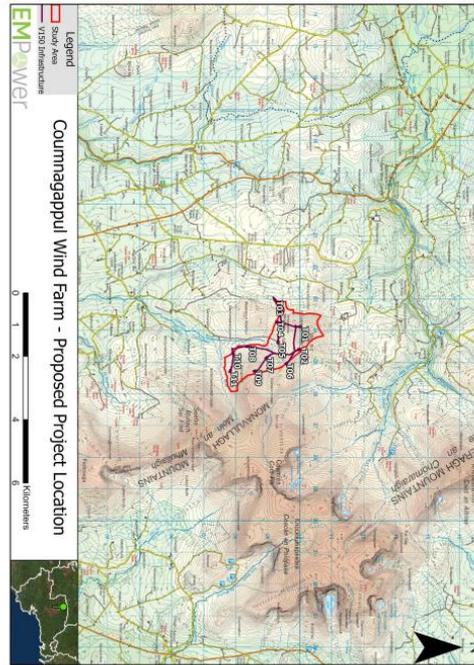
It is the duty of EMPower to demonstrate during the planning process noise levels of our turbines will not adversely affect local residents. The studies completed during this period will be used to design the Coumnaagappul project so noise levels at nearby residential homes do not exceed national planning guidelines. Currently in Ireland and the United Kingdom, guidelines in relation to wind turbine noise levels are set at: 35 and 45 decibels dependent on the time of day and the level of background noise\*, in line with international best practices. Current guidelines cite a minimum distance of 500m between residential dwellings and Wind Turbines. EMPower are designing the proposed Coumnaagappul project to be a minimum of 750m from residential dwellings.

### Did you know:

The projects noise consultant must discount the noise emitted by existing wind turbines in the area in order to establish a true background noise level. Wind Farms are limited in the amount of noise they can emit above this lower background level.

If you would like to discuss any of the sample questions listed here or any other aspect of the design of the proposed Coumnaagappul project, please contact us on any of the below mediums.

\* <https://www.cemr.eu/ke/en/debatex/question/2015-02-25/section/213/>



## Contact Us

We welcome conversation, engagement and interaction with you on any aspect of how we are progressing the Coumnaagappul project proposal. If you would like to chat about this proposed project further, please contact us via any of the below means.

Website: [www.coumnaagappulwindfarms.ie](http://www.coumnaagappulwindfarms.ie)  
 Email: [info@coumnaagappulwindfarms.ie](mailto:info@coumnaagappulwindfarms.ie)  
 Phone: 01 588 0178  
 Write: EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1



# Appendix 3b – 21/05/2021

## Project Information Letter

**EMPOWER**  
2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay  
North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3  
E: info@emp.group  
T: +353 (0)1 588 0178



21<sup>st</sup> May 2021

**Re: Proposed Wind Farm Development at Coumnagappul, Co. Waterford**

Dear Resident,

EMPower (EMP) is an international wind energy developer, managing a development portfolio of over 700MW in Europe and Africa. Founded by three Irish directors, our goal is to support Ireland's climate objectives through the development of appropriately located, clean, indigenous energy infrastructure.

We are currently preparing a proposal to develop an 11-turbine wind farm at Coumnagappul, Co. Waterford, located approximately 4km North of Kilbrien Village and 16km north of Dungarvan. This wind farm would be around 66 MW in capacity and is estimated to produce enough renewable electricity to power over 38,957 Irish homes per year. Our intention is to submit a Strategic Infrastructure Development planning application to An Bord Pleanála in the late Summer/early Autumn of 2021 as this is a legal requirement for wind farm applications of this scale.

If constructed, Coumnagappul Wind Farm will provide a community fund of approximately **€327,239** per year on average, to be made available to the local community for the duration of the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (~15 years). The total fund is calculated as €2/MWh of electricity produced by the project, and as such, may vary depending on the final permitted capacity and generation performance of the project.

As a component of this fund, an annual minimum payment of **€1,000** will be provided to each household within 1km of any Coumnagappul Wind Farm turbine. An additional annual minimum payment of **€500** will be provided to each household between 1km and 2km of any Letterkeeghaun Wind Farm turbine. If you would like to enquire as to the distance of your home from this project, please feel free to contact us at [coumnagappul@emp.group](mailto:coumnagappul@emp.group)

Local not-for-profit enterprises, clubs, and societies will also be eligible to receive funding via the proposed projects community benefit fund, as is further detailed in the enclosed May 2021 Community Consultation Leaflet. We would like to discuss suggestions for projects that you believe could be supported by this fund.

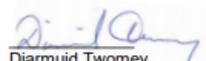
Due to public health guidelines in relation to preventing the spread of COVID-19, we are unable to host a local face-to-face consultation event. The safety of the public and our staff is of paramount importance to us. It is our intention to arrange a public consultation event locally once health guidelines allow it.

**In the interim, we will host a live webinar on Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021 from 7- 8pm where we will run through further details for this proposed project. Details for the online webinar are provided at [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie/webinar](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie/webinar)**

Our project website ([www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)) will be updated regularly with project information as studies progress and the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be published for public comments prior to submission of a planning application. You may submit comments through the website, write to us at Coumnagappul Windfarm, EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1. Or alternatively email us directly at [coumnagappul@emp.group](mailto:coumnagappul@emp.group).

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,



Diarmuid Twomey  
Director

**EMPOWER** is a registered trading name of EMP Energy Limited, a private limited company registered in Ireland under company number 630312. **Directors:** Diarmuid Anthony Twomey, Iñigo Sabater Elizaguirre, Ingmar Wilhelm, Vimal Vallabh, Seán mac Cann. **Registered office:** 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3.

Appendix 3c – 28/05/2021  
Dungarvan Observer Notice

# 'Emerging New Business' accolade for Rathgormack businesswoman

◆ FROM FRONT PAGE  
With an Instagram following of 17.4k, over 800 carefully curated products live on the site, and sales every day, Croia truly showcases the best Ireland has to offer.

Croia has some big plans for Croia Ireland. In the coming months, she plans to establish Croia as the one stop shop for buying Irish online both nationally and internationally continuing to help Irish businesses increase their sales, brand awareness and reputation.

By providing suppliers with access to a large online market, Croia enables them to compete with large international retailers. The Croia community is growing every day.

The brand is all about creating a community around supporting Irish and loving Ireland. Internationally, Croia wants to target the Irish diaspora living and working abroad

by providing them with a platform that they can use to purchase their favourite Irish products that can be delivered to addresses at home in Ireland and abroad.

By 2022 Ciara plans to have over 1,800 suppliers on board. That a 1,800 Irish businesses that have been given the opportunity and guidance to grow from the inside out with the help of the qualified marketing and business development expertise Ciara offers.

In addition to these exciting plans over the coming months we will see the launch of Croia Ireland's very own product range making a great addition to their website.

For Ciara, it has always been her dream to become a successful businesswoman whilst supporting others. Achieving this year's Business Woman of the Year award has made that dream come true.

Ciara aims for Croia to

become the heart of Irish Businesses and will continue to work every day to help grow Croia's community. Ciara's vision will always be to bring back the love of quality in products whilst helping and supporting small businesses in our nation. We are delighted to have a young Waterford entrepreneur who is revolutionising Irish consumerism and changing the way we buy forever to be representing Waterford in the Regional Finals for Network Ireland.

Ciara Hennebery said: "It's just such an achievement". "I am just blown away it is a dream for me to be able to do something I love every single day and to help others while running my own business. All

my life my dream has been to be a successful businesswoman and win awards for my business.

"This dream came true.

When you look at the other amazing women and their businesses that was in my category, I just can't believe it. I am so grateful and would just like to say thank you so much Network Ireland and everyone for your support," added Ciara.

For more information on Croia Ireland visit <https://croiaireland.com/>



## EMPower NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENT

EM Power, a company with an address at 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, Dublin 1, are investigating the potential to develop a windfarm on the townlands of Coumnagapple, Camgbrack and Glennaneane in Co. Waterford.

As part of our community consultation campaign, we are hosting a Webinar at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 1st June, 2021, in order to engage with local residents while observing public health guidance and restrictions surrounding COVID-19. The webinar will last for one hour and we would be grateful for your feedback on any issues you would like to raise regarding the wind farm and the community fund allocation.

You can register and find project information at our website [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)

EM Power, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3, Ireland.

## YOUR LOCAL EXPERTS IN WEST WATERFORD

Thinking of selling?

CONTACT US TODAY  
FOR A FREE VALUATION



CALL 058 23444

BRIDGE STREET, DUNGARVAN, CO. WATERFORD

[sherryfitz.ie](http://sherryfitz.ie)

PSRA No. 001468

Appendix 3d – 01/06/2021  
Project Information Online Webinar



Coumnagappul Wind Farm Proposal



- Company Introduction
- Site Screening
- Community Benefit Fund
- Q&A
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Windfarm Design
- Q&A
- Conclusion



Company Introduction

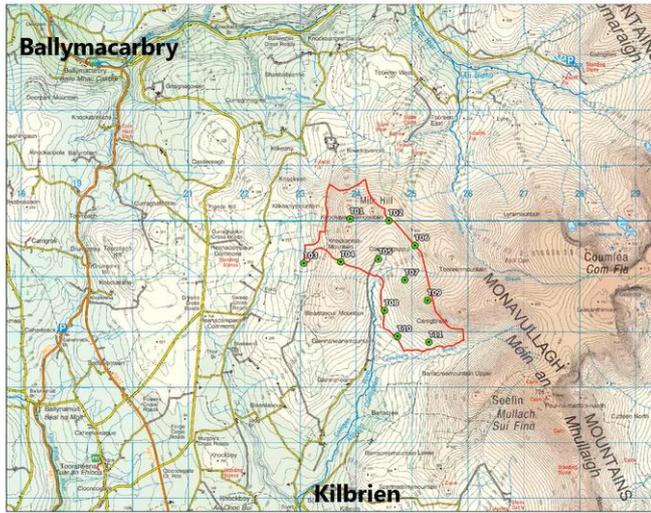
**95 Years**  
 Combined Experience of  
 EMPower Management  
 Team in Renewable Energy

**700 MW**  
 Wind Energy Capacity  
 Currently Under  
 Development By EMPower

**5 Continents**  
 Combined Geographical  
 Experience of EMPower  
 Team in Renewable Energy



Project Introduction



Coumna Wind Farm - Proposed Site Location

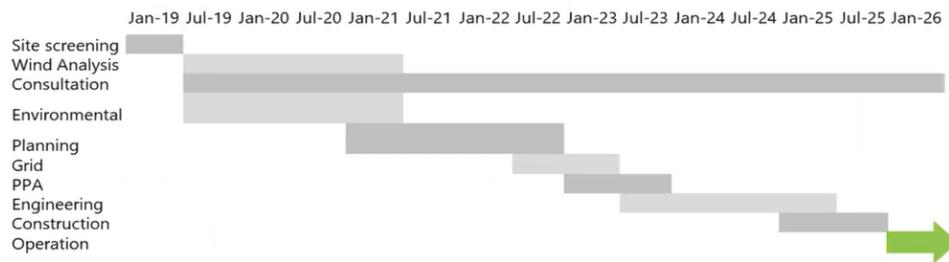


**Coumna Wind Farm**  
 -  
**Coumna, Knockavonia, Knockannia Mountain and Carrigbrack in Co. Waterford**  
 -  
**11 Turbines**  
 -  
**66 MW**  
 -  
**Tip height of 185m**  
 -  
**Enough clean electricity to power over 38,957 Irish homes**  
 -  
**Estimated community benefit fund of €327,239 per annum**

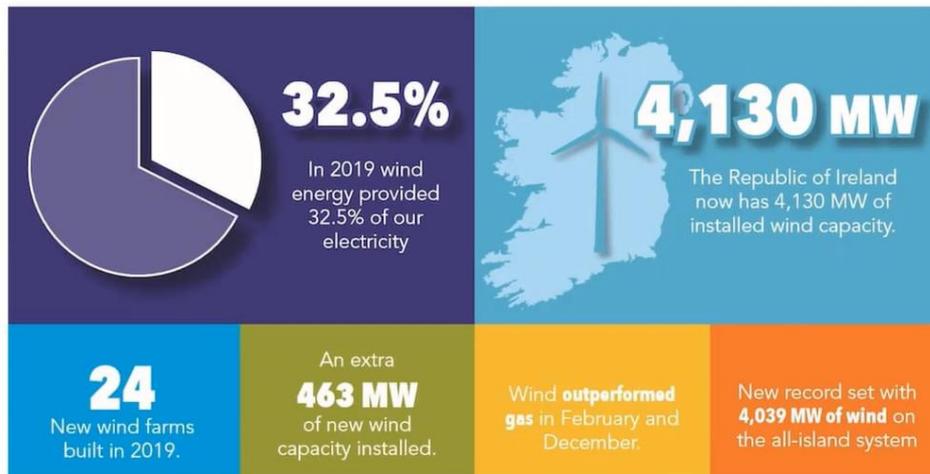


## Project Schedule

Planning Submission An Bord Pleanála as a Strategic Infrastructure Development	Q3 2021
Grid Connection Application	Q2 2022
Renewable Electricity Support Scheme Submission	Q1 2023
Construction Commences	Q1 2025



## Wind Energy in Ireland Today



## Energy Targets in Ireland

In 2018 a Climate Emergency was declared The Climate Action Plan 2019 is Ireland's all of Government Plan to tackle climate break down and achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050

Key Metrics	2017	2025 Based on MACC	2030 Based on MACC
Share of Renewable Electricity, %	~30% <sup>20</sup>	52%	70%
Onshore Wind Capacity, GW	~3.3	6.5	8.2
Offshore Wind Capacity, GW	NA	1.0	3.5
Solar PV Capacity, GW	NA	0.2	0.4
CCGT Capacity, GW	~3.6	5.1	4.7

**70%**  
Renewables  
by 2030

**8.2 GW**  
Onshore wind  
by 2030

Source – Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment  
Climate Action Plan 2019  
Marginal Abatement Cost Curve (MACC) Analysis

## Site Screening



Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland incorporating constraints such as:

- Wind speed
- Grid connection
- Environmental Designations
- Culture and heritage
- Tourism
- County Development Plans
- Existing, planned and permitted projects
- Housing



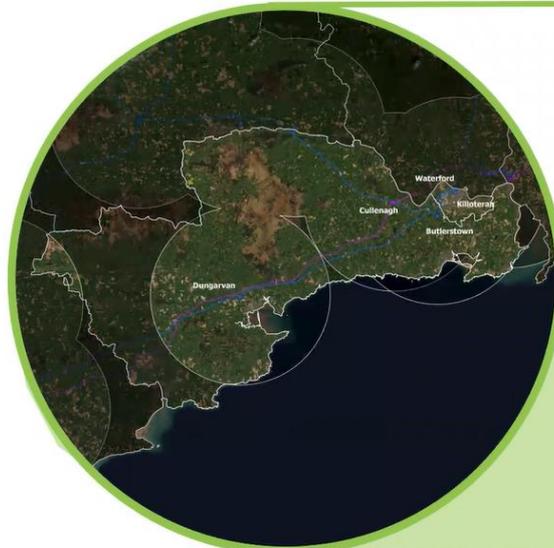
## Site Screening



Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.



## Site Screening



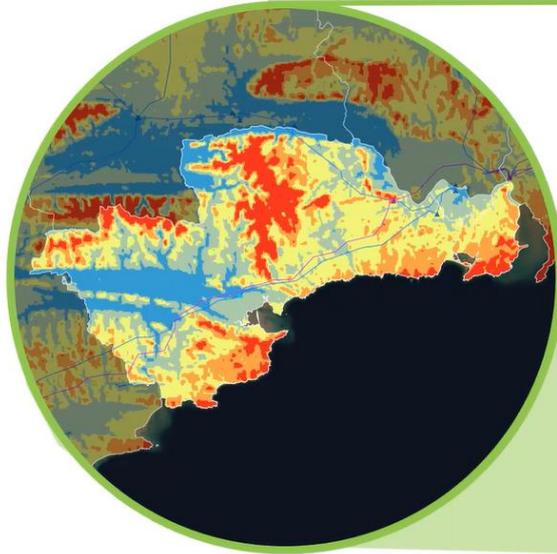
**Legend**

- 220kV Line
- 220kV Substations
- 110kV Substations
- 110kV Line
- Areas Outside Economic Distance of Grid

Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.



Site Screening



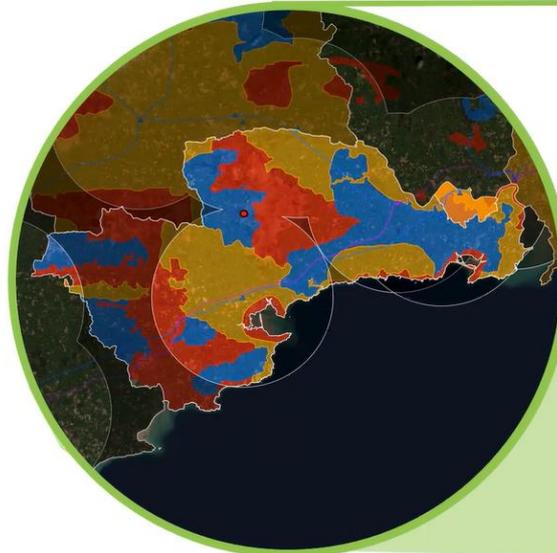
Legend

- 220kV Line
- ▲ 220kV Substations
- ▲ 110kV Substations
- 110kV Line
- Areas Outside Economic Distance of Grid

Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.



Site Screening



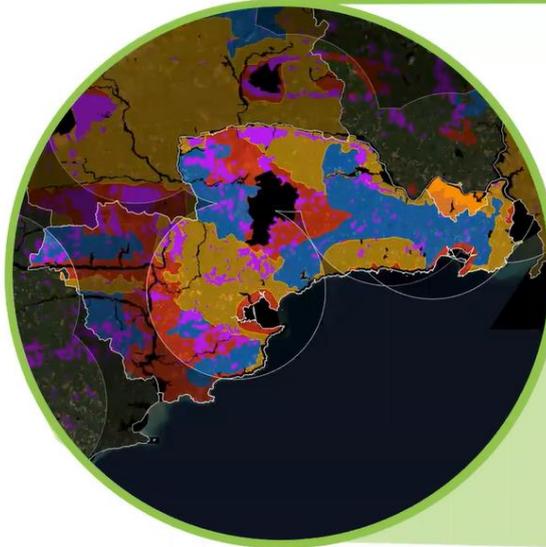
Legend

- 220kV Line
- ▲ 220kV Substations
- ▲ 110kV Substations
- 110kV Line
- Areas Outside Economic Distance of Grid
- Waterford Strategic
- Waterford OTC
- Waterford Unsuitable

The proposed project site is in an area designated as "Preferred" by the Waterford County Council Renewable Energy Strategy 2016-2030

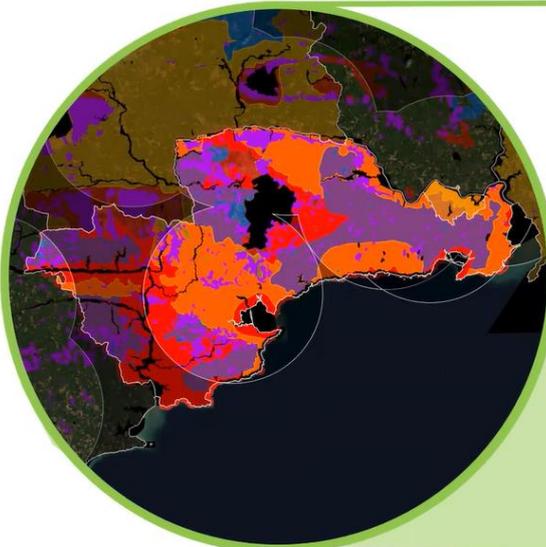


## Site Screening



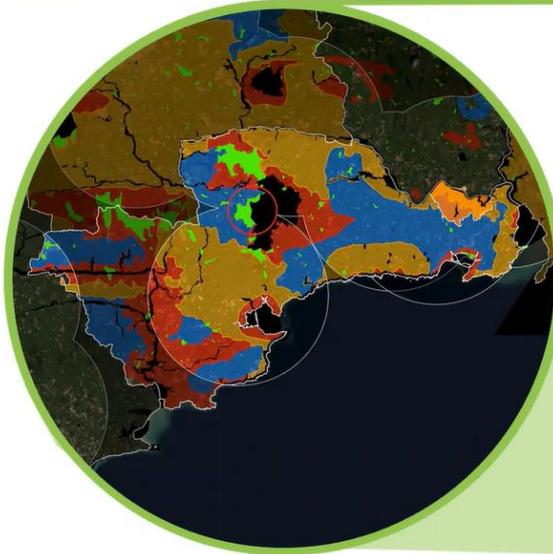
Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.

## Site Screening



Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.

Site Screening



Legend

Blue	Waterford Strategic
Orange	Waterford OTC
Red	Waterford Unsuitable
Green	Coumnagappul Buildable Area

Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.



Site Screening



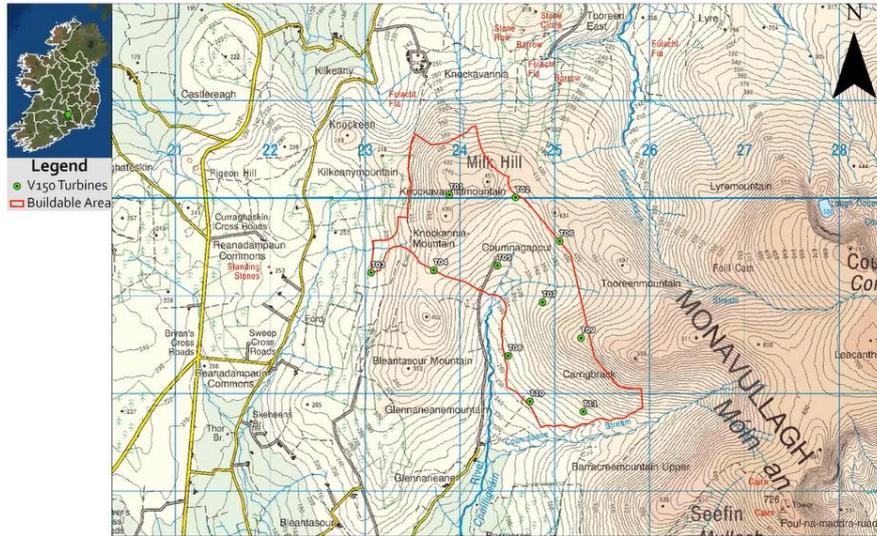
Legend

Green	Coumnagappul Buildable Area
-------	-----------------------------

Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland. Example of County Waterford shown.



