



An Bord Pleanála
Marine Section
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1

Our ref: 220404

Date: 17th January 2025

Re: Section 291 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) – Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála in Respect of the Sceirde Rocks Offshore Wind Farm.

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of our client, Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta (“FST”), (c/o Mahon Solicitors, 2 Carraig Mhór, An Spidéal, Co. Galway) please find enclosed an application for development permission prepared in accordance with Section 291 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) (“the Act”) relating to the proposed Sceirde Rocks Offshore Wind Farm (“the Project”). The proposed offshore infrastructure is located in the maritime area, off the coast of counties Galway and Clare. The proposed onshore infrastructure is located in County Clare.

Background

FST was granted a Maritime Area Consent (“MAC”) for the Project, which commenced on the 23rd of December 2022 (MAC Ref: 2022-MAC-007). Three amendments to the MAC have been granted since the original grant in December 2022. The first amendment, relating to an extension of the date by which application for Development Permission must be submitted, was granted by the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA), on the 21st of May 2024. The second amendment, relating to the extension of the Array Area, was granted by MARA on the 28th of June 2024. The third amendment, relating to an extension of the date by which application for Development Permission must be submitted, was granted by MARA on the 9th of December 2024.

Pre-application consultation, in accordance with Section 287 of the Act, was held with An Bord Pleanála (ABP-317409-23). The pre-application consultation process was closed by An Bord Pleanála on the 17th of September 2024.

Proposed Development

The proposed development as set out in the public notices is as follows:

Offshore Development:

- I. 30 no. offshore Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) with gravity based fixed-bottom foundations with the following details:*
 - *Tip height of 324.9m above Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT),*
 - *Rotor diameter of 292m;*
 - *Hub height of 178.9m above LAT;*

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- II. *1 no. 220kV offshore substation (OSS) of 55 m in height above LAT (including crane and communications mast) with a gravity based fixed bottom foundation. The OSS consists of an offshore electrical substation platform with multiple decks accommodating the electrical and communications plant and equipment, ancillary components and welfare facilities;*
- III. *A network of inter-array electrical and communication cables, of approximately 73 km in length, connecting the 30 WTGs to the OSS;*
- IV. *A 220kV offshore export cable complete with communication lines, of approximately 63.5 km in length, laid in and on the seabed from the OSS to landfall in the townland of Killard, Co. Clare;*
- V. *Seabed preparation for WTG, OSS and cable installation including rock placement, dredging and disposal;*
- VI. *Cable protection including trenching and burial, rock berms, and concrete mattresses.*

Onshore Development:

- I. *An underground Transition Joint Bay (TJB) at the landfall point in the townland of Killard, Co. Clare connecting the offshore export cable to the onshore grid connection cable. The TJB consists of an underground concrete chamber (20m x 5m wide, with a depth of 2.5m), where the proposed offshore export cable will be connected to the onshore grid connection cable;*
- II. *220kV onshore grid connection and communications cables laid underground, primarily in the public road corridor with small sections in third party lands, for approximately 19.3 km between the TJB in the townland of Killard, Co. Clare and the new 220kV Onshore Compensation Compound (OCC) in the townland of Ballymacrinan, Co. Clare;*
- III. *220kV onshore grid connection and communication cables laid underground, primarily in the public road corridor with small sections in third party lands, for approximately 3 km between the new 220kV OCC in the townland of Ballymacrinan, Co. Clare and the existing Moneypoint 220kV substation in the townland of Carrowdotia South, Co. Clare;*
- IV. *43 no. joint bays complete with communication chambers and link box chambers along the onshore grid connection route between the TJB in the townland of Killard, Co. Clare to the existing 220kV Moneypoint substation in the townland of Carrowdotia South, Co. Clare;*
- V. *A 220kV Onshore Compensation Compound located in the townland of Ballymacrinan, Co. Clare. The 220kV onshore compensation compound consists of:*
 - *Eirgrid 220kV GIS Building (49m x 18.5m, with a total height of 16.7m above Finished Floor Level (FFL));*
 - *ESB 220kV GIS Building (49m x 18.5m, with a total height of 16.7m above FFL);*
 - *Customer SCADA and MV power building (18.4m x 8.7m, with a total height of 6.15m above FFL);*
 - *Statcom building (30.5m x 22m, with a total height of 7.59m above FFL);*
 - *Upgrade of existing entrance onto the L-6150 including the removal of a small portion of existing stone wall and hedgerow;*
 - *All associated electrical and communications plant and equipment, welfare facilities, 3 no. foul water holding tanks, 3 no. bored wells, 3 no. attenuation tanks, access roads, car parking, security fencing and gates, rail and post fencing, telecommunications pole,*

lightning masts, signage, safety bollards, landscaping, drainage infrastructure and all other ancillary works and associated site development works;

