APPENDIX 2-1

PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT OF CONSISTENCY MATRIX

International Climate Policy

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The UNFCCC seeks to limit average global temperature increases and the resulting climate change. The framework set no binding limits on greenhouse gas emissions for individual countries and contains no enforcement mechanisms. Instead, the framework outlines how specific international treaties (called "protocols" or "Agreements") may be negotiated to set binding limits on greenhouse gases. Annex I Parties commit to *"adopt national policies and take corresponding measures on the mitigation of climate change, by limiting its anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases and protecting and enhancing its greenhouse gas sinks and reservoirs."*	The Proposed Development will contribute toward the commitments made by Ireland to reduce carbon emissions, through an increase in renewable energy supply.

Kyoto Protocol

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	New commitments for Annex I Parties to the Kyoto Protocol who agreed to take on commitments in a second commitment period from 1st January 2013 to 31st December 2020;	The Proposed Development will contribute toward the commitments made by Ireland to reduce carbon emissions, through an increase in renewable energy supply.
N/A	N/A	A revised list of greenhouse gases (GHG) to be reported on by Parties in the second commitment period	

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	Amendments to several articles of the Kyoto Protocol which specifically referenced issues pertaining to the first commitment period and which needed to be updated for the second commitment period.	

COP21 Paris Agreement

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	*Humanity has emitted 2,560 billion equivalent tons of CO_2 since 1750, and we only have a budget of 500 more if we want to limit warming to 1.5°C.* *By following a trajectory of very low GHG emissions (SSP1-1.9), the threshold of 1.5°C will be reached in the short term, between 2021 and 2040, before being very slightly exceeded (1.6°C anticipated over the period 2041-2060) then respected in the long term (1.4°C anticipated over the period 2081-2100).* *Everything is not lost, but we must pursue the Paris Agreement's most ambitious goal of limiting warming to 1.5°C."*	The Proposed Development will contribute toward the commitments made by Ireland to reduce carbon emissions, through an increase in renewable energy supply.

COP27 Egypt

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	In Glasgow last year, the final agreement was delayed due to the stance if China and India, among others, who were not comfortable the 'phase out' of coal wording in the draft text. This led to the watering down of this commitment to a 'phase down' of coal use. The hope was that COP27 would work to include	The increase in renewable energy supply as a result of the Proposed Development will contribute toward the phasing out of fossil fuels.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		further language on coal and fossil fuel reduction efforts. However, the wider commitment to phase out all fossil fuels, led by India, and backed by the US and the EU, was taken out and can be marked as the biggest disappointment of COP27.	
N/A	N/A	**1.5°C Pathway:** The 1.5°C warming limit has been retained and reassurances have been made that there is no room for backsliding. It gives the key political signals that the phase down of all fossil fuels is happening. There has been the setting of a workplan for 2023 to help articulate the nature and components of a global collective goal on adaptation and resilience and how it can be formatted in a way to take into account the Global Stocktake.	
N/A	N/A	**Climate Finance & Loss and Damage:** There has been the launch of an initiative by the V20 and G7 known as the Global Shield Against Climate Risk (GSACR). The intention of this initiative has been framed almost as an insurance policy backed by the World Bank to prepare and protect those most vulnerable to climate change disasters. The initiative seeks to reform the current climate finance model currently operating in the form of loans, typically with high interest rates and repayment requirements. The beginnings of a framework to compensate for the unequal distribution of harm that has been caused by climate change and the unequal contributions of emissions has also been put in place.	

European Green Deal – European Climate Law (2021)

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	A bloc-wide goal of net zero carbon emissions by 2050 and a 55% cut in emissions by 2030 (compared with 1990 levels).	The Proposed Development will contribute toward net zero carbon emissions through increasing the supply of energy from renewable sources.

National Climate Policy

Programme for Government (2020)

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	reducing greenhouse gas emissions by an average 7% per annum over the next decade in a push to achieve a net zero emissions by the year 2050	The Proposed Development will contribute toward the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions through the generation of renewable wind energy up to a capacity of 72.6MW.
N/A	N/A	the necessary action to deliver at least 70% renewable electricity by 2030." While it is noted this has been updated by the 2021 Climate Action Plan	The proposed repowering development will significantly increase the power generating capacity up to a capacity of 72.6MW.

