

Ballyfeeny Green Energy Project



Environmental Impact Assessment Report Volume III

Appendix 2.1.4 – Decommissioning Management Plan

September 2025

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NAME OF PROJECT	BALLYFEENY GREEN ENERGY PROJECT	
REVISION	DATE	REVIEWER
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Acronyms

Term	Meaning
DMP	Decommissioning Management Plan
DEMP	Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
NIS	Natura Impact Statement
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
SWMP	Surface Water Management Plan
TMP	Traffic Management Plan
WMP	Waste Management Plan
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
EMS	Environmental Management System
GCR	Grid Connection Route
TDR	Turbine Delivery Route
ha	Hectares
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator
kV	Kilovolt
ESB	Electrical Supply Board
ECoW	Environmental Clerk of Works
EcoCoW	Ecological Clerk of Works
DM	Decommissioning Manager
PSCS	Project Supervisor Construction Stage
DEMP	Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan
PSDP	Project Supervisor for the Design Process
HSA	Health & Safety Authority
H&S	Health & Safety
CSCS	Construction Skills Certification Scheme
CM	Construction Management
HSEQ	Health, Safety, Environmental and Quality
TMC	Traffic Management Co-ordinator
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle
ERP	Environmental Resource Permitting

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1 Introduction

This Decommissioning Management Plan (DMP), including the Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (DEMP) has been prepared by Rowan Engineering Consultants Ltd on behalf of Ballyfeeny Green Energy (the Applicant), who are applying to Roscommon County Council (the Local Authority) for planning permission to construct the Ballyfeeny Green Energy Project (the Project).

The proposed Project includes six no. turbines and all associated infrastructure including Turbine Foundations, Turbine Hardstands, Site Access Tracks, Wind Farm Internal Cabling, Grid Connection Route (GCR), Relay Tower, Onsite Substation and works required along the public road network for the two Turbine Delivery Route (TDR) options to facilitate the delivery of turbine components. A full description of the proposed Project is provided in **Chapter 2 - Project Description**. This DMP has been prepared in conjunction with the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) which will accompany the planning application for the proposed Project.

This DMP is to be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- **Chapter 2 Project Description**
- **Chapter 3 – Consideration of Reasonable Alternatives**
- **Appendix 2.1 - Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)**
- **Appendix 2.1.1 - Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP)**
- **Appendix 2.1.2 - Waste Management Plan (WMP)**
- **Appendix 2.1.3 - Traffic Management Plan (TMP)**
- **Appendix 2.1.5 - Blasting Coordination and Cooperation Plan**
- **Appendix 6.10 - Species and Habitat Management Plan (SHMP)**
- **Part 1 - Planning Drawings.**

1.1 Scope of the Plan

At the end of its operational life (35 years), the proposed Project will be decommissioned unless prior to decommissioning, the Applicant makes a new planning application to extend the life of the Project or repower it. These options are outlined in **Chapter 3 – Consideration of Reasonable Alternatives**.

The DMP is based on the scope of decommissioning activities as currently understood and that are set out and assessed within the EIAR and NIS for the Project. Given that the DMP is written 35 years in advance of any decommissioning, preferred approaches are likely to

change and for that reason best practice is not to limit options too far in advance of decommissioning (Scottish Natural Heritage, SNH, 2016). Any updates will also have regard to relevant policies and legal requirements at the time.

A DMP has been prepared, in accordance with the Scottish National Heritage Decommissioning and Restoration Plan for wind farms (SNH, 2016) and (Wind Europe, 2020) the detail of which will be reviewed, updated and agreed with the Local Authority to take into consideration any advancements in the decommissioning methods as well as any changes to guidance and legislation.

The plan provides guidance of the methodologies that will be adopted, throughout the decommissioning phase. The environmental and emergency controls set out will be adopted including the methods for reviewing compliance with the plan. The Surface water management Plan, Traffic management Plan and Waste management Plan will be reviewed and updated for Decommissioning phase and included with the final DMP when activated.

This DMP is based on the need to outline the required steps, methods, controls and mitigation required for the decommissioning of the proposed Project.

The report is divided into six sections, as outlined below:

Section 1- Provides a brief introduction to the scope of the report.

Section 2 - Outlines the Site and Project details, detailing the targets and objectives of this plan along with providing an overview of works methodologies that will be adopted throughout decommissioning.

Section 3- Sets out details of the environmental controls to be implemented on site including the mechanisms for implementation. A Waste Management Plan (WMP) is also included in this section.

Section 4 - Outlines the response procedures to be adopted in the event of an emergency in terms of site health and safety and environmental protection.

Section 5 - Sets out an indicative programme for the timing of the works.

Section 6 - Sets out the mitigation measures required to be implemented at decommissioning.

Section 7 - Sets out the monitoring required to be implemented at decommissioning.

Section 8 - Outlines the proposals for reviewing compliance with the provisions of this proposed Project.

1.2 Statement of Authority

This section of the Environmental Management Plans has been prepared by Rowan Engineering Consultants Ltd., (Rowan). Rowan has been providing environmental, ecological and planning services since the company was founded in 1998 to a broad range of clients.

The DMP was authored by Dr James Massey – James is a Senior environmental consultant and ecologist with over 25 years' experience., specifically on environment assessment of renewable projects, onshore and offshore in Ireland and worldwide. James is also a specialist in site restoration, remediation, rehabilitation, and biodiversity enhancement and offsetting. James is a Fellow of the Institute of Environmental Sciences and a member of several professional organisations. James is a Chartered Environmentalist and Chartered Scientist and holds a PhD, DSc, BSc in Applied Marine Biology and a number of professional and industry qualifications.

The DMP was reviewed by Denise Meade. Denise has over 20 years' experience working on both public and private sector developments. Her experience lies in the environmental co-ordination of large infrastructure projects across a range of industries including renewable energy, roads, water and wastewater. She has managed all aspects of planning applications, with a focus on the technical review and delivery of EIARs. She is a Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) and Chartered Water and Environmental Manager (C.WEM) and hold an MSc in Applied Environmental Science and AdvDip in Planning & Environmental Law.

1.3 Targets and Objectives

Key aims for the plan are to:

- To ensure the Project is undertaken in accordance with best construction and environmental practices in accordance with the accompanying EIAR and associated planning documentation;
- To ensure the Project is decommissioned in a safe and timely manner and within the proposed Project budget;
- To ensure and deconstruction activities adhere to all relevant environmental regulations and standards;
- To ensure that deconstruction activities are carried out in accordance with any conditions of planning for the proposed Project;
- To ensure that construction activities have minimal impact/ disturbance to local landowners and the local community;
- To ensure that construction activities have minimal impact on the natural environment;

- To adopt a sustainable approach to decommissioning; and
- To provide adequate training and awareness to all construction site personnel.

The key objectives of this document are:

- Ensure the appointment of a suitability qualified and experienced design and decommissioning team to oversee the decommissioning of the proposed Project;
- Delegation of clear lines of responsibility within the design and decommissioning team for monitoring decommissioning and environmental compliance and adherence to this DMP and the requirements as identified in the EIAR;
- Provide appropriate levels of training to ensure the design and construction team are up-to-date with construction and environmental best practice and legislative changes;
- Establishment of documented schedules and records for monitoring and inspections;
- Establishment of reporting procedures for incidents on site;
- Provide opportunities for community feedback and submission of complaints; and
- Adoption of a sustainable and socially responsible approach to decommissioning.

1.4 Live Document

This DMP is considered a 'live' document and as such will be reviewed and updated as required prior to the decommissioning phase and as required during the decommissioning works.

In line with the SNH (2016) guidance the DMP will be updated in the 3 to 5 years prior to the year of decommissioning to provide full exploration of the options to provide the Applicant with time to schedule any surveys or site investigations to be undertaken. The final DMP will be submitted to the Local Authority prior to any decommissioning works taking place.

2 Site and Project Description

2.1 Site Location

The proposed wind farm Site is located at Ballyfeeny, Co. Roscommon, approximately 4.5 km northeast of Strokestown and 15 km northwest of Longford town. The wind farm Site is serviced by the public road network; the N5, R368, L1422, and L6062. The Site consists of portions of agricultural grassland and pastureland for cattle together with parcels of mature and private forestry

The proposed Grid Connection Route (GCR) is via underground cable duct laid in the wind farm and in the public road connecting to the existing Sliabh Bawn ESB 110kV Substation located at ITM coordinates E598813 N 782007.

The Site has an area of approximately 49.774 hectares (ha) and comprises a number of private land parcels and public roads. The anticipated area of the Site covered by operational infrastructure (WTG, foundations access tracks hard stand etc.) at the project end of life is 12.68 ha (not including GCR).

A full description of the proposed Project is contained in EIAR **Chapter 2 - Project Description**.

