

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025



APPENDIX 2-1

EIAR SCOPING EXERCISE RESPONSES

Micheal Cahill

From: Jack Smith
Sent: 24 November 2023 16:30
To: Matthew Craig
Cc: windfarms; Johnny Evans; Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

That's fine, thanks Matthew.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 3:57 PM
To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: windfarms <windfarms@rte.ie>; Johnny Evans <johnny.evans@2rn.ie>
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,
As stated earlier in the year we have no linking in the area but there is a risk of interference to broadcast services. We would therefore ask that a protocol be signed between 2rn and the developer should the site go ahead.

Regards

Matthew Craig

Project Engineer
Projects and Coverage Planning
2RN
Block B, Cookstown Court, Old Belgard Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24, Ireland

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 2:31:02 PM (UTC+00:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London
To: Johnny Evans <johnny.evans@2rn.ie>
Cc: windfarms <windfarms@rte.ie>
Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

You don't often get email from jsmith@mkoireland.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution - This email originated from outside RTÉ. Do not click any link, do not open attachments unless you can confirm the sender and do not scan any QR codes in any emails.

Dear Mr Evans,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project is enclosed with this letter.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

RTÉ Disclaimer: The information in this e-mail is confidential and may be legally privileged. It is intended solely for the addressee. Access to this e-mail by anyone else is unauthorised. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution, or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on it, is prohibited and may be unlawful. Please note that emails to, from and within RTÉ may be subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and may be liable to disclosure. Tá an t-eolas sa ríomhphost seo faoi rún agus d'fhéadfadh sé a bheith faoi phribhléid dhlíthiúil. Is ar an seolaí amháin atá sé dírithe. Níl cead ag aon duine eile rochtain a fháil ar an ríomhphost

Micheal Cahill

From: Jack Smith
Sent: 24 November 2023 16:31
To: Roger Woods
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Thanks Roger,

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Roger Woods <rwoods@cnam.ie>
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 3:39 PM
To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

You don't often get email from rwoods@cnam.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack

Coimisiún na Meán does not perform an in-depth analysis of the effect of wind turbines on FM networks. However, we are not aware of any issues from existing windfarms into existing FM networks. Also, the proposed windfarms are not located close to any existing or planned FM transmission sites.

Regards

Roger

Senior Executive Engineer

My email address has now changed to rwoods@cnam.ie, please update your address book accordingly.

Tá mo sheoladh ríomhphoist athraithe anois go rwoods@cnam.ie, dá réir sin déan do leabhar seoltaí a uasdátú, le do thoil.

Coimisiún na Meán | 2-5 Plás Warrington, Baile Átha Cliath D02 XP29, Éire
Coimisiún na Meán | 2-5 Warrington Place, Dublin D02 XP29, Ireland
T: + 353 (0)1 644 1200 | rwoods@cnam.ie



Tá an ríomhphost seo agus aon iatán a ghabhann leis rúnda agus is leis an duine sin amháin a bhfuil siad seolta chuige/chuici a bhaineann siad. Muna duitse an ríomhphost seo, ní ceart é a léamh ná a scaoileadh chuig aon tríú páirtí. Iarrtar ort teachtaireacht a sheoladh chuig an seoltóir nó chuig info@cnam.ie, agus an ríomhphost seo a scrios.

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended only for the use of the addressee. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender or info@cnam.ie immediately and delete this email. If you are not the intended recipient, any distribution or copying of this email is strictly prohibited.

Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 2:40 PM

To: Roger Woods <rwoods@cnam.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Dear Sir/Madam,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



Micheal Cahill

From: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>
Sent: 04 December 2023 12:09
To: Jack Smith
Subject: FW: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny
Attachments: Briskalagh renewable energy project, Co Kilkenny.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

You don't often get email from environmental_co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good afternoon,

Please see attached observations from our Felling Division

Regards

Environmental Co-ordination Unit

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 2:59 PM
To: Forestry Info <forestryinfo@agriculture.gov.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This Email originated from Outside of this department. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. Otherwise Please Forward any suspicious Emails to Notify.Cyber@agriculture.gov.ie.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

Disclaimer:

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

The information contained in this email and in any attachments is confidential and is designated solely for the attention and use of the intended recipient(s). This information may be subject to legal and professional privilege. If you are not an intended recipient of this email, you must not use, disclose, copy, distribute or retain this message or any part of it. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete all copies of this email from your computer system(s).

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Tá an t-eolas sa ríomhphost seo, agus in aon cheangaltáin leis, faoi rún agus tá sé dírithe ar an bhfaighteoir/na faighteoirí beartaithe amháin agus níor cheart ach dóibh siúd é a úsáid. D'fhéadfadh an t-eolas seo a bheith faoi réir pribhléid dhlíthiúil agus ghairmiúil. Mura tusa faighteoir beartaithe an ríomhphost seo, níor cheart duit an teachtaireacht seo, nó aon chuid di, a úsáid, a nochtadh, a chóipeáil, a dháileadh nó a choinneáil. Má fuair tú an ríomhphost seo go hearráideach, cuir an seoltóir ar an eolas láithreach agus scríos gach cóip den ríomhphost seo ó chóra(i)s do ríomhaire, le do thoil.

MKO
Tuam Road
Galway
H91 VW84

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

4th December 2023

Re: Scoping Request for the proposed renewable energy development near Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, Co Kilkenny.

Dear Sir/Madam,

The following are the comments from this Division in relation to the proposed development:

If the proposed development will involve the felling or removal of any trees, the developer must obtain a Felling Licence from this Department before trees are felled or removed. A Felling Licence application form can be obtained from **Felling Section, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford**. Email: felling.forests@agriculture.gov.ie or Web gov.ie - [Tree Felling Licences \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie)

A Felling Licence granted by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine provides authority under the Forestry Act 2014 to fell or otherwise remove a tree or trees and/or to thin a forest for silvicultural reasons. The Act prescribes the functions of the Minister and details the requirements, rights and obligations in relation to felling licences. The principal set of regulations giving further effect to the Forestry Act 2014 are the Forestry Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 191 of 2017).

The developer should take note of the contents of **Felling and Reforestation Policy** document which provide a consolidated source of information on the legal and regulatory framework relating to tree felling; gov.ie - [Tree Felling Licences \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie) As this development is within forest lands, particular attention should be paid to deforestation, turbulence felling and the requirement to afforest alternative lands.

In order to ensure regulated forestry operations in Ireland accord with the principles of sustainable forest management (SFM), as well fulfilling the requirements of other relevant environmental protection laws, the Department (acting through its Forest Service division) must undertake particular consultations, and give certain matters full consideration during the assessment of individual Felling Licence applications. This includes consultation with relevant bodies, the application of various protocols and procedures (e.g. Forest Service Appropriate Assessment Procedure), and the requirement for applicants on occasion to provide further information (e.g. a Natura Impact Statement).

Consequently, when the Forest Service is considering an application to fell trees, the following applies:

1. The interaction of these proposed works with the environment locally and more widely, in addition to potential direct and indirect impacts on designated sites and water, is assessed. Consultation with relevant environmental and planning authorities may be required where specific sensitivities arise (e.g. local authorities, National Parks & Wildlife Service, Inland Fisheries Ireland, and the National Monuments Service);
2. Where a tree Felling Licence application is received, the Department will publish a notice of the application before making a decision on the matter. The notice shall state that any person may make a submission to the Department within 30 days from the date of the notice. The notices are published online at: gov.ie - [Felling Licence Applications \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie)

3. Third parties that make a submission or observation will be informed of the decision to grant or refuse the licence, and on request, details of the conditions attached to the licence, the main reasons and considerations on which the decision to grant or refuse the licence was based, and where conditions are attached to any licence, the reasons for the conditions. Both third parties and applicants will be also informed of their right to appeal any decision within 14 days to the Forestry Appeals Committee. Felling Licence decisions are published online at: gov.ie - [Felling Licence Decisions \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

It is important to note that when applying to a **Local Authority**, or **An Bord Pleanála**, for planning permission where developments are:

- a) subject to an EIA procedure (including screening in the case of a sub-threshold development) and any resulting requirement to produce an EIAR; and/or
- b) subject to an Appropriate Assessment procedure (including screening) and any resulting requirement to a Natura Impact Statement (NIS); and
- c) the proposed development in its construction or operational phases, or any works ancillary thereto, would directly or indirectly involve the felling and replanting of trees, deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use, or replacement of broadleaf high forest by conifer species,
 - 1. that there is a requirement inter alia under the EIA Directive for an overall assessment of the effects of the project or the alteration thereof on the environment to be undertaken, including the direct and indirect environmental impact of the project;
 - and
 - 2. pursuant to Article 2(3) of the EIA Directive, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine strongly recommends that, notwithstanding the fact that a parallel consent in the form of felling licence may also have to be applied for, any EIAR and/or NIS produced in connection with the application for planning permission to the Local Planning Authority or An Bord Pleanála, should include an assessment of the impact of and measures, as appropriate, to prevent, mitigate or compensate for any significant adverse effects direct or indirect identified on the environment arising from such felling and replanting of trees, deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use, or replacement of broadleaf high forest by conifer species.
- 3. Please note that there must be absolute spatial consistency between the felling licence areas submitted to DAFM (second authority) and all related planning documents submitted to the first authority in respect of the felling area(s)

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Boyce
Felling Section
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Johnstown Castle
Co Wexford

Micheal Cahill

From: Jack Smith
Sent: 15 July 2024 16:14
To: Defence Property Management Planning
Cc: Don Watchorn (Defence); Eoin McDonnell (Defence)
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Hi Gillian,

I'm just following up on the below. You had stated you would consult with our Air Corps colleagues at Casement Aerodrome and revert in due course.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Defence Property Management Planning <PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 3:06 PM
To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: Don Watchorn (Defence) <Don.Watchorn@defence.ie>; Eoin McDonnell (Defence) <Eoin.McDonnell@defence.ie>
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Mr. Smith,

The Department of Defence wishes to acknowledge receipt of your e-mail below re: the proposed renewable energy project at Briskalagh Co. Kilkenny.

We will consult with our Air Corps colleagues at Casement Aerodrome and will revert in due course.

Please contact me if you have any queries.

Kind Regards,
Gillian

Gillian Holden

Property Management Branch

An Roinn Cosanta

Department of Defence

Bóthar an Stáisiúin, An Droichead Nua, Contae Chill Dara, W12 AD93.

Station Road, Newbridge, Co.Kildare, W12 AD93.

T+353 (045) 45 2043

M +353 87 1660640

E-mail: gillian.holden@defence.ie

www.defence.ie

Follow us on Twitter: [Department of Defence](#) | [Civil Defence](#) | [Office of Emergency Planning](#)

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Friday 24 November 2023 14:47

To: Defence Property Management Planning <PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This eMail originated from outside your organisation and the BTS Managed Desktop service. Do not click on any links or open any attachments unless you recognise the sender or are expecting the email and know that the content is safe. If you are in any doubt, please contact the OGCIO IT Service Desk.

Dear Mr Watchorn,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

Fógra faoi Rúndacht: Tá an ríomhphost seo agus aon iatán a ghabhann leis rúnda. Is leis an duine / nó daoine sin amháin a bhfuil siad seolta chucu a bhaineann siad agus ní ceart iad a léamh ná a scaoileadh chuig aon tríú páirtí gan cead roimh ré ón Roinn Cosanta.

Notice re Confidentiality: This e-mail and any attachment transmitted with it are confidential. They are intended solely for the use of the intended recipient and should not be read or released to any third party without the prior consent of the Department of Defence.

Micheal Cahill

From: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>
Sent: 15 January 2024 10:27
To: Jack Smith
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: G Pre00312/2023 : 230502 Informal Scoping Request

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

A Chara,

The Department is not in a position to make specific comments on this particular referral at this time. No inference should be drawn from this that the Department is satisfied or otherwise with the proposed activity. The Department may submit observations/recommendations at a later stage in the process.

Kind regards,

Edel Griffin

Executive Officer

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt

Development Applications Unit

Oifigi an Rialtais

Government Offices

Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman, Y35 AP90

Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford, Y35 AP90

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 15 January 2024 10:06
To: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: G Pre00312/2023 : 230502 Informal Scoping Request

CAUTION: This eMail originated from outside your organisation and the BTS Managed Desktop service. Do not click on any links or open any attachments unless you recognise the sender or are expecting the email and know that the content is safe. If you are in any doubt, please contact the OGCIÓ IT Service Desk.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Could you please update me at your earliest convenience on the status of any response from the DAU in relation to the EIA Scoping Request given the following reference number: G Pre00312/2023

Please see attached email from your office acknowledging receipt of the scoping document and cover letter.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

Micheal Cahill

From: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>
Sent: 27 November 2023 08:31
To: Jack Smith
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Our Ref: G Pre00312/2023 (Please quote in all related correspondence)

A Chara,

I acknowledge receipt of your recent consultation.

In the event of observations, you will receive a co-ordinated heritage-related response by email from Development Applications Unit (DAU).

The normal target turnaround for pre-planning and other general consultations is six weeks from date of receipt. In relation to general consultations from public bodies under the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 to 2011, the Department endeavours to meet deadline dates, where requested.

If you have not heard from DAU and wish to receive an update, please email manager.dau@npws.gov.ie

Kind regards

Edel Griffin

Executive Officer

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt

Development Applications Unit

Oifigí an Rialtais

Government Offices

Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman, Y35 AP90

Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford, Y35 AP90

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Friday 24 November 2023 14:48

To: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This eMail originated from outside your organisation and the BTS Managed Desktop service. Do not click on any links or open any attachments unless you recognise the sender or are expecting the email and know that the content is safe. If you are in any doubt, please contact the OGCIO IT Service Desk.

Dear Mr Hillis,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

Micheal Cahill

From: Transport GCU <GeneralCo-OrdinationUnit@transport.gov.ie>
Sent: 19 December 2023 10:50
To: Jack Smith; Transport GCU
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny
Attachments: 20231214 DoT submission.docx
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Some people who received this message don't often get email from generalco-ordinationunit@transport.gov.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good morning,

Please find attached for your attention submission from Department of Transport in relation to 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny.

Kind regards
Jacqui

Jacqui Traynor
Central Policy, Coordination and Reform
An Roinn Iompair
Department of Transport
Lána Líosain, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 TR60
Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60
T +353 (0)1 604 1177
gcu@transport.gov.ie www.gov.ie/transport

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 24 November 2023 14:49
To: Transport GCU <GeneralCo-OrdinationUnit@transport.gov.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This eMail originated from outside your organisation and the BTS Managed Desktop service. Do not click on any links or open any attachments unless you recognise the sender or are expecting the email and know that the content is safe. If you are in any doubt, please contact the OGCIO IT Service Desk.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Mr. Jack Smith
Project Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd
Tuam Road

Galway

19th December 2023

Re: Informal Scoping Report – EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Dear Mr. Smith,

The Department of Transport makes the following comments on consultation request relating to the Scoping Report for the proposed Briskalagh (and adjacent townlands) Wind Farm in Co. Kilkenny.

It should be noted that the Department considers the construction involved in providing this development and especially, the connection cables to the national grid may have effects on both the environment and the Regional and Local Road network.

Where the developer proposes the placement of any cables (or additional cables) in one or more trenches within the extents of the (regional and local) public road network, it is necessary to consider the following:

- Their presence within the public road will likely significantly restrict the Road Authority in carrying out its function to construct and maintain the public road and will likely add to the costs of those works.
- Their installation within the lands associated with the public road may affect the stability of the road. In particular where the road is a “legacy road” (where there is no designed road structure and the subgrade may be poor or poorly drained) the design needs to take account of all the variable ground conditions and not be based on a sample of the general soil conditions.
- The possible effect on the remaining available road space (noting that there may be need to accommodate other utilities within the road cross-section in the future).



RECEIVED 03/01/2025

- The necessity to have the power in the cables switched off where the Road Authority considers this necessary in order to carry out its function to construct and maintain the public road.

The Department consider it important that the examination of the proposal should include consideration of the following:

- Examination of options other than the routing of cables along the public road,
- Examination of options for connection to the national grid network at a point closer to the wind farm in order to reduce the adverse impact on public roads.
- Details of where within the road cross section cables are to be placed so as to minimise the effect on the Roads Authority in its role of construction and maintenance,
- Examination of details of any chambers proposed within the public road cross section so as to minimise the effect on the Roads Authority in its role of construction and maintenance,
- Elimination of jointing bays from beneath the road pavement to protect the integrity of the road structure for the safety of those driving on the public road by eliminating hard spots and also preserve the road width for other utilities,
- Prevention of the attachment of cables to all bridge structures and culverts by diverting them beneath or away from these structures and,
- Rationalisation of the number of cables involved (including existing electric or possible future cables) and their diversion into one trench, in order to minimise the impacts on the road network and the environment along the road boundary (hedgerows).

The Department considers the following should be considered when applying conditions to any approval.

1. A condition requiring the specific approval of the local authority to the detail of the final route of cables through the public road space. If during construction there is a need to deviate from the detailed design then the approval of the local authority would again be sought. This would assist in minimising the impact on the public road.
2. A condition requiring the developer to comply with all appropriate standards and, inter alia the Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads, 2017 in order to ensure orderly development.



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

3. A condition requiring that the location of the cables would be recorded as exactly as possible (maybe using BIM type technology) so as to facilitate the further use of road space for utilities and the maintenance/construction of the public road by the Roads authority. This record should include as constructed surveys of all infrastructure altered, added, removed or relocated and exact detail of the road construction including any drains or other features encountered. The record should be lodged with the local authority and with the ESB Networks for retention on their records.
4. A condition to require the elimination of jointing bays from under the road pavement to protect the integrity of the road structure, thereby improving safety for those driving on the public road by eliminating hard spots and preserving the road width for other utilities.
5. A condition requiring the developer to route cables away from bridge structures and specifically preventing the developer from attaching cables to road bridges. This would allow for the future maintenance of bridges without interruption of the electricity supply along the cables.
6. A condition requiring the replacement of culverts that have been excavated during the cable duct placement operation. The replacement culverts should be designed appropriately and include an allowance for the effects of climate change.
7. A condition requiring the developer to notify the Roads Authority of the owner of the cables (Owner) and the controller (Power Controller) of the power transmitted along the cables. In addition, the condition should require Owner and Power Controller to notify the Roads Authority of any change in ownership of the cables or change of Power Controller transmitting power along the cables. In all instances the Owner and Power Controller should be required to maintain an agreed contacts list with the Roads Authority.

Yours sincerely,

Liam Hawkes

Central Policy, Coordination and Reform

An Roinn Iompair

Department of Transport

Lána Líosain, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 TR60

Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60

T +353 (0)1 604 1177 / gcu@transport.gov.ie www.gov.ie/transport

Micheal Cahill

From: John Bagnall <john.bagnall@eir.ie>
Sent: 21 December 2023 09:04
To: Jack Smith
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: Re: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

RECEIVED: 23/12/2023

You don't often get email from john.bagnall@eir.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

We have no transmission links within the proposed area that would be at risk from these turbine placements.

Kind regards,



John Bagnall

Wireless Transmission Engineer

M: +353 85 1053746

E: john.bagnall@eir.ie

Address: EirCode - D08 Y42N

On Fri, 24 Nov 2023 at 14:51, Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie> wrote:

Dear Mr Bagnall,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed

project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Kind Regards,

Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA

Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84



Offices in Galway and Dublin

mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

The information contained in this e-mail and any files transmitted with it is confidential and may be subject to legal professional privilege. It is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s). If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, please note that any review, dissemination, disclosure, alteration, printing, copying or transmission of this e-mail and/or any file transmitted with it, is prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this e-mail by mistake, please promptly inform the sender by reply e-mail and delete the material. Whilst this e-mail message has been swept for the presence of computer viruses, eir does not, except as required by law, represent, warrant and/or guarantee that the integrity of this communication has been maintained nor that the communication is free of errors, viruses, interception or interference.

eircom Limited, Registered as a Branch in Ireland Number 907674. Incorporated in Jersey Number

Micheal Cahill

From: Info - EirGrid <Info@Eirgrid.com>
Sent: 10 January 2024 11:28
To: Jack Smith
Cc: Eoin McCarthy; Info - EirGrid
Subject: RE: Webform submission from: General Enquiry

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

You don't often get email from info@eirgrid.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

It is more than likely due to the size limit placed on files...

I have received feedback from our Lead Ecologist, in order to reduce delays and to expedite generator applications it is EirGrid's position not comment.

If you need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Martin Cracknell | Customers & Connections (C&C)

M +353 (0) 87 293 3320

[EirGrid.com](https://eirgrid.com)



We're working flexibly at EirGrid Group.

I'm sending this message at a time that suits me.

Please feel comfortable knowing that I don't expect you to read, respond to or action it outside of regular working hours.

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 9:01 AM
To: Info - EirGrid <Info@Eirgrid.com>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: Webform submission from: General Enquiry

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content to be safe.

Hi Martin,

I'm trying to forward on two PDF attachments, the scoping document itself as well as a cover letter. However, it seems to be violating a policy of yours and is returning as undeliverable. Can you advise on the best way to share it with you?

