



APPENDIX 2-2

SCOPING RESPONSES

Ellen Costello

From: Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>
Sent: Monday 25 January 2021 10:29
To: Ellen Costello
Cc: windfarms@rte.ie; Johnny Evans
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms
Attachments: 2RN Protocol Agreement 2020 Signed - 24.01.2021.pdf

Hi Ellen,

Please find attached the competed Protocol.

Regards

Matthew Craig

Project Engineer
Projects and Coverage Planning
2RN
Block B, Cookstown Court, Old Belgard Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24, Ireland
D24 WK28
Phone: + 353 (0) 1 2082261
Mobile: + 353 (0) 87 7509955

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From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 21 January 2021 09:47
To: Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>
Cc: windfarms@rte.ie; Johnny Evans <Johnny.Evans@2rn.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Matthew,

Please find attached signed copy of protocol agreement as requested.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

MKO
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www.mkoireland.ie



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From: Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 16 December 2020 11:14
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: windfarms@rte.ie; Johnny Evans <Johnny.Evans@2rn.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

Here is the latest version of the protocol.

If you could please fill out the missing details, have it signed and saved as a pdf before sending back to me. I will sign it and return it to you.

Regards

Matthew Craig

Project Engineer
Projects and Coverage Planning
2RN
Block B, Cookstown Court, Old Belgard Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24, Ireland
D24 WK28
Phone: + 353 (0) 1 2082261
Mobile: + 353 (0) 87 7509955

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From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 16 December 2020 10:28
To: Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>
Cc: windfarms@rte.ie; Johnny Evans <Johnny.Evans@2rn.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Matthew,

Thank you kindly for your response on this, it is very much appreciated.

I have attached the Protocol Agreement that was signed in 2017 as part of the previous scoping exercise.

Could you please send me on another copy of the protocol and I will send it on to the developer?

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 15 December 2020 16:57
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: windfarms@rte.ie; Johnny Evans <Johnny.Evans@2rn.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

We have a path that passes 3km away from the development but that will not be a factor.
The only thing that I would add is that we would ask that a protocol be signed between the developer and 2rn as there is a risk of interference to DTT viewers receiving from Cairn Hill to the south east of the proposed site.

Please send any windfarm enquires to the following addresses: windfarms@rte.ie; Johnny.Evans@2rn.ie and Matthew.Craig@2rn.ie.

Regards

Matthew Craig

Project Engineer
Projects and Coverage Planning
2RN
Block B, Cookstown Court, Old Belgard Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24, Ireland
D24 WK28
Phone: + 353 (0) 1 2082261
Mobile: + 353 (0) 87 7509955

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From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 15 December 2020 12:04
To: Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>
Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Matthew,

I was hoping you could help me with the below. I issued an email to Colin Kennedy and the 2rn main email account requesting a response re telecoms links in the area of this proposed wind farm in Co. Westmeath.

Could you please provide me a response on the below?

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Ellen Costello
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 11:32
To: 2rn@2rn.ie
Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Dear Sir/Madam,

I sent the below email to Colin Kennedy but the email came back is undeliverable as that email is no longer in service. Could you please pass on the below request to the appropriate person? Please excuse me if I am mistaken re Colin's email.

Many thanks for your assistance,
Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Ellen Costello
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 11:24
To: colin.kennedy@2rn.ie
Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Dear Colin,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath and are contacting any potential telecoms operator in the area. Could you let me know please if RTE have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

This site has been scoped for previously in 2016 as a 13 turbine layout and I have attached the responses you provided, along with further correspondence.

For the site we are proposing 2 additional turbines as shown in the figure attached. The Grid Ref coordinates in ITM for the site centre 641172, 776072. Also attached is a folder containing the GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary.

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks as always for your assistance with this,

Regards,
Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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Ellen Costello

From: padraig.condon@bt.com
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 11:38
To: Ellen Costello
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,
BT are in process of winding down our microwave network which will be complete in the coming months.
We only have a network presence in Louth and Waterford.

For any future windfarm developments in any county other than the two mentioned above you can remove BT from the list of microwave radio providers that need to be consulted.

Regards

Padraig Condon
Core Network Operations

Tel: +353014326819
Mobile number: +353 86 604 0636
BT Meetme: + 353 1 6569053
E-mail padraig.condon@bt.com
<https://www.webjoin.com/>
Participant: 40342233#
Web: www.btireland.com



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From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 11 August 2020 11:23
To: Condon,PG,Padraig,NQE32E R <padraig.condon@bt.com>
Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Dear Padraig,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath and are contacting any potential telecoms operator in the area. Could you let me know please if BT have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

This site has been scoped for previously in 2016 as a 13 turbine layout and I have attached the responses you provided, along with further correspondence.

For the site we are proposing 2 additional turbines as shown in the figure attached. The Grid Ref coordinates in ITM for the site centre 641172, 776072. Also attached is a folder containing the GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary.

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks as always for your assistance with this,

Regards,
Ellen



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Ellen Costello

From: Sinead French <sinead.french@comreg.ie>
Sent: Thursday 30 July 2020 17:01
To: Ellen Costello
Cc: Brendan O'Brien
Subject: RE: [Confidential] 20045 Coole WF Optimisation, Co. Westmeath Telecoms
Attachments: 20045 Coole WF Optimisation, Co. Westmeath Telecoms.xlsx

Hi Ellen,

List of operators attached,

Regards,
Sinead

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Thursday 30 July 2020 12:10
To: Tara Kavanagh <tara.kavanagh@comreg.ie>; Sinead French <sinead.french@comreg.ie>
Subject: RE: 20045 Coole WF Optimisation, Co. Westmeath Telecoms

Hi Tara, Sinead,

I hope this finds you well.

I am just following up on the below request. Apologies if I have contacted the wrong person re the below and if so, it would be greatly appreciated if you could forward to the correct person.

As always, your help is very much appreciated.

Many thanks,

Ellen



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From: Ellen Costello
Sent: Tuesday 21 July 2020 16:27

To: Tara Kavanagh <tara.kavanagh@comreg.ie>; sinead.french@comreg.ie
Subject: RE: 20045 Coole WF Optimisation, Co. Westmeath Telecoms

Apologies, please find attached proposed site layout figure as promised below.

Many thanks,

Ellen



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From: Ellen Costello
Sent: Tuesday 21 July 2020 16:18
To: 'Tara Kavanagh' <tara.kavanagh@comreg.ie>; sinead.french@comreg.ie
Subject: 20045 Coole WF Optimisation, Co. Westmeath Telecoms

Hi Tara, Sinead

We are compiling a constraints map for a potential wind farm site near Coole, Co Westmeath. We're consulting the main telecoms operators, but I would be grateful if you could let me know of any other operators within 5km of the site please?

This site has been scoped for previously in 2017 as a 13 turbine layout and I have attached the response you provided.

For the site we are proposing 2 additional turbines as shown in the figure attached. The Grid Ref coordinates in ITM for the site centre 641172, 776072.

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks as always for your assistance with this,

Regards,
Ellen



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<https://www.comreg.ie/privacy/>

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Tá an ríomhphost seo, chomh maith le haon iatáin a bhaineann leis faoi rún agus d'fhéadfadh leis a bheith faoi phribhléid nó cosanta ó aon nochtadh. Is don seolaí(aithe) ainmnithe thuas amháin é. Níl sé ceadaithe go mbeidh rochtain ag éinne eile ar an ríomhphost seo. Más rud é nach tusa an faighteoir ainmnithe, ná cló amach, léigh, cóipeáil, nocht d'éinne nó bain úsáid as an eolas sa ríomhphost seo in aon tslí eile, le do thoil. Más rud é go bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí earráid, dean teagmháil leis an seoltóir láithreach agus scríos an t-ábhar ina iomlán, bíodh sé i gcóip leictreonach nó chrua.

Ellen Costello

From: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental_Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>
Sent: Thursday 5 November 2020 10:44
To: Ellen Costello
Subject: RE: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath
Attachments: COOLE Wind Energy Co Westmeath.docx

Good morning Ellen,

Please see attached reply from our Forestry Division in relation to the above.

Kind Regards

Breeda

Breeda Hennebry | *Clerical Officer, An tAonad um Chomhordú Timpeallachta, An Rannóg um Athrú Aeráide agus Beartas Bithfhuinnimh,*

Environmental Co-ordination Unit | Climate Change & Bioenergy Policy Division | environmentalco-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Lárionad Gnó Grattan, Bóthar Bhaile Átha Cliath, Port Laoise, Co Laoise, R32 K857

Grattan Business Centre, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laoise, R32 K857

T +353 (0)57 868 9914

www.agriculture.gov.ie

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: Monday 31 August 2020 15:57

To: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental_Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>; Collins, Kevin <Kevin.Collins@agriculture.gov.ie>

Subject: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Coole Wind Farm Ltd. is investigating the potential for a proposed wind energy development at Coole and adjacent townlands, located in County Westmeath. 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.

We have attached a cover letter and Scoping Document which provides details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process for the proposed development, we would welcome any comments in relation to the proposed project.

Please note we have had to reduce the size of this file for email - if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Tá an t-eolais san ríomhphost seo, agus in aon ceangláin leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le h-agmaigh an seolaí amháin. D'fhéadfadh ábhar an seoladh seo bheith faoi phribhléid profisiúnta nó dlíthiúil. Mura tusa an seolaí a bhí beartaithe leis an ríomhphost seo a fháil, tá cosc air, nó aon chuid de, a úsáid, a chóipeál, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

04th November 2020

Ellen Costello,
Environmental Scientist,
MKO,
Tuam Road,
Galway,
H91 VW84.

Your Ref: 200445

Re: E.I.A. Scoping Document for the proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of COOLE, & adjacent townlands in Co. Westmeath.

Dear Ms Costello,

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 License 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**. Tel: 076-1064459, Web <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forestservice/treefelling/treefelling/>

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; <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/forestry/treefelling/FellingReforestationPolicy240517.pdf>. 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 for 2020 are published online at: <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/publicconsultation/environmentalimpactassessment-eia-publicconsultation-for-afforestation-forest-road-construction-and-felling-licences-2020/>
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 28 days to the Forestry Appeals Committee. Felling Licence decisions for 2020 are published online at: <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/publicconsultation/environmentalimpactassessment-2020-register-of-decisions/>

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.

Yours sincerely,

Joe O'Donnell
Felling Section
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Johnstown Castle
Co Wexford

Ellen Costello

From: PropertyManagementPlanning <PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie>
Sent: Monday 7 September 2020 15:57
To: Ellen Costello
Cc: Gareth OFlaherty; Don Watchorn
Subject: RE: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Ellen

Thank you for this request. I will revert to you with observations/no observations.

*Kind Regards,
Raymond*

Raymond Myles

Property Management Branch

—

An Roinn Cosanta

Department of Defence

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

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

—

T +353 (0)45 492036

raymond.myles@defence.ie

—

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 31 August 2020 16:02
To: PropertyManagementPlanning <PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie>
Subject: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath

Dear Ms. Madden,

Cooler Wind Farm Ltd. is investigating the potential for a proposed wind energy development at Cooler and adjacent townlands, located in County Westmeath. 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.

We have attached a cover letter and Scoping Document which provides details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process for the proposed development, we would welcome any comments in relation to the proposed project.