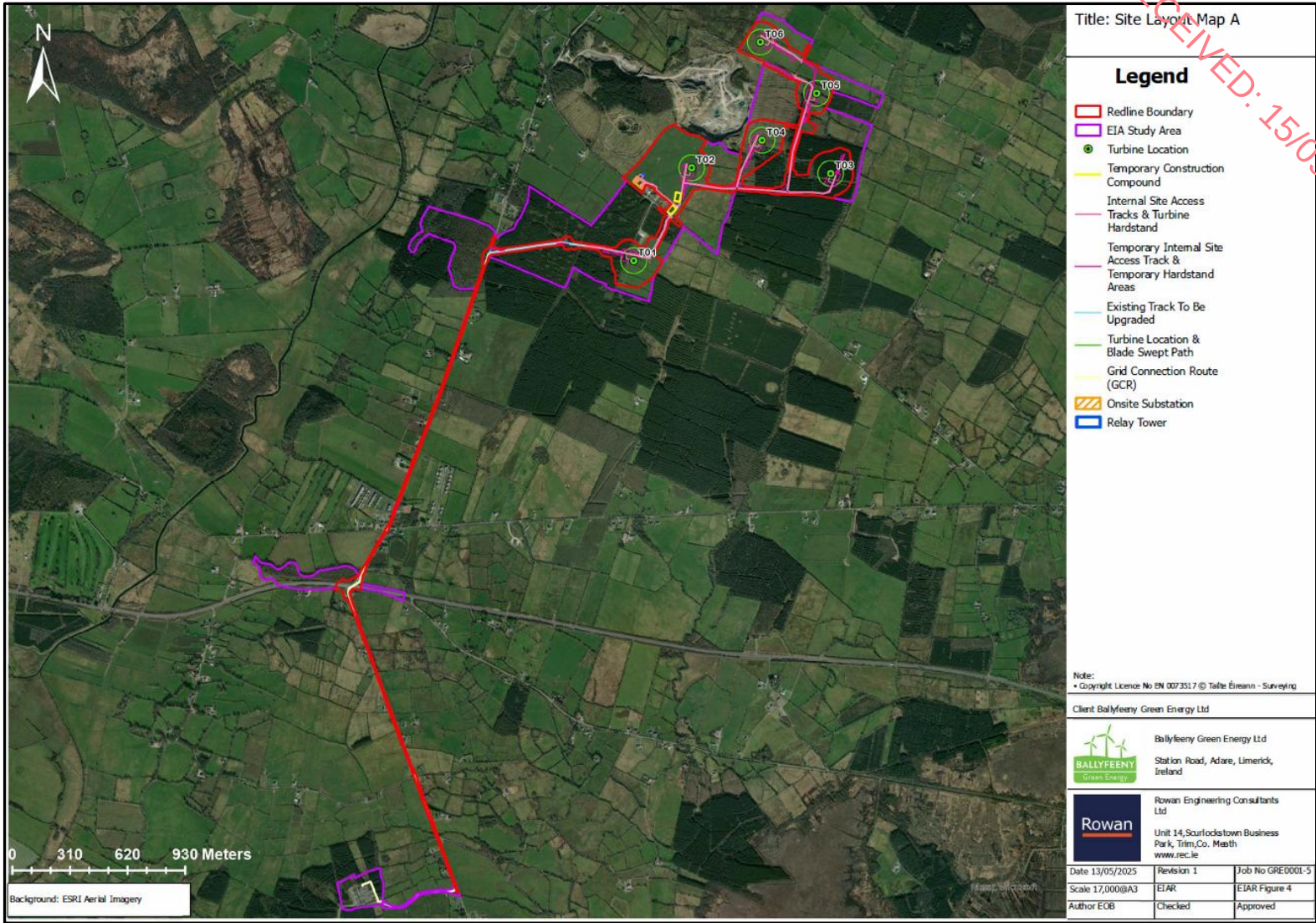


Figure 2-1: Site Layout Map A (Ref: EIAR Figure 4 (Volume 4))



Figure 2-2: Site Layout Map B (Ref: EIAR Figure 5 (Volume 4))

2.2 The Grid Connection Route

The Grid Connection Route runs between the Onsite Substation and the Sliabh Bawn 110kV Substation.

The proposed GCR is outlined in **Figure 2-3** detailed information is contained in the EIAR and Planning Drawings (**Drawings 23604-300 Series-P2 Grid Route Site Layout**). The Onsite Substation includes support buildings, electrical infrastructure and a backup generator located on a concrete pad foundation.

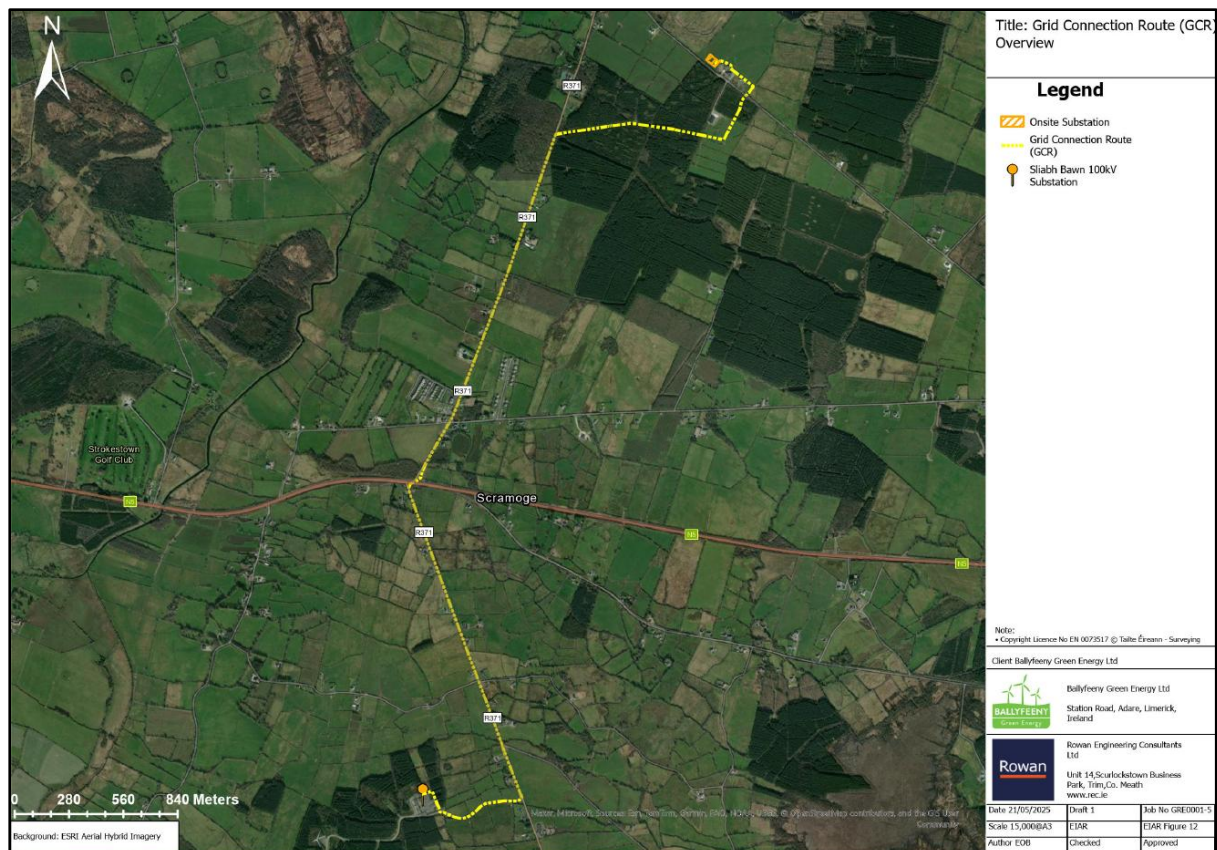


Figure 2-3: Grid Connection Route Overview (Ref: EIAR Figure 12 (Volume 4))

2.3 The Onsite Substation

The Onsite Substation will become an ESB Networks asset and will form part of the electrical grid network. It will not be decommissioned as part of the decommissioning phase of the proposed Project (**Figure 2-4**)

The Grid Connection Route from the from the Onsite Substation to the Sliabh Bawn 110kV Substation, will also become an ESB Networks asset and will form part of the electrical grid network and will not be decommissioned. They will both remain in-situ post operation and decommissioning of the proposed wind farm.

2.4 The Relay Tower

A permanent communications Relay Tower will be installed as part of the proposed Project. The tower will be equipped with telecommunications equipment at various heights and will be a slender, free-standing lattice structure 33m in height (**Drawing 23604-510**).

The tower will be constructed on a hardstanding area sufficiently sized to accommodate the crane that will be used for its erection. The tower will be located to the north of the proposed Onsite Substation as detailed in **Figure 2-4**. The Relay Tower is not proposed to be decommissioned and will remain in place as it will form part of the telecommunication network in the area.

