

Community Report

Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm





DOCUMENT DETAILS

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Project Title: **Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm**

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Planning and
Environmental
Consultants

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1. INTRODUCTION

Curns Energy Ltd. intends to apply to An Bord Pleanála for planning permission, in accordance with Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), to construct a wind energy development and all associated infrastructure at Lyrenacarriga and neighbouring townlands, located in Counties Waterford and Cork.

Curns Energy is a joint venture between RWE Renewables (previously Innogy Renewables Ireland Ltd., a subsidiary of the RWE Group), one of the world's leading renewable energy companies, and Highfield Energy. MKO was appointed as environmental consultants on the proposed wind farm project and commissioned to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) which will accompany the planning application to An Bord Pleanála.

MKO was also appointed to assist the applicant in community consultation with regard to the proposed development. The objective of this consultation was to ensure that the views and concerns of the local community and residents were considered as part of the project design and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

The 'Wind Energy Development Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2006) state that:

"While it is not a mandatory requirement, it is strongly recommended that developers of a wind energy project should engage in active consultation and dialogue with the local community at an early stage in the planning process, ideally prior to submitting a planning application".

However, it is acknowledged that active consultation and dialogue with the local community from an early stage is now a vital and necessary part of any proposed wind energy development. This is reflected in the 'Review of the Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2006 – Preferred Draft Approach' (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, 2017), which state the following with respect to planning applications for wind farms:

"Planning applications must contain a Community Report prepared by the applicant which will specify how the final proposal reflects community consultation. The Community Report must also outline steps taken to ensure that the proposed development will be of enduring economic benefit to the communities concerned".

The 'Draft Revised Wind Energy Guidelines' (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, 2019) has retained this position stating the following:

"In order to promote the observance of best practice, planning authorities should require applicants to prepare and submit a Community Report with their planning application and a condition on any subsequent planning permission should require developers to carry out the development in accordance with the approved Community Report".

This Community Report provides details of the consultation that has been undertaken by the applicant in the local community with regard to the proposed Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm. It also outlines the main issues identified by the local community and how these have been considered in the final proposal along with details of the potential economic benefit of the proposed Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm for the local community.

2. CONSULTATION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

2.1 Community Consultation Team

The team which has worked within the community to consult and liaise with local residents comprises members of RWE, Highfield Energy and MKO. They are listed in Table 2-1 below.

Table 2-1 Community Consultation Team

Name	Role
RWE Renewables Ireland (previously Innogy Renewables Ireland)	
Cathal Hennessy	Managing Director (Ireland)
Cliona O'Sullivan	Head of Development (Ireland)
Charlie Langley	Project Development Manager (Ireland)
Ciara Conboy	Project Development Manager (Ireland)
Highfield Energy	
John Brennan	Project Manager
MKO	
Owen Cahill	Community Liaison Officer (CLO)
Lorraine Meehan	Project Manager
Eoin O'Sullivan	Project Manager
Michael Watson	Project Director
AstonEco Management	
John Aston	Managing Director

2.2 Initial Community Engagement

In February 2018, RWE Renewables (then Innogy Renewables Ireland) made the first contact with the local community with regard to the potential for development of a renewable energy project in the locality. RWE Renewables notified residents on a voluntary basis of the intended installation of a temporary anemometry (met) mast which was required to collect wind data as part of the feasibility assessment of the site for a potential renewable energy development. The temporary anemometry mast did not require planning permission as it was deemed exempted development under Part 1, Schedule 2, of the Planning and Development Regulations Amendment 2008, S.I. 235 of 2008.

A letter was hand delivered to all house within 1km of the proposed site boundary. This letter was accompanied by a map showing the location of the temporary anemometry mast all of which is presented in Appendix 1 of this report.

All elected local representatives in the Dungarvan – Lismore Constituency were provided with the same information by Innogy Renewables Ireland explaining the intentions of the applicant. The purpose of this was so that the elected local representatives were aware of the mast, should they receive enquiries from their constituents.

Details of the information provided to elected local representatives along with a schedule of those contacted is also provided in Appendix 1.

2.3 Consultation with Local Representative Group

During follow up calls with elected local representatives regarding the correspondence issued in respect of the temporary met mast, Innogy learned that a Local Representative Group had been formed (which subsequently became the Blackwater Wind Aware Group or BWAG) and were kindly provided contact details for the secretary of this group.

The Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm Community Liaison Officer (CLO), Owen Cahill of MKO, made contact with the secretary of the local representative group offering to engage with the group, answer questions where possible and provide any information that was available at that time. This consultation extended to the chair of this group where a list of questions were issued to Innogy Renewables Ireland and answered where possible. This consultation preceded a public information evening on the 31st of May 2018 and is summarised in the following section.

2.4 Public Information Evening

On 31st May 2018, a public information evening was held in the Knockanore Community Centre where information relating to wind energy, the proposed project and development site, along with information on the assessments which had been completed to date and were continuing at the site, was presented. Notification of this event was advertised in the local media as well as a letter drop to residents. The applicant company was represented at the event by all of those listed in Table 2-1 above (with the exception of John Aston of AstonEco Management) along with Breandan O'Laoithe, Richard Lowe and John Hoolan representing Coillte due to their role as a contributing landowner. Also present were two additional members of the Innogy Renewables team. Louise Fyfe from the Media and Communications team and Katy Woodington from the Community Investment team.

It is important to note that as part of the assessment process, MKO had completed constraints mapping of the proposed site at that time and therefore only a potential viable area for turbines had been established. Therefore, a turbine layout was not presented at this public information evening as it had not been established nor assessed on site and it would have been premature to present at such an early stage.

At the public information evening, printed copies of the maps of the proposed site location and the viable area being considered for turbines were made available for the attendees.

A sign in sheet was provided at the public information evening where attendees could sign if they wished. Not all that were in attendance signed the sheet, but based on observed footfall, it is estimated that between 150 – 200 people attended the event.

There was also an opportunity for attendees to fill out comment cards to outline any views or comments they had on the proposal. The option to include their name and contact details to facilitate follow up consultation was provided. The applicant along with the community consultation team were cognisant of all feedback and comments received at the public information evening with follow up

consultation completed where possible as part of the Stage 1 door to door consultation, as well as the responses provided to the frequently asked questions initiative summarised in Section 2.5 below.

The details of all information presented at the public information evening are included as Appendix 2 of this report.

2.5 Stage 1 Public Consultation Process

Members of the community within 2 kilometres of the proposed turbines were engaged with in a number of ways as follows:

As a follow up to the Public Information Evening, the developer in conjunction with the CLO and AstonEco continued the community consultation effort between August – October 2018. The consultation process involved an initial door to door approach to each residence in the area with a view to arranging a more formal meeting at a time that was convenient for the resident. These meetings were arranged and held where possible starting with the properties closest to the proposed site to a distance of approximately 1.5km from the proposed site as outlined in Figure 2-1. It should be noted that a third cluster of potential turbines, which has subsequently been dropped, was still under consideration at the time of this community consultation. The total number of houses within this approximate 1.5km distance band from the site is 114.

Section 3.6.2 in Chapter 3 of the EIAR provides further details on previous alternative turbine layouts that were considered at earlier stages of the project.

Table 2-2 provides a breakdown of the number of each band and the level of engagement that was undertaken.

Table 2-2 Door to Door Consultation Summary

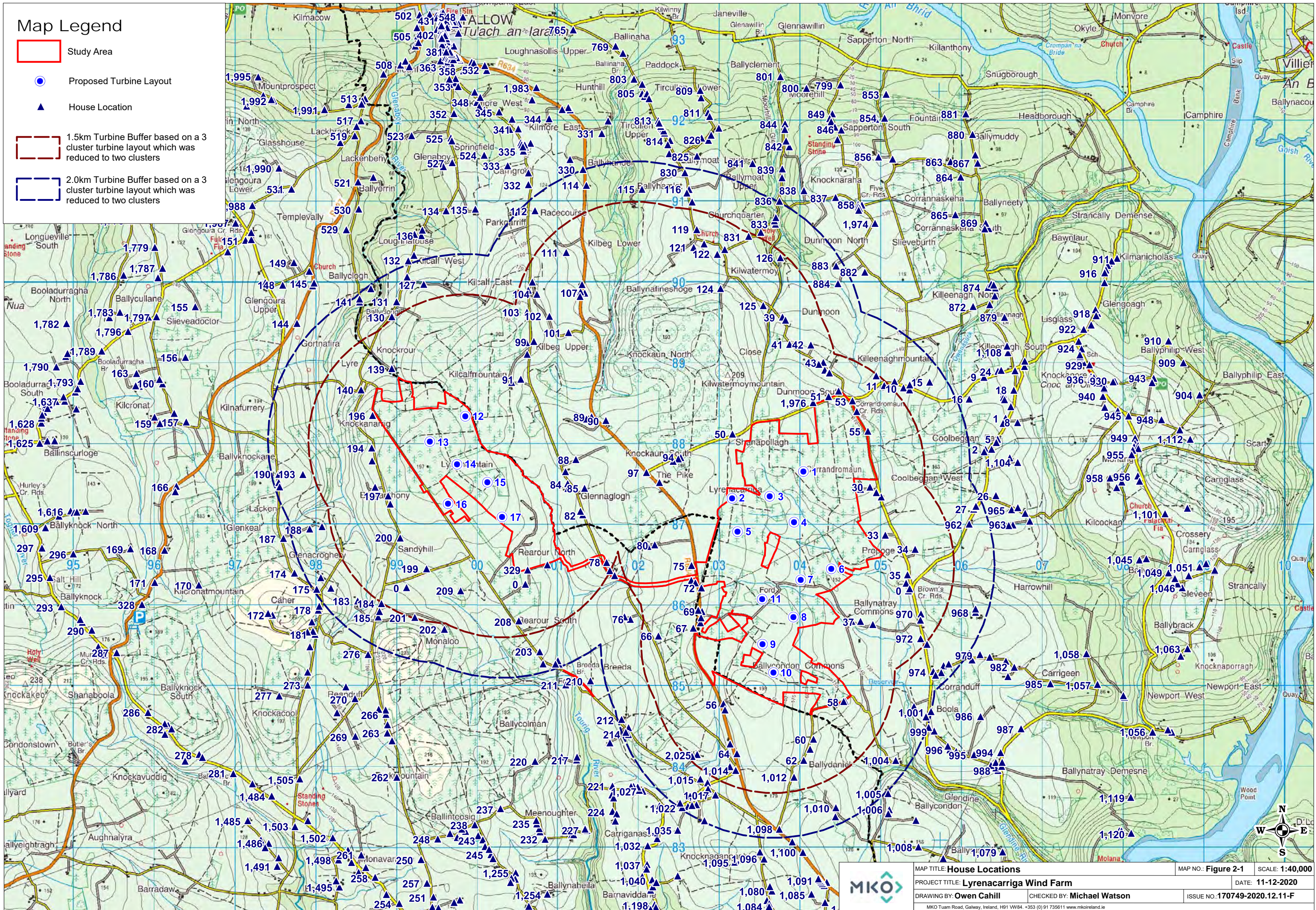
House Band: Distance from Site	Total no. of Houses	No. of Houses where a consultation was held	No. of Houses where a contact could not be made ¹	No. of Houses where the offer of a meeting was not accepted
0 – 1.0km	58	39	13	6
1.0 – 1.25km	29	12	13	4
1.25 – 1.5km	27	16	10	1

¹ No contact could be made with the occupant of a house. Contact details were left by the community liaison team but no call received from the resident

Towards the end of the Stage 1 process by which time a significant number of meetings with local residents had been held and feedback received, RWE (Innogy) issued a letter to all residents within 2km of the proposed development which is included in Appendix 3. In this letter, issued on 30th November 2018, a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) was provided outlining all the most common questions that had been asked at the public information event and during the door-to-door engagement along with common questions from experiences of similar projects to the proposed development. The recipients of these FAQs were invited to add any further question that they had on the project all of which would be taken into consideration with a comprehensive response to be provided to these FAQs thereafter. Contact details circulated for the project team in this letter drop enabled further houses between the 1.5km and 2km radius of the 2 clusters to discuss the project over the phone, by email or with one-to-one meetings

Map Legend

- Study Area
- Proposed Turbine Layout
- ▲ House Location
- 1.5km Turbine Buffer based on a 3 cluster turbine layout which was reduced to two clusters
- 2.0km Turbine Buffer based on a 3 cluster turbine layout which was reduced to two clusters



MKO	MAP TITLE: House Locations PROJECT TITLE: Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm DRAWING BY: Owen Cahill CHECKED BY: Michael Watson <small>MKO Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 VV94 +353 (0) 91 735611 www.mkoireland.ie</small>	MAP NO.: Figure 2-1 SCALE: 1:40,000 DATE: 11-12-2020 ISSUE NO.: 170749-2020.12.11-F
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Following a period where additional information requests were received from the local community, the applicant issued responses to the FAQs in a letter and accompanying information booklet on the project to all residents within 2km of the proposed development. This was issued on 6th March (dated 22nd of February 2019 on the letter). The letter also provided a dedicated telephone number which had been set up for making contact with RWE (Innogy) regarding the project for those who wished to get in touch by that means. The details of all information provided to the local community as part of this process are included in Appendix 4 of this report.