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Info - EirGrid <Info@Eirgrid.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 9, 2024 5:38 PM
To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>; Info - EirGrid <Info@Eirgrid.com>
Subject: RE: Webform submission from: General Enquiry

You don't often get email from info@eirgrid.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

Please send on and I will pass to the appropriate person.

Many thanks,

Martin Cracknell | Customers & Connections (C&C)

M +353 (0) 87 293 3320

EirGrid.com



*We're working flexibly at EirGrid Group.
I'm sending this message at a time that suits me.
Please feel comfortable knowing that I don't expect you to read, respond to or action it outside of regular working hours.*

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 8:58 AM
To: Info - EirGrid <Info@Eirgrid.com>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: Webform submission from: General Enquiry

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content to be safe.

Hi Martin,

Transmission system, yes. Would you be the correct person to forward on the prepared scoping document PDF to for consideration?

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Info - EirGrid <Info@Eirgrid.com>
Sent: Friday, January 5, 2024 4:15 PM
To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: Info - EirGrid <Info@Eirgrid.com>
Subject: RE: Webform submission from: General Enquiry

You don't often get email from info@eirgrid.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

Many thanks for your mail.

Can you confirm if this proposed project is intended to be connected to the distribution or transmission system?

Kind regards,

Martin Cracknell | Customers & Connections (C&C)

M +353 (0) 87 293 3320

EirGrid.com



We're working flexibly at EirGrid Group.

I'm sending this message at a time that suits me.

Please feel comfortable knowing that I don't expect you to read, respond to or action it outside of regular working hours.

From: Eirgrid <donotreply@web.eirgrid.com>

Sent: Friday, January 5, 2024 12:23 PM

To: Info - EirGrid <Info@Eirgrid.com>

Subject: Webform submission from: General Enquiry

RECEIVED: 03/01/2024

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content to be safe.

Submitted on Fri, 01/05/2024 - 12:23

Submitted by: nextjs

Submitted values are:

First Name

Jack

Last Name

Smith

Email address

jsmith@mkofireland.ie

Phone number

[091 735 611](tel:091735611)

Subject

Data Requests

What would you like to discuss?

Good Afternoon,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In particular if you could provide data related to Eirgrid Infrastructure located within or adjacent to the proposed site.

I would like to forward on a PDF Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project to facilitate this request. Can you please respond to this request via email and I'll be able to forward it on.

Kind Regards,

Jack Smith

Micheal Cahill

From: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: 27 November 2023 14:32
To: Jack Smith
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

Thanks for that,
This development won't affect our current network,

Regards,
Peter

Peter O'Brien | Licensed Link planner

A: Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V946P52

M: +353867744313 | W: www.enet.ie



Connectivity Everywhere

Registered in Ireland, Registration No. 332982

Registered Offices: Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V94 6P52

enet is a registered business name of e-nasc éireann teoranta



Investors in
Diversity

SILVER



BEST
MANAGED
COMPANIES

Gold
standard

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday, November 27, 2023 2:27 PM
To: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This E-mail has originated from OUTSIDE the Speed Fibre Group | DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe..

Hi Peter,

Please see attached a KML of the proposed turbine locations.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>

Sent: Monday, November 27, 2023 9:27 AM

To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

Can you send the proposed area in a Google Earth kml file, I can then clash against our own network,

Thanks,
Peter

Peter O'Brien | Licensed Link planner

A: Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V946P52

M: +353867744313 | **W:** www.enet.ie



Connectivity Everywhere

Registered in Ireland, Registration No. 332982

Registered Offices: Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V94 6P52

enet is a registered business name of e-nasc éireann teoranta

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 2:53 PM

To: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This E-mail has originated from OUTSIDE the Speed Fibre Group | DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe..

Dear Mr O'Brien,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

Micheal Cahill

From: EIAPanning <eiapanning@epa.ie>
Sent: 03 April 2024 14:03
To: Jack Smith
Subject: RE: Briskalagh Renewable Energy Development EIA Scoping EPA016884

You don't often get email from eiapanning@epa.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good Afternoon Mr. Smith

The email address to forward Scoping Documents to is eiapanning@epa.ie

We trust this assists your query

Kind Regards

Environmental Licencing Programme
Office of Environmental Sustainability
An Clár um Cheadúnú Comhshaoil
Oifig um Inbhuanaitheacht Chomhshaoil



053-916 0600 (Switch)

eiapanning@epa.ie

www.epa.ie



Good Afternoon,

I'm writing in relation to informal scoping for a proposed renewable energy development. We've been requested to engage with the EPA by Kilkenny County Council.

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. The proposed study area measures approximately 440 hectares and the nearest proposed turbine is located approximately 1km north of Kilmanagh, Co. Kilkenny and approximately 2.7km south of Tullaroan, Co. Kilkenny.

It is envisaged that the proposed renewable energy development will likely comprise approximately 8 no. wind turbines, an onsite substation, grid connection cabling, hardstands, access roads and entrance(s), a temporary construction compound, a permanent meteorological mast and associated site development works and apparatus. All site cabling including the grid connection to the existing Ballyragget 110kV substation will be laid underground.

An application will be made to An Bord Pleanála (Board) seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic

Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed project. If the Board determine that the proposed project constitutes SID, the planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. Should the Board determine the project does not constitute SID, the application will be submitted to Kilkenny County Council.

As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that the EPA might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. In order to facilitate this, I would like to forward a Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. If this is possible can you please respond by email and let me know who to send it to.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards
Jack

Contact details

Customer Name: Jack Smith
Customer Email: jsmith@mkoireland.ie
Customer Phone: 353 (0)91 735 611
Customer Mobile: Not Available

Micheal Cahill

From: DialBeforeYouDig (ESB Networks) <dig@esb.ie>
Sent: 05 January 2024 15:34
To: Jack Smith
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RURAL HV OH & UG: Electrical Network Information Request Reference No: 20240105-043_A0 -PART 1
Attachments: ESB Construction Safety 28th 11.40.pdf; 2040105-043_A0_MAP 1.pdf; 2040105-043_A0_MAP 2.pdf; 2040105-043_A0_MAP 3.pdf; 2040105-043_A0_MAP 4.pdf; 2040105-043_A0_MAP 5.pdf; 2040105-043_A0_MAP 6.pdf; 2040105-043_A0_MAP 7.pdf; 2040105-043_A0_MAP 8.pdf; 2040105-043_A0_MAP 9.pdf; 2040105-043_A0_MAP 10.pdf

You don't often get email from dig@esb.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

ESB Networks Reference: 20240105-043_A0 -PART 1

To Whom it May Concern,

Thank you for your recent enquiry regarding the location of ESB electrical network. Please find notice below of documentation which must be reviewed carefully in advance of site works at the requested location.

- Attached PDF map(s) of requested location.
- ESB Networks 'Avoiding Danger From Overhead Electricity Lines'.
[safe-construction-with-electricity-2018.pdf \(esbnetworks.ie\)](#)
https://www.esbnetworks.ie/docs/default-source/publications/code-of-practice-for-avoiding-danger-from-overhead-electricity-lines.pdf?sfvrsn=425d33f0_8
- ESB Networks 'Safe System of Work for Digging'.
<http://esbnetworks.ie/docs/default-source/publications/avoid-electrical-hazards-when-digging.pdf>
- ESB Networks Code of Practice 'Safe Construction with Electricity'.
-See Attached Document.

Please fully read the contents of this e-mail and all attached or referenced Documentation carefully before you proceed.

The attached PDF map(s) indicate the approximate location of ESB underground (UG) cables and overhead (OH) lines. ESB makes no representation that the maps accurately show the location of ESB cables.

ESB Networks has issued this map as a PDF document. If printing a paper version of this map and to maintain a clear and correct representation of the electrical network information, it must be ensured that

- (1) It has been printed in colour to fit the page size that has been indicated within each PDF document (The PDF document indicates if the map should be printed on either of A4, A3, A2, A1, A0).
- (2) Each of the colours indicated on the colour code legend (incorporated in the PDF document) are clear and distinct from each other.

Please note that there are High Voltage Overhead Lines and Underground Cables in the area concerned. If you intend working or undertaking development within an 80 meter corridor of the overhead lines or in the direct vicinity of the underground cables you must immediately contact the local Transmission representative (please see list below for contact details) to agree safe working procedures and necessary clearances between the lines and the development in advance of any excavation.

Transmission Representatives HV Contacts ONLY			
Area	Contact	Address	Phone No.
Athlone	Kevin Fallon	Garrycastle, Athlone	
Dundalk	Peter Kirk	Avenue Road, Dundalk	
Cork	Pat Harrington	Wilton, Cork	
Dublin (Overhead Lines)	Diarmaid King	Inchicore, Dublin	
Dublin (Underground Cables)	Gareth Paisley	Inchicore, Dublin	
Cavan	Hugh Birt	Moynehall, Cavan	
Enniscorthy	Dan Mernagh	Enniscorthy	
Galway	David O'Loughlin	Galway	
Letterkenny	Kenneth King	Letterkenny	
Limerick	Alan Enright	Rosbrien, Limerick	
Portlaoise	Anthony Walsh	Portlaoise	
Sligo	Seamus Gilligan	Cranmore Road, Sligo	
Tralee	Brendan Watson	The Basin, Tralee	

If works don't commence before or continue beyond 6 weeks following the date of issue, then you must obtain an updated map. Each new job requires a new map. It is imperative that before any works commence you first locate and trace the routes of all electric cables by using appropriate locator equipment (in both power and radio modes). Before using a mechanical excavator, ONLY MANUAL means should be employed to prove the location of ESB cables. Even where manual excavation is used, extreme caution must always be exercised, as failure to do so could result in serious injury or electrocution. Under no circumstances should iron bars be used during manual excavation. Careful Hand Digging of Trial Holes using 'HSA Code of Practice for Avoiding Danger from Buried Services' should be used for accurate cable location and prior to using a mechanical excavator in the vicinity of electrical cables. See H.S.A. Code of Practice publication "Avoiding Danger From Underground Services" for further guidelines

Please note that, if during excavation, damage or interference occurs to our cables, causing damage to any property, injury or death to any person or loss of supply to any customers, ESB may at its discretion serve a STOP WORK Notice, and notify the relevant Health and Safety Authority

immediately. The user will also be liable to reimburse the ESB on a full indemnity basis, The full costs, expenses and damages arising (directly or indirectly) as a result. It is essential before excavating in the vicinity of ESB cables that the ESB Network Controller in the area you are working in is contacted.

ESB will extend every assistance in indicating the route of the cables and arrangements can be made by contacting the relevant ESB office. ESB cannot, however, accept responsibility for the absence or incorrect position of any particular cable on ESB's records and drawings supplied. Please note that a charge may be made where a movement of networks is required, and/or where ESB provide staff outside of normal working hours.

Please ensure that all contractors and their personnel involved in excavations have been furnished with this map.

In the event that you have any issues of concern please do not hesitate to contact Central Networks Mapping, ESB Network by the means

E-Mail: dig@esb.ie

Telephone: 1800 928 960

Address:
Central Networks Mapping,
ESB Networks,
St. Margaret's Road,
Finglas,
Dublin 11.

Yours faithfully,
Central Networks Mapping,
ESB Networks.

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 5 January 2024 15:09
To: DialBeforeYouDig (ESB Networks) <dig@esb.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 230502 ESB Network Infrastructure

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, Do NOT Click any links or Open any attachments if you were not expecting them.

Good Afternoon,

Thanks for the response, can you please review the attached PDF Map and let me know if that's sufficient. As per your request below, the XY Co-ordinates and the full site address are as follows:

The **Grid Reference** co-ordinates for the approximate centre of the site are X 639707, Y 654245 (ITM)

Address, the site is located in Briskalagh, Co. Kilkenny. Although the site comprises lands at Briskalagh, Oldtownhill, Riesk, Ballycuddihy, Knockeenglass, Coolnapisha, Oldtown, and Kilmanagh.

Again, please let me know if you require any further information.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: DialBeforeYouDig (ESB Networks) <dig@esb.ie>
Sent: Friday, January 5, 2024 2:52 PM
To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 230502 ESB Network Infrastructure

You don't often get email from dig@esb.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good Afternoon

Unfortunately, we cannot accept the ZIP File shapefile/KML File types attachment you have provided for legal and security purposes as we can only accept requested location with the work site clearly outlined or marked in a .pdf, .jpeg or .png formats and we have to be able to correctly identify requested locations on our system with a Geographic Map.

Can you please provide a **Geographic Map (google screenshot, OSi map, etc...)** of the **requested location** with the **work site clearly outlined or marked in a .pdf, .jpeg or .png format**. This is a **'SATELITTE VIEW'** looking down on the requested location. We cannot accept 'STREET VIEW' map attachments. We cannot accept 'ONLINE PDF's and we also cannot accept web map links for legal and security purposes as links expire.

Requests must fit within the format of A3 or A0 sized maps with the magnification no more than 1:2,500 for rural areas and 1:1,000 for high density urban areas.

Please provide the XY Co-ordinates and the full site address previously provided again when resending this request as this helps us locate the areas more easier with a Geographic Map.

It is a **legal requirement to provide a Geographic Map location** in the correct format we require and please make sure that the **attachments are openable/readable/legible** so we can locate the correct network available for Dial Before You Dig requests and process them accordingly.

Kind Regards
Dial Before You Dig

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 5 January 2024 14:21
To: DialBeforeYouDig (ESB Networks) <dig@esb.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 230502 ESB Network Infrastructure

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, Do NOT Click any links or Open any attachments if you were not expecting them.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. I am writing today specifically seeking baseline data on ESB Networks infrastructure within and in the vicinity of the proposed site. I have attached a site boundary shapefile and KML which is the area in question. Could please get back with any ESB infrastructure including overhead lines and/or other electricity infrastructure within this site boundary?

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

An timpeallacht? - Smaoinigh air sula bpriontáileann tú an r-phost seo.
Please consider the Environment before printing this email.

* * * * *

Tá an t-eolas sa ríomhphost seo agus in aon chomhad a ghabhann leis rúnda agus ceaptha le haghaidh úsáide an té nó an aonáin ar seoladh chuige iad agus na húsáide sin amháin. Is tuairimí nó dearcthaí an údair amháin aon tuairimí nó dearcthaí ann, agus ní gá gurb ionann iad agus tuairimí nó dearcthaí ESB. Má bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí earráid, ar mhiste leat é sin a chur in iúl don seoltóir. Scanann ESB ríomhphoist agus ceangaltáin le haghaidh víreas, ach ní ráthaíonn sé go bhfuil ceachtar díobh saor ó víreas agus ní glacann dliteanas ar bith as aon damáiste de dhroim víreas.
<https://www.esb.ie/contact>

Micheal Cahill

From: planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>
Sent: 06 December 2023 15:39
To: Jack Smith
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny
Attachments: Fáilte Ireland EIAR Guidelines 2023.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hello Jack,

Thank you for your email, cover letter and scoping document providing details of the proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny.

Please see attached a copy of Fáilte Ireland's Guidelines for the Treatment of Tourism in an EIA, which you may find informative for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed project. The purpose of this report is to provide guidance for those conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and compiling an Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR), or those assessing EIARs, where the project involves tourism or may have an impact upon tourism. These guidelines are non-statutory and act as supplementary advice to the EPA EIAR Guidelines outlined in section 2.

Regards,

Yvonne

Yvonne Jackson

Product Development-Environment & Planning Support | Fáilte Ireland

88-95 Amiens Street, Dublin 1, D01 WR86

M +353 (0)86 0357590



[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Facebook](#)



From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 2:59 PM

To: planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

[ATTENTION] This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Jackson,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled. Privileged, confidential and/or copyright information may be contained in this E-Mail. This E-Mail is for the use of the intended addressee. If you are not the intended addressee, or the person responsible for delivering it to the intended addressee, you may not copy, forward, disclose or otherwise use it or any part of it in any way whatsoever. To do so is prohibited and may be unlawful. If you receive this E-Mail by mistake, please advise the sender immediately by using the REPLY facility in your E-Mail software and delete all associated material immediately.



**Fáilte
Ireland**

**Turasóireacht Náisiúnta
An tÚdara Eorbartha**
National Tourism
Development Authority

RECEIVED
03/01/2025

EIAR Guidelines for the Consideration of Tourism and Tourism Related Projects



July 2023

An tÚdarás Náisiúnta Forbartha Turasóireachta
Áras Fáilte, 88–95 Sráid Amiens
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 WR86
Éire

National Tourism Development Authority
Áras Fáilte, 88 - 95 Amiens Street
Dublin 1
D01 WR86
Ireland

Phone 1890 525 525
or +353 1 884 7700
Email info@failteireland.ie
www.failteireland.ie

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Background to this Document.....	1
3. Legislation and Statutory Guidance	2
4. Assessing Tourism	5
5. Guiding Principles of EIAR	6
6. Consideration of Competency and Qualifications	6
7. EIAR Requirements.....	6
Population and Human Health	8
Biodiversity	8
Land, Soils and Geology	9
Water	9
Air Quality and Climate	9
Noise and Vibration.....	9
Material Assets; Traffic and Transport.....	9
Cultural Heritage	10
Archaeology	10
Material Assets; Waste Management.....	10
Material Assets	10
Landscape	10
8. Sources of information on Tourism	12
Information available online.....	12

1. Introduction

Tourism is a growing sector and substantial part of the Irish Economy. It contributes to both urban and rural economies in every part of the country. The impact and interaction of tourism with the environment is complex and the assessment of environmental impacts is of utmost importance to creating a sustainable tourism economy and protecting the natural resources that are so often a tourism attraction.

The purpose of this report is to provide guidance for those conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and compiling an Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR), or those assessing EIARs, where the project involves tourism or may have an impact upon tourism. These guidelines are non-statutory and act as supplementary advice to the EPA EIAR Guidelines outlined in section 2.

This guidance document has been prepared by Fáilte Ireland to update their EIA guidelines in line with changes in legislative and guidance requirements.

2. Background to this Document

Tourism is one of the largest and most important sectors of the economy, providing employment for approximately **260,000 people**, an economic contribution of **€9.5 billion**, and exchequer revenue of **€1.8 billion** in 2019, which helps fund other key public services.

In 2019 Ireland welcomed **9.7 million overseas visitors**.

Fáilte Ireland is the National Tourism Development Authority established by the Irish Government in May 2003. Fáilte Irelands role is to support the tourism industry and work to sustain Ireland as a high-quality and competitive tourism destination. They provide a range of practical business supports to help tourism businesses better manage and market their products and services.

Fáilte Ireland also work with other state agencies and representative bodies, at local and national levels, to implement and champion positive and practical strategies that will benefit Irish tourism and the Irish economy.

Fáilte Ireland promotes Ireland as a holiday destination through a domestic marketing campaign (DiscoverIreland.ie) and manage a network of nationwide tourist information centres that provide help and advice for visitors to Ireland.

Tourism related projects cover a broad range of plans, programmes and developments, from the Wild Atlantic Way to a single hotel conversion. These guidelines apply to projects involving or impacting upon tourism. A tourism plan, strategy or programme where it is part of the statutory plan making process under the Planning and Development Acts (as amended), may be more appropriately assessed by a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as discussed in the next section.

It should be borne in mind that EIA is required where there is anticipated to be a significant impact on the environment, where tourism projects are of a prescribed type or meet thresholds identified below.

Where Natura 2000 Designated Sites are potentially affected by tourism development Appropriate Assessment must be carried out by the appropriate authority in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive.

3. Legislation and Statutory Guidance

Environmental Impact Assessment is a procedure that ensures that the environmental implications of decisions are taken into account before planning based decisions are made. The assessment results in a report, called an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

Legislation

These guidelines are produced under current EIAR legislative requirements, having regard to Directive 2011/92/EU (known as 'Environmental Impact Assessment' – EIA Directive), as amended by Directive EU 2014/52 which came into effect in May of 2017. These requirements were transposed into Irish Law on 1 September 2018 as most of the provisions of the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018) came into effect. The principle of both Directives is to ensure that plans, programmes and projects likely to have significant effects on the environment are made subject to an environmental assessment, prior to their approval or authorisation.

Statutory Guidance

In response to the changes to the EIAR requirements under Directive EU 2014/52, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports in May 2022. The Guidelines are a statutory document to be regarded by those preparing EIARs and the decision makers considering the EIARs.

Some of the key changes to the EIA Directive introduced by Directive 2014/52/EU are as follows:

- Additional information to be provided in the project description to describe the location of the project, the technologies and substances used, the construction of the project and required demolition;
- The requirement for consideration of alternatives has changed from a requirement to provide 'An outline of the main alternatives studied by the developer and an indication of the main reasons for this choice, taking into account the environmental effects' to 'a description of the reasonable alternatives studied by the developer, which are relevant to the project and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for the option chosen, taking into account the effects of the project on the environment';
- A refinement of the environmental factors to be considered in the assessment with an increased focus on resource efficiency, climate change, biodiversity and disaster prevention;
- Changes to Prescribed Environmental Factors with 'Land' being added, 'Human Beings' replaced by 'Population & Human Health' and 'Flora & Fauna' replaced by 'Biodiversity';

- The developer is required to have competent experts to prepare the EIAR and the Board is required to have access to sufficient expertise to assess the EIAR;
- Requirement for the incorporation of mitigation and monitoring measures in consents and ensuring that developers deliver these measures;
- The requirements for the assessment of cumulative effects with existing and/or approved projects, taking into account existing environmental issues to be considered; and
- Reasoned decisions made with regard to the EIA outcomes must be provided.