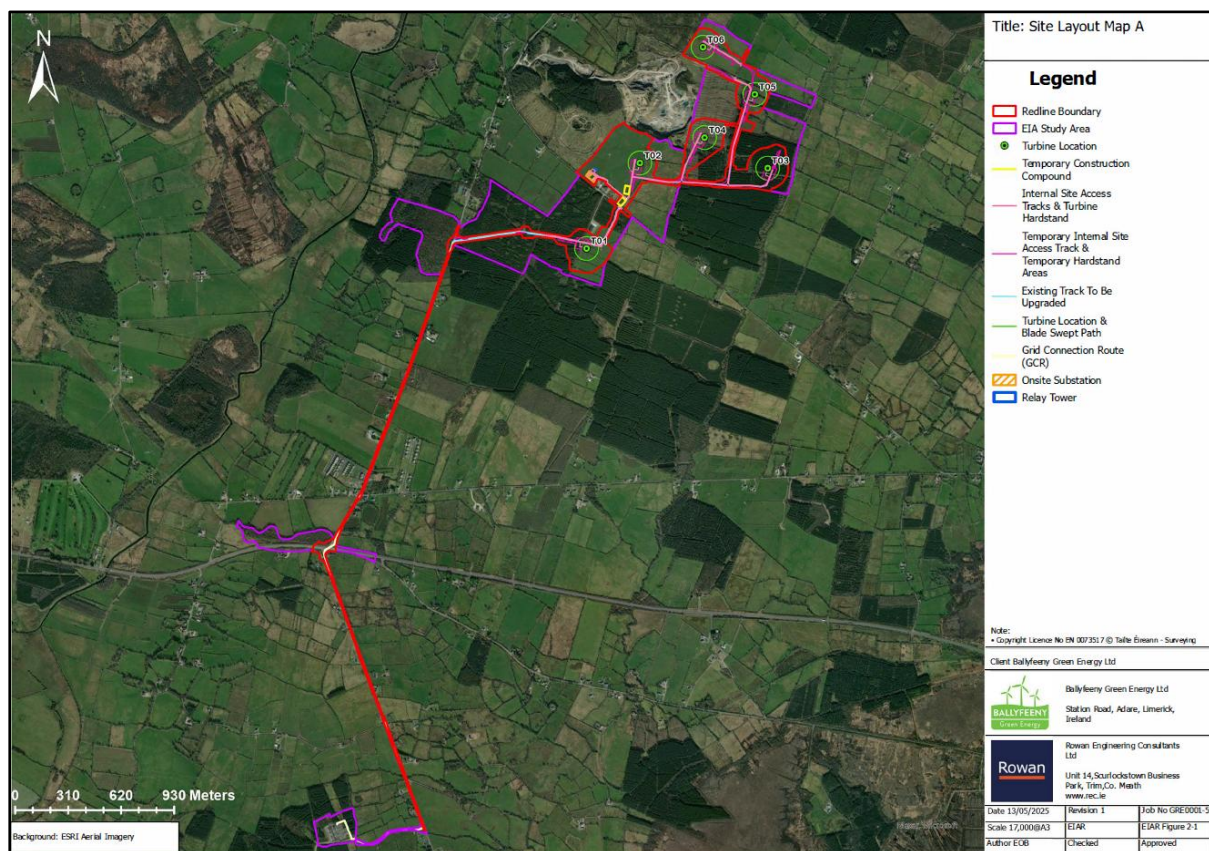


Figure 2-4: Site Layout Map A (Ref: EIAR Figure 2-2 (Volume 4))

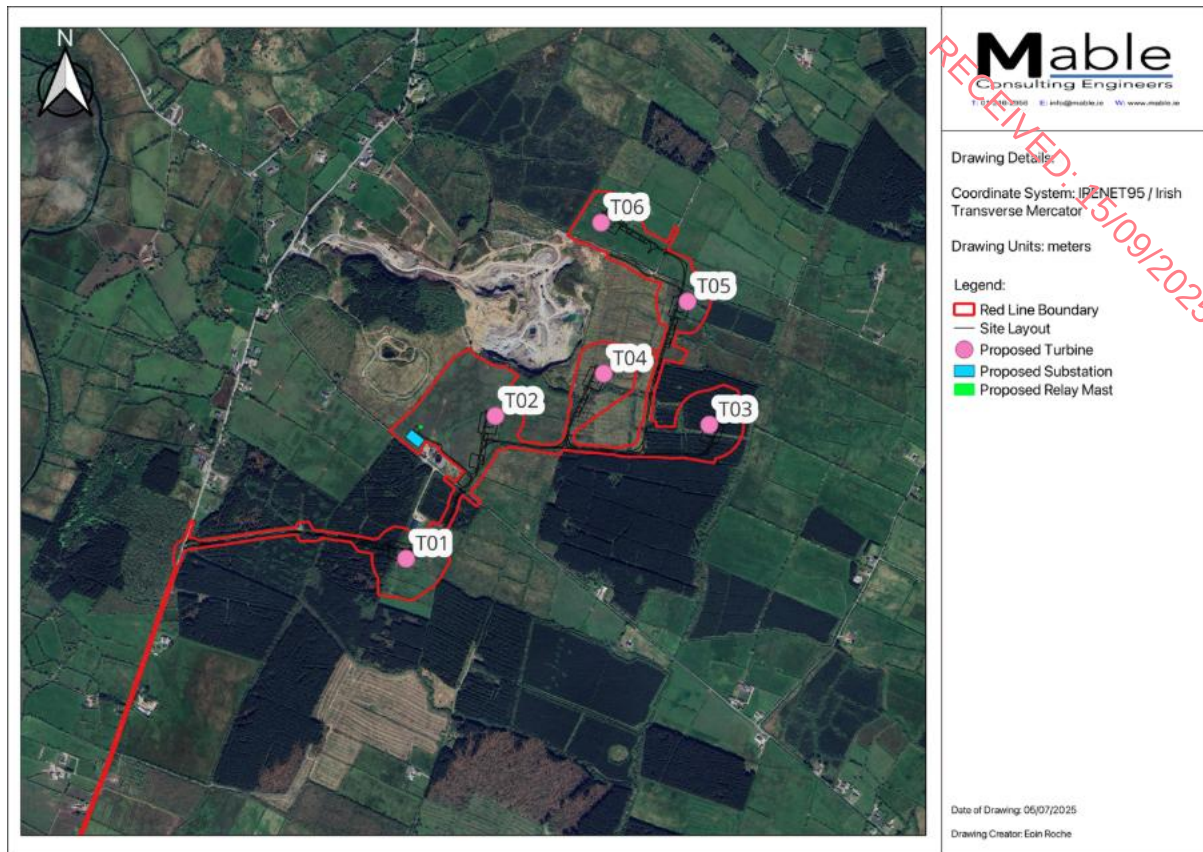


Figure 2-4: Project Layout showing substation and relay tower (Figure 3-1 Appendix 2.1 CEMP)

2.5 Considerations of Alternatives for Decommissioning and End Use

In accordance with EPA Guidelines for EIAR, the decommissioning phase is considered not only for the impact assessment, but also under the Alternatives in **Chapter 3 - Consideration of Alternatives**.

Alternatives to 'end of life' decommissioning include repowering (partial or full), life extension and partial or full removal of structures.

Repowering involves upgrading or replacing components to extend the lifespan and/or increase power output. It requires further planning permission at the time of decommissioning and as such, whilst considered as a valid alternative is subject to future environmental impact assessment. Life extension focuses on maintaining existing turbines by refurbishing or repairing components. Such proposals would be subject to further planning considerations and the DMP would be revised to reflect these changes.

Partial removal options include leaving some structures in place, to reduce decommissioning works and also for when features have direct or alternate uses onsite. Substations and cables are often left in situ for continued usage or as nodes for future alternate grid reinforcement.

Some elements may have ecological enhancement function that would be detrimental by removal.

Full removal involves dismantling and restoring the Site. Where possible components are removed for recycling or repurposing offsite and the Site is restored to as near to predevelopment status as possible.

As repowering and redevelopment would be subject to future Planning and assessment these are not considered under the DMP.

The DMP outlines the requirements and plan for Decommissioning (Partial or Full Removal) of the Project as proposed at this Planning Application, after an operational period of 35 years.

3 Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities of each of the key members of the Organisational Structure is proposed in this section. The Organisation Structure will be determined by the update to the decommissioning plan at such time a decommissioning contractor is appointed prior to the commencement of operations

The Decommissioning Site Manager and Environmental Clerk of Works (ECoW) are the project focal points relating to decommissioning-related environmental issues.