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act (2021)

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	51% reduction in emissions by the end of this decade	The Proposed Development will contribute toward the reduction in emissions through the provision of renewable energy onto the grid.

Carbon Budgets

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The first national carbon budget programme proposed by the Climate Change Advisory Council, approved by Government and adopted by both	The Proposed Development will contribute toward the reduction in emissions through the provision of renewable energy onto the grid.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		Houses of the Oireachtas in April 2022 comprises three successive 5-year carbon budgets[1]. The total emissions allowed under each budget are shown in **Table 2-1** of the EIAR.	

Report of the Joint Committee on Climate Action - Climate Change: A Cross-Party Consensus for Action (2019)

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The report states that the transformation of Ireland's energy system will be required for the country to meet its future 2030 and 2050 GHG emission targets; specifically, in order to reach net zero emissions by 2050, Ireland will be required to fully decarbonise electricity generation. Therefore, there is a clear incentive for developing, and safeguarding, Ireland's capacity in renewable energies and renewable electricity. Since this report was published, the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 has been enacted and there have been recent progress / future scenario assessments (e.g. EirGrid's 'All Island Generation Capacity Statement 2021 – 2030' (October 2022)).	The Proposed Development will contribute toward the reduction in emissions through the provision of renewable energy onto the grid. Transitioning towards the goal of net zero emissions by 2050.

[1] Climate Change Advisory Council Carbon Budget Technical Report (October 2021) https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/9af1b-carbon-budgets/

Climate Action Plan 2023

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	*the **full implementation** of measures from Climate Action Plans 2023, and further future Climate Action Plans."*	The 80% renewable electricity target will only be achievable if the electricity grid continues to be upgraded to allow traditional fossil fuel generating stations to be decommissioned. The CAP 23 includes measures which directly support the provision of grid system services and upgrades. This Proposed Development will provide a new wind farm which will be more energy efficient, with less turbines, providing an overall increase in the availability of renewable energy on an existing wind energy site and will ultimately align with the policies and guidance set out in the Climate Action Plan 2023.
N/A	N/A	*"The proposed pathway includes a massive and rapid build-out of renewable generation capacity (wind and solar power generation technologies) and will also rely on the continued build-out and strengthening of grid infrastructure, the deployment of zero-emissions gas and improved electricity demand management. The decarbonisation of the electricity sector will be an immense challenge as we face a growing demand for electricity and a need to ensure security of supply, while providing support for the decarbonisation of other sectors through the electrification of transport and heat."*	
N/A	N/A	*Accelerate and increase the deployment of renewable energy to replace fossil fuels;*	
N/A	N/A	*Deliver a flexible system to support renewables and demand;*	
N/A	N/A	*Manage electricity demand.*	

Climate Action Plan 2024

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	*"Accelerate the delivery of utility-scale onshore wind, offshore wind, and solar projects through a competitive framework;*	The 9 GW of onshore wind target by 2025 will only be achievable if the electricity grid continues to be upgraded to

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		• *Target 6 GW of onshore wind and up to 5 GW of solar by 2025;* • *Target 9 GW of onshore wind, 8 GW of solar, and at least 5 GW of offshore wind by 2030;* • *All new or repowered renewable electricity generation projects shall implement a Community Benefit Fund equivalent to the RESS requirements of €2/MWh;* • *Most fundamentally, significant investment is needed in the transmission and distribution systems to maximise the usage of renewable electricity and to reduce constraints and congestion on the system...* • *Deliver a streamlined electricity generation grid connection policy and process, and remove barriers, where possible, for the installation of renewables and flexible technologies reducing the need to build new grid, including hybrid (wind/solar/storage) connections;* • *Provide for greater alignment between local plans and renewable energy targets at national (and regional) levels, taking into account regional targets once established and the revised National Planning Framework;* • *In line with transposing the revised Renewable Energy Directive, which entered into force in November 2023, ensure that the permit-granting procedure, the planning, construction and operation of renewable energy plants, the connection of such plants to the grid, the related grid itself, and storage assets are presumed as being in the overriding public interest;"*	allow traditional fossil fuel generating stations to be decommissioned. The CAP 24 includes measures which directly support the provision of grid system services and upgrades. This Proposed Development will provide a new wind farm which will be more energy efficient, with less turbines, providing an overall increase in the availability of renewable energy on an existing wind energy site and will ultimately align with the policies and guidance set out in the Climate Action Plan 2024.

Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projections (2021 – 2040), June 2022

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publish Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Emission Projections and at the time of writing, the most recent report, '*Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projections 2021–2040'* was published in June 2023. The report includes an assessment of Ireland's progress towards achieving its emission reduction targets out to 2030 set under the EU ESD and Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR).	As decarbonising electricity generation will have a significant positive contribution in achieving Ireland's emissions it is clear that additional renewable energy production such as that of the Proposed Development must be encouraged and supported if carbon saving targets are to be met.

International Renewable Policy and Texts

The 2030 Climate and Energy Framework

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The proposal implements EU commitments under the Paris Agreement on climate change (COP21), discussed above in Section 2.1.1.1, and marks an important milestone in the allocation to Member States of a package of climate targets formally adopted as part of the 2030 Climate and Energy Framework. The revised Renewable Energy Directive (EU) 2018/2001 came into force in December 2018. It establishes a binding EU target of at least 42.5% for 2030 with a review for increasing this figure in 2023. The revised Directive sets a 2030 target of 45.5% energy from renewable sources with a potential upward revision in 2023 under.	The Proposed Development will contribute toward the reduction in emissions through the provision of renewable energy onto the grid.

REPowerEU Plan

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	Reducing faster the use of fossil fuels by boosting energy efficiency, increasing renewables and addressing infrastructure bottlenecks.	It is hoped that the Proposed Development will be considered under the REPowerEU Plan, in order to address the need for alternative energy sources to fossil fuels.
N/A	N/A	*Speeding up renewables permitting to minimise the time for roll-out of renewable projects and grid infrastructure improvements'.*	

Energy Roadmap 2050

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	"*demanding emissions reductions targets required under our climate targets, wind and solar resources will need to be harnessed to a greater and faster extent than previously considered*"	The Proposed Development will contribute toward the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions through the generation of renewable wind energy up to a capacity of 72.6MW.

National Renewable Energy

White Paper on 'Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future' 2015 – 2030

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	"*a secure, sustainable and competitive energy sector is central to Ireland's ability to attract and retain Foreign Direct Investment and sustain Irish enterprise. The three key pillars of energy policy are to focus on security, sustainability and competitiveness*".	The Proposed Development will provide an increase in the renewable power supply in Ireland, providing an increase in the supply for sustainable forms of energy.

National Energy Security Framework

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The Framework calls for "*Supportive policies across Government and State agencies"* which *"can reduce barriers and fast track permitting for renewable energy generation projects.*	The Proposed Development is in accordance with the supportive policies for Repowering Areas and wind development as set out in the national, regional and local planning policy relevant to the proposed site.
N/A	N/A	*Similarly, renewable energy developers need to match this through taking a leadership role in delivering high quality applications to relevant consenting authorities, meeting project milestones on time and minimising delays."*	Orsted are one of the global leaders in renewable generation, with this current proposal they will continue to increase the generation of renewable energy showing a leadership in achieving renewable energy targets.