In addition to the EPA statutory guidance, the Department of Housing has produced Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment in August 2018.

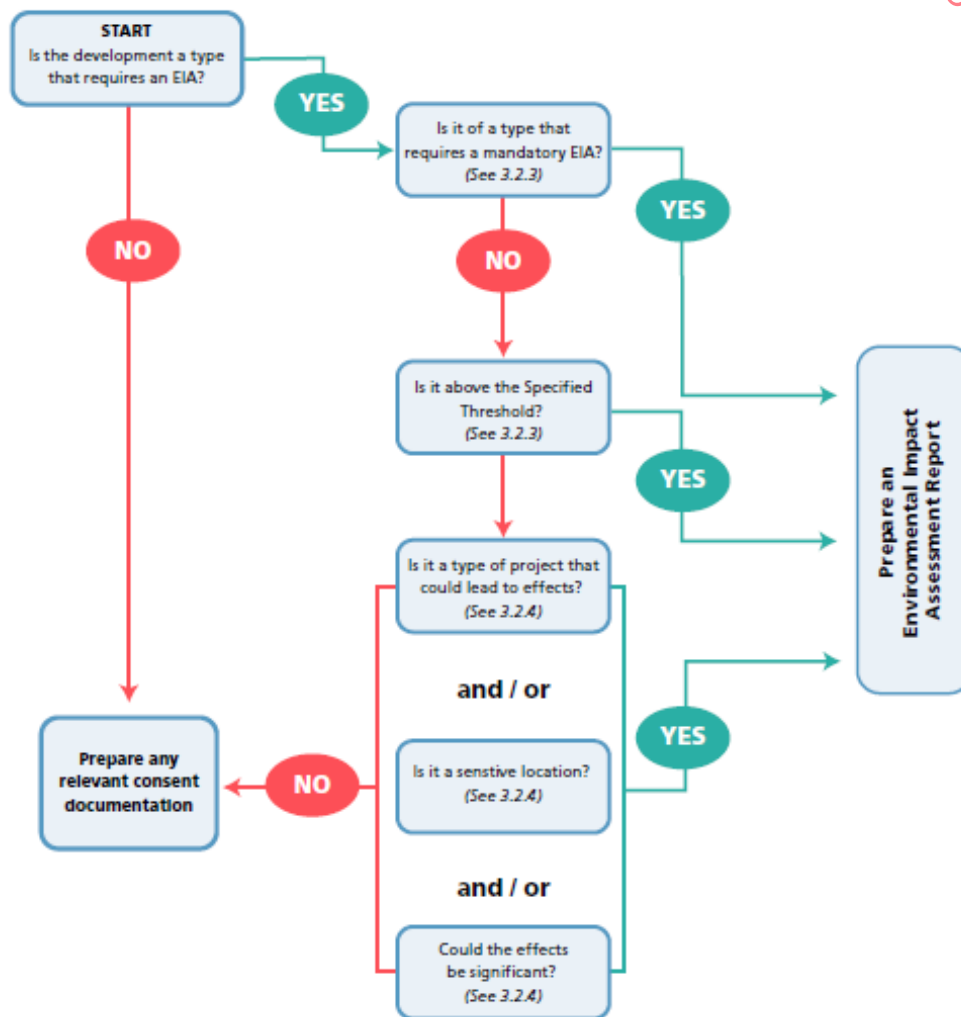
The process of EIA is set out in the EPA EIAR Guidelines, this document should be read in conjunction with and used as supplementary guidance to the EPA EIAR Guidelines. The process for ascertaining whether an EIAR is required is known as 'screening' and the process to determine the breadth and scope of an EIAR is known as 'scoping'. Guidance on this can be found in Section 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines.

Screening

Through EIA Screening, developments are either considered as requiring an EIAR due to the project type or because they exceed a threshold level. The screening process begins by establishing whether the proposal is a 'project' as understood by the Directive (as amended).

The prescribed development types and thresholds are set out in Annex I and II of the EIA Directive as transposed into Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2010-2018 (as amended). Development which does not exceed these thresholds but may require an EIAR are called sub threshold. Sub-Threshold considerations are outlined in Schedule 7 of European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018) as transposed from Annex III of the Directive. The Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment Reports note that projects at first glance may not appear to come under the Schedule but on closer examination when the process is further examined, they may do so because of the sensitivity or significance of the receiving environment etc. Sub threshold developments require an EIAR if they are likely to have significant environmental impacts and must undergo assessment for likely significant impacts through an EIAR screening report. The contents of a screening report for subthreshold development are contained in Annex III of the EIA Directive.

Figure 1: EIAR Screening Process



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

(Taken from Fig 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines)

Tourism locations should be identified as sensitive receptors in screening assessments for particular impacts, depending on scale and sensitivity, as they would in a full EIAR. Section 6 below can act as guidance for Screening Reports as well as for full EIAR.

The screening process for considering where an EIAR is necessary, is summarised above in Figure 1 (excerpted from Figure 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines).

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a more strategic level of environmental assessment that examines plans, policies, objectives and programmes specifically rather than projects. For some tourism developments it may be more appropriate that they be examined through SEA, while individual projects or specific proposals are likely to be more assessed through EIAR. If a project is part of a plan, programme or policy/objective assessed by SEA there may still be a requirement for an EIAR for that development (subject to EIA Screening assessment).

Scoping an ElAR is an opportunity to look at the breadth of issues and ensure that any areas of possible significant impact are assessed. Identifying sensitivities and stakeholders should take account of tourism facilities and consider Fáilte Ireland in scoping requests where necessary.

4. Assessing Tourism

There is no legal definition of 'tourism' in Irish legislation. The UNWTO definition of sustainable tourism is *"Tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities"*. This is widely accepted as a key definition of tourism as we move to a more sustainable future.

Tourism assessments are frequently carried out by economic consultants and by specific tourism consultants. It is always advisable, particular for tourism projects, that suitably qualified and experienced personnel are used to determine the impact of tourism related projects or to assess the impact of more general proposals on a tourism asset identified in a particular location. There is a requirement for ElAR under current legislation to contain a statement of competency within all ElAR documents, including screening and scoping reports.

Projects which involve a tourism element

Tourism projects are wide ranging and diverse. While there are some projects which cater to tourism and are easily identified as such - Hotels, Museums, etc. there are other projects where tourism is a key service or element, but which may not be immediately obvious – walking/cycling/forest trails, greenways, blueways, community facilities and others. ElAR conducted for developments containing tourist elements should be completed in accordance with the current guidance from the EPA.

Projects which include a tourism element can have potential for particular environmental effects which differ from a non-tourism development. These impacts can be intermittent, event related, inconsistent, dependent on weather, temporal, temporary or seasonal. This is considered within the prescribed environmental topics for ElAR outlined in Section 7 below.

Projects which may have an impact upon tourism

While tourism projects may be diverse, the projects which can impact tourism are considerably more wide ranging, from large infrastructural developments to local energy developments. Disruption to or suppression of a tourist resource or amenity can have very local or more strategic impacts, directly or indirectly- for example energy projects in a rural area can have both a negative and positive impact in different regards. There can be temporary, periodic or even seasonal impacts occurring during construction or operational periods.

According to the Fáilte Ireland Tourism Facts 2019 Report, the most important factors in determining the attractiveness of tourism destinations for visitors to Ireland are;

- Beautiful Scenery and Unspoiled Environment
- Hospitality
- Safety
- Nature, Wildlife and Natural Attractions
- History and Culture

- Pace of Life

These factors used for the promotion of tourism in Ireland are also barometers of sensitivity to change in tourism sensitive or dominant locations where development may have an impact upon the tourism asset. The potential for development to impact these sensitivities, and the environmental criteria under which they can be considered, are identified in section 7 of the guidelines.

5. Guiding Principles of EIAR

As outlined in the EPA EIAR Guidelines, the fundamental principles to be followed when preparing an EIAR, including screening and scoping, are:

- Anticipating, avoiding and reducing significant effects
- Assessing and mitigating effects
- Maintaining objectivity
- Ensuring clarity and quality
- Providing relevant information to decision makers
- Facilitating better consultation.

Environmental assessment should be undertaken in accordance with the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018.

6. Consideration of Competency and Qualifications

As per Section 2.5 of the EPA Guidelines, EIAR is required to be completed by '*competent experts*'.

Contributors to the preparation of environmental impact assessment reports, including screening and scoping assessments, should be qualified and competent. Sufficient expertise, in the relevant field of the project concerned, is required for the purpose of its examination by the competent authorities in order to ensure that the information provided by the developer is complete and of a high level of quality so that a full and proper assessment can be undertaken.

For tourism related projects, or projects likely to affect tourism assets, competent experts in the area of tourism should be utilised in the environmental assessment.

The competency of all involved in the production of an EIAR or any related report (e.g. Screening and scoping) is required to be stated at the beginning of the EIAR report with further details as necessary in each following chapter.

Where tourism projects involve for example heritage or cultural components, input from heritage consultants, conservation architects, or historians may be required.

7. EIAR Requirements

The following are the key requirements for an EIAR under the current guidance. This is not a definitive list and should be read in conjunction with regulations.

- project description;
- assessment of alternatives considered;
- baseline assessment;
- assessment of effects;
- cumulative impact;
- interaction of impacts;
- mitigation & monitoring; and
- residual impacts

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Project Description

Project descriptions are required to describe the whole project including site, scale, design and key factors. It is important that the EIAR and design team have a consistent understanding of the development description in full. The key requirements are outlined in section 3.5 of the EPA Guidelines however they identify the following;

- the location of the project
- the physical characteristics of the whole project
- the main characteristics of the operational phase of the project
- an estimate, by type and quantity, of the expected residues and emissions

The location of the project should include identifying key sensitive receptors (including tourism receptors). In the operational phase of the project any tourism based, or potentially tourism related activity, should be identified.

Assessment of Alternatives

The assessment of the various reasonable alternatives is an important requirement of the EIA process.

Where tourism projects are location dependent the assessment of reasonable alternatives should consider alternative methods, layouts, technologies and mitigations, detail the key considerations culminating in the selection of the option/design, the reasoning for these and the environmental effect of these decisions. This is particularly important for tourism projects which are often location tied. The EPA EIAR Guidelines indicate that it is generally sufficient to provide a broad description of each main alternatives and the key issues associated with each, showing how environmental considerations were taken into account in deciding on the selected option.

Baseline Assessment

Baseline descriptions are evidence based, current descriptions of environmental characteristics with consideration of likely changes to the baseline environment evidenced in planning histories, unimplemented permissions, and applications pending determination. Baseline assessments should identify any tourism sensitivities in the zone of influence of a development. This zone of influence of a development is highly dependent on its **Context, Character, Significance, and Sensitivity**, as outlined in the EPA EIAR Guidelines. These characteristics apply to both the development and the environment.

For example, in a tourism context;

The location of sensitive tourism resources that are likely to be directly affected should be highlighted, and other premises which although located elsewhere, may be the subject of in combination impacts such as alteration of traffic flows or increased urban development.

The character of an area from a tourism perspective should be described and the principal types of tourism in the area. Where relevant, the specific environmental resources or attributes in the existing environment which each group uses or values should be stated and where relevant, indicate the time, duration or seasonality of any of those activities.

The significance of the tourism assets or activities likely to be affected should be highlighted. Reference to any existing formal or published designation or recognition of such significance should be included. Where possible the value of the contribution of such tourism assets and activities to the local economy should also be provided.

If there are any significant concerns or opposition to the development known to exist among tourism stakeholders and interest groups, this should be highlighted. Identify, where possible, the particular aspect of the development which is of concern, together with the part of the existing tourism resource which may be threatened or impacted.

In addition, the baseline should include any methodologies employed in the study to obtain information, if particular databases are used to locate sensitive receptors they should be acknowledged. In relation to tourism information, the suggested information sources at the end of this document are a non-exhaustive list which may be of assistance in identifying tourism receptors.

Impact Assessment

The topics for consideration of impact are prescribed in the EIA Directive and transcribed into Irish law by the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018). Impact assessment should contain the likely significant effects of a development arising from both construction and operation of a development. Advice on describing the effects is contained within the EPA EIAR Guidelines and includes the **quality, significance, extent, probability, type** and **duration** of the effect, with particular descriptors for each. In describing effects upon tourism receptors these descriptors should take account of the particular aspects and sensitivities of tourism, for example a temporary annual effect from a development may have different impacts upon tourism if it falls at peak season rather than off-peak.

Impact assessment should be carried out as per EPA guidelines and the best practice for that prescribed topic. It may be considered appropriate to consider impact on tourism under the 'Population and Human Health' and / or 'Landscape' topics as suggested below.

Population and Human Health

The consideration of tourism projects within the Population and Human Health is extensive, with impacts ranging from rural employment population impacts of seasonal tourism, to the health impact of air pollution from increased traffic in urban areas.

The impact upon tourism can be considered within this section through the sensitivities of Hospitality, Safety and Pace of Life. Changes in population can impact the perception of pace of life or safety in a particular location. Impacts upon these issues in areas which rely heavily on tourism or have a particular sensitive tourism generator should be considered in this section. The EPA guidelines makes reference to amenity “..which may be relevant under ‘Population and Human Health’ and ‘Landscape’”.

Biodiversity

Particular tourist activities can have a significant impact upon biodiversity. Landscapes which are ‘unspoiled’ can be attractors of tourism. However, the disturbance to ecology must be managed to minimise impacts.

Biodiversity is also a tourism asset and should be protected as such from other development and should be provided for in proposals where possible.

The assessment should also consider current Government policy on nature conservation as outlined in the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 (NBAP) (and subsequent iterations (Including draft NBAP recently open for public consultation, to cover 2023 to 2027) which also includes Ireland's vision for biodiversity below.

'That biodiversity and ecosystems in Ireland are conserved and restored, delivering benefits essential for all sectors of society and that Ireland contributes to efforts to halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystems in the EU and globally.'

Land, Soils and Geology

A link between tourism and this prescribed environmental factor, beyond the normal development impacts, is rare, however particular activities or facilities which use geological features may have an impact upon soils and geology, such as mountain biking trails, recreational uses of old quarries etc.

The impact upon Geotourism related to geoheritage within the natural environment, e.g., any impacts on UNESCO Global Geoparks, of which we currently have three on the island of Ireland; Copper Coast in Co. Waterford, Burren and Cliffs of Moher in Co. Clare, and Cuilcagh Lakelands in Cavan and Fermanagh should be considered (where applicable) in this section.

Indirect impacts such as material use for extensive landscaping and public realm should also be considered.

Water

Tourism uses can be water intense, depending on development type. Recreational use of a surface water feature, water-based leisure centres etc have different impacts to standard development.

Air Quality and Climate

Tourism impact upon air quality is dependent on the activity proposed and sensitivity of the location. If the tourism project includes a large increase in transportation services, collection of baseline air emission data is advised. Transportation emissions affect not only air quality, but also greenhouse gases. Changing climatic patterns due to climate change should be factored into this analysis.

Noise and Vibration

A link between tourism and this prescribed environmental factor, beyond the normal development impacts, is rare, however the impact upon tourism of issues of noise and vibration can be significant. Construction adjoining hotels for example should consider the sensitivity of the development and ensure mitigation is in place.

Material Assets; Traffic and Transport

The different transport patterns associated with tourism activities is a key impact of tourism and should be considered especially for tourism projects. These produce temporal and seasonal changes on the norm and specialist consideration and interpretation should be given. Tourism proposals should, where possible, be well served by public transport and should be accessible by modes other than the car. The impact of traffic on tourism assets can be substantial and can vary in severity according to season, the weather, etc. The impact of construction traffic can be a particular concern in tourism sensitive areas in terms of noise pollution and visual impact. The construction programme of developments should work to

avoid peak tourism periods in tourism areas and should consider planned or anticipated tourism events and festivals.

Cultural Heritage

Cultural heritage can be a key component of tourism projects and the impact of tourism on the maintenance of cultural heritage should be given the utmost consideration, whether positive or negative. As a tourism attraction, cultural heritage should be strongly considered in non-tourism developments and the impact upon tourism considered as a potential impact.

Archaeology

Archaeology can be of tourism interest and can be an attractive or key component of tourism projects. Archaeology can be a tourism attractor and given that national policy emphasis on the non-renewable nature of the archaeology and archaeological heritage, focus should be a presumption in favour of its preservation in-situ or where preservation in-situ is not the option chosen, there must be preservation by record (i.e. archaeological excavation and recording must take place) in line with statutory requirements.

Material Assets; Waste Management

Tourism is a resource heavy activity and can impact waste streams and waste segregation. Impacts here should be considered strongly and with knowledge of the variation that arises from the particular tourist activity. Waste and Waste disposal issues can also impact the perception of an unspoiled environment, effecting tourism, which should be considered.

Material Assets

Material assets outside of the material assets already referenced that should be considered are built services (utilities) and infrastructure. Tourism development should include impact assessment on built services (utilities) and infrastructure while non tourism related development should consider the effect on tourism, which should be considered.

Landscape

The visual impact of a tourism development, especially in locations which are visually sensitive or renowned for their scenic or landscape beauty, should be considered carefully. A development intended to utilise or enjoy a particular vista or environment should minimise impact upon that environment.

Major Accident and Natural Disaster

There is a requirement for tourist developments to describe expected significant effects on the environment of the proposed development's vulnerability to major accidents and/or natural disasters relevant to it. Where appropriate measures should be identified to prevent or mitigate the significant adverse effects of such accidents or disasters, including resulting from climate change, on the environment and detail the preparedness for the proposed response.

Interaction of Impacts

Where two or more environmental impacts combine or interact they should be considered under the prescribed topics. It is best practice to provide a table of interactions within an EIAR or EIA Screening Report.

Cumulative Impact

The cumulative impact is that of the project combined with any known likely project which will interact or compound an environmental impact.

Transboundary Impact

Transboundary impacts should be included in EIAR. In the case of tourism, especially international travel, the transboundary impacts may not be proximate to the EIAR site.

Mitigation & Monitoring

Mitigation should follow the hierarchy of minimisation in descending order of preference- Avoid, Reduce, Remedy.

Avoid sensitive tourism resources- such as views, access and amenity areas including habitats as well as historical or cultural sites and structures.

Reduce the exposure of sensitive resources to excessive environmental impact.

Reduce the adverse effects to tourism land uses and patterns of activities, especially through interactions arising from significant changes in the intensity of use or contrasts of character or appearance.

Remedy any unavoidable significant residual adverse effects on tourism resources or activities.

Mitigation measures must be measurable and achievable within the bounds of the project.

With regard to Monitoring, Article 8a of the EIA Directive requires that:

1. *'The decision to grant development consent shall incorporate at least the following information ...*

(b) any environmental conditions attached to the decision, a description of any features of the project and/or measures envisaged to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset significant adverse effects on the environment as well as, where appropriate, monitoring measures. ... 4 Member States shall ensure that the features of the project and/or measures envisaged to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset significant adverse effects on the environment are implemented by the developer, and shall determine the procedures regarding the monitoring of significant adverse effects on the environment. The type of parameters to be monitored and the duration of the monitoring shall be proportionate to the nature, location and size of the project and the significance of its effects on the environment. Existing monitoring arrangements resulting from Union legislation other than this Directive and from national legislation may be used if appropriate, with a view to avoiding duplication of monitoring.'

Residual Impacts

The residual impacts are the final predicted or intended impacts which occur after the proposed mitigation measures have been implemented.

8. Sources of information on Tourism

Information available online

Fáilte Ireland

Fáilte Ireland offers detailed research analysis and insights into the Irish Tourism Industry. The National Tourism Development Authority has a portfolio of research across a number of areas including facts and figures, Environmental Surveying and Monitoring, briefing papers and reports and visitor feedback. The Fáilte Ireland website has a dedicated research library which can be accessed [here](#)

Fáilte Ireland also manages an environmental surveying and monitoring database as part of the Wild Atlantic Way Operational Programme which can be accessed [here](#). The purpose of this is to work with and demonstrate to our stakeholders and partners that we are committed to the sustainable development of the Wild Atlantic Way, and to be able to pre-empt and avoid environmental effects in the future should they occur.

Discover Ireland:

Operated by Fáilte Ireland, the Discover Ireland website includes comprehensive information on tourist attractions in destinations all around Ireland, including listings for activities, accommodation, events and experiences for every county, major town and region in Ireland. The website features elements from the four destination brands – Wild Atlantic Way, Ireland's Ancient East, Ireland's Hidden Heartlands and Visit Dublin and can be accessed [here](#).