Wind Farm Design



Coumngappul WF - Proposed Layout



Coumngappul Community Benefits

**Total Annual Fund of €327,239**

Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS)  
High Level Design

**112**

Direct jobs in construction phase

**26**

Highly skilled jobs over project lifetime

**€ 72.6 million**

Investment in Irish infrastructure

**€ 4.9 million**

Total Community Fund Contribution

**€ 15.8 million <sup>(1)</sup>**

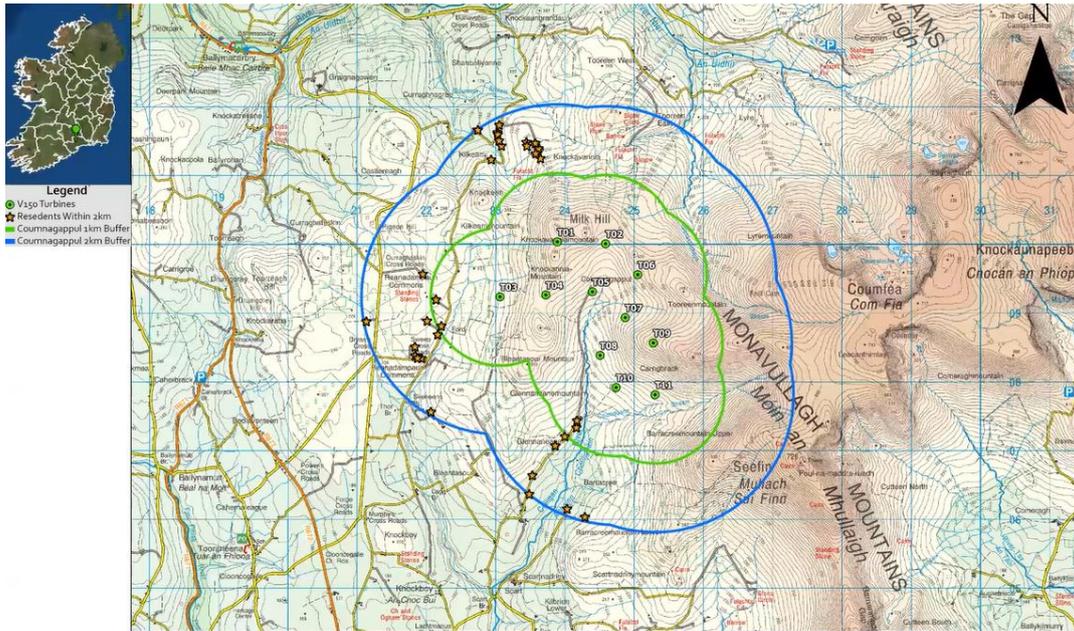
County Council Rates Contribution

Coumngappul Indicative Community Fund Allocation



- Households <1km distance
- Households >1km, <2km distance
- Not-for-profit community enterprises
- Fund administration
- Local initiatives, clubs and societies

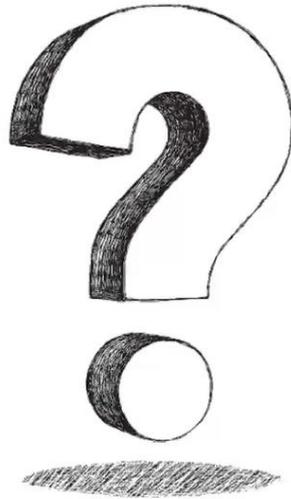
(1)-Estimated €8,000 per mega watt installed for 30-year project lifespan.



Coumna Wind Farm - Near Neighbour Scheme



Question Time



## Environmental Impact Assessment

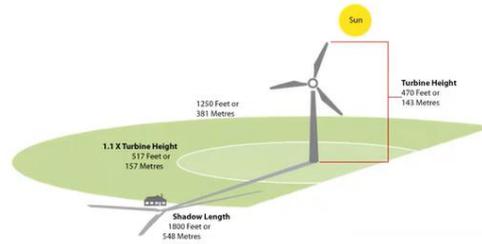
### Hydrology



### Ornithology

## Environmental Impact Assessment

### Shadow Flicker



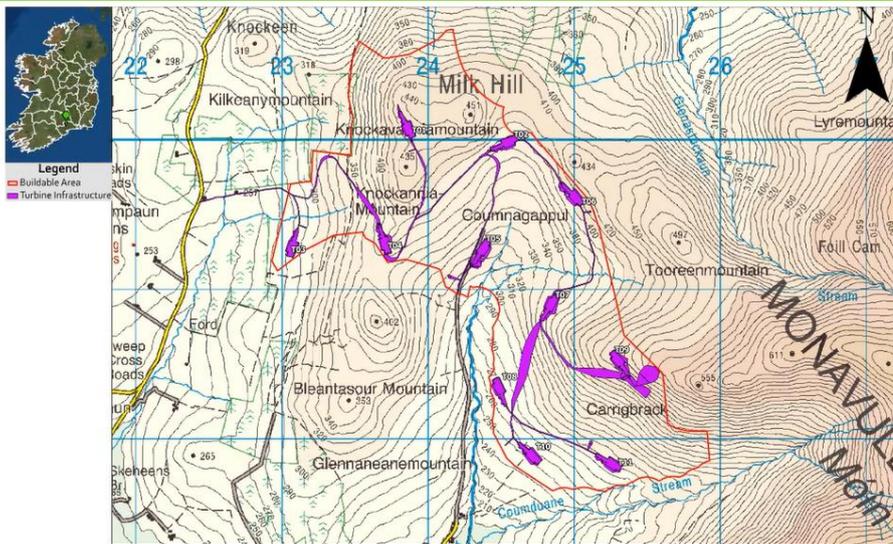
### Sound

Construction and Civil Engineering



Archaeology

Wind Farm Design



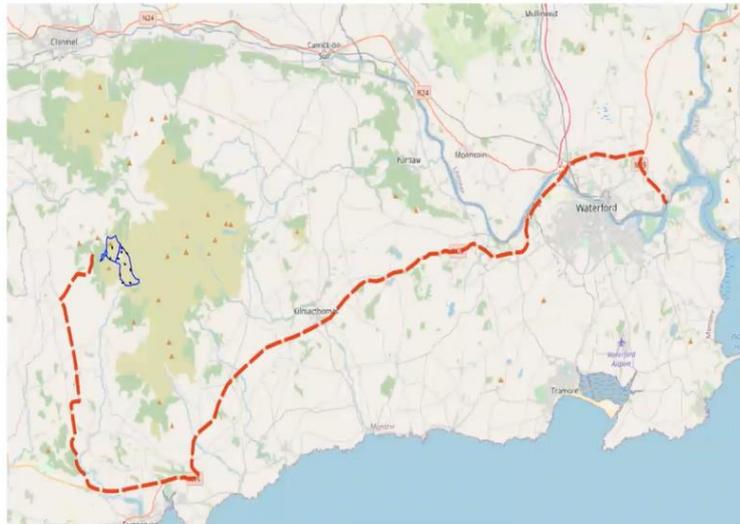
Coumragappul Wind Farm - Proposed Civil Design

## Proposed Transport Route

The primary point of landing will be the Port of Waterford.

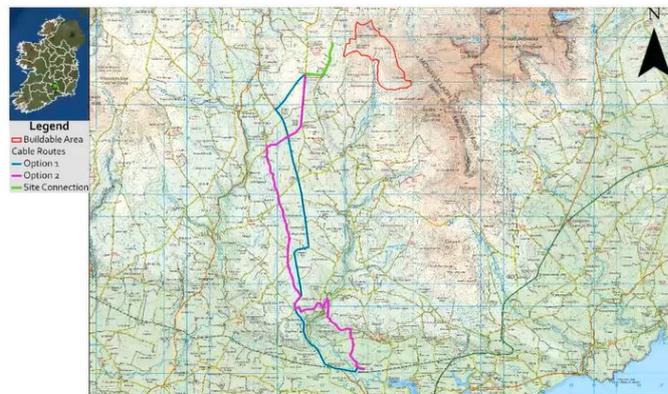
The main transport route is expected to;

- Exit the port onto the N29
- Join the N25 around Waterford City and on to Dungarvan
- Join the N72 at Dungarvan and continue North
- There are a number of options being assessed for the route from the N72 to the project site



## Indicative Grid Route

- The 110kV windfarm substation location is within the windfarm lands
- The connection to the national electricity grid network will be via a 100kV underground Cable
- The final connection point will be at the Dungarvan 110 kV station

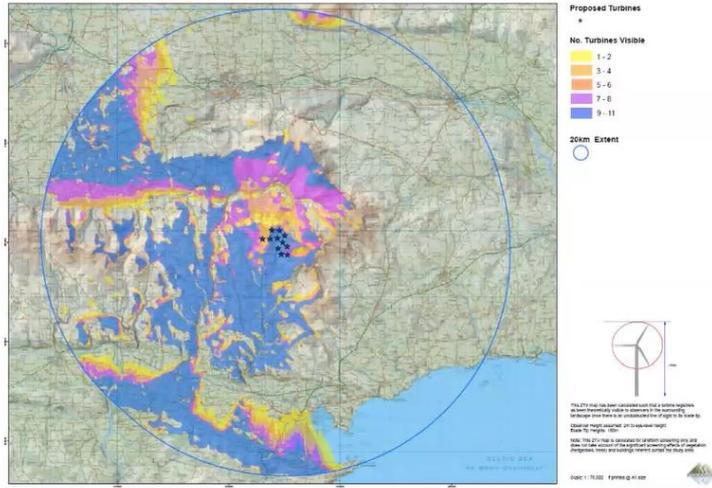


Coumnaagappul Wind Farm - Proposed Grid Route

# Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

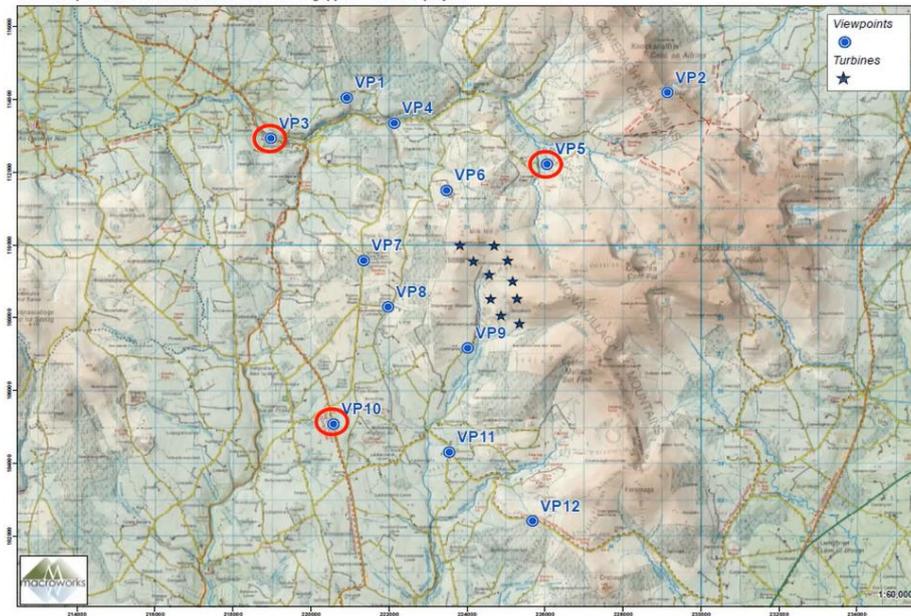
## Zone of Theoretical Visibility

- study area extending to 20km around the site
- does not take into consideration vegetation cover, changing weather conditions or the mitigating effect of distance and therefore illustrate the worst-case scenario of visibility



# Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

LVIA viewpoint locations selected for the Coumnaagappul Wind Farm project



Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment



Navigation icons: back, forward, search, etc.

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

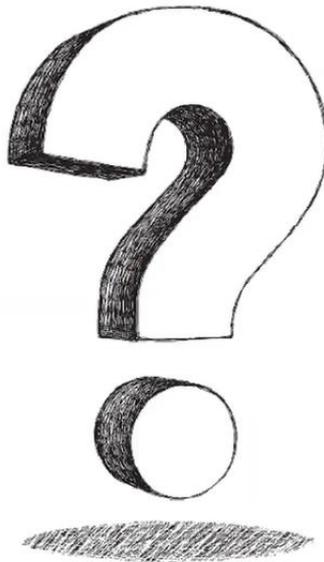


Navigation icons: back, forward, search, etc.

## Virtual Consultation Room



## Question Time



## Conclusion

- **Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm**

- 11 turbines
- 66 MW
- 38,957 Irish homes powered

- **Community Fund**

- €327,329 per year
- €1,000 per year (households < 1km)
- €500 per year (households > 1km < 2km)

- **Next Steps**

- Virtual consultation room Q2 2021
- Submission for planning in Q3 2021



Get in Touch

A : EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1

E : [coumnagappul@emp.group](mailto:coumnagappul@emp.group)

T : 01 588 0178

Web: [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)

# Appendix 4a – September 2022

## Project Information Newsletter

### Coumragappul Wind Farm

Project Newsletter – September 2022



### The Proposed Project Study Area

The main Study Area for the proposed Coumragappul wind farm consists of approximately 800 acres owned by local landowners. The main Study Area is located approximately 14 kilometers north of Dungannon and is centered in a valley which is encircled by Milk Hill to the northwest, Bleantacour Mountain to the southwest, and the western foothills of Coumrea Mountain to the east, southeast and northeast. This area is generally a large expanse of outcrop peatland bog and agricultural lands. It is situated in a relatively low-lying area on the west side of the Comeragh Mountains with the majority of the proposed turbines located beneath the c.380m contour line. To the south and east, the land rises towards the upland peaks of the area c.480-500mOD in elevation. The majority of the soils present in the Study Area consist predominantly of shallow bedrock with layers of overlying peat. An in-depth slope and peat stability assessment is being carried out in conjunction with this proposed project and the results will be used to finalize the design layout.

The main project's Study Area is not located within a Natura 2000 site (European Site) or a National Heritage Area (NHA). Some of the sensitive habitat locations nearby are listed below and all such sensitive habitats and the different species they support will be considered in detail for the final project's overall design.

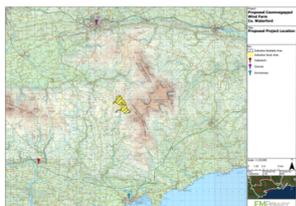
- > Comeragh Mountains Special Area of Conservation (adjacent)
- > Dungannon Harbour Special Protection Area (14km south)
- > River Blackwater (Cork/Waterford) Special Area of Conservation (6.5km south east)
- > Niler Valley Woodlands Special Area of Conservation (4km north)
- > Lower River Suir Special Area of Conservation (5.3km northwest)

The final Environment Impact Assessment Report, including all project studies and assessments, will be submitted with the project's planning application to the consenting authority. This final report and planning application will also be made available to the public for viewing and comment.

The most likely project grid connection point will be at the existing Dungannon 110kV substation via underground cable existing the proposed wind farm on the west following existing local roads and the R671 before entering the existing Dungannon substation at Killadangan. Project assessment continue in order to select the most feasible route. Consultation with Eirgrid and ESB will also dictate the grid connection proposal.

Waterford port provides the most likely port of entry in order to deliver turbine components to this proposed project. From Waterford Port the most likely route would be along the N29 travelling northwest. Turbine components would then join the westbound N25 before turning right onto the N72 and continuing west to Ballymakmague. At this point transport vehicles would turn northwest onto the R672 before progressing to the project area from the west via the L5119.

### The Proposed Project Location



- > 10 Turbines
- > Tip Height 185m
- > 66 MW
- > On-site 110kV Substation
- > Access from N72 & R672
- > Grid Connection options at Dungannon
- > Clean power for over 38,900 Irish Homes

### Introduction

EMPower are actively exploring the potential for a renewable energy project in the townlands of Coumragappul, Carrigbrack, Knockavanna mountain, Barricreemountain Upper and Glennaneenemountain, Sikeehs, Lagg in Co. Waterford. The proposed Coumragappul project has undergone significant re-design over the course of 2022 in order to propose the most suitable project possible for the receiving environment. The proposed project is now at a stage where all the environmental assessment survey data has been gathered and collated in order to inform the final proposed project layout. This Newsletter sets out an overview of the ongoing project design work as well as the proposed project at the Design Iteration Three stage.

The project team will facilitate the project's second information evening in the Slabh gCua Community Centre, Tourneena on the 12/10/2022. Please call in anytime between 4:00pm and 8:00pm to discuss the proposed Coumragappul project with members of the design team and view the most recent project design information.

The project team will also host the third Project Design Webinar on the 05/10/2022 between 7:00pm and 8:00pm. Please register for this online webinar at [www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie/webinar](http://www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie/webinar).

Once you have had a chance to read through this project newsletter, and should you have any areas of the project you wish to discuss further, please contact the project team using the contact details on the back page of this Newsletter or on the project website ([www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie)).

### How the Final Project Proposal Is Formulated

Wind farm design is governed by a series of legislative guidelines around set back distances, noise, visual and environmental constraints amongst others. Any proposed project which does not carry out its design by adhering to this legislation is unlikely to be granted a planning permission by the consenting authority.

The proposed Coumragappul wind farm project is being designed with the most up to date iteration of the guidelines for wind energy development in mind. This best in class, conservative approach seeks to future proof the proposed project for any new guidelines which may issue and ensures that the most suitable project design is selected and put forward for consideration in a planning submission.

The project's constraints mapping is continuously updated throughout the development's iterative design process. Design layout updates are based on the site investigations and assessments as they are completed. Some of the areas of this project's design process where we have had the most conversations with interested stakeholders and residents local to the proposed project's Study Area, are discussed in this Newsletter.

### Who Are EMPower?

EMPower is an Irish renewable energy developer with over 700 MW in development in Europe and Africa. Our senior management team comprises five Irish professionals with a combined 95 years' experience delivering projects from conception to operation across five continents. EMPower's headquarters is in Dublin.

EMPower is owned by GCE Ireland Limited, Wind Power Invest A/C and EHP Holdings Limited.

Our vision is to provide low carbon, ecologically non-invasive, affordable energy to facilitate Ireland's expanding economy and sustainable energy targets.

### Our Commitment

Our commitment is to engage meaningfully with our stakeholders on decisions that concern them. We aim to do this in a timely manner, and we commit to building relationships and starting a conversation on what aspects of this proposed renewable energy project could work best for this local area. We feel that designing any proposed project in this manner makes better social and business sense.

**95 Years**  
Combined Experience of EMPower Management Team in Renewable Energy

**700 MW+**  
Wind Energy Capacity Currently Under Development By EMPower

**5 Continents**  
Combined Geographical Experience of EMPower Team in Renewable Energy

### Project Design Process

In order to reach a final design proposal, we choose to undertake several separate design iterations. The design process for the proposed Coumragappul wind farm project started with a review of existing available baseline information. This helps to avoid or minimise potential impacts and includes a design process that limits the angle of slope of the ground where development can occur, including a setback distance from watercourses and residences, as well as a setback distance from any nearby European designated environmentally sensitive habitat sites. Following some ground truthing exercises this initial design step produces a potential "Buildable Area".

Following establishment of the project's "Buildable Area" an initial turbine layout is progressed which considers the separation distance required between each turbine position as well as the results of more detailed ground and habitat investigation surveys. The resulting layout is called Design Iteration 1. As further project studies evolve the location and alignment of the associated project's infrastructure, such as access roads and electrical infrastructure is then developed to produce Design Iteration 2. On completion of all the project's associated site investigations and surveys Design Iteration 3 is produced before a final design proposal is submitted to the consenting authority. After each stage of the above-mentioned iterative design process the project proposal is reassessed by our project specialists which leads to a robust final design. This evolving iterative design process establishes the proposed project infrastructure and is informed by rigorous Study Area assessments carried out over an extended period such as:

- > Ecological and Aquatic Surveys
- > Ornithological Surveys
- > Geotechnical and Hydrological Ground Investigations
- > Shadow Flicker Modelling
- > Noise Modelling
- > Archaeological Surveys
- > Landscape and Visual Assessment



Also, in order to ensure that this project's Environmental Impact Assessment process is appropriately carried out, an information document detailing project particulars is prepared and circulated to a list of statutory and non-statutory consultees to ensure that the proposed project's Environmental Impact Assessment is addressing all relevant topics specific to the local area for this project.

The list of consultees can be individual for each project. For the proposed Coumragappul project this consultee list includes Waterford City & County Council, Fáilte Ireland, National Parks and Wildlife, Inland Fisheries Ireland, area telecommunication providers, Geological Survey Ireland, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, The National Monuments Service, The Aviation Authority, plus many more.

### Why This Project?

Identifying a project Study Area suitable for a wind farm considers many different inputs. The suitability of the Study Area for the proposed Coumragappul project can be attributed, in part, to the following characteristics:

- > Setback distances from houses can be achieved to align with the latest government guidance. The project team has already committed to a minimum setback of 740 meters between a dwelling and a proposed turbine location.
- > There are very good annual average wind speeds in the Study Area.
- > The Study Area is not within a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), a Special Protection Area (SPA) nor a National Heritage Area (NHA), although some of these areas do exist nearby.
- > The Study Area is in an accessible location for connection to the National Electricity Grid via existing electrical substations and transmission lines in the local area.

## Population And Human Health

The Coumnaagappul project assessments examine the potential impacts of this proposed project (both beneficial and adverse) and also any potential wellbeing and nuisance effects which could be experienced by the local and regional community. The results of this assessment will be documented as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report which will accompany the planning submission. The key issues examined from a population and human health perspective include:

- > Population Trends;
- > Socio-Economics, Employment and Economic Activity;
- > Existing Land Use;
- > Recreation, Amenity and Tourism;
- > Human Health and Safety;
- > Dust emissions during construction activities;
- > Noise emissions during construction and operation;
- > Public safety;
- > Visual impacts during operation;
- > Shadow flicker during operation;
- > Traffic nuisance during construction;
- > Tourism and recreational impacts.