In general, the ECoW will maintain responsibility for monitoring the decommissioning works and Contractors/Sub-contractors from an environmental perspective. The ECoW will act as the regulatory interface on environmental matters. The Site Manager will be responsible for reporting to and liaising with The Local Authority and other statutory bodies as required.

The Site Manager in consultation with the ECoW will be responsible for employing the services of a suitably qualified ecologist and any other suitably qualified professionals as required throughout the decommissioning works.

3.1 Roles

3.1.1 Employer

The Employer (or Client) is the Developer or Operator of the wind farm at decommissioning. The Employer is responsible for ensuring that competent parties are appointed to undertake the decommissioning and to ensure sufficient resources are made available to facilitate the appropriate management of risks to the environment, safety and health and compliance with the Planning Permission, Building Regulations and other legislative requirements.

3.1.2 Decommissioning Manager

A suitably qualified Decommissioning Manager (DM) will be appointed by the Employer and will have overall responsibility for overseeing the construction of the Development proposed Project in accordance with regulatory and project environmental requirements.

The duties and responsibilities of the DM will include:-

- Assist the Employer with the appointment of suitably qualified Environmental Clerk of Works (ECoW), Project Supervisor Construction Stage (PSCS), Engineers, Project Archaeologist, Ecologist / Ecological Clerk of Works (EcoCoW), Geotechnical Engineer, Turbine Supply Contractor, Civil Engineering Contractors and other contractors.

- Hold design team meetings, site meetings and other stakeholder meetings as required;
- Coordinate with the above roles and liaise with other project stakeholders;
- Ensure that all works are designed, planned and constructed safely and with minimal environmental risk;
- Update this DEMP and DMP for agreement with Stakeholders;
- Implement the DMP on site, monitor the compliance through audits and site visits and take corrective action where necessary;
- Take advice from the ECoW on legislation, codes of practice, guidance notes and good environmental practice;
- Ensure timely notification of environmental incidents;
- Ensure that all contractors hired to remove waste from the site have valid Waste Collection Permits and that the waste is brought to an appropriately licenced waste facility;
- Put communication protocols in place to ensure that all personnel on site are made aware that they are responsible for ensuring good construction and environmental practice and that they are encouraged to provide feedback and suggestions for improvements.

3.1.3 Environmental Clerk of Works

A suitably qualified Environmental Clerk of Works will be appointed by the Employer and will have overall responsibility for overseeing Environmental compliance on the Project and will report to the DM.

The ECoW will monitor the site works and ensure that methodologies and mitigation are followed throughout construction to avoid negatively impacting on the receiving environment.

The duties and responsibilities of the ECoW will include:-

- Preparation of the DMP and supporting environmental documentation.
- Review and approval of contractor method statements and risk assessments;
- Monitor the implementation of the DMP, carry out site inspections and audits to ensure the works are carried out in compliance with the DMP;
- Keep site records to demonstrate compliance with the DMP, the Planning Permission and other statutory requirements;

- Hold design team meetings, site meetings and other stakeholder meetings as required;
- Advise site management and contractors on items such as:-
 - Prevention of environmental pollution;
 - Planning conditions and other statutory requirements;
 - Suitability and use of plant, equipment and materials to prevent pollution; and
 - Environmentally sound methods of working and systems to identify environmental hazards.
- Ensure agreed mitigation measures are initiated and adhered to during the construction phase;
- Liaise with Project Archaeologist, Ecologist or EcoCoW, Hydrologist and Geotechnical Engineer and ensure their regular site visits and audits / inspections are completed;
- Ensure adequate emergency response procedures are put in place;
- Ensure that details of environmental incidents are communicated in a timely manner to the relevant regulatory authorities;
- Investigate incidents of significance and ensure corrective actions are carried out;
- Identify environmental training requirements and arrange relevant training for all levels of site based personnel.
- Put communication protocols in place to ensure that all personnel on site are made aware that they are responsible for ensuring good construction and environmental practice and that they are encouraged to provide feedback and suggestions for improvements.

Inspect and sign off on Decommissioned areas

3.1.4 Project Supervisor Construction Stage (PSCS)

The role of the PSCS is to manage and co-ordinate health and safety matters during the decommissioning phase

The Employer will appoint a PSCS for the decommissioning phase and the PSCS will report directly to the Employer. The duties of the PSCS will include:-

- Receive the safety file from the client / operator and include additional materials as needed for Decommissioning

- The safety file is to include relevant detail on the project's DMP
- Development of the Safety and Health Plan for the decommissioning phase and update as required as work progresses;
- Notify the HSA before work commences;
- Provide required safety file information to the PSDP;
- Report accidents / incidents to the HSA and the client;
- Coordinate the implementation of the H&S Construction Regulations, Demolition Regulations and monitor compliance and take corrective action where necessary;
- Organise cooperation between contractors;
- Coordinate the checking of safe work procedures and monitor compliance with the H&S Construction Regulations;
- Review and approval of contractor method statements and risk assessments;
- Coordinate arrangements to ensure workers have Safe Pass and relevant Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) cards;
- Coordinate measures to restrict entry to site;
- Provide a site induction to all site personnel and carry out Toolbox Talks as necessary;
- Maintenance of the site Safety Files which are to include detail on personnel on site, their training details and induction date;
- Coordinate the appointment of a Safety Representative (when there are 20+ people on site); and
- Notify the HSA and the client of non-compliance with any written directions issued.

3.1.5 Designers / Engineers

Designers and Engineer will be appointed to carry out the decommissioning planning and detailed design and to monitor the on-site decommissioning works. They will be appointed either directly by the Employer or by the contractors.

The duties and responsibilities will include:-

- Carry out designs that allows the project to be Decommissioned safely and in compliance with the Planning Permission, EIAR and relevant legislation;
- Carry out Design Risk assessments.

- Identify possible hazards that may present during Decommissioning phases. Where possible, eliminate the hazards or reduce the risk;
- Communicate necessary control measures, design assumptions and residual risks to the CM, Environmental Manager and PSCS;
- Co-operate and coordinate designs with other designers, engineers and the PSCS;
- Carry out periodic site inspections during construction; and
- Key designers and engineers will be required to hold appropriated professional indemnity insurance and, upon successful completion of their design, will issue opinions on compliance with Planning Permissions and Building Regulations.

3.1.6 Project Archaeologist

The Project Archaeologist will report to the Environmental Manager and the National Monuments Service and will be responsible for archaeological monitoring of the site during the decommissioning phase and the Chance Finds procedures. This will include monitoring of decommissioning tasks which may be required for compliance with the and conditions of planning and update the action plan in line with any findings in construction or operational phases.

3.1.7 Ecological Clerk of Works / Project Ecologist

The Project Ecologist will be appointed by the Ecological Clerk of Works (EcoCoW) and will report to the ECoW and is responsible for the protection of sensitive habitats and species encountered during the decommissioning phase of the Project. The Project Ecologist will carry out periodic site inspections during decommissioning. The EcoCoW is responsible for ensuring that all elements of the NIS (**Volume 6**) mitigation are implemented during decommissioning including any provisions in the SHMP (**Volume 3 Appendix 6.10**)

The responsibilities and duties of the Project Ecologist will include the following:-

- Review and input into the preparation of the DMP in respect of ecological matters;
- Carry out site visits to carry out environmental audits and reviews and report any issues noted;
- Implement the ecological chance finds protocols during decommissioning;
- In liaison with ECoW, oversee and provide advice on all relevant ecology mitigation measures set out in the EIAR and as may be required for compliance with any of the

planning conditions of planning; coordinate with the EcoCoW to ensure any requirements of the NIS are implemented during decommissioning; and

- Carry out ecological monitoring and survey work as may be required by the Local Authority and for compliance with the any conditions of planning.

3.1.8 Project Hydrologist

The Project Hydrologist will report to the ECoW and is responsible for inspection and review of drainage and water quality aspects associated with decommissioning of the Project. The Project Hydrologist will carry out periodic site inspections during the decommissioning phase.

The responsibilities and duties of the Project Hydrologist will include the following:-

- Review and input into the preparation of the decommissioning and DMP in respect of hydrological matters;
- Assist in compiling a detailed drainage design before decommissioning commences and advise and attend the site to set out and assist with micro siting of proposed drainage controls and drainage restoration works;
- Review and input to the preparation of the DMP in respect of drainage and water quality management; and
- Carry out site visits and hydrological and water quality audits and report any issues noted.

3.1.9 Contractor

- Suitably qualified and experienced contractors will be appointed to carry out the project decommissioning works in accordance with the Planning Permission, Environmental and other regulatory requirements;
- The decommissioning contractors appointed will be responsible for the organisation, direction, and execution of construction related activities during the detailed design and construction of the Project. Contractors will report to the DM and the ECoW.

3.1.10 Site Manager

A Site Manager will be appointed by the contractor to oversee the day-to-day management of working areas within the site and ensure that effective, safe, planned decommissioning activities are delivered on an ongoing basis to the highest standards.