Tourism Ireland

Tourism Ireland is responsible for marketing the island of Ireland overseas as a holiday and business tourism destination. Tourism Ireland publishes a range of research documents including; visitor facts and figures, seasonal updates and industry insights which are accessible [here](#)

Local Authorities

Local Authorities are an invaluable source of information. They produce tourism strategies and audits of tourism assets within their jurisdiction. Local authorities will also produce landscape and seascape studies. Protected views and prospects as well as the record of protected structures and other designated protected buildings are contained within the Statutory Development Plans.

Regional Assemblies

Regional Assemblies can also be consulted on high level strategic tourism and potential Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSESs) should be consulted.

Central Statistics Office

The Central Statistics Office (CSO) is Ireland's national statistical office and their purpose is to impartially collect, analyse and make available statistics about Ireland's people, society and economy. The Tourism and Travel Section of the Central Statistics Office is the major source for tourism statistics in Ireland and is updated regularly.

Micheal Cahill

From: DECC GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>
Sent: 05 December 2023 15:20
To: Jack Smith
Cc: DECC GSI Planning
Subject: RE: EIS 23/344 - RE Development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny
Attachments: 23_344 RE Dev Briskalagh Wind Farm Co Kilkenny.pdf; GSI datasets relevant to EIA & SEA_20210421.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Jack,

With reference to your email received on the 24 November 2023, concerning the EIA Scoping Report for the proposed Renewable Energy Development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny, please find attached response and dataset sheet from Geological Survey Ireland.

Yours sincerely,
Trish Smullen



Trish Smullen Geoheritage & Planning.

Geological Survey Ireland, Booterstown Hall, Booterstown Ave., Co. Dublin A94 N2R6.

Email: trish.smullen@gsi.ie www.gsi.ie

A division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.

From: DECC GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>
Sent: Friday 24 November 2023 15:46
To: Patricia Smullen (DECC) <Trish.Smullen@gsi.ie>
Cc: DECC GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>; DECC Planning Advisory <PlanningAdvisory@decc.gov.ie>
Subject: EIS 23/344 - RE Development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

EIS 23/344

EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny. Request for observations by MKO. Letter and scoping document are enclosed.

Regards,

John

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 24 November 2023 15:01
To: DECC GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>; Patricia Smullen (DECC) <Trish.Smullen@gsi.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkofireland.ie>

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This eMail originated from outside your organisation and the BTS Managed Desktop service. Do not click on any links or open any attachments unless you recognise the sender or are expecting the email and know that the content is safe. If you are in any doubt, please contact the OGCIO IT Service Desk.

Dear Ms. Smullen,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkofireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO



Jack Smith
MKO
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

05 December 2023

Re: EIA Scoping Report for the proposed Renewable Energy Development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Your Ref: 230502

Our Ref: 23/344

Dear Jack,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability. We recommend using these various data sets, when conducting the EIAR, SEA, planning and scoping processes. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly to 'Geological Survey Ireland'.

The publicly available data referenced/presented here, should in no way be construed as Geological Survey Ireland support for or objection to the proposed development or plan. The data is made freely available to all and can be used as independent scientific data in assessments, plans or policies. It should be noted that in many cases this data is a baseline or starting point for further site specific assessments.

With reference to your email received on the 24 November 2023, concerning the EIA Scoping Report for the proposed Renewable Energy Development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny, Geological Survey Ireland would encourage use of and reference to our datasets. Please find attached a list of our publicly available datasets that may be useful to the environmental assessment and planning process. We recommend that you review this list and refer to any datasets you consider relevant to your assessment. The remainder of this letter and following sections provide more detail on some of these datasets.

Geoheritage

A national inventory of geoheritage sites known as County Geological Sites (CGSs) is managed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland. CGSs, as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include sites that are of national importance which have been selected as the very best examples for NHA (Natural Heritage Areas) designation. NHA designation will be completed in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). CGSs are now routinely included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#).

The audit for Co. Kilkenny was carried out in 2007 and revised in 2012. The full report details can be found [here](#). **Our records show that there are no CGSs in the vicinity of the proposed Renewable Energy Development site boundary.**

Groundwater

Geological Survey Ireland's [Groundwater and Geothermal Unit](#), provides advice, data and maps relating to groundwater distribution, quality and use, which is especially relevant for safe and secure drinking water supplies and healthy ecosystems. Proposed developments need to consider any potential impact on specific groundwater abstractions and on groundwater resources in general. We recommend using the groundwater maps on our [Map viewer](#) which should include: wells; drinking water source protection areas; the national map suite - aquifer, groundwater vulnerability, groundwater recharge and subsoil permeability maps.

For areas underlain by limestone, please refer to the karst specific data layers (karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels (gwlevel.ie). Background information is also provided in the Groundwater Body Descriptions. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data.



RECEIVED 03/01/2025

The Groundwater Data Viewer indicates aquifers classed as a 'Poor Aquifer - Bedrock which is Generally Unproductive except for Local Zones' a 'Regionally important gravel aquifer' and a 'Regionally Important Aquifer - Karstified (diffuse)' underlie the proposed Renewable Energy Development site boundary. The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates the range of groundwater vulnerabilities within the area covered is variable. We would therefore recommend use of the Groundwater Viewer to identify areas of High to Extreme Vulnerability and 'Rock at or near surface' in your assessments, as any groundwater-surface water interactions that might occur would be greatest in these areas.

Our records show that there are groundwater drinking water abstractions with zones of contribution/source protection areas close to the Renewable Energy Development site boundary:

- [Callan Public Water Supply Scheme](#) (PWSS)
- Tullaroan Group Water Scheme
- BallyCallan Shale Region Group Water Scheme
- BallyCallan Limestone Region Group Water Scheme

Key to groundwater protection in general, and protection of specific drinking water supplies, is preventing ingress of runoff to the aquifer. Design of drainage will need to be cognisant of the public water schemes and the interactions between surface water and groundwater as well as run-off. Appropriate design should be undertaken by qualified and competent persons to include mitigation measures as necessary, such as SUDs or other drainage mitigation measures.

Any excavation/cuttings required for realignment should ensure that groundwater flow within the zones of contribution to the groundwater abstraction points is not disrupted, resulting in diminished yields. Note that there could be other groundwater abstractions in the locality for which Geological Survey Ireland has not undertaken studies, and a robust assessment should be undertaken by qualified and competent persons including a survey of all current wells and water abstractions within the vicinity.

Given the nearby drinking water sources (Public Water Scheme, Group Water Schemes), the effects of any potential contamination as a result of the Renewable Energy Development would need to be assessed.

The Groundwater Karst Viewer indicates that there are karst features in the vicinity of the Renewable Energy Development site boundary.

[GWClimate](#) is a groundwater monitoring and modelling project that aims to investigate the impact of climate change on groundwater in Ireland. This is a follow on from a previous project (GWFlood) and the data may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans. Maps and data are available on the [Map viewer](#).

Geological Survey Ireland has completed Groundwater Protection Schemes (GWPSs) in partnership with Local Authorities, and there is now national coverage of GWPS mapping. A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater. **The Groundwater Protection Response overview and link to the main reports is here:** <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater/projects/protecting-drinking-water/what-is-drinking-water-protection/county-groundwater-protection-schemes/Pages/default.aspx>

Geological Mapping

Geological Survey Ireland maintains online datasets of bedrock and subsoils geological mapping that are reliable and accessible. We would encourage you to use these data which can be found [here](#), in your future assessments.

Please note we have recently launched QGIS compatible bedrock (100K) and Quaternary geology map data, with instructional manuals and videos. This makes our data more accessible to general public and external stakeholders. QGIS compatible data can be found in our downloadable bedrock 100k .zip file on the [Data & Maps](#) section of our website.



RECEIVED 20/01/2025

Geohazards

Geohazards can cause widespread damage to landscapes, wildlife, human property and human life. In Ireland, landslides, flooding and coastal erosion are the most prevalent of these hazards. We recommend that geohazards be taken into consideration, especially when developing areas where these risks are prevalent, and we encourage the use of our data when doing so.

Geological Survey Ireland has information available on landslides in Ireland via the National Landslide Database and Landslide Susceptibility Map both of which are available for viewing on our dedicated [Map Viewer](#). Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.

Geological Survey Ireland also engaged in a national project on Groundwater Flooding. The data from this project may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans, and is described in more detail under 'Groundwater' above.

Natural Resources (Minerals/Aggregates)

Geological Survey Ireland provides data, maps, interpretations and advice on matters related to minerals, their use and their development in our [Minerals section](#) of the website. The Active Quarries, Mineral Localities and the Aggregate Potential maps are available on our [Map Viewer](#).

We would recommend use of the Aggregate Potential Mapping viewer to identify areas of High to Very High source aggregate potential within the area. In keeping with a sustainable approach we would recommend use of our data and mapping viewers to identify and ensure that natural resources used in the proposed Renewable Energy Development are sustainably sourced from properly recognised and licensed facilities, and that consideration of future resource sterilization is considered.

Geochemistry of soils, surface waters and sediments

Geological Survey Ireland provides baseline geochemistry data for Ireland as part of the Tellus programme. Baseline geochemistry data can be used to assess the chemical status of soil and water at a regional scale and to support the assessment of existing or potential impacts of human activity on environmental chemical quality. Tellus is a national-scale mapping programme which provides multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water in Ireland. At present, mapping consists of the border, western and midland regions. Data is available at <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/Geochemistry.aspx>.

Geophysical data

Geological Survey Ireland produces high-resolution geophysical data (Magnetic field, electrical conductivity, natural gamma-ray radiation) of soils & rocks as part of the [Tellus programme](#). These data currently cover approximately 75% of the country and provide supporting geological information on a regional scale useful for assessing environmental impact and risk.

Guidelines

The following guidelines may also be of assistance:

- Institute of Geologists of Ireland, 2013. Guidelines for the Preparation of the Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology Chapters of Geology in Environmental Impact Statements.
- [EPA, 2022](#). Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR)

Other Comments

Should development go ahead, all other factors considered, Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. The data would be added to Geological Survey Ireland's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to the Geological Mapping Unit, at <mailto:GeologicalMappingInfo@gsi.ie>, 01-678 2795.



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to the Geological Survey Ireland Planning Team at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Geoheritage and Planning Programme

Enc: Table - Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes.

Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes
following European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018
(S.I. No. 296 of 2018)

Geological Survey Ireland Programme	Dataset	Relevant EIA Topic	Coverage	Description / Notes / Limitations	Link to Geological Survey Ireland map viewer
Geohazards	Landslide: National landslide database and landslide susceptibility map	Land & Soil/Climate/Landscape	National	Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a904a5981f950e9b9c5625c
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Historic)	Water	Regional	Provide information of historic flooding, both surface water and groundwater. [A lack of flooding presented in any specific location of the map only indicates that a flood has not been detected. It does not indicate that a flood cannot occur in that location at present or in the future]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Predictive)	Water	Regional	Provides information on the probability of future karst groundwater flooding (where available). [The maps do not, and are not intended to, constitute advice. Professional or specialist advice should be sought before taking, or refraining from, any action on the basis of the flood maps]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc
Geohazards	Radon Map	Land & Soils/Air	National		http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/
Geohazards	County Geological Sites as adopted by National Heritage Plan and listed in County Development Plans	Land & Soils/Landscape	Regional	All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0b2fde2aaac3c228
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	National	1:100,000 scale and associated memoirs.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	Regional	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Sediments	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Geomorphology	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Physiographic units:	Land & Soils	National	Broad-scale physical landscape units mapped at 1:100,000 scale in order to be represented as a cartographic digital map at 1:250,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a20fc54877843aca107c5c2b
Geological Mapping	GeoUrban: Spatial geological data for the greater Dublin and Cork areas	Land & Soils	Regional	includes 3D models	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b79416093beb2212a850ce6&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Geotechnical database	Land & Soils	National	Digitised geotechnical and Site Investigation Reports and boreholes which can be accessed through online downloads	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a2718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c
Goldmine	Historical data sets including geological memoirs and 6" to 1 mile geological mapping records	Land & Soils/Water	National	available online	https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater resources (aquifers)	Water	National	Data limited to 1:100,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater recharge.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale; long term annual average recharge	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater vulnerability.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Group scheme and public supply source protection areas.	Water	National	Not all PWS / GWS have SPZ / ZOC. Check with IW / coco / NFGWS for private supplies.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater Protection Schemes	Water	National	Data is limited to scale of 1:40,000. Data does not include all of the source protection areas	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Catchment and WFD management units.	Water	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	karst specific data layers	water	National	For areas underlain by limestone, includes karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels (gwlevel.ie)	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Wells and Springs	Water	National	Not comprehensive, there may be unrecorded wells and springs	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater body Descriptions	Water	National	Not exhaustive; only those in designated SACs; could be other GWDTEs; for more information contact NPWS / EPA / site investigations Also, Roadmap for a Policy and Regulatory Framework for Geothermal Energy, November 2020	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx
Groundwater & Geothermal	Geothermal Suitability maps	Land & Soils/Water	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9eae46bee08de41278b90a9916dc0b9e
Marine & Coastal Unit	INFOMAR - Ireland's national marine mapping programme; providing key baseline data for Ireland's	Water	National		https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/
Marine & Coastal Unit	CHERISH - Coastal change project (Climate, Heritage and Environments of Reefs, Islands, and Headlands)	Water	Regional		http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/
Marine & Coastal Unit	Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI).	water / Land & Soils	Regional	Currently the project is being carried out on the east coast and will be rolled out nationally	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx
Minerals	Aggregate potential	Land & Soils/Material Assets	National	Consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a material asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Active quarries	Land & Soils	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Historic mines	Land & Soils/Cultural Heritage	National	Inventory and Risk Classification 2009. Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Minerals Division and Geological Survey Ireland (DECC).	https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?zesting=7&northing=7&lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilities_Extractive_Facilities
Tellus	Geochemical data: multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754
Tellus	Airborne geophysical data including radiometrics, electromagnetics and magnetics	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754
Tellus	urban geochemistry mapping (Dublin SURGE project).	Land & Soils	Regional		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754

- Notes:
- The maps and data listed above are available on the Geological Survey Ireland map viewer <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx>
 - Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data
 - Geological Survey Ireland and Irish Concrete Federation published guidelines for the treatment of geological heritage in the extractive industry in 2008.



Environmental Health Service,
St. Canice's Hospital,
Dublin Road,
Co. Kilkenny
Phone: 056 778 4016
Email: CarlowKilkenny.PEHO@hse.ie

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Jack Smyth,
Project Environmental Scientist,
MKO,
Tuam Road,
Galway,
H91 VW84
info@mkofireland.ie

Date: 5th January 2024

Name: Jack Smyth, Project Environmental Scientist, MKO, Tuam Road,
Galway, H91 VW84

Consultant's reference: 230502

Re: EIA Scoping

Proposed development: Renewable Energy Development, Briskalagh, Co. Kilkenny

Applicant: Briskalagh Ltd.

EHIS Reference: 3563

Dear Jack,

Please find enclosed the HSE Consultation Report in relation to the above proposal.

The following HSE departments were made aware of the consultation request for the proposed development on 28th November 2023.

- HSE South Emergency Management – David O'Sullivan
- Estates – Helen Maher/Stephen Murphy
- Director of National Health Protection – Eamonn O'Moore
- CHO – Kate Killeen White

If you have any queries regarding this report please contact Mr. Robbie Doyle, PEHO, Kilkenny (robbie.doyle@hse.ie) in the first instance

Yours sincerely

Robbie Doyle
Principal Environmental Health Office

HSE EIA Scoping

Environmental Health Service Submission Report

Date: 5th January 2024

Our reference: EHIS 3563

Report to: Jack Smyth, MKO, Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland H91 VW84

Type of Consultation: EIA Scoping

Proposed development: Briskalagh Renewable Energy Development, Briskalagh, Co. Kilkenny

Applicant: Briskalagh Ltd

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Proposed Development: Briskalagh Ltd, as associated company of Enerco Energy Ltd. intends to apply for planning permission to construct a renewable energy development at Briskalagh and surrounding townlands, north of Kilmanagh, Co. Kilkenny.

The Proposed Development is envisaged to comprise approximately 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), borrow pit(s), on site electricity substation, electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound(s) and a permanent meteorological mast. The scoping report indicates the proposed development will have an output of greater than 50 Megawatts (MW).

The site measures 440 hectares (ha) and comprises a mix of agri-pastoral and private forestry. There are three phases to the proposed development Construction, Operations and Decommissioning. Construction is expected to take 12 – 18 months.

General Introduction

The following documents should be taken into consideration when preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment Report:

- Guidelines on the information to be contained in EIS (2002),
- Advice Notes on Current Practice in the preparation of EIS (2003),
- Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment

https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidelines_for_planning_authorities_and_an_bord_pleanála_on_carrying_out_eia_-_august_2018.pdf

EU publication: Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects Guidance on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, EU, 2017

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/pdf/EIA_guidance_EIA_report_final.pdf

Adoption of the Directive (2014/52/EU) in April 2014 initiated a review of the above guidelines. The draft new guidelines can be seen at:

<http://www.epa.ie/pubs/consultation/reviewofdraftguidelinesadvisenotes>

The applicant should also consider the findings of the High Court judgement issued in the judicial review of the Derryadd Wind Farm. (2021 IEHC 390 [20202 No. 557 JR] P. Sweetman v An Bord Pleanála)

Generally the Environmental Impact Assessment should examine all likely significant impacts and provide the following information for each:

- a) Description of the receiving environment;
- b) The nature and scale of the impact;
- c) An assessment of the significance of the impact;
- d) Proposed mitigation measures;
- e) Residual impacts.

Directive 2014/52/EU has an enhanced requirement to assess likely significant impacts on Population and Human Health. It is the experience of the Environmental Health Service (EHS) that impacts on human health are often inadequately assessed in EIAs in Ireland. It is recommended that the wider determinants of health and wellbeing are considered in a proportionate manner when considering the EIA.

In addition to any likely significant negative impacts from the proposed development, any positive likely significant impacts should also be assessed.

The HSE will consider the final EIAR accompanying the SID/Planning application and will make comments to An Bord Pleanála/Local Planning Authority on the methodology used for assessing the likely significant impacts and the evaluation criteria used in assessing the significance of the impact.

This report only comments on Environmental Health Impacts of the proposed development. It is based on an assessment of the correspondence submitted to this office dated 24th November 2023

The Environmental Health Service (EHS) recommends that the following matters are included and assessed in the EIAR

- Public Consultation
- Decommissioning phase
- Siting and location of turbines
- Noise & Vibration
- Shadow Flicker
- Air Quality
- Surface and Groundwater Quality
- Geological Impacts

- Ancillary facilities
- Cumulative impacts

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Public/Community Consultation

It is noted from the scoping report that a number of initiatives have taken place to engage with the community and primarily with those living within a 2 km radius of the proposed development. The appointment of a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) is vital for the process in this phase and subsequent phases of the development including construction, operation and decommissioning. The development of a dedicated website for the proposed development is also noted.

Below are some general comments that should be applied in the context of public/community consultation.

Public/Community Consultation should aim to reach as many people as possible by being age friendly and disability friendly. For example it should be possible to reach the CLO through numerous channels including a written address, telephone number, email address etc.

All parties affected by the proposed development, must be fully informed of what the proposal entails especially with regard to potential impacts on surrounding areas.

The EIAR should demonstrate that consent has been sought and received from all interested parties, particularly in respect of lands which may be shared. (commonage)

Sensitive receptors and other stakeholders should be identified to ensure all necessary and appropriate mitigation measures are put in place to avoid any complaints about the proposed development in the future.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) should clearly demonstrate the link between public consultations and how those consultations have influenced the decision-making process in the EIA.

The EIAR should state the period of planning permission sought, the length of time construction is estimated to take, the period of operation and will the proposed development be decommissioned and removed once operations cease.

Siting, Location and details of Turbines

The EIAR should include a map and a description of the proposed location of each of the proposed wind turbines.

The Environmental Health Service expects that details (height and model) of the turbines to be installed will be available at the time planning permission is sought and will be included in the EIAR.

Details of the foundations for the wind turbine including depth, quantity and material to be used should be included in the EIAR.

Assessment of Consideration of Alternatives

The EIAR should consider an assessment of alternatives. The EHS recommends that alternative renewable energy options to on shore wind farms should be assessed as part of the EIAR.

Noise & Vibration

The potential impacts for noise and vibration from the proposed development on all noise sensitive locations must be clearly identified in the EIAR. The EIAR must also consider the appropriateness and effectiveness of all proposed mitigation measures to minimise noise and vibration.

A baseline noise monitoring survey should be undertaken to establish the existing background noise levels. Noise from any existing turbines in the area should not be included as part of the back ground levels, but should be included in an assessment of the cumulative effects of existing/planned turbines on the receiving environment.

In addition, an assessment of the predicted noise impacts during the construction phase and the operational phase of the proposed wind farm development must be undertaken which details the change in the noise environment resulting from the proposed development.

The Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines were published in December 2019. Whilst these have yet to be adopted, any proposed wind farm development should have consideration of the draft Guidelines.

https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/public-consultation/files/draft_revised_wind_energy_development_guidelines_december_2019.pdf.

Shadow Flicker

It is recommended that a shadow flicker assessment is undertaken to identify any dwellings and sensitive receptors which may be impacted by shadow flicker. The assessment must include all proposed mitigation measures. Dwellings should include all occupied properties and any existing or proposed properties for which planning consent has been granted for construction or refurbishment.

It is recommended that turbine selection will be based on the most advanced available technology that permits shut down during times when residents are exposed to shadow flicker. As a result no dwelling should be exposed to shadow flicker.

Air Quality

Due to the nature of the proposed construction works generation of airborne dust has the potential to have significant impacts on sensitive receptors. A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) should be included in the EIAR which details dust control and mitigation measures. Measures should include:

- Sweeping of hard road surfaces
- Provision of a water bowser on site, regular spraying of haul roads

- Wheel washing facilities at site exit
- Restrict speed on site
- Provide covers to all delivery trucks to minimise dust generation
- Inspect and clean public roads in the vicinity if necessary
- Material stockpiling provided with adequate protection from the wind
- Dust monitoring at the site boundary
- Truck inspection and maintenance plan
- Details of a road maintenance agreement between the wind farm operator and the Local Roads Authority to clarify responsibility for the upkeep and repair of access roads during the construction phase of the project

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Surface and Ground Water Quality

The proposed development has the potential to have a significant impact on the quality of both surface and ground water. All drinking water sources, both surface and ground water, must be identified. Public and Group Water Scheme sources and supplies should be identified. Measures to ensure that all sources and supplies are protected should be described. The Environmental Health Service recommends that a walk over survey of the site is undertaken in addition to a desktop analysis of Geological Survey of Ireland data in order to identify the location of private wells used for drinking water purposes.

Any potential significant impacts to drinking water sources should be assessed. Details of bedrock, overburden, vulnerability, groundwater flows, aquifers and catchment areas should be considered when assessing potential impacts and any proposed mitigation measures.

Any impacts on surface water as a result of the construction of the underground cables should be identified and addressed in the EIAR.

Geotechnical and Peat Stability Assessment

A detailed assessment of the current ground stability of the site for the proposed wind farm and all proposed mitigation measures should be detailed in the EIAR. The assessment should include the impact construction work may have on the future stability of ground conditions, taking into consideration extreme weather events (such as floods, above normal precipitation and drought/heat events), site drainage and the potential for soil erosion.

Information should be provided on the make and model of the turbines and on construction details for the turbine foundations, including the depth and volume of concrete required. An accurate assessment of the potential impacts of the foundations on water quality and peat stability cannot be undertaken without this information.

Reference is made to a peat slide which occurred near Ballybofey in Co. Donegal on November 13th 2020 which may have been linked to construction activity at Meenbog Wind Farm. Potential impacts

on water supply associated with contamination following a peat slide include sedimentation and alteration of pH levels.

The Environmental Health Service recommends that a detailed Peat Stability/Geotechnical Assessment should be undertaken to assess the suitability of the soil for the proposed development. The EIAR should include provision for a peat stability monitoring programme to identify early signs of potential bog slides ('pre-failure indicators' see the Scottish Government's 'Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessments: Best Practice Guide for Proposed Electricity Developments 2017)

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2017/04/peat-landslide-hazard-risk-assessments-best-practice-guide-proposed-electricity/documents/00517176-pdf/00517176-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/00517176.pdf>

Climate Action and Opportunity for Health Gain.

It is noted from the scoping report that carbon emissions from construction and operations are included under air quality. To create a distinction between air quality issues related to dust and particulate emissions carbon/greenhouse gas emissions are dealt with here.

In the policy context reference in the full EIAR should be made to the latest Climate Action Plan 2024 which was launched on the 20th December 2023. Reference could also be made to the Kilkenny County Climate Action Plan currently in draft form that went out for public consultation before Christmas 2023.

It is suggested that the Climate Chapter be split into Mitigation and Adaptation headings.

In the context of Mitigation the proposed development should aim to be a carbon neutral development and put forward climate actions that will deliver a climate neutral development. Typical actions may include green procurement of materials and the use of low/zero emission vehicles during construction. The EIAR should clearly illustrate how the development contributes to obligations under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 and amendment of 2021 and the most recent Climate Action Plans of 2023 and 2024.

In the context of Adaptation and Resilience the proposed development should be designed to limit exposure to potential hazards and reduce vulnerability. Floods, windstorms, above normal precipitation (frequency and intensity), heatwaves/higher temperatures and drought are the likely key hazards to protect the development from.

Opportunities to support health gain should also be considered in the context of delivering on the vision of Healthy Ireland "where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and well-being to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility". Perhaps there is an opportunity to utilise the site for recreational purposes for a wider community of people alongside the primary purpose of energy generation?

Ancillary Facilities

The EIAR should include details of the location of all site office, construction compound, fuel storage depot, sanitary accommodation and canteen, First Aid facilities, disposal of wastewater and the provision of a potable water supply to the site canteen.

Cumulative Impacts

All existing or proposed wind farm developments in the vicinity should be clearly identified in the EIAR.

The impact on sensitive receptors of the proposed development combined with any other wind farm developments in the vicinity should be considered. The EIAR should include a detailed assessment of any likely significant cumulative impacts of the proposed renewable energy development.



Niall Roche

Oifigeach Sláinte Comhshaoil - Environmental Health Officer

Timpeallacht/Athrú Aeráide, Aonad Tacaíochta Líonra - Environment/Climate Change, Network Support Unit (NSU)

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025



HSE South Emergency Management Consultation Report			
Report to	Robbie Doyle, PEHO, Carlow/Kilkenny	Date	11th Dec. 2023
Type of consultation: EIS <input type="checkbox"/> Scoping <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening <input type="checkbox"/> EIAR <input type="checkbox"/> EPA <input type="checkbox"/>			
Other (please specify):			
Authorities	EPA / HSE / Kilkenny County Council / An Bord Pleanála		
Consultant's Reference No.	230502 EHIS Ref No. 3563		
EM Reference Number	EMENV 183		
Applicant	MKO Galway for Briskalagh Ltd., Co. Kilkenny		
Proposal	Proposed renewable energy development consisting of 8 wind turbines and associated works at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny		

HSE South Emergency Management Observations:

Please be advised that the HSE South Emergency Management function does not have any specific observations to make with respect to this application. However, please note the following recommendations within the context of site operations:

1. Should an incident occur at the site and the site operator requires the assistance of the emergency services, the incident information should be provided in the 'ETHANE' format (please see attached).
2. Emergency Services access to the site should be clearly identified. This should be undertaken via appropriate high visibility signage, i.e.; a green sign with a yellow border and white lettering citing the abbreviation RVP
3. The site should have a mechanism in place to account for personnel during an evacuation in order to provide the responding emergency services with an estimate of the number of people accounted and unaccounted for.
4. The site should identify any critical / vulnerable facilities within the geographical catchment area, such as hospitals, schools, nursing homes, etc, that could be directly or indirectly affected by an incident at the site.
5. Where the 'off-site' impacts of an incident at the site affects a vulnerable cohort / population such as children within crèches, schools; patients / clients / residents within nursing homes, etc; the emergency services will require assistance from the site operator in determining the impact on the local community.
6. The site operator is encouraged to develop a business continuity plan that includes a plan for severe weather. For more advice on this, please see the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation, *Business Continuity Planning in Severe Weather*.
<https://dbei.gov.ie/en/Publications/Publication-files/Business-Continuity-Planning-in-Severe-Weather-Check-List-for-Businesses.pdf>

All correspondence or any queries with regard to this report should be forwarded to Ms. Maryanne Horgan, Emergency Management Office, HSE South, Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, Western Road, Cork, T12 WP62 or maryanne.horgan@hse.ie

Micheal Cahill

From: Planning <planning@iaa.ie>
Sent: 15 January 2024 16:30
To: Jack Smith
Cc: Christophe O'BRIEN; Eoin McCarthy; Planning
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Mr. Smith,

Thank you for your letter/informal scoping report and request for comments in relation to the proposed wind farm development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny. Given the information provided, it is likely that the following general observations would be proffered by the Authority during a formal planning process: In the event of planning consent being granted, the applicant should be conditioned to contact the Irish Aviation Authority to: (1) agree an aeronautical obstacle warning light scheme for the wind farm development, (2) provide as-constructed coordinates in WGS84 format together with ground and blade tip height elevations at each wind turbine location and (3) notify the Authority of intention to commence crane operations with at least 30 days prior notification of their erection.

Best Regards,

Dave

David McCann

Aerodromes Inspector

M: +353 1 603 1039 |

E: david.mccann@iaa.ie | www.iaa.ie

The Times Building, 11-12 D'Olier Street, Dublin 2, D02 T449



IRISH AVIATION AUTHORITY
ÚDARÁS EITLÍOCHTA NA HÉIREANN

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 15 January 2024 10:09
To: Planning <planning@iaa.ie>
Cc: Christophe O'BRIEN <Christophe.O'BRIEN@IAA.ie>; Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: FW: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

*** This message originated from outside the Irish Aviation Authority. Please treat hyperlinks, attachments and instructions in this email with caution. ***

Dear Sir/Madam,

Could you please update me at your earliest convenience on the status of any response from the IAA in relation to the below EIA Scoping Request.

For your information, please see attached the original scoping document and cover letter sent on the 24th November 2023.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Jack Smith

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 3:07 PM

To: planning@iaa.ie

Cc: obrienc@iaa.ie

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Dear Mr O'Brien,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Micheal Cahill

From: Thomas Quigley <Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie>
Sent: 28 November 2023 08:19
To: Jack Smith
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

Thanks for the response

The proposed site is not within the GSM-R (Mobile Network for Railways) exclusion zone. Please see below:

From a study carried out by the ANFR (Agence Nationale des Frequences in France), the output calls for 2 main recommendations by defining 2 main zones as follows:

- 1- **Exclusion zone:** wind farm not less than 5 Km from antenna
- 2- **Coordination zone:** : 5Km<wind farm <30Km: this area, coordination between operators is required to fix any issue and impact on the signal propagation

Regards,

Thomas Quigley,
National Telecoms Manager,
SET Department



please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 4:38 PM
To: Thomas Quigley <Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Thomas,

Please see attached as requested.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Thomas Quigley <Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie>

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 3:09 PM

To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi,

All requests must be accompanied by a kml/kmz file that can be loaded into Google Earth before any review is carried out.

Regards,

Thomas Quigley,
National Telecoms Manager,
SET Department



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 3:06 PM
To: Thomas Quigley <Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr Quigley,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

Micheal Cahill

From: Datarequests <Datarequests@water.ie>
Sent: 16 April 2024 17:17
To: Jack Smith
Subject: RE: 230502 Uisce Eireann Data Request
Attachments: Water_Sewer_shp.zip

RECEIVED: 03/01/2024

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,
Thank you for sending the completed Non Disclosure Agreement and location details of your area of interest.
Please find the attached data you have requested of;
- Water Network (.shp Irish Grid)
- Sewer Network (.shp Irish Grid)

Kind regards,

Ryan Iporac

Asset Data Coordinator

Uisce Éireann

Teach Colvill, 24–26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86, Éire

Uisce Éireann

Colvill House, 24–26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, D01 NP86, Ireland

Datarequests@water.ie

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 4:49 PM
To: Datarequests <Datarequests@water.ie>
Subject: 230502 Uisce Eireann Data Request

CAUTION: The email originated from outside of your organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and are sure that the content is safe. If you suspect any suspicious activity, please raise an IT Incident ticket to the IT Service Desk.

Hi Ryan,
Further to the below, I am looking for Irish water shapefiles (water infrastructure and sewage) for the site - attached ITM shapefile format. Let me know if you need any other details, thanks.
Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84
Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Datarequests <Datarequests@water.ie>
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 5:13 PM
To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

Thank you for contacting Data Requests. Could I please just ask you to fill out and return the attached forms? Please find attached forms and see our standard reply below.

Data Requests supply records of Irish Water Infrastructure in GIS format (i.e. **.shp**, **.gdb**, **.tab**, or **.dwg**). If you only need to visualise the network we can also supply a live link via a **WMS** service, please ask us for more details.

Maps in **PDF** format are generally available from the relevant local authority. However if the local authority cannot provide the we are happy to help (if this is the case please ignore the NDA form and **reply stating you only require PDF maps for your location**).

If you wish to proceed to acquire GIS digital data we ask that you complete a Non Disclosure Agreement Form (1b - attached). In Appendix (Page 4) Sections a-h of this form can you please ensure that all sections are completed as per the outline shown in the attached guide. If a section is not relevant indicate this. Can you also ensure that you detail the nature of the data that you require, for example Water Distribution and/or Sewer Network in .dwg, tab or .shp format (please refer to the attached guide 1a to assist you).

To speed up the process we ask that you send us a **digital GIS polygon(s) (.dwg or .shp in ING) that outlines the extent and location of the area(s) that you require data.** This is used to extract the GIS Digital data that you require.

Please Note:

1. Irish Water is responsible for issuing Water & Wastewater **digital** data in GIS format and will issue the data in **one format only** (.shp, .gdb, .tab, or .dwg).
2. Local Authorities are responsible for maintaining and issuing Stormwater data. Irish Water does not issue Stormwater data.

Due to the large volume of data requests received daily, incomplete or inaccurately completed forms will result in delays to issuing data. Consequently, the sole responsibility lies with the requestor to ensure that the above guidelines are adhered to and relevant documentation is submitted.

Should you have any questions in relation to the above please do not hesitate to get in contact.

Kind regards,

Ryan Iporac

Asset Data Officer

Uisce Éireann

Teach Colvill, 24–26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86, Éire

Uisce Éireann

Colvill House, 24–26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, D01 NP86, Ireland

Datarequests@water.ie

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Friday 24 November 2023 15:12

To: Planning <Planning@water.ie>; Datarequests <Datarequests@water.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of your organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and are sure that the content is safe.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Jack.

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84
Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



RECEIVED: 03/01/2023

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

Is don duine amháin nó don eintiteas amháin ainmnithe ar an seoladh an fhaisnéis agus d'fhéadfadh ábhar faoi rún, faoi phribhléid nó ábhar atá íogair ó thaobh na tráchtála de a bheith mar chuid den fhaisnéis. Tá toirmeasc ar aon daoine nó aon eititis; nach dóibh siúd an fhaisnéis- aon athbhreithniú a dhéanamh, aon atarchur a dhéanamh nó aon athdháileadh a dhéanamh, nó aon úsáid eile a bhaint as an bhfaisnéis, nó aon ghníomh a bhraithfeadh ar an bhfaisnéis seo a dhéanamh agus d'fhéadfaí an dlí a shárú dá ndéanfaí sin. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas as aon ghníomh agus as aon iarmhairt bunaithe ar úsáid neamhúdraithe na faisnéise seo. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le seachadadh iomlán agus ceart na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo agus séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann leis an bhfaisnéis a fháil. Má tá an ríomh-phost seo faighte agat trí dhearmad, déan teagmháil leis an seoltóir más é do thoil é agus scrios an t-ábhar ó gach aon ríomhaire. D'fhéadfadh ríomhphost a bheith so-ghabhálach i leith truaillithe, idircheaptha agus i leith leasuithe neamhúdraithe. Séanann Uisce Éireann aon fhreagracht as athruithe nó as idircheapadh a rinneadh ar an ríomhphost seo nó as aon dochar do chórais na bhfaighteoirí déanta ag an teachtaireacht seo nó ag a ceangaltáin tar éis a sheolta. Tabhair faoi deara go bhféadfadh monatóireacht a bheith á dhéanamh ar theachtaireachtaí chuig Uisce Éireann agus ó Uisce Éireann d'fhonn ár ngnó a chosaint agus chun a chinntiú go bhfuiltear ag teacht le beartais agus le caighdeáin Uisce Éireann. Is cuideachta gníomhaíochta ainmnithe é Uisce Éireann atá faoi theorainn scaireanna, a bunaíodh de bhun fhorálacha na n-Achtanna um Sheirbhísí Uisce 2007-2022, a bhfuil a bpríomh-ionad gnó ag Teach Colvill, 24-26 Sráid na Talbóide, BÁC 1.

Go raibh maith agat as d'aird a thabhairt.

The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential, commercially sensitive and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited and may be unlawful. Uisce Éireann accepts no liability for actions or effects based on the prohibited usage of this information. Uisce Éireann is neither liable for the proper and complete transmission of the information contained in this communication nor for any delay in its receipt. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer. E-Mail may be susceptible to data corruption, interception and unauthorised amendment. Uisce Éireann accepts no responsibility for changes to or interception of this e-mail after it was sent or for any damage to the recipients systems or data caused by this message or its attachments. Please also note that messages to or from Uisce Éireann may be monitored to ensure compliance with Uisce Eireann's policies and standards and to protect our business. Uisce Éireann is a designated activity company limited by shares, established pursuant to the Water Services Acts 2007-2022, having its principal place of business at Colvill House, 24-26

Talbot Street, Dublin 1.

Thank you for your attention.

RECEIVED: 03/07/2023

Is don duine amháin nó don eintiteas amháin ainmnithe ar an seoladh an fhaisnéis agus d'fhéadfadh ábhar faoi rún, faoi phribhléid nó ábhar atá íogair ó thaobh na tráchtála de a bheith mar chuid den fhaisnéis. Tá toirmeasc ar aon daoine nó aon eititis; nach dóibh siúd an fhaisnéis- aon athbheithniú a dhéanamh, aon atarchur a dhéanamh nó aon athdháileadh a dhéanamh, nó aon úsáid eile a bhaint as an bhfaisnéis, nó aon ghníomh a bhraithfeadh ar an bhfaisnéis seo a dhéanamh agus d'fhéadfaí an dlí a sháru dá ndéanfaí sin. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas as aon ghníomh agus as aon iarmhairt bunaithe ar úsáid neamhúdaraith na faisnéise seo. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le seachadadh iomlán agus ceart na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo agus séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann leis an bhfaisnéis a fháil. Má tá an ríomh-phost seo faighte agat trí dhearmad, déan teagmháil leis an seoltóir más é do thoil é agus scríos an t-ábhar ó gach aon ríomhaire. D'fhéadfadh ríomhphost a bheith so-ghabhálach i leith truailithe, idircheaptha agus i leith leasuithe neamhúdaraith. Séanann Uisce Éireann aon fhreagracht as athruithe nó as idircheapadh a rinneadh ar an ríomhphost seo nó as aon dochar do chórais na bhfaighteoirí déanta ag an teachtaireacht seo nó ag a ceangaltáin tar éis a sheolta. Tabhair faoi deara go bhféadfadh monatóireacht a bheith á dhéanamh ar theachtaireachtaí chuig Uisce Éireann agus ó Uisce Éireann d'fhonn ár ngnó a chosaint agus chun a chinntiú go bhfuiltear ag teacht le beartais agus le caighdeán Uisce Éireann. Is cuideachta gníomhaíochta ainmnithe é Uisce Éireann atá faoi theorainn scaireanna, a bunaíodh de bhun fhorálacha na n-Achtanna um Sheirbhísí Uisce 2007-2022, a bhfuil a bpríomh-ionad gnó ag Teach Colvill, 24-26 Sráid na Talbóide, BÁC 1.

Go raibh maith agat as d'aird a thabhairt.

The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential, commercially sensitive and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited and may be unlawful. Uisce Éireann accepts no liability for actions or effects based on the prohibited usage of this information. Uisce Éireann is neither liable for the proper and complete transmission of the information contained in this communication nor for any delay in its receipt. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer. E-Mail may be susceptible to data corruption, interception and unauthorised amendment. Uisce Éireann accepts no responsibility for changes to or interception of this e-mail after it was sent or for any damage to the recipients systems or data caused by this message or its attachments. Please also note that messages to or from Uisce Éireann may be monitored to ensure compliance with Uisce Éireann's policies and standards and to protect our business. Uisce Éireann is a designated activity company limited by shares, established pursuant to the Water Services Acts 2007-2022, having its principal place of business at Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1.

Thank you for your attention.

Micheal Cahill

From: Datarequests <Datarequests@water.ie>
Sent: 28 November 2023 17:26
To: Jack Smith
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

Thank you for your email.

Apologies for that. Unfortunately, Datarequests only supply records of Irish Water Infrastructure in GIS format (i.e. **shp**, **.gdb**, **.tab**, or **.dwg**). You could ask Planning@water.ie if they can provide you the relevant data you require.

Kind regards,

Ryan Iporac
Asset Data Officer

Uisce Éireann
Teach Colvill, 24–26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86, Éire
Uisce Éireann
Colvill House, 24–26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, D01 NP86, Ireland

Datarequests@water.ie

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 27 November 2023 14:54
To: Datarequests <Datarequests@water.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of your organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and are sure that the content is safe.