Please note we have had to reduce the size of this file for email - if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,

Ellen



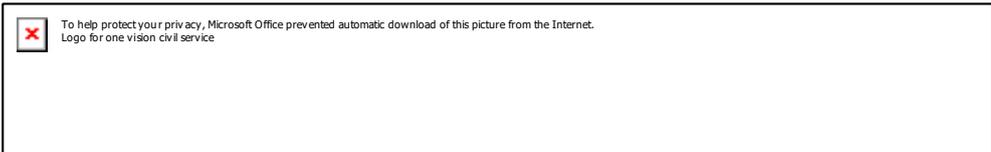
Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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www.mkoireland.ie



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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. Chun amharc ar an Chairt do Chustaiméirí, cliceáil ar www.defence.ie/system/files/media/file-uploads/2018-06/customer-charter-2017-irish.pdf

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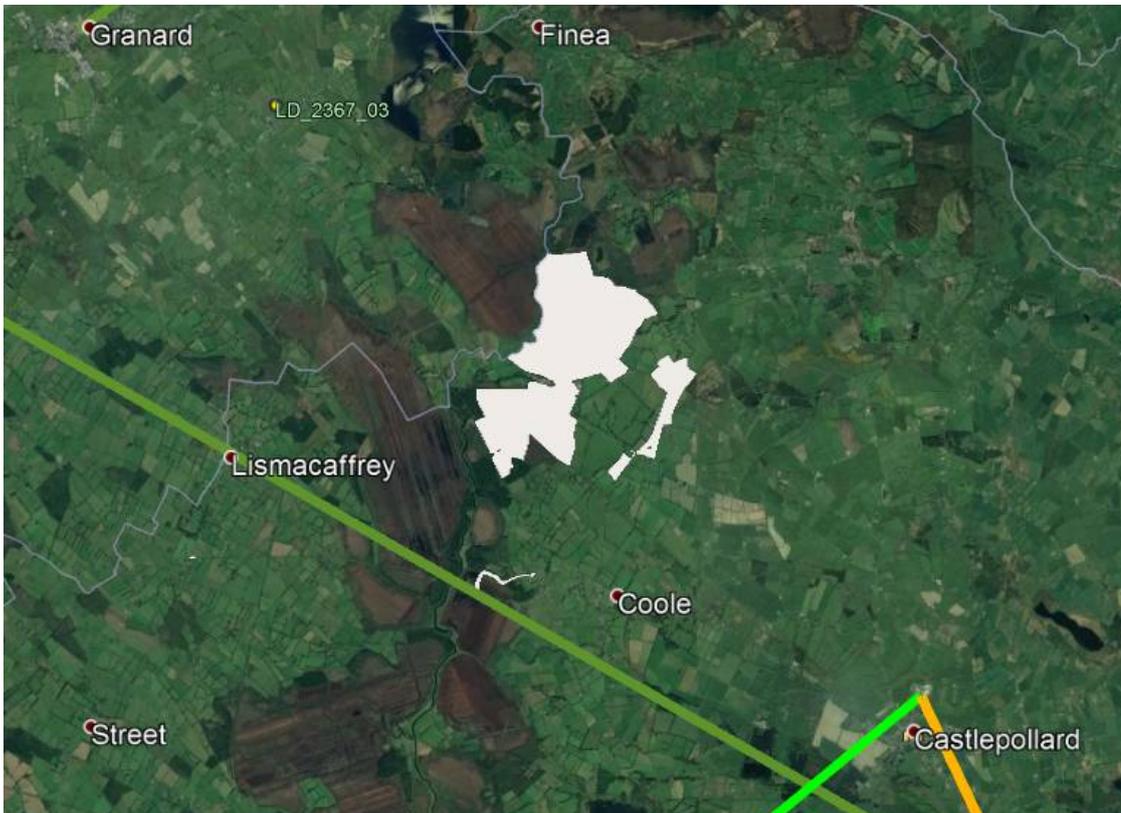
Ellen Costello

From: John Bagnall <john.bagnall@eir.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 8 September 2020 08:31
To: Ellen Costello
Cc: Mobile Networks TXN
Subject: Re: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi Ellen,
We have no transmission services that will be affected by these work extra turbines.

Please keep sending future windfarm development analysis and large infrastructure project requests to MobileNetworksTXN@eir.ie for Eir Mobile (formerly Meteor) network analysis.



Kind regards,



John Bagnall
Transmission Design & Engineering

M: +353 85 1053746
E: john.bagnall@eir.ie
Address: EirCode - D24 HX03

On Tue, 11 Aug 2020 at 11:25, Paul Marron <paul.marron@eir.ie> wrote:

Hi Ellen,

My colleague John Bagnall (copied) looks after windfarm analysis for eir mobile and will be happy to assist you.

Regards,

Paul

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ellen Costello** <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>

Date: Tue, 11 Aug 2020 at 11:06

Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

To: paul.marron@eir.ie <paul.marron@eir.ie>

Dear Paul,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath – your contact details were passed on to me by ComReg as a potential telecoms operator in the area. Could you let me know please if Eir have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

This site has been scoped for previously in 2016 as a 13 turbine layout and I have attached the response you provided.

For the site we are proposing 2 additional turbines as shown in the figure attached. The Grid Ref coordinates in ITM for the site centre 641172, 776072. Also attached is a folder containing the GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary.

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks as always for your assistance with this,

Regards,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist
MKO

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--

Paul Marron

Transmission Engineer

Eir Mobile Networks

2022 Bianconi Ave, Citywest, Dublin 24.

www.eir.ie

Mobile: 0876548499 | **Email:** paul.marron@eir.ie

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Ellen Costello

From: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: Monday 4 January 2021 08:22
To: Ellen Costello
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

As there is 230m of a gap then there is no overlap,

Thanks,
Peter

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2020 9:44 AM
To: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Peter,

Can you please confirm that you are happy that there is no overlap?

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 15 December 2020 11:26
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Many thanks Ellen

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:22 AM
To: Peter O`Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Peter,

Thanks for confirming the link and providing further clarification on locations and buffers.

Attached is a figure of the link with a 60m buffer (120m span), location of proposed turbines & turbine blade buffer. There is **no overlap** between the two and the centre point of the turbine is approximately 230metres from the link.

I have also attached the turbine coordinates for your reference.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Peter O`Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 15 December 2020 11:04
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

I have slightly amended the B-End coordinates as the link has since been installed:

A-End Coordinates	A-End Antenna Height	B-End Coordinates	B-End Antenna Height	Frequency
53°43'32.55"N 7°30'47.84"W	15m	53°45'13.83"N 7°19'58.29"W	12m	15GHz

We would need at least 60m of a buffer if possible to be safe,

Regards,
Peter

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:00 AM
To: Peter O`Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Peter,

The ENET link passes through the north-western corner of the site.

Is there a standard buffer or set back distance that we need to apply to the link?

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Ellen Costello
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 14:56
To: Peter O`Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Thank you kindly for your prompt response Peter,

Ellen



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From: Peter O`Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 14:01
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

We have just one planned link that goes through this area currently:

A-End Coordinates	A-End Antenna Height	B-End Coordinates	B-End Antenna Height	Frequency
53°43'32.55"N 7°30'47.84"W	15m	53°45'13.41"N 7°19'57.64"W	8m	15GHz

Best Regards,
Peter

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 12:50 PM
To: Peter O`Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Peter,

My apologies for that. I have checked the attached and it has worked when importing to Google Earth, let me know if this works for you.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Peter O`Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 12:44
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

That's not brining me to Ireland I'm afraid, can you check please,

Regards,
Peter

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 12:33 PM
To: Peter O`Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Peter,

Please find attached requested kml file.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Peter O`Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 12:32
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

Can you send the area in a Google Earth kml?

Thanks,
Peter

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 11:00 AM
To: Peter O`Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>
Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Dear Peter,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath – your contact details were passed on to me by ComReg as a potential telecoms operator in the area. Could you let me know please if Enet have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

For the site we are proposing a 15 turbine layout as shown in the figure attached. The Grid Ref coordinates in ITM for the site centre 641172, 776072. Also attached is a folder containing the GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary.

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks as always for your assistance with this,

Regards,
Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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Ellen Costello

From: Myles Redmond <myles.redmond2@esb.ie>
Sent: Thursday 7 January 2021 19:23
To: Ellen Costello
Cc: Paul McDonagh; Wilson Dalikeni
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - ESB
Attachments: ATT00001.txt; ATT00002.htm

Hi Ellen,

Happy new year to you too. I had a look at this evening and I can confirm that this development will have no impact to our point to point and point to multipoint operational networks.

Regards,

Myles

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Thursday 7 January 2021 08:10
To: Redmond. Myles (ESB Networks) <myles.redmond2@esb.ie>
Cc: McDonagh. Paul (ESB Networks) <paul.mcdonagh@esb.ie>; Dalikeni. Wilson (ESB Networks) <wilson.dalikeni@esb.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - ESB

Hi Myles,

Happy New Years to you. I am just wondering if you have had a chance to look at the below?

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Ellen Costello
Sent: Friday 18 December 2020 17:00
To: Myles Redmond <myles.redmond2@esb.ie>
Cc: Paul McDonagh <paul.mcdonagh@esb.ie>; Wilson Dalikeni <wilson.dalikeni@esb.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - ESB

Thanks Myles, much appreciated.
Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Myles Redmond <myles.redmond2@esb.ie>
Sent: Friday 18 December 2020 16:39
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: Paul McDonagh <paul.mcdonagh@esb.ie>; Wilson Dalikeni <wilson.dalikeni@esb.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - ESB

Hi Ellen,

I was onsite today working on a network fault however we would need more than 1 days' notice to look at these type of assessments.

I am on annual leave from today so I will aim to take a look at this and send you a response when I return to work in early January.

I hope you have a nice Christmas.

Kind Regards,

Myles

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Thursday 17 December 2020 16:16
To: Redmond. Myles (ESB Networks) <myles.redmond2@esb.ie>
Cc: McDonagh. Paul (ESB Networks) <paul.mcdonagh@esb.ie>; Dalikeni. Wilson (ESB Networks)

<wilson.daliken@esb.ie>; Hopkins. Dermot (Engineering and Major Projects) <dermot.hopkins@esbtelecoms.ie>
Subject: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - ESB

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Dear Myles,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath. Could you let me know please if ESB Networks have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

I have attached the turbine coordinates in an excel sheet and a GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary.

If it is possible to get a response from you by tomorrow on this that would be very much appreciated.

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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Ellen Costello

From: planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 2 September 2020 12:18
To: Ellen Costello
Subject: RE: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath
Attachments: Fáilte Ireland EIAR Guidelines.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Ellen,

Thank you for your e-mail and Scoping Letter.

Please see attached a copy of Fáilte Ireland's Guidelines for the Treatment of Tourism in an EIS, which we recommend should be taken into account in preparing the EIAR. 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.

Kind Regards

Shane Dineen

Environment & Planning Manager - Activities | Fáilte Ireland
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T +353 (0)21 423 3208 | M 086 7966200 | www.failteireland.ie



From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 31 August 2020 16:17
To: planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>
Subject: FW: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath

[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 Sir/Madam,

Coole Wind Farm Ltd. is investigating the potential for a proposed wind energy development at Coole and adjacent townlands, located in County Westmeath. 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.

We have attached a cover letter and Scoping Document which provides details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process for the proposed development, we would welcome any comments in relation to the proposed project.

Please note we have had to reduce the size of this file for email - if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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Fáilte Ireland
National Tourism Development Authority

EIAR Guidelines for the Consideration of Tourism and Tourism Related Projects



An tÚdarás Náisiúnta Forbartha Turasóireachta
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Éire

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Contents

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

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 Cunnane Stratton Reynolds on behalf of Fáilte Ireland to update their EIA guidelines in line with changes in legislative 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 **€8.4 billion**, and exchequer revenue of **€1.78 billion** in 2018, which helps fund other key public services.

In 2018 Ireland welcomed **10.6 million overseas visitors**.

Fáilte Ireland is the National Tourism Development Authority. 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 Draft guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports in August 2017. At the time of this document the guidelines have not been adopted from draft.

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, which this document should be read in conjunction with and used as supplementary guidance to. 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.