It should be noted that four residents who were the recipients of letters made a direct request to be removed from the mailing list or to have the letters that they were sent taken back by RWE. These wishes were respected with regard to any future information mailings and letters were collected on request where possible.

2.5.1 Website

2.5.1.1 Project Information Website

A project information website, www.lyrewindfarm.com, was launched on the 1st June 2018 immediately after the public information evening. This website included all information presented at the public information event and has been updated at various stages since its launch as information has become available throughout the project design and assessment process.

2.5.1.2 SID Application Website

As part of the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) application process, there is a requirement to have a dedicated website containing the application documentation. This website will include every aspect of the application issued to An Bord Pleanála including the full Environmental Impact Assessment Report, Appropriate Assessment Report, Planning Drawings and Planning Documents, and Photomontages.

This website will be launched at the same time as submitting the planning application to An Bord Pleanála. A link to this website will be included on the Project Information website referred to above, once it goes live, and the details also included in the statutory public planning notices.

2.6 Stage 2 Public Consultation Process

As outlined in Section 2.5 above, the majority of the Stage 1 consultation took place throughout 2018 and into 2019. Throughout 2019 and the first half of 2020 work continued on the proposed development design and assessment processes, including grid connection, and in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development determination process. In August 2020, due to the restrictions in Ireland owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Stage 2 consultation process which was to include door-to-door engagement and a second public information evening hall event has been moved to online platforms, the postal and hand delivery system, written media and over the phone. This included a virtual online exhibition, posting of project information to the project website and telephone consultation with the local community as their enquiries are received.

RWE issued a letter to all residents within 2km of the proposed development in August 2020 notifying them of the need to change the approach to community consultation considering the Covid-19 situation, with a reminder of all the relevant contacts details for getting in touch. A newsletter was also included to provide an update on the status of the project and a copy of the proposed site layout. The content of the newsletters included:

- Information on the concerns raised at the public information evening, health effects, noise, property values and water quality.

- Summary of the current project status including an update on when the frozen layout would be made available to the public.
- Community benefit fund information.
- An invitation for local businesses to register their interest in supplying to the project.

The newsletter provided further updates on the progress of the proposed development and EIAR and is included in Appendix 5 of this report.

The information provided to each resident was also uploaded to the project website.

2.6.1 Online Virtual Display

The second intended public information evening has been replaced by a virtual public exhibition. This virtual public exhibition is presented to replicate the arrangement of a public hall event with all information boards, information on the proposed site and layout and photomontages presented within a virtual tour. There is also information presented on the planning application process, the planning application, the information that will be contained within the Environmental Impact Assessment Report along with details of community and local business benefits. The virtual public exhibition also lists the contact details for the applicants should visitor to the site wish to log queries or request additional information.

The virtual public exhibition can be viewed via the following link: www.innovision.ie/lyrenacarriga.

All residents within 2km of the proposed development site received an information postcard from RWE Renewables to draw attention to the launch of this virtual public exhibition (Appendix 6). For residents beyond this distance, a newspaper advertisement was published in two local newspapers, The Avondhu and Dungarvan Leader on the 27th and 28th August 2020 respectively. In the 3 month period between 17th August and 17th November 2020, there were 296 visits to the virtual exhibition.

All the information included in the virtual hall display is included in Appendix 6 with the exception of the photomontages which can be found in Volume 2 of the EIAR.

2.6.2 Telephone Consultation

As outlined above, a dedicated telephone number for getting in contact with RWE Renewables (then Innogy) was launched in February 2019. This provided a centralised number for the local community to contact should they have questions or require additional information about the project. This also facilitated direct contact with the CLO or any other member of the project team that a caller wished to speak with. This line has been open since its inception and numerous enquiries have been received with responses and information issued where required and where possible depending on the availability of the information required at the time of its request.

2.6.3 Summary of Enquiries Received

The following list outlines the nature of queries raised during the consultation process:

- Noise (a number of calls)
- Shadow Flicker (a number of calls)
- Human Health impacts
- Impact on Water Quality
- Setback from houses (a number of calls)
- Property price and value(a number of calls)
- Timeline of the planning process (a number of calls)
- Why is the project being proposed here?. Why not off shore? (a number of calls)

- > Effect on equine stock
- > Disruption to road access and increased traffic volume.
- > Effect on family leisure time and routine.
- > Monetary compensation to houses.
- > Work opportunities in the locality

RWE have provided a response to all specific queries received in the FAQ responses in Appendix 4. In addition, responses were issued to email queries received along with directing enquiries to specific sections of the EIAR that accompanies the planning application which will address their query.

2.7 Other Meetings

On the 13th of December 2018, members of MKO and the applicant company attended a meeting with representatives of the Blackwater Wind Aware Group (BWAG) along with members of their consultancy team. The meeting was expressly requested by BWAG not to be considered part of the overall community consultation process. This request was respected by the applicant company and was thus held as a means of discussing the project and providing information on the project as available and relevant along with listening to the requests of the BWAG. No formal agreement was reached at the meeting terms of information sharing and the applicant in this case addressed the queries raised at this meeting where possible through the FAQ process which had been launched at that point and through subsequent updates to the project websites as the development of the project design progressed. BAWG again requested that details regarding the type, size and number of turbines proposed which was not available at the time.

3.

INFLUENCE OF ENGAGEMENT AND EVOLUTION OF THE WIND FARM DESIGN

Feedback from the one-to-one meetings was passed to both the applicant and the Project Design Team on an ongoing and regular basis to allow the feedback from the engagement to inform the design process. Where areas of concern or interest were expressed every effort was made to not only provide accurate information (as was currently available at the time) but also to guide the individuals concerned towards sources of accurate information to assist them in the process of informing themselves.

Every reasonable effort was made to understand the views of those living in each household where possible to allow the final design to take consideration of these views to the greatest extent possible. Following feedback from public consultation a number of design revisions were made to the proposed wind farm including a reduction in the number of proposed turbines, the movement of a construction entrance along with changes to the overall layout to further minimise potential impacts on surrounding properties.

A full description of the design evolution of the proposed development and all reasonable alternatives considered is provided in Chapter 3 of this EIAR; please see Section 3.6.2 on Turbine Layout in particular. The following text provides a summary of the various design layouts and updates that were completed as a result of feedback received from the community consultation process.

The initial preliminary proposed wind farm development comprised 29 no. turbines located in four clusters, with a subsequent reduction to 24 no turbines located in three clusters, as a result of various modelling exercises. This layout underwent further adjustment of turbine positions to achieve greater set-back distances from properties and optimise the separation between turbines.

A further revision of the layout result in a reduction to a 18 no. turbine site and only two clusters. This decision was made following engagement with local residents, and while it is considered that sufficient setback distances could be obtained and that visibility of turbines to the north and south of the L2003 local road would be limited due to the presence of screening and distance from turbines, the omission of the northern cluster of 6 turbines significantly reduces the potential for cumulative residential amenity and visual impacts to residents along this road. Some final adjustment of turbine locations led to a final 17 no. turbine layout.

A number of site access options were considered and revised throughout the design process. A proposal for a second site entrance to the eastern cluster of turbines during the construction phase was adopted to avoid concentrating all traffic movements to and from this cluster at one access location. Further details regarding the evolution of site access locations are provided in Section 3.8 of Chapter 3 of the EIAR.

During the public consultation process there were numerous queries with regard to amenity opportunities and if the developed site would have an open policy for recreational and amenity use by the local community and general public. From this feedback it has been proposed that, pending receipt of planning approval, amenity and recreation facilities utilising the onsite road infrastructure within Coillte forestry can be designed and integrated within the operational site. This would be progressed on the basis of community interest and input, and in conjunction with utilisation of the Coillte open forest policy.

4. ECONOMIC BENEFIT

Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm has the potential to bring significant positive benefit to the local community. The project will create local employment, it will contribute significant annual rates to the Local Authorities, and it will provide opportunity for local community investment in the project. A Community Benefit Fund will be put in place for the lifetime of the project to provide direct funding to those areas surrounding the project.

4.1 Community and Local Business Benefits Fund

Should Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm be consented, it has the potential to provide significant additional investment into community projects that will benefit local residents and businesses. Following the publication of the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE) Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS) and the terms of conditions of the first auction under the scheme, RESS1 taking place this year (2020), it is anticipated that based on the requirement for all projects to contribute €2 per megawatt hour (MWh) of output, a community fund in the region of €6,000 per megawatt (MW) of installed capacity per annum could be available.

Therefore, a wind farm at Lyrenacarriga of 60 MW to 85 MW capacity could result in a fund upward of €360,000 per year for the local community, subject to the final installed capacity (MW) and output (MWh) of the wind farm. This represents a dependable source of income for the communities local to Lyrenacarriga.

RWE Renewables Ireland (RWE) supports the development of a funding process that puts decision making on what funds are spent where in the hands of local people. The flexibility of the investment that could come from Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm would mean that a panel of local community representatives could decide how to invest the income in a variety of projects that will benefit residents, local businesses and the community as a whole including creating job opportunities and skills development, tourism initiatives and area regeneration projects.

RWE have demonstrable experience in the delivery of large community benefit funds in other jurisdictions and are committed to ensuring that projects meet or indeed exceed emerging best practice from the DCCAE and the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) on Community Benefit.

In addition, a significant wider benefit of the proposed Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm is the annual business rates contribution estimated to be in excess of €800,000 per annum for the full life of the wind farm. These business rates will be paid locally and contributions will significantly benefit the wider local economy.

4.1.1 Administration of the Benefit Fund

The Community Benefit Fund belongs to the local community. The premise of the fund is that it should be used to bring about significant, positive change in the local area. To make this happen, the first task will be to form a benefit fund development working group that clearly represents both the close neighbours to the project as well as nearby communities. A third party company or consultancy may be appointed between Curns Energy Ltd. and the community working group to manage the fund. This group along with any appointed consultant will then work on designing the governance and structure of a community entity that would administer the Community Benefit Fund.

4.1.2 Community Investment Opportunity

RESS sets out that future renewable energy project proposals enable the possibility for local communities to invest in projects in a meaningful way as a means to directly gain from the financial dividends that a project can provide should it be consented, built and operated.

Should the proposed Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm be consented, Curns Energy Ltd. will be offering the local community the opportunity to participate in a community shared ownership scheme whereby they could invest in the wind farm in return for a share of future revenue. RWE are closely monitoring emerging guidance from the DCCA in this regard and in line with the approach to the establishment of Community Benefit funds to support a flexible and transparent approach to the delivery of Community Investment initiatives.

5. CONCLUSION

The applicant has actively engaged and consulted with the local community during the pre-application phase. The consultation process has been an extremely valuable exercise and has provided a detailed and enhanced understanding of the key issues and concerns of the local community, which have ultimately shaped the final project proposal.

The development of the proposed Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm will provide an enduring economic benefit to the communities surrounding the proposed development as outlined in Chapter 4: Description of the Proposed Development of the EIAR namely, the proposed amenity pathways, the community benefit package for both residents and community groups, employment during the construction and operation of the development and through the annual rates payable to the Local Authorities. It is however acknowledged that development of a proposed wind farm is a long and complex process and that there is ample time to jointly develop community offerings with near neighbours and other stakeholders, and these will be progressed throughout the planning adjudication and decision phases as well as in the pre-construction phase should the project receive planning consent.

It is applicant's intention to adhere to this community report for the lifetime of the development, in compliance with the *'Code of Practice for Wind Energy Development in Ireland Guidelines for Community Engagement'* issued by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (December 2016) or updated revision.