The Site Manager will be a suitably qualified, competent, and experienced professional that will oversee site logistics, communicate regularly with construction staff, accommodate

project-specific inductions for staff on site and ensure that all work is compliant with the relevant design standards and health and safety legislation.

The Site Manager will report to the DM and liaise with the ECoW. The Site Manager will be responsible for:-

- General site management and operations;
- Waste management;
- Implementing the DMP on the site;
- Establishing, implementing, and maintaining the environmental management systems in line with ISO 14001;
- Conducting regular on-site inspections and audits and ensure that adequate site records on compliance are documented;
- Monitor the works to ensure they are carried out in accordance with the DMP and relevant H&S and environmental requirements and when necessary, recommend corrective action;
- Hold site meetings and other stakeholder meetings as required;
- Ensuring appropriate Method Statements and Risk Assessments have been prepared for the works;
- Ensuring all personnel have undertaken adequate inductions, awareness briefings and training;
- Liaise with Stakeholders and dealing with enquires and complaints;
- Managing and responding to environmental incidents and ensuring that all incidents are recorded and reported in an appropriate manner; and
- Put communication protocols in place to ensure that all personnel on site are made aware that they are responsible for ensuring good decommissioning and environmental practice and that they are encouraged to provide feedback and suggestions for improvements.

3.1.11 Health, Safety, Environmental and Quality (HSEQ) Officer

A HSEQ Officer will be appointed by the contractor to ensure that the DMP is effectively implemented, developed and managed. The HSEQ Officer will be a suitably qualified, competent and experienced professional that will review health, safety, environmental and

quality on a day-to-day basis and consult with the members of the construction team and stakeholders as required.

The HSEQ Officer will work closely with, and report to, the Site Manager. The HSEQ will assist the Site Manager in meeting the above responsibilities and will also be required to keep up-to-date with relevant environmental best practice and legislative changes.

3.1.12 Traffic Management Coordinator

A competent Traffic Management Co-ordinator (TMC) will be appointed for the duration of the decommissioning as required and this person will be the main point of contact for all matters relating to traffic management.

The TMC will monitor works which have an impact on the public road and ensure that methodologies and mitigation are followed throughout decommissioning to avoid negatively impacting road use and safety. The TMC will report to the DM.

4 Wind Farm Decommissioning Plan

4.1 Decommissioning Activities

Decommissioning options have been evaluated to determine the best environmental and engineering options. Repowering would provide the best reuse of the site at end of life and would be evaluated at that time including evaluation of the environmental impact assessment and taking into account potential changes in national objectives and policies, and County Development Plan changes.

In the case of decommissioning, a partial removal is proposed consisting of restoring the site to near predevelopment conditions and usage whilst limiting the works required.

This includes the following;

- Removal of turbines nacelles and towers. These works will operate essentially in the reverse of construction and remove the windfarm structure to ground level;
- Removal of the above ground section of the Turbine Foundation called the 'plinth' and restoration of the areas to agricultural land or suitable for forestry replanting as preferred by the landowner;
- Removal of onsite cabling but leaving the buried ducting in place to prevent the need for excessive groundworks;
- Removal and reduction of Turbine Hardstands and Access Tracks by excavation and reinstatement. Areas of access track deemed of use to the landowner for ongoing farm management will be retained with their agreement;
- Restoration of hedgerows and field boundaries where tracks have been removed and return of topsoil to hardstand areas, as determined by the landowner based on agricultural practices at the time; and
- All hedgerow restoration and other biodiversity related mitigation as identified in **Chapter 6 - Biodiversity**. Where temporary site entrances may need to be reopened to remove infrastructure these will be restored after use.

This presents the most likely scenario of removed and retained access tracks and areas, however, the exact area of track to be retained post development will be confirmed with the landowners and the Local Authority at the decommissioning phase.

4.2 Wind Turbines

Prior to any work being undertaken on wind turbines, they will be disconnected from the grid by the site operator in conjunction with ESB Networks and Eirgrid. The dismantling and

removal of wind turbines of this scale is a specialist operation which will be undertaken by the turbine supplier that completed the installation where possible. The updated DMP will clearly set out the sequence of removal. This is likely to be in reverse order of the turbine erection. Cranes of a similar size to those used for construction will be brought back to site utilising the existing Turbine Hardstand areas. The dismantling of turbines will be bound by the same safety considerations as was the case during construction outlined in **Appendix 2.1- CEMP**. The dismantling crew will work closely with the Waste Manager to ensure the turbine components are prepared properly for reuse, recycling or disposal.

The WMP (Appendix 2.1.2), utilised during the construction phase will be update and incorporated into the DMP, including any updates to relevant legislation and policy in place at that time and in a manner that avoids impacts to human health or the environment.

The turbines will most likely be removed from site in a similar manner to how they were transported to the site originally in extended articulated trucks, the details of which are assessed in **Chapter 2 – Project Description** of the EIAR. The destination of the turbines post decommissioning is unclear at this time as a re-use option may be sourced if early decommissioning occurs. Therefore, the removal of turbines from site is considered in terms of all turbine components being removed intact and as they transported to Site.

The transport of disassembled turbines from the site will be undertaken in accordance with **Appendix 2.1.3 -TMP** which will be reviewed and updated prior to decommissioning in agreement with the Local Authority. The TMP will detail how construction traffic will access and egress the wind farm Site during the decommissioning phase as well as the impact of construction related traffic on the surrounding road network during the decommissioning phase. The TMP will provide for all necessary safety measures, including a convoy and Garda escort as required, off-peak turning/reversing movements and any necessary safety controls.

4.3 Turbine Foundations

The assumption in the EIAR is that the Turbine Foundations will remain in-situ as it is considered a more environmentally sensible option as to remove the reinforced concrete associated with each turbine could result in environmental nuisances such as noise, vibration and dust. The plinth projecting above ground will be removed using a rock breaker or similar and an excavator. The six turbine foundations will then be backfilled and covered with soil material and graded with the remaining area to the proposed restoration level (**Planning Drawings 23604-250– Part 1**)

The lands will be left in a prepared state for the landowner to seed, plant forestry or undertake alternate activities. The reuse for forestry or agriculture will accelerate the resumption of the

natural drainage management that will have existed prior to any construction. (Planning Drawings 23604-270 (Part 1)).

4.4 Internal Access tracks and Turbine Hardstands

Site Access Tracks and associated drainage will serve the ongoing forestry and farming practices in the area. All other hard surfaced areas such as the Turbine Hardstands will be covered by earth and reseeded/replanted as agreed at the time with the landowners and the Local Authority.

Once the site infrastructure is covered by earth it will be graded with topsoil to the agreed ground levels. At that point the site will be returned to the landowner. It is anticipated that the landowner is most likely to seek the return of the area to agricultural use, or alternatively, to replant it for forestry purposes.

4.5 Wind Farm Internal Cabling

It is intended that the electrical and fibre optic cabling between the turbines and the Onsite Substation will be removed from the cable ducting during decommissioning. The cabling will be pulled from the cable duct using a mechanical winch which will extract the cable and re-roll it on to a cable drum and recycled.

As outlined in Section 2.3 and 2.4, it is anticipated that the Onsite Substation will remain in use as part of the ESB network, the Grid Connection Route connecting it to the Sliabh Bawn 110 kV substation will also be retained.

4.6 Decommissioning Transport Delivery Route

During the construction of the proposed Project, localised temporary widening and stoning of public road verges and roundabouts will be required on the TDR to facilitate abnormal load vehicle wheel over-run to the Site. For decommissioning it is anticipated that the decommissioned tower and turbine component removal can be made in smaller sections to reduce the need for such works. The final delivery point for any such components will be determined at the time of decommissioning. The **TMP (Appendix 2.1.3)** will be updated if required to a Decommissioning Traffic Management Plan which will be prepared and submitted to the Local Authority for approval and will be discussed and agreed upon with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). Temporary site entrances and access from construction phase may need to be reinstated onsite for decommissioning to facilitate plant and material removal. (**Appendix 2.1 - CEMP**)

4.7 Communication Relay Tower

As outlined in Section 2.4 the proposed telecommunication Relay Tower will be retained onsite after the project decommissioning date is reached, the tower and the associated installed telecommunication equipment will be operated and the responsibility of the telecommunication operator. The Relay Tower is not proposed to be decommissioned and will remain in place as it will form part of the telecommunication network in the area. In the event it is required to be removed, this would be subject to a separate DMP as the infrastructure in the mast will be third party owned and operated.