- VI. *3 no. temporary construction compounds along the onshore grid connection cable route:*
 - *1 no. temporary construction compound at the landfall point in the townland of Killard Co. Clare;*
 - *1 no. temporary construction compound at the Kilrush Golf Club in the townland of Parknamoney, Co. Clare;*
 - *1 no. temporary construction compound at the new 220kV OCC in the townland of Ballymacrinan, Co. Clare;*
- VII. *Reinstatement of the road or track surface above the proposed onshore grid connection cable trench along existing roads and tracks;*
- VIII. *New and upgraded access tracks above the proposed onshore grid connection cable trench in third party lands;*
- IX. *Temporary entrances from public roads to facilitate construction of the onshore grid connection for construction phase only;*
- X. *Provision of 3 no. passing bays and the widening of the L-6150 road in the townland of Ballymacrinan to facilitate the delivery of abnormal loads for the construction of the proposed OCC;*
- XI. *All works associated with spoil management;*
- XII. *All associated site works and ancillary development above and below ground including hard and soft landscaping, habitat enhancement and drainage infrastructure.*

A 10-year development permission and a 38-year operational life of the proposed development from the date of commissioning of the proposed development is sought.

Contents of Application

The following documents are included in the application pack:

Planning Application Form

A completed planning application form is included as part of this application. The application form includes 6 appendices, which are as follows:

- Appendix 1: Drawing Schedule
- Appendix 2: Maritime Area Consent
- Appendix 3: Site Notice & Newspaper Notices
- Appendix 4: Pre-application & Public Consultation Summary
- Appendix 5: List of Prescribed bodies and Notification Letters
- Appendix 6: EIA Portal Confirmation

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Site Notice

31 no. site notices with white backgrounds were erected on the 17th January 2025. The site notices have been erected as per the locations shown on the Site Notice Location Maps (MKO drawings 220404-03A to 220404-03I) included in the planning drawing pack.

Newspaper Notice

A newspaper notice was advertised in 2 no. local newspapers (the Connacht Tribune dated 17 January 2025 and the Clare Champion dated 17 January 2025) and 1 no. national newspaper (the Irish Examiner dated 16 January 2025). The newspaper notices were published in both English and Irish in all three newspapers.

Landowner Consent

As the application includes lands under the ownership of third parties, letters of consent from relevant landowners are included in this application as appendix 2 of this cover letter.

Planning Fee

The planning fee of €100,000 has been paid by EFT. Proof of payment is included as Appendix 1 of this cover letter.

The details of the payment is set out below.

- Payment of Planning Application Fee €100,000 via EFT on the 05/12/2024.
- Senders Name – Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta
- Reference – SCEIRDE ROCKS ABP-317409

Planning Application Drawings

A full set of planning application drawings has been prepared by MKO, Malachy Walsh & Partners (MWP), and OWC in accordance with the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and is included with this application. A drawing schedule is included in the drawing pack and in Appendix 1 of the Application Form.

Planning Report

A planning report has been prepared in support of the Project. The planning report provides an assessment of the Project against the relevant climate, energy and planning policy and includes 2 no. appendices as follows:

- Appendix 1: National Marine Planning Framework Compliance Assessment
- Appendix 2: Local Authority Planning Compliance Assessment

Environmental Impact Assessment & Appropriate Assessment

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in relation to the Project and accompany this planning application.

As outlined in detail in the accompanying documentation, all elements of the Project have been assessed as part of the EIAR and NIS lodged. As the project requires an EIAR, the application has been notified to the EIA Portal. The EIA Portal ID is 2025007, and the project details have been uploaded to the EIA Portal.