APPENDIX 1

**FEBRUARY 2018 LETTER
REGARDING TEMPORARY
ANEMOMETRY MAST**



12 February 2018

Re: Intention to install a Temporary Meteorological Mast at Knockanore in Co. Waterford

(hand delivered letter)

Dear Householder,

Innogy Renewables Ireland Ltd (innogy) are investigating the potential for developing a renewable energy project in the vicinity of Knockanore townland and surrounding areas in Co. Waterford.

innogy is an established European energy company and a major operator of renewable energy projects with more than 3.7 gigawatts in renewable generation capacity; generating enough electricity for around 3 million homes. For more information see www.innogy.com.

innogy intend to install a temporary planning exempt meteorological mast in the vicinity of Knockanore townland in Co. Waterford in early March 2018. The meteorological mast will have an overall height of 80m and will monitor and collect wind speed data and wind characteristics to inform our feasibility assessment of development potential. Please refer to the attached Site Location Map detailing the location of the Meteorological Mast. We have also sent a letter to Waterford County Council informing them of our intention to install same.

We will keep the local community informed and consulted in line with best practice as our investigation and feasibility assessment progresses. In the mean-time, please feel free to contact us if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cliona O'Sullivan'.

Cliona O'Sullivan – Head of Development
Innogy Renewables Ireland Ltd
E: lyre@innogy.com

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Owen Cahill'.

Owen Cahill – appointed Community Liaison Officer
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd
E: owen@mccarthykos.ie

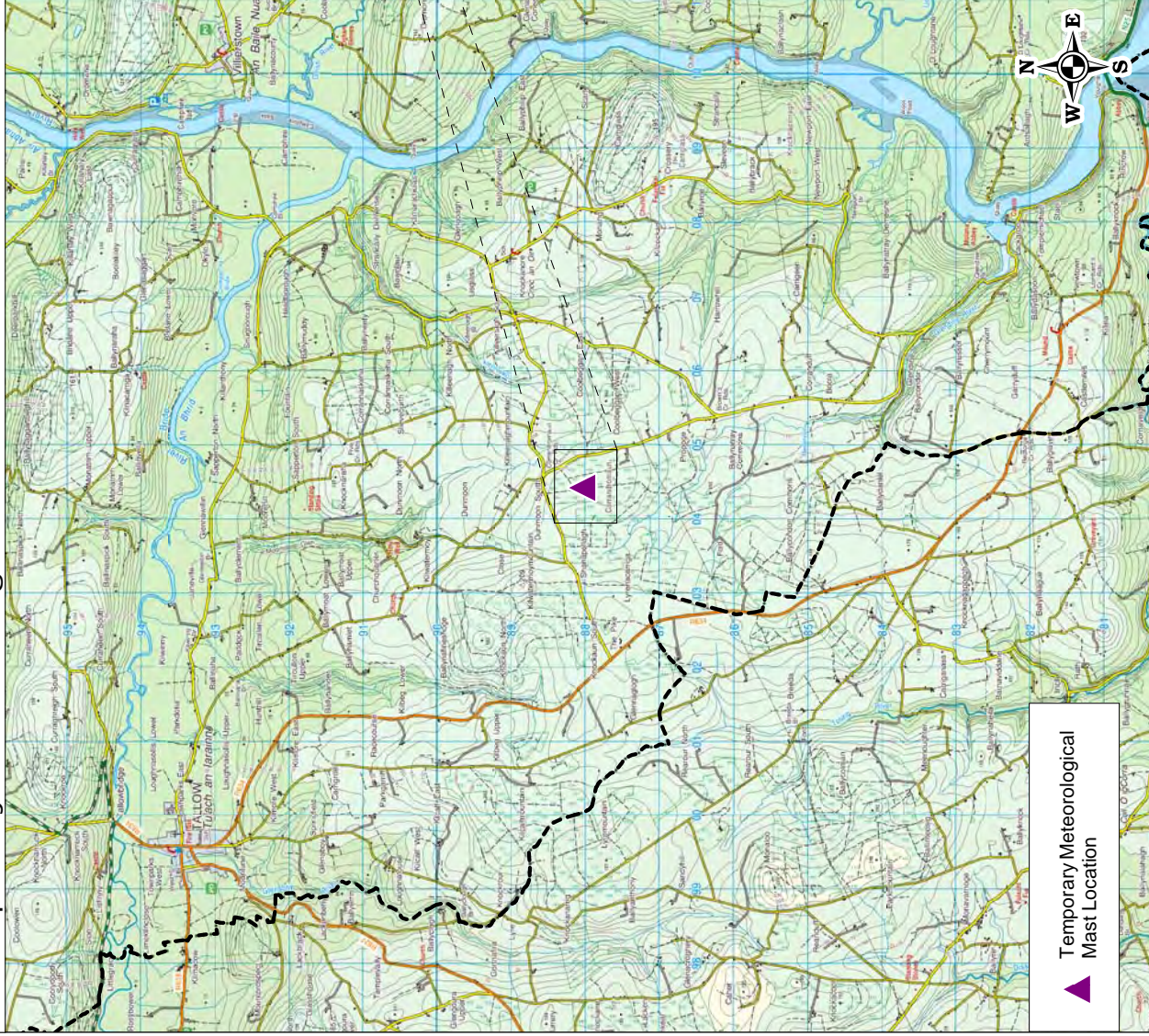
Innogy Renewables Ireland Limited

New Work Junction · Dublin Road · Co. Kilkenny · Ireland · R95 VP83

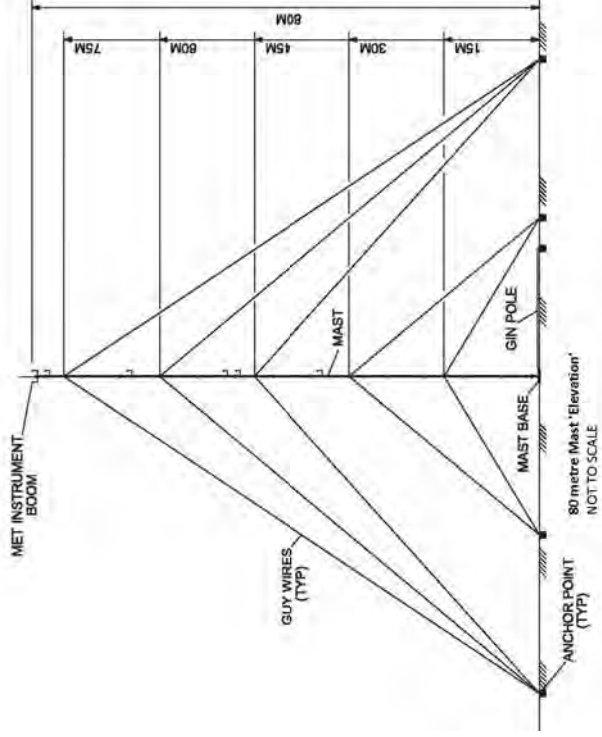
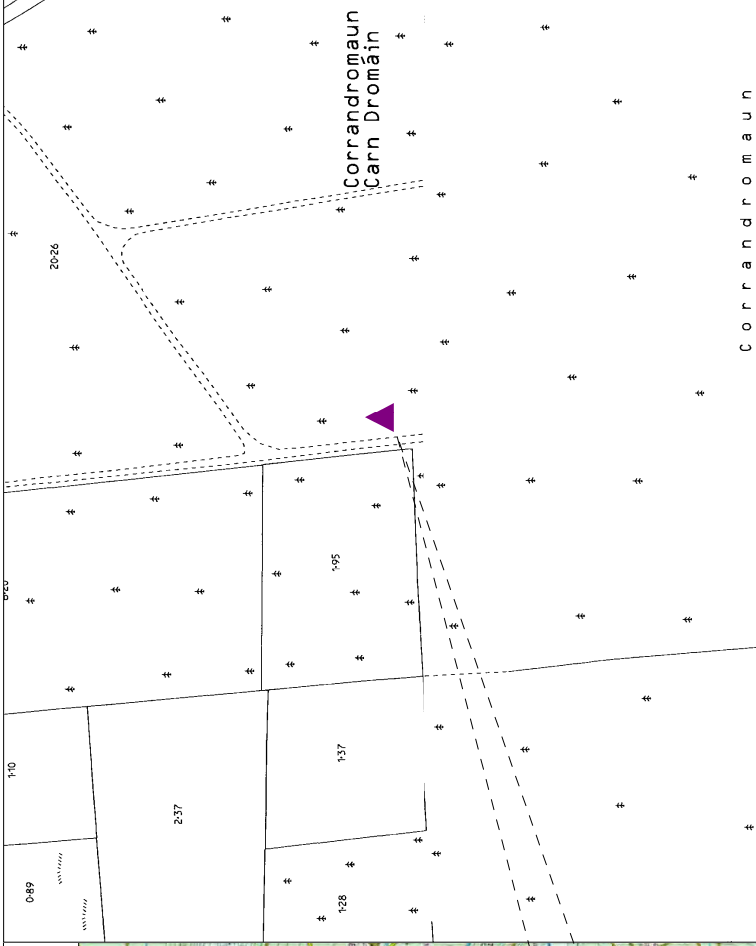
Registered Office: Innogy Renewables Ireland Limited · Riverside Two · Sir John Rogerson's Quay · Dublin 2 · Ireland
Registered in Ireland no. 589120

Directors: Cathal Hennessy, Michael Parker (British)

Temporary Meteorological Mast Location



▲ Temporary Meteorological Mast Location





Address
Address
Address
Address
Address

13 February 2018

Re: Temporary Meteorological Mast at Knockanore in Co. Waterford
(letter issued via email to [] and via post to the above address)

Dear Cllr. []

Innogy Renewables Ireland Ltd (innogy) are investigating the potential for developing a renewable energy project in the vicinity of Knockanore townland and surrounding areas in Co. Waterford.

innogy is an established European energy company and a major operator of renewable energy projects with more than 3.7 gigawatts in renewable generation capacity; generating enough electricity for around 3 million homes. For more information see www.innogy.com.

innogy intend to install a temporary planning exempt meteorological mast in the vicinity of Knockanore townland in Co. Waterford in early March 2018. The meteorological mast will have an overall height of 80m and will monitor and collect wind speed data and wind characteristics to inform our feasibility assessment of development potential. Please refer to the attached Site Location Map detailing the location of the Meteorological Mast. We have also sent a letter to Waterford County Council informing them of our intention to install same.

We will keep you and the local community informed and consulted in line with best practice as our investigations and feasibility assessment progresses. In the mean-time, please feel free to contact us if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Cliona O'Sullivan in blue ink.

Cliona O'Sullivan – Head of Development
Innogy Renewables Ireland Ltd
E: lyre@innogy.com

Handwritten signature of Owen Cahill in blue ink.