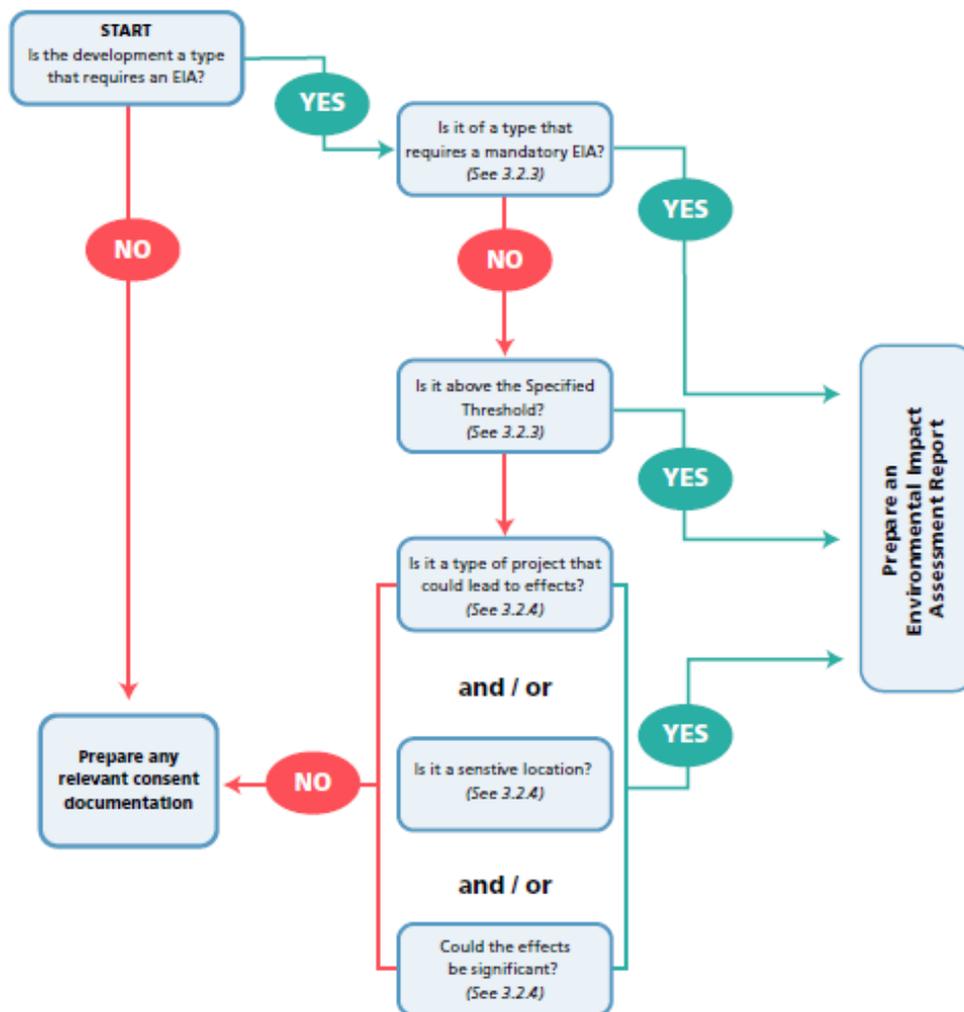
Screening

Through EIAR 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 do 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



(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 below 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 will still be a requirement for an EIAR for that development.

EIAR Scoping

Scoping an EIAR 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 EIAR under current legislation to contain a statement of competency within all EIAR 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 - forest trails, community facilities and others. EIAR conducted for developments containing tourist elements should be completed in accordance with the current guidance from the EPA.

Projects which include a tourism element have potential 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 EIAR 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 2018 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 Draft 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 (eg. 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;
- impact assessment;
- cumulative impact
- interaction of impacts
- mitigation.

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 alternatives is a requirement of EIAR

Where tourism projects are location dependent the assessment of alternatives should consider alternative methods and technologies, detail the key considerations culminating in the selection of the 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 developer is expected to consider reasonable alternatives. What is considered reasonable may vary from case to case.

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 dependant on its **Context, Character, Significance, and Sensitivity**, as outlined in the Draft 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. Where possible the value of the contribution of such tourism assets and activities to the local economy should 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 Draft 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 assets under the 'material assets' topic 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.

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

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. 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 activity proposed and sensitivity of the location.

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 but is generally not kept in situ except in key cases which could also be considered under cultural heritage.

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 are utilities and infrastructure. Tourism itself could be considered a material asset as its impact upon the economy and the infrastructure in place to support it is a material consideration in assessing economic impact.

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 Effects

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 EIAR Screening Report.

Mitigation

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.

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.

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, briefing papers and reports and visitor feedback. The Fáilte Ireland website has a dedicated research library which 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 Authorities

Regional Authorities can also be consulted on high level strategic tourism and potential Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSEs) 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.

Ellen Costello

From: Trish Smullen <Trish.Smullen@gsi.ie>
Sent: Friday 2 October 2020 08:32
To: Ellen Costello
Cc: Clare Glanville; John Butler
Subject: 20/214 EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in Co. Westmeath
Attachments: 20_107_Upgrade at Coole Wind farm Co.Westmeath (1).pdf; 19_230_scoping for Coole substation and electrical underground cable (1).pdf; 20_214_Proposed Wind Energy Development in Coole and adjacent townlands in Co. Westmeath.pdf

Re: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath

Your Ref: 200445

Our Ref: 20/214 [c.f 19/230, 20/107]

Dear Ellen,

With reference to your letter dated August 31 2020, concerning the EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in Co. Westmeath, please find attached response from Geological Survey Ireland. Also attached are responses from previous communications.

If you have any further queries or if we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me (Trish.Smullen@gsi.ie), or my colleague Clare Glanville (Clare.Glanville@gsi.ie).

Yours sincerely,
Trish Smullen

From: John Butler
Sent: 03 September 2020 11:10
To: Clare Glanville; Sophie O'Connor; Brian McConnell; Monica Lee; Taly Hunter Williams; Sean Cullen; Charise McKeon; Jim Hodgson; Eoin McGrath; Trish Smullen
Subject: EIS 20/214 - EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath

[EIS 20/214](#)

[EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath. Request for observations by McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. Letter and document are enclosed.](#)

Regards,

John

From: Ellen Costello [mailto:ecostello@mkoireland.ie]
Sent: 31 August 2020 16:07
To: John Butler

Subject: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath

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Dear Mr. Butler,

Coole Wind Farm Ltd. is investigating the potential for a proposed wind energy development at Coole and adjacent townlands, located in County Westmeath. 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.

We have attached a cover letter and Scoping Document which provides details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process for the proposed development, we would welcome any comments in relation to the proposed project.

Please note we have had to reduce the size of this file for email - if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus

an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar sheol an teachtaireacht ar an eolas láithreach. Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aims odh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.



MKO
Tuam Road
H91 VW84
County Galway

16 October 2019

Re: EIAR scoping document for Coole substation and electrical underground cable

Your Ref: 190549

Our Ref: 19/230

John, a chara,

With reference to the email received on 08 October 2019, concerning the EIAR scoping document for Coole substation and electrical underground cable, Geological Survey Ireland (a division of Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment) would like to make the following comments:

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and has datasets on Bedrock Geology, Quaternary Geology, Geological Heritage Sites, Mineral deposits, Groundwater Resources and the Irish Seabed. These comprise maps, reports and extensive databases that include mineral occurrences, bedrock/mineral exploration groundwater/site investigation boreholes, karst features, wells and springs. Please see our [website](#) for data availability and we recommend using these various data sets, when undergoing the planning and scoping processes. Geological Survey Ireland should be referenced to as such and should any data or geological maps be used, they should be attributed correctly to Geological Survey Ireland.

Geoheritage

Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) is in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs) to identify and select important geological and geomorphological sites throughout the country for designation as geological NHAs (Natural Heritage Areas). This is addressed by the Irish Geoheritage Programme (IGH) of GSI, under 16 different geological themes, in which the minimum number of scientifically significant sites that best represent the theme are rigorously selected by a panel of theme experts.

County Geological Sites (CGS), as adopted under the National Heritage Plan are now 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. Westmeath is due for publication later in October, and **our records show that there is a CGSs located within the vicinity of the grid connection end point near Mullingar:**

Mullingar bypass, Co. Westmeath (GR 243300 256400), under IGH 8: Lower Carboniferous.
Road section of Derryvaragh Cherts, Upper Lucan formation.

With the current plans, there are no envisaged impacts on the integrity of CGSs. However, if the proposed development plan is altered, please contact myself or my colleague, Siobhán Power at Siobhan.Power@gsi.ie, for further information and possible mitigation measures if applicable.

Groundwater

Groundwater is important as a source of drinking water, and it supports river flows, lake levels and ecosystems. It contains natural substances dissolved from the soils and rocks that it flows through, and can also be contaminated by human actions on the land surface. As a clean, but vulnerable, resource, groundwater needs to be understood, managed and protected. Through our [Groundwater Programme](#), Geological Survey Ireland provides advice and maps to members of the public, consultancies and public bodies about groundwater quality,



quantity, distribution and vulnerability. Geological Survey Ireland monitors groundwater nationwide by characterising aquifers, investigating karst landscapes and landforms and by helping to protect public and group scheme water supplies. With regard to Flood Risk Management, there is a need to identify areas for integrated constructed wetlands. We recommend using the GSI's National Aquifer and Recharge maps on our [Map viewer](#) to this end.

Geohazards

Geohazards can cause widespread damage to landscapes, wildlife, human property and human life. In Ireland, landslides are the most prevalent of these hazards. Landslides are possible in areas of peat land, which occur over the proposed development areas. Geological Survey Ireland is happy to see that ground conditions and peat stability will be address in the report and has information available on past landslides, for viewing on our website and as a layer on our [Map Viewer](#). Geological Survey Ireland also engages in national projects such as Landslide Susceptibility Mapping and GWFlood Groundwater Flooding, and in international projects, such as the Tsunami Warning System, coordinated by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. 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.

Natural Resources (Minerals/Aggregates)

Geological Survey Ireland is of the view that the sustainable development of our natural resources should be an integral part of all development plans from a national to regional to local level to ensure that the materials required for our society are available when required. Geological Survey Ireland highlights the consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a material asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process. 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](#).

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me, or my colleague Siobhán Power (Siobhan.Power@gsi.ie).

Le meas,

Amrine Dubois Gafar
Geoheritage Programme



Westmeath County Council
Planning Section,
County Buildings,
Mullingar,
Co. Westmeath

11 June 2020

Re: Upgrade at Coole Wind farm, Co. Westmeath

Ref: 20/6121

Our Ref: 20/107

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and has datasets on Bedrock Geology, Quaternary Geology, Geological Heritage Sites, Mineral deposits, Groundwater Resources and the Irish Seabed. These comprise maps, reports and extensive databases that include mineral occurrences, bedrock/mineral exploration groundwater/site investigation boreholes, karst features, wells and springs. Please see our [website](#) for data availability and we recommend using these various data sets, when undergoing the EIAR, planning and scoping processes. Geological Survey Ireland should be referenced to as such and should any data or geological maps be used, they should be attributed correctly to Geological Survey Ireland.

Dear Linda,

With reference to your email received on 26th May 2020, concerning the Planning Application for upgrade of Wind Farm at Coole, Co Westmeath, Geological Survey Ireland (a division of Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment) would like to make the following comments in addition to the previous comments sent in response to the EIAR scoping document for Coole substation and electrical underground cable received from MKO, (**Our Ref: 19/230**), on the 16th October 2019.

Geoheritage

Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) is in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs) to identify and select important geological and geomorphological sites throughout the country for designation as geological NHAs (Natural Heritage Areas). This is addressed by the Irish Geoheritage Programme (IGH) of GSI, under 16 different geological themes, in which the minimum number of scientifically significant sites that best represent the theme are rigorously selected by a panel of theme experts.

County Geological Sites (CGS), as adopted under the National Heritage Plan are now 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. Westmeath was carried out in 2019. The full report details can be found at [The Geological Heritage of County Westmeath](#). Our records show that there are two CGSs located within the vicinity of the proposed upgrade:

Lough Derravaragh, Co. Westmeath (GR 242085, 266847), under IGH themes, IGH7 Quaternary, IGH8 Lower Carboniferous, IGH14 Fluvial and Lacustrine Geomorphology. Link to site report at [WH015](#).

The bedrock geology at and around Lough Derravaragh is all of Lower Carboniferous limestone, with the Derravaragh Cherts being a dominant formation across the site and the wider terrain to the northeast. The chert concentrations may have contributed to the resistance of the enclosing hills to erosion. The chert in this area is sometimes known as 'festoon' chert, comprising multiple concentric thin bands of chert rock. Its



distinctive character is seen in many prehistoric tools found in archaeological excavations in the region. Specific minor excavations of individual beds of chert are found on the top of Knockeyon. These are believed to be from quarrying in the Mesolithic (9,000 to 5,000 years ago).

The position of the lake today would have had a glacier within it during the Ice Age, and it excavated the channel which is now occupied by the lake water.

At the northern end of the lake, a public access point for boats has some rocks which presumably came from the immediate area. These rocks show some evidence of 'rohrekarren' – a rare form of karstic solution feature, known in Lough Mask, Lough Carra and Lough Corrib.