4.8 Post Decommissioning End Land Use

The lands will be left in a prepared state for the landowner to return land to predevelopment usage or to seed, plant forestry or undertake alternate activities, as they will determine. The lands will be left in a prepared state for the landowner to seed, plant forestry or undertake alternate activities. The reuse for forestry or agriculture will accelerate the resumption of the natural drainage management that will have existed prior to any construction. Please refer to the Decommissioning Reinstatement Plan drawings that have been prepared for the proposed Project, outlining how the Site shall be reinstated at the end of use (Refer to **Planning Drawings 23604- 271 to 278**).

5 Environmental Management

The following sections give an overview of the key environmental management considerations in decommissioning.

All management aspects and controls from the **Appendix 2.1 - CEMP** will be used by the decommissioning contractors as the framework for the finalisation of the Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan, which will accompany the updated version of this plan at the time of decommissioning and be presented to the Local Authority prior to decommissioning works.

It is anticipated that all controls, management and monitoring as implemented through the construction phase and instigated via the **CEMP (Appendix 2.1)** updated and provided as part of this DMP as a Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (DEMP).

Key aspects of the decommissioning are summarised in the following sections, specifically dust and noise control measures, drainage design, and waste management plan considerations for the site decommissioning and the implementation of the environmental management procedures for the site.

5.1 Dust Control

Prior to commencement of decommissioning activities, the DMP will be updated and agreed with the Local Authority to control Dust emissions. Dust can be generated from on-site activities during decommissioning such as backfilling of foundations and travelling on site roads during prolonged periods of dry weather and earthworks related to hardstand and foundation removal. The extent of dust generation will depend on the type of activity undertaken, the location, the nature of the dust, i.e. soil, and the weather. In addition, dust dispersion is influenced by external factors such as wind speed and direction and/or, periods of dry weather. Site traffic movements also have the potential to generate dust as they travel along the haul route.

Proposed measures to control dust include:

- Ensuring transport of materials to and from the site will take place in normal working hours and along routes agreed with Roscommon County Council
- Ensuring where necessary lorries accessing and egressing the facility will be covered.
- Restricting vehicle speeds on unfinished surfaces and access tracks.
- Routinely maintaining vehicles to minimise vehicular emissions.

- Dampening access tracks and site roads using water bowsers during prolonged dry periods if necessary.
- Storing and handling dusty materials such as excavated materials appropriately (e.g. covering where necessary and minimising the drop heights of materials).
- Materials likely to be a source of dust will be transported in an appropriate manner (e.g. covering of load).
- Using suitable hoardings at construction site to prevent wind blow of materials.
- Incorporation of appropriate dust monitoring into site management practices.
- Ensuring timely completion of all decommissioning works.
- Regular on-site inspections by the site management team;
- Review of the statement at regular intervals and update as required;
- Review of requirements with site personnel during Toolbox Talks and Site Meetings;
- In any conditions reported as over Force 5 on the Beaufort Scale, potential dust generating activities will be suspended by the site manager until more clement conditions suitable for the works are present on site.

5.2 Noise and Vibration

The operation of plant and machinery, including site vehicles, is a source of potential impact that will require mitigation at all locations within the site. Working hours will be adhered to within normal working hour periods to prevent disturbance to local receptors. Proposed measures to control noise include:

- Diesel generators will be enclosed in sound proofed containers to minimise the potential for noise impacts;
- Plant and machinery with low inherent potential for generation of noise and/or vibration will be selected. All plant and equipment to be used on-site will be modern equipment and will comply with the European Communities (Construction Plant and Equipment) (Permissible Noise Levels) Regulations;
- Regular maintenance of plant will be carried out in order to minimise noise emissions. Particular attention will be paid to the lubrication of bearings and the integrity of silencers;
- All vehicles and mechanical plant will be fitted with effective exhaust silencers and maintained in good working order for the duration of the works;
- Compressors will be of the “sound reduced” models fitted with properly lined and sealed acoustic covers which will be kept closed whenever the machines are in use and all ancillary pneumatic tools shall be fitted with suitable silencers;

- Machines, which are used intermittently, will be shut down during those periods when they are not in use;
- Training will be provided by the Site Manager to drivers to ensure smooth machinery operation/driving, and to minimise unnecessary noise generation;
- Local areas of the equipment transport and decommissioning routes will be condition monitored and maintained, if necessary; and
- The hours of decommissioning activity will be limited to avoid unsociable hours where possible. Operations shall generally be restricted to between 07:00hrs and 19:00hrs on weekdays and between 08:00hrs and 14:00hrs on Saturdays.

The Traffic Management Plan **TMP (Appendix 2.1.3)** controls from construction will be implemented onsite during decommissioning activities.

5.3 Site Drainage Controls

The site drainage features for this site during its construction and operation are outlined in **Chapter 8 – Water, Hydrology (Flood Risk Assessment) & Hydrology** of the EIAR and **Appendix 2.1.1 - SWMP** which accompany this application.

As this DMP is a working document, the measures identified and implemented through the **SWMP (Appendix 2.1.1)** and the drainage controls implemented in construction will be applied and maintained throughout the decommissioning phase. During the decommissioning phase of equipment and materials removal from the site, the silt management controls from the construction phase will be retained or re-implemented onsite. At the end of the process however, as part of the final levelling and land preparation phase, it is the intent that the site drainage be restored to pre-development drainage. Such decommissioning operations will be subject to a decommissioning drainage plans. The final plan will be prepared prior to decommissioning and presented as a standalone document, all drainage measures will be included in that document as required. Whilst the works will essentially undertake the construction phase surface water management measures in reverse, planning and specific protections measures may be required. It may also be more suitable to leave some drainage changes in situ after the decommissioning if they are performing better than the predevelopment situation. However, it should be noted that by the time decommissioning is undertaken, early decommissioning or after the planned 35-year lifespan of the proposed Project, the areas within the site will have revegetated resulting in a resumption of the natural drainage management that will have existed prior to any construction. It is not anticipated that the decommissioning phase will interrupt this restored drainage regime in any way with the works proposed.

5.4 Refuelling, Fuel and Hazardous Materials Storage

The plant and equipment used during decommissioning will require refuelling during the works. Appropriate management of fuels will be required to ensure that incidents relating to refuelling are avoided. The following mitigation measures are proposed to avoid release of hydrocarbons at the site:

- Road-going vehicles will be refuelled off site wherever possible;
- On-site refuelling will be carried out at designated refuelling areas at various locations throughout the site. Machinery will be refuelled directly by a fuel truck that will come to site as required;
- Only designated trained and competent operatives will be authorised to refuel plant on site. Mobile measures such as drip trays and fuel absorbent mats will be used during all refuelling operations;
- Fuel volumes stored on site should be minimised. Any fuel storage areas will be bunded appropriately;
- The plant used will be regularly inspected for leaks and fitness for purpose;
- An emergency plan for the decommissioning phase to deal with accidental spillages will be developed from the CEMP EMP (**Appendix 2.1**) Spill kits will be available to deal with and accidental spillage in and outside the refuelling area; and
- A programme for the regular inspection of plant and equipment for leaks and fitness for purpose will be developed at the outset of the decommissioning phase.

5.5 Invasive Species Management

Reusing material from within the site will be given priority for the final land profiling, however, topsoil's will need to be imported to level the removed foundation tops and other areas. **Appendix 2.1 CEMP, EMP 9 Ecological Management Plan** outlines the controls required for Decommissioning, and further information is provided in **Appendix 6.10 SHMP**. The soil material that will be imported to site as part of the foundation backfilling will be free of any invasive species (listed under the Third Schedule of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011)). The site manager will take steps to ensure the sourcing of suitably clean material is undertaken as well as verify the quality of the material by having it inspected prior to its arrival on site, by a suitably qualified ecologist. Prior to decommissioning, a suitably qualified ecologist will complete an invasive species survey. The invasive species survey will include the site itself to ensure it is free from invasive species. Invasive Species controls as outlined in **Chapter 6 - Biodiversity** of the EIAR and the **SHMP (EIAR Volume 3 Appendix 6.10)** will be implemented throughout decommissioning.

5.6 Archaeology and Heritage Management

Prior to decommissioning an Archaeological Assessment of the site will be undertaken by a qualified surveyor to determine the risk throughout decommissioning. Whilst risk at decommissioning is minimal, **Appendix 2.1 CEMP, EMP 10 Archaeology and Heritage Protection Plan** will be undertaken through decommissioning phase. An Archaeological Chance Finds protocol will be in place through the removal of hardstand areas etc. Whilst the risks of archaeology occurring onsite at decommissioning phase are extremely small, the DMP will include the conclusions of the specialist's report, acknowledging the potential for the understanding of the sites historic usage to have been updated in the intervening operational period and to account for any chance finds recorded through the construction or operational period.

5.7 Traffic Management

The **TMP** has been prepared for the project and is included in **Appendix 2.1.3**. The management of traffic for decommissioning will be subject to the same controls as construction. The TMP maybe revised for decommissioning should the road or site conditions have significantly changed over the operational period. The removal of turbines from site will be undertaken by a specialist haulier. The traffic management arrangements although similar to that implemented for turbine delivery as outlined in the EIAR will be agreed in advance of decommissioning with the competent authority. It is likely that the component removal may be possible utilizing more standard HGVs than for component delivery due to advances in turbine sectioning and folding as part of the decommissioning process.