Owen Cahill – appointed Community Liaison Officer
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd
E: owen@mccarthykos.ie

Innogy Renewables Ireland Limited

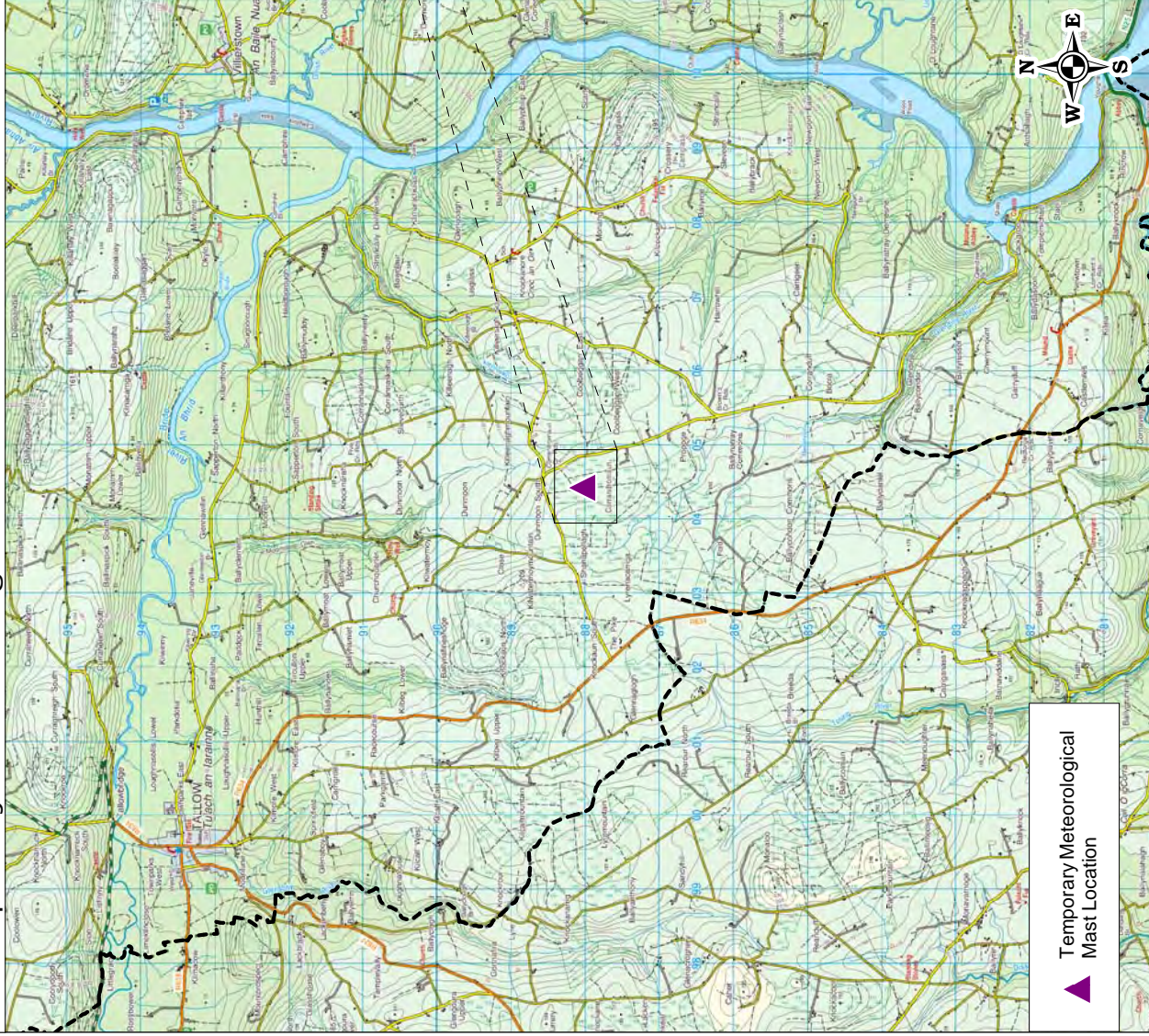
New Work Junction · Dublin Road · Co. Kilkenny · Ireland · R95 VP83

Registered Office: Innogy Renewables Ireland Limited · Riverside Two · Sir John Rogerson's Quay · Dublin 2 · Ireland

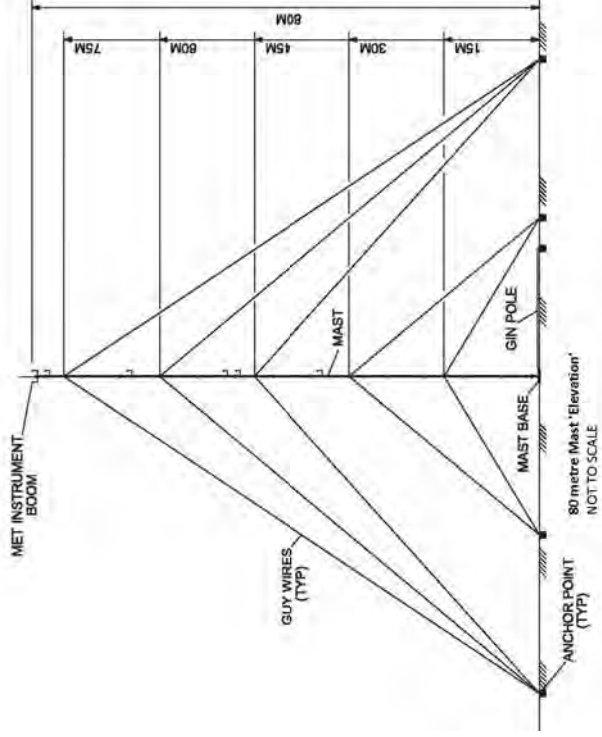
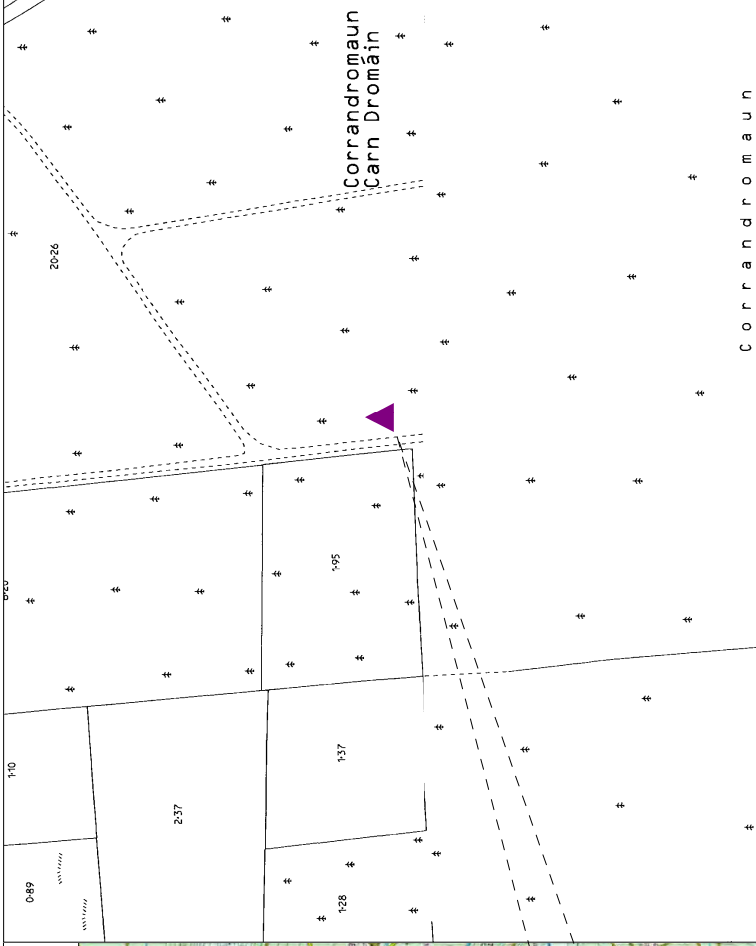
Registered in Ireland no. 589120

Directors: Cathal Hennessy, Michael Parker (British)

Temporary Meteorological Mast Location



▲ Temporary Meteorological Mast Location



Waterford County Council Councillors: Dungarvan – Lismore Constituency

Councillor	Party	E-mail	Address
Damien Geoghegan	FG	cllrdgeoghegan@waterfordcouncil.ie	64 Silversprings, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford X35FY60
John Pratt	LAB	cllrjpratt@waterfordcouncil.ie	49 Woodview Park, Tallow, Co. Waterford P51 F9F3
Séamus O'Donnell	Ind	cllrseodonnell@waterfordcouncil.ie	Loskeran, Old Parish, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.
Siobhán Whelan	SF	cllrsiwhelan@waterfordcouncil.ie	Carriglea, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.
James Tobin	FF	cllrjtobin@waterfordcouncil.ie	Ballyhamlet, Tallow, Co. Waterford.
Pat Nugent	FG	cllrpnugent@waterfordcouncil.ie	Carrigroe, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.
Tom Cronin	FF	cllrtcronin@waterfordcouncil.ie	Lissarow, Ardmore, Co. Waterford.
Declan Doocey	FG	cllrddoocey@waterfordcouncil.ie	Ballinaraha, Lismore, Co. Waterford.



APPENDIX 2

**MAY 2018 PUBLIC
INFORMATION EVENT BOARDS
AND MAPS**

Welcome to the Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm public information event

Innogy Renewables Ireland Ltd (innogy) is investigating the potential for developing Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm in the vicinity of Lyrencarriga townland and surrounding areas in Co. Waterford and Co. Cork.

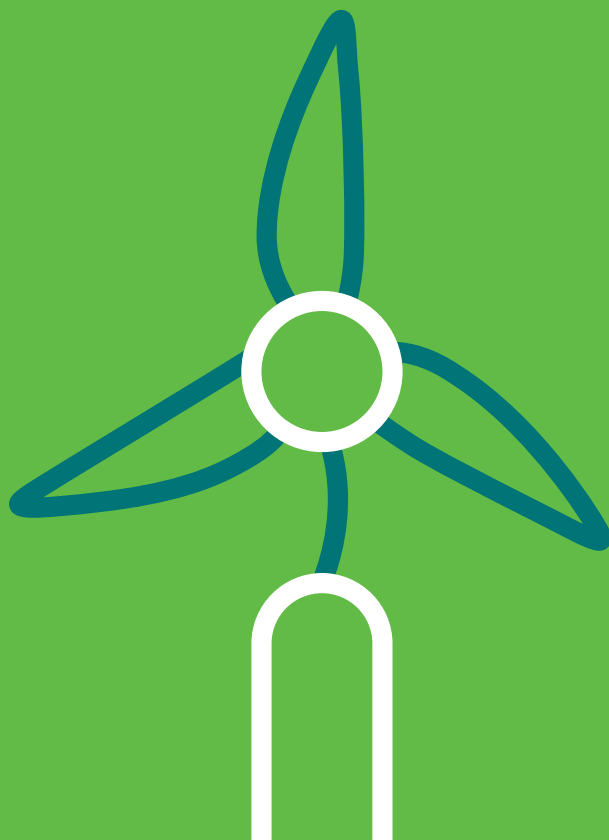
We installed a temporary anemometry (met) mast near Knockanore townland in Co. Waterford in March 2018. The met mast will monitor and collect wind speed data and wind characteristics to inform our feasibility assessment of development potential.

The purpose of today's public information event is to:

- Explain why this site has been selected;
- Describe the technical and environmental studies which will be undertaken;
- Enable members of the community to view the proposed site location map and the viable area for the wind turbines;
- Describe the potential benefits the proposed Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm could bring to the community;
- Provide you with the opportunity to ask the wind farm development team any questions you might have about the potential development and to give us feedback on the proposal.

All information presented here today can be viewed on line at www.lyrewindfarm.com

If you have any questions about the information presented here today, please speak to a member of the development team who will be happy to help you.



Who we are

Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm is a joint project between Innogy Renewables Ireland and Highfield Energy, with innogy taking the lead in the development.

Innogy Renewables Ireland

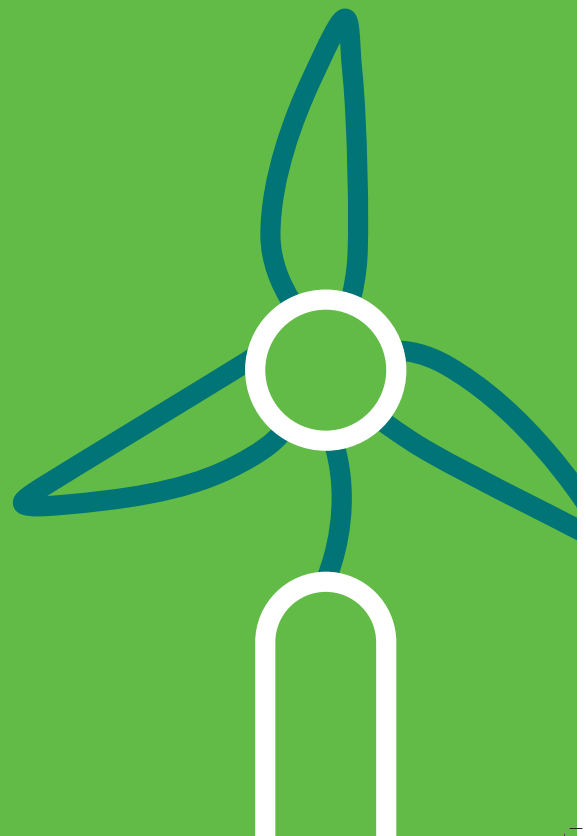
Innogy Renewables Ireland is a subsidiary of innogy SE, a leading German energy company, with revenue of around €43 billion (2017), more than 42,000 employees and activities in 16 countries across Europe.

