

An Bord Pleanála 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1. D01 V902

6th June 2024

RE: DIRECT PLANNING APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA IN RESPECT OF AN OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT - ARKLOW BANK WIND PARK 2

A Chara,

On behalf of Sure Partners Limited, we hereby submit an Application to An Bord Pleanála for permission in accordance with Section 291 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) for the Arklow Bank Wind Park 2 (ABWP2) Offshore Infrastructure (hereinafter referred to as the Proposed Development).

The Proposed Development is an offshore wind farm, located off the coast of Co. Wicklow and Co. Wexford, on the east coast of Ireland. A Maritime Area Consent (MAC) (Ref 2022-MAC-002) was granted in December 2022 for the construction and operation of an offshore windfarm and associated infrastructure (including decommissioning and other works) on and around the Arklow Bank in the Irish Sea.

The site of the Proposed Development comprises an Array Area (the area within which the Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs), the Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs), and associated cables (export, inter-array and interconnector cabling) and foundations will be installed and a Cable Corridor and Working Area (the area within which export, inter-array and interconnector cabling will be installed). The overall Proposed Development site area is 139.4 km2 and all of the Proposed Development will be seaward of the High Water Mark (HWM). The Array Area is located approximately 6 km to 15 km off the coast and covers an area of approximately 63.4 km2. The Cable Corridor and Working Area extends from the Array Area to the HWM at Johnstown North, north of Arklow Town, Co. Wicklow where the offshore export cables make landfall (the Landfall). The area of the Cable Corridor and Working Area is 76.0 km2.

The Proposed Development is described in detail in the plans and particulars accompanying the Application, which in addition to this Cover Letter, comprises the following information:

- Application Form for Permission in respect of a Maritime Area Planning Application
 - Attachment 1 Schedule of Plans/Drawings
 - o Attachment 2 Description of Proposed Development
 - Attachment 3 Copy of the Maritime Area Consent
 - Attachment 4 Copy of Irish Independent Newspaper Notice



- Attachment 5 Copy of Gorey Guardian Newspaper Notice
- o Attachment 6 Copy of Wicklow People Newspaper Notice
- Attachment 7 Copy of Consultation Report
- Attachment 8 Schedule of Bodies Notified
- Attachment 9 Sample copy of a Notification to a Coastal Authority
- Attachment 10 Sample copy of a Notification to a Prescribed Body
- Attachment 11 Sample copy of a Notification to a Transboundary Body
- o Attachment 12 Copy of EIA Portal Notification
- From No. 22 Supplementary Information Accompanying an Application Accompanied by an Opinion on Flexibility
 - o Attachment 1 Description of Proposed Development
 - Attachment 2 Copy of the Board's Opinion under Section 287B of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).
- Copy of all Notification Letters Issued Serving Notice of the Application on Prescribed Bodies,
 Coastal Authorities and Transboundary Bodies
- Planning Report
- Planning Drawings
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)
- Natura Impact Statement (NIS)

The planning documents, planning drawings, EIAR and NIS have also been published on the following website for the purpose of the Application: www.arklowbank2offshoreplanning.ie. The Application is available to view at the above website from 3rd June 2024.

In accordance with Section 291(3)(a) of the of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), a notice has been published in the Irish Independent, the Gorey Guardian and the Wicklow People before



submitting this Application to the Board. A copy of the statutory newspaper notices is provided in Attachments 4-6 of the Application Form.

In accordance with Section 291(3)(b), (c) and (d) of the of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), a notice has been issued to the relevant prescribed bodies, including Coastal Planning Authorities, Prescribed Bodies and Transboundary Bodies before submitting this Application to the Board. A hardcopy of all Notification Letters issued (by email) serving notice of the Application are included with the Application.

All relevant bodies have been contacted prior to the submission of the Application to confirm their preference/requirements for receiving a copy of the Application. As agreed, all bodies have been provided with a link to the dedicated project website to enable them to access, review and download the Application.

The relevant Coastal Planning Authorities, these being Wicklow County Council and Wexford County Council, have also been provided with 2 no. hardcopies and 5 no. electronic copies of the Application (as agreed with the Coastal Planning Authorities). These copies have been delivered to the Coastal Planning Authorities on the 6th June 2024.

Yours sincerely,

Kaj Christiansen

Development Manager – ABWP2

Email <u>kaj.christiansen@sse.com</u> Contact: 00353 873987668