National Policy Context

National Planning Framework: Project Ireland 2040

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
Chapter 1: The Vision	Section 1.2	*"Tackle Ireland's higher than average carbon-intensity per capita and enable a national transition to a competitive low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050, through harnessing our country's prodigious renewable energy potential."*	As indicated within Section 3.1 of the planning report the proposed 11 no. wind turbines will have a combined generating capacity of 72.6MW and will contribute to the need to become climate resilient and environmentally sustainable by 2050.
Chapter 1: The Vision	National Strategic Outcome 8	*Transition to Sustainable Energy*	The proposed repowering will contribute toward the transition to sustainable energy through the provision of an increase in renewable energy generation.
Chapter 9: Realising Our Sustainable Future	Objective 55	*'promote renewable energy use and generation at appropriate locations within the built and natural environment to meet national objectives towards achieving a low carbon economy by 2050'.*	The increase in renewable energy capacity as a result of this repowering will contribute towards achieving a low carbon economy by 2050.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
Chapter 9: Realising Our Sustainable Future	Section 9.1	*"The manner in which we plan is important for the sustainability of our environment. Our planning system has influence across a wide range of sectors, both directly and indirectly and interacts with many common issues related to effective environmental management, including water services, landscape, flood risk planning, protection of designated sites and species, coastal and marine management, climate mitigation and adaptation, and land use change."*	The proposed repowering development will take place on an existing Wind Farm and reduce the number of wind turbines, reducing the overall footprint of the wind farm area.
Chapter 5: Planning for Diverse Rural Places	Section 5.4	*"In meeting the challenge of transitioning to a low carbon economy, the location of future national renewable energy generation will, for the most part, need to be accommodated on large tracts of land that are located in a rural setting, while also continuing to protect the integrity of the environment".*	The proposed repowering development will increase the energy generating capacity on this existing wind farm, facilitating the transition towards a low carbon economy in a sustainable manner.
Chapter 1: The Vision	Section 1.3	*"connect the richest sources of that energy to the major sources of demand".*	The grid connection route for the Proposed Development is within the administrative boundary of Cork, in accordance with the provisions of this policy. This route is existing and is not proposed to be upgraded as part of this application.

National Development Plan 2021 – 2030

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
Chapter 13: Transition to a Climate-Neutral and Climate-		*"The next 10 years are critical if we are to address the climate crisis and ensure a safe and bright future for the planet, and all of us on it. The investment priorities included in this chapter [Ch. 13] must be delivered to meet the targets set*	The proposed repowering development will provide a significant increase in power generating capacity up to a maximum of 72.6MW through a more efficient use of turbines and infrastructure.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
Resilient Society		*out in the current and future Climate Action Plans, and to achieve our climate objectives. The investment priorities represent a decisive shift towards the achievement of a decarbonised society, demonstrating the Government's unequivocal commitment to securing a carbon neutral future."*	
Chapter 3: Climate Action and the Environment	Section 3.7	*increasing the share of renewable electricity up to 80% by 2030*	The proposed repowering development will provide a significant increase in renewable power generating capacity up to a maximum of 72.6MW.
Chapter 3: Climate Action and the Environment	Section 3.7	*unprecedented commitment to the decarbonisation of electricity supplies'*	The proposed renewable energy development will increase the supply of renewable energy, reducing the reliance on carbon intensive energy generation.

Regional Policy Context

Southern Region Economic and Spatial Strategy

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
Chapter 5		*"The RSES recognises and supports the many opportunities for wind as a major source of renewable energy. Opportunities for both commercial and community wind energy projects should be harnessed, having regard to the requirements of DoHPLG Guidelines on Wind Energy. Wind Energy technology has an important*	The Proposed Development will contribute toward harnessing wind energy in the region. As indicated within Chapter 2 of the EIAR the proposal will be in accordance with the requirements of DoHPLG Guidelines on Wind Energy.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		role in delivering value and clean electricity for Ireland".	
Chapter 5: Environment	RPO 96	*"It is an objective to support the sustainable development, maintenance and upgrading of electricity and gas network grid infrastructure to integrate renewable energy sources and ensure our national and regional energy system remains safe, secure and ready to meet increased demand as the regional economy grows."*	As indicated within the proposal, the development will include an upgrade to existing substation for the Proposed Development. There will be no upgrades or works to the existing grid connection.
Chapter 5: Environment	RPO 99	*"It is an objective to support the sustainable development of renewable wind energy (on-shore and off-shore) at appropriate locations and related grid infrastructure in the Region in compliance with national Wind Energy Guidelines".*	The Proposed Development will take place on an existing Wind Farm, where the principle of wind generating turbines has already been established, it is respectfully put that the development will be in an appropriate location in keeping with the provisions of this policy.