The renewables part of our business plans, builds and operates plants to generate power and extract energy from renewable sources. Part of our portfolio are wind and hydro power plants as well as solar and biomass plants. Currently, we are particularly strongly represented in our home market, Germany, followed by the United Kingdom, Spain, the Netherlands, Poland and Italy. Our aim is to expand renewables in Europe further, both on our own and working with partners. With an installed capacity of more than 925 megawatts in offshore wind and with over 2100 megawatts in onshore wind, innogy is one of the major operators in Europe. At the moment we are focusing on continuing to expand our activities in wind power. That's why, in addition to our core markets, we are already active in new markets such as the USA and Ireland.

Innogy Renewables Ireland (innogy) now employs 8 full time people in our office in Kilkenny City. With our extensive experience delivering onshore wind projects, innogy will help the Irish Government to meet its 2020-2030 EU energy targets, and, in addition, will contribute to increasing diversity of renewable energy supply in Ireland. For further information visit: www.innogy.com

Highfield Energy

Based in Dublin, Highfield Energy (an Irish formed renewable energy company) develops electricity generation projects with a particular focus on renewables and has a proven track record of working in partnership with developers, landowners and wider project stakeholders to promote sustainable energy sources. For further information visit: www.highfieldenergy.com

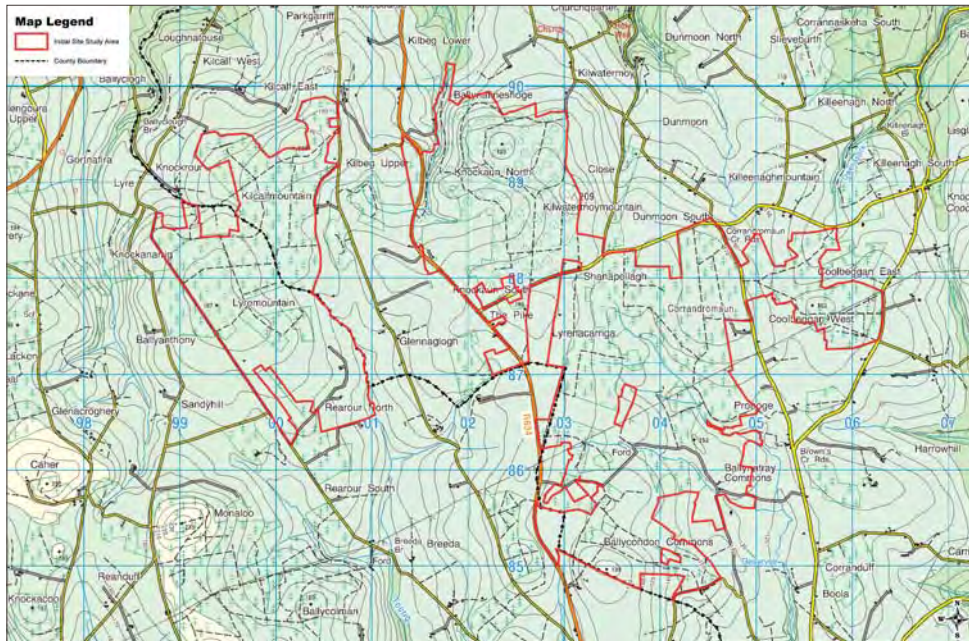


About Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm

Location and description

The wind farm site is located approximately 5 kilometres southeast of Tallow, Co. Waterford and approximately 15 kilometres northwest of Youghal, Co. Cork. The total site area measures approximately 1,400 hectares. The site elevation ranges between approximately 140 metres and 210 metres above sea level.

The site, which straddles the county boundary between Co. Waterford and Co. Cork, comprises lands at Knockaun North, Lyrenacarriga, Ballycondon Commons, Kilcalf Mountain, Ballycolman, Kilnafurrery, Kilcronat Mountain and Knockakeo.



Site boundary

The majority of the proposed wind farm site is currently commercial forestry, with other areas used for agriculture. These land uses will be able to continue in conjunction with a wind farm development at the site.

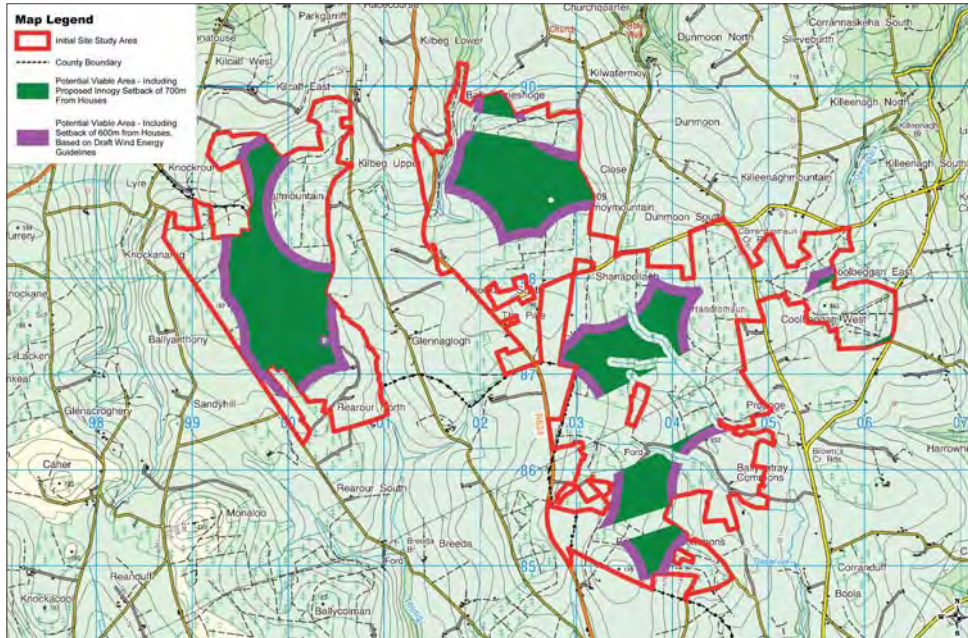
Why choose this site?

- The section of the site in Co. Waterford is located within a **'Preferred'** area for wind energy development, as designated by the Wind Energy Strategy as part of Waterford County Development Plan 2011-2017 (as extended).
- The section of the site located in Co. Cork is located within an area **'Open to Consideration'** for wind energy development, as designated by the Wind Energy Strategy as part of Cork County Development Plan 2014.
- The site has good annual average wind speeds.
- The site is not designated as a Natura 2000 site, meaning that it is not a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) nor a Special Protection Area (SPA).
- Existing onsite roads/tracks will be used where possible. The onsite road access can be readily improved to make turbine transport straightforward; and locally the road network can be improved as required.
- A setback distance of 700 metres from houses can be achieved.



The proposed development

The design process for the proposed wind farm development is underway. A desk-based constraints study has been carried out to identify a 'Viable Area' within the site; this is the area in which it is considered suitable to locate the proposed wind turbines.

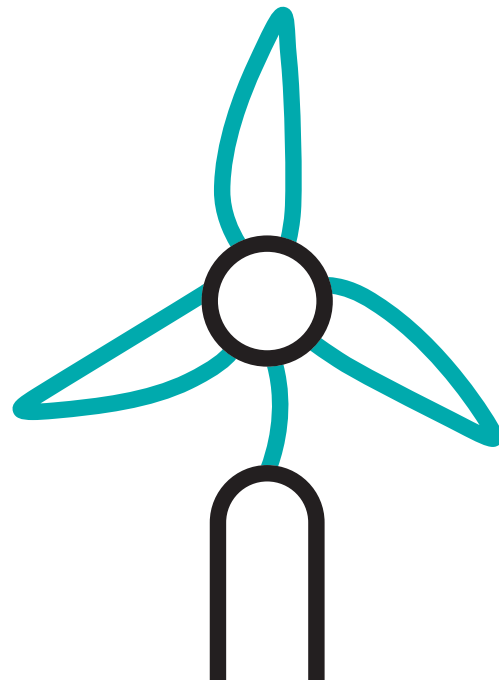


Viable area showing 600m and 700m setback from houses in addition to setback from other project constraints

The locations of the proposed wind turbines will be informed by site investigations to be carried out over the coming months.

Based on evidence and assumptions from other wind farm developments, it is considered that:

- The Viable Area could accommodate 20-25 wind turbines;
- Each wind turbine could be up to 150 metres tall (from the turbine base to the top of the turbine blade, when blades are in an upright position);
- A minimum setback distance of 700 metres can be achieved from properties;
- In addition to the construction of the wind turbines, the development would also encompass the following infrastructure and ancillary works:
 - Upgrade of existing roads on the site and construction of proposed new access roads;
 - Upgrade of existing site entrance(s) or construction of new site entrance(s);
 - 'Borrow pits' for the sourcing rock on-site;
 - Energy substation, wind farm control buildings and electricity storage facility;
 - Temporary construction compounds;
 - Permanent met mast;
 - Detailed drainage design;
 - Connection to the national electricity grid;
 - Potential recreation or amenity facilities.



The planning process

Scoping and Consultation

Scoping is the process of identifying the significant issues that should be addressed by the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). A Scoping Document is currently being prepared, and will be circulated to statutory and non-statutory consultees, to provide them with an opportunity to comment.

The feedback received from those consultees, and throughout the public consultation process will inform the proposed development design and assessments undertaken during the EIAR preparation.

Planning Application

The Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) thresholds for wind energy, as set out in the 7th Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (Amended 2010), are 25 turbines or 50 Megawatts (MW). The current intention is that innogy will submit the planning application directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the requirements of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. Engagement with An Bord Pleanála will determine if the proposed development will be considered as Strategic Infrastructure Development.

Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), which outlines the results of all the surveys undertaken in respect of the development, will accompany the planning application. Surveys will be carried out under the following headings:

1. Introduction
2. Background to the Proposed Development
3. Description of the Proposed Development
4. Population & Human Health
5. Shadow Flicker
6. Biodiversity: Flora & Fauna
7. Biodiversity: Birds
8. Land, Soils and Geology
9. Hydrology and Hydrogeology
10. Air and Climate
11. Noise and Vibration
12. Landscape and Visual
13. Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage
14. Material Assets (includes Traffic and Transportation, Telecommunications, Aviation and Electromagnetic Interference)
15. Interaction of the foregoing.

The results of these surveys, along with feedback from statutory consultees and members of the public, will help inform the design of the wind farm. When the final wind farm design has been finalised, further surveys will again be undertaken to establish more precisely, what the impacts and effects of the wind farm will be.

Access, Traffic and Transport

The proposed wind farm site is accessed via local roads from the R634 Regional Road, which travels between Tallow and Youghal, and the R627 Regional Road, which travels between Tallow and Middleton. The site itself is served by a number of existing forestry roads. New access routes may also be required; the siting of which will have regard to the constraints identified onsite.

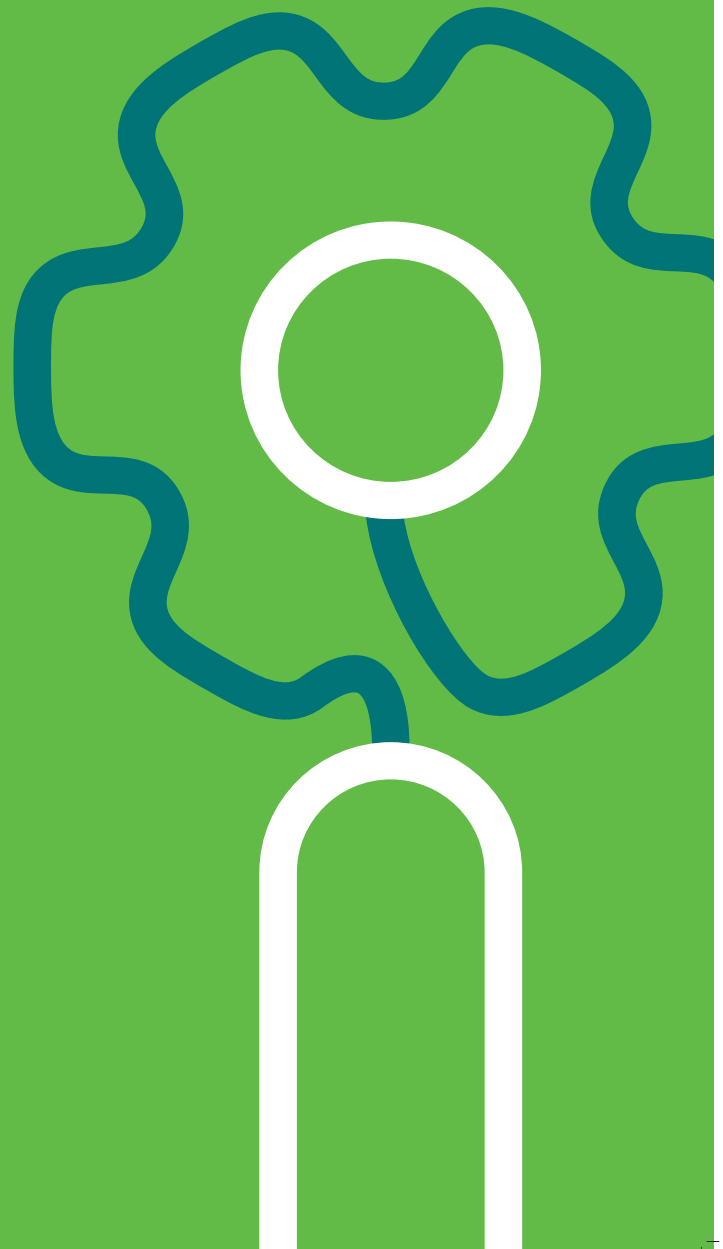
The delivery of the wind turbine components and all other construction materials to the proposed development site will be assessed as part of the Traffic and Transport section of the EIAR.