Portnashangan Quarry, Co. Westmeath (GR 241778, 259138), under IGH theme, IGH8 Lower Carboniferous. Link to site report at [WH020](#).

The quarry provides a well exposed section within the Derravaragh Cherts Formation, showing the limestone typical of a belt from Lough Owel, northeastwards to beyond Lough Lene. It comprises limestone beds deposited in a fairly deep water basin, broadly related to the 'Calp' or Lucan Formation of the Dublin to Longford area. However, the presence of chert within the limestone in the Lough Derravaragh area makes it a separate mappable unit of rocks. Chert (a non-crystalline form of silica like flint) occurs as discrete nodules and discontinuous beds.

The rocks are a fairly monotonous grey colour with the chert nodules and bands also appearing as a slightly darker grey. The rocks are mostly in medium thickness beds which are roughly horizontal, but there are localised features of sedimentological interest.

With the current plan, there are no envisaged impacts on the integrity of current CGSs by the proposed development. However, if the proposed development plan is altered, please contact Clare Glanville (Clare.Glanville@gsi.ie) for further information and possible mitigation measures if applicable.

Groundwater

Groundwater is important as a source of drinking water, and it supports river flows, lake levels and ecosystems. It contains natural substances dissolved from the soils and rocks that it flows through, and can also be contaminated by human actions on the land surface. As a clean, but vulnerable, resource, groundwater needs to be understood, managed and protected. Through our [Groundwater Programme](#), Geological Survey Ireland provides advice and maps to members of the public, consultancies and public bodies about groundwater quality, quantity and distribution. Geological Survey Ireland monitors groundwater nationwide by characterising aquifers, investigating karst landscapes and landforms and by helping to protect public and group scheme water supplies. With regard to Flood Risk Management, there is a need to identify areas for integrated constructed wetlands. We recommend using the GSI's National Aquifer and Recharge maps on our [Map viewer](#) to this end. The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates 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'.

Geohazards

Geohazards can cause widespread damage to landscapes, wildlife, human property and human life. In Ireland, landslides are the most prevalent of these hazards. **Landslides are common in areas of peat, such as areas which are found within the vicinity of the proposed cable route.** Geological Survey Ireland has information available on past landslides for viewing as a layer on our [Map Viewer](#). Geological Survey Ireland also engages in national projects such as Landslide Susceptibility Mapping and GWFlood Groundwater Flooding, and in international projects, such as the Tsunami Warning System, coordinated by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. 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.



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Geotechnical Database Resources

Geological Survey Ireland continues to populate and develop our national geotechnical database and viewer with site investigation data submitted voluntarily by industry. The current database holding is over 7500 reports with 134,000 boreholes; 31,000 of which are digitised which can be accessed through downloads from our [Geotechnical Map Viewer](#). We would strongly recommend that this database be consulted as part of any baseline geological assessment of the proposed development as it can provide invaluable baseline data for the region or vicinity of the proposed development area. This information may be beneficial and cost saving for any site specific investigations that may be designed as part of the development.

Other Comments:

Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out already or in the future at the site as part of the proposed development. Alternatively, we ask that a digital photographic record of significant new excavations could be provided. Potential visits from Geological Survey Ireland to personally document exposures could also be arranged. The data would be added to GSI's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to Beatriz Mozo, Geological Mapping Unit, at Beatriz.Mozo@gsi.ie, 01-678 2795.

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me (Trish.Smullen@dcae.gov.ie), or my colleague Clare Glanville (Clare.Glanville@dcae.ie).

Yours sincerely,

Trish Smullen
Geoheritage Programme



Ellen Costello
MKO
Tuam Road
Galway H91 VW84

02 October 2020

Re: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath

Your Ref: 200445

Our Ref: 20/214 [c.f 19/230, 20/107]

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and has datasets on Bedrock Geology, Quaternary Geology, Geological Heritage Sites, Mineral deposits, Groundwater Resources and the Irish Seabed. These comprise maps, reports and extensive databases that include mineral occurrences, bedrock/mineral exploration groundwater/site investigation boreholes, karst features, wells and springs. Please see our [website](#) for data availability and we recommend using these various data sets, when undergoing the EIAR, planning and scoping processes. Geological Survey Ireland should be referenced to as such and should any data or geological maps be used, they should be attributed correctly to Geological Survey Ireland.

Dear Ellen,

With reference to your letter dated August 31 2020, concerning the EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath, Geological Survey Ireland (a division of Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment) would like to make the following comments in addition to the previous comments sent in response to the EIAR scoping document for Coole substation and electrical underground cable received from MKO, (**Our Ref: 19/230**), on the 16th October 2019, and in response to the letter from Westmeath County Council dated 26th May 2020, concerning the upgrade at Coole Wind farm, Co. Westmeath (**Our Ref: 20/107**).

Geoheritage

Geological Survey Ireland is in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs) to identify and select important geological and geomorphological sites throughout the country for designation as geological NHAs (Natural Heritage Areas). This is addressed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland, under 16 different geological themes, in which the minimum number of scientifically significant sites that best represent the theme are rigorously selected by a panel of theme experts.

County Geological Sites (CGS), as adopted under the National Heritage Plan are now 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. Westmeath was carried out in 2019. The full report details can be found at [The Geological Heritage of County Westmeath](#). **Our records show that there are two CGSs located close to the proposed windfarm:**

Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough, Co. Longford (GR 238731, 280354), under IGH themes, IGH7 Quaternary, IGH14 Fluvial and Lacustrine Geomorphology. Link to site report at [LD012](#). Lough Kinale is a lake covering 250 hectares of open water, with two main basins, almost separated by swamp formations. Derragh Lough is a smaller (35 ha) companion lough to the southeast. They are separated by a peninsular area of well drained land, known as 'Derragh Island'.



Rock of Curry and Hill of Mael, Co. Westmeath (GR 245104, 276409), under IGH theme, IGH12 Mesozoic and Cenozoic. Link to site report at [WH023](#). The isolated, combined ridge of the Rock of Curry and Hill of Moat are comprised of bedrock of Carboniferous limestone. It is believed however that they represent an erosional landform from the Palaeogene Period (65 to 23 million years ago). A good example of suspected remnant tower karst.

With the current plan, there are no envisaged impacts on the integrity of current CGSs by the proposed development. However, if the proposed development plan is altered, please contact Clare Glanville (Clare.Glanville@gsi.ie) for further information and possible mitigation measures if applicable.

Groundwater

Groundwater is important as a source of drinking water, and it supports river flows, lake levels and ecosystems. It contains natural substances dissolved from the soils and rocks that it flows through, and can also be contaminated by human actions on the land surface. As a clean, but vulnerable, resource, groundwater needs to be understood, managed and protected.

Through our [Groundwater Programme](#), Geological Survey Ireland provides advice and maps to members of the public, consultancies and public bodies about groundwater quality, quantity and distribution. Geological Survey Ireland monitors groundwater nationwide by characterising aquifers, investigating karst landscapes and landforms and by helping to protect public and group scheme water supplies.

With regard to Flood Risk Management, there is a need to identify areas for integrated constructed wetlands. We recommend using the GSI's National Aquifer, Vulnerability and Recharge maps on our [Map viewer](#) to this end. **The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates 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 EIAR.**

Our GWflood project is a groundwater flood monitoring and mapping programme aimed at addressing the knowledge gaps surrounding groundwater flooding in Ireland. The project provides the data and analysis tools required by local and national authorities to make scientifically-informed decisions regarding groundwater flooding. **Although primarily focused on karst areas, this may provide information to benefit the proposed wind farm development. We recommend using our [GWflood](#) tools found under our programme activities (in conjunction with OPW data) to this end.**

With regards to Climate Change, there is a need to improve the monitoring capacity of groundwater levels in Ireland so that the potential impacts of climate change can be monitored and assessed. In this context the GSI has established the GWClimate project in January 2020. GWClimate will 1) establish a long-term strategic groundwater level monitoring network and 2) develop modelling and analytical approaches for evaluating the impacts of Climate Change to Irish groundwater systems. **Further information can be found on the Groundwater flooding [page](#) of the Groundwater Programme.**

Geological Mapping

Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) maintains online datasets of bedrock and subsoils geological mapping that is reliable, accessible and meets the requirements of all users including depth to bedrock and physiographic maps. These datasets include depth to bedrock data and subsoil classifications. **We would encourage you to use these data which can be found [here](#), in your future assessments.**

Geohazards

Geohazards can cause widespread damage to landscapes, wildlife, human property and human life. In Ireland, landslides are the most prevalent of these hazards. Geological Survey Ireland has information available on past landslides for viewing as a layer on our [Map Viewer](#).



Geological Survey Ireland also engages in national projects such as Landslide Susceptibility Mapping and GW Flood Groundwater Flooding. 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.

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Geotechnical Database Resources

Geological Survey Ireland continues to populate and develop our national geotechnical database and viewer with site investigation data submitted voluntarily by industry. The current database holding is over 7500 reports with 134,000 boreholes; 31,000 of which are digitised which can be accessed through downloads from our [Geotechnical Map Viewer](#). We would strongly recommend that this database be consulted as part of any baseline geological assessment of the proposed development as it can provide invaluable baseline data for the region or vicinity of the proposed development area. This information may be beneficial and cost saving for any site specific investigations that may be designed as part of the development.

Other Comments:

Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out already or in the future at the site as part of the proposed development. Alternatively, we ask that a digital photographic record of significant new excavations could be provided. Potential visits from Geological Survey Ireland to personally document exposures could also be arranged. The data would be added to GSI's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to Beatriz Mozo, Geological Mapping Unit, at Beatriz.Mozo@gsi.ie, 01-678 2795.

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me (Trish.Smullen@dcae.gov.ie), or my colleague Clare Glanville (Clare.Glanville@dcae.ie).

Yours sincerely,

Trish Smullen
Geoheritage Programme



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Seirbhís Sláinte Comhshaoil,
FSS Baile Átha Cliath & Lár Laighin,
Aonad 7A,
Páirc Chorpadaídeach Loch Siabhair
Baile Roibín, An Muileann gCearr
Co. na hIarmhí, N91 P449

Environmental Health Service,
HSE Dublin Mid-Leinster,
Unit 7A,
Lough Sheever Corporate Park,
Robinstown, Mullingar,
Co Westmeath, N91 P449

044 9384890 ☎ 044 9384889 ☎

Date: 16 October 2020

Name: Ms. Ellen Costello, McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd., MKO,
Tuam Road, Galway

Consultant's reference: 200445

Re: EIA Scoping Report

Proposed development: Proposed wind energy development in the townland of Coole and
Adjacent townlands in Co. Westmeath

Applicant: Coole Wind Farm Ltd.

EHIS Reference: 1359



Dear Ms Costello

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 15 September 2020

- Emergency Planning – Brendan Lawlor
- Estates – Helen Maher
- Assistant National Director for Health Protection – Kevin Kelleher/ Laura Murphy
- CHO – Pat Bennet

If you have any queries regarding this report the initial point of contact is Ms Laura Garvey, Principal Environmental Health Officer who will refer your query to the appropriate person.

Yours sincerely

Laura Garvey

Principal Environmental Health Officer

HSE EIA Scoping

Environmental Health Service Submission Report

Date: 16.10.20
Our reference: EHIS 1359
Your reference: 200445
Report to: Ms Ellen Costello, McCarthy Neville O'Sullivan Ltd., MKO, Tuam Road,
Galway
Type of Consultation: EIA Scoping
Applicant: Coole Wind Farm Ltd

Proposed Development: Coole Wind Farm Ltd intends to apply for planning permission to An Bord Pleanála to construct a wind energy development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in Co. Westmeath. The proposed wind farm will comprise up to 15 No. wind turbines with a tip height of up to 175 metres, turbine foundations and hardstanding areas, new access tracks and upgrading of existing access tracks, 1 No. substation including control buildings, underground electrical and communications cabling, upgrade works to an existing substation and grid connection works, burrow pit, drainage and sediment controls temporary site compound, tree felling and associated works.

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), 187kb
- Advice Notes on Current Practice in the preparation of EIS (2003), 435kb
- 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_authoriti es_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/reviewofdrafteisguidelinesadvicenotes>

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. Guidance on wider determinants of health can be found at www.publichealth.ie

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 planning application and will make comments to An Bord Pleanála 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 31 August 2020.