## Biodiversity

In addition to desktop studies and assessments carried out as part of the project's Environmental Impact Assessment Report, extensive field surveys have also been carried out over several years. These surveys catalogued the different habitats, mammals, bats, birds as well as aquatic ecology throughout the project's Study Area and associated proposed grid connection and turbine delivery routes. The potential for adverse effects upon the local flora and fauna in these areas will be ascertained and documented.

The project's Study Area is not located within any European Designated sites. Some of the more sensitive Habitats located nearby are the River Blackwater (Cork/Waterford) Special Area of Conservation, the Nier Valley Woodlands Special Area of Conservation and the Comeragh Mountains Special Area of Conservation. The proposed project's Study Area encompasses a mixture of habitat types generally dominated by areas of outaway bog with wet heath vegetation and areas of exposed rock. There are smaller areas of conifer plantation and agricultural grassland within the Study Area. Grazing by sheep is widespread with grazing intensity varying within the overall Study Area.

Bird species found in the wider environs of the project's Study Area are typical of open bog, upland heath habitat and conifer plantation including species such as hen harrier, snipe, mallard, common gull, herring gull, merlin, cormorant, and kestrel. These species would also be some of the qualifying interests of some of the Special Protection Areas in the wider environs.

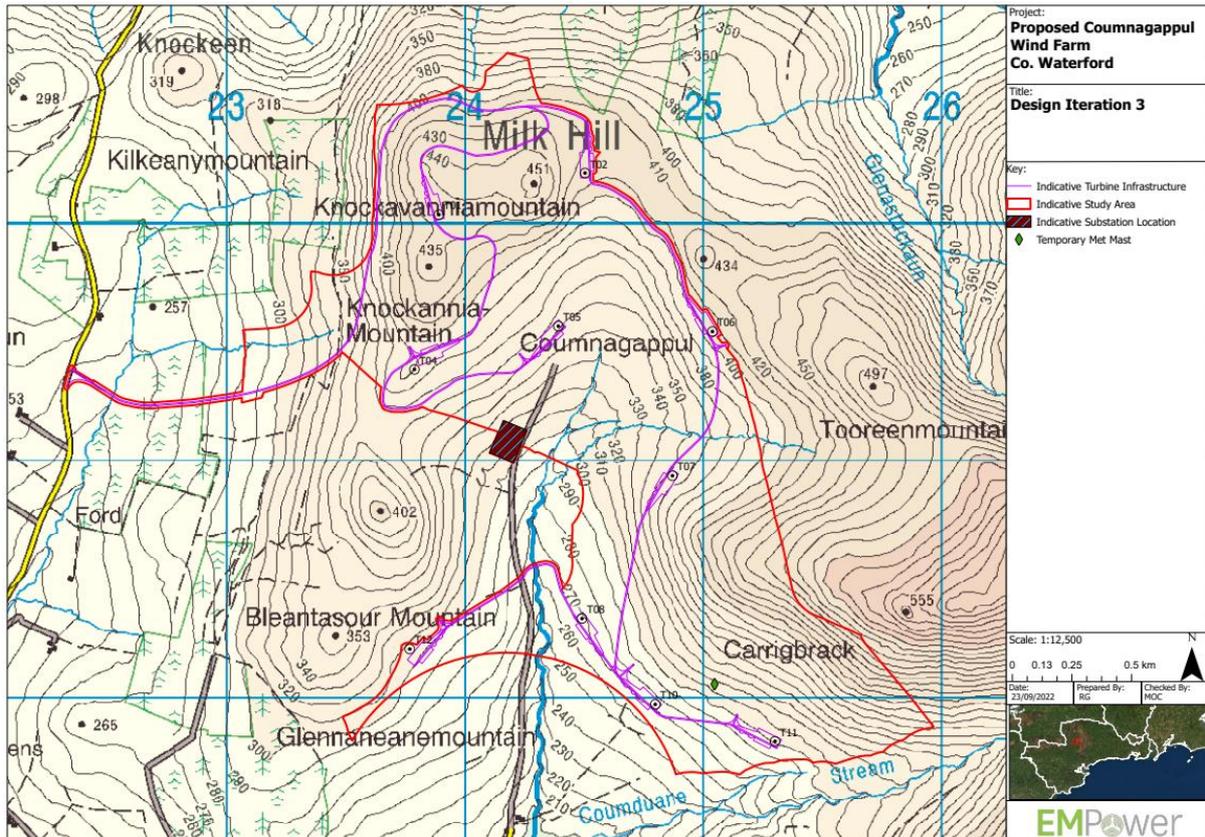


## Hydrology And Hydrogeology

This chapter of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will address the potential impacts on water quality in the receiving watercourses and the wider hydrological environment in general.

The proposed Coumnaagappul wind farm extends over the Southeastern River Basin District of Ireland (SERBD). The relevant waterbodies within the proposed Coumnaagappul wind farm project area are the Colligan-Illan water catchment areas. The Colligan River travels through the center of the proposed project's main Study Area and travels along the proposed project's southernmost boundary. Other tributaries join the Colligan which eventually drains into Dungarvan Harbour some 14km south of the proposed project's location. There are numerous man-made and natural drains located within the Study Area. There are no larger waterbodies such as lakes or significant wetlands located within the project Study Area.

Drainage management will be employed to control drainage water during any proposed construction, ensuring that surface runoff from any developed areas of the proposed project will continue to be of good quality with no flood risk to the downgradient setting. A surface water monitoring programme will be put in place during the construction phase of this project if it is granted planning permission. Based on the proposed mitigation measures, there is no potential for significant impacts on the hydrology and groundwater as a result of the proposed Coumnaagappul wind farm project.



## Noise And Vibration

Noise is generated by wind turbines as they rotate to generate power. This only occurs above the 'cut-in' wind speed and below the 'cut-out' wind speed. Below the cut-in wind speed there is insufficient strength in the wind to rotate the blades and above the 'cut-out' wind speed the turbine is automatically shut down to prevent any malfunctions from occurring.

The 'cut-in' wind speed at the turbine hub-height is approximately 3 meters per second (11 kilometres per hour) and the 'cut-out' wind speed is approximately 25 meters per second (90 kilometres per hour).

The principal sources of wind turbine noise are from the blades rotating in the air (aerodynamic noise) and from internal machinery, normally the gearbox, and, to a lesser extent, the generator (mechanical noise). The blades are carefully designed with a view to minimising noise whilst optimising power transfer from the wind.

If this project is consented vibration can potentially be generated by construction activities such as rock breaking and passing heavy goods vehicles. Construction noise can occur during excavation and earth moving, laying of roads and hard standings, transportation of materials and erection of the wind turbines. Construction activities will be phased and temporary. A full project life cycle noise and vibration assessment will be included as part of the planning submission.

Noise and vibration assessments are undertaken for the construction, the operational and decommission phases of the proposed development.

Baseline noise monitoring was undertaken at different receptor locations surrounding the Coumnaagappul wind farm's Study Area to establish the existing background noise levels in the vicinity of the proposed development.

These measurement locations were chosen as they represent some of the closest locations to the proposed project as well as representing different noise environments in the vicinity of the Study Area.



To inform the noise impact assessment, baseline noise monitoring of the existing noise environment for this proposed project was carried out over a four-week period. This process establishes the existing noise levels in the area prior to any potential development occurring and aids in the overall project design. Appropriate noise level limits are then determined in line with the latest Government policy and guidance.

The noise limits seek to strike a balance between the noise restrictions placed on a wind farm, the protection of local amenity and the national and global benefits of renewable energy development. The predicted noise emissions envisaged from the wind farm are then compared against these limits. The wind farm will be designed and operated in a manner that ensures the prescribed limits won't be exceeded. This will also be further validated with post construction noise monitoring surveys if the project is consented.

## Land Soils And Geology

The geology of the project's Study Area consists predominantly of bog, with areas of otherwise upland pastures and mountain heath. Detailed investigations including site walkovers, peat stability assessment, trial pit excavations and bore hole investigations were undertaken to better understand the geology of the Study Area. The subsols present within the proposed project's Study Area comprise, blanket peat, sandstone till (Devonian) and surface bedrock.

If this project is consented construction of the wind farm infrastructure will require the removal of subsols and possibly rock to create solid foundations. Excavation of any bedrock and suitable off-site aggregate sources will provide appropriate construction material for access roads, turbine bases and general hard-standing foundations. Removal and reuse of subsols and bedrock is not seen to represent a significant impact on the geology of the Study Area. If no significant impacts or cumulative impacts on the soil and geological environment are anticipated as a result of the proposed wind farm and its associated grid connection route.

## Why Onshore Wind

Onshore wind energy makes sense for Ireland for many reasons. It's a clean fuel source which does not pollute the air like power plants that rely on combustion of fossil fuels, such as coal or natural gas. Unlike conventional power plants, wind turbines don't produce atmospheric emissions that cause greenhouse gases when generating electricity and utilize a free domestic natural resource, produced in abundance in Ireland. An operating wind farm occupies a relatively small proportion of overall project area, approximately 3% footprint, so other land uses such as farming, recreation, commercial forestry, and biodiversity management can co-exist.

Climate change refers to the change in climate that is attributable to human activity arising from the release of greenhouse gases, in particular from the burning of fossil fuels (coal, oil, peat) for transport, electricity generation and agriculture.

The Government declared in May 2019 that Ireland was in the midst of a climate and biodiversity emergency. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has stated that mean annual temperatures in Ireland have risen by 0.7° Celsius (C) over the past century and are likely to rise by 1.4°C to 1.8°C by the 2050's and by more than 2°C by the end of the century due to climate change.

EMPower can aid in the delivery of the Government's Climate Action Plan (June 2019) where a target of 70% of Ireland's electricity from renewable sources by 2030 was targeted. The Irish Government has recently increased this target to 80%. A firm commitment from the Irish Government on Climate Action is forming part of climate change legislation currently being published by our policy makers:

- Halving our greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and reaching net zero by 2050 at the latest
- Increase renewable electricity - up to 80% by 2030
- Provision for 3 year carbon budgets, consistent with emissions reduction pathway 2050.

Wind energy is currently the largest contributing resource of renewable energy in Ireland. It is both Ireland's largest and cheapest renewable electricity resource. At present the Republic of Ireland has over 300 operational onshore wind farms<sup>1</sup> with a combined capacity of c.4,300MW and over 2,500 individual wind turbines. This represents an investment of over €7 billion, regularly powering c.9% of Ireland's electricity needs. The wind energy industry also supports 5,000 jobs and annually pays more than €4.5 million in commercial rates to local authorities<sup>2</sup>.

Ireland is a country with enormous renewable energy resources and are world leaders at incorporating onshore wind into the national grid. Renewable energy provided c.45% of Ireland's electricity in 2020, with over 86% of this coming from wind energy<sup>3</sup>. This is the highest share of electricity being provided by onshore wind in Europe<sup>4</sup>. In 2018 wind energy avoided 3.1 million tonnes of CO2 and cut €432 million off our fuel import bill<sup>5</sup> demonstrating the huge contribution that onshore wind is making to climate action. This accounts for the second largest source of electricity generation in Ireland after natural gas. Ireland remains one of the leading countries in the deployment of wind energy and third place worldwide in 2018, after Denmark and Uruguay.



1 - Based on latest generation reference numbers  
 2 - Based on report of emissions needs Ireland, 2016, April 2017  
 3 - [http://www.epa.ie/pressroom/press\\_releases/2021/01/20210108\\_renewable\\_electricity\\_in\\_ireland.html](http://www.epa.ie/pressroom/press_releases/2021/01/20210108_renewable_electricity_in_ireland.html)  
 4 - [http://www.epa.ie/pressroom/press\\_releases/2021/01/20210108\\_renewable\\_electricity\\_in\\_ireland.html](http://www.epa.ie/pressroom/press_releases/2021/01/20210108_renewable_electricity_in_ireland.html)  
 5 - [https://www.eir.ie/pressroom/press\\_releases/2018/03/20180306\\_eir\\_renewable\\_electricity.html](https://www.eir.ie/pressroom/press_releases/2018/03/20180306_eir_renewable_electricity.html)

## Proposed Project Schedule

Proposed Development	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
Project Schedule	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Construction Phase										
Planning Consultation (EIR)										
Wind Measurement (Net Meter)										
Planning Submission										
EIR Consultation Application										
Detailed Project Design										
Project Construction										
Project Operation										

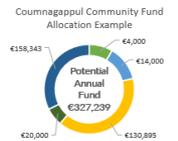
## Community Benefit

At this, the Design Iteration 3 stage, the proposed Coumnaagappul project contains 10 individual wind turbines and represents a combined electricity generating capacity of 66 Mega Watts. The proposed project would require an investment of c.€88 million euro and provide sustainable, low carbon energy generation infrastructure to meet Ireland's growing demand. The development benefits to the local community which could be realised include significant investment in local infrastructure and electrical systems, local job creation, and a contribution of approximately €21 million<sup>2</sup> in Waterford City & County Council rates over the project's lifetime. The Coumnaagappul project would also produce enough renewable electricity to power over 38,900 average Irish homes (CEAI 2018).

A community fund calculated in accordance with the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) Terms and Conditions, €2 per Mega Watt hour of electricity produced by the project, would also be put in place. This would be made available to the local community for the duration of the RESS (15 years). The average capacity factor of wind energy projects in Ireland is 28.3% (CEAI 2019). Assuming this efficiency, and an estimated project capacity of 66 Mega Watts, a community benefit fund would amount to an average of €327,239 per annum. The actual fund will vary around this average from year to year, depending on each year's wind conditions. Wind measurements at the Study Area suggest that the proposed Coumnaagappul project could be capable of achieving an above average capacity factor, and therefore a larger community fund.

*"EMPower strongly believe that the local communities in which we propose our projects should benefit most from any associated project community fund"*

The project's potential fund could be divided as per the illustration below. An annual minimum payment of €1,000 could be provided to each household within 1 kilometer of any proposed Coumnaagappul wind turbine. An annual minimum payment of €500 could be provided to each household located between 1 kilometer and 2 kilometers of any final turbine position. 40% of the fund, amounting to approximately €130,895 per year would be allocated to not-for-profit community enterprises, with an emphasis on low-carbon initiatives. The remainder of the fund would be directed towards local clubs, societies, admin and other initiatives. We welcome any suggestions from the community on how a community fund could best be allocated or ideas for suitable local projects that could be supported under this initiative.



€ 88 million  
Investment in Irish infrastructure

€ 4.9 million<sup>1</sup>  
Total Community Fund Contribution

€ 21 million<sup>2</sup>  
Project Lifetime Approximate Contribution In County Council Rates

1 - Example for 62 turbine project with a capacity factor of 66 MW  
 2 - Estimated €327,239 per mega watt produced by 66 MW project lifespan

## Contact Us

We welcome conversation, engagement and interaction with you on any aspect of how we propose to progress the Coumnaagappul wind farm project and particularly on how we communicate project information to you. If you would like to chat about this proposed project further please contact us via any of the below means.

Website: [www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie)  
 Email: [coumnaagappul@empower.ie](mailto:coumnaagappul@empower.ie)  
 Phone: 01 588 0178  
 Write: EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1

## Project Webinar:

The project team will host the third Coumnaagappul project specific design webinar on **Wednesday evening the 05<sup>th</sup> of October 2022 between 7pm and 8pm**. You can register for the event at [www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie/webinar](http://www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie/webinar).

The project design team will also facilitate the second in-person project information evening in the **Sliabh gCua Community Centre, Touraneena on the 12/10/2022, between 4.00pm and 8.00pm**. Please drop in anytime between 4pm and 8pm to discuss the proposed Coumnaagappul wind farm project and its associated design process with members of the project design team.

All project engagement events will be advertised in local newspapers, project newsletters and on the project website. Members of the project design team are available, at the contact details listed on this page, to talk through any aspect of the Coumnaagappul wind farm design process which you would like to discuss further.



# Appendix 4b – September 2022

## Project Information Letter

**EMPOWER**  
2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay  
North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3  
E: [info@emp.group](mailto:info@emp.group)  
T: +353 (0)1 588 0178



23/09/2022

**Re: Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm in the townlands of Coumnagappul, Carrigbrack, Knockavannia mountain, Barricreemountain Upper and Glennaneane mountain, Skeehans, Lagg in Co. Waterford**

Dear Resident,

As communicated via previous project correspondence we, EMPower, are actively exploring the potential for a wind farm development opportunity in the Coumnagappul area of Co. Waterford. The Coumnagappul wind farm main Study Area is located approximately 16km northwest of Dungarvan. You will find more information on this proposed project and on EMPower at [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie).

The Coumnagappul wind farm project proposal has undergone significant re-design over the course of 2022 in order to propose the most suitable project possible for the receiving environment. Following the projects scoping phase with statutory and non-statutory consultees the proposed project is now at a stage where all the environmental assessment survey data has been gathered and collated. This has informed the proposed project's third design iteration as detailed in the enclosed project Newsletter.

The project Team will host the third **Coumnagappul Wind Farm Design Webinar** on the **05/10/2022** between **7pm and 8pm**. Registration for this online webinar is available at [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie/webinar](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie/webinar).

The project team will also host the second in-person project information evening in the **Sliabh gCua Community Centre, Touraneena** on the **12/10/2022**. Please drop in anytime between **4pm and 8pm** to discuss the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project and its associated design process with members of the project design team.

We will distribute future project information over the coming weeks as the final design proposal is produced, and we approach a project planning submission. We hope that our project updates set out relevant information on the project design process and follows up adequately on some of the conversations and queries we have had to date with interested stakeholders and community members.

We will also initiate an online community consultation exhibition over the coming weeks. You will be able to access this online platform from the project website. This community consultation exhibition will give you the opportunity to interact with much more project information including the visual representations prepared for the proposed project.

We will continue to make every effort to ensure that we provide you with all the information you need to fully understand the details of this proposed project, and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any aspect of the proposed Coumnagappul project with you. Please make contact with the Project Team using any of the contact details below if there are any areas of the proposed project design you wish to discuss further or if you have suggestions on how we might improve our project messaging.

Yours Sincerely

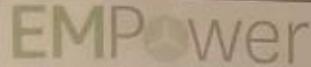


**EMPower**  
Diarmuid Twomey,  
EMPower Managing Director

Email:	<a href="mailto:coumnagappul@emp.group">coumnagappul@emp.group</a>
Website:	<a href="http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie">www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie</a>
Phone:	01 588 0178
Write:	EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1.

EMPOWER is a registered trading name of EMP Energy Limited, a private limited company registered in Ireland under company number 630312. **Directors:** Diarmuid Anthony Twomey, Ifigo Sabater Eizagirre, Ingmar Wilhelm, Vimal Vallabh, Seán mac Cann. **Registered office:** 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3.

DUNGARVAN OBSERVER | Friday, 30 September, 2022
15



**Notice of Public Information Event**

EMPower, a company with an address at 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, Dublin 1, are exploring the potential to develop a windfarm project in the townlands of Coumnaagappul, Carrigbrack, Knockavanna mountain, Barricoremountain, Upper and Glennaneamounstain, Skeehams, Lagg in Co. Waterford.

As part of our project community consultation campaign, we are hosting the project's third information webinar at 7pm on **Wednesday the 6th October 2022** in order to converse on the project's design process with residents local to the project Study Area as well as any interested stakeholders. The project webinar is scheduled to last for one hour. You can register for the upcoming webinar and find further project information on the project website [www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie)

We look forward to your input and thoughts on any aspect of the proposed project and its design process or on the associated project community fund allocation.

EM Power, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3, Ireland

**Culture Night 2022 @ Youghal Credit Union! First Cut Youth Film Festival Screening, Youghal**

As part of the event, Culture Night, a special Film Screening from the lens of Cork's Emerging Filmmakers took place at the Youghal Credit Union where a 90 min TV was put on for the evening.

From 7pm onwards, a special screening of films from the year's festival that highlight the stories from the perspective of filmmakers who are often overlooked in our great young Cork film scene.

Movie 20: Cork, Ireland has been awarded the 2022 title of 'Best City' in the world for its special screening in Youghal Credit Union. There are 1000+ people on the waiting list to attend the screening in Youghal Credit Union and it is a great night for all.

Movie 20: Cork, Ireland has been awarded the 2022 title of 'Best City' in the world for its special screening in Youghal Credit Union. There are 1000+ people on the waiting list to attend the screening in Youghal Credit Union and it is a great night for all.



**A LIFETIME OF EXPERIENCE AND TRUST**

**Before Buying or Selling Your Car LOOK US UP**

[www.johnfoleyautosales.ie](http://www.johnfoleyautosales.ie)

**JOHN PAUL'S BAR**  
OLD PARISH, X35 CD79  
058-46267

Saturday, 1st October –  
**MARTIN KEARNEY & DERRY KENNEDY**  
Starting 10.00 p.m.  
CLIK SEANUS O'DONNELL  
087-8859270

**Understanding Governance and the Board's role - Trustee/Director Training**

**BACK BY DEMAND!**

It is important to understand the role of the board of directors in a company. This training session is designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills to effectively manage your company's affairs.

Why is it important? The board of directors is responsible for the overall management of the company. They are responsible for setting the company's strategy, approving the budget, and monitoring the company's performance.

What are the roles of the board? The board of directors is responsible for the overall management of the company. They are responsible for setting the company's strategy, approving the budget, and monitoring the company's performance.

**Dungarvan Flower & Garden Club**

If you would like to have Spring borders like these why not come along to the next meeting of the Dungarvan Flower & Garden Club

**ON WEDNESDAY, 5th OCTOBER, 2022**  
At 8.00 p.m.  
**IN THE PARK HOTEL, Dungarvan.**

Non-members €10.  
When Oliver Chedhomme, West Cork Bulbs will talk about the vast range of bulbs they produce and the best ways to plant them.

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**

**UNDERSTANDING GOVERNANCE & THE BOARD'S ROLE**

Online Training for Directors & Trustees of Boards

Dates: 19th & 26th October 2022  
Time: 5.30 - 8.30pm (Online registration at 5.20pm)

A comprehensive overview of the role and responsibilities of both the board and the directors. The training will cover: company law, board meetings, board papers, board resolutions, the Companies Act 2006, Governance Code, reviewing the board and succession planning.