Grid connection

The options for connecting the proposed wind farm to the National Grid are:

- Via a loop-in connection to the existing 110kV network which runs through the site;
- Via connection to the existing Dungarvan 110kV Substation; or
- Via connection to the existing Woodhouse 110kV substation.

The grid connection will be assessed as part of the EIAR, which will also provide a detailed description of the final proposed connection route.



Community and business benefits

Community Ownership

The Irish Government has defined Community Ownership as offering the opportunity for a local community to invest in a portion of a renewable energy scheme.

Should Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm be developed, innogy intends to offer a community ownership scheme. This will be in line with the final requirements of the Irish Government's Renewable Energy Support Scheme which is expected to be published later this year.

Community Funding

Should Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm be granted planning consent, the final fund value will be calculated in line with new industry best practice guidelines at a level of €2 per megawatt hour. This could deliver a fund of between €4,000 to €6,000 per MW installed capacity for each of the first 15 years of the projects operation. The viable area could host between 20 to 25 turbines. The final amount of funding will be depend on the final installed capacity of the site as well as the actual electricity generated.

innogy's approach

innogy is keen to support communities to use funding from our wind farms to realise some of their ambitions and make life-enhancing improvements to their local area. Whilst following relevant best practise guidance, innogy takes a bespoke approach to setting up these funds, because we understand that every community is different. Fund setup is supported to ensure that appropriate, accountable and transparent governance is in place with simple, straightforward and fair processes. Where possible innogy aims to develop administrative structures that directly involve local people in making decisions about funding applications, so local people can have a real say in how their community is supported.

The funding is really flexible and can be used to support a wide range of projects and initiatives such as playgrounds, sports clubs, building, maintenance and running costs for community centres, walks and trails, training and education grants, schemes that address fuel poverty, energy efficiency projects and even schemes to reduce domestic electricity costs for immediate neighbours. It also has the potential draw down additional match funding from other sources such as the European Leader Funding to make even bigger projects possible.



Opportunities for Regional Businesses

The principle construction contracts awarded during the construction of a wind farm are civil work, electrical works and turbine supply. The development, construction and operation of the proposed wind farm could bring significant economic benefits to the region through the contracts that are awarded.

innogy will follow a competitive tender process for the principle contractor who will in turn award sub contracts for works including: civil works, fencing, haulage, fuel, aggregate, concrete, plant hire, hoteliers and security to name but a few. Regional suppliers with the appropriate skills and experience will be well placed to tender for these contracts.

innogy has an excellent track record for ensuring that the local supply chain benefits as much as possible from such projects. It is standard practice to insert a 'localism' clause into contracts with Tier 1 Contractors which obliges them to evidence their spend with local businesses. innogy expects that, for the proposed development, local civils contract spend (within 30km) could be approximately 43% of the total construction investment.

We would like local businesses to register as potential suppliers so that this information can be shared with Tier 1 contractors. The types of businesses that could benefit from this expenditure is wide ranging, and is likely to include: traffic management; materials supply; plant hire; fencing, fuel, security, waste management, signing and lighting, telecommunications, drainage, plant and seeding, **hospitality**, catering and accommodation. For further information email: lyre@innogy.com

Other local benefits

Business rates paid to Waterford/Cork County Councils could have a positive impact on local infrastructure and amenities such as roads, public lighting, street cleaning, libraries, fire services and public amenities.

The upgrading of the road infrastructure in the vicinity of the wind farm will also be carried out should it be required.



Project developments: next steps

The Scoping Report will be circulated to statutory and non-statutory consultees in the coming weeks. Detailed modelling, site investigations and surveys will be carried out at the site and within the surrounding area over the coming months. The results of these studies and the feedback received during scoping and local consultation will inform the proposed layout for the proposed development.

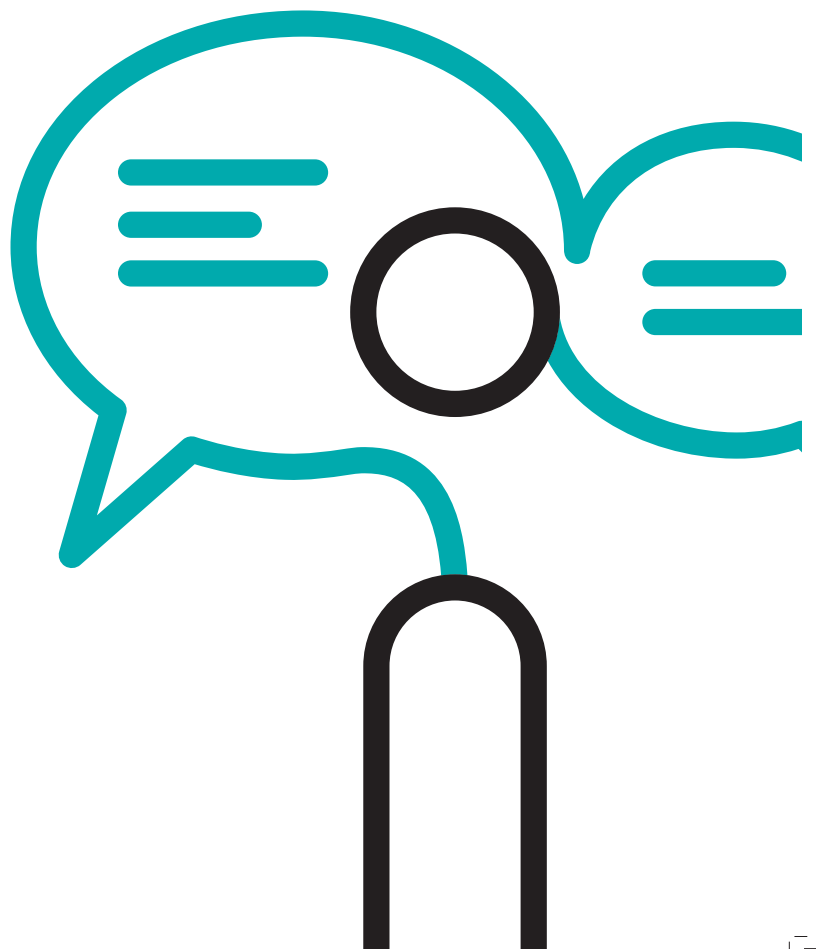
A second public exhibition will be held in Autumn 2018 to present the detailed site layout and the results of the site surveys and investigations. This meeting will be advertised locally and all interested parties will be invited to attend.

Innogy Renewables Ireland Limited (innogy) intends to submit the planning application to An Bord Pleanála (pending determination of the proposal as Strategic Infrastructure Development) in late 2018. The planning application will include:

- Application Forms and Public Notices
- Planning Drawings
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report
- Appropriate Assessment Screening Report / Natura Impact Statement

Notification of the intention to lodge the application will be placed in a local newspaper. innogy will also send out a newsletter to notify all residents within the area of the intended lodgement date. Once submitted, all planning application documents and drawings will be available for viewing in the offices of Waterford County Council, Cork County Council and An Bord Pleanála, and on a dedicated project website.

Following lodgement of the application, members of the community can make submissions to An Bord Pleanála during the public consultation period (duration to be specified by An Bord Pleanála; minimum 7 weeks) and innogy will need to respond to these submissions.



Please let us know what you think

We value your feedback during the design process. Consultation is ongoing and we continue to seek your views in the following ways:

- At this exhibition by providing comments to project staff;
- By completing a comment card, available at the exhibition today;
- By email to owen@mccarthykos.ie / lyre@innogy.com;
- By post

Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm
c/o McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan
Block 1 GFSC
Moneenageisha Road
Galway
H91 N8KK

McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd. (MKO) is a Galway-based Planning and Environmental consultancy that is preparing the planning permission application and Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) on behalf of Innogy Renewables Ireland Ltd.

The information boards presented today will also be available to view on the Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm website: www.lyrewindfarm.com

Please note: A planning application has not yet been submitted in relation to this proposal. Any comments made to innogy at this time are not considered formal representations on the proposed wind farm development. However, your comments will be considered during the design process and taken into account in the EIAR to be submitted with the planning application.

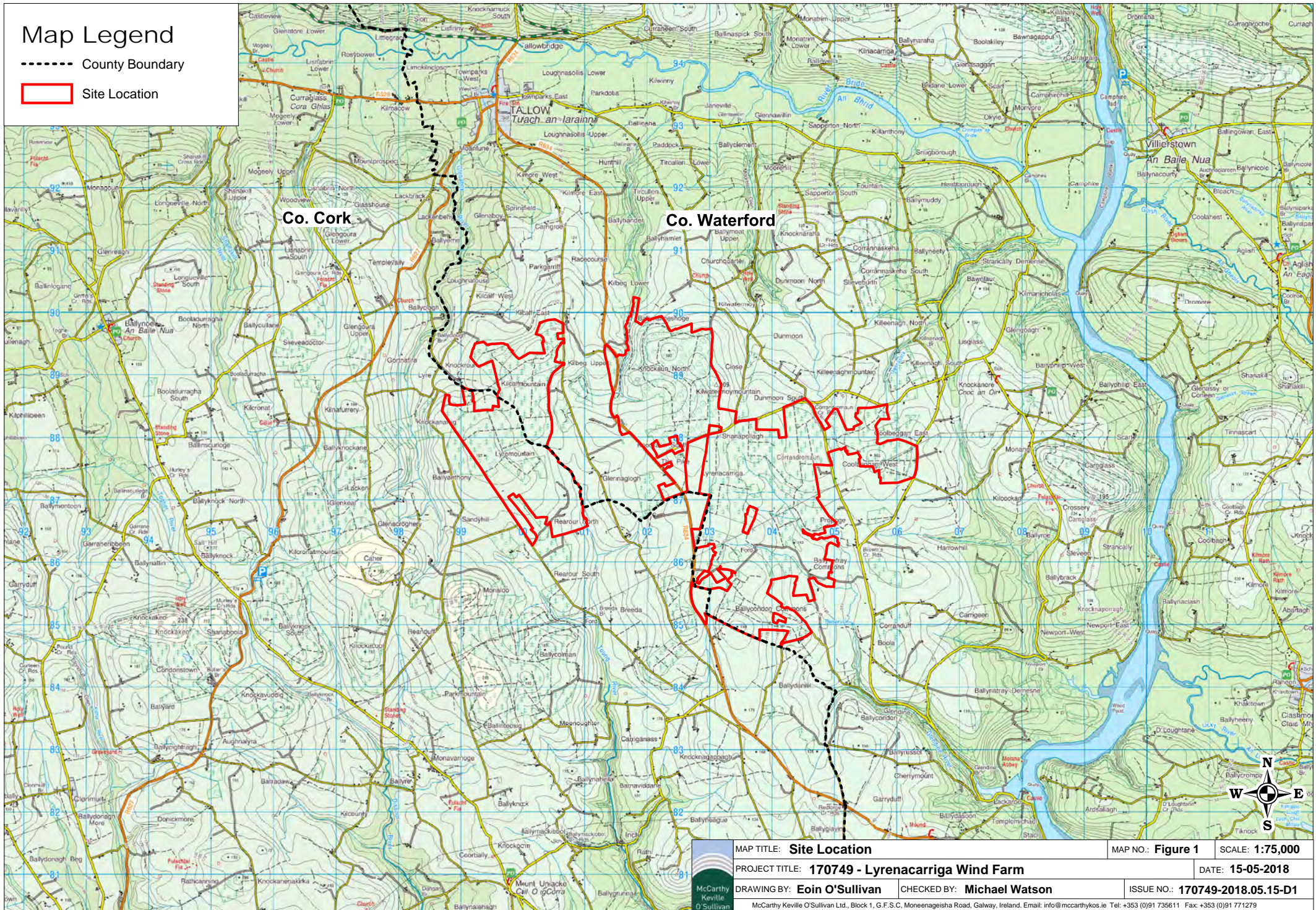
Thank you for attending
the Lyrenacarriga Wind
Farm Public Exhibition