Hi Ryan,

Thanks for your response. We're not necessarily requesting specific data from you as I understand from your email that's what the non-disclosure agreement relates to. We've looked to include Irish Water in our scoping efforts to receive any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. Is there specific data that you're looking to share with us in relation to your comments on the below scoping document?

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Datarequests <Datarequests@water.ie>

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 5:13 PM

To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

Thank you for contacting Data Requests. Could I please just ask you to fill out and return the attached forms? Please find attached forms and see our standard reply below.

Data Requests supply records of Irish Water Infrastructure in GIS format (i.e. **.shp**, **.gdb**, **.tab**, or **.dwg**). If you only need to visualise the network we can also supply a live link via a **WMS** service, please ask us for more details.

Maps in **PDF** format are generally available from the relevant local authority. However if the local authority cannot provide the we are happy to help (if this is the case please ignore the NDA form and **reply stating you only require PDF maps for your location**).

If you wish to proceed to acquire GIS digital data we ask that you complete a Non Disclosure Agreement Form (1b - attached). In Appendix (Page 4) Sections a-h of this form can you please ensure that all sections are completed as per the outline shown in the attached guide. If a section is not relevant indicate this. Can you also ensure that you detail the nature of the data that you require, for example Water Distribution and/or Sewer Network in .dwg, tab or .shp format (please refer to the attached guide 1a to assist you).

To speed up the process we ask that you send us a **digital GIS polygon(s) (.dwg or .shp in ING) that outlines the extent and location of the area(s) that you require data.** This is used to extract the GIS Digital data that you require.

Please Note:

1. Irish Water is responsible for issuing Water & Wastewater **digital** data in GIS format and will issue the data in **one format only** (.shp, .gdb, .tab, or .dwg).
2. Local Authorities are responsible for maintaining and issuing Stormwater data. Irish Water does not issue Stormwater data.

Due to the large volume of data requests received daily, incomplete or inaccurately completed forms will result in delays to issuing data. Consequently, the sole responsibility lies with the requestor to ensure that the above guidelines are adhered to and relevant documentation is submitted.

Should you have any questions in relation to the above please do not hesitate to get in contact.

Kind regards,

Ryan Iporac
Asset Data Officer

Uisce Éireann
Teach Colvill, 24–26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86, Éire
Uisce Éireann
Colvill House, 24–26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, D01 NP86, Ireland

Datarequests@water.ie

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Friday 24 November 2023 15:12

To: Planning <Planning@water.ie>; Datarequests <Datarequests@water.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of your organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and are sure that the content is safe.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Micheal Cahill

From: Planning <Planning@water.ie>
Sent: 12 December 2023 16:45
To: Jack Smith
Cc: Aisling Mcgrath (C)
Subject: EIAR Scoping response - Briskalagh Wind Farm
Attachments: Briskalagh Wind Farm - Co. Kilkenny - EIAR Scoping Response.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

You don't often get email from planning@water.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to a referral for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping request relating to a Consultation for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh Co. Kilkenny.

Please find attached Uisce Éireann's observations.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Martha Gilligan
Planning Application Specialist

Uisce Éireann
Bosca OP 860, Oifig Sheachadta na Cathrach Theas, Cathair Chorcaí, Éire
Irish Water
PO Box 860, South City Delivery Office, Cork City, Ireland

T: 1800 278 278
Text to Voice/Voice to Text 1800 378 378
www.water.ie

Is don duine amháin nó don eintiteas amháin ainmnithe ar an seoladh an fhaisnéis agus d'fhéadfadh ábhar faoi rún, faoi phribhléid nó ábhar atá íogair ó thaobh na tráchtála de a bheith mar chuid den fhaisnéis. Tá toirmeasc ar aon daoine nó aon eititis; nach dóibh siúd an fhaisnéis- aon athbhreithniú a dhéanamh, aon atarchur a dhéanamh nó aon athdháileadh a dhéanamh, nó aon úsáid eile a bhaint as an bhfaisnéis, nó aon ghníomh a bhraithfeadh ar an bhfaisnéis seo a dhéanamh agus d'fhéadfaí an dlí a shárú dá ndéanfaí sin. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas as aon ghníomh agus as aon iarmhairt bunaithe ar úsáid neamhúdraithe na faisnéise seo. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le seachadadh iomlán agus ceart na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo agus séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann leis an bhfaisnéis a fháil. Má tá an ríomh-phost seo

faighte agat trí dhearmad, déan teagmháil leis an seoltóir más é do thoil é agus scríos an t-ábhar ó gach aon ríomhaire. D'fhéadfadh ríomhphost a bheith so-ghabhálach i leith truaillithe, idircheaptha agus i leith leasuithe neamhúdraithe. Séanann Uisce Éireann aon fhreagracht as athruithe nó as idircheapadh a rinneadh ar an ríomhphost seo nó as aon dochar do chórais na bhfaighteoirí déanta ag an teachtaireacht seo nó ag a ceangaltáin tar éis a sheolta. Tabhair faoi deara go bhféadfadh monatóireacht a bheith á dhéanamh ar theachtaireachtaí chuig Uisce Éireann agus ó Uisce Éireann d'fhonn ár ngnó a chosaint agus chun a chinntiú go bhfuiltear ag teacht le beartais agus le caighdeáin Uisce Éireann. Is cuideachta gníomhaíochta ainmnithe é Uisce Éireann atá faoi theorainn scaireanna, a bunaíodh de bhun fhorálacha na n-Achtanna um Sheirbhísí Uisce 2007-2022, a bhfuil a bpríomh-ionad gnó ag Teach Colvill, 24-26 Sráid na Talbóide, BÁC 1.

Go raibh maith agat as d'aird a thabhairt.

The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential, commercially sensitive and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited and may be unlawful. Uisce Éireann accepts no liability for actions or effects based on the prohibited usage of this information. Uisce Éireann is neither liable for the proper and complete transmission of the information contained in this communication nor for any delay in its receipt. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer. E-Mail may be susceptible to data corruption, interception and unauthorised amendment. Uisce Éireann accepts no responsibility for changes to or interception of this e-mail after it was sent or for any damage to the recipients systems or data caused by this message or its attachments. Please also note that messages to or from Uisce Éireann may be monitored to ensure compliance with Uisce Éireann's policies and standards and to protect our business. Uisce Éireann is a designated activity company limited by shares, established pursuant to the Water Services Acts 2007-2022, having its principal place of business at Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1.

Thank you for your attention.

Jack Smith
MKO
Tuam Road
Galway
H91 VW84

12 December 2023

Email: jsmith@mkofireland.ie

Uisce Éireann
Bosca OP 6000
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 WA07
Éire

Uisce Éireann
PO Box 6000
Dublin 1
D01 WA07
Ireland

T: +353 1 89 25000
F: +353 1 89 25001
www.water.ie

Re: EIAR Scoping Request – Consultation for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh Co. Kilkenny.

Dear Mr. Smith,

Uisce Éireann has received notification of your Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping request relating to the forthcoming application for a proposed renewable energy development (wind turbines) at Briskalagh Co. Kilkenny.

Having reviewed the documentation submitted there is no Uisce Éireann infrastructure in the area, therefore Uisce Éireann have no objection in principle.

Please see attached, Uisce Éireann's scoping opinion in relation to Water Services. On receipt of the planning referral, Uisce Éireann will review the finalised Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) as part of the planning process.

Queries relating to the terms and the EIA scoping opinions below should be directed to planning@water.ie

PP. *Ali Robinson*

Yvonne Harris

Connections and Developer Services

Uisce Éireann's Response to EIA Scoping Requests

At present, Uisce Éireann does not have the capacity to advise on the scoping of individual projects. However, in general the following aspects of Water Services should be considered in the scope of an EIA where relevant;

- a) Where the development proposal has the potential to impact an Uisce Éireann Drinking Water Source(s), the applicant shall provide details of measures to be taken to ensure that there will be no negative impact to Uisce Éireann's Drinking Water Source(s) during the construction and operational phases of the development. Hydrological / hydrogeological pathways between the applicant's site and receiving waters should be identified as part of the report.
- b) Where the development proposes the backfilling of materials, the applicant is required to include a waste sampling strategy to ensure the material is inert.
- c) Mitigations should be proposed for any potential negative impacts on any water source(s) which may be in proximity and included in the environmental management plan and incident response.
- d) Any and all potential impacts on the nearby reservoir as public water supply water source(s) are assessed, including any impact on hydrogeology and any groundwater/ surface water interactions.
- e) Impacts of the development on the capacity of water services (*i.e. do existing water services have the capacity to cater for the new development*). This is confirmed by Uisce Éireann in the form of a Confirmation of Feasibility (COF). If a development requires a connection to either a public water supply or sewage collection system, the developer is advised to submit a Pre-Connection Enquiry (PCE) enquiry to Uisce Éireann to determine the feasibility of connection to the Uisce Éireann network.

All pre-connection enquiry forms are available from
<https://www.water.ie/connections/connection-steps/>.

- f) The applicant shall identify any upgrading of water services infrastructure that would be required to accommodate the proposed development.
- g) In relation to a development that would discharge trade effluent – any upstream treatment or attenuation of discharges required prior to discharging to an Uisce Éireann collection network.
- h) In relation to the management of surface water; the potential impact of surface water discharges to combined sewer networks and potential measures to minimise and or / stop surface waters from combined sewers.
- i) Any physical impact on Uisce Éireann assets – reservoir, drinking water source, treatment works, pipes, pumping stations, discharges outfalls etc. including any relocation of assets.

- j) When considering a development proposal, the applicant is advised to determine the location of public water services assets, possible connection points from the applicant's site / lands to the public network and any drinking water abstraction catchments to ensure these are included and fully assessed in any pre-planning proposals. Details, where known, can be obtained by emailing an Ordnance Survey map identifying the proposed location of the applicant's intended development to datarequests@water.ie
- k) Other indicators or methodologies for identifying infrastructure located within the applicant's lands are the presence of registered wayleave agreements, visible manholes, vent stacks, valve chambers, marker posts etc. within the proposed site.
- l) Any potential impacts on the assimilative capacity of receiving waters in relation to Uisce Éireann discharge outfalls including changes in dispersion / circulation characterises. Hydrological / hydrogeological pathways between the applicant's site and receiving waters should be identified within the report.
- m) Any potential impact on the contributing catchment of water sources either in terms of water abstraction for the development (*and resultant potential impact on the capacity of the source*) or the potential of the development to influence / present a risk to the quality of the water abstracted by Uisce Éireann for public supply should be identified within the report.
- n) Where a development proposes to connect to an Uisce Éireann network and that network either abstracts water from or discharges wastewater to a "protected"/ sensitive area, consideration as to whether the integrity of the site / conservation objectives of the site would be compromised should be identified within the report.
- o) Mitigation measures in relation to any of the above ensuring a zero risk to any Uisce Éireann drinking water sources (Surface and Ground water).

This is not an exhaustive list.

Please note;

- Where connection(s) to the public network is required as part of the development proposal, applicants are advised to complete the Pre-Connection Enquiry process and have received a Confirmation of Feasibility letter from Uisce Éireann ahead of any planning application.
- Uisce Éireann will not accept new surface water discharges to combined sewer networks.

Micheal Cahill

From: Jimmy Sugrue <jsugrue@ivertec.ie>
Sent: 24 November 2023 15:15
To: Jack Smith
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: Re: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi,

This development has no impact on any of our services.

Regards,
Jimmy Sugrue.

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 3:04:47 PM
To: Jimmy Sugrue <jsugrue@ivertec.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Dear Sir/Madam,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84
Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant

Micheal Cahill

From: IWT Info <info@iwt.ie>
Sent: 28 November 2023 09:34
To: Jack Smith
Subject: Re: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,
Thank you for your email.
We do not have the staff capacity to respond to this consultation at the moment but we will endeavour to respond if possible.

Kind regards,

Fabiola Vieira

On Fri, 24 Nov 2023 at 15:13, Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie> wrote:

Dear Ms. Vieira,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed

project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Micheal Cahill

From: Jack Smith
Sent: 18 January 2024 10:36
To: Claire Kelly; Jade Power
Cc: Angela Mockler; Nicolaas Louw; Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Dear Claire,

I can confirm that, yes. This scoping request is not seeking the formal written opinion of the Planning Authority in relation to the scope and level of detail of information required to be included in the EIAR, as the project team are satisfied that feedback provided through discussions and meetings will sufficiently inform the process. The scoping document is being provided to give the local authority sufficient background regarding the proposed development and the approach being adopted and does not constitute a formal request for a written opinion under Section 146CA or 173 of the Act.

Thanks for your email, we look forward to your response.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Claire Kelly <claire.kelly@kilkennycoco.ie>
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 10:21 AM
To: Jade Power <jpower@mkoireland.ie>; Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: Angela Mockler <Angela.Mockler@kilkennycoco.ie>; Nicolaas Louw <nicolaas.louw@kilkennycoco.ie>
Subject: FW: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Jack and Jade

Thank you for your emails.

In relation to the scoping document submitted, my understanding is that you are seeking the comments of the Local Authority only, and not engaging in the process as set out in Article 95 of the *Planning and Development Regulations 2001*, as amended; I would appreciate if you could please confirm this?

If you are not seeking a response in accordance with Article 95, then I will forward the response from the Local Authority to you before the end of the month.

Kind regards

Claire

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Monday 15 January 2024 10:12

To: Angela Mockler <Angela.Mockler@kilkennycoco.ie>

Cc: Nicolaas Louw <nicolaas.louw@kilkennycoco.ie>; Claire Kelly <claire.kelly@kilkennycoco.ie>

Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Dear Angela,

Could you please update me at your earliest convenience on the status of any response from KCC in relation to the informal EIA Scoping Request, as below, dated the 24th November 2023.

For your information please see below, the email from your office acknowledging receipt of the scoping document and cover letter.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Angela Mockler <Angela.Mockler@kilkennycoco.ie>

Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2023 3:30 PM

To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Cc: Nicolaas Louw <nicolaas.louw@kilkennycoco.ie>; Claire Kelly <claire.kelly@kilkennycoco.ie>

Subject: FW: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

You don't often get email from angela.mockler@kilkennycoco.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your correspondence.

As per your attached letter dated 24th November 2023, I note that you have indicated *that you are looking for baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. The Planning authority does therefore not treat this as a formal request for a EIAR scoping*

Having regard to the foregoing, the Scoping Report has been referred to the relevant sections internally within the Council, and a response will be collated and forwarded to you in January 2024 on receipt of these responses.

For and on behalf of Mr Nicolaas Louw, Senior Executive Planner

Regards,

Angela Mockler
Assistant Staff Officer
Planning Section
Kilkenny County Council | County Hall | John Street | Kilkenny | R95 A39T
T: 056-7794059
E: angela.mockler@kilkennycoco.ie



From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 24 November 2023 15:26
To: Nicolaas Louw <nicolaas.louw@kilkennycoco.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Dear Ms Louw,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

Micheal Cahill

From: Mary Shephard <Mary.Shephard@kilkennycoco.ie>
Sent: 23 February 2024 14:39
To: Jack Smith
Subject: EIA Scoping for proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh
Attachments: IR658 Response.pdf

You don't often get email from mary.shephard@kilkennycoco.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Jack

Please find attached Kilkenny County Council's response to EIA Scoping for proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh.

Many thanks

Mary



Mary Shephard

Kilkenny County Council

Planning Department
County Hall, John Street
Kilkenny

Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

Roinn Pleanála
Halla an Chontae, Sráid Eoin
Chill Chainnigh

056 7794391

mary.shephard@kilkennycoco.ie

www.kilkennycoco.ie



Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

Halla an Chontae Sraid Eoin Cill Chainnigh
R95 A39T

Our Ref: IR 658

Pobail agus Áiteanna Inbhuanaithe a Chruthú

Kilkenny County Council

County Hall John Street Kilkenny
R95 A39T



Creating Sustainable Communities 23rd February 2024

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Jack Smith
BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA,
Project Environmental Scientist,
MKO,
Tuam Road,
Galway, H91 VW84

Re: EIA Scoping Report for Proposed Renewable Energy Development at Briskalagh

A chara

I refer to the above and your correspondence received 8th December 2023.

The following is the requested informal response to the Scoping Document received on 24th November 2023 as part of pre-planning consultation process for proposed Renewable Energy Development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands.

Planning

- In relation to the *Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021-2027*, on 15th October 2021, the Minister of State at the Department of the Housing, Local Government and Heritage, consequent to a recommendation made to him by the Office of the Planning Regulator under section 31AM(8) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), notified Kilkenny County Council of his intention to issue a Direction to the Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021-2027.

In accordance with Section 31(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, those parts of the Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021 – 2027 Plan referred to in the notice shall be taken to have not come into effect, been made or amended; namely;
Chapter 11 Renewable Energy
Section 11.4 Kilkenny Targets
Section 11.5.1 Current status and targets
Figure 11.4 Wind Strategy areas.

The Planning Authority is awaiting a further direction from the Minister in this regard. Consequently, the Renewable Energy policies and Wind Strategy areas as previously set out in the Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021 – 2027, cannot be taken into account at this time.

- The EIAR shall address potential impacts pertaining to both County Kilkenny and County Tipperary and any other potential impacts outside of the county boundaries.

- The applicant should address the visual impacts and cumulative visual impacts with any other existing and permitted windfarms within a reasonable vicinity of the site.
- The site is hydrologically connected to the King's River and Natura 2000 network.
- There is a recorded monument within the development site ref. KK018-050---.
- There is potential for significant visual impacts on the nearby settlements of Kilmanagh and Tullaroan.
- Having regard to the prominent location of the proposed development site close to an upland landscape character area and protected view V16 and hydrological connection Natura 2000 sites, the watercourses and built heritage and national monuments/archaeology within the site and along the grid connection route, the proposed wind farm development and its grid connection will require a thorough assessment of potential impacts on these sensitive receptors to include the cumulative impacts with other wind farm proposals in the surrounding area.
- The applicant is advised to fully comply with the requirements of Directive 2014/52/EU on the effects of certain public and private projects on the Environment (EIA Directive) and any resulting amendments to the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended. The applicants should also comply with the requirements of the *'Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment'* and any updates subsequent to the above Directive.
- The applicant shall formally consult inter-alia the following bodies:

Prescribed Bodies

- the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications
- the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government,
- the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht,
- the Environmental Protection Agency
- the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources,
- An Bord Pleanála,
- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- Health and Safety Authority
- Geological Survey Ireland
- An Taisce
- Uisce Éireann
- National Monuments Service
- National Parks and Wildlife Service
- Bord Fáilte
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland
- Department of Heritage - Architectural Heritage
- Fáilte Ireland
- The Heritage Council
- Waterways Ireland

- Tipperary County Council

Roads

The following should be taken into consideration of part of this application as a minimum:

Material Assets: Traffic & Transport sections of the Scoping Report.

The main issues arising for any proposed wind farm development from a road perspective will occur during the construction phase of the project for both the wind farm construction itself and method of connection to the preferred grid connection point. I note that a ducted route following public routes is preferred.

The EIAR needs also to consider the impacts of the construction of the grid connection.

However, noting this the investigations in respect of both would need to be developed to such a point to ensure and assure the planning authority that the proposals are technically feasible and have the necessary permissions if beyond the public road extents as part of the documentation submitting for planning approval. Such matters cannot be left entirely to any subsequent road opening permission process.

An additional key consideration is cumulative effects. The Roads Authority is significantly concerned about multiple applications for wind and solar farms proposing broadly similar and, in some cases, exactly the same cable connection routes. Rationalisation of routes and co-ordination and amalgamating such individual cable routes seems a minimum requirement and consideration that needs to be made as part of the EIAR process.

Wind Farm Site:

The applicant will be required to provide a detailed surveyed drawing of the proposed temporary and permanent site access arrangements showing the required sightlines in accordance with the TII Design Manual for Roads and Bridges. In general, where the access off the local road network is proposed a minimum visibility splay/sightline of 90m to the nearside road edge both directions from a point 2.4m back from the proposed entrance will be required as a minimum. In the case of regional roads this should be 145m. It is preferable to minimise the number of permanent accesses onto the road network.

The construction make-up of the entrance area shall be detailed. At a minimum the first 5m off the roadway edge should be a tarmac surface falling away from the public road to avoid ponding on the public road. The drainage arrangements shall also be detailed for both the entrance area and the access roads within the development site. The existing roadside drainage shall remain unaffected and where necessary accommodated for.

The applicant should be requested to provide a photographic & FWD survey of TDR in the case of the local and regional roads network. This would be carried out prior to construction and should be included by way of condition on a successful planning application and it will be part of the considerations in respect of the required road opening licence. The FWD analysis shall determine the structural condition of the road and the residual life of the pavement. The report shall include a design proposal for the restoration of the pavement to provide a 20-year design life. The surveys shall be repeated on completion of the TDR phase of the development and the extent of any repairs to the road network if any arising from this development shall be determined and agreed with the Municipal District Engineer and the applicant shall cover the costs of any required repairs.

