

FuturEnergy Ireland

sse
Renewables



Cummeennabuddoge

Wind Farm

Community Report



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Introduction

The proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm is a co-development between FuturEnergy Ireland and SSE Renewables. FuturEnergy Ireland (previously Coillte Renewable Energy) is a joint venture company owned on a 50:50 basis by Coillte and ESB with a target of generating 1GW of renewable electricity by 2030. SSE Renewables is Ireland's leading developer, owner and operator of onshore wind farms, with a vision to make renewable energy the foundation of a zero-carbon world.

The co-development company Cummeennabuddoge Wind DAC is seeking planning permission from An Bord Pleanála to construct and operate a commercially viable wind farm project located on the Kerry/Cork County bounds. The nearest towns and villages are predominantly located in Co. Cork. The total land parcel extends to approximately 925 hectares, of which a significant area is an operational commercial forest owned by Coillte. The remaining land is third-party property.

The project team began consulting with the local community as soon as the project launched in winter 2020. This extensive community engagement programme commenced prior to the project design and environmental assessment. Our objective was to ensure that the views and concerns of all members of the local community, including business owners and political representatives, were considered as part of the project design and the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

Active engagement with communities prior to submitting a wind farm planning application is highly recommended in national guidance and in line with industry best practice. The Wind Energy Development Guidelines (Department of Environment, Heritage, and Local Government, 2006) state:

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

The Draft Revised Wind Energy Guidelines (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, 2019) retain this position, stating:

"In order to promote the observance of best practice, planning authorities should require applicants to prepare and submit a Community Report with their planning application and a condition on any subsequent planning permission should require developers to carry out the development in accordance with the approved Community Report."

This report outlines the community engagement programme undertaken by the Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm team prior to this planning application. It also highlights the main issues raised during this process and how community feedback informed the final proposal, alongside the steps taken to ensure the proposed development will be of long-term economic benefit to the local community.



The project team at the Cummeennabuddoge Community Clinic

Background

Project partners FuturEnergy Ireland and SSE Renewables both have a long history of working with communities around the country.

FuturEnergy Ireland aspires to work with the communities surrounding its renewable energy sites and wishes to build projects that are good for the company as a commercial entity, good for its neighbours, and that contribute to national and global climate change objectives. The FuturEnergy Ireland team has extensive experience of developing wind farms and has learnt many valuable lessons in relation to working with local communities and the importance of including local people in decisions that affect them.

At SSE Renewables, community commitments are at the centre of the company's vision and mission. SSE Renewables commits to collaborating with communities over the lifetime of its assets and knows it is crucial to build strong relationships with local communities. Furthermore, the company is committed to implementing industry best practice for community funds; in 2022/23 SSE Renewables donated more than €1 million to local projects to invest in issues as diverse as inclusive sport to biodiversity centres.

The proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm is a 50:50 co-development with FuturEnergy Ireland as lead developer.

The key elements of Cummeennabuddoge Wind DAC's community engagement programme model are:

- Detailed and systematic engagement with all 'near neighbours' to the project (within 2km) from a very early stage of project design.
- Open, transparent dialogue and communications.
- Creating opportunities for two-way dialogue on key issues.
- Empowering local communities to be part of project discussions.
- Ensuring that the local community has access to all relevant information, as soon as it is available, in a user-friendly format.

In our community engagement programme, we start engagement as soon as a site has been identified as suitable for detailed environmental studies from an internal screening process. This approach also recognises the need to keep people who live further away from the development informed about the project as details become more defined. We recognise that enabling meaningful engagement between the project team and local residents is imperative if we are to build high quality projects that benefit everyone.

This engagement must go beyond information provision. Through open dialogue and the involvement of people in decisions that affect them, community engagement can move towards a more collaborative approach to infrastructure design that has a national interest, yet a local impact.

What are our external drivers for stakeholder engagement?

- Actively engaging in conversation helps raise awareness and provides insight that can ensure successful project outcomes for everyone.
- Active and open dialogue with our community stakeholders is essential for the success of our projects. It is through two-way dialogue that Cummeennabuddoge Wind DAC can responsibly partner with local communities.
- Cummeennabuddoge Wind DAC is committed to strengthening partnerships with local communities.
- Public support is achieved by actively working with communities towards mutually desirable goals. Meaningful communication with stakeholders creates trust and mutual respect, as well as a shared understanding and vision of what a successful project can look like.
- Timely, proactive, open and honest communication is a cornerstone of our Fair Play model. This approach helps to minimise possible adverse impacts on our neighbours and instead helps to achieve positive social, economic and environmental outcomes.
- In line with national policy, Cummeennabuddoge Wind DAC is committed to meaningful engagement, which leads to constructive local dialogue, as well as mutual trust and understanding.



Cummeennabudoge Project Team

In order to implement the Fair Play approach, FuturEnergy Ireland and SSE Renewables resourced this project with dedicated staff from the outset. The following key personnel have been involved in community engagement on Cummeennabudoge Wind Farm:



David O'Sullivan

Project Manager - FuturEnergy Ireland

David has over fifteen years' experience in the development and delivery of nationally significant energy developments, including biomass, wind and solar technologies in both the UK and Ireland. Qualifications in engineering, project management, finance and law allow him to take a holistic view of project development and strike a balance between the technical, commercial and legal aspects of projects.



Cora Plant

Assistant Project Manager – SSE Renewables

Cora is a chartered engineer and has worked on large complex projects in the fields of energy, waste and environment for over 20 years. She understands the complexities and nuances associated with large-scale renewable energy projects and is committed to using her experience to help deliver successful projects that address the needs of all stakeholders.



Brendan Twomey

Community Liaison Officer (CLO) – FuturEnergy Ireland

Brendan is the local contact for the proposed Cummeennabudoge Wind Farm. Brendan enjoys working with people and brings many years of experience across different business sectors to his role.



Shane Lowry

Community Engagement Manager
– FuturEnergy Ireland

Shane leads the community engagement programme for the proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm development. As a former FuturEnergy Ireland Community Liaison Officer, Shane understands the importance of working with the community to a project's success. He works closely with the local CLO to optimise communication and engagement.



Janine Thomas

Communications and Media Manager
– FuturEnergy Ireland

Janine looks after communications and media relations for the proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm. She worked as a journalist for various national newspapers for over 15 years before joining the team. Janine brings her extensive media and communications experience to this project.



Atmos Consulting

Environmental and Planning Consultancy

Atmos Consulting has wide-ranging experience in all aspects of wind farm development, including feasibility assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment, planning and design, which has accumulated over 15 years of leading energy-related projects.

Summary of Community Engagement

In November 2020, the project appointed a local Community Liaison Officer (CLO), Brendan Twomey. The role of a CLO is to introduce and communicate key project information, timelines, updates, activities, benefits and proposals through direct and indirect community engagement, meetings and events with the project's near neighbours and the wider community throughout the project lifecycle.

The community engagement programme emphasises a focus on the residents of dwellings within 2km of the site as these people will be closest to the development and will be most sensitive to any potential effects caused by the proposed development.

Before commencing the engagement, we needed to identify the 2km zone. This was achieved by taking the initial turbine layout and applying a 2km buffer. Within this area all dwellings — lived in, vacant and with the potential to be occupied — were mapped. As the design progressed, we established a “buildable” or more accurate developable area. We then applied a 2km buffer and started our engagement with the residents within this area.

Initially the CLO's direct engagement focused on calling to houses within 2km of the project area with the distribution of a Project Introduction letter in December 2020. Our CLO was on hand to discuss any queries, comments or concerns raised by residents and to take back queries and feedback to the project managers.