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
- Opportunity for Health Gain
- Noise & Vibration
- Shadow Flicker
- Air Quality
- Surface and Groundwater Quality

- Geological Impacts
- Ancillary facilities
- Cumulative impacts

Public Consultation

It is strongly recommended that early and meaningful public consultation with the local community should be carried out to ensure all potentially significant impacts have been adequately addressed.

All parties affected by the proposed development, including those who may benefit financially from the project, must be fully informed of what the proposal entails, especially with regard to potential impacts on surrounding areas.

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 wind farm development in the future.

It is acknowledged that current restrictions on public gatherings as a result of Covid 19 prevention measures will impact on opportunities for public consultation events. However it is expected that public consultation will be undertaken and that members of the public will be given sufficient opportunities to express their views on the proposed development.

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.

To assist with the consultation and planning process it is recommended that the applicant develops a dedicated website for the proposed wind farm development. All correspondence, maps, project updates and documentation, including the EIAR, should be uploaded to this site.

Decommissioning Phase

The EIAR should detail what the eventual fate of the turbines, the electrical substation and all associated material will be, i.e. will the material be recycled or how will it be disposed of.

Information should also be provided regarding the proposed methodology to be used for the disposal of the materials forming the foundations of the wind turbines.

Siting and Location of Turbines

The EIAR should include a map and a description of the proposed location of each of the proposed wind turbines. The location of the substation and the grid connection route should also be included. Any existing or proposed wind farm developments in the vicinity should be identified in the EIAR.

Opportunity for Health Gain

The EPA has issued guidance with regard to meeting the requirements of Directive 2014/52/EU which assesses the impact of certain public and private projects on the environment. The proposed

development should be assessed with a view to the potential to include opportunities for health gain within the site of the proposed wind farm by including greenways, cycle-paths or walking trails within the development site.

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.

Minimisation of noise should be a criterion for the selection and installation of the substation equipment.

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.

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 wind farm development.

Shadow Flicker

It is recommended that a shadow flicker assessment is undertaken to identifying any dwellings and sensitive receptors which may be impacted by shadow flicker. The assessment must include all proposed mitigation measures.

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.

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.

Geological impacts

A detailed assessment of the current ground stability of the site for the proposed wind farm development 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, site drainage and the potential for soil erosion. A Peat Stability Assessment and a Flood Risk Assessment should be undertaken to assess the suitability of the soil for the proposed development.

Ancillary Facilities

The EIAR should include details of the location of the 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

Any existing wind farm developments and any proposed wind energy developments in the vicinity of the proposed Coole Wind Farm 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.



Caroline Hueston
Environmental Health Officer
Environment Operational Unit
HSE West
Ennistymon Health Centre
Ennistymon
Co. Clare

Ellen Costello

From: Ronnie O'Neill <Ronnie.ONeill@imaginegroup.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 12 August 2020 09:21
To: Ellen Costello
Cc: Lorna Brennan
Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms
Attachments: Proposed Site Boundary - 2020.08.11.zip; Telecoms Scoping - Site Location V3 - 2020.07.21 - 200445.pdf; FW: 150939 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen ,

Imagine do not have any network links through this area .

Thanks ,
Ronnie .

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 10:02
To: Ronnie O'Neill <ronnie.oneill@imaginegroup.ie>
Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Dear Ronnie,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath – your contact details were passed on to me by ComReg as a potential telecoms operator in the area. Could you let me know please if Imagine have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

This site has been scoped for previously in 2016 as a 13 turbine layout and I have attached correspondence with Imagine regarding this scoping.

For the site we are proposing 2 additional turbines as shown in the figure attached. The Grid Ref coordinates in ITM for the site centre 641172, 776072. Also attached is a folder containing the GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary.

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks as always for your assistance with this,

Regards,
Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist
MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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Ellen Costello

From: RAFFERTY Audrey <audrey.rafferty@iaa.ie>
Sent: Monday 14 September 2020 16:17
To: Ellen Costello
Subject: IAA response in regards to Coole Wind Farm

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sir/Madam,

In general terms, the Authority has no specific requirements in relation to this request for information in relation to the development of an Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed wind energy development comprised of up to 15 Turbines in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in Co. West Meath. Based on the information provided, during the formal planning process, the Safety Regulation Division – Aerodromes will likely make the following general observation:

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 tip height elevations at each wind turbine location

<i>Turbine No.</i>	<i>WGS-84 Co-ordinates</i>	<i>Ground elevation (Malin Head OD)</i>	<i>Blade tip elevation of turbine (Malin Head OD)</i>	<i>Height of turbine (height from ground level to blade tip)</i>	<i>Confirm if turbine has obstacle lighting.</i>
T1	53.346125, -6.258288	75m	225m	150m	No

(3) notify the Authority the intention to commence crane operations with at least 30 days prior notification of their erection.

Kind Regards

Audrey Rafferty

Irish Aviation Authority

The Times Building

11- 12 Dolier Street

Dublin 2

Ph: (01) 6031103

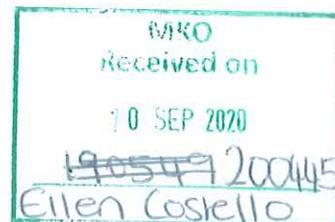
=====

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=====

=====

Ms Ellen Costello
MKO (McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd)
Tuam Road
Galway
H91VW84



Date: 22 October 2019

Your ref: 200445

My ref: BS2SO 52-0759 XS004 UTX Coole Wind Farm Ltd

Re: EIA Scoping Document for Coole Substation and Electrical Underground Cable

Dear Ms Costello,

Thank-you for your letter of 31 August 2020. I note from my records that there has been much correspondences with this office through Mr. J Staunton of your office reference number 190549. Below is a copy of the response sent to Mr. Staunton in October of 2019. Also there has been correspondences relating to the required licence agreement between Irish Rail/CIÉ and Statkraft Ireland Ltd at the level crossing known as XS004 in the townlands of Farranistick and Cullen More, Parish of Mullingar.

Iarnród Éireann publishes guidance on www.irishrail.ie for outside parties or agencies that wish to carry out works which affect the railway. This we call "third party works".

In the interests of national development, Iarnród Éireann aims to facilitate works by a third party in a timely manner while safeguarding the railway's interests, of which a primary one is of course safety.

The Railway Safety Act 2005 places an obligation on all persons carrying out any works on or near the railway to ensure that there is no increase in risk to the railway as a consequence of these works.

Your proposal involves an undertrack crossing (UTX) of the railway line by a power cable in the vicinity of railway level crossing XS004 at 52 miles 0759 yards Broadstone to Sligo line as shown in drawing Figure 1-1 of the EIAR Scoping Document.

The railway land is owned by Córas Iompair Éireann (CIE) and the railway services are operated by Iarnród Éireann. Your client Coole Wind Farm Ltd will need consent and a licence agreement in order to proceed but before we could agree to the crossing, Iarnród Éireann need more details about both voltage and power to be carried by the proposed cable to assess interference and compatibility with our own existing electrical control cables for operating the railway. Please forward these details for consideration.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P.D. Gordon Hedderly', written over the typed name.

C. Hedderly,

Senior Track & Structures Engineer.

Comhairle Chontae na Mí

Roinn Pleanáil,
Meallna Mainstreach, Bótharna Mainstreach
An Uainh, Contae na Mí
Fón: 046 – 9097500/Fax:046 – 9097001
R-phost: planning@meathcoco.ie
Web: www.meath.ie



Meath County Council

Planning Dept.,
Bwindra House, Dublin Rd
Navan, Co. Meath.
Tel: 046 – 9097500/Fax: 046 – 9097001
E-mail: planning@meathcoco.ie
Web: www.meath.ie

Tel: 046 9097500/7518

Forward Planning Section

Ellen Costello
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O' Sullivan Ltd.,
Tuam Road,
Galway.



September 16th, 2020

Re: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in Coole, Co. Westmeath.

Dear Ms. Costello,

Meath County Council has reviewed the EIA Scoping Document for the proposed Wind Energy Development (comprising of 15 Wind Turbines) in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in Co. Westmeath. It is noted that planning permission was previously granted for a 13-Turbine Wind Farm by An Bord Pleanála under Plan Reg. Ref. PL25M/300686 (17/6292).

The proposed application site is approx. 9km from the Co. Meath border and approx. 17km from Slieve na Calliagh, a range of hills and very important archaeological site of megalithic tombs and visitor attraction. The summit is 276m, the highest point in the County Meath and as such the proposed development site may be visible from the hills. It is a policy of the current Meath Development Plan 2013-2019 and the Draft Meath Development Plan 2021-2027 to protect the archaeological heritage, rural character, setting and amenity of the Loughcrew and Slieve na Calliagh Hills (LC POL 3 refers). Meath County Council respectfully requests that the impact of the proposed development on Slieve na Calliagh is fully considered to ensure that the proposed development does not adversely impact upon the amenity and experience of this important visitor attraction and archaeological site.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Russell,
A/ Senior Executive Planner,
Planning Department.



Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



Ms. Ellen Costello
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan
Tuam Road
Galway
H91 VW84



Our Ref: 384-2020

Your Ref: 200445

Re: EIA Scoping Document for Proposed Windfarm @ Coole, Co. Westmeath

Dear Ms. Costello,

The proposed site is located in lands that benefit from the River Inny Catchment Drainage Scheme. There may be a risk of flooding at this location. The Local Authority and the developers should satisfy themselves that there is adequate level of protection against flooding at this location.

Please see the attached Drainage Map and National Flood Hazard Mapping Summary Report relevant to this application.

Drainage Map

Blue: Associated Inny Channels: C1
C50
C50/1
C51
C48

Green: Benefiting Land.

Summary Local Area Report:

This report details all flood events within 2.5 kilometres of the map centre.

Benefiting land:

The definition of Benefiting land is: A dataset prepared by the Office of Public Works identifying land that might benefit from the implementation of Arterial (Major) Drainage Schemes (under the Arterial Drainage Act 1945) and indicating areas of land subject to flooding or poor drainage.

Maintainable channels.

This office requests that a 10 metre wide strip be retained adjacent to the channels to permit access for maintenance. This strip should not be fenced, paved or landscaped in a manner that would prevent access by maintenance plant.

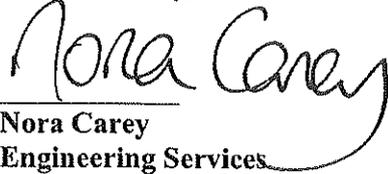
Further to this, please also note, that for the Construction, Replacement or Alteration of any Bridge or Culvert over any Channel which appears on a 6inch to 1 mile map, Prior Section 50 consent must be sought under Section 50 of "S.I. No. 122/2010 – European Communities (Assessment and Management of Flood Risks) Regulations 2010".

