

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

Dated: 29th July 2026

Re: Case Reference OA27-319864-24 Proposed Offshore Wind Energy Development
Sure Partners Limited - Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2

Submission By: Noel Martin

Name: Noel Martin

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I didn't learn too much at school but a particular piece of information about 'Longshore Drift' has stayed at the back of my brain for 50 years because it was so significant and made sense.

I hadn't given too much thought before about this wind park on the Arklow sandbank, but when I [recently read](#) that SSE were trying to pacify objectors to the development by reducing the no of turbines from 56 to 53 and make €400M available for community benefits, it made my blood boil as I think they are just trying to fool the general public.

Then I googled 'building an obstacle on a sandbank in the path of longshore drift causes **SEDIMENT ACCUMULATION UPSTREAM, WAVE PATTERN CHANGES, AND SEVERE EROSION DOWNSTREAM.**

I now understand the barrier blocks the moving sand, causing a large pile-up on the side where the waves and current first arrive. The sandbank grows wider and higher because it holds onto material that usually moves past. The structure can turn the sandbank into a permanent feature or connect it to form a wider bar or tombolo'.

So these are the prospects that are awaiting the Arklow Bank if these 53 turbines, each causing a pile-up of sand/silt and other marine materials that should normally be deposited on the nearshore beaches.

SSE says the additional evidence shows the effects of the proposed development on coastal erosion and seabird populations are "not significant in EIA terms".

The latest reports from SSE are full of caveats for even more research as they cannot provide certainty that the vast 27 kms of the Arklow bank will have this accumulated sand and consequently will fail to replenish sand for the adjoining beaches and coastline.

I argue that there is a significant risk, too great to ignore, that from Wicklow head to Courtown in Co Wexford will experience the greatest erosion of coastline in about 8 years after the wind park construction of 53 turbines is completed.

Then it's too late to recover. And by then, the technology will be obsolete.

Please dismiss this planning application for being misguidedly intended for a sandbank and move the much needed renewable energy wind park further off shore to 22 kms where Ireland is expected to deliver large quantities of safe, sustainable clean energy.

Please do not give planning permission for this development as presented.

Kind regards,

Noel Martin