Community Engagement Timeline

Newsletters and letters detailed below were issued to near neighbours and out to those who live within 4km of the proposed site as well as community groups and local political representatives:

Summary of community engagement carried out for the proposed Cummeennabuddoge wind farm (2020 - 2024)

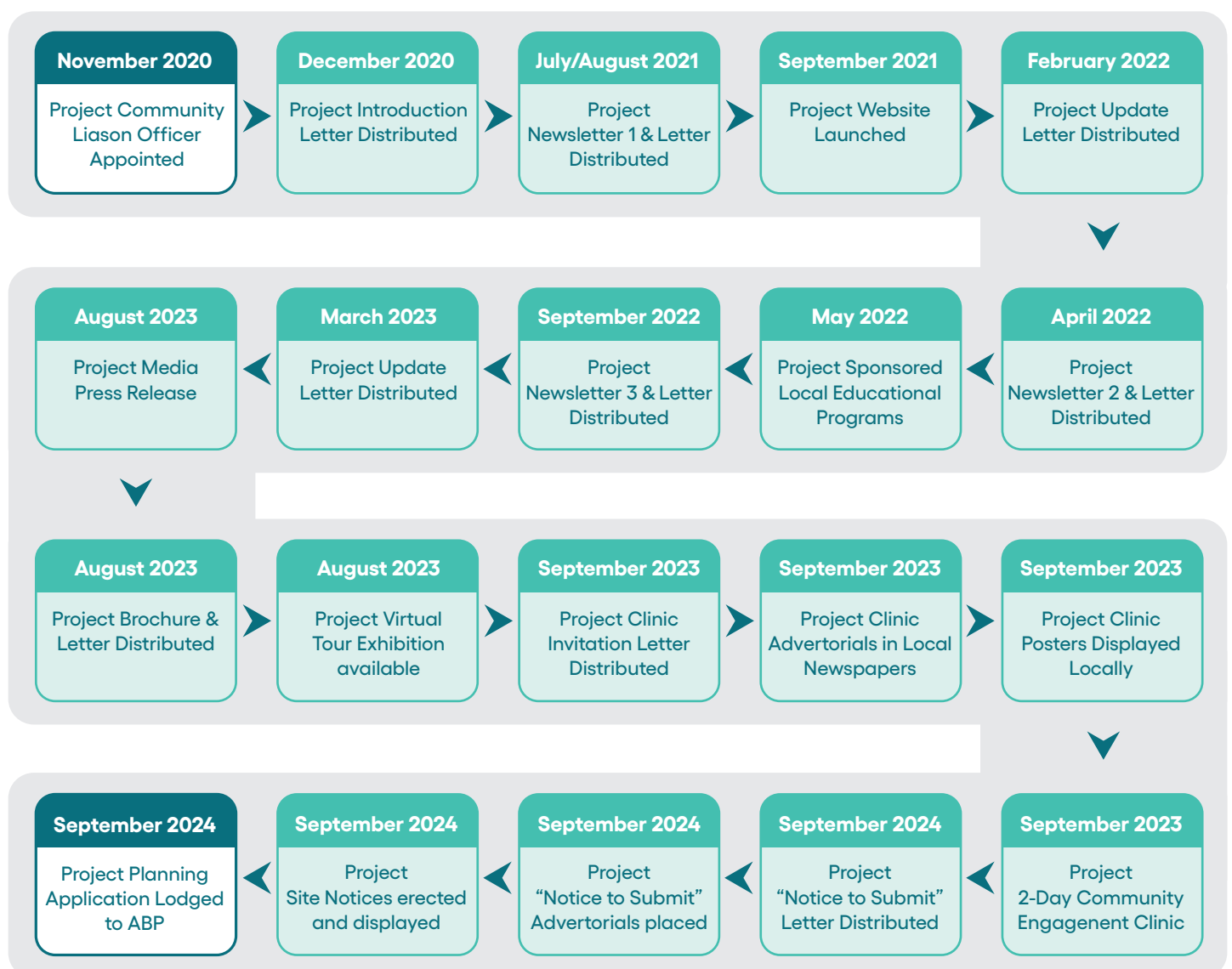


Table 1 - Detailed summary of community engagement with the project's near neighbours and wider community (2020 – 2023)

November 2020	Community Liaison Officer appointed to the project.
December 8, 2020	Project Introduction Letter was distributed to all houses out to 2km of the project area by our Community Liaison Officer. The project introduction letter, introduced the project, provided contact information and details of a planning application for a meteorological mast (or met mast).
December 22, 2020	Local elected representatives in Co. Cork/Kerry were emailed the Project Introduction Letter to keep them updated and informed.
February 2021	Kerry County Council granted planning application for a 100 m meteorological mast (Or met mast).
May 2021	The Community Liaison Officer commenced contacting with property owners adjacent to the project seeking permission to have noise monitors installed on or adjacent to their property.
June 24, 2021	The project's Community Liaison Officer engaged with and notified stakeholders who agreed to have a noise monitor installed of the dates of installation, logistics involved and was available to answer any queries that arose.
July/August 2021 Newsletter 1 with accompanying letter	<p>An Irish and English version of Newsletter 1 and accompanying letter was distributed to houses out to 4km of the project area by our Community Liaison Officer. The newsletter showed a map of the proposed project area, site location, introduced the team, next steps, contact number, project email and postal address, with an invitation to contact us.</p> <p>Newsletter 1 was either emailed/delivered/posted to interest groups and local elected representatives in Co. Cork/Kerry.</p> <p>The project team replied to queries and questions that arose from near neighbours and the wider community.</p> <p>*(please see appendix for a link to Newsletter 1)</p>
August 10, 2021	The Community Liaison Officer engaged with and notified stakeholders who had a noise monitor installed of the collection dates and was available to answer queries.
September 2021	Project Website went live. Newsletter 1 was uploaded to the project website.

February 25, 2022	<p>An Irish and English version of a project update letter was distributed to houses out to 4km of the project area by our CLO.</p> <p>The letter was either emailed/delivered/posted to interest groups and local elected representatives in Co. Cork/Co. Kerry.</p> <p>The project team replied to queries and questions that arose from near neighbours and the wider community.</p> <p>*(please see appendix for a link to a copy of Project Update Letter)</p>
April 2022	<p>EIAR Scoping Report uploaded onto the project website.</p>
April 2022 Newsletter 2 with accompanying letter	<p>The CLO delivered an Irish and English version of Newsletter 2 and an accompanying letter to all houses within 4km of the project area.</p> <p>The newsletter contained project updates, details of environmental surveys being carried out, a map of the draft design with turbine layout and numbers, next steps and timelines, contact details and an invitation to get in touch with us.</p> <p>The project contact number, email, postal address and project website were included in this newsletter. From this time onward, all project updates and newsletters were uploaded to the dedicated project website.</p> <p>Newsletter 2 was either emailed/delivered/posted to interest groups and local elected representatives in Co. Cork/Co. Kerry.</p> <p>Queries and questions that arose from near neighbours and the wider community were replied to by the project team.</p> <p>*(please see appendix for a link to a copy of Newsletter 2 and Letter)</p>
May 2022 Local sponsored educational programme	<p>FuturEnergy Ireland sponsored and arranged the STEAM Education Climate Action Programme for six national schools in the wider project area, which was well received. The schools involved were Cúil Aodh, Baile Mhuirne, Beal Áthán Ghaorthaidg, Cill na Martra, Inchigeelagh and Réidh na Ndoiri.</p> <p>*(please see appendix for a copy of related material)</p>
September 2022 Newsletter 3 with accompanying letter	<p>The CLO distributed an Irish and English version of Newsletter 3 and accompanying letter to houses out to 4km of the project area.</p> <p>The newsletter contained project updates, an introduction to the community benefit fund, next steps and timelines. It also included the project's direct contact number, email address, postal address and website details, with an invitation to contact us.</p> <p>Newsletter 3 was uploaded to the project website and was either emailed/delivered/posted to interest groups and local elected representatives in Co. Cork/Co. Kerry.</p> <p>Queries and questions that arose from near neighbours and the wider community were replied to by the project team.</p> <p>*(please see appendix for a link to a copy of Newsletter 3)</p>

March 2023 Project update letter	<p>An Irish and English version of a project update letter was distributed to houses out to 4km of the project area by our Community Liaison Officer. The letter was uploaded to the project website.</p> <p>The project update letter was either emailed/delivered/posted to interest groups and local elected representatives in Co. Cork/Co. Kerry to keep them updated and informed.</p> <p>The project team replied to queries and questions that arose from near neighbours and the wider community.</p> <p>*(please see appendix for a link to a copy of the project update letter)</p>
W/c August 28, 2023 Press release	<p>To keep the local and wider communities informed, a media release was sent to local and regional newspaper/radio journalists, which provided information on the project and where interested parties could access all project details. This included the recently launched project brochure and the Virtual Exhibition.</p> <p>*(please see Table 3 - Media Report for details)</p>
W/c August 28, 2023 Detailed brochure with accompanying letter Virtual Exhibition	<p>A detailed 44-page project brochure and an accompanying letter in Irish and English that invited the reader to visit the new Virtual Exhibition on the project website were distributed out to 4km of the site. This provided another opportunity to hold conversations, listen to feedback and answer questions that arose.</p> <p>The brochure was uploaded to the project website.</p> <p>It was also either emailed/delivered/posted to interest groups and local elected representatives in Co. Cork/Co. Kerry.</p> <p>Queries and questions that arose from near neighbours and the wider community were replied to by the project team.</p> <p>We invited and encouraged interested parties to contact us or attend the upcoming on-site community engagement clinic to meet the team and discuss any queries or questions that they may have had.</p> <p>*(please see appendix for a link to the project brochure and letter)</p>
Note:	<p><i>*As part of our engagement commitment, included in the letter that accompanied the project brochure, we asked anyone requiring any assistance navigating the Virtual Exhibition, to please contact us. For those who did not have internet access, we requested that they please get in touch, and we would provide answers to any questions, and hard copies of information that featured in the Virtual Exhibition as required. Our contact details were included in all communications.</i></p>
Virtual Exhibition	<p>The Virtual Exhibition, which is accessible via the project website, was launched. It provides a project overview, timeframes, team biographies, site maps and details of Archaeology & Cultural Heritage, Ecology, Noise, and Landscape & Visuals, a full set of photomontages, Community Benefit Fund information, an e-copy of the 44-page detailed project brochure and a feedback form.</p> <p>*(please see appendix for a link to the Virtual Exhibition)</p>