Where temporary works are required to the TDR on third party lands to facilitate the delivery of wind turbine elements, demonstration of landowner consent is required. I note any references to, for example, over-sail requirements on private lands, temporary works on private lands, affecting private roadside boundaries in respect of the delivery of turbine components. It shall be the applicant's responsibility to ensure that permissions are in place at the time of applying for any necessary road openings, etc. Where such works are required proposals shall be designed using a detailed survey for each temporary works area. Depending on the nature, complexity and duration of proposed temporary works a Road Safety Audit may be required. This can be advised upon as proposals are developed.

Identify and structurally assess structures on the route of the TDR, in particular when crossing the regional and local road network. Where structures on National Routes will be impacted consultation and approval from the TII Structures Section will be required. Where structural works are required on the road network these will need to be detailed. To note for example in order to increase depths of cover to increase the structural strength an overlay may be suggested. However, the structural strength of in particular masonry structure may not be adequate for same and alternative proposals may be required. Parapets will also need to be considered if raising of road levels is being considered.

The applicant shall be conditioned to prepare and agree a construction and traffic management plan with the Municipal District Engineer prior to commencement of the development works. (Likely will be included as a condition but the principle of assessing the route would need to be included. This will also form part of the road opening licence.)

Depending on the access route proposed and its suitability it may be necessary for the applicant to submit proposals for the provision of passing bays along the local road for example and provide a drawing indicating the locations and construction detail.

The applicant shall provide details of the proposed development traffic generation for the construction, operational and decommissioning phases in order to assess the potential impact on the road network.

The applicant shall submit a glint and glare assessment of the proposed development on users on the public road network particularly from a road safety perspective. A road safety audit may be required in this regard.

The internal layout of access roads within the wind farm should be detailed. Also, it shall be confirmed how the large ground surface areas under/between the windfarm is to be maintained. i.e. grassed areas etc. It is noted that sheep are sometimes allowed to roam to keep such grasses maintained etc.

Where it is necessary to remove existing road signage to facilitate abnormal loads to the development site careful consideration to the provision and location of temporary signage or retrofitting of existing signage with socketed bases to aid removal/replacement. The precise details of these will be addressed in the context of the road opening permission but reference to what is intended or proposed should be contained in the planning documentation.

Where service diversions are required (ESB, Eircom, etc) the applicant shall liaise with the relevant service providers and reference any changes proposed in the planning documentation.

The expected time period for any TDR phase should be referenced within the context of the overall expected construction period.

Grid connection matters:

It is noted that there had been a tendency based on decisions by An Bord Pleanála that the grid connection routes were not formally applied for planning permission but are dealt with in the context of a subsequent road opening licence application procedure. However, it is understood that noting the potential impacts that this view has changed and that more recent applications are applying for formal planning permission for cable routes. This is desirable. It has always been noted that EIA and AA Screening of the cable connection route normally formed part of wind farm applications and subject to assessment in that regard. The principles of the suitability of the cable route should be detailed in the planning documentation to show it is technically feasible, albeit recognising that the detailed consideration may also be for a different procedure.

I note in this case that the cable connection route has not been fully determined but a preferred route is indicated.

I note that the applicant has indicated following the strategic regional road R694 from Freshford its juncture with the N77 near Ballyragget. This particular regional road is narrow in cross section and to facilitate the construction of such a grid connection route would require its closure for an extended period noting the extent is over 8km. This is unlikely to be acceptable and the developer is advised to consider alternative route avoiding regional roads.

It is further noted that the applicant proposes to install the cable connection longitudinally along the N77 through Ballyragget village. This is unlikely to be acceptable to Kilkenny County Council or TII. An alternative route of connection to the substation shall be required.

It should be noted that Kilkenny County Council considers that where the developer proposes the placement of any cables (or additional cables) in one or more trenches within the extents of the public road network this may have an adverse effect on the Roads Network. Issues that may arise include the following:

- Their presence within the public road could significantly restrict the Road Authority in carrying out its function to construct and maintain the public road and will likely add to the costs of those works.
- Their installation within the lands associated with the public road may affect the stability of the road. In particular where the road is a “legacy road” (where there is no designed road structure and the subgrade may be poor or poorly drained) the design needs to take account of all the variable conditions and not be based on a sample of the general conditions.
- The possible effect on the remaining available road space (noting that there may be need to accommodate other utilities within the road cross-section in the future). It is noted in most applications that developers in the EIAR consider the cumulative effects of other wind or solar farms and sometime their haul routes. From a roads perspective there are significant concerns that multiple wind and solar farms can propose connection to the same ESB substations and proposed cable connection routes may and in all likelihood will coincide. Consideration to co-ordination and amalgamation should be considered as existing roads may and are unlikely to be insufficient to accommodate multiple cable runs.
- The necessity to have the power in the cables switched off where the Road Authority considers this necessary in order to carry out its function to construct and maintain the public road.

It is important that the applicant in applying for planning permission include consideration of the following:

- Thorough examination of options other than the routing of cables along the public road,
- Thorough Examination of options for connection to the national grid network at a point closer to the wind farm in order to reduce the adverse impact on public roads.
- Details of where within the road cross section cables are to be placed so as to minimise the effect on the Roads Authority in the exercise of its role in terms of construction and maintenance,
- Examination of details of any chambers proposed within the public road cross section so as to minimise the effect on the Roads Authority in its role of construction and maintenance,
- Examine the elimination of jointing bays and use of temporary removable jointing bays to protect the integrity of the road structure for the safety of those driving on the public road by eliminating hard spots and also preserve the road width for other utilities and,
- Rationalisation of the number of cables involved (including existing electric or possible future cables) and their diversion into one trench, in order to minimise the impacts on the road network and the environment along the road boundary (hedgerows).
- Where the installation of underground cables as part of the grid connection is proposed, the applicant shall be requested to provide trench reinstatement details for the proposed underground cabling for the various locations where it is to be installed, i.e., roadside verge, carriageway, agricultural and domestic entrances, within or below structures etc.
- All trenching and duct installation works in public roads shall comply with the Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads (DTTAS) and the line & layout shall be agreed with the Municipal District Engineer as a condition of the road opening licence. Existing road drainage needs careful consideration in any proposals so that it is unaffected by the works.
- The applicant shall take into consideration the requirements of the specification for the reinstatement of openings in National Roads as published by TII as required. It will be a requirement that roadways be fully reinstated progressively as the ducting work proceeds.
- Consultation with TII where the duct route crosses the national road network either via an under bridge or over bridge will be required, particularly where this crossing is proposed to coincide with such structures. (It is noted that TII do not generally favour ducting longitudinally between roadside boundaries along the extent of national roads even if located in verges beyond the roadway edges. If such are proposed they will need to be re-considered.)
- Careful consideration shall be given to ESB requirements and cover levels when ducting over/through structures. Raising of road levels to facilitate cover levels will only be considered on a case by case basis as doing so is adding weight to the structure which may not be an acceptable solution. Where structural works are required these will need to be detailed. In general, it would be expected that adding additional weight to the structure would be acceptable in terms of its capacity, but still should be confirmed with a specific design. This review at the structure would also extend to design. Consultation with the Bridge Maintenance Engineers for Kilkenny shall be required.
- Directional drilling under structures is noted as being considered on occasions. The required dimensions under structures can only safely be confirmed by way of a bridge specific design report on how the directional drilling will affect the individual bridge, due to the unique ground conditions under it. This shall be carried out by a Chartered Engineer with Bridge and geotechnical experience. This information shall form part of the original planning information submitted and if absent will be requested as further information.
- Where cable ducting works impact third party properties either directly or indirectly landowner's consent is required in the case of the former and possibly a higher standard of reinstatement works for the latter (i.e. where ducting runs across an existing access re-instatement

may include the full extents of the access.) The applicant shall be responsible for agreeing all such reinstatements with the landowners concerned.

Typical conditions that may apply on any planning permission approval:

- A condition requiring the specific approval of the local authority to the detail of the final route of cables through the public road space. If during construction there is a need to deviate from the detailed design then the approval of the local authority would again be sought. This would assist in minimising the impact on the public road.
- A condition requiring the developer to comply with all appropriate standards and, inter alia the Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads, 2017 in order to ensure orderly development.
- A condition requiring that the location of the cables would be recorded as exactly as possible (maybe using BIM type technology) so as to facilitate the further use of road space for utilities and the maintenance/construction of the public road by the Roads authority. This record should be lodged with the local authority and with the ESB Networks for retention on their records.
- A condition to require the elimination of jointing bays and the use of temporary removable jointing bays instead, to protect the integrity of the road structure, thereby improving safety for those driving on the public road by eliminating hard spots and preserving the road width for other utilities.
- A condition requiring the developer to route cables away from bridge structures and specifically preventing the developer from attaching cables to road bridges. This would allow for the future maintenance of bridges without interruption of the electricity supply along the cables.
- A condition requiring the developer to notify the Roads Authority of the owner of the cables (Owner) and the controller (Power Controller) of the power transmitted along the cables. In addition, the condition should require Owner and Power Controller to notify the Roads Authority of any change in ownership of the cables or change of Power Controller transmitting power along the cables. In all instances the Owner and Power Controller should be required to maintain an agreed contacts list with the Roads Authority.
- Before and after bridge inspections shall be completed on all structures to ensure no substantial settlement due to directional drilling has occurred. The applicant shall also be required to provide an indemnity to Kilkenny County Council to ensure that if works have affected the structure, the Local Authority does not foot the bill for any repairs or consequent costs arising.

General Observation on the proposed grid connection routes and associated road opening permissions requirements.

As referenced previously all works to/within the public road are subject to a road opening licence and subject to the conditions on any permission which may be granted.

Typical Conditions and considerations on the road opening permission would include the following. Some of the issues considered in the context of the planning permission of the cable route may require review based on new methodologies or changed design etc:

- A bond may be levied as part of the any road opening licence which may be granted to address the potential risk of road damage arising from the construction of the proposed development.
- Road Closures and Diversions shall be applied for through the relevant local Municipal District Office of Kilkenny County Council. This would form part of the conditions of any planning plus any subsequent road opening licence. Costs arising are a matter for the developer.

- Permits are required for the transportation of all abnormal loads to the site. This will be referenced as a requirement in respect of any road opening licence granted.
- The applicant shall be required as part of the road opening licence application for the cable connection to provide a photographic & FWD survey of the grid connection route in addition to the principal traffic diversion route whilst any road used for the cable connection route is subject to a road closure. The diversion route shall be appropriate to the traffic route being diverted. This shall be carried out prior to construction and should be included by way of condition on a successful planning application and it will be part of the considerations in respect of the required road opening licence. Any deficit in the ability of the road network to cater for the loads proposed and any damage arising shall be addressed at the contractors own expense.
- The cable route shall be assessed in the context of the road opening licence application required for the development. In addition, any road closures required shall be assessed in tandem with the consideration of such an application.
- The applicant shall be responsible for assessing the adequacy and safety of proposed diversion routes during any road closures required and the completion of any works required on such diverted routes as may be necessary. All costs arising from any proposed Road closures or traffic management requirements shall be borne by the applicant.
- Where the installation of underground cables as part of the grid connection is proposed, the applicant shall be requested to re-confirm the trench reinstatement details for the proposed underground cabling for the various locations where it is to be installed, i.e., roadside verge, carriageway, agricultural and domestic entrances, within or below structures etc.
- All trenching and duct installation works in public roads shall comply with the Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads (DTTAS) and the line & layout shall be agreed with the Municipal District Engineer as a condition of the road opening licence. Existing road drainage needs careful consideration in any proposals so that it is unaffected by the works.
- In addition, the applicant shall take into consideration the requirements of the specification for the reinstatement of openings in National Roads as published by TII as required. It will be a requirement that roadways be fully reinstated progressively as the ducting work proceeds.
- Consultation with TII where the duct route crosses the national road network either via an under bridge or over bridge will be required, particularly where this crossing is proposed to coincide with such structures. (It is noted that TII do not generally favour ducting longitudinally between roadside boundaries along the extent of national roads even if located in verges beyond the roadway edges. If such are proposed they will need to be re-considered.)
- Careful consideration shall be given to ESB requirements and cover levels when ducting over/through structures. Raising of road levels to facilitate cover levels will only be considered on a case by case basis as doing so is adding weight to the structure which may not be an acceptable solution. Where structural works are required these will need to be detailed. In general, it would be expected that adding additional weight to the structure would be acceptable in terms of its capacity, but still should be confirmed with a specific design. This review at the structure would also extend to design. Consultation with the Bridge Maintenance Engineers for Kilkenny shall be required.
- Chamber construction details and locations shall be submitted for assessment during the road opening licence application phase.
- Where cable ducting works impact third party properties either directly or indirectly landowner's consent is required in the case of the former and possibly a higher standard of reinstatement works for the latter (i.e. where ducting runs across an existing access reinstatement may include the full extents of the access.) The applicant shall be responsible for agreeing all such reinstatements with the landowners concerned.

- The applicant in their application for a road opening licence shall be required to advise on any wayleaves and the extents of same if required. The applicant shall be responsible for ensuring these are in place.

Environment impacts

The following should be taken into consideration of part of this application as a minimum:

Proposed Earthworks

- Borrow pits
- Peat on site? Risks assessment
- Road construction – type, is there excess material?
- Foundation construction– type, is there excess material? Concrete works and washout?
- Hardstand construction– type, is there excess material?
- Grid connection and substation earthworks – type – surplus material?

Watercourses

- Assess full network of watercourses which are affected by the proposed works – regional and local hydrology
- Detail methodology of installing infrastructure such as roads, hardstands, foundations, substation, cabling and other in proximity or crossing watercourses
- Grid connection route location, geology assessment relating to bedrock, karst, important aquifer
- Directional drilling or other crossing of watercourses proposals
- Baseline and project monitoring

Health

- Noise impacts construction and operation
- Shadow flicker
- electromagnetic

Biodiversity

- ecology
- flora fauna
- habitats
- forest tree felling

Waste management plan

- excess subsoils, rock peat
- construction materials
- canteen waste
- toilet waste

Surface water

- Clean storm/surface water should be managed during the construction, operation & decommissioning stages, within the curtilage of the site. There shall be no discharge from the site to any surface waters or onto the public road or third party land. Clarification as to whether the development includes for discharge of dewatered groundwater associated with any potential dewatering operations on this site. Where such a discharge is required the

applicant should apply for and be in possession of a valid discharge licence for trade effluent as required under the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 – 2007 (as amended), prior to any such operation taking place. In addition, and prior to the commencement of the development the applicant should submit.

- a. Clearly labelled and dimensioned layout drawings showing the location of all drainage channels, boxed culverts, pipe drain crossings, inceptor ditches, spreaders and pipework with their gradients, which will clearly identify how surface water is dealt with for the overall site. The ultimate outfall point of the waters should also be indicated and the separation distances to all waterbodies and public / private water supplies as maybe relevant to each outfall location.
- b. The applicant should provide a Surface Water Management Plan for the proposed development. Prior to the commencement of the site works the applicant should confirm details of the sediment control techniques to be used on the surface water drainage system in advance of all outfall locations. The maintenance requirements for same should include all oil separators and the management regime to be employed to oversee such maintenance.
- c. The applicant should provide for regular water sampling, testing and reporting of all relevant surface watercourses and wells (Public and Private Supplies) surrounding the site. The developer should provide a layout drawing identifying the locations where these samples will be obtained, a programme of monitoring by a competent indemnified third party. Full details of all sampling shall be submitted including locations, depths of sampling and a copy of all test results. The surface water and drinking water parameters to be used should be agreed with the Planning Authority prior to commencement of work on site.
- d. All staff on-site should be inducted as to the requirements of the Surface Water Management Plan.
- e. The applicant should provide for the monitoring of these works / measures by a suitably qualified and indemnified Environmental Engineer / Ecologist, who will be on-site for the duration of the works.
- f. The applicant shall also show the route of the interconnect between the wind farm and the substation and the following information shall be submitted including public or private ownership, type of crossing, surface type, watercourse crossings, and the protection of surface water flows on public roads. Site layout and cross-sectional drawings of all watercourses and carriageway crossings shall be submitted as part of the application. Inland fisheries shall also be notified of any watercourse crossings.

Waste Management

- The proposed development should be undertaken so as to facilitate the minimization of waste production. The developer should prepare a Waste Management Plan in accordance with Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government's Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Resource and Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects. During the construction, operation and decommissioning stages, the applicant should provide sufficient space for the segregation of all wastes into recyclable, biodegradable and residual waste streams. The plan should outline measures for the management of any waste including oils or fuels. In addition, and prior to the commencement of the development the applicant should confirm that:
 - a) Any wastes sent off site for recovery or disposal shall only be conveyed by an authorised waste contractor and transported from the location to an authorised site of recovery/disposal in a manner which will not adversely affect the environment.
 - b) All employees shall be made aware of their obligations under the plan.

- c) The plan shall be available for inspection on-site at all reasonable times for examination by any officer of the local authority / planning authority.
- d) Any changes to work practices for this site/development shall be reflected in a revised Waste Management Plan.
- e) Measures or provisions are in place within the CEMP (See no. 9 below) and Waste Management Plan for dealing with contaminated land and invasive species if encountered. Methodologies to be employed for remediation or removal should ideally be agreed with the Planning Authority in advance.
- f) The applicant should provide for the monitoring of these works / measures by a suitably qualified and indemnified Environmental Engineer / Ecologist, who will be on-site for the duration of the works.
- g) The applicant must submit proposals for the washing of concrete delivery trucks on site as to ensure the protection of groundwater and surface water for the proposed development.
- h) The location of temporary storage piles and silt fencing shall be identified on site layout drawings.

Material storage

- During the construction, operation and decommissioning stages, all tank and drum areas should be rendered impervious to the materials stored therein. In addition, tank and drum storage areas shall be bunded either locally or remotely to a volume not less than 110% of the capacity of the largest tank or 25% of the total capacity requirement, whichever is the greatest. Drainage from the bunded area shall be diverted for collection and safe disposal.

Environmental impacts beyond the site boundaries

- During the construction, operation & decommissioning stages, the applicant should ensure that all operations on site are carried out in a manner such that noise, dust, reflectance, shadow flicker, air emissions and/or odours do not result in significant impairment of, or significant interference with, amenities or the environment beyond the site. The following are recommendations for consideration by the planning authority:
 - a. The hours of work for the site should be:
 - i. 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday.
 - ii. 07:00 to 13:00 Saturdays.
 - b. The applicant shall confirm the exact model of Wind Turbine being proposed for this site. The proposed model of Wind Turbine shall be considered in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).
 - c. The applicant should submit an Operations Manual for the written agreement of the Planning Authority:
 - i. To include measures for the removal of the nuisance caused by Shadow Flicker.
 - ii. To include measures to mitigate dust and air pollution. The applicant shall confirm the suitability of the water being proposed for the item of work involving dust suppression.
 - iii. The applicant should insure that all activities at the site shall not give rise to noise levels off site at the nearest occupied dwellings, which exceed the following sound pressure limits;
 - DAY: 45dB(A) L_{A90} (10 minutes).
 - NIGHT: 43dB(A) L_{A90} (10 minutes).
 - d. Within six months of commissioning the Wind Turbines referred to in this application, the applicant should undertake noise monitoring in order to determine the extent and characteristics of noise levels arising from the Wind Farm in the vicinity of the nearest occupied dwellings. The results should be forwarded to the Planning Authority.

- e. The applicant should be required, if requested by the Planning Authority, to carry out at the applicant's expense noise or shadow flicker monitoring and any other such investigations and emission monitoring as may be deemed necessary to demonstrate that onsite activity is not resulting in significant impairment of, or significant interference with amenities or the environment beyond the site.
- f. The applicant should provide for the monitoring of these works / emissions (Air, Noise & Water) by a suitably qualified and indemnified Environmental Engineer.

Wastewater

- The applicant shall submit proposals for an on-site Wastewater Storage System during the construction of the project with the recommendations of the design engineer and manufacturer. Wastewater shall only be discharged to the proposed wastewater treatment system, there shall be no discharge of trade effluent which is chemically or biologically dissimilar to that of normal domestic effluent. In addition, and prior to the commencement of the development the applicant should submit for the written agreement of the Planning Authority.
 - a) Certification that the complete wastewater storage system has been satisfactorily designed, installed and meets with the maximum required operational capacity for the proposed development. The certification shall include written confirmation with capacity calculations.
 - b) The applicant shall arrange and provide for the continuous and indefinite maintenance and monitoring of the wastewater storage system for its complete working life. The tank storage volume shall be banded either locally or remotely to a volume not less than 110% of the capacity confirmed by the capacity monitoring alarm system. In addition, and prior to works commencing on-site, the applicant should furnish the Planning / Authority with a copy of the contract in relation to the maintenance and disposal associated with the provision of the Wastewater Storage System. The applicant will also be required to retain all receipts for the maintenance and disposal of wastewater from the tank for the lifespan of the development.