Cost: Chamber Members: €110 - Non-Chamber Members: €140

Email [info@dungarvanchamber.ie](mailto:info@dungarvanchamber.ie) for further information or to book your place

**COMHAIRÉ CATHARACH & COMAR PHOIR LAGH**  
Municipal Council

**TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROADS**  
SECTION 75 ROADS ACT 1993

Notice is hereby given that Waterford City and County Council, in exercise of its powers pursuant to Section 75, Roads Act 1993, will close the following public road to through traffic from 9th to 10th October, 2022 to facilitate the National Roadshow Ireland Cycle Racing Works.

**Road to be closed:**

- L1022 Greenfield / Clonroche Road

**Diversions Route:**

- Y14 L1026 High Road and Hills and Hill.

Fergus Galvin,  
Director of Services,  
Roads, Water and Environment. 09th September, 2022.

Appendix 4d – 07/12/2022

Project Information Evening

Dungarvan Observer Notice of In-person Event



Launching Work Matters at the Library was Cllr. John O'Leary, Mayor, Waterford City & County with Annie Binney, Work Matters at the Library and Sinead Cummins, Work Matters at the Library Co-ordinator, Assistant Librarian, Waterford Libraries, Paul Deegan, Volunteer Centre, Ger Walsh, Waterford & South Tip LAES, Laura Keane, Matrix Recruitment, Aisling Cusack, WWETB, Catherine Keating, Matrix Recruitment and Philip Cullinane, WWETB. (John Power)

# Work Matters at the Library

## GET THAT JOB VIDEO SERIES

Waterford Libraries, Work Matters at the Library 'Get That Job' video series was launched by Mayor of Waterford, Cllr. John O'Leary on Thursday, 29th September in Dungarvan Library.

The 'Get That Job' video series is aimed at helping job seekers who are looking for that first job, to change career, up-skill or for ways to improve their CV.

The videos cover the job seeking process from creating cover letters and CVs through to setting up an effective LinkedIn profile.

They give tips on job search-

ing and filling in application forms, preparing for aptitude tests and interviews and there are seven videos in all.

The video series is for all and can be found on Waterford Libraries, Work Matters at the Library Facebook page, Waterford Libraries YouTube channel and LinkedIn page and on the website at [www.waterfordlibraries.ie/work-matters-videos/](http://www.waterfordlibraries.ie/work-matters-videos/).

Further information on Work Matters at the Library and Waterford Libraries online resources for job seekers can be found in library branches and online at [www.waterfordlibraries.ie](http://www.waterfordlibraries.ie).

## JOB SEEKERS – TEA TIME SESSIONS AT WATERFORD LIBRARIES

Work Matters at the Library, Waterford recently held a series of events for job seekers in Central, Dungarvan and Tramore Libraries. The Tea Time sessions were aimed at jobseekers looking for that first job, to change career, up-skill or for ways to improve their resume.

At the sessions, representatives from local organisations were invited to give information on how their services could help with job seeking, changing career and up skilling along with advice on how to improve resumes.

Organisations that attended

include Waterford Adult Educational Guidance Service, Waterford Leader Partnership, Introo Waterford, Waterford Volunteer Centre, EUIRES Waterford, Waterford and South Tipperary Local Area Employment Service, Waterford Integration Services, Europe Direct, Waterford and Work Matters at the Library/Waterford.

Further information on the organisations that attended, Work Matters at the Library and Waterford Libraries online resources for job seekers can be found in library branches and online at [www.waterfordlibraries.ie](http://www.waterfordlibraries.ie).



Paul Fogarty, Introo; Pauline Mulkeam, Introo and Cian Morgan, Introo. (John Power)



Paul Deegan, Waterford Volunteer Centre. (John Power)



Ger Walsh, Waterford and South Tipperary LAES. (John Power)



Aisling Cusack, WWETB and Philip Cullinane, WWETB. (John Power)



Sinead Cummins, Work Matters at the Library Co-ordinator, Assistant Librarian, Waterford Libraries, Annie Binney, Work Matters at the Library and Cllr. John O'Leary, Mayor, Waterford City & County who launched Work Matters at the Library. (John Power)

# EMPower

## Notice of Public Information Event

EMPower, a company with an address at 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, Dublin 1 are exploring the potential to develop a windfarm project in the townlands of Coumnaagappul, Carrigbrack, Knockavannia mountain, Barricreemountain Upper and Glennaneanemountain, Skeehans, Lagg in Co. Waterford.

As part of our project community consultation campaign, we are hosting the project's third information webinar at 7pm on Wednesday the 05th October 2022 in order to converse on the project's design process with residents local to the project Study Area as well as any interested stakeholders. The project webinar is scheduled to last for one hour. You can register for the upcoming webinar and find further project information on the project website, [www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie)

We look forward to your input and thoughts on any aspect of the proposed project and its design process or on the associated project community fund allocation.

EM Power, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3, Ireland

**Dungarvan Cycling Club Table Quiz**  
For our Youth Development Fund

Minnie's Bar  
Friday, October 7th  
8pm

€30 per person, 4 to a team

**DCC** Dungarvan Cycling Club

Come along and support our up and coming youth riders. All welcome

# EMPower

## Notice of Public Information Event

EMPower, a company with an address at 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, Dublin 1 are exploring the potential to develop a windfarm project in the townlands of Coumnaagappul, Carrigbrack, Knockavannia mountain, Barricreemountain Upper and Glennaneanemountain, Skeehans, Lagg in Co. Waterford.

The project Design Team will host a project information evening at The Sliabh gCua Community Centre, Touraneena on the 12/10/2022 between the hours of 4.00pm and 8.00pm. Please drop in anytime between 4pm and 8pm to discuss, and learn more about, the proposed Coumnaagappul wind farm project and its associated design and feasibility process.

EM Power, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3, Ireland

# Appendix 4e – 05/10/2022

## Online Design Webinar



### Counmagappul Wind Farm Proposal

- Company Introduction
- Renewable Energy in Ireland
- Project Location
- Study Area Screening
- Project Design Stages
- Project Grid and Delivery Routes
- Community Benefit
- Q&A
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Q&A



### Company Introduction

- 95 Years**  
Combined Experience of EMPower Management Team in Renewable Energy
- 700 MW**  
Wind Energy Capacity Currently Under Development By EMPower
- 5 Continents**  
Combined Geographical Experience of EMPower Team in Renewable Energy



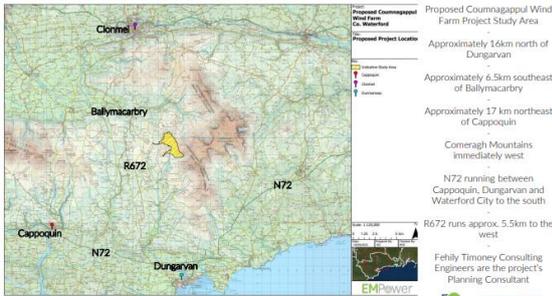
### Energy Targets in Ireland

Key Metrics	2017	2025 Based on MACC	2030 Based on MACC
Share of Renewable Electricity, %	~30% <sup>10</sup>	52%	80%
Onshore Wind Capacity, GW	~3.3	6.5	8.2
Offshore Wind Capacity, GW	NA	1.0	3.5
Solar PV Capacity, GW	NA	0.2	0.4
CCGT Capacity, GW	~3.6	5.1	4.7

**80%**  
Renewable Electricity by 2030

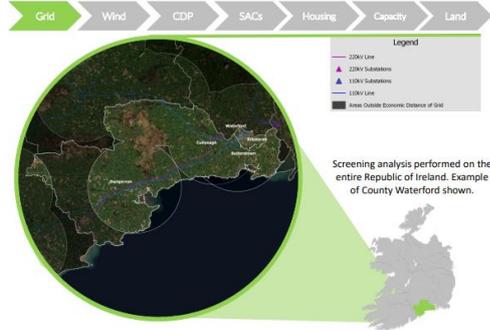
**8.2**  
GigaWatts  
Onshore wind by 2030

### Project Introduction



5

### Site Screening



### Study Area Screening

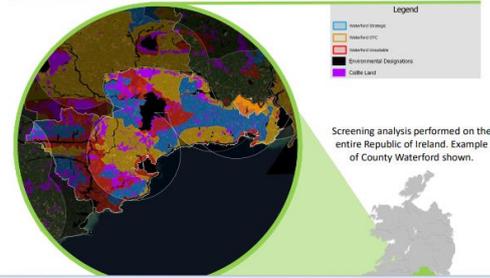


Screening analysis performed on the entire Republic of Ireland incorporating constraints such as:

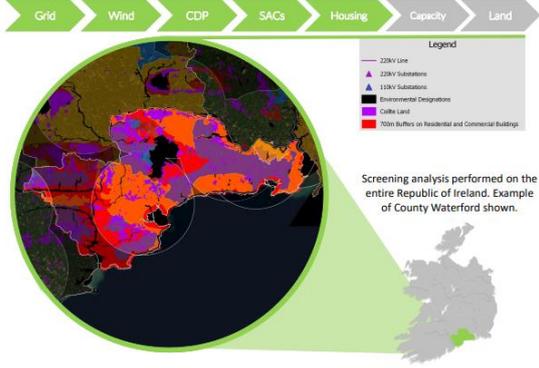
- Wind speed
- Grid connection
- Environmental Designations
- Culture and heritage
- Tourism
- County Development Plans
- Existing, planned and permitted projects
- Housing



### Site Screening



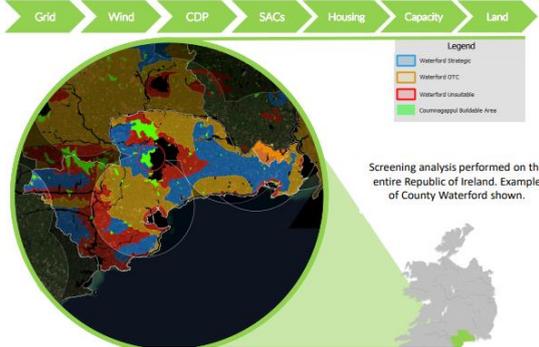
## Site Screening



## Site Screening



## Site Screening

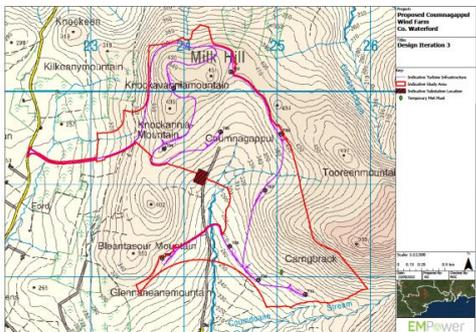


## Project Study Area – Design Stages



- Constraints mapping is continuously updated throughout the Project's iterative design process.
- After each iteration, the proposed layout is reassessed by the project's specialists.
- Project Scoping on the proposed design

## Project Study Area – Design Iteration 3



## Indicative Grid Route



## Grid Connection Route Selection



## Proposed Turbine Delivery Route



## Proposed Turbine Delivery Route



A swept path assessment has been undertaken and indicates that loads will overrun and oversail through the southern half of the roundabout island where a load bearing surface should be laid and the island should be reprofiled. One road sign should be removed.

A swept path assessment has been undertaken and indicates that loads will oversail both verges throughout the bend with One road sign should be removed.

A swept path assessment has been undertaken and indicates that loads will oversail the corner where land reprofiled maybe required. A fence and vegetation may be removed.

## Project Schedule

Proposed Cumragappul Project Milestone	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Domestic Studies										
Planning Consultation (SAR)										
Stakeholder Consultation										
Wind Measurement (Wind MAE)										
Planning Application										
Grid Connection Application										
Detailed Project Design										
Project Construction										
Project Operational										

Planning Submission to Consenting Authority	Q4 - 2022
Grid Connection Submission	Q2 - 2024
Detailed Project Design	Q1 - 2025
Construction Commences	Q2 - 2026

## Community Benefits



**WIND ENERGY IRELAND** Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) High Level Design

**€ 88 million<sup>1</sup>**  
Investment in Irish infrastructure

**€ 4.9 million<sup>1</sup>**  
Total Community Fund Contribution

**€ 21 million<sup>2</sup>**  
Approximate County Council Rates Contribution

**112 Construction Jobs<sup>3</sup>**  
Direct Jobs in Construction Phase

**26 Project Jobs<sup>4</sup>**  
Highly Skilled Jobs Over Project Lifetime

1 - Estimate for 10 turbine project with a large-scale installation plan (2020-2025)  
2 - Estimate for 10 turbine project with a large-scale installation plan (2020-2025)  
3 - Estimate for 10 turbine project with a large-scale installation plan (2020-2025)  
4 - Estimate for 10 turbine project with a large-scale installation plan (2020-2025)

## Question Time



## Environmental Impact Assessment

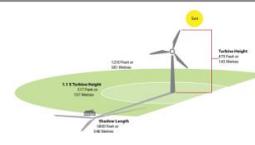
### Population & Human Health



### Flora & Fauna

## Environmental Impact Assessment

### Shadow Flicker



### Sound

## Environmental Impact Assessment

### Hydrology



### Ornithology

## Environmental Impact Assessment

### Construction and Civil Engineering



### Archaeology



25



## Conclusion

- **Proposed Coumnaappul Wind Farm**
  - 10 turbines
  - 66 MW
  - 38,900 Irish homes powered
- **Community Fund**
  - €327,329 per year
  - €1,000 per year (households <1km)
  - €500 per year (households >1km <2km)
- **Next Steps**
  - Final Design progression
  - Ground investigation works
  - Final Habitat and Ornithological surveys
  - Most Feasible Grid Connection Route
  - Community Engagement Continues
    - Newsletter
    - In person project information event
    - Online Consultation Room
  - Environmental Impact Assessment Report amalgamation
  - Submit planning application to the consenting authority



**Please contact us at any stage if you have any further question or suggestions on this project proposal.**

Address: [EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1](#)  
Email: [counmagappul@emp.group](mailto:counmagappul@emp.group) or [info@emp.group](mailto:info@emp.group)  
Phone: 01 588 0178  
Project website: [www.counmagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.counmagappulwindfarm.ie)

# Appendix 4f – 05/10/2022

## Online Design Webinar Questions Answered

### Proposed Coumragappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022. Questions Answered

- Q. Can you please enable questions to be seen by all participants, thank you**
- A. Live answered.** Unfortunately, as this webinar has already started, we are unable to change the settings without logging off. We will take this feedback onboard for future webinars and discuss the various options available with the company that runs these webinars for us. We will also make all the questions posed and answered here tonight available on the project website afterwards.
- Q. Please can you enable questions to be seen by all participants.**
- A. Live answered.** See answer to Question 1
- Q. Can you explain what studies have been done to assess the impact of this proposal on the environment, flora, fauna and birds. Especially the hen harrier birds that are native to the area. If there is an empower study carried out, how are the community supposed to be comfortable in their biased findings. Has there been an independent study done and if so, why was the community not involved?**
- A. Hi [REDACTED]** Yes, we will be discussing the aspects of your question live later in this presentation and if you have further questions after that we can discuss further on line here tonight. All project studies will be made available for public comment as part of the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report which will accompany the projects planning application. During the scoping stage of the project, we prepare and circulate a project scoping document with bodies like National Parks and Wildlife, Waterford City and County council as well as bodies like Bird watch Ireland. This ensures that our studies are tailored appropriate for the Study Area and the Habitat and species in the vicinity. Malachy Walsh and Partners (based in Tralee) are independently carrying out the Ornithology studies for this project. This work is further assessed by Fehily Timoney's Project management team. The results of all the studies will be available for the public viewing in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report at planning application stage.
- Q. Are all previous Q&As already on the website? or will these also be added this week?**
- A. I will check this [REDACTED].** If they are not there, I will also upload them over the course of the coming weeks.
- Q. the point is questions stimulate other questions, you stated at the beginning you wanted to get as much feedback and information from people, enable the viewing of everyone's questions so we can all actively engage, posting after is pointless. Thank you**
- A. I take your point Mr [REDACTED] and we will take this on board for future webinars. I don't think we can change settings for tonight's webinar now that we have started but we will try to change them as we are chatting through.**
- Q. A few years ago a similar proposal submitted by Ecompower was refused planning in Russelstown, Sillaheen etc. Sillaheen is only a few kms from this proposed area, and this area would be considered**

### Proposed Coumragappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022. Questions Answered

- more protected so why does Empower think this proposal will not also be refused or that the community will not strenuously object similar to our neighbours in Sillaheen**
- A. We can't really comment on other developers and projects but EMPower takes all possible care to ensure that any development we propose minimises any environmental impact to sensitive areas and will avoid all protected habitats and areas. The elements that effect the viability of a project, such as visuals, housing, flora and fauna can often vary significantly over a relatively small geographic area. So, while it may be the case that there are areas in the locality that may not be suited to wind development, we believe that the Study Area for the proposed Coumragappul project can contribute much needed renewable energy for the country, while minimising environmental impact.**
- Q. future plans for expansion of the numbers of turbines???**
- A. Live answered** We believe 10 Wind Turbines at this Design Iteration 3 stage will be the final amount. This has been reduced from 11 proposed Wind Turbines at Design Iteration 2 stage. Therefore, at this point we do not believe there will be any further expansion under this planning application
- Q. Why was T9 deemed not suitable?**
- A. Live answered.** Throughout each of the design iteration stages of this project each proposed Turbine position is analysed under everything from Hydrology, Ornithology, Civil, Landscape and visual, Noise, habitat loss etc. T9 was in a location that brought the project into a new visual catchment area. Which means the project is visible from a wider area. We always strive to contain the visual element of our projects into the smallest visual catchment area as possible. Also, The T9 position was in an area that would require an extensive amount of earthworks in order to construct a hardstanding area for a turbine and also to construct an access road.
- Q. What is the make and model of a turbine that you intend using.**
- A. Hi,** we are currently modelling a Vestas V162 Turbine for this project
- Q. the proposed 185 m makes these the largest in the country and significantly taller than the average turbine.**
- A. "Hi [REDACTED]** at present I believe there are a number of wind projects with a tip height of 200m both in the feasibility and planning phases in Ireland. The Coumragappul project proposal has a hub height of 104m with a blade tip height of 185m which, if I'm not mistaken, is indicative of the turbine size the Irish renewable industry is considering currently. Only last week there was another project consented in the midlands with a tip height of 185m and many of the previously consented 175m to 185m tip height projects are beginning their construction phase.





## Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022.

### Questions Answered

**Q. Is it still environmental and engineering consultancy Fehily Timoney Company Consultants based in Cork city, who are involved in the analysis and assessment**

**A. Live Answer** \*Hi [REDACTED] Yes the principle Environmental and Engineering consultants working on the proposed project is Fehily Timoney Company Consultants based in Cork city

**Q. Have you had meetings formally or informally with Waterford County Council?**

**A. live answered.** Yes, as part of the project scoping phase an information document is sent to Waterford City and County Council. Along with this we hold pre-application meetings were all the project particulars are discussed and we take feedback from WCCC on additional surveys to undertake or their approach to and opinion on the planning environment in any given area.

**Q. we were told we would have photo montages back in spring, also a 3d viewing, nothing changed on the site, we understand exact positions are changing but there was no attempt to show visual impact of project on the area**

**A. live answered** A set of photomontages of how the project will look if built out were discussed and shared on the first project webinar in 2021. A recording of this webinar is available on the project website if you would like to revisit. As the turbine positions have changed our Landscape and Visual Consultant is currently updating the details to reflect Design Iteration 3. We will share this information for discussion once we received it via future newsletters and webinars. The best location to view all these illustrations will be on the project website however when the Online Community Information Room will be made live over the coming weeks.

**Q. The community should be able to talk to the bodies who carried out the surveys on animals, flora etc i.e., environmental impact studies before submission, so they can speak with the bodies themselves and interrogate their findings and assessments for objectivity. I presume this is possible??**

**A. live answered** We can set up a call with any member of our survey team if you wish. Please send details of the areas you are interested in and we will schedule in a call for a time that suits you. Also, on the project Online Interactive Room which we are currently setting up members of the onsite survey team will be submitting their thoughts on the project and the process involved in the survey effort.

## Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022.

### Questions Answered

**Q. By 3rd party who exactly is that.**

**A. live answered** Empower do not carry out any in-house surveys for our projects. We employ outside experts to conduct the studies needed for a planning application. In this case Fehily Timoney are the main planning consultant. Organisations like Malachy Walsh and Partners are carrying out the Ornithology studies and Macroworks are carrying out the Landscape and Visual elements.

**Q. I would like to see the results of the flora and fauna reports up to date, especially as the Hen Harrier is reported to be breeding in the area considered for the development**

**A. live answered** EMPower make all our studies available for public viewing along with all the planning documents. Once the data from the individual surveys are transcribed into a document this will be uploaded for public viewing. The Hen Harrier is a qualifying species of the adjacent Comeragh Mountains SAC so yes, this species forms part of our studies and the results of which will be documented as such.

**Q. focusing a lot on things to the south of the site but the wider area of townlands to the north seems to be glossed over!!!**

**A. live answered** It is true that The Zone of Theoretical visibility shows that this project will mainly be visible from the South and West. However, our Landscape and Visual studies will take a 20 km radius around the proposed project location in all directions. Therefore, what the project will look like from all angles out to 20km around the Study Area is assessed

**Q. no shadow flicker are you making them invisible??**

**A. Shadow flicker** occurs when the shadows cast by the blades of a wind turbine fall over a residential home. For the people inside the house the natural light coming in a window facing the turbine can be blocked by the shadow of the blades.

Since the blades are turning rapidly this creates a flicker effect with the natural light being blocked and unblocked every couple of seconds. This mainly happens in circumstances where the sun is shining at a low angle – just after dawn and before sunset – and where the turbine is directly between the residential home and the sun.

Careful design of the wind farm can reduce the possibility of shadow flicker from occurring and strict limits are in place in the existing wind energy guidelines to minimise shadow flicker<sup>12</sup>. In the preferred approach for the new wind energy guidelines shadow flicker will be eliminated and wind turbines will need to cease operating if they are causing shadow flicker<sup>13</sup>. This will be a condition of the planning permission.

## Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022.

### Questions Answered

Also, as an added protection measure the times when shadow flicker could potentially occur (depending on sun angle and housing positions) is programmed into turbines and they can be shut down during this time.