<p>W/c September 4, 2023 onwards</p> <p>Invitation letter to community engagement clinic</p>	<p>After the distribution of the detailed project brochure to the local and wider community, the Community Liaison Officer called back to the project's near neighbours within 2km for feedback.</p> <p>If there was no one at home, an invitation letter (in Irish and English) to the on-site community engagement clinic was put in the post box with a request to call us back to arrange a suitable appointment time if they so choose to do so.</p> <p>The invitation letter to the community engagement clinic was also distributed to houses out to 4km by our CLO.</p> <p>The invitation letter was uploaded to the website and was either emailed/delivered/posted to interest groups and local elected representatives in Co Cork/Kerry.</p> <p>We invited and actively encouraged interested parties to contact us or attend the community engagement clinic.</p> <p>*(please see appendix for a copy)</p>
<p>W/c September 11 2023</p> <p>Clinic posters displayed locally</p>	<p>Posters were placed in local public places and posted on the local community Facebook page that provided dates, times and locations for the on-site community clinic.</p> <p>*(please see appendix for a copy)</p>
<p>W/c September 11 2023</p> <p>Advertisements for community engagement clinics</p>	<p>To keep the local and wider communities informed, advertisements were placed in local and regional newspapers providing details of the on-site community clinics.</p> <p>*(please see Table 3 - Media Report for details)</p>
<p>September 20 & 21, 2023</p> <p>Two-day on-site community engagement clinic</p> <p>School workshops</p>	<p>A two-day community engagement clinic was held in the Abbey Hotel, Ballyvourney, Co. Cork P12 FW30, which is located within the local community adjacent to the proposed project area. The project team met 20 attendees who asked questions that were pertinent to them. Conversations were had and the information provided to attending stakeholders seemed to be well received. Any queries from near neighbours, the wider community, elected representatives, or interest groups were replied to by the project team.</p> <p>20 Transition Year students and 22 Engineering Leaving Certificate students from Coláiste Ghobnatan attended and participated in an informal presentation on the project and careers in renewable energy followed by a Q&A session.</p> <p>More than 60 5th and 6th year primary school students from Scoil Abán Naofa attended and participated in an informal presentation followed by a Q&A session.</p>

October 10, 2023 Careers Night attendance	<p>Members of the project team attended a Careers Night at the local post-primary school, Coláiste Ghobnatan, as requested by the school principal. The team provided information on careers in the wind energy industry and answered any project-related questions as required.</p>
October/November 2023 Local sponsored educational programme	<p>FuturEnergy Ireland sponsored the STEAM Education 'Climate Action in a Box' programme for two national schools in the wider project area, which was well received. The schools involved were Carriganima National School, Cloghoola National School.</p> <p>*(please see appendix for a copy of related material)</p>
Our intention during September 2024 Advertorials	<p>"Notice to submit into planning" letter will be distributed to houses out to 4Km of the project area and local elected representatives.</p> <p>Advertorials will be placed in a regional and national newspaper, informing the public of a notice to submit a planning application for the project.</p>
Site notices	<p>Site notices to be placed around the proposed project site.</p>
Planning application submission	<p>The planning application will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála. The EIAR will be available for viewing at the offices of An Bord Pleanála, Cork County Council and Kerry County Council. When all the documentation has been received by An Bord Pleanála, the full documentation will be uploaded and available to view at www.cummeennabudodgeplanning.ie.</p>
Note:	<p><i>Since the initial launch of the project in December 2020, we have continuously logged feedback, concerns, requests for information and project updates, and replied to all queries as the information became available.</i></p> <p><i>Post-planning submission, the project team remains available to answer any queries or questions that may arise.</i></p>

General engagement points to note

- Since the initial launch of the project in December 2020, we have continuously logged feedback, concerns, requests for information and project updates, and replied to all queries as the information became available.
- The project CLO's work included Saturdays and some evenings in an effort to meet residents unavailable during weekdays in an effort to reach out to all.
- To acknowledge the region's close proximity to the Gaeltacht, the majority of our communications were provided in both Irish and English.
- At all stages of the project's engagement cycle from 2020 to 2023, our communications material included the CLO's contact number, project email and postal address.
- After the distribution of Newsletter 2 in April 2021, the dedicated project website www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie was also included. From this time onwards, all project updates and newsletters were also uploaded to the project website.



The Cummeennabuddoge community engagement clinics took place on September 20 & 21, 2023



More than 60 local primary school students took part in an educational workshop at the community clinics in September 2023

Local interest groups and local elected representatives in Co. Cork/Co. Kerry

The CLO contacted/emailed/delivered/posted all communication materials to local interest groups from the wider community and local elected representatives in Co Cork and Co Kerry to keep them up to date and informed. This commitment will continue into the future.

Sponsored education programme

FuturEnergy Ireland sponsored and arranged the STEAM Education Climate-Action-in-a-Box programme for five local national schools in May 2022 and a further two local national schools in October/November 2023. This educational outreach was received very positive feedback from teachers and pupils.

On request, in November 2023 the FuturEnergy Ireland project team attended and participated in a career's night in the local post primary school, Coláiste Ghobnatan, which was well received.

Local interest groups contacted and kept up to date

Coláiste Ghobnatan	Post primary school, Ballyvourney
Abán Naofa	Primary school, Ballyvourney
Comharchumann Forbatha Mhuscraí	Muskery Regional Development
Bol Cumman Cúil Aodh/Baile Múirne	Road Bowling
Coiste Bailte Slachtmhara.	Tidy Towns Ballyvourney
Comhlacht Tithe Sóisealta & Forbait an tSúláin Teo	Community Housing Ballyvourney / Coolea
Buíon Phíobairí	Pipe Band
Cork Limousine Club	Youth Branch Cattle Breeders
Taispeantas Baile Mhuirne / Cúil Aodha	Ballyvourney / Coolea Agricultural Show
Slí Gaeltachta Mhuscaraí	Beara Breifney Way trail
Peiladóir an tSúláin	Sullane FC
Naomh Abhan GAA	Ballyvourney/ Coolea GAA football club

Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic resulted in protective restrictions to reduce the spread and impact of the virus. Our interactions adhered to Covid-19 guidelines at all stages of the engagement programme.

At varying stages, Covid-19 restrictions impacted our face-to-face engagement. However, we remained committed to keeping our neighbours informed about the project through the use of mail drops/ posting of newsletters, individual phone calls, emails, texts and letters to keep them updated.

At all stages of the engagement cycle, our communications material included our contact number, project email and postal address. After the distribution of Newsletter 2 in April 2022, our dedicated project website was also included. From this time onward, all project updates and newsletters were continuously uploaded to www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie. In our communications, we always included an invitation to contact us with any queries and questions.

As restrictions started lifting, where requested, we held in-person meetings with individuals and small groups outdoors in line with the public health policy in place. This allowed the project team to engage directly with residents and address their queries regarding the project design, which was beneficial to all parties.

