codling wind park

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Volume 4

Appendix 31.1 Cumulative Effects Assessment


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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Term in Full
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
CEA	Cumulative Effects Assessment
C&D	Construction and Demolition
CWP	Codling Wind Park
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESB	Electricity Supply Board
MAC	Maritime Area Consent
OCGT	Open Cycle Gas Turbine
ORESS	Offshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme
OTI	Onshore Transmission Infrastructure
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OWF	Offshore Wind Farm
PINS	Planning Inspectorate

Definitions

Glossary	Meaning
Codling Wind Park (CWP) Project	The proposed development as a whole is referred to as the Codling Wind Park (CWP) Project, comprising of the offshore infrastructure, the onshore infrastructure and any associated temporary works.
Codling Wind Park Limited (CWPL)	A joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind (FOS) and Électricité de France (EDF) Renewables, established to develop the CWP Project.
environmental impact assessment (EIA)	A systematic means of assessing the likely significant effects of a proposed project, undertaken in accordance with the EIA Directive and the relevant Irish legislation.
Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)	The report prepared by the Applicant to describe the findings of the EIA for the CWP Project.
Maritime Area Consent (MAC)	A Maritime Area Consent (MAC) provides State authorisation for a prospective developer to undertake a maritime usage and occupy a specified part of the maritime area. A MAC is required to be in place before planning consent can be sought.
onshore development area	The entire footprint of the OTI and associated temporary works that will form the onshore boundary for the development consent application.
O&M phase	This is the period of time during which the CWP project will be operated and maintained.
Strategic Infrastructure Development	Strategic Infrastructure Development includes development which would: - contribute significantly to meeting any of the objectives of the National Planning Framework, or - contribute significantly to meeting any regional spatial and economic strategy for an area, or - have a significant effect on the area of more than one planning authority.

APPENDIX 31.1 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS ASSESSMENT

1 Introduction

1. Codling Wind Park Limited (hereafter 'the Applicant') is proposing to develop the Codling Wind Park (CWP) Project, which is located in the Irish Sea approximately 13–22 km off the east coast of Ireland, at County Wicklow.

2. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the CWP Project provides the decision-maker, stakeholders, and all interested parties with the environmental information required to develop an informed view of any likely significant effects resulting from the CWP Project, as required by the European Union (EU) Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU) (the EIA Directive). These provisions are transposed into Irish legislation in Part X of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and in Part 10 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.

3. A fundamental component of the EIA is to consider and assess the potential for cumulative effects of the project with other projects, plans and activities (hereafter referred to as 'other development').

4. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EPA, 2022) defines cumulative effects as:

> *"The addition of many minor or insignificant effects, including effects of other projects, to create larger, more significant effects.*
>
> *While a single activity may itself result in a minor impact, it may, when combined with other impacts (minor or insignificant), result in a cumulative impact that is collectively significant. For example, effects on traffic due to an individual industrial project may be acceptable; however, it may be necessary to assess the cumulative effects taking account of traffic generated by other permitted or planned projects."*

5. This appendix presents the findings of the Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA) for Waste and Resource Management, which considers the residual effects presented in **Chapter 31 Waste and Resource Management** alongside the potential effects of other proposed and reasonably foreseeable development. Cumulative effects are considered in this document across the construction and operation and maintenance phases of the CWP Project.

6. The detail and scope of the decommissioning works for the CWP Project will be determined by the relevant legislation and guidance at the time of decommissioning. Project alone impacts during the decommissioning phase of the CWP Project are assessed in **Chapter 31 Waste and Resource Management**. It is anticipated that the impacts will be no greater than those identified for the construction phase, and therefore no separate assessment of cumulative impacts during the decommissioning phase is presented within this CEA.

2 CEA methodology

2.1 Guidance

7. This section summarises the approach to the assessment of cumulative effects for the CWP Project. Further details on the approach to the CEA is provided in **Appendix 5.1 Cumulative Effects Assessment Methodology**.

8. The principal guidance document that has informed the approach to the CEA is the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) for England 'Advice Note 17: Cumulative Effects Assessment' (PINS, 2019), which provides a four stage process for the assessment of cumulative effects which has been applied here.

9. This guidance has been applied for a number of both OWF and non-OWF projects in the UK, and is considered to provide developers with a structured approach to assessing cumulative effects. The guidance is also regularly applied in Ireland for large scale projects, noting that there is no single, industry standard approach to CEA in Ireland which often varies between projects.

10. In developing the CEA methodology, EPA Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EPA, 2022) and Guidelines for the Assessment of Indirect and Cumulative Impacts as well as Impact Interactions (European Commission, 1999) has also been considered.

2.2 Consultation

11. Stakeholder and regulator feedback received during the consultation process that is relevant to the waste and management resource assessment is provided in **Chapter 31 Waste and Resource Management**. No feedback specific to the CEA for waste and resource management has been received.

2.3 Identification of 'other development'

12. Stage 1 of the process involved establishing the long list of other development with the potential to result in cumulative effects with the CWP Project. This included all projects that result in a comparative effect that is not intrinsically considered as part of the existing environment and is not limited to other OWF projects.