**Q. milk hill is a Bronze age site.**

**A. live answered** Archaeology and Cultural Heritage will make up a full chapter in the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report. All areas of the proposed projects Study Area will be assessed from a Cultural Heritage point of view. This will be discussed further later in tonight's webinar.

**Q. we were told the same thing last seminar**

**A. live answered** We endeavour to tailor our project Webinars to discuss the items that are coming in via out project emails, phone calls and conversations. We feel this is the best way to tailor the webinars to discuss what the Community want to talk about. If there is a specific topic you would like to discuss on future webinars, please let us know and we will prepare material for that.

**Q. So when will it happen this time, sorry for been such a pain but so far it has been quite frustrating getting relevant information from ye**

**A. live answered** We are sorry you feel this way as it is not the intention of our community Engagement Efforts. To date this project has had one public information evening, 3 project specific Newsletters and community Letters distributed in the local community and two separate design webinars. All the project details discussed in this material is available on the project website. We have also responded to every question, query or request for further one to one conversation which we have received through the project email, phone or website contact form. If you want to discuss any aspect of the project further, please let us know and we would be more than happy to facilitate a conversation. As the project particulars are firming up into what is close to a final design proposal, we would see the material being distributed increase over the coming months. We also have another public information evening scheduled for the 12/10/22 in Tooraneena.

**Q. Would the planning application outline the proposed hours if work for the construction phase? Or would that be decided afterwards without public consultation / awareness?**

**A.** The hours of work for the project would be a condition of the planning grant if the project is successful in the planning process and will also be part of the Construction Management Plan. Any deviation outside of the times stated will therefore not be allowed under the planning permission unless specific direction is obtained from Waterford County Council.

## Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022.

### Questions Answered

**Q. when will you have a proper town meeting, in ballymacarby for example?**

**A. live answered** the project design team has scheduled to facilitate the second in-person project information evening in the Silabh gCua Community Centre, Tooraneena on the 12/10/2022, between 4.00pm and 8.00pm. Please drop in anytime between 4pm and 8pm to discuss the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project and its associated design process with members of the project design team

**Q. not some in fo day in tooraneena which is planned for next week and again is not inclusive as people will come and go instead of all finding information and questions together**

**A. live answered** the project design team has scheduled to facilitate the second in-person project information evening in the Silabh gCua Community Centre, Tooraneena on the 12/10/2022, between 4.00pm and 8.00pm. Please drop in anytime between 4pm and 8pm to discuss the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project and its associated design process with members of the project design team. All material is posted to the project website for everyone to view in their own time once it has been distributed to the local community first.

**Q. Is the planning application going to be to WCCC or is the project too large and will have to be applied via An Bord Pleanála?**

**A. live answered** the current size of the project (Over 50 Mega Watts in output and/or containing elements of 110 Kilo Volt infrastructure) would deem it a Strategic Infrastructure Development Project (SID) so as a developer we have no choice but to apply to An Bord Pleanála and An Bord Pleanála will therefore be the planning authority to give consent. The Waterford City and County development plan and the Waterford County Councils judgement and opinion is a very large part of the final decision-making process for any SID application.

**Q. your happy because no one has seen the photomontage yet**

**A. live answered** A set of photomontages of how the project will look if built out were discussed and shared on the first project webinar in 2021. A recording of this webinar is available on the project website if you would like to revisit. As the turbine positions have changed our Landscape and Visual Consultant is currently updating the details to reflect Design Iteration 3. We will share this information for discussion once we received it via future newsletters and webinars. The best location to view all these illustrations will be on the project website however when the Online Community Information Room will be made live over the coming weeks.

## Proposed Coumnaagappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022.

### Questions Answered

**Q. again, info hours between 4 to 8 is not the same as a proper public meeting, never mind the fact you are again so late sending out the leaflets to inform people of this**

**A. live answered** We hold our in-person project information events in order to cater for anyone who works days or evenings or has children to collect from school or may not have alternative childcare or be responsible for putting younger children to bed. We have found that having a spread of time across the early evening and later evening works best for most people. Our events often run over the 8pm deadline also which we are happy to facilitate if someone arrives late.

We are on hand to discuss the project throughout this time and will be available to meet any interested public member or group whichever way suits best. As individuals, we have held project information evening in the past which have been centred around 30 minutes or 1-hour events and members of the public have commented that not enough time was allowed for members of the public to attend. This event was publicised in the Dunganvan observer over two weeks ahead of the event and also advertised on the project website and in the newsletter distributed to over 110 Eircode's in the local area over this time period also.

**Q. Why are you not answering the question about the obvious drop in property values??**

**A. live answered** See previous answer earlier in this document on the same topic.

**Q. Will you attend a public meeting if we arrange it in the coming weeks**

**A. live answered** We will always try to facilitate any kind of community engagement which suits the community best. As mentioned previously we will be facilitating a public community information evening on the 12/10/22 in Tooraneena community centre between 4pm and 8pm for anyone to attend and converse on the project.

**Q. website and online mentioned again cutting out people who are not tech savvy!!! at least acknowledge these people**

**A. live answered** Project team members also converse on any correspondence received via the project postal address which is, EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1, or on the project phone line 01 588 0178. Also, our Project Newsletters distributed to 110 Eircode's in the case of this project is designed to get project information direct to people in the vicinity of the Projects Study Area

## Proposed Coumnaagappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022.

### Questions Answered

**Q. still no mention of your earlier error regarding the extension plan for this project?**

**A. live answered** This project is proposed as a 10-wind turbine project with associated internal road network and turbine hardstanding areas, substation, Met mast and temporary compound. There are no extension plans as the Coumnaagappul project is not yet constructed so there is no project to extend. The planning submission we are currently compiling will detail all elements of the Coumnaagappul project. Any future plans or alterations would to the Coumnaagappul project will be subject to a separate planning application and Environmental Impact Assessment process.

**Q. the words to me were those words exactly**

**A. live answered** Unsure of the context of this question

**Q. further east towards the Comeragh mountains??**

**A. live answered** Empower do not believe there is currently scoped to propose any wind turbines further east into the Comeragh Mountains.

**Q. they are across the road from the planned turbines and will be using that substation so they will be connected, please explain to the people. Yet the positioning of your substation I am sure would facilitate its development?**

A Any future project or extension to a constructed project by EMPower, or any developer, will be required to complete an individual planning application and Environment Impact Assessment process. A separate grid connect consent will also be required from The Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU). The current Coumnaagappul projects planning permission, if consented, could not be relied on for any future developments.

**Q. Will vibration from the turbines affect people near the turbines**

**A. live answered** This proposed project is complying with the very latest "draft" guidelines in regards set back distances from houses. This is set at 740m. There will be a full chapter of the Environment Impact Assessment Report which will describe the assessment undertaken of the potential noise and vibration impacts associated with the proposed project. Noise and vibration impact assessments will be undertaken for both the operational, construction and decommissioning phases of the Proposed project to the nearest noise sensitive location. To inform this assessment, background noise levels have been measured at some of the nearest noise sensitive locations to the proposed turbine positions for this project.

Typical methodology adopted for the noise impact of wind turbines can be summarised as follows:

- Review of appropriate guidance to identify appropriate noise and vibration criteria for both the construction and operational phases.

## Proposed Coumnaagappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022.

### Questions Answered

- Characterise the receiving environment through baseline noise surveys at various noise sensitive locations surrounding the proposed development.
- Undertake predictive calculations to assess the potential impacts associated with the construction phase of the proposed development at various noise sensitive locations.
- Undertake predictive calculations to assess the potential impacts associated with the operational of the proposed development at various noise sensitive locations.
- Evaluate the potential noise and vibration impacts and effects. Specify mitigation measures to reduce, where necessary, the identified potential outward impacts relating to noise and vibration from the proposed development.
- and describe the significance of the residual noise and vibration effects associated with the proposed development.

All the above information and study will be available for the public to comment on and will be available from the project's website when complete.

**Q. Will ground water and our wells be impacted by the turbines?**

**A. Any project proposed that would impact on the groundwater or local wells would generally not be received well by a planning inspector and likely be refused in the planning process. A full hydrological study will be carried out as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment. This assessment will look at both surface and ground water. Water pathways will also be looked at in details to ensure any project we proposed will not impact on any downstream receptors.**

**Q. "Will the decommissioning fund be index linked? Costs are only going one way."**

**A. live answered**

**Q. can we get a list of interested parties, landowners etc and people within the zoned area, just so everyone knows what everyone gets and not be all the cloak and dagger that goes on at the moment including the guideline payments people have and will receive, payments made to landowners for use etc**

**A. live answered** It is not possible to share any individual landowners' agreements as part of this project. EMPower enter into a lease with landowners for the duration of the project. There is no set, national, figure for the amount a landowner is paid for having a wind turbine on his or her property.

The IFA have published figures in a document in September 2013 entitled Harnessing Ireland's Wind Resource for Renewable Energy Production. The document contains details of arrangements for landowners negotiated by the IFA with individual wind farm developers but there is no industry wide position.

## Proposed Coumnaagappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022.

### Questions Answered

Payments to landowners and other details will vary from project to project depending on the type of land, the space being used for the wind turbine and any changes that might be needed to get construction equipment on site. A rough estimate which the IFA, stated in their document mentioned above, is that landowners might receive between €10,000 and €30,000 per annum for each turbine but it must be stressed this is only an estimate and the figure would vary a great deal depending on each projects circumstances/land type and infrastructure being proposed on the land.

**Q. Is it known where access to area of windmills might be from present road infrastructure**

**A. live answered** Waterford port provides the most likely port of entry in order to deliver turbine components to this proposed project. From Waterford Port the most likely route would be along the N29 travelling northwest. Turbine components would then join the westbound N25 before turning right onto the N72 and continuing west to Ballymacmague. At this point transport vehicles would turn northwest onto the R672 before progressing to the project area via the L5119, Powers crossroads, Bryan's crossroads and north at Sweep Cross roads before entering the project area from the west.

**Q. why not a proper town meeting?**

**A. live answered** This question has been commented on earlier on in the document

**Q. Are vibration studies included for residents in the area?**

**A. This question has been answered earlier in this document**

**Q. what you are holding is not a public meeting**

**A. live answered** This question has been commented on earlier on in the document

**Q. Can you repeat answer to where access to site is from present road infrastructure, please**

**A. Waterford port provides the most likely port of entry in order to deliver turbine components to this proposed project. From Waterford Port the most likely route would be along the N29 travelling northwest. Turbine components would then join the westbound N25 before turning right onto the N72 and continuing west to Ballymacmague. At this point transport vehicles would turn northwest onto the R672 before progressing to the project area via the L5119, Powers crossroads, Bryan's crossroads and north at Sweep Cross roads before entering the project area from the west.**

## Proposed Coumragappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022.

### Questions Answered

**Q. This has already been pointed out by someone else, but the Q&A you are holding on the 12th is not a public town hall meeting.**

**A. live answered** This question has been commented on earlier on in the document

**Q. by east to the comeragh mountains I refer to the probable expansion due to interest of landowners to that area**

**A. live answered** EMPower are not currently scoping any further east of the location of the proposed Coumragappul project Study Area. As mentioned earlier we don't believe the Habitat or buildable area is sufficient for renewable energy consideration as you progress further east into the Comeraghs.

**Q. a view of the site from the seven sisters would be interesting to see as these are the highest points locally**

**A.** There will be approximately 30 individual photomontages prepared for the final design. These will represent the key viewpoints around the project Study area out to a 20km radius. These viewpoints are selected by an independent landscape and visual consultant and also in conjunction with WCCC regards scenic routes or scenic viewpoints in the area.

Areas such as the Knockmealdown summit, Glendalough, Ballymacarby, Nire Valley and Kildonee mountain summit will be included.

**Q. the second wind mast near your mast is nothing to do with your project. can you confirm? live answered**

**A.** Empower has one Meteorological Mast erected in Coumragappul. This is scheduled to be removed in 2022. There may well be other companies scoping for wind resources in the area, but this is separate to any met mast EMPower has erected.

**QA town hall meeting is the whole community there at the same time for a Q&A meeting with your team, not drop bys over a 4 hour period. I think that a meeting with everyone present at the onetime to hear all of the questions and answers at once would be preferable to a drop-in meeting as the format next week suggests. That may be the point that others are making as well**

**A. live answered** We hold our in-person project information events in order to cater for anyone who works days or evenings or has children to collect from school or may not have alternative childcare or be responsible for putting younger children to bed. The general feedback from our in-person events is that having a spread of times across the late afternoon and evening works best for most people. Our events often run over the 8pm deadline also which we are happy to facilitate if someone arrives late.

## Proposed Coumragappul Wind Farm Project Design Webinar 05-10-2022.

### Questions Answered

We are on hand to discuss the project throughout this time and will be available to meet any interested public member or group whichever way suits best. We are also happy to facilitate follow on meetings if that is desired by any individuals. As individuals we have held project information evening in the past which have been centred around 30 minutes or 1-hour events and members of the public have commented that not enough time was allowed for members of the public to attend.

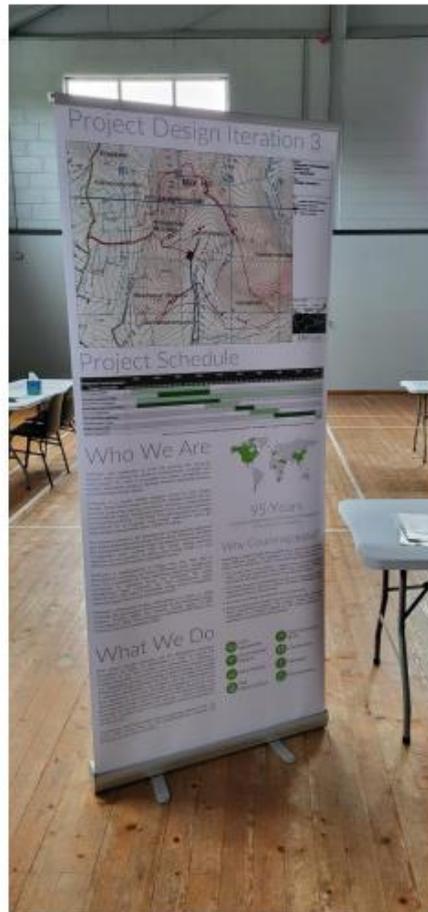
**Q. have you another met mast in Coumragappul?**

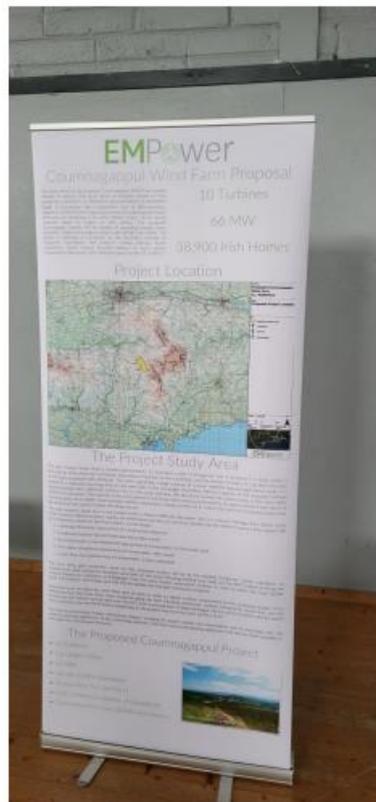
**A. live answered** No, there is only one Meteorological Met Mast erected by EMPower for the Coumragappul Project.

**Q. are you not going ahead of yourselves with a second met mast?**

**A. live answered** Empower has one Meteorological Mast erected in Coumragappul. This is scheduled to be removed in 2022. There will be a permanent Meteorological Mast applied for with the planning application, but this can only be erected if the project is granted consent.

# Appendix 4g – 12/10/2022 Open Evening Event Photos









# Appendix 5a – December 2022 Project Information Newsletter

## Proposed Coumragappul Wind Farm Project

Project Newsletter – December 2022



Looking south from the north side of the Coumragappul Project Study Area.

### Introduction

The proposed Coumragappul wind farm project is now at a stage where most of the environmental assessment survey data has been collated in order to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). The project's EIAR will accompany the planning application to the consenting authority. This Newsletter gives an overview of the proposed project at the Design Iteration 3 stage.

Our project's community engagement to date has highlighted different opinions and generated conversation which has helped to inform this project newsletter and the project's design. This process of engagement is designed to ensure that accurate project information is circulated and that local residents and interested stakeholders have an opportunity to address queries directly with the project design team as the project design develops.

All the previous community project newsletters, including design webinar recordings and questions posed, are available to view and download from the dedicated project website [www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie)

Please contact the project team by phone, post or email via any of the contact details on the back page of this newsletter. If you would prefer to schedule a house call in order to converse on any aspect of this proposed project, we will arrange for members of the design team to visit you at a time that suits you best.



Photomontage of the proposed Coumragappul project from the local road at Silliness. Viewing distance is approximately 9 kilometres.

### The Proposed Project

The Coumragappul wind farm project proposal comprises of the following at this Design Iteration 3 stage:

- > 10 individual wind turbines with a blade tip height of 185 meters, a hub height of 104 meters and a rotor diameter of 142 meters as well as all associated foundations and hard standing areas;
- > An on-site 110KV substation as well as all associated works connecting the proposed wind farm to the national electricity grid network at the existing 110KV substation near Kildangan, just north of Dungarvan;
- > All underground cabling required to connect the on-site substation to each wind turbine;
- > Upgrading of existing site access tracks and construction of new site access tracks and entrance as required;
- > Habitat and Biodiversity Enhancement measures;
- > On site borrow pits;
- > 1 onsite permanent met mast;
- > A temporary construction compound;
- > Component delivery route assessment from Waterford Port via the N29, N25, N72, R672 and L5119.

### Why This Project?

The suitability of the proposed Coumragappul project study area can be attributed in part to the following characteristics:

- > The proposed project's main area is not located within a Natura 2000 site (i.e. Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or a Special Protection Area (SPA) nor a Natural Heritage Area (NHA). These areas are present nearby;
- > Landscape and visual impact assessment indicates the proposed location is suitable for this project;
- > Ecological and Ornithological assessment indicate the proposed Study Area is suitable for this project;
- > The project has excellent annual average wind speeds and a significant setback from houses can be achieved;
- > There is suitable grid connection capacity and grid connection options in the wider area;
- > There is suitable turbine component delivery options via national and regional road networks in the wider area.

### Who Are EMPower?

EMPower is an Irish renewable energy developer with over 750 MW in development in Europe and Africa. Our senior management team comprises five Irish professionals with a combined 95 years' experience delivering projects from conception to operation across five continents. EMPower's headquarters is in Dublin. EMPower is owned by GGE Ireland Limited, Wind Power Invest A/S and EWP Holdings Limited. Our vision is to provide low carbon, ecologically non-invasive, affordable energy to facilitate Ireland's expanding economy and sustainable energy targets.



Photomontage of the proposed Coumragappul project from the N90 Valley Trails, Coumshingaole Loop at Knockaniffin South. The viewing distance is approximately 6.5 kilometres.

### Our Commitment

Our commitment is to engage meaningfully with our project stakeholders on decisions that concern them. We aim to do this in a timely manner, and we commit to building relationships and starting a conversation on what aspects of this proposed renewable energy project could work best for this local area. We feel that designing any proposed project in this manner makes better social and business sense.

95 Years

Combined Experience of EMPower Management Team in Renewable Energy

750 MW+

Wind Energy Capacity Currently Under Development by EMPower

5 Continents

Combined Geographical Experience of EMPower Team in Renewable Energy



Photomontage of the proposed Coumragappul project from a local road at Knockaniffin. Viewing distance is approximately 3.5 kilometres.



Photomontage of the proposed Coumragappul project from the R672 at Colligan. Viewing distance is approximately 11 kilometres.

### Project Design Process

Before we reach a final design proposal on any EMPower project, we choose to undertake several separate, individual design iterations. The design process for the proposed Coumragappul wind farm project started with a review of existing available baseline information. This enabled us to avoid or minimise potential impacts and included a design process that limits the angle of slope of the ground where development could conceivably occur. This also included a setback distance from watercourses and residences, as well as a setback distance from any nearby European designated environmentally sensitive habitat sites. Following some ground truthing exercises this initial design step produced a potential 'Buildable Area' as detailed in previous project newsletters.

Following establishment of the project's 'Buildable Area' an initial turbine layout is then progressed which considers the separation distance required between each turbine position as well as the results of more detailed ground and habitat investigation surveys. The resulting layout is called Design Iteration 1 as discussed in previous newsletters, at the project consultation evenings and on the dedicated project design webinars.

As further project studies evolve the location and alignment of the associated project's details, such as access roads and electrical infrastructure is developed to produce Design Iteration 2. On completion of all the projects associated site investigations and surveys, Design Iteration 3 is produced before a final design proposal is submitted to the consenting authority. The project detail discussed in this newsletter is Design Iteration 3 and final Study Area ground investigations are currently underway in order to reach a final project design layout.



Photomontage of the proposed Coumragappul project from just west of Sweeny Cross roads. Viewing distance is approximately 1.8 kilometres.