Table 2 - Website visits, virtual tour visits, local on-site clinic attendance

Summary	Users/attendees
Project website user hits (Feb 2023 – Oct 2023)	135
Virtual Exhibition hits (Aug 28 – Oct 5)	78
On-site clinic attendance: (September 20 & 21)	20

Table 4 – Occupied dwellings within 2km of the proposed initial layout of 19 turbines

Distance from turbines	No of dwellings
750m – 1km	2
1 – 2km	21
2 - 3km	70
3 – 4km	47
Total	140

Table 5 – Occupied dwellings within 2km of the current layout of 17 turbines

Distance from turbines	No of dwellings
750m – 1Km	0
1 – 2Km	13
2 - 3Km	38
3 – 4Km	78
Total	129

Table 3 – Media Report

Date	Media Type		Headline/Activity
Our intention during September 2024	Print	Adverts will be placed in regional newspapers, The Corkman, The Kerryman and a national newspaper, the Irish Examiner.	Notice to submit planning
September 20, 2023	Radio	Raidio na Gaeltachta interview with Community Liaison Officer Brendan Twomey.	Broadcasted on September 22
W/c September 11, 2023	Print	FEI advertisement placed in the Lee Valley Outlook, the Killarney Outlook, The Corkman and The Southern Star.	Invitation to attend the project's two-day community engagement clinic. <i>*(see appendix below for copy)</i>
W/c September 11, 2023	Print	The CLO arranged for posters to be displayed locally.	Posters were placed in local/ amenities and the local post office with details of the community engagement clinics.
W/c September 11, 2023 September 12, 2023	Social/ On-Line Print/ Online	The CLO arranged for posters to be displayed on the local community Facebook page. Irish Examiner Windfarm developers promise €11.25m community windfall	To keep the local and wider community informed, a poster advertising the clinics was provided to a local community Facebook page, which was subsequently uploaded. Article in the Irish Examiner giving the details of the Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm project.
Week of August 28, 2023	Print/ Radio	FEI media release sent to reporters. Regional newspapers: Irish Examiner The Corkman The Kerryman The Southern Star Kerry's Eye Local Radio: Raidio na Gaeltachta 96FM	The media release informed the local and wider community of the newly launched project brochure, the Virtual Exhibition, how and where to access information and gave our contact details.

Date	Media type	Media outlet	Headline/Activity
May 3, 2022	Print/ online	Irish Examiner	<i>"Wind farm firm vows to consult with locals"</i>
September 4, 2021	Radio	Radio Kerry	<i>"Pre-application consultation on proposed Kerry/Cork windfarm"</i>
August 24, 2021	Print/ On-line	Irish Independent: Cork Edition: Concubhar Ó Liatháin	<i>"Cork Windfarm projects could yield E1.3m annual benefit for community"</i>
August 19, 2021	Print/ On-line	The Corkman	<i>"New wind farm project planned for Cork border"</i>



Construction management was addressed during community engagement

Table 6 – A summary of the key issues raised during the course of engagement

Topics	Issues raised
TV signal disruption	How will the developers ensure that the project won't impact on signals (Wi-Fi and TV) and how will this be rectified if any disruption occurs?
Traffic/Transport/ Construction Management	<p>Traffic disruption during construction to and from the site and along the grid route and how that is managed and how issues would be resolved. Previous experiences have been negative and disruptive to the local community.</p> <p>Safety and potential damage arising from the use of local roads during construction by large trucks on narrow roads.</p> <p>How will this be managed and who is liable for any potential property and road damage during construction and for works carried out along the grid route?</p> <p>What guarantees are there that damage to property or roads will be reinstated to their previous condition?</p> <p>Will there be a liaison officer or individual point of contact during the construction phase?</p>
Shadow flicker	How can the developers ensure that shadow flicker won't occur?
Visual impact	<p>Negative impact on residential amenity - direct views from residents' homes (windows) to turbines.</p> <p>There are enough wind farms in the locality already and concerns on the number of wind farms that are being proposed for development in the locality.</p>
Turbine noise	<p>Concerns that the proposed project will be as noisy as adjacent wind farms, some built 20-plus years ago.</p> <p>Is the project going to generate more noise and how will the project be cumulatively assessed in terms of noise?</p> <p>How will the developers ensure that the wind farm will not breach noise limits/ impact upon residential amenity?</p>

As outlined in Table 6, the engagement process undertaken on the proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm has given the project team a detailed appreciation of the issues and concerns of the near neighbours and the wider community.

This close working relationship has facilitated the evolution of the project design to understand and alleviate the concerns expressed as far as possible.

These themes were discussed throughout the engagement process and were answered in a transparent and open manner. Ultimately not all themes could be or were addressed to the satisfaction of all, but the project team remains open in trying to find fair and equitable solutions, including sharing information sources at our disposal. All of the above themes are also addressed clearly in the EIAR.

It is to be noted that our Community Liaison Officer Brendan Twomey was treated with respect in the vast majority of cases. While some neighbouring households were not pleased with what they were hearing, we were thanked at times for bringing the information to them. The long timeframe for this engagement has allowed people to digest the information, discuss among themselves and reach out to the project team on any items that they felt needed further clarification.

Influence of Engagement on the Evolution of The Wind Farm Design

As outlined in Table 6 (page 23), the main concerns of local residents include impacts relating to TV signal disruption, traffic management and disruption relating to construction, potential turbine noise, visual impacts, damage to roads after construction and roads not being properly reinstated and repaired to the correct standard.

The engagement process has given the project team a detailed appreciation of the issues and concerns of the near neighbours. This close working relationship has facilitated the evolution of the project design to understand and alleviate the concerns expressed as far as possible.

Our responses to the main concerns, together with their impact on the design evolution, are set out below.

Impacts associated with TV signal disruption

The project is being designed with all existing radio, internet and television receptions in mind and all telecommunications providers were consulted on the proposed layout. All telecommunications links in the area were avoided by design.

Concerns were raised directly with the CLO about the potential impact on Wi-Fi / television signals at certain properties that have a line of sight to transmitter towers.

The team was aware of the presence of Mullaghanish telecommunication mast when designing the first layout, however the buffer requirements were unknown. Telecommunication links and separation requirements were identified during stakeholder consultation. This resulted in the removal of a turbine (previously referred to as Turbine 2) from the southeast of the site to avoid disruption to radio, television and mobile networks.

After further feedback from and conversations with local stakeholders, the project team has committed to carrying out a baseline survey of the area pre-construction. The information and results will be available to all, and the project team will provide an open invitation to a workshop on the findings. The survey will indicate existing reception blackspots, existing areas with disrupted reception and areas with no disruption and areas of potential disruption. The survey will include a clear plan on how to report any disruptions and clearly demonstrate how any disrupted signals will be rectified.

The developer commits to rectifying any issues with signal reception at individual dwellings if the need arises. This is uncommon with the new digital transmission format, but the solutions are relatively straightforward.

Further details on this can be found in the Telecommunication and Aviation Chapter of the EIAR.

Impacts associated with traffic/transport/construction management

Concerns were raised directly with the CLO about the potential disruption of traffic from construction in the area and the potential of damaging existing road and properties adjacent to the roads, and follow-up repairs not taking place.

For stakeholders with concerns about cabling/road works, in advance of any potential cabling/roadworks along their road, we will undertake a road condition survey, a copy of which will be provided to them. After the works are completed, we will survey this section of road again and any direct damage caused will be rectified and repairs completed.

Six months prior to the commencement of construction, we will set up a liaison group. The project team will meet with this group monthly or as required to prepare for the construction phase and monitor activities during construction. This group will help to develop plans for communicating effectively with residents directly impacted by construction activity, especially traffic planning to minimise disruption.

The noise assessment considered all construction-related noise associated with machinery and traffic and all site activities and found that the proposed layout complies with all relevant regulations.

Further details can be found in the Noise & Vibration and Traffic & Transport chapters in the EIAR.

Impacts associated with potential shadow flicker

Concerns were raised directly with the Community Liaison Officer about the potential impact of shadow flicker from turbines. Shadow flicker was considered as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process. The proposed layout would conform with the Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2006 of a maximum 30 minutes of shadow flicker per day or 30 hours per annum at any sensitive receptor through the management of the turbine operations during periods when there is potential for shadow flicker.

Further to this, Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm has been designed to enable it to comply with the draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2019.

Any queries around shadow flicker were explained in detail at the on-site community engagement clinic, which seemed to allay concerns.

Further details on this can be found in the Shadow Flicker chapter of the EIAR.

Impacts associated with noise and visual impact

Noise and visual impact were addressed as part of the design process. A decision was made early in the design process to ensure that a minimum distance would be maintained between nearest dwellings and turbines of four times the maximum blade tip height being applied for in the planning application.

This exceeds the current recommended setback of 500 metres as set out in the Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2006. The setback distance also complies with the Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2019, which recommend a minimum setback of four times the tip height of proposed turbines to protect residential amenity.

Visual impact

Various configurations and layouts were considered as part of the initial design process based on a detailed visual impact assessment.

Due to the removal of the turbine in the southeast of the site for telecommunication reasons, another turbine was also removed (previously referred to as Turbine 1). The 3D models and photomontages suggested that this was an 'outlier' to the main development, which means that from certain viewpoints the turbine did not look connected with the overall Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm layout.