For the purposes of the DMP and decommissioning impact assessment it is assumed that the turbines are removed as complete units, and as such the anticipation is that they will utilize the TDR from construction to be transported to a suitable location for recycling or reuse.

Where grid connection decommissioning works are anticipated, the contractor will schedule and phase these works accordingly to ensure that these works do not coincide with turbine component transport from site and thus reduce the impact of concurrent construction specific to the wind farm. These will be subject to Local Authority permitting at the time of decommissioning.

5.8 Waste Management

During the decommissioning phase the **WMP (Appendix 2.1.2)** which outlines the best practice procedures during the construction and operation of the wind farm will be revised to expand the current decommissioning WMP information with detailed contractor information for the proposed Project. The WMP outlines the methods of waste prevention and minimisation

by recycling, recovery and reuse at each stage of the Project including decommissioning. Disposal of waste will be seen as a last resort.

5.8.1 Legislation

The Waste Management Act 1996 and its subsequent amendments provide for measures to improve performance in relation to waste management, recycling and recovery. The Act also provides a regulatory framework for meeting higher environmental standards set out by other national and EU legislation.

The Act requires that any waste related activity has to have all necessary licenses and authorisations. It will be the duty of the Waste Manager on the site of the Ballyfeeny wind farm development to ensure that all contractors hired to remove waste from the site have valid Waste Collection Permits. It will then be necessary to ensure that the waste is delivered to a licensed or permitted waste facility. The hired waste contractors and subsequent receiving facilities must adhere to the conditions set out in their respective permits and authorisations.

The Department of the Environment provides a document entitled, '*Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects*' (2006). It is important to emphasise that no demolition will take place at this site, however, this document was referred to throughout the process of completing the **Appendix 2.1.2 – WMP**.

Waste Management Hierarchy

The waste management plan outlines the hierarchy of the most efficient way of managing in the following order:

Prevention and Minimisation

The primary aim of the WMP will be to prevent and thereby reduce the amount of waste generated at each stage of the project.

Reuse of Waste

Reusing as much of the waste generated on site as possible will reduce the quantities of waste that will have to be transported off site to recovery facilities or landfill.

Recycling of Waste

There are a number of established markets available for the beneficial use of Construction and Demolition waste such as using waste concrete as fill for new roads.

At all times during the implementation of the WMP, disposal of waste to landfill will be considered only as a last resort.

Waste Arising from Decommissioning

The relevant components will be removed from site for re-use, recycling or waste disposal. Any structural elements that are not suitable for recycling will be disposed of in an appropriate manner. All lubrication fluids will be drained down and put aside for appropriate collection, storage, transport and disposal. Any materials which cannot be re-used or recycled will be disposed of by an appropriately licenced contractor.

The waste types arising from the decommissioning of the Ballyfeeny Green Energy Project are outlined in **Table 3-1 (Appendix 2.1.2 – WMP)**.

Table 3-1: Expected waste types arising during the Decommissioning Phase

Material Type	Example	EWCC Code
Cables	Electrical wiring	17 04 11
Metals	Copper, aluminium, lead and iron	17 04 07
Fibreglass	Turbine blade component	10 11 03
Hydrocarbons	Oils and lubricants drained from the turbines	13 01 01, 13 02 04
Construction and demolition waste	Concrete hardcore and building materials	<i>Proposed reuse under Article 27</i>

The **Appendix 2.1.2 – WMP** outlines the requirement segregation and management of the waste materials

Reuse

Many construction materials can be reused a number of times before they have to be disposed of:

- Electrical wiring can be reused on similar wind energy projects;
- Elements of the turbine components can be reused but this will be determined by the condition that they are as well as when decommissioning actually takes place; and
- Clean construction byproducts such as recovered hard core from hardstands and access tracks can be reused on other projects. Construction and demolition waste included removed concrete can also be used on other sites or as infill for other projects.

Where possible material will be prioritised for reuse, with priority given for any potential localised reuse of materials.

Recycling

If a certain type of construction material cannot be reused onsite, then recycling is the most suitable option. The opportunity for recycling during decommissioning will be limited and restricted to components of the wind turbines.

All waste that is produced during the decommissioning phase including dry recyclables will be deposited in the on-site skip initially and sent for subsequent segregation at a remote facility. The anticipated volume of all waste material to be generated at the Ballyfeeny Green Energy Project is low which provides the justification for adopting this method of waste management. It is likely that by the time of the decommissioning phase (after 35-year operations) the options for recycling and reuse of wind farm materials will be more prevalent than in the current market.

5.9 Monitoring and Reporting

The Site Environmental manager and ECoW will be responsible for ensuring that the environmental monitoring and reporting requirements as outlined in the CEMP are implemented in the DMP.

All CEMP controls and monitoring are required during the decommissioning process.

6 Response Plans

An **Emergency Response Plan (CEMP EMP 11)** is presented in **Appendix 2.1 CEMP**. It provides details of procedures to be adopted in the event of an emergency in terms of site health and safety and environmental protection.

In order to establish the type and scale of potential emergencies that may occur specific to the decommissioning phase, the following hazards have been identified as being potential situations that may require an emergency response in the event of an occurrence.

Table 4-1 Hazards associated with potential emergency situations

Hazard	Emergency Situation
Construction Vehicles: Dump trucks, tractors, excavators, cranes etc.	Collision or overturn which has resulted in operator or third-party injury.
Abrasive wheels/Portable Tools	Entanglement, amputation or electrical shock associated with portable tools
Contact with services	Electrical shock or gas leak associated with an accidental breach of underground services
Fire	Injury to operative through exposure to fire
Falls from heights including falls from scaffold towers, scissor lifts, ladders, roofs and turbines	Injury to operative after a fall from a height
Sickness / Illness / Medical Emergency	Illness unrelated to site activities of an operative e.g. heart attack, loss of consciousness, seizure
Turbine Specific Incident	This will be included the turbine manufacturers' emergency response plan.

In the event of an emergency situation associated with, but not restricted to, the hazards outlined in **Table 4-1** the Site Supervisor/Construction Manager will implement the ERP for the site and carry out the following:

- Establish the scale of the emergency situation and identify the number of personnel, if any, have been injured or are at risk of injury;
- Where necessary, sound the emergency siren/fog-horn that activates an emergency evacuation on the site. The Site Supervisor/Construction Manager must proceed to the assembly point if the emergency poses any significant threat to their welfare and if there are no injured personnel at the scene that require assistance. The Site Supervisor/Construction Manager will be required to use their own discretion at that point. In the case of fire, the emergency evacuation of the site should proceed, without exception;
- Make safe the area if possible and ensure that there is no identifiable risk exists with regard to dealing with the situation e.g. if a machine has turned over, ensure that it is in a safe position so as not to endanger others before assisting the injured.

- Contact the required emergency services or delegate the task to someone. If delegating the task, ensure that the procedures for contacting the emergency services;
- Take any further steps that are deemed necessary to make safe or contain the emergency incident e.g. cordon off an area where an incident associated with electrical issues has occurred; and
- Contact any regulatory body or service provider as required e.g. ESB Networks the numbers for which as provided in **Table 4.2** and in the **ERP 11 (Appendix 2.1-CEMP)**.

All personnel will be made aware of the evacuation procedure during site induction. The Fire Services Acts of 1981 and 2003 require the holding of fire safety evacuation drills at specified intervals and the keeping of records of such drills.

6.1 Spill Control Measures

Planning and protection measures to prevent environmental incident during the decommissioning phase of the project will be implemented. The Surface Water Management Plan and the CEMP both outline spill protection measures required onsite and those measures are required to be implemented during decommissioning. Oil/fuel spillages are one of the main environmental risks that will exist on the site which will require an emergency response procedure. Sediment spill can also have a detrimental effect to water quality and ecology. The importance of a swift and effective response in the event of such an incident occurring cannot be over emphasised. The following steps provide the procedure to be followed in the event of such an incident:

- Stop the source of the spill and raise the alarm to alert people working in the vicinity of any potential dangers.
- If applicable, eliminate any sources of ignition in the immediate vicinity of the incident.
- Contain the spill using the spill control materials, track mats or other material as required. Do not spread or flush away the spill.
- If possible, cover or bund off any vulnerable areas where appropriate such as drains, watercourses or sensitive habitats.
- If possible, clean up as much as possible using the spill control materials.
- Contain any used spill control material and dispose of used materials appropriately using a fully licensed waste contractor with the appropriate permits so that further contamination is limited.