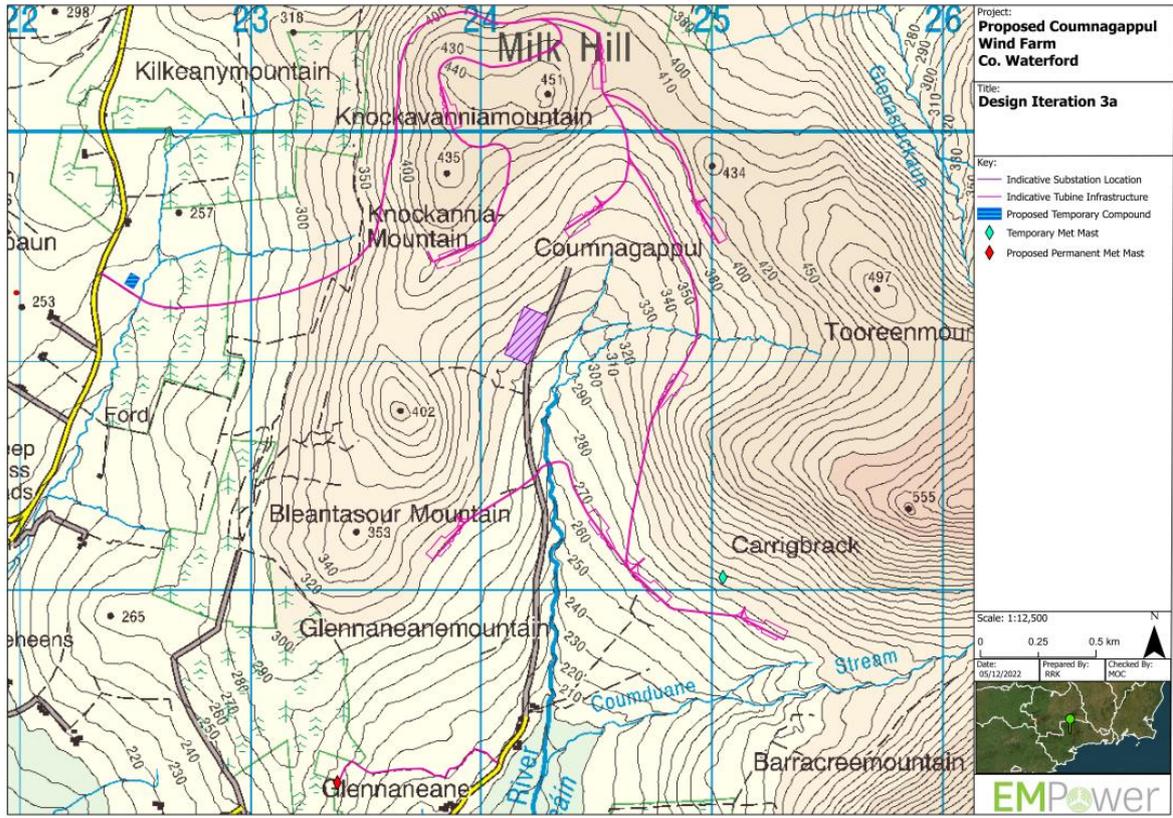
After each stage of the above-mentioned iterative design process the project proposal is reassessed by all our project specialists which leads to a robust final design. This evolving iterative design process establishes the most suitable location for the proposed project infrastructure and is informed by rigorous Study Area assessments carried out over an extended period such as:

- > Ecological and Aquatic Surveys
- > Ornithological Surveys
- > Geotechnical and Hydrological Ground Investigations
- > Shadow Flicker Modelling
- > Noise Modelling
- > Archaeological Surveys
- > Landscape and Visual Assessment



Also, in order to ensure that the Coumragappul projects Environmental Impact Assessment process is appropriately carried out, an information document detailing project particulars is prepared and circulated to a list of statutory and non-statutory consultees to ensure that the proposed project's Environmental Impact Assessment is addressing all relevant topics specific to the local area for the proposed Coumragappul project.

The list of consultees can be individual for each project. For the proposed Coumragappul project this consultee list includes The Aviation Authority, National Parks and Wildlife, Waterford City & County Council, Fáilte Ireland, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Geological Survey Ireland, The National Monuments Service, area telecommunication providers, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, plus many more. Responses and recommendations received from these bodies are implemented by the project design team in order to reach the most suitable final design proposal for the receiving environment.



## Proposed Project Schedule

Proposed Coumna Gappul	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Permitting	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Construction										
Operation										

## Community Benefit

At this stage of project progression, the proposed Coumna Gappul project contains 10 individual wind turbines and represents a combined electricity generating capacity of 68 Mega Watts. The proposed project would require an investment of c.€88 million euro and provide sustainable, low carbon energy generation infrastructure to meet Ireland's growing demand. The development benefits to the local community which could be realised include significant investment in local infrastructure and electrical systems, local job creation, and a contribution of approximately €21 million<sup>1</sup> in Waterford City & County Council rates over the project's lifetime. The Coumna Gappul project would also produce enough renewable electricity to power over 40,137 average Irish homes (GEAI 2018).

A community fund calculated in accordance with the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) Terms and Conditions, €2 per Mega Watt hour of electricity produced by the project, would also be put in place. This would be made available to the local community for the duration of the RESS (15 years). The average capacity factor of wind energy projects in Ireland is 28.3% (GEAI 2019). Assuming this efficiency and an estimated project capacity of 68 Mega Watts, a community benefit fund would amount to an average of €337,155 per annum. The actual fund will vary around this average from year to year, depending on each year's wind conditions. Wind measurements at the Study Area suggest that the proposed Coumna Gappul project could be capable of achieving an above average capacity factor, and therefore a larger community fund.

*"EMPower strongly believe that the local communities in which we propose our projects should benefit most from any associated project community fund and govern where the community fund should be allocated"*

The project's potential fund could be divided as per the illustration below. An annual minimum payment of €1,000 will be provided to each household within 1 kilometer of any proposed Coumna Gappul wind turbine. An annual minimum payment of €500 will be provided to each household located between 1 kilometer and 2 kilometers of any final turbine position, 40% of the fund, amounting to approximately €134,862 per year would be allocated to not-for-profit community enterprises, with an emphasis on low-carbon initiatives. The remainder of the fund would be directed towards local clubs, societies, admin and other initiatives. We welcome any suggestions from the community on how a community fund could best be allocated or ideas for suitable local projects that could be supported under this initiative.

Coumna Gappul Community Fund Allocation Example



- Combined Fund for Households <1 km distance
- Combined Fund for Households >1 km, <2 km distance
- Not-for-profit community enterprises
- Fund administration
- Local initiatives, clubs and societies

€ 88 million  
Investment in Irish infrastructure

€ 5 million<sup>1</sup>  
Total Community Fund Contribution

€ 21 million<sup>2</sup>  
Project Lifetime Approximate  
Contribution In County Council Rates

<sup>1</sup> - Example for 68 Turbine project with a capacity factor of 68 MW  
<sup>2</sup> - Estimated €8,000 per mega watt installed for 68 MW project (800kW)

## Contact Us

We welcome conversation, engagement and interaction with you on any aspect of how we propose to progress the Coumna Gappul Wind Farm project and particularly on how we communicate project information to you. If you would like to chat about this proposed project further please contact us via any of the below means:

Website : [www.coumna Gappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumna Gappulwindfarm.ie)  
Email : [coumna Gappul@emp.group](mailto:coumna Gappul@emp.group)  
Phone : 01 588 0178  
Write : EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1

## Community Consultation Exhibition:

To supplement the proposed project's design process, we have also compiled a dedicated Online Community Consultation Exhibition. This is available at [www.innovision.ie/coumna Gappul](http://www.innovision.ie/coumna Gappul) and includes added design detail on topics such as landscape and visuals, transport and delivery routes and layout maps with added functionality. There is also an interactive 360° photomontage viewer which shows the project as it would look if built out from numerous vantage points around the project's Study Area. This can also be accessed from the home page of the project website [www.coumna Gappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumna Gappulwindfarm.ie).

All project engagement events will be advertised in local newspapers, project newsletters and on the project website. Members of the project design team are available, at the contact details listed on this page, to converse on any aspect of the Coumna Gappul wind farm project design process which you would like to discuss further.



# Appendix 5b - 08/12/2022

## Project Information Letter

**EMPOWER**  
2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay  
North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3  
E: [info@emp.group](mailto:info@emp.group)  
T: +353 (0)1 588 0178



08/12/2022

**Re: Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm in the townlands of Coumnagappul, Carrigbrack, Knockavannia mountain, Barricreemountain Upper and Glennaneane mountain, Skeeahans, Lagg in Co. Waterford**

Dear Resident,

As communicated via previous project correspondence we, EMPower, are actively exploring the potential for a wind farm development opportunity in the Coumnagappul area of Co. Waterford. The Coumnagappul wind farms main Study Area is located approximately 16km northwest of Dungarvan. You will find more information on this proposed project and on EMPower at [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie).

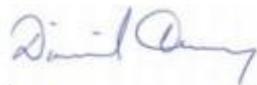
The proposed project is now at a stage where all the environmental assessment survey data has been gathered and collated and the final ground investigations are underway. This has informed updates to the proposed project's third design iteration as detailed in the enclosed project Newsletter.

We will distribute future project information as the final design proposal is produced, and we approach a project planning submission. We hope that our project updates set out relevant information on the project design process and follows up adequately on some of the conversations and queries we have had to date with interested stakeholders and community members.

To supplement the proposed project's design process, we have also compiled a dedicated Online Community Consultation Exhibition. This is available at [www.innovision.ie/coumnagappul](http://www.innovision.ie/coumnagappul) and includes added design detail on topics such as landscape and visuals, transport and delivery routes and layout maps with added functionality. There is also an interactive 360° photomontage viewer which shows the project as it would look if built out from numerous vantage points around the projects Study Area. This can also be accessed from the home page of the project website [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie).

We will continue to make every effort to ensure that we provide you with all the information you need to fully understand the details of this proposed project, and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any aspect of the proposed Coumnagappul project with you. Please make contact with the Project Team using any of the contact details below if there are any areas of the proposed project design you wish to discuss further or if you have suggestions on how we might distribute our project messaging to suit you best.

Yours Sincerely



**EMPower**  
Diarmuid Twomey,  
EMPower Managing Director

Email:	<a href="mailto:coumnagappul@emp.group">coumnagappul@emp.group</a>
Website:	<a href="http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie">www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie</a>
Exhibition:	<a href="http://www.innovision.ie/coumnagappul">www.innovision.ie/coumnagappul</a>
Phone:	01 588 0178
Write:	EMPower, 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1.

**EMPOWER** is a registered trading name of EMP Energy Limited, a private limited company registered in Ireland under company number 630312. **Directors:** Diarmuid Anthony Twomey, Iñigo Sabater Elizaguirre, Ingmar Wilhelm, Vimal Vallabh, Seán mac Cann. **Registered office:** 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin D01 V4A3.

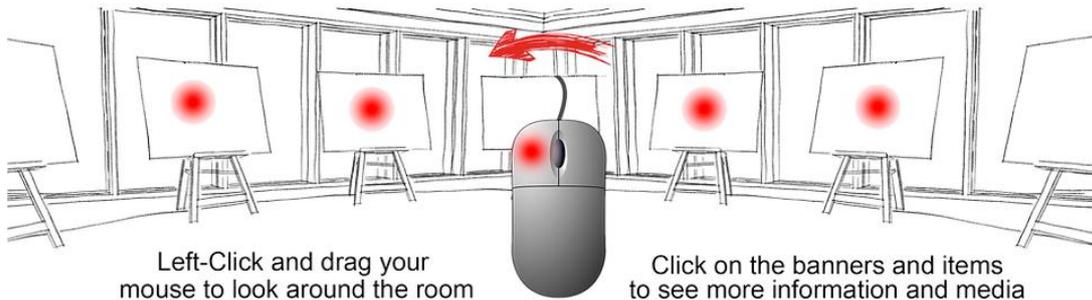
# Appendix 5c – Coumnagappul Project Online Exhibition



## Welcome to the proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm Virtual Public Exhibition

Read through the brief guide below and then click the "enter exhibition" button at the bottom of the page to proceed to the virtual exhibition.

For the best experience, please use a desktop / laptop computer running Google Chrome as your web browser. Please note, Internet Explorer is not supported and users may experience issues if trying to access the exhibition using this web browser.



Enter Exhibition





# Appendix 6a – April 2023

## Project Information Newsletter

### Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project

Project Newsletter No. 4 – April 2023



Looking south east from the northside of the Coumnagappul Project Study Area

#### Introduction

This is the fourth Newsletter distributed for the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project. The proposed project is now at a stage where most of the environmental assessment survey data has been collated in order to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA). The project's EIA will accompany the planning application to the consenting authority. This Newsletter gives an overview of the proposed project at Design Iteration Stage 3b.

Our community engagement approach has highlighted different opinions and generated conversation which has helped to inform this fourth project newsletter and the projects design. This process of engagement is designed to ensure that accurate project information is circulated and that local residents and interested stakeholders have an opportunity to address queries directly with the project design team as the project design develops.

To supplement the proposed project's design process, we have also compiled a dedicated online Community Consultation Exhibition. This online Community Consultation Exhibition is available to view at [www.emppower.ie/Coumnagappul](http://www.emppower.ie/Coumnagappul) and includes added design detail on topics such as landscape and visuals, transport and delivery routes and layout maps with added functionality. There is also a very useful Photomontage viewer available in this online Community Consultation Exhibition where you will be able to see images of the proposed project as it would look if built out.

If there are any areas of the proposed project, you wish to discuss further please contact the project team using the contact details on the back page of this Newsletter or from the contact form on the project website [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)

All the previous community project newsletters, including design webinar material and questions posed, are available to view and download from the dedicated project website [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)

The project team will host the third in-person Coumnagappul Project Design Consultation Event in the Ballymacarthy Community Centre, Ballymacarthy, in order to engage with stakeholders that have an interest in the proposed project. Please stop by the Ballymacarthy Community Centre, Ballymacarthy, on the 26/04/2023 anytime between 4.00pm and 8.00pm to discuss, and learn more about, the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project and its associated design process from members of the project's design team.

#### The Proposed Project

The Coumnagappul wind farm project proposal comprises of the following at this the Design Iteration 3b stage:

- 10 individual wind turbines with a blade tip height of 185 meters, a hub height of 104 meters and a rotor diameter of 162 meters as well as all associated foundations and hard standing areas;
- An onsite 110kV substation as well as all associated works connecting the proposed wind farm to the national electricity grid network at the existing 110kV substation near Kildangan, just north of Dunganvan;
- All underground cabling required to connect the on-site substation to each wind turbine;
- Upgrading of existing site access tracks and construction of new site access tracks and entrance as required;
- Habitat and Biodiversity Enhancement measures;
- On-site borrow pits;
- 1 on-site permanent net mast;
- A temporary construction compound;
- Component delivery route assessment from Waterford Port via the N29, N25, N72, R672 and L5119.

#### Project Consultation

The project team have hosted Coumnagappul project interactive design webinars as well as project information open evenings during our public consultation program to date. Our project webinars detailed different elements of the project's design at an important milestone of the design process. You can view recordings of these webinars as well as information discussed at our project open evenings on the project website [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)

All the previous project newsletters, communications and FAQs are available to view and download from the dedicated project's website. The project's online Community Consultation Exhibition is also accessible from the project website at [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)

#### Who Are EMPower

EMPower is an Irish renewable energy developer with over 800 MW in development in Europe and Africa. Our senior management team comprises five Irish professionals with a combined 95 years' experience delivering projects from conception to operation across five continents. EMPower's headquarters is in Dublin. EMPower is owned by GCE Ireland Limited, Wind Power Invest A/S and EMP Holdings Limited. Our vision is to provide low carbon, ecologically non-invasive, affordable energy to facilitate Ireland's expanding economy and sustainable energy targets.

95 Years

Combined Experience of EMPower Management Team in Renewable Energy

800 MW+

Wind Energy Capacity Currently Under Development by EMPower

5 Continents

Combined Geographical Experience of EMPower Team in Renewable Energy



#### Our Commitment

Our commitment is to engage meaningfully with our project stakeholders on decisions that concern them. We aim to do this in a timely manner, and we commit to building relationships and conversing on what aspects of this proposed Coumnagappul renewable energy project could work best for this local area. We feel that designing any proposed project in this manner makes better social and business sense.

#### How a Wind Turbine Works

Each wind turbine comprises a tower which is topped by an enclosure called a nacelle, an electrical generator, a hub and 3 rotor blades. A wind turbine converts kinetic energy (energy produced by the wind moving the blades straight from the wind) into electricity. The blades of each wind turbine are connected to the hub and the nacelle. The nacelle houses an electrical generator, power control equipment and mechanical equipment connected to the rotor blades. The wind moves the blades and causes the rotor to spin. When the wind is strong enough, the rotational energy in the rotor is converted to electrical energy within the generator. The voltage of the electricity produced by the wind turbine is then increased by a transformer and a substation to enable it to be fed into the electricity grid. (WEA)

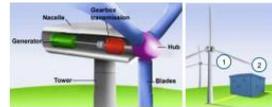


Figure 1: A wind turbine

Figure 2: How wind turbines transfer power to the electricity grid

#### Grid Connection

The proposed project's grid connection studies are nearing their final stages of design after several connection configurations and thorough liaison with bodies like Eirgrid, the roads authority and Waterford City and County Council. The preferred connection strategy if the proposed Coumnagappul project is consented, could conceivably connect to the Dunganvan 110kV substation. This route has emerged as the most feasible option and is approximately 1.8km of underground cable which runs south to Dunganvan substation just north of Dunganvan town near Kildangan. Consultation with ESB and Eirgrid will dictate the final grid connection methodology.

This potential route can be seen in greater detail on the grid map shown on page 8 of this newsletter. For additional location context this route is proposed to exit the project study area to the west onto the local road and then travel 1.1km south, turning west at Sweeps Cross Roads. Continuing on west from there for 800m to Bryons Cross roads and turning south onto the L5111 for approximately 2.2km to Forge Cross roads. From there the underground cables will turn east to Murphy's Cross roads and then south to Breeny's Cross, crossing over the R672 onto the local 1041 road for another 1km. At this point the proposed route turns south and heads back onto the R672 via Garryduff and the local 5068 road. Here the proposed route continues south again on the R672 for 4km before reaching the N72 at the Master McGrath monument. The cable will then run east for 1.3km before entering the Dunganvan substation at Kildangan.

#### Turbine Component Transport Delivery

The turbine component delivery route option for the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project can be seen on the drawing on page 9 of this newsletter. At this stage of assessment, the most likely port of entry for the turbine components is Waterford City Port (Bellislee). Transport vehicles would exit Waterford City port and travel along the N29 and then onto the N25 at the Luffery roundabout, travelling west. Transport will continue west onto the N72 and northbound on the R672, departing the R672 near Tourensmea and onto the L5119. Continuing north-east on the L5119, there are two options. To the proposed site entrance from the L5119 which are being assessed, as highlighted routes A and B on the map on page 9.

The delivery of turbine components will be carried out during off-peak times by a specialist heavy haulage transport company to minimise impacts on existing road networks. There will be the need for some temporary roadway enhancement and removal of street furniture if the project is granted a consent, but all this will be done in conjunction with Waterford City and County Council, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and An Garda Síochána during times of heavy goods movements.



Photomontage of the proposed Coumnagappul project from this local road at Ballymacarthy. Viewing distance is approx. 5km



Photomontage of the proposed Coumnagappul project from the R672 at Killooney, south of Clonmore Cross roads. Viewing distance is approx. 5 km



Photomontage of the proposed Coumnagappul project from the local road at Lyle West, east of Charawickuan Stream. Viewing distance is approx. 2.5 km



## The Planning Process

The project's Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA) will accompany the planning submission. All the planning documents and the EIA will be available for public comment during the planning review process prior to An Bord Pleanála making a judgement on the application. Cork based consultants Fehily Timoney and Co. are compiling the Coumragappul EIA with input from expert specialist consultants.

Every project's EIA is tailored to suit each project's particular aspects but the content of the Coumragappul EIA largely aligns with the following chapter structure:

- Chapter 1 Introduction;
- Chapter 2 Description of Proposed Development;
- Chapter 3 Site Selection and Alternatives;
- Chapter 4 Policy;
- Chapter 5 EIA Scoping, Consultation and Key Issues;
- Chapter 6 Air and Climate Change;
- Chapter 7 Noise and Vibration;
- Chapter 8 Biodiversity and Ornithology;
- Chapter 9 Land, Soils and Geology;
- Chapter 10 Hydrology and Water Quality;
- Chapter 11 Population & Human Health & Material Assets;
- Chapter 12 Shadow Flicker;
- Chapter 13 Traffic and Transportation;
- Chapter 14 Archaeology, Architectural and Cultural Heritage;
- Chapter 15 Landscape and Visual Impact;
- Chapter 16 Telecommunications and Aviation;
- Chapter 17 Interactions of the Foregoing.

During the project design and environmental assessment, consultation is carried out with Waterford City and County Council as well as numerous other statutory and non-statutory consultees, to discuss the project proposal during its design process. The planning application will be supported by the above-mentioned Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA) and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS).

Engagement with local residents and interested stakeholders will continue after the project is submitted to An Bord Pleanála. Our dedicated online Community Consultation Exhibition is currently available at [www.mission.ie/Coumragappul](http://www.mission.ie/Coumragappul) and our dedicated project website will also be continuously updated with relevant project information.

The project is nearing the point where it will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála for assessment. It is anticipated that the planning application will be submitted in Summer 2023.

The Coumragappul wind farm planning application will include the following:

- Cover Letter to An Bord Pleanála;
- Planning Application Form;
- Letter(s) of Consent;
- Site Notice;
- Newspaper Notices;
- Pre-Application Consultation;
- Planning drawings and drawing schedule;
- EIA Portal Confirmation Notice;
- Natura Impact Statement.

Notification of the intention to submit a planning application supported by an EIA will also be sent to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government's EIA portal and once the application is validated by the Department, this confirmation will also be included with the planning submission. All documents and drawings will be available for public viewing from the Coumragappul project website at [www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie) once they have been validated by An Bord Pleanála.

Details on how to make a public submission or observation on a strategic infrastructure development application (SID) under An Bord Pleanála may be found at <https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/strategic-infrastructure-development-guide/sid-applications>

## Contact Us

We welcome conversation, engagement and interaction with you on any aspect of how we propose to progress the Coumragappul Wind Farm project and particularly on how we communicate project information to you. If you would like to chat about this proposed project further please contact us via any of the below means.

To supplement this project's information process, we have compiled a dedicated online Community Consultation Exhibition. This is available to view at [www.mission.ie/Coumragappul](http://www.mission.ie/Coumragappul) and includes much more project design detail including an interactive visual representation of how the project would look if built out from numerous vantage points surrounding the proposed projects Study Area.