The structure of the EIAR is set out in the following format:

Galway - MKO, Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84 (**Correspondence address**)

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- > Volume 1A – Non-Technical Summary (NTS) and Introductory Chapters
- > Volume 1B – EIAR Offshore Chapters
- > Volume 1C – EIAR Onshore Chapters
- > Volume 1D – EIAR Whole Project Chapters
- > Volume 2 – EIAR Photomontage Booklet
- > Volume 3 – EIAR Appendices

The structure and format of the NIS is set out as follows:

- > NIS Volume 1 – Offshore
- > NIS Volume 2 – Onshore

Copies of Application and Project Website

8 no. electronic copies of the planning application pack and 2 no. hard copies as outlined above are enclosed with this letter, as agreed with An Bord Pleanála. Galway and Clare County Council have received 2 no. hard copies and 2 no. electronic copies of the application pack. All prescribed bodies as set out in the Board's pre-application consultation close-out letter, dated the 24th September 2024, have received a copy of the application.

All documentation associated with the application as lodged can also be found at the dedicated project website: www.sceirderockswindfarmplanning.ie

I trust that the enclosed information is sufficient for your requirements, and that the planning application can be progressed accordingly, however, if you have any queries or wish to discuss any matter in relation to the subject application, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Colm Ryan
Planning Director

Enclosed

Appendix I - Proof of Payment

Appendix II - Landowner Consent Letters

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APPENDIX 1

DETAILS OF FEE PAYMENT

Payment debit advice

FUINNEAMH SCEIRDE TEORANTA
NATWEST BANK
OAKFIELD CORNER
HILL AVENUE
AMERSHAM, BUCKS
DEPOT CODE 021
HP6 5BU

Our ref: EBANKGO15911824
Your ref: AN BORD PLEANALA
Date: 5th December 2024
Time: 08:47:52
Delivery ref: 01173779838

We confirm having remitted the following Standard transfer

Amount debited: EUR 100,000.56
From account: 550-00-47643285
Amount sent: EUR 100,000.00

Debit date: 5th December 2024

In favour of:
AN BORD PLEANALA

Beneficiary bank:
AIB BANK
AIB
10 MOLESWORTH STREET
DUBLIN
IRELAND

Beneficiary account number:
IE70AIBK93105500316067

Payee bank:

Payment details:
SCEIRDE ROCKS ABP-317409

Ordered by:
FUINNEAMH SCEIRDE TEORANTA
On behalf of:

Transactional information:

Requested amount: EUR 100,000.00
Exchange Rate:
Deal Reference:
NWB commission charges: EUR 0.56
NWB commission charges information:
Agent bank charges amount: 0.00

This notification is not confirmation of receipt of the funds by the beneficiary - the bank does not accept any liability whatsoever for any loss or damage arising in any way from any use of or reliance placed on the information.



APPENDIX 2

LANDOWNER LETTERS OF CONSENT

Strategic Infrastructure Development Section
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Date: 17th JUNE 2024.

To whom it may concern,

Re: Planning Application by Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta in respect of an offshore wind farm at Sceirde (Skerd) Rocks, Co. Galway and associated works including onshore underground electricity cable.

We, **JAMES CLANCY AND AIDEEN CLANCY** both of Killard, Doonabeg in the County of Clare confirm that we are aware of and hereby consent to the submission of a planning application for the above referenced works, located on our lands within Land Registry Folios 14878F, 29464F and 12049F County Clare.

Yours faithfully,



JAMES CLANCY



AIDEEN CLANCY

Strategic Infrastructure Development Section
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Date: 18-6-'24

To whom it may concern,

Re: Planning Application by Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta in respect of an offshore wind farm at Sceirde (Skerd) Rocks, Co. Galway and associated works including onshore underground electricity cable.

I, **CIAN CLANCY** of Killard Hill, Doonbeg in the County of Clare confirm that I am aware of and hereby consent to the submission of a planning application for the above referenced works, located on my lands within Land Registry Folio 61173F County Clare.

Yours faithfully,


CIAN CLANCY

Strategic Infrastructure Development Section
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Date: 6-6-2024

To whom it may concern,

Re: Planning Application by Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta in respect of an offshore wind farm at Sceirde (Skerd) Rocks, Co. Galway and associated works including onshore underground electricity cable.

I, **THOMAS O'DONNELL** the person entitled to be registered as owner confirm that I am aware of and hereby consent to the submission of a planning application for the above referenced works, located on my lands within Land Registry folio 5788 County Clare.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas O'Donnell.

THOMAS O'DONNELL

Strategic Infrastructure Development Section
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

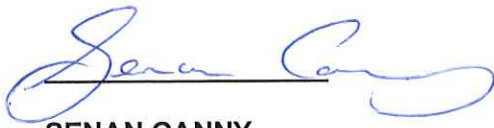
Date: 6 June 2023

To whom it may concern,

Re: Planning Application by Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta in respect of an offshore wind farm at Sceirde (Skerd) Rocks, Co. Galway and associated works including onshore underground electricity cable.

