

An Coimisiún Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1

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28 JUL 2026	
Fee: €	Type: _____
Time: 9:15	By: <i>Perri</i>

Re: Case Number ABP – 319864 - 24
Proposed Offshore Wind Energy Development
Sure Partners - Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2

Dated: 26/07/2026

Submission By:

Name: Francis Perri

Address: 16 Cornagower Park, Brittas Bay, Co. Wicklow, A67 A389

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Further to my original objection / observations of 07/08/2024

Observations:

Having read the latest published additional information regarding this development, I wish to reiterate and add to the points of my observation of 07/08/2024, opposing the Direct Planning Application submitted by Sure and Partners (SSE Renewables) for permission for development of an Offshore Infrastructure for the Arklow Bank Wind Park 2 to be located on the Arklow sandbank.

I broadly support well considered off shore wind parks, but not near shore projects (i.e. less than 22km from shoreline) due to associated environmental consequences and risk.

I still believe that this project of vast scale is way too big and too close to shore, and not located on an environmentally suitable site, most likely chosen as an opportunistic developer convenience, and with construction and operation cost aspect a forefront consideration overshadowing any meaningful environmental consideration of its location.

My opinion is that the development application is fundamentally flawed, and I object to its planning on the following basis:

1. As stated above I object to the overwhelming size and scale of the project, to include number and coastal span of turbines, and turbine colossal size.
2. My understanding is that alternative location potential should have formed part of this planning application.
3. My understanding is that the proposed development is in breach of best practice EU guidelines regarding offshore minimum distance of 22km from shore. If this is true then on this basis alone the development should be rejected in its current format.

4. My understanding is that the technology exists to locate at a greater distance from shore, whether using fixed or floating base. I reject any assertion from the developer as recently noted in media that the location proposed is the only available viable option. It is likely simply the most convenient and cost effective for the developer. Having worked in construction for many years I have had much experience of these types of deliberations.

5. The development appears on the face of it to be developer led, taking advantage of current climate concern atmosphere, and is a gross overreaction causing greater potential environmental damage than benefit.

I postulate that profit is the main consideration for the developer in this case, as opposed to any possible altruistic climate narrative presented, and that greed is the main factor driving this over development on an inappropriate location which I hesitate to call a site as that is not what a sand bank protecting a coastline should be considered.

6. My understanding is that the Arklow Sandbank both protects the associated parallel coastline from erosion (a real and measurable already existing concern) and provides sand replenishment to Arklow / Wicklow beaches, including Brittas Bay. This is obviously of great concern as the proposed development will materially alter the sandbank, potentially detrimentally having an accelerated affect on erosion, and beach presence and quality. This could also have a real material effect on homes located close to the beach and sand dunes over time.

7. I strongly object on the basis of the developments potential onerous affect on our beach amenity, enjoyed by many, both residents and tourists for many years. My opinion is that this has not been realistically considered as part of this proposed development.

Its potential negative effect on tourism and local business should not be underestimated.

8. In addition to my original observation, I submit that potential affect on Brittas Bay Beach use as a Film location has not been considered. Many movies and television shows have made use of the beach for this purpose over decades, and this may become impossible due to wind turbine presence and construction phase of the same.

This is another negative potential effect of this gross overdevelopment.

9. My understanding is that should power cables associated with the development ever be damaged / exposed, this could have a catastrophic potential affect on swimmer safety. I don't pretend to be an expert in this regard, however basic online searches note this possibility. Electric and magnetic fields associated with development cables may constitute a risk to public safety, and particularly given that this development location is in a significant tourist / beach location.

10. Years of construction may cause ongoing pollution, and certainly piling noise pollution. Sea water quality will inevitably be affected both during construction and potentially during ongoing operational maintenance including of cabling closer to shore, and with a resulting threat to beach blue flag status. Our and others ability to use the beach may be affected both during construction, and afterward.

11. I object on the basis of gross visual impact of this over development at its inappropriate location.

12. I am not an expert on sea life considerations, but it is my understanding that this development and particularly at the location proposed will have a substantial negative effect on local environment and sea life.

13. A small phase 1 pilot used as precedent for a massive development of this scale is absurd. Phase 1 wind bank is infinitesimal by comparison to the proposed Phase 2 development.

14. Impact on locals during construction phase of a development inappropriately close to shore and involving years of construction has not been adequately considered. There is a real potential negative effect on our property enjoyment and associated mental health both during and after construction.

15. On a personal level affect on affected local coastal property value should be considered as part of deliberations and negative effects on the local community and businesses.

16. This development has the potential to decimate all local business associated with local tourism. The presence of many mobile home parks and associated support businesses that will be affected by this development must be considered.

17. Wicklow and Wexford beaches are a well established national amenity, creating substantial tourism, vibrancy, social cohesion and positive local business. Protection of this should take precedent over developer led financially driven inappropriate development and potential associated catastrophic environmental damage.

18. I propose that this is a developer led, callous financially opportunistic inappropriate development taking advantage of a natural environmentally vital location that is currently protecting the coastline and sea life, replenishing beaches, and that should never have been considered for development of this type and scale.

My fear is that should the development in its current format go ahead, in time it will be viewed in hindsight as environmental madness, however with the damage having been done. My opinion is that in its current format it is a greedy green washed anti-environment development and should be considered so and rejected.

19. My hope is that you will consider the aforementioned concerns in your deliberations on this proposed development and planning application, and that an alternative appropriate site further out to sea of minimum 22km distance in line with EU guidelines with minimal ecological risk will be proposed, and perhaps opposite hard coastline as opposed to environmentally delicate beaches, the current proposed development directly attacking the very protection that those beaches currently enjoy.

I again ask for a pause, reflection and reimagining of the development in its current format, with its rejection as it currently stands.

Concluding note:

On a individual level, this development has the potential to affect me and my family directly, and is quite personally disturbing and upsetting. I moved my family to Brittas Bay 16 years ago on the basis of its current status, and have set down roots, worked very hard, and have raised and am continuing to raise my family here. My life labour has been invested in my home which I now consider under attack.

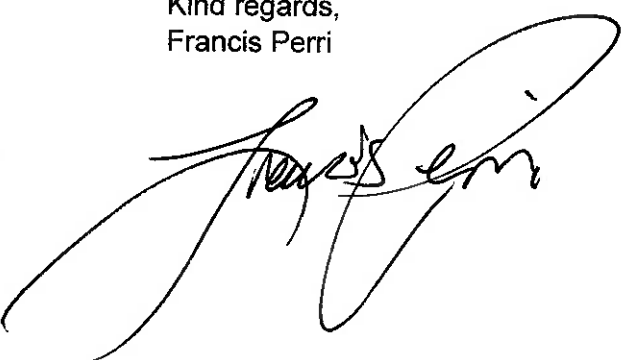
In considering this development, on a human level I would ask that you consider how you might feel about the development were it on your doorstep and with all of the aforementioned concerns and potential negative factors in mind.

Development should never be at the cost of others to this degree, and with abandon of all other concerns.

I appreciate your consideration and kindly request that this application for development at its current proposed location be refused.

Thank you.

Kind regards,
Francis Perri

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Francis Perri', with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the name.