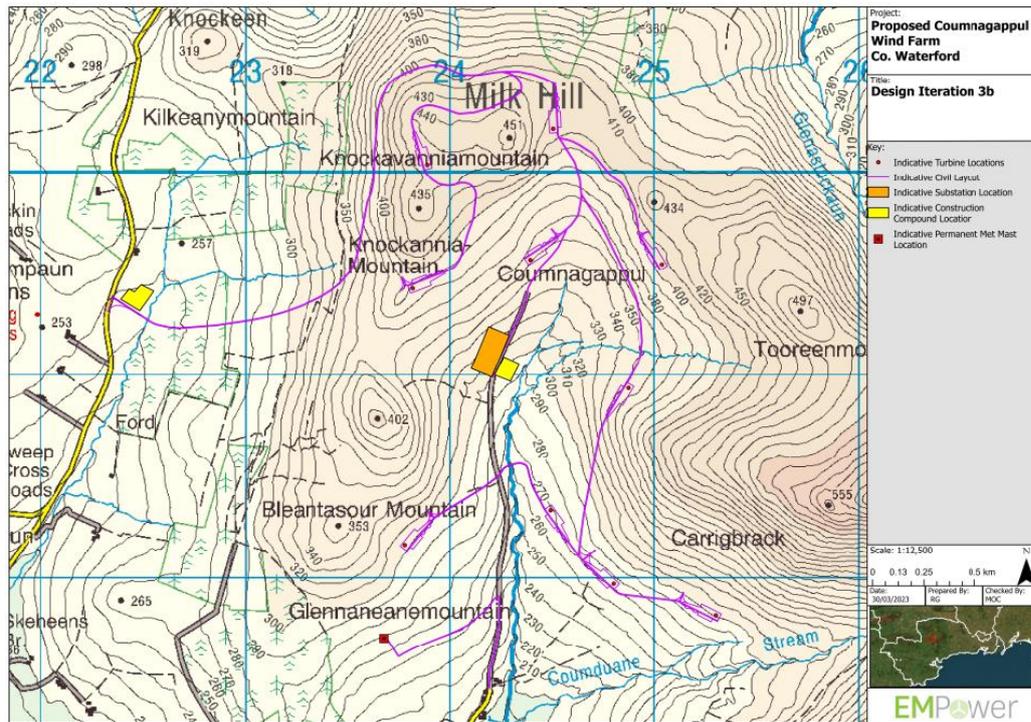
**Website:** [www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumragappulwindfarm.ie)  
**Email:** [coumragappul@emp-group.com](mailto:coumragappul@emp-group.com)  
**Phone:** 01 588 0178  
**Write:** EMPower, Portview House, Fifth Floor, Thorncastle St., Dublin 4, D04 V9Y9.

### Project Information Evening:

The project design team will facilitate the third in-person Coumragappul Project Information Evening in the **Ballymacarby Community Centre, Ballymacarby on the 26/04/2023** between **4.00pm and 8.00pm**. Please drop in anytime between 4pm and 8pm to discuss the proposed Coumragappul wind farm project and its associated design process and community benefit fund structure with members of the project design team.

This project information event will be advertised in local newspapers, project newsletters, local businesses and on the project website. Members of the project design team are available, at the contact details listed on this page, to talk through any aspect of the Coumragappul wind farm project design process which you would like to discuss further.





# Appendix 6b – April 2023 Project Information Letter

EMPOWER  
Portview House,  
Fifth Floor, Thomcastle St.,  
Dublin 4, D04 V9Y9  
E: info@emp.group  
T: +353 (0)1 588 0178



03/04/2023

**Re: Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm in the townlands of Coumnagappul, Carrigbrack, Knockavannia mountain, Barricreemountain Upper and Glennaneane mountain, Skeehans, Lagg in Co. Waterford**

Dear Resident,

As communicated via previous project correspondence, webinars and in-person project events, We, EMPower, are actively exploring the potential for a wind farm development opportunity in the Coumnagappul area of Co. Waterford.

The proposed Coumnagappul project's Study Area is located approximately 16km northwest of Dungarvan. You will find more information on this proposed project, and on EMPower, at [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie). Alternatively, please visit the projects dedicated online Community Consultation Exhibition available at [www.innovision.ie/Coumnagappul](http://www.innovision.ie/Coumnagappul) to interact with much more project design information including project layout maps, and visual representations of the design stages for the proposed project.

The project team are now at a stage where most of the environmental assessment survey data has been collated to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). This work has also informed the proposed project's Design Iteration 3b as detailed in the enclosed project Newsletter.

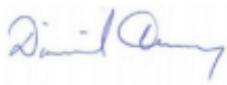
The project design team will facilitate the third in-person Coumnagappul Project Information Evening in the **Ballymacarbry Community Centre, Ballymacarbry** on the **26/04/2023** between **4.00pm and 8.00pm**. Please drop in anytime between 4pm and 8pm to discuss the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project and its associated design process and suggested community benefit fund structure with members of the project design team.

We commit to continuing to distribute relevant project information as the design proposal approaches a Q2 2023 project planning submission to the consenting authority. We hope that these project updates set out relevant information on the design process undertaken and follows up adequately on some of the conversations and queries we have had to date with interested stakeholders and community members.

We will continue to make every effort to ensure that we provide you with all the information you need to fully understand the details of this proposed project as it progresses, and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any aspect of the proposed Coumnagappul project with you. Please do contact the Project Team, using any of the contact details below, if there are any areas of the proposed project you wish to discuss further.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this correspondence.

Yours Sincerely



Diarmuid Twomey,  
EMPower Managing Director

<b>Website :</b>	<a href="http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie">www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie</a>
<b>Email :</b>	<a href="mailto:coumnagappul@emp.group">coumnagappul@emp.group</a>
<b>Phone :</b>	<b>01 588 0178</b>
<b>Write :</b>	<b>EMPower, Portview House, Fifth Floor, Thomcastle St., Dublin 4, D04 V9Y9</b>

EMPOWER is a registered trading name of EMP Energy Limited, a private limited company registered in Ireland under company number 630312. Directors: Diarmuid Anthony Twomey, Iñigo Sabater Ezaguirre, Ingmar Wilhelm, Vimal Vallabh, Seán mac Cann. Registered office: Portview House, Fifth Floor, Thomcastle St., Dublin 4, D04 V9Y9.

# Appendix 6c – April 2023

## Dungarvan Observer Notice

### CLASSIFIEDS

Telephone: (058) 41205 / 42042 | e-mail: adverts@dungarvanobserver.ie | Deadline for all adverts is 12.00 noon each Tuesday

#### SERVICES AVAILABLE

**MURRAY'S ROOFING DUNGARVAN** – Re-roofing specialists. Slate/Tile • flat roofs • guttering/downpipes • chimney work • chimney cowl • ridge tiles • lead flashing lead valleys • supply/fit roof velux windows • UPVC fascias/soffits • insurance work undertaken • all work holds a full written guarantee • all areas covered • For a free written quotation and emergency work call Paul on (058) 43992, mobile (086) 2109547. (ind.)

#### TREE FELLING

**HEALY TREE FELLING AND LANDSCAPING** – Fully insured and certified. Specialising in tree felling, tree pruning and reducing, chipping and removal, landscaping and garden construction including grass and hedge cutting, lawn laying, gravel gardens, paving, decking and fencing. Contact: Eamonn (085) 7764335. (21-1)

#### RE-UPHOLSTERY

**RE-UPHOLSTERY, CARPETS, CURTAINS, FURNITURE** – Free estimates in your own home. Collection and delivery. Sofas and Couches made to order. Curtains and Pelmets made to measure. Extensive range of fabrics to choose from. Colour co-ordinating service free in Showrooms. A visit to our Showrooms is a must. Open Monday to Saturday incl. All work guaranteed. Ned O'Connell, Seafield, Youghal. Tel. (024) 93106.

#### CARPENTER AVAILABLE

**PAT HALLAHAN CARPENTER**, Grange. Tel. (085) 7571289 – For all your Carpentry Work. 1st and 2nd Fix. Framing, Floors and Decks. Shuttering / All Concerte Decks / Form Work / Concrete Works. Replacing door and window locks. Old Houses / Dwelling Houses and Out-Houses Refurbished. Roofing / Tiling / Slating and Ridge Tiles. Contact: Pat (085) 7571289. (14-4)

#### KITCHEN REVAMP

**WHY SPEND €1,000s ON A NEW KITCHEN WHEN YOU CAN PAINT YOUR OLD KITCHEN OR ROBES** – New Doors, Worktops and Handles can be supplied. Solid or Melamine Doors can be painted. 30 years experience with a leading Irish kitchen company. For a free quotation and design, contact (087) 9082927. (14-4)

#### APPLIANCE REPAIR

**FOR A PROFESSIONAL, RELIABLE APPLIANCE REPAIR SERVICE IN CO. WATERFORD** – Repairs for all brands of Washing Machines, Tumble Dryers, Dishwashers, Ovens, Hobs and Fridges. Contact Steve 087-9833111 / [www.stevejayappliancerepair.ie](http://www.stevejayappliancerepair.ie) (15-8)

#### GARDENING

**HEDGES CUT – TREES TOPPED** – All overgrown gardens attended to and waste removed. Gutters cleared. Powerwashing. Fully insured – Free Estimate. Phone: Garry (087) 1235495. (28-7)

#### BRIDGE

**ABBEY BRIDGE CLUB (4/4/2023)** – 1st Joan Mansfield & Colette O'Mahony; 2nd Anne Fitzgerald & Sheila Veale; 3rd Angela Freyne & Rita Harnedy; 4th Marion Walshe & Bill Mulcahy; 5th Viola Mielczarek & Lorraine Vart.

**CUNNIGAR BRIDGE CLUB (5/4/2023)** – 1st Ella Whelan & Patricia Doyle; 2nd Peg Hennerby & Anne Veale; 3rd joint David Wright & Myra Walsh; 3rd joint Ann Moran & Una O'Dwyer.

**AFFANE BRIDGE CLUB (5/4/2023)** – 1st Cathy McGrath & Kathleen O'Mahoney; 2nd Maureen Morrissey & Andrew McGrath; 3rd Desirre Hallahan & Helen McGrath.

#### SAMARITANS

**WORRIED? DISTRESSED? SUICIDAL?** – Whatever you're going through, we're here to listen and help, 24 hours a day, every day. Call SAMARITANS in confidence. Freephone 116 123, or e-mail us [jo@samaritans.ie](mailto:jo@samaritans.ie) (ind.)

#### SELF EMPLOYED

**INCOME TAX / VAT PROBLEMS?** – Books in a mess? Need to get up-to-date? Experienced qualified Accountant available. Tel. Patrick on (087) 2026359. (16-8)

#### TO LET

**HOUSE TO RENT** – Fully furnished. Dungarvan town. Five Bed Terraced House. Sittingroom, kitchen, large utility room, full bathroom (shower and bath), shower room, two separate toilets, small back yard. Completely refurbished to high standard one year ago. B2 Energy Rating €1,650 per month. Available end of May. Please contact Box No. 8092. (21-4)

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TOGETHER WATERFORD'S STRONGER

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EMPower

Notice of Public Information Event

EMPower, a company with an address at Portview House, Fifth Floor, Thomcastle Street, Dublin 4, are exploring the potential to develop a windfarm project in the townlands of **Counmagappul, Carrigbrack, Knockawanna mountain, Barricreemountain Upper, Glennaneane mountain, Steehans and Lagg** in Co. Waterford.

As part of our project's continued community consultation, we are hosting an in-person Project Design Consultation Event in the **Ballymacarby Community Centre, Ballymacarby**, in order to engage with stakeholders that have an interest in the proposed project.

Please stop by the Ballymacarby Community Centre, Ballymacarby, on the **26/04/2023 anytime between 4.00p.m. and 8.00 p.m.** to discuss, and learn more about, the proposed Counmagappul wind farm project and its associated design process from members of the project's design team.

We look forward to your input and thoughts on the project's design process or on any aspect of the proposed wind farm and community benefit fund allocation. All up to date information is available on the **Counmagappul** website: [www.counmagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.counmagappulwindfarm.ie)

EMPower, Portview House, Fifth Floor, Thomcastle Street, Dublin 4, D04 V9Y9, Ireland

(21-4)

**John Phelan Skip Hire**

Call us on 051 645445 • 087 9677797

Skip Hire and Waste Collection Services in Dungarvan and surrounding areas

- Domestic & Commercial Skip Hire
- Wide Range of Skip Sizes from Mini to RoRo
- Mattress Collection
- Contaminated Soil Collection
- Sludge Collection

**NOVENA**

**THE MIRACULOUS PRAYER** – Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I've asked for many favours. This time I ask you this very special one (mention favour). Take it, Dear Heart of Jesus, and it. Then, in his merciful eyes, it will become your Father, not mine. Amen. (Say this prayer for 3 days, promise publication, and favour will be granted). Never known to fail. B. (26-4)

**PRAYER TO ST. JUDE** – O glorious St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracle, near Kinsman of Jesus Christ. Powerful intercessor for all who invoke you. Special Patron in time of need. To Thee do I come with my earnest request and beg of you to whom God has given such great favours to help me now in my urgent need... I will never forget the graces and favours you have obtained for me and I will do my utmost to spread devotion to you, Amen. St. Jude pray for us and for all who honour Thee and invoke Thine aid. (Feast day 28th October). B. (26-4)

**A PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (Never known to fail)** – O most beautiful Flower of Mount Carmel, Fruitful Vme, Splendour of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea help me and show me therein you are my mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in this necessity; there are none that can withstand your power. O show me herein you are my Mother. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee (3 times). Holy Mother I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Holy Spirit who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal, you who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances of my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from You in eternal glory. Thank You for Your mercy towards me and mine. The person must say this prayer three consecutive days. After three days the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favour is granted. B. (26-4)

**PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF KNOCK** – Our Lady of Knock, Queen of Ireland, you gave hope to your people in a time of distress and comforted them in sorrow. You have inspired countless pilgrims to pray with confidence to your divine Son, remembering his promise. "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find." Help me to remember that we are all pilgrims on the road to Heaven. Fill me with love and concern for my brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who live with me. Comfort me when I am sick, lonely or depressed. Teach me how to take part ever more reverently in the Holy Mass. Give me a greater love of Jesus, in the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for me now and at the end of my death. Amen. B. (26-4)

**SAY THREE HAIL MARYS TO ST. ANTHONY** B. (26-4)

## Appendix 6d – April 2023

### Poster for Project Design Information Event



## Project Design Information Event

EMPower, a company with an address at Portview House, Fifth Floor, Thomcastle Street, Dublin 4, D04 V9Y9, are exploring the potential to develop a windfarm project in the townlands of Coumnagappul, Carrigbrack, Knockavannia mountain, Barricreemountain Upper, Glennaneane mountain, Skeehans and Lagg in Co. Waterford.

As part of our project's continued community consultation, we are hosting an in-person Project Design Consultation Event in The Ballymacarbry Community Centre, Ballymacarbry, in order to engage with stakeholders that have an interest in the proposed project. Please stop by:

**The Ballymacarbry Community Centre, Ballymacarbry**

on the

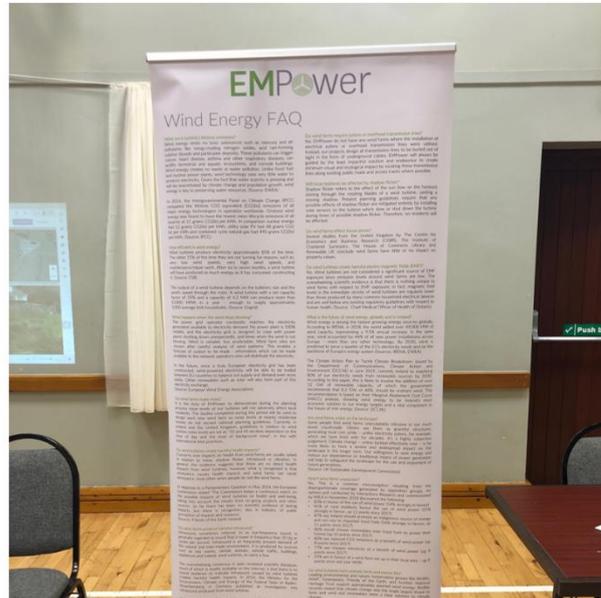
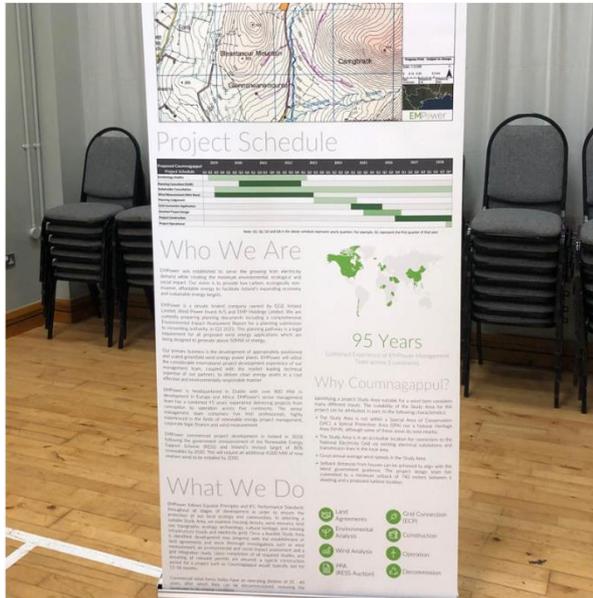
**26/04/2023**

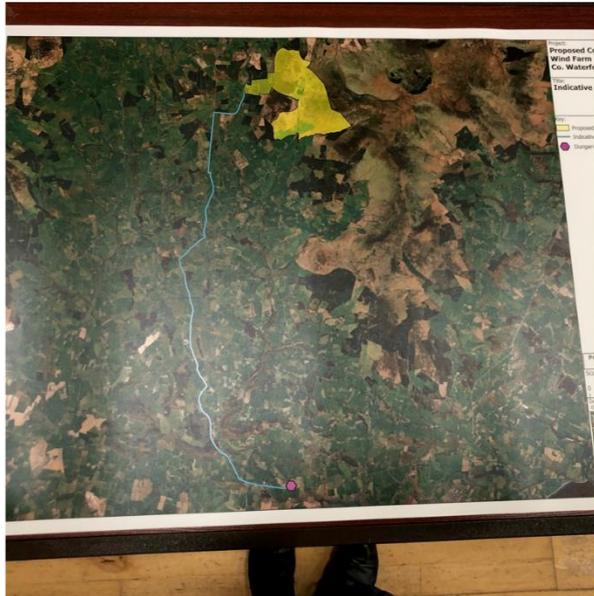
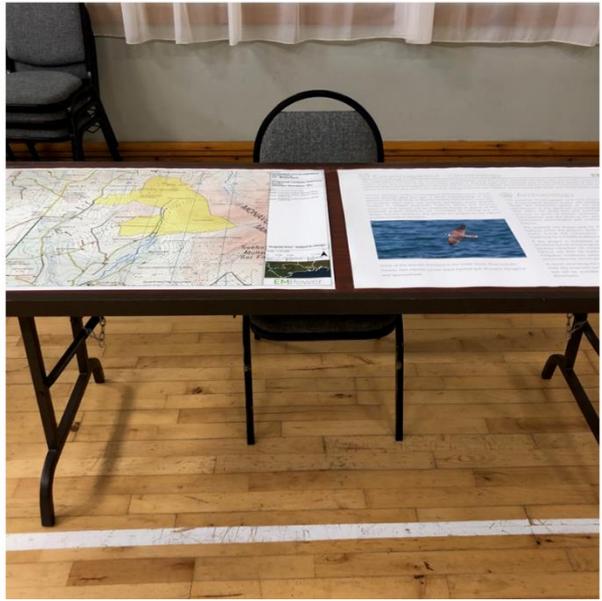
**anytime between 4.00p.m. and 8.00 p.m.**

to discuss, and learn more about, the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project and its associated design process with members of the project's design team. We welcome conversation, engagement and interaction with you on any aspect of the proposed wind farm and community benefit fund allocation. All up to date information is available on the Coumnagappul website: [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie)



In person Consultation Event Photos





# Appendix 7a – October 2023

## Project Information Newsletter

### Proposed Coumnagappul Wind Farm Project

Project Newsletter No. 5 – October 2023



Looking south from the northside of the Coumnagappul Project Study Area

#### Introduction

This is the fifth Newsletter distributed for the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project. The proposed project has now reached the point where the design team are ready to submit the project's planning application to An Bord Pleanála. The planning submission will include the project's Environmental Impact Assessment Report and, pending final reviews, will be submitted over the coming weeks. Site information notices will be erected around the project Study Area and all the planning documents and the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be accessible from the project website once they have been received by An Bord Pleanála. This Newsletter gives an overview of the proposed project's final design prior to the proposal being submitted to An Bord Pleanála.

To supplement the proposed project's design process, we have also compiled a dedicated online Community Consultation Exhibition. This online Community Consultation Exhibition is available to view at [www.innovation.ie/Coumnagappul](http://www.innovation.ie/Coumnagappul) and includes added design detail on topics such as landscape and visuals, transport and delivery routes and layout maps with added functionality. There is also a very useful Photomontage viewer available in this online Community Consultation Exhibition where you will be able to see images of the proposed project as it would look if built out.

If there are any areas of the proposed project you wish to discuss further, please contact the project team using the contact details on the back page of this Newsletter or from the contact form on the project website [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie).

All the previous community project newsletters, including design webinar material and questions posed, are available to view and download from the dedicated project website [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie).

#### The Proposed Project

A 10-year planning permission and 40-year operational life, from the date of commissioning of the entire wind farm, is being sought for the construction of 10 wind turbines, permanent met mast, on-site 110kV substation and all necessary ancillary works. The Coumnagappul wind farm project proposal comprises the following:

- 10 individual wind turbines with a blade tip height of 185 meters, a hub height of 104 meters and a rotor diameter of 162 meters as well as all associated foundations and hard standing areas;
- An on-site 110kV substation as well as all associated works connecting the proposed wind farm to the national electricity grid network at the existing 110kV substation near Killadangan, just north of Dungarvan;
- All underground cabling required to connect the on-site substation to each wind turbine;
- Upgrading of existing site access tracks and construction of new site access tracks and entrance as required;
- Habitat and Biodiversity Enhancement measures;
- On-site borrow pits;
- 1 on-site permanent met mast;
- A temporary construction compound;
- Component delivery route assessment from Waterford Port via the N29, N25, N72, R672 and L5119.

#### Project Consultation

The project team have hosted Coumnagappul project interactive design webinars as well as project information open evenings during our public consultation program to date. Our project webinars detailed different elements of the project's design at each important milestone of the design process. You can view recordings of these webinars as well as information discussed at our project open evenings on the project website [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie).

