



Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

NOTICE OF SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA IN RESPECT OF AN OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY PROJECT UNDER REFERENCE NUMBER ABP- ABP-319799-24

Louth County Council

In accordance with sub-section 2(b) of 292 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended, An Coimisiún Pleanála gives notice of the furnishing of significant additional information received from Oriel Windfarm Limited in relation to the following proposed development known as Oriel Wind Farm.

The proposed development is located in the following Townlands in Co. Louth: Dunany, Mitchelstown, Port, Nicholastown (Electoral Division of Dysart in the Barony of Ferrard), Boycetown, Togher, Clonmore, Tullydonnell, Corstown (Electoral Division of Drumcar in the Barony of Ardee), Corstown (Electoral Division of Dunleer in the Barony of Ferrard), Drumcar, Mullincross, Charleville, Dromgoolestown, Richardstown (Electoral Division of Stabannan in the Barony of Ardee), Harristown and Stickillin.

The proposed development consists of the following principal elements:

- A. Offshore renewable energy infrastructure in the outer maritime area located between approximately 6 km south of Cooley Point and approximately 10 km north-east of Dunany Point across an offshore wind farm area of approximately 27.7 km² and consisting of the following:
 - i. 25 No. offshore wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 270 m above the Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT) attached to the seabed by monopile foundations with associated scour protection and with a combined Maximum Export Capacity of 375 MW.
 - ii. A network of 41 km of 66 kV subsea inter-array cables linking each of the proposed offshore wind turbines to the offshore substation including associated cable protection.
 - iii. 1 No. offshore substation with a height of 48 m above LAT attached to the seabed by a monopile foundation with associated scour protection. This includes a prefabricated structure containing electrical equipment and ancillary equipment including a telecommunications mast.
- B. A single 16 km long 220 kV subsea export cable and associated cable protection located within an offshore cable corridor of approximately 25 km² between the south-west corner of the offshore wind farm area and a landfall which is situated approximately 700 m south of Dunany Point.
- C. An underground Transition Joint Bay (TJB) at the proposed landfall in the townland of Dunany. The TJB consists of a fully buried concrete chamber with a total area of 32.5 m², where the proposed offshore export cable will be connected to the underground onshore export cables.
- D. Installation of underground onshore export cables, approximately 20.1 km in length, connecting the proposed TJB in the townland of Dunany to the proposed onshore substation in the townland of Stickillin. The cables will be laid in a standard trench of approximately 700 mm in width and 1425 mm in depth.
- E. Installation of fibre optic, telecommunication and other associated cabling all carried in underground ducts within the proposed trench.
- F. Installation of 2 No. additional fibre optic cable ducts within the underground cable trench of approximately 1500 mm in width, from the proposed onshore substation in the townland of Stickillin along the N33 for approximately 3 km and connection into a 110 kV double wooden poleset on the existing Drybridge-Louth 110kV overhead line in the townland of Richardstown, (Electoral Division of Stabannan).
- G. Installation of the cables will require associated joint bays and link boxes, located at approximately 700 m intervals along the underground cable alignment. The cable installation will also require the construction of temporary passing bays and the use of either Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) or open cut construction techniques for utility crossings of water, rail, gas and motorway.
- H. A new onshore electricity substation adjacent to the proposed connection point in the townland of Stickillin. The onshore substation will comprise of the following main elements:
 - i. Compound 1 Onshore Transmission Connection comprising:
 - 220 kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) equipment contained within a building of approximately 20 m x 60 m and a height of 17 m.
 - 6 No. lightning protection poles of approximately 3 m in height located on the parapet of the GIS building.
 - A lattice steel telecommunications mast of 36 m in height.
 - 5 No. associated car parking spaces, an internal access road 5 m in width and a house transformer.
 - ii. Compound 2 Offshore Transmission System comprising:
 - 220 kV Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) equipment at an approximate height of 10 m, including a transformer bay, 2 No. harmonic filter bays, shunt reactor bay, 2 No. cable bays, 220 kV busbar, and ancillary control equipment.
 - A control building of 34 m x 10 m and a height of 11 m with up to 6 No. lightning protection poles of approximately 3 m in height located on the parapet of the building.
 - A statcom building of 14 m x 28 m and a height of 10 m with associated ancillary equipment.
 - 12 No. lightning protection poles of approximately 20 m in height will be placed within the compound. It will include a lattice steel telecommunications mast of approximately 36 m in height, standby diesel generator and a house transformer.
 - 4 No. associated car parking spaces and an internal access road 5 m in width.

iii. Entrance Compound providing access to Compound 1 and Compound 2 and including:

- A telecommunications building of 15 m x 4 m and a height of 4 m.
- A standby diesel generator and 1 no car parking space.

iv. Common Areas:

- All compounds will be bounded by a 2.6 m high green palisade security fence / gates.
- The existing entrance will be widened to 6 m in width.
- 1.4 m high property fence / gates will surround the site.
- All associated landscaping.
- All other associated site development works such as surface water infrastructure and attenuation tanks to facilitate development.

- I. 2 No. line cable interface masts of 27 m in height will be constructed adjacent to the onshore substation. This will require an existing 220 kV tower (31 m in height) and associated infrastructure to be decommissioned.
- J. A temporary construction compound adjacent to the onshore substation with a footprint of approximately 12,850 m² including welfare and storage areas. 3 No. additional temporary construction compounds located along the onshore cable route varying in footprint from 3,000 m² to 4,200 m² and 8 No. temporary HDD compounds (4 off road HDD's) varying in footprint from 100 m² to 4,500 m².
- K. All associated and ancillary above and below ground development including works comprising or relating to construction works, roadworks, excavation (including HDD) and vegetation clearance.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) were submitted as part of this application.

A separate 'Dumping at Sea Permit' application will be made to the Environmental Protection Agency to regulate the dumping of any materials at sea. We confirm that certain details of the proposed development are unconfirmed and that an opinion on unconfirmed details accompanies the planning application.

The significant additional information including an EIAR addendum and a NIS addendum will be available for inspection free of charge or purchased upon payment of a specified fee (which fee shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making a copy), during public opening hours for a period of 8 weeks commencing on the **18 March 2026** at the following locations:

The Offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1

The Planning Office of Louth County Council, Town Hall, Crowe Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 W20C

The documentation will be made available for viewing/downloading on the Commission's website <https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/case/319799>

The documentation may also be viewed/downloaded on the following website: www.orielwindfarm-marineplanning.ie

Submissions or observations in relation to the significant additional information may be made only to An Coimisiún Pleanála (The Commission), 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 in writing or online at www.pleanala.ie during the above-mentioned period of eight weeks relating to:

- (i) the implications of the proposed development for maritime spatial planning,
- (ii) the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and
- (iii) the likely effects on the environment or any European site of the proposed development, if carried out.

Any submissions/observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies). There is no fee required to make a submission in relation to those parties/individuals who have already made a valid written submission to the Commission regarding the application. Submissions or observations must be received by the Commission no later than **13 May, 2026**. Such submissions/observations must also include the following information:

- (a) the name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the submission or observation should be sent;
- (b) the subject matter of the submission or observation;
- (c) the reasons, consideration and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full.

Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Commission.

Any enquiries relating to the significant additional information should be directed to the Marine Section of An Coimisiún Pleanála (Tel: 01 8588100)

A person may question the validity of any such decision by the Commission by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986), in accordance with section 50 and 50A of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed on the An Coimisiún Pleanála website (www.pleanala.ie) or on the Citizens Information Service website www.citizensinformation.ie