Site Works Plan

- The applicant should design a Site Works Plan at appropriate stages for both the construction & the decommissioning phases to include a programme, which shall confirm the site practices to deal with the excavation of soil / peat, excavation of rock (hydraulic hammering / blasting), crushing of rock, stock piling of materials, sediment control, soil erosion / stability, reinstatement, borrow pits, emergencies and the phasing of the works. The applicant shall confirm if any blasting or crushing will take place on site during the construction of the project.
 - a. Crushing operations has the potential to give rise to significant fines which pose a significant risk to surface waters. Surface water if contaminated by such activities should be considered as trade effluent and treated accordingly. If applicable the applicant shall undertake an Environmental Risk Assessment to determine the risk associated with the crushing operations, the generation of trade effluent mixing with surface waters and shall provide detailed mitigation measures to eliminate the risk as required.
 - b. Where the Planning Authority deem that blasting is appropriate it should only take place when a detailed blasting procedure is agreed in writing with the Planning Authority. The blasting procedure shall address at a minimum, Health & Safety, Vibration, Air Overpressure, Monitoring and Notification to Local Residents. The procedure shall include specific measures to demonstrate

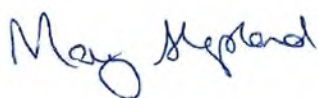
compliance with limits as set out below and to include details of the number and location of monitoring stations, instruments and methods, which will be subject to review.

- i. Ground borne vibration levels as a result of blasting should not exceed a peak particle velocity of 8mm/sec measured off site at the nearest inhabited dwellings and overpressure values shall not exceed 125dB(Lin) max.
- ii. Results of monitoring for each blast shall be submitted to the Planning Authority with 2 weeks of the blast.
- c. Provide location maps of all excavation and reinstatement locations.
- d. The applicant should provide for the monitoring of these works / measures by a suitably qualified and indemnified Geotechnical Engineer or Engineering Geologist.
- e. A peat stability assessment shall be carried out by a suitably qualified engineer for both the construction and operational phases of the development.

Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Plan

The applicant should design a Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Plan for the construction, operation and decommissioning stages, which shall confirm the site practices to deal with the parking compound, storage of fuels, re-fuelling of vehicles, fuel spillages, inspection and maintenance of vehicles, emergencies and the training of personnel.

Mise le meas



PP Una Kealy
Staff Officer
Planning

Micheal Cahill

From: Claire Breen <cbreen@southernassembly.ie>
Sent: 27 November 2023 10:10
To: Jack Smith
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

You don't often get email from cbreen@southernassembly.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of the below correspondence. This correspondence has been forwarded to the planning department for review.

Le dea-ghuí,
Claire Breen

Claire Breen
Clerical Officer – Regional Planning
Southern Regional Assembly
Assembly House, O'Connell Street, Waterford, X91 F8PC
cbreen@southernassembly.ie | :: www.southernassembly.ie; www.eufunds.gov.ie; [#EuropeInMyRegion](https://twitter.com/EuropeInMyRegion)
Please consider the environment before printing



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Arna chomheistiú ag
an Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by the
European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach
an Deiscirt
Southern Regional
Assembly



From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 24 November 2023 15:13
To: info <info@southernassembly.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Dear Sir/Madam,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed

project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

Micheal Cahill

From: Monika Biniaszewska <Monika.Biniaszewska@three.ie>
Sent: 27 November 2023 10:54
To: Jack Smith; Alan Hutchinson; Sean Kelly; David Montgomery
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

These locations will have no impact on the Three Ireland Microwave Transmission network.



Thanks
Monika

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 4:41 PM

To: Monika Biniaszewska <Monika.Biniaszewska@three.ie>; Alan Hutchinson <alan.hutchinson@three.ie>; Sean Kelly <Sean.Kelly2@three.ie>; David Montgomery <David.Montgomery@three.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION! External Email.

Hi Monika,

See attached as requested.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Monika Biniaszewska <Monika.Biniaszewska@three.ie>

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 3:48 PM

To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>; Alan Hutchinson <alan.hutchinson@three.ie>; Sean Kelly <Sean.Kelly2@three.ie>; David Montgomery <David.Montgomery@three.ie>

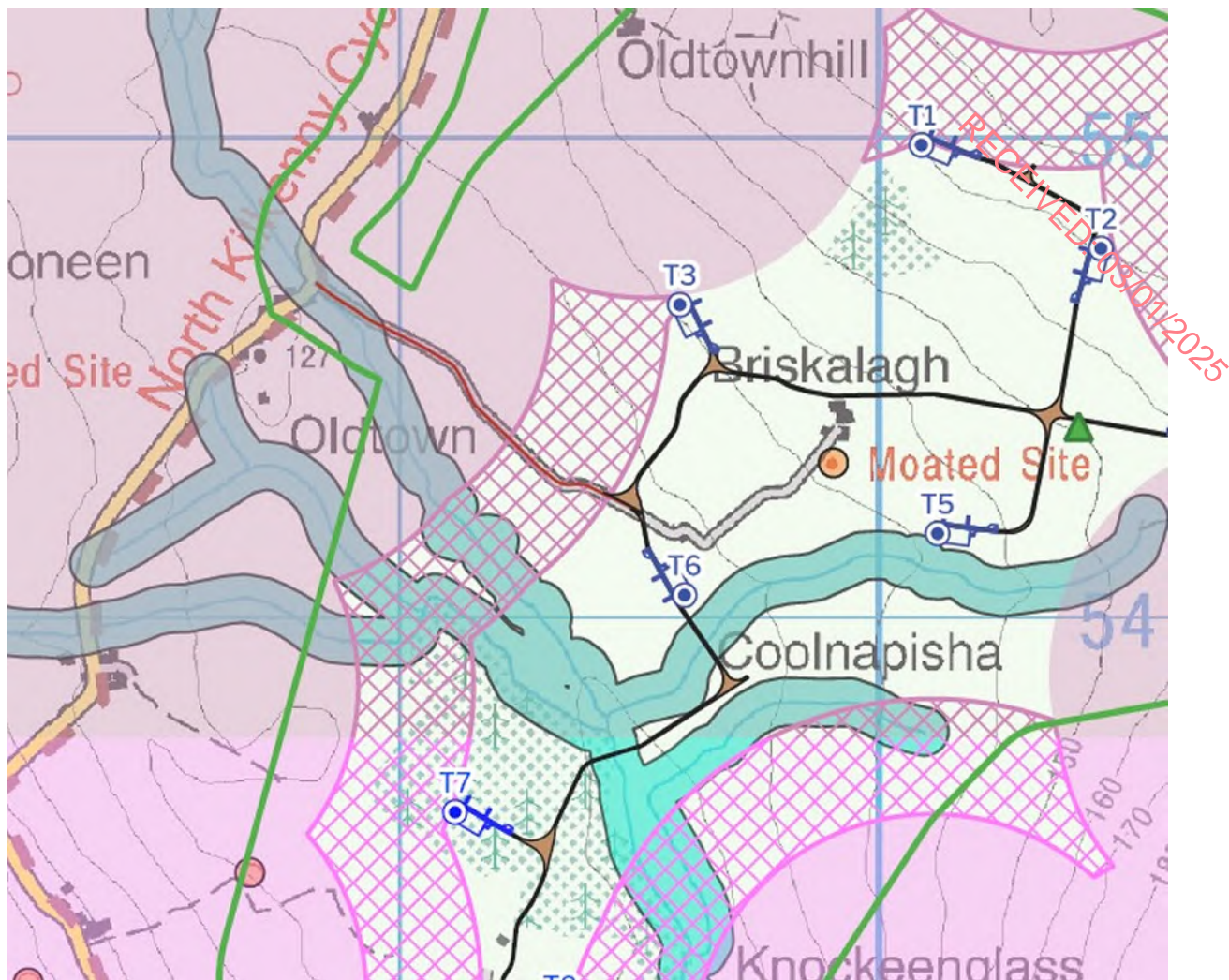
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

Can you provide the coordinates of the wind turbines or send the KMZ file?



Thanks
Monika

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 3:18 PM

To: Alan Hutchinson <alan.hutchinson@three.ie>; Monika Biniaszewska <Monika.Biniaszewska@three.ie>; Sean Kelly <Sean.Kelly2@three.ie>; David Montgomery <David.Montgomery@three.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

CAUTION! External Email.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

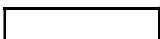
This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO



Three Ireland

28/29 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland.

www.three.ie



This e-mail message (including any attachment) is intended only for the personal use of the recipient(s) named above. This message is confidential and may be legally privileged. If you are not an intended recipient, you may not review, copy or distribute this message. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by e-mail and delete the original message. Any views or opinions expressed in this message are those of the author only. Three Ireland (Hutchison) Limited is a company registered in Ireland with company number 316982. Registered Office 28/29 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland. Three Ireland Services (Hutchison) Limited is a company registered in Ireland with company number 234895. Registered Office 28/29 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland. Furthermore, this message (including any attachment) does not create any legally binding rights or obligations whatsoever, which may only be created by the exchange of hard copy documents signed by a duly authorized representative(s) of Three Ireland (Hutchison) Limited or Three Ireland Services (Hutchison) Limited.



Three Ireland

28/29 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland.

www.three.ie



This e-mail message (including any attachment) is intended only for the personal use of the recipient(s) named above. This message is confidential and may be legally privileged. If you are not an intended recipient, you may not review, copy or distribute this message. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by e-mail and delete the original message. Any views or opinions expressed in this message are those of the author only. Three Ireland (Hutchison) Limited is a company registered in Ireland with company number 316982. Registered Office 28/29 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland. Three Ireland Services (Hutchison) Limited is a company registered in Ireland with company number 234895. Registered Office 28/29 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland. Furthermore, this message (including any attachment) does not create any legally binding rights or obligations whatsoever, which may only be created by the exchange of hard copy documents signed by a duly authorized representative(s) of Three Ireland (Hutchison) Limited or Three Ireland Services (Hutchison) Limited.

Micheal Cahill

From: INFO <Information@tii.ie>
Sent: 06 December 2023 14:19
To: Jack Smith
Subject: TII Ref: TII23-125329 - Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

You don't often get email from information@tii.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Mr. Smith,

Thank you for your correspondence of 24 November 2023 regarding the above. Transport Infrastructure Ireland's (TII's) position in relation to your enquiry is as follows.

TII will endeavour to consider and respond to planning applications referred to it, given its status and duties as a statutory consultee under the Planning Acts. The approach to be adopted by TII in making such submissions or comments, will seek to uphold official policy and guidelines, as outlined in the Section 28 Ministerial guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DoECLG, 2012). Regard should also be had to other relevant guidance available at www.TII.ie.

The issuing of this correspondence is provided as best practice guidance only and does not prejudice TII's statutory right to make any observations, requests for further information, objections or appeals, following the examination of any valid planning application referred.

National Strategic Outcome 2 of the National Planning Framework includes the objective to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the national roads network. In addition, Chapter 7 'Enhanced Regional Accessibility' of the National Development Plan, 2021 – 2030, sets out the key sectoral priority of maintaining Ireland's existing national road network to a robust and safe standard for users. This requirement is further reflected in the publication of the National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland and also the existing Statutory Section 28 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities'.

With respect to EIAR/Environmental Constraints Scoping issues, the recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of an EIAR, which may affect the national road network.

The developer should have regard, inter alia, to the following:

- Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office with regard to the locations of existing and future national road schemes.
- TII would be specifically concerned as to potential significant impacts the development would have on the national road network (and junctions with national roads) in the proximity of the proposed development, including the potential haul route.
- The developer should assess visual impacts from existing national roads.
- The developer should have regard to any Environmental Impact Assessment Report/Statement and all

conditions and/or modifications imposed by An Bord Pleanála regarding road schemes in the area. The developer should, in particular, have regard to any potential cumulative impacts.

- The developer, in preparing Environmental Impact Assessment, should have regard to TII Publications (formerly 'DMRB' and the 'Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works').
- The developer, in conducting Environmental Impact Assessment, should have regard to TII's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, including the 'Guidelines for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes' (National Roads Authority (NRA), 2006).
- The EIAR should consider the 'Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 (SI 140 of 2006)' and, in particular, how the development will affect future action plans by the relevant competent authority. The developer may need to consider the incorporation of noise barriers to reduce noise impacts (see 'Guidelines for the Treatment of Noise and Vibration in National Road Schemes' (1st Rev., NRA, 2004)).
- It would be important that, where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment (TTA) be carried out in accordance with relevant guidelines, noting traffic volumes attending the site and traffic routes to/from the site, with reference to impacts on the national road network and junctions of lower category roads with national roads.
- The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of TII's TTA Guidelines, which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA. Any improvements required to facilitate development should be identified. It will be the responsibility of the developer to pay for the costs of any improvements to national roads to facilitate the private development proposed, as TII will not be responsible for such costs.
- The designers are asked to consult TII Publications to determine whether a Road Safety Audit is required.
- In the interests of maintaining the safety and standard of the national road network, the EIAR should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network.
- TII recommends that, the applicant/developer should clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. Where abnormal loads are a feature of the proposed development, separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route. All national road structures on the haul route through all the relevant County Council administrative areas should be checked by the applicant/developer to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal 'weight' load proposed. In addition, the haul route should be assessed to confirm capacity to accommodate abnormal 'length' loads and any temporary works required are identified.

The national road network is managed by a combination of PPP Concessions, Motorway Maintenance and Renewal Contracts (MMaRC) and local road authorities in association with TII. The applicant/developer should also consult with all PPP Companies, MMaRC Contractors and road authorities over which the haul route traverses to ascertain any operational requirements, including delivery timetabling, etc. to ensure that the strategic function of the national road network is safeguarded.

Where temporary works within any MMaRC Contract Boundary are required to facilitate the transport of turbine components to site, the applicant/developer shall contact thirdpartyworks@tii.ie in advance, as a works specific Deed of Indemnity will be needed by TII before the works can take place.

Additionally, any damage caused to the pavement on the existing national road arising from any temporary works due to the turning movement of abnormal loads (e.g. tearing of the surface course, etc.) shall be rectified in accordance with TII Pavement Standards and details in this regard shall be agreed with the Road Authority prior to the commencement of any development on site.

- TII notes proposed grid connection to the Ballyragget 110kV substation, though the EIAR Scoping Report confirms that neither the on-site substation nor the grid connection cabling route will form part of the planning application.

Any grid connection and cable routing proposals should be developed to safeguard proposed road schemes as TII will not be responsible for costs associated with future relocation of cable routing where proposals are catered for in an area of a proposed national road scheme. In that regard, consideration should be given to routing options, use of existing crossings, depth of cable laying, etc.

In the context of the existing national road network, in accordance with the National Planning Framework National Strategic Outcome no. 2 'Enhanced Regional Accessibility', there is a requirement to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the network. This requirement is further reflected in the National Development Plan, the National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland and also the existing Statutory Section 28 Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities.

There is around 99,000km of roads in Ireland, the national road network which caters for strategic inter-urban travel consists of only approx. 5.4% of this. There is a critical requirement to ensure the strategic capacity and safety of this national road network is maintained and significant Government investment already made in the national road network is safeguarded.

The provision of cabling along the national road network represents a number of significant implications for TII and road authorities in the management and maintenance of the strategic national road network and TII is of the opinion that grid connection cable routing should reflect the foregoing provisions of official policy and therefore, avoid grid connection routing proposals along national roads in the first instance.

Other consents or licences may be required from the road authority for any trenching or cabling proposals crossing the national road. TII requests referral of all proposals agreed and licensed between the road authority and the applicant which affect the national road network.

General requirements for directional drilling under a motorway include:

- The launch and reception pits for the crossing are located outside the Motorway boundary.
- The cabling will be installed at such depth so as not to conflict with the drainage for the Motorway.
- Neither the Works nor the cable crossing will damage or interfere with the Motorway.
- Any maintenance and/or future planned upgrades of the cabling at the crossing location can be carried out without access to the motorway boundary.
- There are no bolted joints in that part of the crossing within the motorway fence-line.
- A pre and post construction survey shall be required along the length of the crossing over the extents of the motorway boundary.
- Specific requirements may also arise for these proposed works.

Cable routing should avoid all impacts to existing TII infrastructure such as traffic counters, weather stations, etc. and works required to such infrastructure shall only be undertaken in consultation with and subject to the agreement of TII. Any costs attributable shall be borne by the applicant/developer. The developer should also be aware that separate approvals may be required for works traversing the national road network.

Notwithstanding, any of the above, the developer should be aware that this list is non-exhaustive, thus site and development specific issues should be addressed in accordance with best practise.

I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Moore
Senior Regulatory & Administration Executive

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 3:17 PM

To: Landuse Planning <LandUsePlanning@tii.ie>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

You don't often get email from jsmith@mkoireland.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of TII. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and are sure that the content is safe.

Dear Mr Mills,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

In accordance with TII's Right to Disconnect policy, if you are receiving this email outside of normal working hours, I do not expect a response or action outside of your own working hours unless it is clearly noted as requiring urgent attention.

De réir pholasaí BIÉ An Ceart gan a bheith Ceangailte, má tá an ríomhphost seo á fháil agat lasmuigh de na gnáthuaireanta oibre, nílim ag súil le freagra ná le gníomh uait lasmuigh de do ghnáthuaireanta oibre féin mura

bhfuil sé ráite go soiléir go bhfuil gá gníomhú go práinneach.

TII processes personal data provided to it in accordance with its Data Protection Notice available at <https://www.tii.ie/about/about-tii/Data-Protection/>

Próiseálann BIÉ sonraí pearsanta a sholáthraítear dó i gcomhréir lena Fhógra ar Chosaint Sonraí atá ar fáil ag <https://www.tii.ie/about/about-tii/Data-Protection/?set-lang=ga>

TII E-mail system: This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error then please notify postmaster@tii.ie and delete the original including attachments.

Córas r-phoist BIE: Tá an ríomhphost seo agus aon chomhaid a tharchuirtar leis faoi rún agus beartaithe lena n-úsáid ag an duine aonair nó ag an eintiteas a bhfuil siad dírithe chuige/chuici amháin. Más rud é go bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí bhotún, cuir sin in iúil do postmaster@tii.ie, le do thoil, agus scríos an ríomhphost bunaidh agus aon cheangaltáin.

In accordance with TII's Right to Disconnect policy, if you are receiving this email outside of normal working hours, I do not expect a response or action outside of your own working hours unless it is clearly noted as requiring urgent attention.

De réir pholasaí BIÉ An Ceart gan a bheith Ceangailte, má tá an ríomhphost seo á fháil agat lasmuigh de na gnáthuaireanta oibre, nílím ag súil le freagra ná le gníomh uait lasmuigh de do ghnáthuaireanta oibre féin mura bhfuil sé ráite go soiléir go bhfuil gá gníomhú go práinneach.

TII processes personal data provided to it in accordance with its Data Protection Notice available at <https://www.tii.ie/about/about-tii/Data-Protection/>

Próiseálann BIÉ sonraí pearsanta a sholáthraítear dó i gcomhréir lena Fhógra ar Chosaint Sonraí atá ar fáil ag <https://www.tii.ie/about/about-tii/Data-Protection/?set-lang=ga>

TII E-mail system: This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error then please notify postmaster@tii.ie and delete the original including attachments.

Córas r-phoist BIE: Tá an ríomhphost seo agus aon chomhaid a tharchuirtar leis faoi rún agus beartaithe lena n-úsáid ag an duine aonair nó ag an eintiteas a bhfuil siad dírithe chuige/chuici amháin. Más rud é go bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí bhotún, cuir sin in iúil do postmaster@tii.ie, le do thoil, agus scríos an ríomhphost bunaidh agus aon cheangaltáin.

Micheal Cahill

From: Jack Smith
Sent: 24 November 2023 16:32
To: Sabine Browne
Cc: Eoin McCarthy
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

RECEIVED: 03/01/2025

Thanks for the response Sabine,

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

From: Sabine Browne <Sabine.Browne@waterwaysireland.org>
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 3:37 PM
To: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good afternoon Jack,

This is not within any Zone of Influence of our waterways so we will not be commenting.

Kind regards,

Sabine Browne

From: Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 3:22 PM
To: Sabine Browne <Sabine.Browne@waterwaysireland.org>
Cc: Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: 230502 Informal Scoping Report: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Renewable Energy Development in the townland of Briskalagh and adjacent townlands in County Kilkenny

Dear Sir/Madam,

Briskalagh Ltd is investigating the potential for a proposed renewable energy development at Briskalagh and adjacent townlands, located in County Kilkenny. McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) has been appointed as Environmental Consultants on this project and will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report Statement (EIAR) for the proposed renewable energy development. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the proposed project, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR.

If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,
Jack.

Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA
Project Environmental Scientist

MKO

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin
mkoireland.ie | +353 (0)91 735 611



McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. T/A MKO. Registered in Ireland No. 462657. VAT No. IE9693052R

This email and any attached files or emails transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed. If the reader is not a representative of the intended recipient(s), any review, dissemination or copying of this message or the information it contains is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender of the email and delete the email. MKO does not represent or warrant that any attachment hereto is free from computer viruses or other defects. The opinions expressed in this e-mail and any attachments may be those of the author and are not necessarily those of MKO

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>