Local Policy Context

Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
Chapter 3: Core Strategy	KCDP 3-1	*"Promote the Sustainable Development of the County in line with the Strategic Core Principles of the Core Strategy"*	The Proposed Development will increase the renewable energy generating capacity to 72.6MW, in keeping with the provisions of KCDP 3-1.
Chapter 12	KCDP 12-1	*Support and facilitate the sustainable provision of a reliable energy supply in the County, with emphasis on increasing energy supplies derived from renewable resources whilst seeking to protect and maintain biodiversity, archaeological and built heritage, the landscape and residential amenity and integration of spatial planning and energy planning in the county"*	The Proposed Development aims to decommission 28 no. turbines and the erection 11 no. turbines, this will reduce the overall footprint of the wind farm while maintaining the power generating capacity at a greater efficiency.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
Chapter 12	Section 12.3	*"Kerry County Council supports the maintenance and upgrading of existing high voltage electrical infrastructure, and the provision of new high voltage transformer stations and new overhead transmission power lines..."*	The Proposed Development will not alter the existing grid connection route.
Chapter 12	KCDP 12-6	*"facilitate sustainable energy infrastructure provision, so as to provide for the further physical and economic development of the County".*	The Proposed Development will increase the renewable energy generating capacity to 72.6MW utilising fewer turbines, and thus creating greater efficiency.
Chapter 12	KCDP 12-21	*"(a) Facilitate the sustainable replacement of turbines or repower energy projects in areas shown as 'Repowering areas'...".*	The proposal includes the decommissioning of 28 no. less efficient turbines with the erection of 11 no. turbines while increasing the generating capacity of the Wind Farm to 72.6MW.
Chapter 12	Section 12.5.4.1.7	*"As wind turbine technology continues to advance, existing Wind Farms and sites developed today have the potential to greatly increase efficiency and capacity by upgrading older turbines with more efficient technology or their replacement with larger capacity turbines in the future. For the purposes of this plan and related development objectives, repowering includes wind farm upgrades, renewal, repowering or extension to permitted operational duration."*	The Proposed Development aims to decommission 28 no. turbines and the erection 11 no. turbines, this will reduce the overall footprint of the wind farm while maintaining the power generating capacity at a greater efficiency.

Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
Chapter 13	Objective ET 13-4	"*In order to facilitate increased levels of renewable energy production consistent with national targets on renewable energy and climate change mitigation as set out in the National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030, the Climate Action Plan*	There are no works proposed to this access road and while it is included within the EIAR boundary for completeness, it does not form part of the application boundary for the purposes of the planning application and no works are proposed to take place within the administrative area of Cork.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		2021, and any updates to these targets, and in accordance with Ministerial Guidelines on Wind Energy Development, the Council will support further development of on-shore wind energy projects including the upgrading, repowering or expansion of existing infrastructure, at appropriate locations within the county in line with the Wind Energy Strategy and objectives detailed in this chapter and other objectives of this plan in relation to climate change, biodiversity, landscape, heritage, water management and environment etc" (our emphasis added).	The Proposed Development will increase the power generating capacity of an existing wind farm, and upgrade the existing substation, in keeping with the principles of this policy.
Chapter 13	Objective ET13-5 (b)	that onshore wind energy projects should be focused in areas designated as '*Acceptable in Principle'* and '*Open to Consideration'*	It is noted that the access road is located in an area designated as '*Open to Consideration'*. There are no works proposed to this access road and while it is included within the EIAR boundary for completeness, it does not form part of the application boundary for the purposes of the planning application and no works are proposed to take place within the administrative area of Cork.
Chapter 13	Objective ET13-7	*Commercial wind energy development is open to consideration in these areas where proposals can avoid adverse impacts on:* *• Residential amenity particularly in respect of noise, shadow flicker and visual impact;* *• Urban areas and Metropolitan/Town Green Belts;* *• Natura 2000 Sites (SPA's and SAC's), Natural Heritage Areas (NHA's), proposed Natural Heritage Areas and other sites and locations of significant ecological value.* *• Architectural and archaeological heritage;*	As indicated within the EIAR, the Proposed Development will have no significant environmental impacts on the area. Given the proposal is a Repowering development, it is respectfully put that the proposal will be in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		• *Visual quality of the landscape and the degree to which impacts are highly visible over wider areas. In planning such development, consideration should also be given to the cumulative impacts of such proposals.*	
Chapter 13	Objective ET13-9: National Wind Energy Guidelines	*Development of on-shore wind should be designed and developed in line with the 'Planning Guidelines for Wind Farm Development 2006' and 'Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2019" and any relevant update of these guidelines.*	As indicated with Chapter 2 of the EIAR the Proposed Development will be in accordance with the *Planning Guidelines for Wind Farm Development 2006' and 'Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2019"*
Chapter 13	Objective ET13-10: Development in line with Best Practice	*Ensure that wind energy developments in County Cork are undertaken in observance with best industry practices, and with full engagement of communities potentially impacted by the development. In accordance with the Code of Practice 'Good Practice for Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2016', wind energy development operators are required to put in place an effective complaints procedure in relation to all aspects of wind energy development projects, where members of the public can bring any concerns they have about operational difficulties, including noise and nuisance to the attention of the wind energy development operator.*	As outlined within chapter 2 of the EIAR, the Proposed Development will be in full accordance with all the relevant standards associated with wind generation power generation, including *the Code of Practice 'Good Practice for Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2016'.*