Please see link in relation to Section 50 Applications:

<http://www.opw.ie/en/media/Section%2050%20Brochure.pdf>

When making a decision regarding the above application your office should refer to the "Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities November 2009"

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nora Carey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

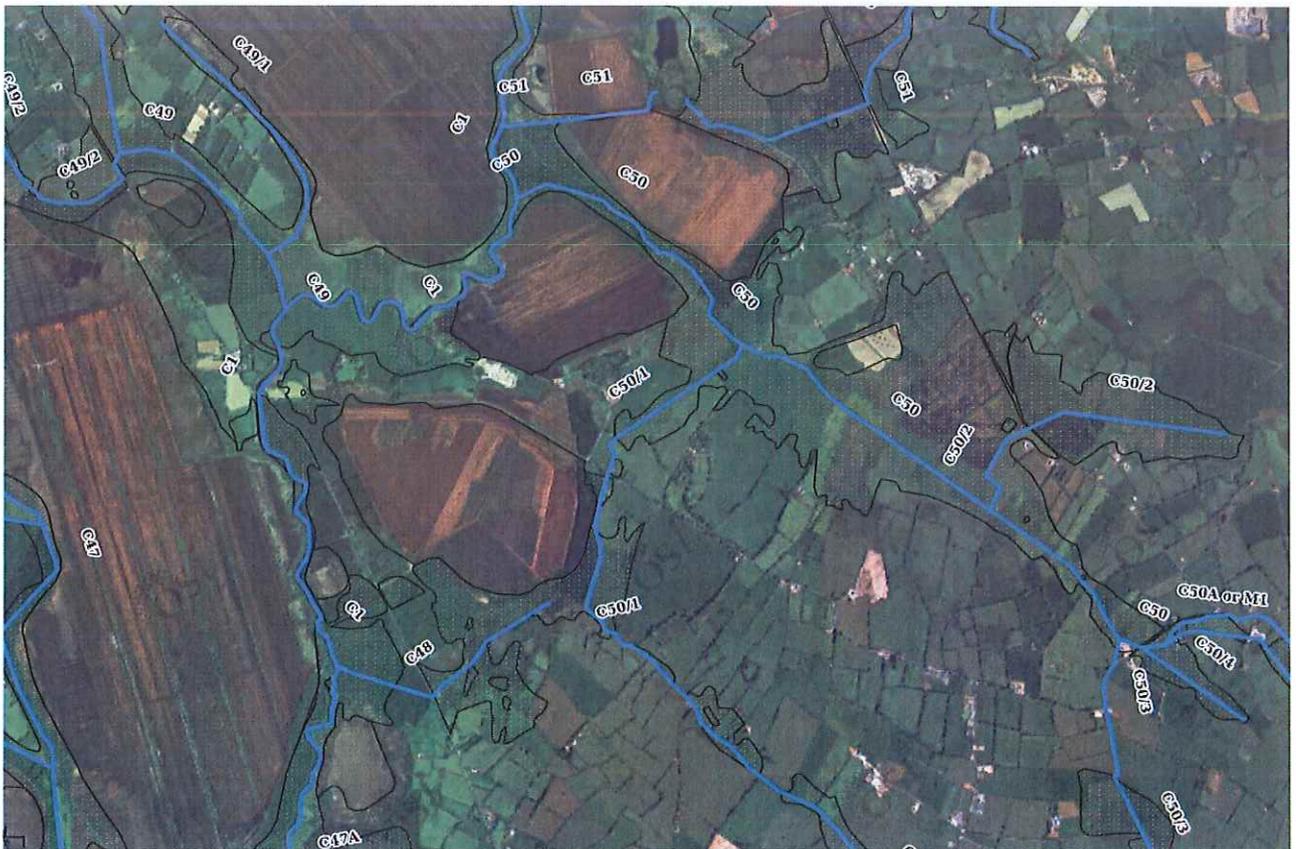
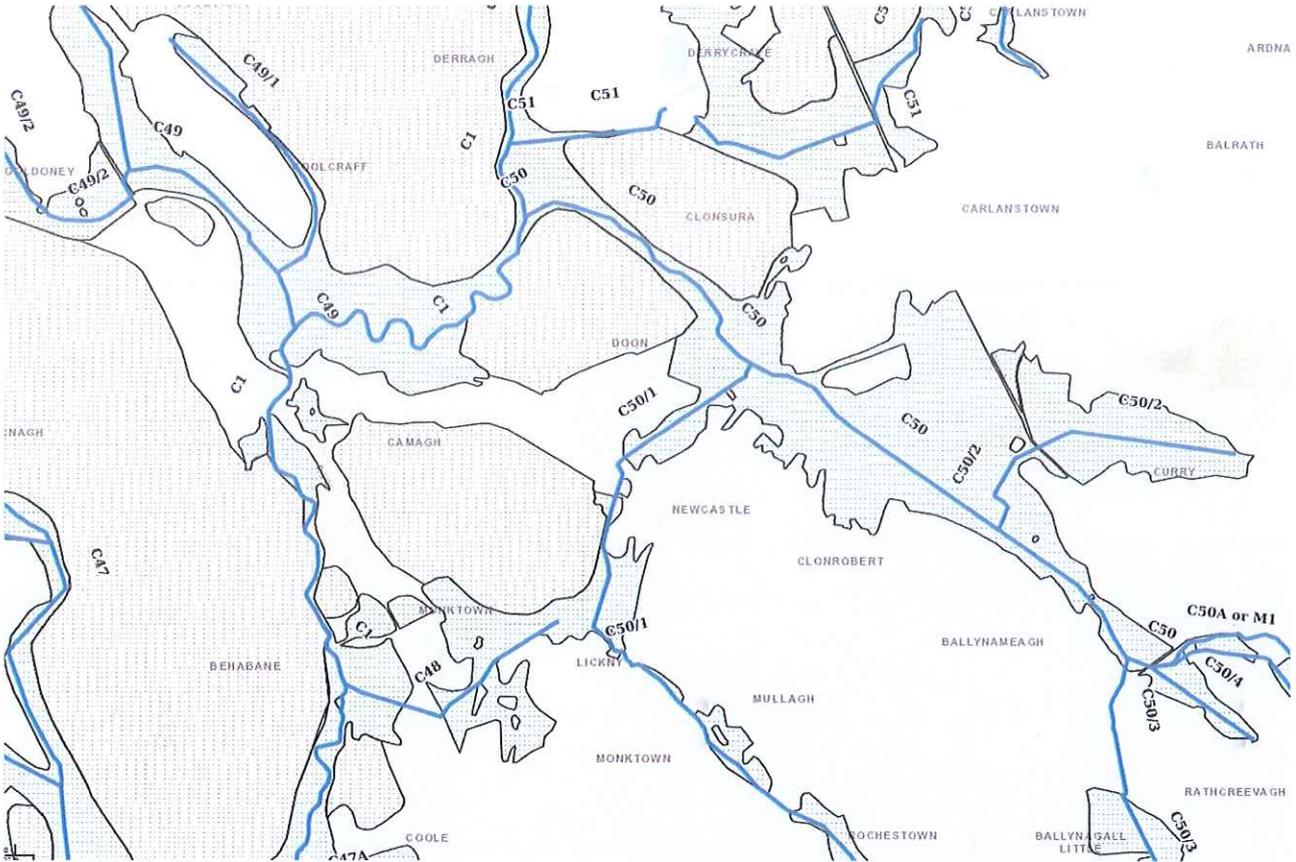
Nora Carey

Engineering Services

9th November 2020

Drainage Map – Coole, Co. Westmeath

Our Ref: 384-2020



Blue: Inny - Channel(s): C1, C50, C50/1, C51, C48
 Green: Benefiting Land.

Summary Local Area Report

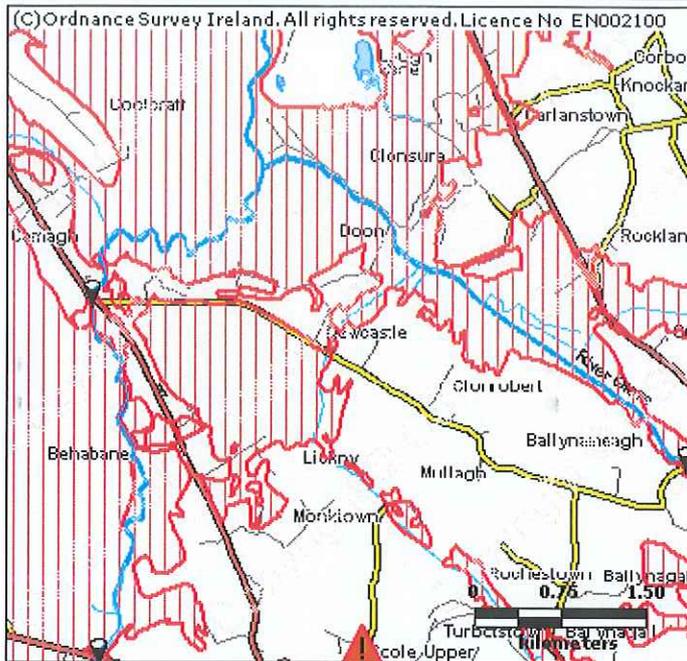
This Flood Report summarises all flood events within 2.5 kilometres of the map centre.

The map centre is in:

County: Westmeath

NGR: N 414 752

This Flood Report has been downloaded from the Web site www.floodmaps.ie. The users should take account of the restrictions and limitations relating to the content and use of this Web site that are explained in the Disclaimer box when entering the site. It is a condition of use of the Web site that you accept the User Declaration and the Disclaimer.



Map Scale 1:62,129

Map Legend	
	Flood Points
	Multiple / Recurring Flood Points
	Areas Flooded
	Hydrometric Stations
	Rivers
	Lakes
	River Catchment Areas
	Land Commission *
	Drainage Districts *
	Benefiting Lands *

* Important: These maps do not indicate flood hazard or flood extent. Their purpose and scope is explained in the Glossary.

0 Results

Ellen Costello

From: Andrew Snowdon <andrew.snowdon@ripplecom.net>
Sent: Friday 8 January 2021 09:49
To: Ellen Costello; Adrian Carroll
Cc: Denis Herlihy; Licensing
Subject: Re: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Ripplecom

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Ellen,

The link is 17 GHz. It was commissioned on the 26th of May 2017. The link is 22km long at that distance Fresnel zone is 10 meters so with a blade radius of 38.75 + Fresnel zone the buffer size should be 48.75 meters.

Best regards,

Andrew

On 07/01/2021 08:10, Ellen Costello wrote:

Hi Adrian,

I am just wondering if you have had a chance to look at the below?

Many thanks,

Ellen

From: Ellen Costello
Sent: Monday 4 January 2021 08:54
To: Adrian Carroll <adrian.carroll@ripplecom.net>
Cc: Denis Herlihy <denis.herlihy@ripplecom.net>; Licensing <licensing@ripplecom.net>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Ripplecom

Hi Adrian,

Thank you for your response on this.

Just to provide you with some further information regarding elevation and turbine dimensions: the proposed turbine height is 175metres and with a blade length of 77.5metres.

Could you please let me know the frequency of this link, the recommended buffer of the link and when it was commissioned?

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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From: Adrian Carroll <adrian.carroll@ripplecom.net>
Sent: Monday 21 December 2020 10:40
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: Denis Herlihy <denis.herlihy@ripplecom.net>; Licensing <licensing@ripplecom.net>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Ripplecom

Hi Ellen,

This development may impact a link to a customer in Granard.

Customer
GPS: 53.7780720° , -7.5007500°
Height: 6m

High Site
GPS: 53.683378, -7.212596
Height: 5m



Regards,

Adrian Carroll | Network Operations Manager

T: 061 571156 | M: 086 8372264

E: adrian.carroll@ripplecom.net | W: ripplecom.net

Houston Hall, Raheen Business Park, Limerick, V94 PKF1





From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>

Sent: 17 December 2020 16:24

To: Adrian Carroll <adrian.carroll@ripplecom.net>

Cc: Denis Herlihy <denis.herlihy@ripplecom.net>; Licensing <licensing@ripplecom.net>

Subject: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Ripplecom

Dear Adrian,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath. Could you let me know please if Ripplecom have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

I have attached the turbine coordinates in an excel sheet and a GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary.

If it is possible to get a response from you by tomorrow on this that would be very much appreciated.

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks,

Ellen

Ellen Costello

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 12 August 2020 16:40
To: Thomas Barry
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Thomas,

Thanks for your response on that. I can confirm that we have put forward the same proposal to eir for their review.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Thomas Barry <Tom.Barry@TETRAIRELAND.IE>
Sent: Wednesday 12 August 2020 10:38
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Ellen,

We anticipate no impact from development at the proposed location. Can you ensure the proposal is also reviewed by eir.

Regards,
Tom

From: Ellen Costello [<mailto:ecostello@mkoireland.ie>]
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 11:21
To: Thomas Barry
Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Dear Tom,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath and are contacting any potential telecoms operator in the area. Could you let me know please if Tetra have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

This site has been scoped for previously in 2016 as a 13 turbine layout and I have attached the responses you provided, along with further correspondence.

For the site we are proposing 2 additional turbines as shown in the figure attached. The Grid Ref coordinates in ITM for the site centre 641172, 776072. Also attached is a folder containing the GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary.

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks as always for your assistance with this,

Regards,
Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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Ellen Costello

From: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Sent: Thursday 13 August 2020 14:59
To: Ellen Costello
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

This link was planned/installed in 4th Quarter of 2016.