13. The long list of other development (**Appendix 5.1 Cumulative Effects Assessment Methodology**) was then subject to additional screening criteria to establish a short list of other development for each topic. It should be noted that the approach to the CEA attempts to incorporate an appropriate level of pragmatism. Only projects which are well described and sufficiently advanced, with sufficient detail available with which to undertake a meaningful and robust assessment, have been screed into the CEA.

14. In accordance with PINS Advice Note 17, each development considered alongside the CWP Project as part of the CEA has been assigned to a tier, reflecting their current status in the planning and development process.

15. The purpose of the tiered approach is to give consideration to the level of certainty that a cumulative project will be built and therefore contribute to cumulative effects. For example, there can be greater certainty that other development approved and under construction are likely to contribute to cumulative effects, whereas other development at early phases of development (i.e. pre-planning) are less likely to proceed to construction and contribute to cumulative effects. Furthermore, sufficient detail about these projects is unlikely to be available with which to undertake a detailed cumulative assessment.

16. The proposed tiering structure is described in **Table 1**. The tiers are listed in descending order of level of detail likely to be available (and, correspondingly, certainty of effects arising).

Table 1 Tiered structure for other development considered for CEA (modified from PINS Advice Note 17 (PINS, 2019))

Tier	Description
Tier 1	• Under construction; • Permitted applications, but not yet implemented; • Offshore applications submitted six months or more in advance of the CWP Project planning application, but not yet determined; and • Onshore applications submitted six months or more in advance of the CWP Project planning application, but not yet determined.
Tier 2a	• Offshore projects in receipt of a Maritime Area Consent (MAC) and an Offshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (ORESS) contract.
Tier 2b	• Offshore projects in receipt of a Maritime Area Consent (MAC); • Offshore Projects in the public domain where an EIA scoping report has been issued; and • Onshore Projects in the public domain where an EIA scoping report has been issued.
Tier 3	• Projects in the public domain where an EIA scoping report has not been issued; and • Projects that have been identified in the relevant development plans and programmes, which set the framework for future development consents / approvals, where such development is reasonably likely to come forward.

3 CEA impact screening

17. The first step in the CEA for Waste and Resource Management is the identification of which residual impacts assessed for the CWP Project alone have the potential for a cumulative impact with other development (described as 'impact screening'). This screening exercise is set out in **Table 2** below.

18. Only potential impacts assessed in **Chapter 31 Waste and Resource Management** as 'not significant' or above are included in the CEA (i.e., those assessed as 'imperceptible' are not taken forward as there is no potential for them to contribute to a cumulative effect).

19. In summary, **Table 2** shows that there is no potential for cumulative effects on Waste and Resource Management as a result of the construction phase of the OTI and landfall, where there is potential for impact in terms on waste management infrastructure.

Table 2 Impacts and potential for cumulative effect

Impact	Potential for cumulative effect	Rationale
Construction		
Impact 1: Generation and management of excavated materials	No	Relates to materials generated and requiring management during excavation activities of the construction phase. The development of the onshore transmission infrastructure (OTI) and landfall will result in the generation of excavated materials requiring management. With the adoption of the mitigation measures outlined within **Chapter 31** and included in the **CDWMP** submitted as part of the planning application, it is predicted that the magnitude of effect will be Negligible. Therefore, a residual effect of permanent, likely, '**Imperceptible**' adverse significance in terms of waste generation and waste management is predicted, which is not significant in EIA terms.
Impact 2: Generation and management of construction waste associated with the installation of the OTI (C&D, Municipal etc.)	No	Relates to construction waste materials generated and requiring management during the construction phase. The development of the OTI and landfall will result in the generation of waste materials (C&D, Municipal etc.) requiring waste management. With the adoption of the mitigation measures outlined in the **CDWMP** submitted as part of the planning application, it is predicted that the magnitude of effect will be Negligible. Therefore, a residual effect of permanent, likely, '**Imperceptible**' adverse significance in terms of waste generation and waste management is predicted, which is not significant in EIA terms.
Operation		
N/A	N/A	N/A
Decommissioning		
Impact 1: Generation of waste associated with the decommissioning of the OTI (C&D, Municipal etc.)	No	The detail and scope of the decommissioning works for the CWP Project will be determined by the relevant legislation and guidance at the time of decommissioning. Project alone impacts during the decommissioning phase of the CWP Project are assessed in **Chapter 31 Waste and Resource Management.** It is anticipated that the impacts will be no greater than those identified for the construction phase, and therefore no separate assessment of cumulative impacts during the decommissioning phase is presented within this CEA.

4 CEA summary

20. This CEA, which supports **Chapter 31 Waste and Resource Management** has considered the potential for cumulative effects on Waste and Resource Management from the CWP Project alongside other developments.

21. With the adoption of the mitigation measures outlined within **Chapter 31 Waste and Resource Management** and included in the **CDWMP** submitted as part of the planning application, it is predicted that the magnitude of effect for Impact 1 and Impact 2 in terms of waste generation and management during the construction phase will be 'Negligible'. Therefore, a residual effect of permanent, likely, '**Imperceptible**' adverse significance is predicted for both impacts, which is '**Not significant**' in EIA terms.

22. As the residual impacts are assessed as '**Imperceptible**' they were not taken forward as there is no potential for them to contribute to a cumulative effect.