Kerry County Council Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
5	EG3	Ensure all development underpinned or supported by climate action is planned and implemented in a manner that appropriately considers the potential for environmental co-benefits, potential environmental	The Proposed Development is supported by an EIAR with the application pack, assessing the environmental impact of the application.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		impacts and environmental protection requirements. no climate action related development project that is likely to have significant negative effects on the receiving environment shall be supported.	

Cork County Council Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
4	4.8.1.1.2	Promote renewable energy generation, storage, and distribution infrastructure in accordance with the CDP within the county, whilst promoting the need to consider environmental protection requirements at the outset of and during such projects.	The Proposed Development will contribute toward the reduction in emissions through the provision of renewable energy onto the grid. Transitioning towards the goal of net zero emissions by 2050.
4	4.8.3.3.1	Support provision of information on grant aid for onsite renewable generation, whilst promoting the need to consider environmental protection requirements during such projects.	

Other Material Considerations

DoEHLG Wind Energy Guidelines 2006

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The Guidelines highlight general considerations in the assessment of all planning applications for wind energy. They set out advice to planning authorities on planning for wind energy through the development plan process and in determining	The Proposed Development is located on an Existing Wind Farm in an area zoned as a 'Repowering Area' in the Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028 and is therefore considered to be permitted in principle and in accordance with these guidelines.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		applications for planning permission. They contain guidelines to ensure consistency of approach throughout the country in the identification of suitable locations for wind energy development.	

Draft Revised Wind Energy Guidelines 2019

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		These guidelines focus on a number of key aspects including, but not limited to: › *Acceptable noise thresholds and monitoring frameworks;* › *Visual amenity setback;* › *Control of shadow flicker;* › *Compliance with Community consultation and dividend requirements, as included within the obligatory Community Report; and* › *Consideration of the siting, route and design of the proposed grid connection as part of the whole project.*	As indicated within the EIAR the Proposed Development has accessed the impact of noise, visual amenity, shadow flicker, community consultation and route design.

DoHPCLG Interim Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Statutory Plans, Renewable Energy and Climate Change 2017

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The Guidelines state that it is a specific planning policy requirement under Section 28(1C) of the Act, that in making a development plan with policies or	The Proposed Development is consistent with the renewable energy strategy as set out within the Kerry Couty Development Plan.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		objectives that relate to wind energy developments that a Planning Authority must: • *"Ensure that overall national policy on renewable energy as contained in documents such as the Government's 'White Paper on Energy Policy - Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Future', as well as the 'National Renewable Energy Action Plan', the 'Strategy for Renewable Energy' and the 'National Mitigation Plan', is acknowledged and documented in the relevant development plan or local area plan;* • *Indicate how the implementation of the relevant development plan or local area plan over its effective period will contribute to realising overall national targets on renewable energy and climate change mitigation, and in particular wind energy production and the potential wind energy resource (in megawatts); and* • *Demonstrate detailed compliance with item number (2) above in any proposal by them to introduce or vary a mandatory setback distance or distances for wind turbines from specified land uses or classes of land use into their development plan or local area plan. Such a proposal shall be subject to environmental assessment requirements, for example under the SEA and Habitats Directives. It shall also be a material consideration in SEA, when taking into account likely significant effects on climatic factors, in addition to other factors such as landscape and air, if a mandatory setback or variation to a mandatory setback proposed by a planning authority in a development plan or local area*	

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		plan would create a significant limitation or constraint on renewable energy projects, including wind turbines, within the administrative area of the plan."	