When the current design layout for the project was confirmed, a set of photomontages representing the final design layout was prepared and made available to the public in the following formats:

- In the project brochure distributed in August 2023.
- On the Virtual Tour, which is accessible for a further two months after the planning application is lodged via www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie. The interactive photomontage viewer presents 27 viewpoints to assess the visual impact of the project from these locations.
- A hard copy of the 27 photomontages was available at the on-site community clinic for attendees to discuss with the project team.

The photomontages are not intended to show the view from every dwelling; they represent local, regional and sensitive views in a wide area around the project. Once the photomontages were made available to near neighbours and the wider community, the level of concern around visual impact dropped significantly.

Red lights on turbines

Another concern highlighted was the number of flashing red lights on turbines. It was confirmed that the project must adhere to EASA (EU Aviation Safety Agency rules\Regulations) regarding lighting required along the perimeter of a wind farm project and spacing subject to a safety assessment. Ultimately the EASA is the governing body.

Noise

The layout was subject to a detailed noise impact assessment, in which it was determined that the proposed layout would meet the noise requirements set out in the Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2006 and other relevant guidance and best practice. Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm has also been designed to enable it to comply with the Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2019.

The noise assessment also involved working with community members to compile the background noise levels from monitors, which were placed at local residences surrounding the study area.

At the on-site community engagement clinic, accumulative noise assessment was explained along with the difference between 20-year-old and modern wind turbines, 2006 guidelines, present-day technology, post-commissioning noise monitoring, adherence to the planning application and mitigation measures that can be used. According to feedback, these discussions were very informative and helpful to attendees.

The noise assessment considered all construction-related noise associated with machinery and traffic and all site activities and found that the proposed layout complies with all relevant regulations.

Please find further details in the Noise & Vibration chapter, Population, Human Health & Material Assets chapter and Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment Chapter of the EIAR.

Potential Enduring Community Benefits

Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm has the potential to bring significant positive benefit to the local community. If constructed, the project will create sustainable local employment, it will generate annual commercial rates contributions for the local authority and it will provide a local Community Benefit Fund in line with industry best practice, which is currently the Government's Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS). This Community Benefit Fund will provide direct funding to those areas surrounding the project.

Community Benefit Fund

There are two important government policy developments that are expected to have a bearing on the establishment of future community benefit funds. The first is RESS 4, and its terms and conditions published by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications, due in 2024. The second is the updated Wind Energy Development Guidelines, which are due to be released in 2024. Both sets of policies are expected to specify government requirements on future community benefit funds for renewable energy projects. The project partners confirm that, where applicable, they will implement relevant Government policy and industry best practice as they apply to the establishment of the Cummeennabuddoge Community Benefit Fund.

If the project is delivered under RESS, for each megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity produced by the wind farm, the project will contribute €2 into a community fund for the RESS period i.e., 15 years of operation. If this project is constructed as currently designed, we estimate that a total of approximately €9.4 million* will be available in the local area for community funding over the RESS period of 15 years. The above figure is indicative only and will be dependent on route to market and the generation capacity of the wind farm, which is influenced by a number of factors including:

1. Number of wind turbines.
2. Capacity and availability of energy production of those turbines.
3. Wind generation.

The Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm, if constructed as proposed, has the potential to produce more than 312,732 MWh of clean electricity a year. This means that the project could provide more than €625,464 per annum to the Community Benefit Fund.

*(between €625,464 and €750,557pa).

RESS guidelines for the annual distribution of this fund are as follows:

- A minimum of €1,000 shall be paid to each household located within a distance of a 1-kilometre radius from the nearest turbine.
- A minimum of 40% of the funds shall be paid to not-for-profit community enterprises whose primary focus or aim is the promotion of initiatives towards the delivery of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goals 4, 7, 11 and 13, including education, energy efficiency, sustainable energy and climate action initiatives.
- A maximum of 10% on administration.
- The balance of the funds shall be spent on initiatives successful in the annual application process, as proposed by clubs and societies and similar not-for profit entities, and in respect of Onshore Wind RESS 1 Projects, on “near neighbour payments” for households located outside a distance of 1 kilometre, but within a distance of 2 kilometres from such RESS 1 Project.

How the fund works

The Government’s ‘Good Practice Principles for Community Benefit Funds’ provides full details on how the fund is to be governed and requires local community participation in all decisions in regard to how the funding should be used. The fund is open to individuals, and not-for-profit groups such as community and voluntary groups, charities, social enterprises and clubs and societies. High quality administration, local where possible, is also a key expectation. Further details can be found at <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/5f12f-community-projects-and-benefit-funds-ress/>

Should the project receive a planning grant, the project team and the local community will work together to develop an appropriate local structure that would design the Cummeennabuddoge Farm Community Benefit Fund. This group will make decisions on funding allocations and, with the assistance of an administrator, manage the fund, ensuring transparency and good governance. If the project does not qualify for RESS, FuturEnergy Ireland and SSE Renewables pledge to deliver a community fund in line with industry best practice.

Community Investment Opportunity

The proposed Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) sets out that future renewable energy project proposals enable the possibility for local communities to invest in projects in a meaningful way. There should be a means to directly gain from the financial dividends that a project can provide should it be consented, built and operated.

In response to this, FuturEnergy Ireland and SSE Renewables have been working hard with external agencies to develop workable models of community investment. At the time of writing, the details of a Community Investment Scheme continue to be worked through by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications. We look forward to its publication in due course and promoting this innovative offering to the community.

Employment Opportunities

It is estimated that the proposed project will create approximately 60 jobs during the construction phase and six long-term technical jobs during the operational and maintenance phases of the proposed development. During construction, additional employment will be created in the region through the supply of services and materials. There will also be income generated by local employment from the purchase of local services i.e., travel and lodgings.

Local County Council Rates

Annual rates paid to local authorities would be in the range of €1 million and €1.2 million annually for the 35-year lifetime of the project. This would make Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm an important future contributor to county councils' exchequer funding. This could positively impact local infrastructure and amenities such as roads, public lighting, street cleaning, libraries, fire services and public amenities. on-site recreational amenities and employment.



The proposed project will create approximately 60 jobs during the construction phase and six long-term technical jobs during the operational and maintenance phases

Ongoing Liaison and Contact

Project phases are detailed below with differing levels of engagement anticipated depending on the level of project activity. Underpinning the engagement will be a dedicated Community Liaison Officer who is contactable by email and phone. These details will remain on the project website, which will be in place for the duration of the project. As Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm progresses, regular updates will be posted to this website.

Post-planning submission until six months pre-construction

If the proposed project receives a favorable planning decision and has progressed successfully through the next stages of project development, there will be a period of approximately 24 to 36 months when key community-related activities will begin. The first is a participatory design process for the Cummeennabuddoge Community Benefit Fund (CBF) that will take place 6 to 8 months prior to construction work.

The team will start reaching out, initially to residents within the 2km zone and then slightly further afield, to bring together a small group who are interested in working on the design and structure of a community-based entity that would ultimately run the Community Benefit Fund. This process will start with a scoping exercise followed by a series of facilitated workshops. It is hoped that representatives involved in existing local development initiatives will become stakeholders and therefore contribute to this strategy.

The second piece activity is to explore the potential for community investment in the project as outlined in RESS. This is likely to follow on from the CBF workstream and will look at the best ways to promote awareness about this opportunity in advance of it becoming available.

Pre-construction and construction phase

Six months prior to construction, we will initiate the formation of a liaison group. The project team will meet this group monthly to prepare for the construction phase and monitor activity during construction. This group will develop plans for communicating effectively with residents directly impacted by construction activity and deliveries, especially traffic planning to minimise disruption.

The project will also engage with local suppliers to outline its future needs and promote the use of local suppliers and service providers wherever possible. This may take the form of a “meet the buyer” event.



Operational phase

The project will continue to engage with the liaison group to update them on the project's performance and address any issues. The Community Liaison Officer will be available throughout this period to directly address any issues raised by local residents. The project website will also be maintained as a means of providing regular, up-to-date information. There will be regular updates on the performance of the Community Benefit Fund and regular calls for funding proposals.

Decommissioning phase

A year prior to decommissioning, the project team will engage with the established liaison group as well as all residents within the 2km zone to outline the decommissioning plan and address any issues.

In line with the Government's Code of Practice 2016, the project will publish an annual report of all engagement activities on the project website.

Conclusion / Commitment

As outlined throughout this report, there has been very active community engagement in the vicinity of Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm throughout the planning/design phase. Many of our neighbours are supportive of the project, while others do not wish to see the project proceed.

We have achieved much in terms of making the proposed project a better project for all through our engagement. Our Community Liaison Officer Brendan Twomey has established strong relationships within the community that we hope to build on if the project progresses.