Map Legend

----- County Boundary

Site Location



	MAP TITLE: Site Location	MAP NO.: Figure 1	SCALE: 1:75,000
	PROJECT TITLE: 170749 - Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm	DATE: 15-05-2018	
	DRAWING BY: Eoin O'Sullivan	CHECKED BY: Michael Watson	ISSUE NO.: 170749-2018.05.15-D1
<small>McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd., Block 1, G.F.S.C. Moneenageisha Road, Galway, Ireland. Email: info@mccarthycos.ie Tel: +353 (0)91 735611 Fax: +353 (0)91 771279</small>			



APPENDIX 3

**NOVEMBER 2018 LETTER OF
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO NEAR
NEIGHBOURS AND FREQUENTLY
ASKED QUESTIONS**



Department

Your reference:
Date: 30/11/2018
Our reference: innogyIRE00026
Contact: Charlie Langley
Phone: 086-887-3866
E-mail: lyre@innogy.com
Website: www.lyrenacarriga.com

Lyrenacarriga, 30th November 2018

Re. Letter of acknowledgment to near neighbours

Dear Homeowner,

We are sending this letter to everyone within two km of a potential wind energy project currently known as Lyrenacarriga (Lyre) Wind Farm. Those of you who we have already spoken with, please excuse this impersonal greeting.

I have had individual meetings at many homes with you or your neighbours with a third party engineer, John Aston of Astoneco Management. These talks are to ensure that I fully understand the history and context of the proposed wind farm, together with all the local concerns and questions you might have.

This information is being incorporated into the ongoing Environmental Impact Assessment Report field-work assessments, which will enable us to more critically analyse the proposed project.

To this end, I attach the list of the concerns and questions received to date. Please let us know if you think we have missed anything, or if you wish for clarification. We are currently compiling responses to these queries which will form part of our next public meeting. We will be present in the community over the coming months and are happy to call in to those who wish to discuss the project further. Please feel free to contact us via the details provided.

Best regards,
Charlie Langley

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlie Langley".

Project Manager
Innogy Renewables Ireland Limited.

Note: Should you not wish to receive any further delivered correspondence please advise us of your preference on this through the contact details.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Health

- a. What impact will the wind farm have on health of all neighbours (including animals)?

2. Shadow Flicker

- a. What is shadow flicker?
- b. How does this impact on health?

3. Noise

- a. What will the level of the noise (including amplitude modulation) be coming from these turbines?
- b. I note in the "preferred draft approach" guideline that setback will also be subject to noise limits. The guideline says that the maximum noise limit 43dB(A) will be monitored – please explain how this will be carried out?

4. Infrasound

- a. What will the level of the infrasound be coming from these turbines?
- b. What impacts will this have on health of all neighbours?

5. Layout

- a. How many turbines will there be?
- b. What are their locations?
- c. Provide a layout map of the site indicating distance from houses.
- d. Is the 700m set-back distance measured from the main dwelling or the boundary of the property?

6. Aviation & Atmospheric Interference

- a. What will the effects of the red lights on top of the turbines during the night be?
- b. What impact will this have on neighbours?
- c. What are the impacts on climate and air quality?
- d. Will the turbines effect drone activity & recreation?

7. Ecology

- a. What are the impacts on flora and fauna?
- b. What effect will this development have on local equine enterprise and agriculture enterprise?

8. EIAR

- a. Is the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) available?
- b. What is the timeline for the planning application process?

9. Drinking Water & Aquatic Ecology Impacts

- a. What are the impacts on water and sources of our water supply?
- b. What are the impacts if peat bog areas get “sealed” to provide foundation for the turbines?
- c. Are there provisions to prevent water getting heavily silted?
- d. What are the impacts to aquatic life?

10. Traffic Management Plan, Local Infrastructure & Services Provider

- a. What are the impacts on local infrastructure and use of local roads?
- b. What are the impacts on mobile phone / mobile broadband / TV reception?

11. Tourism

- a. What will the impacts on tourism be?
- b. How will this development effect local business?

12. Carbon Footprint of turbine Manufacture & Construction

- a. What amount of energy and CO2 is involved in making the turbines?

13. Cumulative Effect on the Neighbourhood & Property

- a. What cumulative impact will this project have on the value of the neighbourhood?
- b. What impact will the project have on the property prices?

14. Community Benefits

- a. Are there conversations happening with individuals or groups regarding community benefit?
- b. If so, who are the individuals/groups?

15. Community Consultation

- a. Can you clarify what individuals or groups have been consulted with in the community.
- b. How is this information being gathered and disseminated to the rest of the community?



APPENDIX 4

**FEBRUARY 2019 FREQUENTLY
ASKED QUESTIONS RESPONSE
AND INFORMATION BOOKLET**



Department

Your reference:
Date: 22/02/2019
Our reference: innogyIRE00027
Contact: Charlie Langley
Phone: 086-887-3866
E-mail: lyre@innogy.com
Website: www.lyrenacarriga.com

Lyrenacarriga, 22nd February 2019

Re. Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Dear Homeowner,

We are sending this letter to everyone within two km of a potential wind energy project currently known as Lyrenacarriga (Lyre) Wind Farm.

Following door – to – door consultation with those closest to the project, a list of frequently asked questions were compiled and sent out to everyone within 2 km of the project on November 30th 2018. Any subsequent questions and concerns were logged and included in the enclosed list. These questions serve to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) fieldwork studies and to enable a comprehensive overview of the project.

I enclose answers to these questions along with a project update. Should you require more in depth answers to the enclosed document, I would encourage you to contact us on the details at the top of this letter or below. Please note that the enclosed will also be up-loaded to the project website **www.lyrenacarriga.com** along with some study references and useful links . If you have any more queries not listed here, please get in touch via our email address **lyre@innogy.com** or call us at **(056) 771 5782**.

I look forward to hearing from you and meeting with you in the near future.

Best regards,
Charlie Langley

Project Manager
Innogy Renewables Ireland Limited.

Note: Should you not wish to receive any further delivered correspondence please advise us of your preference on this through the contact details.

Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm

Website: www.lyrewindfarm.com

Email: lyre@innogy.com

Telephone: 056 771 5782

Innogy Renewables Ireland Limited (innogy) is the company proposing to develop Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm, in the vicinity of Lyrenacarriga townland and surrounding areas in Co. Waterford and Co. Cork. It is a joint project with Highfield Energy, with innogy taking the lead in the development.

PROJECT FACTS

Location:	5km SE of Tallow, Co. Waterford and approx. 15kms NW of Youghal, Co. Cork
Site area:	Approx. 1,900 hectares
Elevation:	Ranges between 140 – 210 metres above ordnance datum
No of turbines:	Viable area could accommodate 25 turbines; depending on EIA surveys, this could be reduced
Turbine height:	Up to 150 metres
Set back from property:	Distance of 700 metres can be achieved
Investment:	Expected to be in the region of €100 - €130 million
Timeline:	innogy intends to submit a planning application to An Bord Pleanála in spring 2019. Fieldwork is continuing to be undertaken in respect of the EIA and community engagement is ongoing.

How will Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm benefit the community?

Community Benefit Fund

Should Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm be consented, it has the potential to provide significant additional investment into community projects that will benefit local residents and businesses.

Following the publication of the Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS) proposals in summer 2018, it is anticipated that a community fund could be in the region of €6,000 per MW of installed capacity per annum. This could mean that a wind farm producing 60-74MW output capacity could result in a fund of €360,000 - €444,000 per year for the local community subject to the final installed capacity of the wind farm. This represents a dependable source of income for the community's local to Lyrenacarriga.

innogy supports the development of a funding process that puts decision making on what funds are spent where in the hands of local people. The flexibility of the investment that could come from Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm would mean that a panel of local community representatives could decide how to invest the income in a variety of projects that will benefit residents, local businesses and the community as a whole including creating job opportunities and skills development, tourism initiatives and area regeneration projects.

Potential community shared ownership

A further potential income stream could come via innogy offering the local community the opportunity to participate in a community shared ownership scheme whereby they could invest in the wind farm in return for a share of future revenue.

Supply chain opportunities & jobs

During the construction phase of the wind farm, there will be supply chain opportunities for local businesses leading to an increase in local investment and job opportunities. Prior to construction starting, innogy will award the principle contract for Civil Balance of Plant supply and installation of the turbines, and the Electrical Balance of Plant contract. Once these main contracts have been placed, there will be potential opportunities for supply chain companies in the region to tender for subcontracts. The types of businesses that could benefit from this expenditure is wide ranging, and is likely to include: traffic management; materials supply; plant hire; fencing, fuel, security, waste management, signing and lighting, telecommunications, drainage, catering and hotel and B&B businesses.

Payment of business rates to local council

A significant wider benefit of the proposed Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm is the annual business rates contribution estimated to be between €600,000 and €800,000 for the full life of the wind farm. These business rates will be paid locally and contributions will significantly benefit the wider local economy.

Why onshore wind?

The continued deployment of onshore wind, which represents the cheapest form of new, large-scale electricity generation, will be key to meeting and facilitating decarbonisation at the cheapest cost to consumers. A January 2019 report, *Wind for a Euro: Cost-benefit analysis of wind energy in Ireland 2000-2020*, from energy and utilities consultants Baringa, reveals that the net cost of wind energy for Irish consumers amounts to less than €1 per person per year since 2000.

Ireland is going through a major energy transition. It is the Government's intention that by 2050 our homes, cars, workplaces, shops, schools and leisure centres will be powered by electricity from renewables. This transition will need every person in every community in Ireland to play their part. Communities that host a renewable energy project – onshore wind, offshore wind, biomass, battery storage, hydro or solar - are playing a very important role in this transition.

With the second highest wind resource in Europe, Ireland's onshore wind is leading the country towards the legally binding targets of 16% total renewable energy by 2020, with wind set to account for half of this target. The move away from fossil fuels could also benefit Ireland's energy security, encouraging national generation for national energy consumption. This in turn reduces spend on imported fuels. In 2017, wind energy saved Ireland 2.7 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions and prevented more than €220 million of imported foreign fossil fuels (SEAI 2018, "Energy in Ireland").

As a responsible company and developer, innogy is committed to ensuring that the communities that host our renewable energy schemes are able to share in the Ireland-wide economic and environmental benefits that these projects can deliver, as well as more specific local benefits. These include countrywide reduced reliance on fossil fuels and improved air quality and more local funding to spend on local buildings and projects along with more jobs and employment opportunities.

Why here?

The current Waterford County Development Plan 2011-2017 (as extended) was adopted with the benefit of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (Volume 4), a Habitats Directive Article 6 Appropriate Assessment (Volume 5), a Scenic Landscape Evaluation (Appendix A9) and a Wind Energy Strategy (Appendix A8). What that means is the Waterford County Development Plan drafting process, and all of these documents combined, considered it appropriate to classify the areas centred on Tallow and south of Lismore as Preferred Areas (for wind energy development) and areas Open For Consideration, respectively.

Every wind farm development that might be proposed in these areas will have to be the subject to a very detailed Environmental Impact Assessment, and will be subject to the full rigour of the planning process. The Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm proposal is being developed at this location after a detailed screening of Co. Waterford and East Cork.