Department Circular PL5/2017

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The application of a more stringent noise limit, consistent with World Health Organisation noise standards, in tandem with a new robust noise monitoring regime, to ensure compliance with noise standards;	The Noise impact of the Proposed Development has be assessed in chapter 11 of the EIAR, providing a comprehensive assessment of the Proposed Development.
N/A	N/A	A visual amenity setback of 4 times the turbine height between a wind turbine and the nearest residential property, subject to a mandatory minimum distance of 500 metres between a wind turbine and the nearest residential property;	The cumulative landscape effects of the Proposed Development have been assessed at 25km from the Proposed Development.
N/A	N/A	The elimination of shadow flicker	The effects of shadow flicker has been assessed in Chapter 5 – Human Health of the EIAR.
N/A	N/A	The introduction of new obligations in relation to engagement with local communities by wind farm developers along with the provision of community benefit measures.	The Applicant has engaged in community consultation with the local community since the inception of this project.

IWEA Best Practice Guidelines for the Irish Wind Energy Industry 2012

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The purpose of the guidelines is to encourage responsible and sensitive wind energy development, which takes into consideration the concerns of local communities, planners, and other interested groups.	The full EIAR included with this application outlines the comprehensive assessment of the Proposed Development, ensuring the development takes place in a sensitive manner.

IWEA Best Practice Principles in Community Engagement and Community Commitment 2013

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The document sets out IWEA's best practice principles for delivering extended benefits to local communities for wind farm developments of 5 Megawatts (MW) or above. Best Practice Principles of community engagement when planning the engagement strategy and preparing associated literature are also outlined in the document. The aim of these guidelines is to ensure that the views of local communities are taken into account at all stages of a development and that local communities can share in the benefits.	The Proposed Development will follow the Best Practice Principles in Community Engagement and Community Commitment 2013 guidelines.

DCCAE Code of Practice for Wind Energy Development Ireland – Guidelines for Community Engagement 2016

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The Code of Good Practice is intended to ensure that wind energy development in Ireland is undertaken in adherence with the best industry practices, and with the full engagement of local communities. Community engagement is required	The Proposed Development has followed the DCCAE Code of Practice for Wind Energy Development Ireland – Guidelines for Community Engagement 2016, since the inception of the process.

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
		through the different stages of a project, from the initial scoping, feasibility and concept stages, right through construction to the operational phase.	

Commission for Regulation of Utilities: Grid Connection Policy

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU) (previously the Commission for Energy Regulation (CER)) launched a new grid connection policy in March 2018 for renewable and other generators, known as Enduring Connection Policy Stage 1 (ECP-1), which seeks to allow "shovel ready" projects that already have a valid planning permission, connect to the electricity networks.	The Proposed Development will connect to an existing grid connection and will not require any new cabling and connection infrastructure from the existing onsite substation to the 100kV substation north of the site.

Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS)

Chapter	Policy Objective	Guidance / Requirement	Statement of Consistency
N/A	N/A	The Climate Action Plan 2023 is the Government's plan to give Irish people a cleaner, safer and more sustainable future to halve emissions by 2030 and reach net zero no later than 2050. The Plan sets out actions across every sector which will ensure we meet our future climate commitments. A key part of the Plan is to increase the proportion of renewable electricity to up to 80% by 2030 and a target of 9GW from onshore wind. These measures will be driven by introduction of the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme ('RESS') which aims to promote the generation of electricity from renewable sources.	This proposal will continue to support the RESS, with new and more efficient turbines proposed to replace the existing turbines in place for the past 20 years, providing development which is in accordance with the Climate Action Plan 2023.