We fully recognise, however, that the development of a wind farm is a long and complex process and that there is ample time to jointly develop our community offerings with our near neighbours and other stakeholders. If the project receives planning consent, we will be progressing these offerings and activities throughout the planning adjudication and decision phases as well as in the pre- construction phase.



Project Literature: Newsletters, letters, brochures and other information

All Project newsletters, letters, brochures, webinar information, other information are accessible from the project website at:

September 2023

Poster placed in local shops/amenities/Post Office to promote the 2-day Community Engagement Clinic. *(Copy located below)

Advertisement placed in local newspapers to promote the Community Engagement Clinic. *(Copy located below)

Invitation letter to Community engagement clinic
*(Copy located below)

Invitation letter to Community engagement clinic.

Link: As Gaeilge:

[20230904-CMBG-Clinic-Invite-letter_Gaeilge.pdf \(cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie\)](#)

Link: In English:

[20230904-CMBG-Clinic-Invite-letter-English-.pdf \(cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie\)](#)

August 2023

Project Brochure

Project Brochure Link: Introduction as Gaeilge and main body in English:

[20230823-Cummeenabuddoge-brochure-1.pdf \(cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie\)](#)

Accompanying letter and project summary As Gaeilge and English sent with Project Brochure

[20230828-Brochure-letter-Gaeilge-and-English-.pdf \(cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie\)](#)

*(Copies located below)

Virtual Tour launched

Go to www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie and click on 'Visit the Virtual Exhibition here'

May 2022

FuturEnergy Ireland sponsored and arranged Steamed climate action education programme

for five local national schools.

*(Image located below)

October/November 2023

Two more national schools added to the sponsored programme.

September 2022**Newsletter 3**

Link: As Gaeilge:

[*FEI-Cummeenabuddoge-Wind-Farm-Newsletter_Irish_Web.pdf*](#)
(cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie)

Link: In English:

[*FEI-Cummeenabuddoge-Wind-Farm-Newsletter_English_Web-1.pdf*](#)
(cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie)

Accompanying letter *(Copy located below) sent with Newsletter 3.

April 2022**Newsletter 2**

Link: As Gaeilge:

[*FEI-Cummeen-Newsletter_Irish_Web.pdf*](#) (cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie)

Link: In English:

[*FEI-Cummeen-Newsletter_English_Web.pdf*](#) (cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie)

Accompanying letter *(Copy located below) sent with Newsletter 2.

FuturEnergy Ireland Development Brochure

Link: [*230403_FINAL_FEI_Company_brochure_WEB.pdf*](#)
(cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie)

General Scoping Document

Link: Atmos Consulting Template (cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie)

February 2022

Project Update Letter

Link: As Gaeilge:

[*Cummeennabuddoge-Project-update-letter-Feb-2022-Irish-version.pdf*](#)
(cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie)

Link: In English:

[*Cummeennabuddoge-Project-update-letter-Feb-2022-English-version.pdf*](#)
(cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie)

July/August 2021

Newsletter 1.

Link: As Gaeilge:

[*Coillte_Cummeenn-A5-Leaflet-1_Irish_July2021.pdf*](#) (cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie)

Link: In English:

[*Coillte_Cummeenn-A5-Leaflet-1_English_July2021.pdf*](#)
(cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie)


December 2020

Project Introduction Letter:




Link: In English: [*Project-Introduction-Letter-Dec-2020.pdf*](#)
(cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie)

*(A copy was sent to local elected representatives in Co. Cork/Kerry)

W/C 11th September 2023 – Copy of poster displayed in local community settings advertising the community engagement clinic.

 Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm	
<p>CLINIC RANNPHÁIRTÍOCHTA</p> <p>Buail lenár bhfoireann go pearsanta, tuilleadh a fhoghlaim faoin tionscadal agus do cheisteanna a chur orainn</p> <p>Meán Fómhair 20th 12-8pm & Meán Fómhair 21st 11am-6pm</p> <p>Óstán Ghobnatan, Baile Bhuirne, Co. Chorcaí, P12 FW30</p> <p>R-phost: cummeennabuddoge@futureenergyireland.ie Glaoigh ar: Brendan Twomey, Oifigeach Idirchaidreamh Pobail, on 087 971 2151</p>	<p>COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CLINIC</p> <p>Meet the team in person, learn more about the project and ask your questions</p> <p>September 20th 12-8pm & September 21st 11am-6pm</p> <p>Abbey Hotel, Ballyvourney, County Cork, P12 FW30</p> <p>Email: cummeennabuddoge@futureenergyireland.ie Call: Community Liaison Officer Brendan Twomey on 087 971 2151</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>  </div> <div>  </div> </div>	

Week 11th September 2023
– Copy of advertisement placed in local newspapers promoting the community engagement clinic.

 Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm
<p>Community Engagement Clinics</p> <p>Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm is a proposed co-development between FuturEnergy Ireland and SSE Renewables located on the Kerry/Cork county bounds.</p> <p>You are invited to a community clinic where you can meet the team, learn more about the project and ask your questions.</p> <p>September 20th 12-8pm & September 21st 11-6pm Abbey Hotel, Ballyvourney, Co. Cork, P12 FW30</p> <p>Email: cummeennabuddoge@futureenergyireland.ie Call: Community Liaison Officer Brendan Twomey on 087 971 2151 Text: 087 971 2151 and request a call back</p> <p>We look forward to hearing from you</p> <p>For more information on this project, please visit www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>  </div> <div>  </div> </div>



September 8, 2023 – Copy of invitation letter to community engagement clinic as Gaeilge and in English sent to local elected representatives in Co Cork/Kerry.



Meán Fómhair 2023

[An Comhairleoir] [Teachta Dála] [Insert Name], a dhuine uasail,

Tá súil agam go bhfuil tú go maith.

Ag leanúint ar aghaidh ón r-phost agus ceangaltáin maidir le nuashonraithe an tionscadail a seoladh ar aghaidh ar an 29 Lúnasa, ba mhaith le foireann an tionscadail cuireadh a thabhairt duit freastal ar Clinic Rannpháirtíochta Pobail d'Fheirm Ghaoithe Chóimín na Bodóige in Ostan Ghobnatan, Baile Bhuirne, Contae Chorcaí, P12 FW30.

Beidh an clinic ar siúl ar an gCéadaoin 20 Meán Fómhair, ó 12:00 go 20:00 agus Déardaoin 21 Meán Fómhair ó 11:00 go 18:00.

Déanfar an t-imeacht comhairliúcháin phoiblí thuas a fhógairt go háitiúil agus sna nuachtáin chomh maith.

Tá súil againn tú a fheiceáil ag an gclinic, áit ar féidir leat bualadh le foireann Feirm Ghaoithe Chóimín na Bodóige go pearsanta, féachaint ar thaisnéis an tionscadail agus aon cheisteanna atá agat a chur.

Tá fáil ar gach eolas a eisíodh go dtí seo maidir leis an bhFeirm Ghaoithe atá beartaithe do Chóimín na Bodóige, lena n-áirítear liosta de Cheisteanna Coitianta, na nuachtlitracha agus na nuashonruithe go léir go dtí seo, agus rochtain ar an Taispeántas Fíorúil, ach cuirtear a thabhairt ar líne ar www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie

Ídir an dá linn, más mian leat teagmháil a dhéanamh linn chun aon ghné den tionscadal a phlé, bain úsáid as ár sonraí teagmhála thíos le do thoil.


Go raibh maith agat as do chuid ama.

Is mise le meas

Breandán Ó Tuama, Oifigeach Idirchaidreamh Pobail
Shane Lowry, Bainisteoir Rannpháirtíochta Pobail

Sonraí teaghlaigh:
R-phost: cummeennabuddoge@futureenergyireland.ie
Suíomh Gréasáin: www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie
Post: Faoi chúram: Breandán Ó Tuama, FuturEnergy Ireland, The Rubicon Centre, Baile an Easpaig, Cathair Chorcaí, Co. Chorcaí, T12 Y275.





September 2023

Dear [Cllr] [Deputy] [Insert Name],

I hope this letter finds you well.

Following on from the project update email with attachments sent to you on the 29th of August, the project team would like to invite you to the Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm Community Engagement Clinic in the Abbey Hotel, Ballyvourney, County Cork, P12 FW30.

The clinic will run on Wednesday September 20, from 12noon to 8pm and on Thursday September 21 from 11am to 6pm.

The above public consultation event will also be advertised locally and in the press.

We hope to see you at the clinic, where you can meet the Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm team in person, view the project information and ask any questions you may have.

For all information issued to date about the proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm, including a list of Frequently Asked Questions, all previous newsletters and updates, and access to the Virtual Exhibition, please visit www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie


In the meantime, if you wish to contact us to discuss any aspect of the project, please find our details below.

Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards,

Brendan Twomey, Community Liaison Officer.
Shane Lowry, Community Engagement Manager.

Contact details:
Email: cummeennabuddoge@futureenergyireland.ie
Website: www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie
Post: FAO Brendan Twomey, FuturEnergy Ireland, The Rubicon Centre, Bishopstown, Cork City, Co Cork, T12 Y275.



August 29, 2023 – Copy of accompanying letter as Gaeilge and in English sent with project summary and brochure to local elected representatives in Co Cork/Kerry.



Lúnasa, 2023

[An Comhairleoir - Teachta Dála] [Insert Name], a dhuine uasail,

Tá súil agam go bhfuil tú go maith. Tá bróisiúr pobail faoi iamh atá dírithe ar tionscadal Feirme Ghaoithe na Chóimín na Bodóige, comhthorbarait idir FuturEnergy Ireland agus SSE Renewables.

Leagtar amach go sonrach sa bhróisiúr tionscadail seo gach gné den bhforbairt atá beartaithe maidir le Feirm Ghaoithe na Chóimín na Bodóige. Ina theannta is féidir féachaint ar Thuras Fíorúil ag www.inchamrowindfarm.ie, ina bhfuil achoimrí ar thuarascálacha suiteithe timpeallachta agus fotamontáisi den cheantar a thaispeánann suíomh na dturbiní atá beartaithe. Tá achoimre eochair-thionscadail faoi iamh chomh maith agus súil agam go mbeidh sé ina chabhair duit.

Mar Oifigeach Idirchaidreamh Pobail (CLO) an tionscadail, tá bróisiúr maidir le Feirm Ghaoithe na Chóimín na Bodóige scaipeadh agam ar chónaitheoirí a bhfuil cónaí orthu in aice leis an suíomh atá beartaithe. Ina theannta sin, scaipfear preaseisiúint ar nuachtáin áitiúla agus ar stáisiún raidió chun iad a choimeád cothrom le dáta maidir leis an tionscadal.

Glaofaigh mé go díreach ar thithe atá laistigh in aice leis an tionscadal sna seachtainí atá romhainn chun éisteacht le haiseolas agus taisnéis a sholáthar de réir mar is gá. Más mian leat teagmháil a dhéanamh linn chun aon ghné den tionscadal a phlé faoi g h mo chuid sonraí thíos. Nó más fearr leat, is féidir leat r-phost, glaoch gutháin nó téacs a chur chugam ag iarraidh orm tú a choimeád cothrom le dáta maidir leis an tionscadal.

Leantfaimid lenár rannpháirtíocht phoiblí ar an talamh agus i mí Albreán réachtáilaimid clinic áitiúil rannpháirtíochta pobail chun neart deiseanna a thabhairt duitse agus do dhaoine sa dáilcheantar bualadh leis an bhfoireann agus aon cheisteanna atá agat a chur. Seolfar cuireadh chugat roimh ré agus tá súil againn gur féidir leat a bheith i láthair.

Le teacht ar gach eolas a eisíodh go dtí seo maidir le Feirm Ghaoithe na Chóimín na Bodóige atá beartaithe, lena n-áirítear liosta Ceisteanna Coitianta (Canna) agus gach nuachtlitr roimh seo, téigh go dtí www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie.

Is mise le meas,


Breandán Ó Tuama
Oifigeach Idirchaidreamh Pobail

Teléfono díreach: 087 971 2151
R-phost: cummeennabuddoge@futureenergyireland.ie
Suíomh Gréasáin: www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie
Post: Faoi chúram: Breandán Ó Tuama, FuturEnergy Ireland, The Rubicon Centre, Baile an Easpaig, Cathair Chorcaí, Co. Chorcaí, T12 Y275





August 2023

Dear [Cllr or Deputy] [Insert Name],

I hope this letter finds you well. Please find enclosed a community brochure on the proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm project, a co-development between FuturEnergy Ireland and SSE Renewables.

This project brochure provides a detailed overview of all aspects of the proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm development. It is accompanied by an online Virtual Tour, available to view at www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie, which includes summaries of the environmental survey reports and photomontages of the area that show the location of proposed turbines. I have also included a key project summary overleaf that I hope will be helpful.

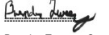
As the project's Community Liaison Officer (CLO), I am delivering the Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm brochure to residents who live adjacent to the proposed site. In tandem, there will be a press release distributed to local newspapers and radio stations to update them on the project.

I will call directly to houses adjacent to the project over the coming weeks to listen to feedback and provide information as required. If you wish to contact me to discuss any aspect of the project, please find my details below. Alternatively, you can email, call or text and request to be kept up to date on the project.

We will continue our on-the-ground public engagement and in September, we will hold a local community engagement clinic to give you and your constituents plenty of opportunity to meet the team and ask any questions you may have. An invitation will be sent to you in advance and hopefully you can attend.


For all information issued to date about the proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm, including a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and all previous newsletters, please visit www.Cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie.

Yours sincerely,


Brendan Twomey Community Liaison Officer
Direct Tel: 087 971 2151
Email: cummeennabuddoge@futureenergyireland.ie
Website: www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie
Post: FAO Brendan Twomey, FuturEnergy Ireland, The Rubicon Centre, Bishopstown, Cork City, Co.Cork, T12 Y275



August 29, 2023 – Copy of Project Summary as Gaeilge and in English sent with accompanying letter and brochure to local elected representatives in Co. Cork/Co. Kerry.

 Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm

The proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm at present consists of 17* turbines located on the Kerry/Cork County bounds. The nearest towns and villages are located in Co. Cork. The land parcel extends to approximately 925 hectares. The majority of the land use on the site can continue and co-exist with an operational wind farm.

*The final layout is expected to consist of at least 15 turbines, and it may be either 15, 16 or 17 turbines, subject to further details being finalised prior to a planning lodgment.

WHY THIS PROJECT?

- The proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm could generate enough renewable electricity to power between 74,000 and 89,000 houses annually.
- Over the lifetime of this project, the wind farm is expected to offset between 4 million and 4.8 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂).
- Onshore wind is clean, green fuel source, available in abundance in Ireland. The project would help to reduce Ireland's energy vulnerability, providing more energy and economic security for us all now and into the future.
- The project could provide a Community Benefit Fund of between €625,464* and €750,757* per annum for the first 15 years of operation.
- Local authorities would receive annual rates contributions of an estimated €1 million to €1.2 million annually.

*All figures above are based on a 17-turbine layout.

16 turbine layout:

- Between 70,000 and 85,000 homes powered annually.
- Carbon offset of at least 3.7 million tonnes.
- Between €588,672 and €706,406 annual Community Benefit Fund.
- Estimated between €960,000 to €1.15 million in annual rates payments.

15 turbine layout:

- Between 65,000 and 79,000 homes powered annually.
- Carbon offset of at least 3.5 million tonnes.
- Between €551,880 and €662,256 annual Community Benefit Fund.
- Estimated between €900,000 to €1.1 million in annual rates payments.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

There has been continuous engagement within the local community from our Community Liaison Officer Brendan Twomey. Further plans include an on-site community engagement clinic in September.

PLANNING

The scale of the project means that it is considered a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) and the planning application will be assessed by An Bord Pleanála. It is anticipated that this will be submitted during Q4 2023.

www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie

 Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm

I láthair na huairé tá Feirm Ghaoithe Choimín na Bodóige atá beartaithe comhdhéanta de 17 turbín atá suite ar theorainneacha chontaetha Chiarraí/Chorcaí. Tá na bailte agus na sráidbhailte i gCo. Chorcaí. Sineann an dáileacht talún go thart ar 925 heicteár. Is féidir le formhór na húsáide talún ar an láithreán leanúint ar aghaidh mar atá agus a bheith ann ag an am céanna le feirm ghaoithe oibríoch.

*Táthar ag súil go mbeidh 15 turbín ar a laghad sa leagan amach deiridh, agus d'fhéadfadh go mbeadh 15, 16 nó 17 turbín i gceist, faoi riail sonraí breise a bheith tugtha chun críche roimh don iarratas pleanála a bheith curtha isteach.

CÉN FÁTH AN TIONSCADAL SEO?