Cheers,

Alister



Alister Cole
Transmission Engineer

Mobile: 086 6024556
Email: Alister.Cole1@three.ie

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 13 August 2020 14:32
To: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Alister,

Thank you for your response on this.

Could you please provide me with some information on when the link was commissioned?

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Sent: Thursday 13 August 2020 10:38
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

Thank you for the information, the Antenna heights would be 30m both sides. The clearance we would require is 30m from rotor tip to centre of microwave link path.

Best Regards,

Alister



Alister Cole
Transmission Engineer

Mobile: 086 6024556
Email: Alister.Cole1@three.ie

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 13 August 2020 10:06
To: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Alister,

Currently the proposed height that we are looking at is 175m.

Thanks again,
Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Sent: Thursday 13 August 2020 09:52
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

No probs, would you know the tower height?



Alister Cole
Transmission Engineer
Mobile: 086 6024556
Email: Alister.Cole1@three.ie

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 13 August 2020 09:15
To: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Apologies Alister, they we're in ITM.

Please find attached the turbine layout in IG.

Apologies again,
Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Sent: Thursday 13 August 2020 08:27

To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

Apologies for the delay. I have looked at the coordinates spreadsheet and the coordinates are in the wrong format.

Cheers,

Alister



Alister Cole
Transmission Engineer

Mobile: 086 6024556
Email: Alister.Cole1@three.ie

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 11 August 2020 14:27
To: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Apologies Alister,

Here is the turbine coordinates in IG as requested.

I have mapped the current link and two of the proposed turbines fall within the 100m buffer of the link as shown below.

If you could get back to me with the height of the antennas and link along with clearance along the link, that would be great.



Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Ellen Costello
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 13:57
To: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Alister,

Thank you kindly for your response on this, it is much appreciated.

Please find attached proposed turbine layout in kml format, could let me know re clearance for the link please?
Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.

Environmental Scientist

MKO

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From: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>

Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 13:25

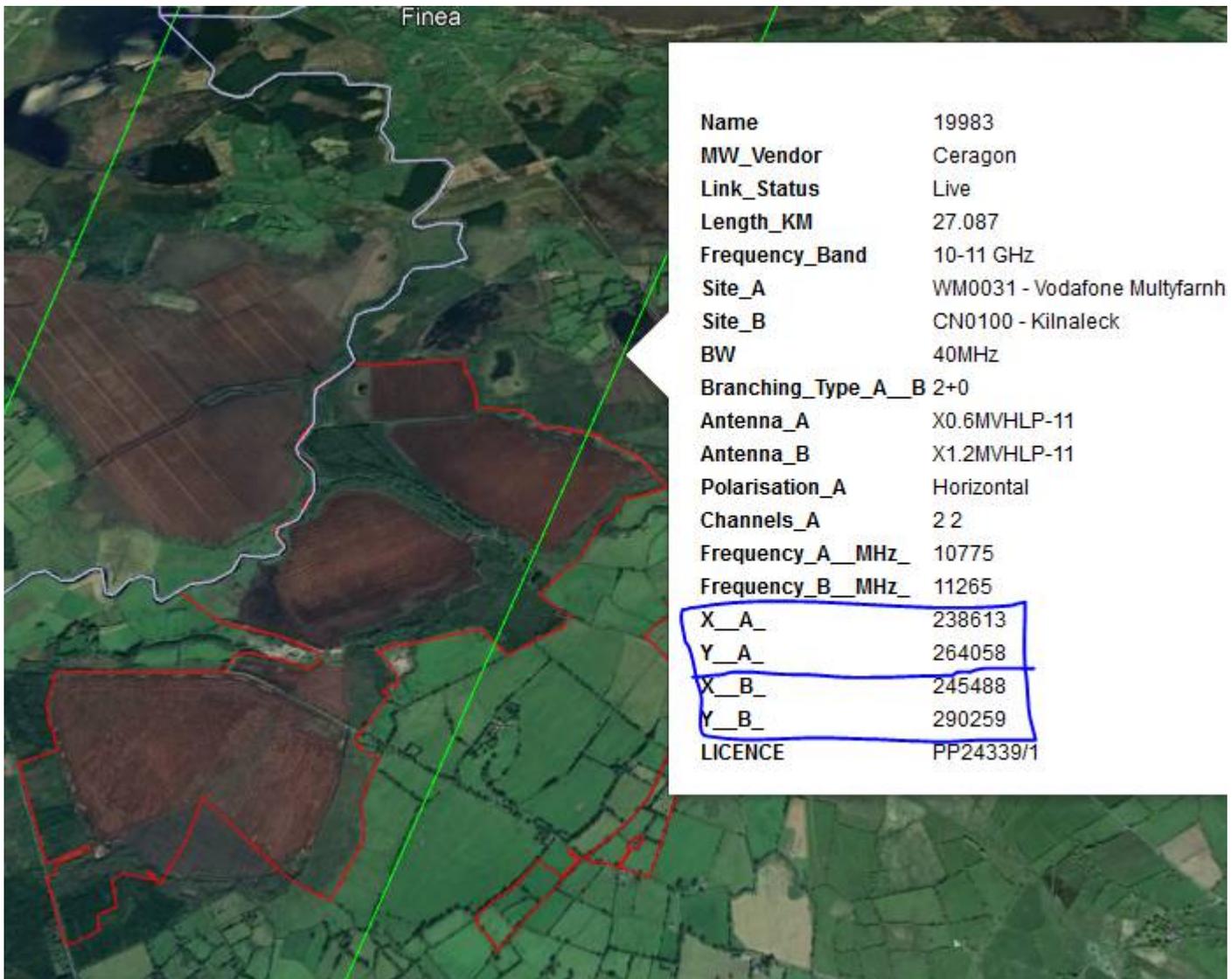
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

Thank you for the kml file, this works fine.

Please see below details for the current 3Ireland microwave link traversing and potentially being affected by the proposed windfarm. The coordinates are IG;



If you could supply the turbine location coordinates in IG I can add to our planning tool and see if there is clearance for the link.

Cheers,

Alister



Alister Cole
Transmission Engineer

Mobile: 086 6024556
Email: Alister.Cole1@three.ie

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 11 August 2020 11:43
To: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Alister,

Please find attached kml file which can be uploaded to Google Earth. Let me know if this doesn't work for you and I can sort out a kmz for you.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

MKO
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+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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From: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 11:20
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

Please could you supply a kmz shapefile for Google Earth?

Best regards,

Alister



Alister Cole
Transmission Engineer

Mobile: 086 6024556
Email: Alister.Cole1@three.ie

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: 11 August 2020 11:05
To: Alister Cole <Alister.Cole1@three.ie>
Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Dear Alister,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath – your contact details were passed on to me by ComReg as a potential telecoms operator in the area. Could you let me know please if Three have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

This site has been scoped for previously in 2016 as a 13 turbine layout and I have attached the response provided when information was requested for eir-meteor-three collectively.

For the site we are proposing 2 additional turbines as shown in the figure attached. The Grid Ref coordinates in ITM for the site centre 641172, 776072. Also attached is a folder containing the GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks as always for your assistance with this,

Regards,
Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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Three Ireland
28/29 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland.

www.three.ie Five small, empty square icons arranged horizontally in a row.

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Ellen Costello

From: MKO-Admin
Sent: Wednesday 30 September 2020 15:58
To: Ellen Costello
Subject: FW: FAO Ellen Costello - EIAR Scoping in relation to the proposed development of a wind farm at Coole and adjacent townlands at Coole Co. Westmeath - Ref No. 200445
Attachments: TII20-110887 - EIAR Scoping for proposed wind farm in Coole, Co. Westmeath.pdf

From: INFO <Information@tii.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 30 September 2020 15:34
To: MKO-Admin <info@mkoireland.ie>
Subject: FAO Ellen Costello - EIAR Scoping in relation to the proposed development of a wind farm at Coole and adjacent townlands at Coole Co. Westmeath - Ref No. 200445

Dear Ms. Costello,

I refer to your letter of 31 August 2020 regarding the above, copy attached.

At the outset I wish to advise that Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) is not in a position to engage directly with planning applicants with respect to proposed developments. 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 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.

This response is based on the information you have provided, which comprised of a scoping request letter without accompanying site location map/layout map or a description of the townlands concerned. Accordingly, it is unclear what exactly the extent and location of the proposed development is. Therefore, the following comments are general comments with respect of general issues, which arise from wind farm development, with respect of national roads.

With respect to EIAR Scoping issues, the recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of EIAR, which may affect the national road network. The developer should have regard, *inter alia*, to the following;

1. As outlined in the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines, it is in the public interest that, in so far as is reasonably practicable, that the national road network continues to serve its intended strategic purpose. The EIAR should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network in order to demonstrate that the development can proceed complementary to safeguarding the capacity, safety and operational efficiency of that network.
2. Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office with regard to locations of existing and future national road schemes.
3. In relation to cabling and potential connection routing, the scheme promoter should note locations of existing and future national road schemes and develop proposals to safeguard proposed road schemes. As outlined

above, consult with the Local Authority/National Roads Design Office in relation to any schemes in planning in the area, for example, Project Ireland 2040 N4 Mullingar to Longford.

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 existing national roads, alternatives to the provision of cabling along the national road network, such as alternative routing or the laying of cabling in private lands adjoining the national road, should be considered in the interests of safeguarding the investment in and the potential for future upgrade works to the national road network. The 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.

4. Clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. Separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route and all structures on the haul route should be checked by the applicant/developer to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal load proposed.
5. Where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment 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 Authority's Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the national road network. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of the TII TTA Guidelines which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA.
6. TII Standards should be consulted to determine the requirement for Road Safety Audit (RSA) and Road Safety Impact Assessment (RSIA).
7. Assessments and design and construction and maintenance standards and guidance are available at [TII Publications](#) that replaced the NRA Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) and the NRA Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works (MCDRW).
8. The developer, in conducting Environmental Impact Assessment, should have regard to TII Environment Guidelines that deal with assessment and mitigation measures for varied environmental factors and occurrences. In particular;
 - a. 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, 2006),
 - b. 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., National Roads Authority, 2004)).

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 practice

Yours sincerely,

Michael McCormack
Senior Land Use Planner



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Sir/Madam
Transport Infrastructure Ireland
Parkgate Business Centre,
Parkgate Street,
Dublin 8
D08 DK10,

Our Ref: 200445
Your Ref:

31st August 2020

Re: EIA Scoping Document for the Proposed Wind Energy Development in the townland of Coole and adjacent townlands in County Westmeath

Dear Sir/Madam,

Coole Wind Farm Ltd. is investigating the potential for a proposed wind energy development at Coole and adjacent townlands, located in County Westmeath. 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 development site measures approximately 498 hectares and is located in north Co. Westmeath, approximately 2.4 kilometres north of Coole village. The town of Castlepollard is located approximately 5.9 kilometres southeast of the site, at its nearest point.*

It is envisaged that the proposed wind farm will comprise of up to 15 No. turbines with a tip height of up to 175metres, turbine foundations and hardstanding areas, new access tracks and upgrading of existing access tracks, 1 No. substation including control buildings, underground electrical and communications cabling, upgrade works to an existing substation and grid connection works, borrow pit, drainage and sediment controls, temporary site compound, tree felling and associated works. In this regard, it is intended to submit the planning permission application to An Bord Pleanála.

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 and the site of the proposed development 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.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ellen Costello', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ellen Costello BSc. MSc.
Environmental Scientist
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd.



Ellen Costello

From: INFO <Information@tii.ie>
Sent: Friday 22 January 2021 11:34
To: Ellen Costello
Subject: RE: FAO Michael McCormack- EIAR Scoping in relation to the proposed development of a wind farm at Coole and adjacent townlands at Coole Co. Westmeath - Ref No. 200445

Dear Ms. Costello,

I refer to your further email of 6 January 2021 regarding the above. Transport Infrastructure Ireland's (TII) updated position is outlined below.

At the outset I wish to advise that TII is not in a position to engage directly with planning applicants with respect to proposed developments. 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 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.

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The proposed site is demarcated to cover a stated area of 498 Hectares in North Co. Westmeath, at a location 2.4 km North of Coole village.