I, **SENAN CANNY** of Ballykett, Kilrush in the County of Clare confirm that I am aware of and hereby consent to the submission of a planning application for the above referenced works, located on my lands within Land Registry Folio 3332F County Clare.

Yours faithfully,


SENAN CANNY

Strategic Infrastructure Development Section
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Date: 15.12.2023.

To whom it may concern,

Re: Planning Application by Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta in respect of an offshore wind farm at Sceirde (Skerd) Rocks, Co. Galway and associated works including onshore underground electricity cable.

I, **KATHLEEN DONNELLAN** of Ballykett, Kilrush in the County of Clare confirm that I am aware of and hereby consent to the submission of a planning application for the above referenced works, located on my lands within Land Registry Folio 52791F County Clare.

Yours faithfully,



KATHLEEN DONNELLAN

Strategic Infrastructure Development Section
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Date: 4/6/2024

To whom it may concern,

Re: Planning Application by Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta in respect of an offshore wind farm at Sceirde (Skerd) Rocks, Co. Galway and associated works including onshore underground electricity cable.

We (1) Peter Glynn of Leadmore house, Kilrush, Co. Clare, (2) Thomas William Joseph Gerard Williams of Feagurroge, Kilrush, Co. Clare, (3) Denis F. Nagle of Vandeleur Street, Kilrush, Co. Clare, (4) Michael Farrell of Ballyerra House, Kilrush, Co. Clare and (5) James Young Senior of Parknamoney, Kilrush, Co. Clare the registered owners and trustees for the time being of the Kilrush Golf and Sports Club hereby confirm that we are aware of and hereby consent to the submission of a planning application for the above referenced works, located on our lands within Land Registry Folios 23704F, 15494F and 23790 County Clare.

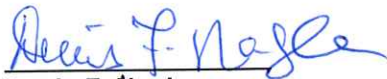
Yours faithfully,



Peter Glynn



Thomas William Joseph Gerard Williams



Denis F. Nagle



Michael Farrell



James Young Senior

Strategic Infrastructure Development Section
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Date:

To whom it may concern,

Re: Planning Application by Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta in respect of an offshore wind farm at Sceirde (Skerd) Rocks, Co. Galway and associated works including onshore underground electricity cable.

I Daniel Chambers of Henry Street, Kilrush, Co. Clare hereby confirm that I am aware of and hereby consent to the submission of a planning application for the above referenced works, located on my lands within Land Registry Folio 25332 County Clare.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Daniel Chambers".

Daniel Chambers

Strategic Infrastructure Development Section
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Date: 7th May 2024.

To whom it may concern,

Re: Planning Application by Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta in respect of an offshore wind farm at Sceirde (Skerd) Rocks, Co. Galway and associated works including onshore underground electricity cable.

I
~~We John and~~ Margaret Purtill of Ballyurra, Kilrush, Co. Clare hereby confirm that we are aware of and hereby consent to the submission of a planning application for the above referenced works, located on our lands within Land Registry Folio 19105 County Clare.

Yours faithfully,

~~John Purtill~~

Margaret Purtill
Margaret Purtill

Strategic Infrastructure Development Section
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Date: 17th ~~May~~ 2024
June

To whom it may concern,

Re: Planning Application by Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta in respect of an offshore wind farm at Sceirde (Skerd) Rocks, Co. Galway and associated works including onshore underground electricity cable.

I Michael Purtill of Ballyurra, Kilrush, Co. Clare hereby confirm that I am aware of and hereby consent to the submission of a planning application for the above referenced works, located on my lands within Land Registry Folio 19074 County Clare.

Yours faithfully,



Michael Purtill

Strategic Infrastructure Development Section
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Date: 15/11/2024

To whom it may concern,

Re: Planning Application by Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta in respect of an offshore wind farm at Sceirde (Skerd) Rocks, Co. Galway and associated works including onshore underground electricity cable.

I, **PATRICK FRANCIS LILLIS** of 48, Henry Street, Drimna, Kilrush in the County of Clare confirm that we are aware of and hereby consent to the submission of a planning application for the above referenced works, located on my lands within Land Registry Folio 12287 County Clare.

Yours faithfully,

Pat Lillis

PATRICK FRANCIS LILLIS