All the previous project newsletters, communications and FAQs are available to view and download from the dedicated project website. The project's online Community Consultation Exhibition is also accessible from the project website at [www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnagappulwindfarm.ie).

#### Who Are EMPower

EMPower is an Irish renewable energy developer with over 800 MW in development in Europe and Africa. Our senior management team comprises five Irish professionals with a combined 95 years' experience delivering projects from conception to operation across five continents. EMPower's headquarters is in Dublin. EMPower is owned by GGE Ireland Limited, Wind Power Invest A/S and EMP Holdings Limited.

Our vision is to provide low carbon, ecologically non-invasive, affordable energy to facilitate Ireland's expanding economy and sustainable energy targets.

95 Years

Combined Experience of EMPower Management Team in Renewable Energy

800 MW+

Wind Energy Capacity Currently Under Development by EMPower

5 Continents

Combined Geographical Experience of EMPower Team in Renewable Energy



#### Our Commitment

Our commitment is to engage meaningfully with our project stakeholders on decisions that concern them. We aim to do this in a timely manner, and we commit to building relationships and conversing on what aspects of this proposed Coumnagappul renewable energy project could work best for this local area. We feel that designing any proposed project in this manner makes better social and business sense.



#### Grid Connection

The proposed project's grid connection studies have completed their final stages of design. The connection strategy if the proposed Coumnagappul project is consented, would connect to the Dungarvan 110kV substation. This route has emerged as the most feasible option and will comprise of approximately 20km of underground cable which runs south to Dungarvan substation just north of Dungarvan town near Killadangan. The final grid connection methodology and the exact location of the underground grid connection within the proposed site boundary will be finalized prior to construction and in consultation with Waterford City and County Council, ESB and Eirgrid having regard to all the environmental protection measures outlined in the Environmental Impact assessment Report.

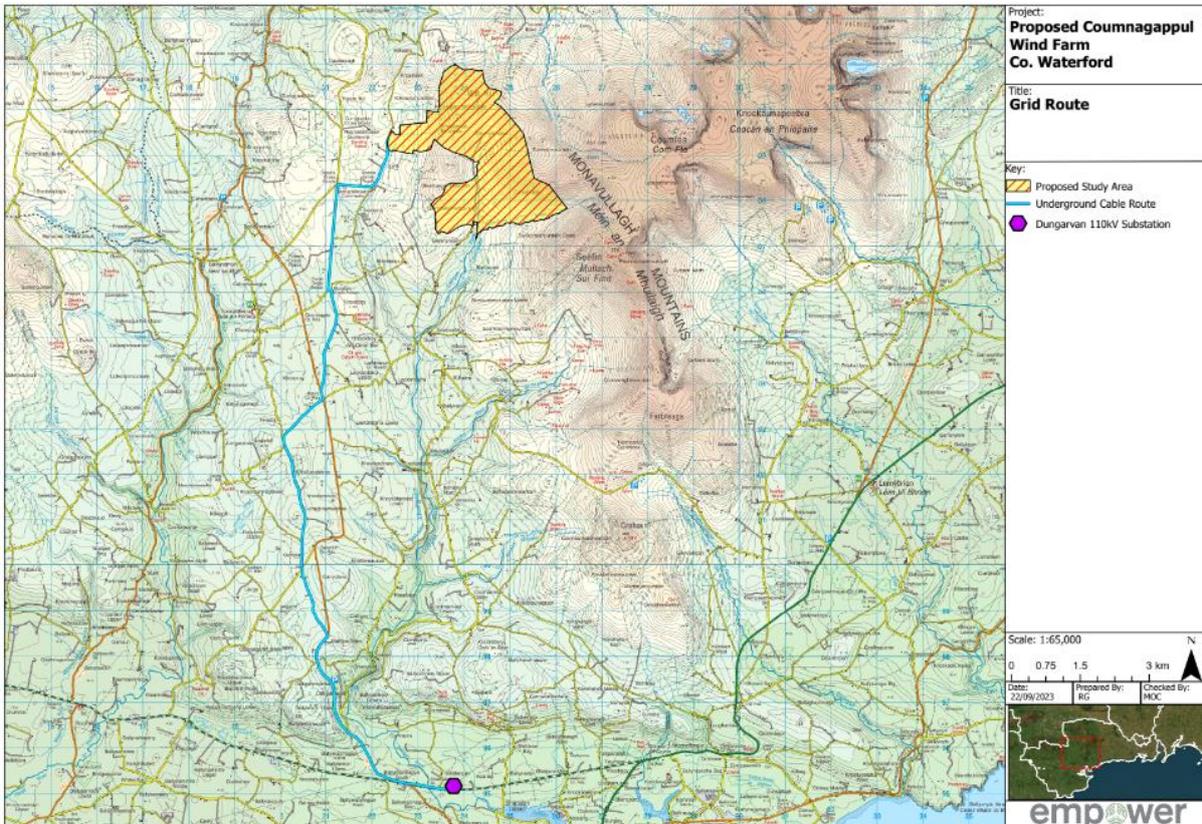
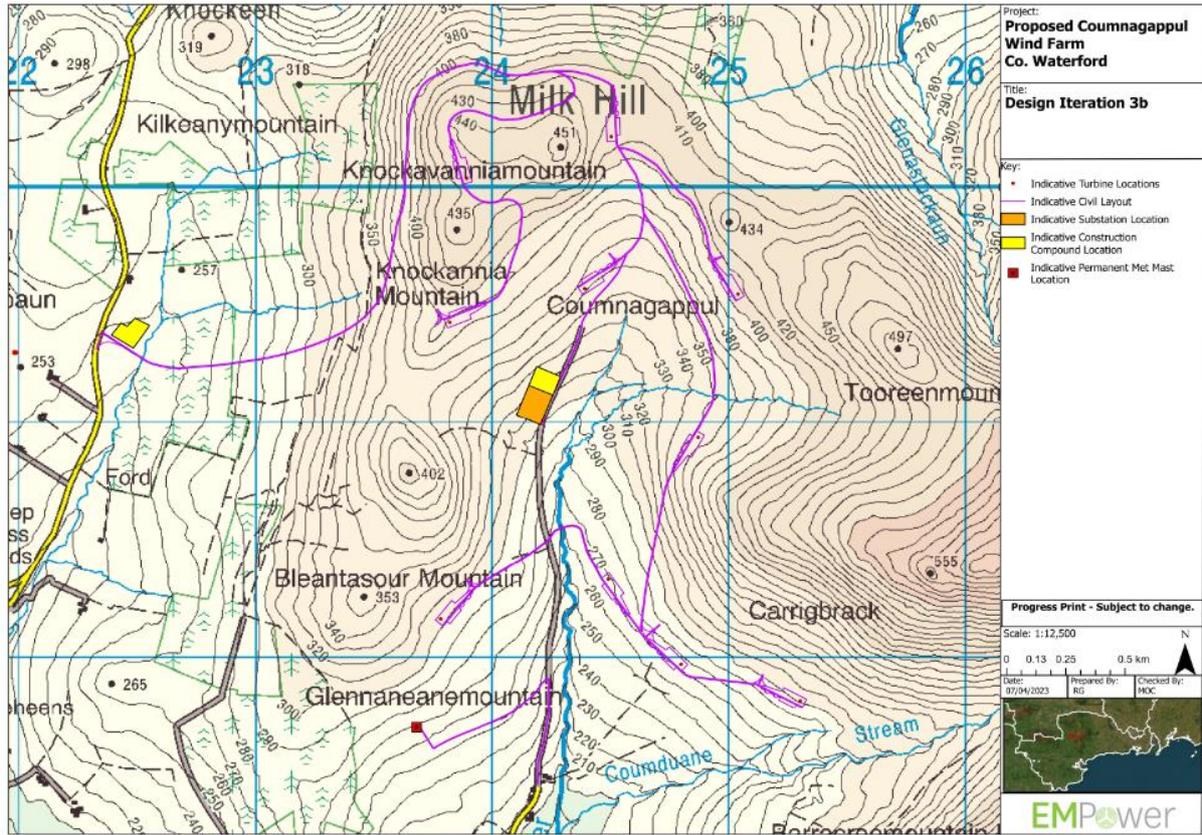
This potential route can be seen in greater detail on the grid map shown on page 5 of this newsletter. For additional location context this route is proposed to exit the project study area to the west onto the local road and then travel 1.1km south, turning west at Sweeps Cross Roads. Continuing west from there for 800m to Blyans Cross roads and turning south onto the L5111 for approximately 2.2km to Forge Cross Roads. From there the underground cable will turn east to Murphy's Cross Roads and then south to Beery's Cross, crossing over the R672 onto the local 1041 road for another 1km. At this point the proposed route turns south and heads back onto the R672 via Garryduff and the local 5068 road. Here the proposed route continues south again on the R672 for 4km before reaching the N72 at the Master McGrath monument. The cable will then run east for 1.3km before entering the Dungarvan substation at Killadangan.

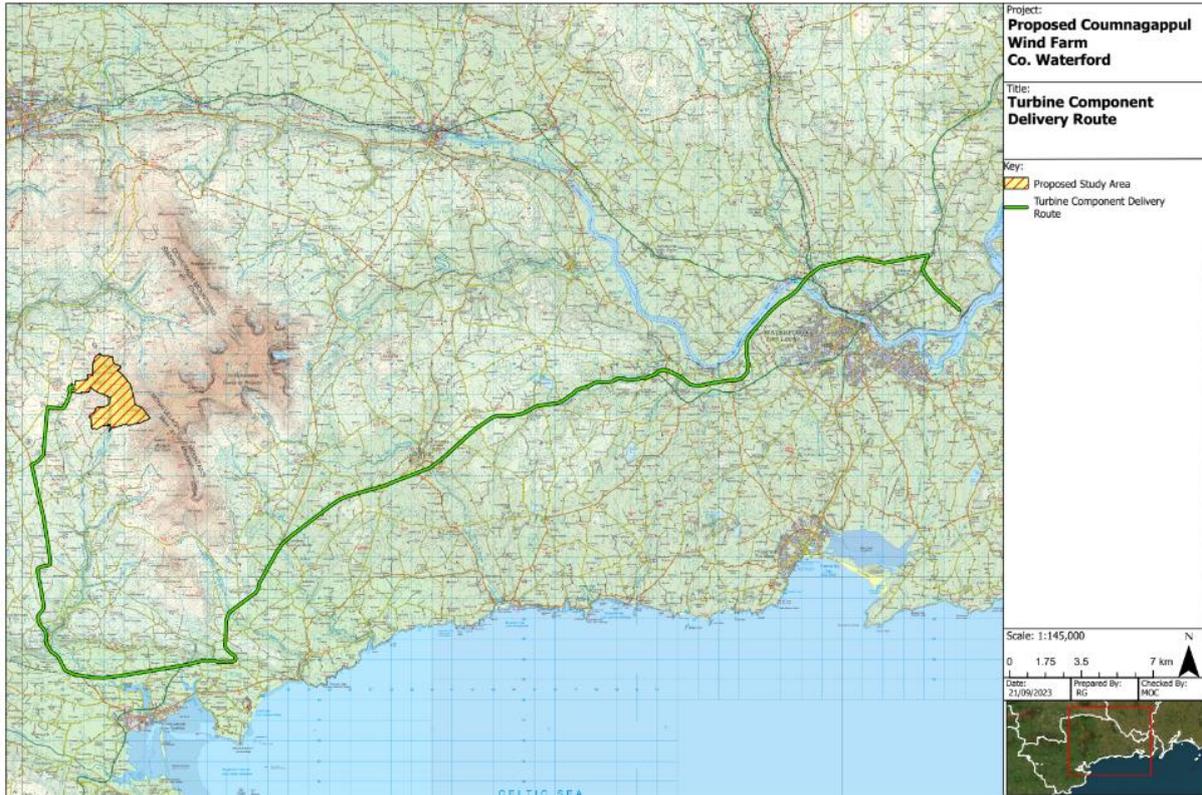


#### Turbine Component Transport Delivery

The turbine component delivery route most feasible for the proposed Coumnagappul wind farm project can be seen on the drawing on page 5 of this newsletter. The turbine components will enter through Waterford City Port (Bellview). Transport vehicles would exit Waterford City port and travel along the N29 and then onto the N25 at the Lufflany roundabout, travelling west. Transport will continue west onto the N72 and northbound on the R672, departing the R672 near Touaneena and onto the L5113. Continuing north-east on the L5113 before heading north at Forge Cross Roads towards Blyans Cross Roads, before entering the project area from the western side.

The delivery of turbine components will be carried out during off-peak times by a specialist heavy haulage transport company to minimise impacts on existing road networks. There will be the need for some temporary roadway enhancement and removal of street furniture if the project is granted a consent, but all this will be done in conjunction with Waterford City and County Council, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and An Garda Síochána during times of heavy goods movements.





## The Planning Process

The project's Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA) will accompany the planning submission. All the planning documents and the EIA will be available for public comment during the planning review process prior to An Bord Pleanála making a judgement on the application. Cork based consultants Fehily Timoney and Co. are compiling the Coumnaagappul EIA with input from expert specialist consultants.

Every project's EIA is tailored to suit each project's particular aspects but the content of the Coumnaagappul EIA largely aligns with the following chapter structure:

- Chapter 1 Introduction;
- Chapter 2 Description of Proposed Development;
- Chapter 3 Site Selection and Alternatives;
- Chapter 4 Policy;
- Chapter 5 EIA Scoping, Consultation and Key Issues;
- Chapter 6 Air and Climate Change;
- Chapter 7 Noise and Vibration;
- Chapter 8 Biodiversity and Ornithology;
- Chapter 9 Land, Soils and Geology;
- Chapter 10 Hydrology and Water Quality;
- Chapter 11 Population & Human Health & Material Assets;
- Chapter 12 Shadow Flicker;
- Chapter 13 Traffic and Transportation;
- Chapter 14 Archaeology, Architectural and Cultural Heritage;
- Chapter 15 Landscape and Visual Impact;
- Chapter 16 Telecommunications and Aviation;
- Chapter 17 Interactions of the Foregoing.

During the project design and environmental assessment, consultation is carried out with Waterford City and County Council as well as numerous other statutory and non-statutory consultees, to discuss the project proposal during its design process. The planning application will be supported by the above-mentioned Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA) and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS).

Engagement with local residents and interested stakeholders will continue after the project is submitted to An Bord Pleanála. Our dedicated online Community Consultation Exhibition is currently available at [www.innovation.ie/Coumnaagappul](http://www.innovation.ie/Coumnaagappul) and our dedicated project website will also be continuously updated with relevant project information.

The project is almost ready to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála for assessment. It is anticipated that the planning application will be submitted in early October 2023.

The Coumnaagappul wind farm planning application will include the following:

- Cover Letter to An Bord Pleanála;
- Planning Application Form;
- Letter(s) of Consent;
- Site Notice;
- Newspaper Notices;
- Pre-Application Consultation;
- Planning drawings and drawing schedule;
- EIA Portal Confirmation Notice;
- Natura Impact Statement.

Notification of the intention to submit a planning application supported by an EIA will also be sent to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government's EIA portal and once the application is validated by the Department this confirmation will also be included with the planning submission.

All documents and drawings will be available for public viewing from the Coumnaagappul project website at [www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie) once they have been validated by An Bord Pleanála.

Details on how to make a public submission or observation on a strategic infrastructure development application (SID) under An Bord Pleanála may be found at: <https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/strategic-infrastructure-development-guide/sid-applications>

## Proposed Project Schedule

Proposed Coumnaagappul Project Schedule	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040
Planning Studies	[Progress bar]																	
Planning Application	[Progress bar]																	
Planning Consultation	[Progress bar]																	
Planning Approval	[Progress bar]																	
Construction	[Progress bar]																	
Operation	[Progress bar]																	

NOTE: Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4 in the above schedule represent yearly quarters. For example, Q1 represents the first quarter of that year

## Community Benefit

If consented the proposed Coumnaagappul wind farm will require an investment of approximately €88 million<sup>1</sup> euro and will provide sustainable, low carbon energy generation infrastructure to meet Ireland's growing demand. The development benefits to the local community would include significant investment in local infrastructure and electrical systems, local job creation, and a contribution of approximately €21 million<sup>2</sup> in Waterford City & County Council rates over the proposed project's lifetime. The project could also generate enough green electricity to power over 40,137<sup>3</sup> average Irish homes.

If consented the Coumnaagappul wind farm will also provide a community fund calculated in accordance with the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) Terms and Conditions, €2 per Mega Watt hour of electricity produced by the project. This is to be made available to the local community for the duration of the RESS (15 years). The average capacity factor of wind energy projects in Ireland is 28.3% (SEA, 2019). Assuming this efficiency, and an estimated project capacity of 68 Mega Watts, a community benefit fund would amount to an average of €337,155 per annum. The actual fund will vary around this average from year to year, depending on each year's wind conditions. Wind measurements at the Study Area suggest that the proposed Coumnaagappul project could be capable of achieving an above average capacity factor, and therefore a larger community fund.

EMPower strongly believe that the communities in which we propose our projects should benefit most from any associated fund. We welcome any suggestions from the Coumnaagappul community on how this fund could best be allocated or ideas for suitable local projects that could be supported under this initiative.

This fund is proposed to be divided as per the illustration below. An annual minimum payment of €1,000 will be provided to each household within 1 kilometer of any proposed Coumnaagappul wind turbine. An annual minimum payment of €500 will be provided to each household located between 1 kilometer and 2 kilometers of any final turbine position, 40% of the fund, amounting to approximately €134,862 per year would be allocated to not-for-profit community enterprises, with an emphasis on low-carbon initiatives. The remainder of the fund would be directed towards local clubs, societies, admin and other initiatives. We welcome any suggestions from the community on how a community fund could best be allocated or ideas for suitable local projects that could be supported under this initiative.



€ 88 million<sup>1</sup>

Investment in Irish infrastructure

€ 5 million

Total Community Fund Contribution

€ 21 million<sup>2</sup>

Project Lifetime Approximate Contribution In County Council Rates

1 - Example for 10 turbine project with a capacity factor of 68 MW  
2 - Estimated €3,000 per mwh will be made for 68 year project lifespan  
3 - Commission for Regulation of Utilities - 4,200 kWh of electricity per average household

## Contact Us

We welcome conversation, engagement and interaction with you on any aspect of how we propose to progress the Coumnaagappul Wind Farm project and particularly on how we communicate project information to you. If you would like to chat about this proposed project further please contact us via any of the below means.

To supplement this project's information process, we have compiled a dedicated online Community Consultation Exhibition. This is available to view at [www.innovation.ie/Coumnaagappul](http://www.innovation.ie/Coumnaagappul) and contains much more project design detail including an interactive visual representation of how the project would look if built out from numerous vantage points surrounding the proposed projects Study Area.

- Website:** [www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie](http://www.coumnaagappulwindfarm.ie)
- Email:** [info@empower.ie](mailto:info@empower.ie)
- Phone:** 01 588 0178
- Write:** EMPower, Portview House, Fifth Floor, Thomcastle St., Dublin 4, D04 V9Y9.



# Appendix 7b – October 2023

## Project Information Letter

EMPOWER  
Portview House,  
Fifth Floor, ~~Thames St.~~  
Dublin 4, D04 V9Y9  
E: [info@empower-re.ie](mailto:info@empower-re.ie)  
T: +353 (0)1 588 0178



22/09/2023

Re: Proposed ~~Coumna~~ Coumna ~~gappul~~ Wind Farm in the townlands of ~~Coumna~~ Coumna ~~gappul~~, ~~Carrobrack~~, ~~Knockavilla~~ mountain, ~~Berris~~ ~~more~~ ~~mountain~~, ~~Upper~~ and ~~Gleonsane~~ ~~mountain~~, ~~Skasbana~~, ~~Lagg~~ in Co. Waterford

Dear Resident,

As communicated via previous project correspondence, webinars and in-person project events, We, ~~EMPower~~, are actively exploring the potential for a wind farm development opportunity in the ~~Coumna~~ ~~gappul~~ area of Co. Waterford.

The proposed ~~Coumna~~ project's Study Area is located approximately 16km northwest of Dunqarvan. You will find more information on this proposed project, and on ~~EMPower~~, at [www.coumna.gappul.windfarm.ie](http://www.coumna.gappul.windfarm.ie). Alternatively, please visit the projects dedicated online Community Consultation Exhibition available at [www.innovision.ie/Coumna.gappul](http://www.innovision.ie/Coumna.gappul) to interact with much more project design information including project layout maps, and visual representations of the design stages for the proposed project.

The proposed project is now at a stage where all the environmental assessment survey data has been collated and compiled into the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report. The collation of all this information has informed the final proposed project layout. The enclosed Newsletter sets out an overview of the final project proposal as it is being prepared to be submitted to the consenting authority.

We commit to continuing to distribute relevant project information as the design proposal approaches a Q4 2023 project planning submission to the consenting authority. We hope that these project updates set out relevant information on the design process undertaken and follows up adequately on some of the conversations and queries we have had to date with interested stakeholders and community members.

We will continue to make every effort to ensure that we provide you with all the information you need to fully understand the details of this proposed project as it progresses, and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any aspect of the proposed ~~Coumna~~ project with you.

Please do contact the Project Team, using any of the contact details below, if there are any areas of the proposed project you wish to discuss further.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this correspondence.

Yours Sincerely

Diarmuid Twomey,  
~~EMPower~~ Managing Director

<u>Website:</u>	<a href="http://www.coumna.gappul.windfarm.ie">www.coumna.gappul.windfarm.ie</a>
<u>Email:</u>	<a href="mailto:coumna.gappul@empower-re.ie">coumna.gappul@empower-re.ie</a>
<u>Phone:</u>	01 588 0178
<u>Write:</u>	<del>EMPower</del> , <del>Portview</del> House, Fifth Floor, <del>Thames</del> St., Dublin 4, D04 V9Y9

EMPOWER is a registered trading name of EMP Energy Limited, a private limited company registered in Ireland under company number 630312. Directors: Diarmuid Anthony Twomey, Ilijo Sabater ~~Coumna~~, Ingmar Wilhelm, Vimal Vallabh, Seán mac Cann. Registered offices: 2 Dublin Landings, North Wall Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1, D01 V4A3.



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