With respect to EIAR Scoping issues, the recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of EIAR, which may affect the national road network. The developer should have regard, *inter alia*, to the following;

1. As outlined in the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines, it is in the public interest that, in so far as is reasonably practicable, the national road network continues to serve its intended strategic purpose. The EIAR should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network in order to demonstrate that the development can proceed complementary to safeguarding the capacity, safety and operational efficiency of that network.
2. Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office with regard to locations of existing and future national road schemes.
3. In relation to cabling and potential connection routing, the scheme promoter should note locations of existing and future national road schemes and develop proposals to safeguard proposed road schemes. As outlined above, consult with the Local Authority/National Roads Design Office in relation to any schemes in planning in the area.

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 this regard, consultation with the Local Authority/National Roads Design Office in relation to the N4 Mullingar to Longford Scheme should be undertaken. Furthermore, consideration should be given to routing options, use of existing crossings, depth of cable laying, etc.

In the context of existing national roads, alternatives to the provision of cabling along the national road network, such as alternative routing or the laying of cabling in private lands adjoining the national road, should be considered in the interests of safeguarding the investment in and the potential for future upgrade works to the

national road network. The 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.

4. Clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. Separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route and all structures on the haul route should be checked by the applicant/developer to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal load proposed. Consultation with relevant PPP Companies and MMaRC Contractors may also be required.
5. 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. TII's TTA Guidelines (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the national road network. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of the TII TTA Guidelines which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA.
6. TII Standards should be consulted to determine the requirement for Road Safety Audit (RSA) and Road Safety Impact Assessment (RSIA).
7. Assessments and design and construction and maintenance standards and guidance are available at [TII Publications](#) that replaced the NRA Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) and the NRA Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works (MCDRW).
8. The developer, in conducting Environmental Impact Assessment, should have regard to TII Environment Guidelines that deal with assessment and mitigation measures for varied environmental factors and occurrences. In particular;
 - a. 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, 2006).
 - b. 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., National Roads Authority, 2004)).

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 practice.

I trust that the above comments are of use in your EIAR preparation.

Yours sincerely,

Alban Mills
Senior Regulatory and Administration Executive



From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 6 January 2021 15:47

To: INFO <Information@tii.ie>

Subject: FAO Michael McCormack- EIAR Scoping in relation to the proposed development of a wind farm at Coole and adjacent townlands at Coole Co. Westmeath - Ref No. 200445

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Dear Mr. Michael McCormack,

Thank you for your detailed response.

My sincerest apologies that the scoping report referenced in the attached letter was not included in the scoping pack.

Please find attached PDF version of the scoping report for your attention.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

MKO
Tuam Road, Galway
Ireland, H91 VW84
+353 (0) 91 735611
www.mkoireland.ie



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From: INFO <Information@tii.ie>

Sent: Wednesday 30 September 2020 15:34

To: MKO-Admin <info@mkoireland.ie>

Subject: FAO Ellen Costello - EIAR Scoping in relation to the proposed development of a wind farm at Coole and adjacent townlands at Coole Co. Westmeath - Ref No. 200445

Dear Ms. Costello,

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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.

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5. Where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment 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 Authority's Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the

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 - b. 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., National Roads Authority, 2004)).

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 practice

Yours sincerely,

Michael McCormack
Senior Land Use Planner



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Próiseálann BIÉ sonraí pearsanta a sholáthraítear dó i gcomhréir lena Fhógra ar Chosaint Sonraí atá ar fáil ag <http://www.tii.ie/about/>

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Córas r-phoist BIE: Tá an ríomhphost seo agus aon chomhaid a tharchuirtear 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 scrios an ríomhphost bunaidh agus aon cheangaltáin.

Ellen Costello

From: Declan Campbell <dcampbell@digiweb.ie>
Sent: Friday 18 December 2020 14:14
To: Ellen Costello; Conor Pendlebury
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Viatel

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Ellen,

Our team believe we'll have enough clearance.

DC

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 18 December 2020 13:09
To: Declan Campbell <dcampbell@digiweb.ie>; Conor Pendlebury <Conor.Pendlebury@viatel.com>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Viatel

Thanks for that Declan.

Can you please let me know when the link was commissioned?

Just to provide you with some further information regarding elevation and turbine dimensions: the proposed turbine height is 175metres and with a blade length of 77.5metres.

Could you please let me know your recommended buffer when you get a chance, and potential clearance relative to elevation?

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Declan Campbell <dcampbell@digiweb.ie>
Sent: Friday 18 December 2020 12:59
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>; Conor Pendlebury <Conor.Pendlebury@viatel.com>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Viatel

Its likely 23GHz.

I don't have the link buffer info handy.

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 18 December 2020 12:31
To: Declan Campbell <dcampbell@digiweb.ie>; Conor Pendlebury <Conor.Pendlebury@viatel.com>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Viatel

Hi Declan,

Thanks for sending that on. Could you please let me know the frequency of the link and the recommended buffer for the link?

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Declan Campbell <dcampbell@digiweb.ie>
Sent: Friday 18 December 2020 12:20
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>; Conor Pendlebury <Conor.Pendlebury@viatel.com>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Viatel

School:
53.611700
-7.417284

Slieve Gleah:
53.953889
-7.295278

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 18 December 2020 12:06
To: Declan Campbell <dcampbell@digiweb.ie>; Conor Pendlebury <Conor.Pendlebury@viatel.com>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Viatel

Hi Declan,

Thanks for coming back to me. Could you send me on the coordinates of the masts and I can have a look and see if the link goes through the site?

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Declan Campbell <dcampbell@digiweb.ie>
Sent: Friday 18 December 2020 12:04
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>; Conor Pendlebury <Conor.Pendlebury@viatel.com>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Viatel

Ellen, it looks like we do have a link in this area, to a School, however, looking at elevation, we might have a bit of clearance.

What would happen if the windfarm was to give us some trouble in the future?

Declan

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Thursday 17 December 2020 16:20
To: Declan Campbell <dcampbell@digiweb.ie>; Conor Pendlebury <Conor.Pendlebury@viatel.com>
Subject: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Viatel

Dear Declan,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath. Could you let me know please if Viatel have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

I have attached the turbine coordinates in an excel sheet and a GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary.

If it is possible to get a response from you by tomorrow on this that would be very much appreciated.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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Ellen Costello

From: Liam Allister <Liam.Allister@virginmedia.ie>
Sent: Thursday 17 December 2020 21:47
To: Ellen Costello
Cc: Cathal O'Donnell; Mark Nolan
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Virgin

Hi Ellen,

Virgin Media do not have any microwave links that would be affected by this development, 200445 Coole Wind Farm.

Regards,
Liam Allister | B2B Access Network Transmission Engineer,
Virgin Media | John F Connelly Road, Churchfield, Cork.
Liam.allister@virginmedia.ie

From: Ellen Costello [mailto:ecostello@mkoireland.ie]
Sent: 17 December 2020 16:26
To: Liam Allister <Liam.Allister@virginmedia.ie>
Cc: Cathal O'Donnell <Cathal.ODonnell@virginmedia.ie>; Mark Nolan <Mark.Nolan@virginmedia.ie>
Subject: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms - Virgin

Dear Liam,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath. Could you let me know please if Virgin have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

I have attached the turbine coordinates in an excel sheet and a GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary.

If it is possible to get a response from you by tomorrow on this that would be very much appreciated.

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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Ellen Costello

From: Ellen Costello
Sent: Tuesday 15 December 2020 12:14
To: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland
Cc: Cassidy, Emma, Vodafone Ireland; Neill o', Shane, Vodafone Ireland; Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External); Murphy, Daragh, Vodafone Ireland; McHugh, Brian, Vantage Towers Ireland; Dennehy, Darragh, Vantage Towers Ireland
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Thanks for that Gavin,
Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>
Sent: Tuesday 15 December 2020 11:48
To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Cc: Cassidy, Emma, Vodafone Ireland <emma.cassidy@vodafone.com>; Neill o', Shane, Vodafone Ireland <shane.oneill2@vodafone.com>; Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>; Murphy, Daragh, Vodafone Ireland <daragh.murphy@vodafone.com>; McHugh, Brian, Vantage Towers Ireland <brian.mchugh@vantagetowers.com>; Dennehy, Darragh, Vantage Towers Ireland <darragh.dennehy@vantagetowers.com>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

No issues with any of the turbine locations, see attached.

If you need anything else, let me know.

Thanks



Gavin Byrne

TX Planning & Design Engineer

Converged Transmission

+353876448159

gavin.byrne@vodafone.com

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Ready?

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 15 December 2020 11:04
To: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>
Cc: Cassidy, Emma, Vodafone Ireland <emma.cassidy@vodafone.com>; Neill o', Shane, Vodafone Ireland <shane.oneill2@vodafone.com>; Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>; Murphy, Daragh, Vodafone Ireland <daragh.murphy@vodafone.com>; McHugh, Brian, Vantage Towers Ireland <brian.mchugh@vantagetowers.com>; Dennehy, Darragh, Vantage Towers Ireland <darragh.dennehy@vantagetowers.com>
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

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Hi Gavin,

Please find attached final turbine coordinates for the below referenced Coole Wind Farm for your information.

Many thanks,

Ellen



Ellen Costello MSc. BSc.
Environmental Scientist

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From: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>

Sent: Monday 7 September 2020 13:04

To: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>

Cc: Cassidy, Emma, Vodafone Ireland <emma.cassidy@vodafone.com>; Neill o', Shane, Vodafone Ireland <shane.oneill2@vodafone.com>; Lyons, Sean, Vodafone Ireland (External) <sean.lyons@vodafone.com>; Murphy, Daragh, Vodafone Ireland <daragh.murphy@vodafone.com>; McHugh, Brian, Vantage Towers Ireland <brian.mchugh@vantagetowers.com>; Dennehy, Darragh, Vantage Towers Ireland <darragh.dennehy@vantagetowers.com>

Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

Sorry for the delay in my response.

Based on the shape file you sent, there should be no issues. If you have final co-ordinate positions for each of the turbines, you can send them to me if you wish, so I can verify that there is no interference, but as I said, it looks like no issue.



Gavin Byrne

TX Planning & Design Engineer
Converged Transmission
+353876448159
gavin.byrne@vodafone.com

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Ready?

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2020 10:56
To: Byrne, Gavin, Vodafone Ireland <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>
Subject: FW: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

CYBER SECURITY WARNING: This email is from an external source - be careful of attachments and links. Please follow the Cyber Code and report suspicious emails.

Dear Gavin,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath – your contact details were passed on to me by ComReg as a potential telecoms operator in the area. Could you let me know please if Vodafone have any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

This site has been scoped for previously in 2016 as a 13 turbine layout and I have attached the previous correspondence on this.

For the site we are proposing 2 additional turbines as shown in the figure attached. The Grid Ref coordinates in ITM for the site centre 641172, 776072. Also attached is a folder containing the GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary.

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks as always for your assistance with this,

Regards,
Ellen



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Ellen Costello

From: Simon McCabe <simon.mccabe@westmeathcoco.ie>
Sent: Monday 17 August 2020 09:07
To: Ellen Costello
Cc: Gerard McCormack
Subject: RE: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Hi Ellen,

I have passed this onto our Broadband Officer (cc'd) and will revert back as soon as possible.

Best Regards,

Simon McCabe | Head of Information Systems | I.C.T. Department
Westmeath County Council, Aras An Chontae, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath N91 FH4N
Tel. 044-9332143
Email. simon.mccabe@westmeathcoco.ie Web www.westmeathcoco.ie

From: Ellen Costello <ecostello@mkoireland.ie>
Sent: Friday 14 August 2020 10:43
To: Head of Information Systems <his@WestMeathCoCo.ie>
Subject: 200445 Coole Wind Farm, Co Westmeath - Telecoms

Dear Simon,

We are working on a constraints study for a proposed wind energy development near Coole, Co Westmeath – your contact details were passed on to me by ComReg as a potential telecoms operator in the area. Could you let me know please if the Council has any telecoms links in this area, to be incorporated into the constraints map?

This site has been scoped for previously in 2016 as a 13 turbine layout and I have attached the response provided when information was requested.

For the site we are proposing 2 additional turbines as shown in the figure attached. The Grid Ref coordinates in ITM for the site centre 641172, 776072. Also attached is a folder containing the GIS Shapefile of the proposed site boundary

If you need any more details, please let me know.

Many thanks as always for your assistance with this,

Ellen



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