- Notify the ECoW immediately giving information on the location, type and extent of the spill so that they can take appropriate action.
- The ECoW will inspect the site and ensure the necessary measures are in place to contain and clean up the spill and prevent further spillage from occurring.
- The ECoW will notify the appropriate regulatory body such as The Local Authority, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), if deemed necessary.

The importance of a swift and effective response in the event of such an incident occurring cannot be over emphasised. Environmental incidents are not limited to just fuel spillages. Therefore, any environmental incident must be investigated in accordance with the following steps.

- The ECoW must be immediately notified.
- The Site environmental manager must be immediately notified following the ECoW
- If necessary, the ECoW will inform the appropriate regulatory authority. The appropriate regulatory authority will depend on the nature of the incident.
- The details of the incident will be recorded on an Environmental Incident Form which will provide information such as the cause, extent, actions and remedial measures used following the incident. The form will also include any recommendations made to avoid reoccurrence of the incident.
- If the incident has impacted on a sensitive receptor such as an archaeological feature the ECoW will liaise with the Project Archaeologist.

A record of all environmental incidents will be kept on file by the ECoW and the Main Contractor. These records will be made available to the relevant authorities such as Roscommon County Council, EPA if required.

The ECoW will be responsible for any corrective actions required as a result of the incident e.g. an investigative report, formulation of alternative works methodologies or environmental sampling, and will advise the Main Contractor as appropriate.

Due to the remoteness of the Site, it may be necessary to liaise with the emergency services on the ground in terms of locating the site. This may involve providing an escort from a designated meeting point that may be located more easily by the emergency services. This should form part of the site induction to make new personnel and sub-contractors aware of any such arrangement or requirement if applicable.

6.1.1 Emergency Contact Details

A list of emergency contacts is presented in **Table 4-2**. A copy of these contacts will be included in the Site Safety Manual and in the site offices and the various site welfare facilities.

The table will be updated prior to the decommissioning phase to ensure that the correct and current numbers are available for the staff onsite. An indicative list of contacts and their current numbers is provided for information.

Table 4-2 Emergency Contacts

Contact	Telephone no.
Emergency Services – Ambulance, Fire, Gardaí	999/112
Local Hospital – Roscommon Hospital	090 662 6200
Midlands Regional Hospital (24hr emergency)	057 9321501
ESB Emergency Services	1850 372 999
Gas Networks Ireland Emergency	1850 20 50 50
Health and Safety Co-ordinator - Health & Safety Services	TBC
Health and Safety Authority	1890 289 389
Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI)	1890 347 424
Project Supervisor Construction Stage (PSCS): TBC	TBC
Project Supervisor Design Stage (PSDS): TBC	TBC
Ballyfeeny Green Energy	TBC
Decommissioning Manager	TBC

6.1.2 Procedure for Personnel Tracking

All operatives, contractors and client staff on site without any exception will have to undergo a site induction where they will be required to provide personal contact details which will include contact information for the next of kin.

In the event of a site operative becoming an emergency situation where serious injury has occurred and hospitalisation has taken place, it will be the responsibility of the Site Manager or next in command if unavailable to contact the next of kin to inform them of the situation that exists.

6.1.3 Induction Checklist

A number of items are highlighted in **CEMP** and **EMP 12 (Appendix 2.1)** which must be included or obtained during the mandatory site induction of all personnel that will work on the site for decommissioning. This will be updated prior to the decommissioning phase and included in the DMP.

7 Programme of Works

7.1 Decommissioning Schedule

The decommissioning phase will take approximately 3 – 6 months to complete from commencing the removal of turbines to the final reinstatement of the site. In the case of non-sequential works, decommissioning will be completed within a 12 month period

At this time, it is not possible to determine when decommissioning will take place as it is planned approximately 35 years from commissioning. A programme of works will be submitted to the Local Authority with an updated copy of the DMP prior to the commencement of works.

8 Mitigation Proposal

All mitigation measures relating to the construction and operational phases of the Project were set out in the various sections of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) which accompanies this application.

Chapter 18 – Schedule of Mitigation and Monitoring of the EIAR summarises the mitigation measures required for the project as identified through the EIAR process which are to be included in the DEMP and implemented for the decommissioning phase.

9 Monitoring Proposal

All environmental monitoring relating to the construction and operational phases of the Project were set out in the various sections of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) which accompanies this application.

Chapter 18 – Schedule of Mitigation and Monitoring of the EIAR summarises the mitigation measures required for the project as identified through the EIAR process which are to be included in the DEMP and implemented for the decommissioning phase.

10 Compliance and Review

10.1 Inspections and audits

10.1.1 Site inspections and Environmental Audits

Routine inspections of decommissioning activities will be carried out on a daily and weekly basis by the ECoW and the Decommissioning Manager to ensure all controls to prevent environmental impacts, relevant to the decommissioning activities taking place at the time, are in place.

Environmental inspections will ensure that the works are undertaken in compliance with this Decommissioning Management Plan and the EIAR and all other planning application documents. Only suitably trained staff will undertake environmental site inspections. A summary of Site inspection and Audit requirements is outlined in **Chapter 18 Summary of Mitigation and Monitoring**.

10.1.2 Decommissioning Auditing

A Decommissioning Environmental audit will first be carried out prior to the decommissioning phase of the Project to ensure the construction and/or operational phase mitigation measures that are still in place as required are adequate. Further environmental audits will be carried out on a monthly basis during the decommissioning phase of the Project and on completion of the decommissioning works.

In contrast to monitoring and inspection activities, audits are designed to shed light on the underlying causes of non-compliance and not merely detect the non-compliance itself. In addition, audits are the main means by which system and performance improvement opportunities may be identified.

Environmental audits will be carried out by the ECoW on behalf of the appointed contractor. It is important that an impartial and objective approach is adopted. Environmental audits will be conducted at planned intervals to determine whether the Decommissioning Management Plan is being properly implemented and maintained. The results of environmental audits will be provided to project management personnel.

10.2 Environmental Compliance

The following definitions shall apply in relation to the classification of Environmental Occurrences during the decommissioning of the proposed Project.

Environmental Near Miss: An occurrence which if not controlled or due to its nature could lead to an Environmental Incident.

Environmental Incident: Any occurrence which has potential, due to its scale and nature, to migrate from source and have an environmental impact beyond the site boundary.

Environmental Exceedance Event: An environmental exceedance event occurs when monitoring results indicate that limits for a particular environmental parameter (as indicated in the Environmental Monitoring Programme) has been exceeded.

An exceedance will immediately trigger an investigation into the reason for the exceedance occurring and the application of suitable mitigation where necessary.

Exceedance events can be closed out on achieving a monitoring result below the assigned limit for a particular environmental parameter.

Environmental Non-Compliance: Non-fulfilment of a requirement and includes any deviations from established procedures, programs and other arrangements related to the Decommissioning Plan.

10.3 Corrective Action Procedure

A corrective action is implemented to rectify an environmental problem on-site. Corrective actions will be implemented by the Site Supervisor/Construction Manager, as advised by the Site Environmental Clerk of Works. Corrective actions may be required as a result of the following;

- Environmental Audits;
- Environmental Inspections and Reviews;
- Environmental Monitoring;
- Environmental Incidents; and
- Environmental Complaints or Public Complaints.

A Corrective Action Notice will be used to communicate the details of the action required to the main contractor. A Corrective Action Notice is a form that describes the cause and effect of an environmental problem on site and the recommended corrective action that is required. The Corrective Action Notice, when completed, will include details of close out and follow up actions.

If an environmental problem occurs on site that requires immediate attention direct communications between the site supervisor/construction manager and the ECoW will be conducted. This in turn will be passed down to the site staff involved. A Corrective Action Notice will be completed at a later date.

11 Decommissioning Phase Plan Review

This DMP will be updated and reviewed 3 to 5 years prior to commencement of decommissioning and at least 3 months prior to the scheduling of any decommissioning activities. In the event of future site changes, repowering and associated Planning Consents etc, the DMP may be revised and updated in the interim, as required.

12 References

- Centre for Rural Affairs 2024 Decommissioning Wind Energy Systems Resource Guide CFRA Nebraska
- IWEA (2019) A Guide to Repowering in Ireland <https://windenergyireland.com/images/files/repoweringiges.pdf>
- Scottish Natural Heritage (2013) Research and guidance on restoration and decommissioning of onshore wind farms. (Online) Available: SNH Commissioned Report 591: Research and guidance on restoration and decommissioning of onshore wind farms Accessed: 01/06/25
- Wind Europe 2020 Decommissioning of Onshore Wind Turbines Industry Guidance Document (Online Available) Accessed 01/06/2025
- WIND Exchange (Website accessed 02/2025) <https://windexchange.energy.gov/end-of-service-guide> published as U.S. Department of Energy. 2023. "Wind Energy End-of-Service Guide" Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Wind Energy Technologies Office.