- D'fhéadfadh Feirm Ghaoithe na hInse Móire a dhóthain leictreachais in-athnuaite a ghiniúint chun idir 74,000 agus 89,000 teach a chumhachtú in aghaidh na bliana.
- In imeacht shaoil an tionscadail seo, meastar go ndéanfaidh an feirm ghaoithe idir 4 milliún agus 4.8 milliún tonna dé-ocsaíd charbóin (CO₂) a fhritháireamh.
- Is foinse glan agus breosla glas í an ghaoth ar talamh, atá ar fáil go fluirseach in Éirinn.
- Chabhroídh an tionscadal seo le leochaileacht fuinnimh na hÉireann a laghdú, agus sholáthródh níos mó slándála fuinnimh agus eacnamaíoch dúinn go léir, anois agus sa todhchaí.
- D'fhéadfadh an tionscadal Ciste Sochair Pobail de idir €625,464* agus €750,757* in aghaidh na bliana a chur ar fáil don chéad 15 bliana oibríochta.
- Gheobhadh Comhairle Contae Chorcaí ranníocaíochtaí rátaí bliantúla de idir €1 milliún agus €1.2 milliún in aghaidh na bliana.

*Tá na figiúirí go léir thuas bunaithe ar leagan amach 17 turbín.

Leagan amach 16 turbín:

- Idir 70,000 agus 85,000 teach a gcumhachtú go bliantúil.
- Fritháireamh carbóin de 3.7 milliún tona ar a laghad.
- Idir €588,672 agus €706,406 de Chiste Sochair Phobail (CSF) go bliantúil.
- Measta idir €960,000 agus €1.15 milliún in iocaíochtaí rátaí bliantúla.

Leagan amach 15 turbín:

- Idir 65,000 agus 79,000 teach a gcumhachtú go bliantúil.
- Fritháireamh carbóin de 3.5 milliún tona ar a laghad.
- Idir €551,880 agus €662,256 de Chiste Sochair Phobail (CSF) go bliantúil.
- Idir €900,000 agus €1.1 milliún in iocaíochtaí rátaí bliantúla.

RANPHÁIRTÍOCHT PHOBAIL


Bhí teagmháil leanúnach laistigh den phobal áitiúil ar siúl ag an Oifigeach Idirchaidrimh Pobail, Brendan Twomey. I measc na bpleananna eile tá clinic rannpháirtíochta ar an láthair go luath i mí meán Fómhair.

CEAD PLEANÁLA

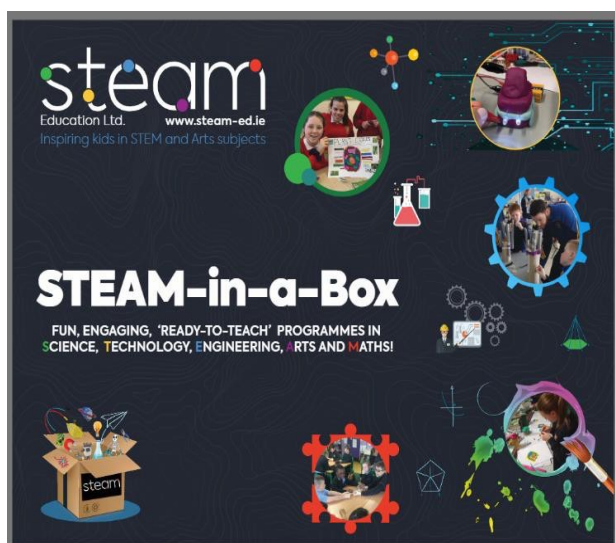
Ciallaíonn scála an tionscadail go meastar gur Forbairt Bonneagair Straitéisigh (SID) é agus déanfaidh an Bord Pleanála measúnú ar an iarratas pleanála. Táthar ag súil go gcuirfead é seo isteach le linn R4 2023.

www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie

May 2022 – FuturEnergy Ireland sponsored STEAM Education's 'Climate-Action-in-a-Box' programme in five national schools around the project area. In October/November 2023, two further national schools were sponsored.

 **steam**
Education Ltd. www.steam-ed.ie
Inspiring kids in STEM and Arts subjects

STEAM-in-a-Box
FUN, ENGAGING, 'READY-TO-TEACH' PROGRAMMES IN
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS AND MATHS!



Climate-Action-in-a-Box

A solution-focused programme exploring climate change and action, including the science of causes and effects, engineering and tech solutions for sustainable energy, humans and nature, and more. Using arts, communication and active citizenship we engage the children in understanding the part they can and do play and in contributing their ideas towards a greener future. Fun, hands-on, creative and participatory – designed to support and engage primary schools in positive Climate Action.

View video: <http://bit.ly/STEAM-CAPS>


SOME EXAMPLES OF THE LESSONS

- SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION**
- GREENHOUSE EFFECT ACTIVITY**
- DAY ANNUAL ACTIVITY**
- ENERGY SOURCES ACTIVITY**





September 2022 – copy of accompanying letter sent with Newsletter 3 to local elected representatives in Co. Cork/ Co. Kerry.



September 2022

Dear [Cllr or Deputy] [Insert Name],

I hope this letter finds you well.

Please find attached a community newsletter update on the proposed Choimin na Bódóige Wind Farm project, a co-development between FuturEnergy Ireland and SSE Renewables.

This newsletter is being distributed to local residents adjacent to the project. We will be offering additional information and plenty of opportunity to engage with the team over the coming months.

The proposed Choimin na Bódóige Wind Farm has the potential to make a significant contribution towards local county, regional and national energy targets, which include the Government's goal of generating at least 80% of Ireland's electricity from renewable sources by 2030. The project also has the potential to contribute significantly to the local economy via rates contributions and a substantial community benefit fund.

If you wish to contact me to discuss any aspect of the project, please find my details below. Alternatively, you can email, call or text and request to be kept up to date on the project.

For all information issued to date about the proposed Choimin na Bódóige Wind Farm, including a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and all previous newsletters, please visit www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Twomey
Community Liaison Officer

Direct Tel: 087 971 2151
Email: cummeennabuddoge@futureenergyireland.ie
Website: www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie
Post: FAO Brendan Twomey, Coillte Office, Hartnetts Cross, Macroom, Co. Cork, P12 XA5

Directors: Barry Gavin (Chair), Henry Boucher, David Feeney, David McNamara, Gerard Murphy, William Stanley, William Young. Company Registration Number: 683948

futureenergyireland.ie

April 2022 – Copy of accompanying letter sent with Newsletter 2 to local elected representatives in Co. Cork/ Co. Kerry.



c/o Coillte Office,
Back of the Forge,
Lower Main Street,
Castletland,
Co. Kerry

18th April 2022

Dear [Cllr or Deputy] [Insert Name],

I hope this [email/letter] finds you well.

Please find attached a community newsletter update on the proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm project, a co-development between FuturEnergy Ireland and SSE Renewables.

This newsletter is being distributed to local residents adjacent to the project. As the Cummeennabuddoge Community Liaison Officer (CLO), I will be calling directly to houses within 2km of the project over the coming weeks to listen to feedback and provide information as required.

The proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm has the potential to make a significant contribution towards local county, regional and national energy targets, which include the Government's goal of generating at least 80% of Ireland's electricity from renewable sources by 2030. The project also has the potential to contribute significantly to the local economy in Co. Kerry and Co. Cork via rates contributions and a substantial community benefit fund.

If you wish to contact me to discuss any aspect of the project or to arrange a meeting, please find my details below. Alternatively, you can email, call, or text and request to be kept up to date on the project.

For all information issued to date about the proposed Cummeennabuddoge Wind Farm, including a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and all previous newsletters, please visit www.cummeennabuddogewindfarm.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Twomey
Phone: 087 971 2151
Community Liaison Officer
Email: cummeennabuddoge@futureenergyireland.ie

Directors: Barry Gavin (Chair), Henry Boucher, David Feeney, David McNamara, Gerard Murphy, William Stanley, William Young. Company Registration Number: 683948

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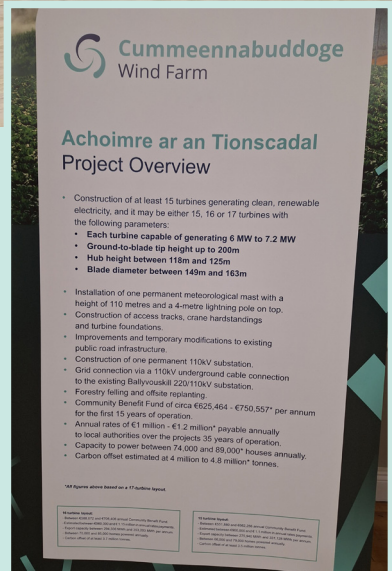


STEAM Education Ltd. are delighted to be working with
FuturEnergy ^{Ireland} to deliver **Climate Action-in-a-Box**

FuturEnergy ^{Ireland}

steam
Inspiring kids in STEM and Arts subjects www.steam-ed.ie
Léarnal a spreagadh in dthoir STEM agus na nEalaíon





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