About Innogy Renewables Ireland Ltd (innogy)

One of the largest energy utilities in Germany, innogy SE has a significant footprint in other European markets. With a renewable generation capacity of over 3.9GW, including over 1.9GW of onshore wind and over 1GW of offshore wind, producing over 10billion kWh per annum in total across ten European countries. We have recently also expanded into new markets in Europe, the US, Australia and Asia. For further information visit www.innogy.com

In 2016, Innogy Renewables Ireland was established with a view to growing a sustainable long-term energy company in Ireland. There are currently eight employees based in the Kilkenny City office, which is expected to grow with continued investment into the Irish economy. Current activity in Ireland relates to the development and operation of onshore and offshore wind farms to assist with the decarbonisation of the Irish energy sector in the coming decades and, as with innogy's other new markets, we are aiming to grow battery storage projects as part of our renewables portfolio.

In March 2018, innogy partnered with Irish company Saorgus Energy to continue the development of the Dublin Array Offshore Wind Farm Project, a major offshore development project, located in the Irish Sea off the coast of Dublin, contributing to Ireland's renewable energy mix.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Please find below responses to the most common questions raised during one-to-one consultations within the local community.

1. Health

What impact will the wind farm have on health of all neighbours (including animals)?

There is no empirical evidence to suggest that the existence of a wind farm has an impact on human health (*Common Concerns about Wind Power - 2nded Centre for sustainable Energy, June 2017*). innogy is designing a wind farm that optimizes location of turbines so that they both capture the maximum energy possible while also following best practice guidelines. See also FAQ 7.

2. Shadow Flicker

What is shadow flicker? How does this impact on health?

Shadow flicker is the name given to a phenomenon caused when the sun is behind the turbine blades as it rises or sets, casting a moving shadow over a small opening in a building such as a window, creating a flickering effect within the building. Lyre Wind Farm has been designed to ensure that the effect of shadow flicker is eliminated and will not affect any inhabited properties.

3. Noise

What will the level of the noise be coming from these turbines?

Detailed guidelines on noise form part of Irish planning regulations to prevent undue noise pollution. Noise levels emanating from Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm will be assessed using new and stricter draft planning legislation, as outlined below.

A Targeted Review of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2006 led to the publication in 2017 of a *'Preferred Draft Approach'* which proposes the introduction of a new noise monitoring regime with regard to wind farms. It is intended that local authorities will be responsible for enforcing the noise limits as conditioned in the planning permission for a wind farm, in conjunction with the Environmental Protection Agency, who will provide independent noise monitoring. It is also proposed that where there is evidence of non-compliance with the consented noise limit of a wind farm, turbines will be required to be turned off until compliance with the noise limits is proven.

4. Infrasound

What will the level of the infrasound be coming from these turbines? What impact will this have on health of all neighbours?

Infrasound is a common term given to a specific range of low-frequency noise normally considered inaudible to the human ear. Low Frequency Noise is noise that is dominated by frequency components less than approximately 200Hz, whereas infrasound is typically described as sound at frequencies below 20Hz. As noted in the Environmental Protection Agency document *'Guidance Note for Noise Assessment of Wind Turbine Operations at EPA Licensed Sites (NG3)' (2011)*, there is no empirical evidence that infrasound emanating from a wind farm causes ill health.

The State Institute for Environment, Measurements and Nature Conservation in Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany published a study in September 2012 presenting a concept for measuring low frequency noise including infrasound from operational turbines. Data was collected from receptors at 150m, 300m and 700m from the operating turbines.

The results at distances between 150m and 300m was well below the threshold of human perception in accordance with DIN 45680 (2013 Draft). At a distance of 700m, the measured infrasound level had minimal to no increase in infrasound level.

The study went on to compare levels of low frequency and infrasound recorded in other urban and domestic locations comparative to levels recorded at operational turbines. Levels recorded were significantly higher in (for example) road traffic (directly linked to volume of traffic), within the interior of a mid-range car travelling at 130km/h and during the spin cycle of a washing machine.

5. Layout

When will we see the final turbine layout?

We are still completing the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and wind modelling potential turbine locations. The final layout will be available in Spring 2019. Maps and FAQ-related information will also be made available on the project website www.lyrewindfarm.com

Is the 700m set back distance measured from the main dwelling or the boundary of the property?

The 700m set back distance has been measured from the main dwelling to the base of nearest turbine. This is to comply with the preferred draft approach for the new Wind Energy Guidelines (WEG) due in 2019 of four times tip height. As these turbines are 150m tip height, 600m is the suggested minimum distance of houses to turbines.

6. Aviation & Atmospheric Interference

What will the effects of the red lights on top of the turbines during the night be?

On successful grant of planning, innogy will consult with the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) to establish if any turbines will require aviation warning lights.

What are the impacts on climate and air quality?

Onshore wind farms by their very nature tackle the issue of climate change and improve air quality by reducing the use of fossil fuels. The calculations of total carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission savings and payback time for the proposed development will be outlined in the EIAR and is dependent on the final turbine choice.

Will the turbines affect drone activity & recreation?

Turbines have no effect on drone functionality. Permission to launch a drone relies on landowner consent. After construction, many of the tracks could be used for recreational walking and mountain biking.

7. Ecology

What are the impacts on flora and fauna?

The potential effects of the proposed development, particularly on bird, other animals and flora during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases are being assessed, and will be outlined in full in the EIAR that will be submitted with the planning application and will be available for public view during the consultation period.

What effect will this development have on local equine enterprise and agriculture enterprise?

We have engaged with agricultural and equine businesses in close proximity to wind farms around the country to ask them what their experience is in this regard. We would intend on facilitating meetings with equivalent equine & agricultural businesses to those who would be interested in understanding how both enterprises can function in parallel.

8. Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

When will the EIAR be available?

The EIAR will accompany the planning application and will be available to the public to read from the start of the public consultation process, which begins after the planning application is submitted. The information gathered during our community consultation will be fed directly back into the EIAR to further inform the final design of the windfarm. These surveys are ongoing and include the topics listed below:

Population & Human Health	Hydrology & Hydrogeology	Biodiversity Birds
Shadow Flicker	Air and Climate	Landscape & Visual
Biodiversity Flora & Fauna	Noise and Vibration	Lands, Soils & Geology
Archaeological, Architecture & Cultural Heritage	Material Assets	

9. Drinking Water & Aquatic Ecology Impacts

What will be the impacts on water and sources of our water supply?

As part of the EIA process, a hydrological and hydrogeological consultant has carried out a comprehensive investigation and evaluation of the surface and ground water systems specific to the site and surrounding catchments. Irish Water have additionally been engaged to ascertain any necessary additional information in relation to the water treatment facilities in both Youghal and Tallow.

Within this, information pertaining to the plant itself, the feed-in sources and associated facilities have been inspected and traced. From this, mitigation strategies have been formulated to protect water quality. In general, irrespective of the direction of groundwater flow, the hydrological assessment for the EIAR assumes that all properties located around the Lyre site have a groundwater well and the appropriate measures against any potential effects on these or any water supply will be employed.

What are the impacts if peat bog areas get “sealed” to provide foundation for the turbines?

From a water management point of view, this site is considered by the project team, hydrologists and engineers, as relatively benign particularly due to the fact that there is no peat present.

Are there provisions to prevent water getting heavily silted?

As part of the EIAR process, baseline silt levels will be established relative to the appropriate catchments. During the construction phase, a robust construction environmental management plan (CEMP) will be implemented, including detailed design implementation and monitoring programme. The CEMP will be reviewed, and approved, by the relevant authorities including Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI).

What are the impacts to aquatic life?

The EIAR studies will document any sensitive ecosystems within, adjacent and down gradient of the proposed project. Potential impacts and associated mitigations would be established and specific conditions outlined in the planning permission, if granted.

10. Traffic Management Plan, Local Infrastructure & Services Provider

What will be the impacts on local infrastructure and use of local roads?

The nature of the proposed development is that it would result in increased traffic movements during its construction phase, but negligible increases in traffic during its operational phases. A traffic management plan (TMP) will be drafted in consultation with, and approval of, local authorities. This would include establishing designated delivery routes, complete with monitoring and inspection programmes and upgrade of roads as required. Advance notice of traffic disruption and diversions will be advertised and communicated locally in advance. Primary commuting routes should not be impacted as part of the TMP.

What are the impacts on mobile phone / mobile broadband / TV reception?

Scoping and consultation with national and regional broadcasters will be carried out as part of the EIAR process. During the pre-construction phase, a baseline study would be conducted to assess communication infrastructure, including reception and coverage locally. This would provide comparable data to establish if the turbines had a significant impact when operational.

The ‘Wind Energy Development Guidelines for Planning Authorities’ (Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2006) states that interference with broadcast communications can be overcome for example by the installation of deflectors or repeaters mounted on mitigation masts if required.

11. Tourism

What will the impacts on tourism be?

There is no evidence that wind farms negatively affect tourism. With regard to recreation and tourism assets in the area, no direct or indirect negative effects are expected during the construction or operation of the proposed development.

BiGGAR Economics undertook an independent study in Scotland in 2016, entitled ‘Wind Farms and Tourism Trends in Scotland’. Overall, the study stated that there is no negative relationship between the development of onshore wind farms and tourism employment within the Scottish economy, at local authority level, or areas immediately surrounding wind farm development.

A Fáilte Ireland survey found that of 1,000 domestic and foreign tourists who holidayed in Ireland during 2012, over half of tourists said that they had seen a wind turbine while travelling around the country. Of this number of tourists, 21% claimed wind turbines had a negative impact on the landscape. However, 32% said that it enhanced the surrounding landscape, while 47% said that it made no difference to the landscape. Almost 75% of respondents claim that potentially greater numbers of wind farms would either have no impact on their likelihood to visit or have a strong or fairly strong positive impact on future visits to the island of Ireland. (Fáilte Ireland Newsletter 2012/No.1 ‘Visitor Attitudes on the Environment: Wind Farms – Update on 2007 Research’).

12. Carbon footprint of turbine manufacture & construction

What amount of energy and CO₂ is involved in making the turbines?

The EIAR for the proposed development will include a detailed analysis of the Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) losses and savings associated with the proposed development. The model used for calculating CO₂ losses is based on the ‘Calculating carbon savings from wind farms on Scottish peat lands’ methodology, established in 2008 (and updated in 2011) by scientists at the University of Aberdeen

and the Macaulay Institute, with support from the Rural and Environment Research and Analysis Directorate of the Scottish Government, Science Policy and Co-ordination Division. While there is no peat present at the proposed development site, the Macaulay Institute model can be used to calculate all potential CO₂ expected to be generated by proposed wind farm, associated with the manufacture, transportation and erection of turbines, including felling of forestry and the removal of vegetation.

The CO₂ offset, or savings, associated to the proposed wind farm, will also be calculated, based on the rated capacity of the wind farm. The rated capacity means the total MW generated, taking into account the intermittent nature of wind, the availability of wind turbines & array losses, the carbon load in grams per kWh (kilowatt hour) of electricity generated and distributed via the national grid. The carbon load figure is provided annually by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland. This calculation shows how many tonnes of CO₂ will be displaced / saved per annum as a result of operation of the proposed wind farm.

Overall, for the majority of wind farms, the amount of CO₂ that is lost to the atmosphere as a result of their construction and operation is offset by the CO₂ savings made by the wind farm within approximately its first year of operation.

13. Cumulative Effect on the Neighbourhood & Property

What cumulative impact will this project have on the value of the neighbourhood?

Evidence from operational wind farms would suggest that a well-designed and implemented project, in conjunction with the community benefit fund and local business rates contribution, could have an indirect positive effect on the local area. Making use of new and existing tracks as sport and leisure facilities (e.g. in the form of nature trails, walking routes, cycle tracks, outdoor gyms and equine trails) can be a welcome addition to the local community. As examples: <https://www.scottishpower.co.uk/whitelee/> and <https://www.bordnamona.ie/corporate-responsibility/amenities/mount-lucas/>

Under new industry guidelines, community benefit funding underpins project proposals and approval. innogy envisage the implementation of a community benefit fund that would be set up and designed to enable the community themselves to manage and implement funding for clubs or groups, local projects, develop facility's and amenities or could be used in conjunction with the SEAI grants scheme for home improvements. See link for examples: <https://www.seai.ie/grants/home-energy-grants/#comp00005b3cd2ca000000b2ba5132>

What impact will the project have on the property prices?

There are no known empirical studies carried out on the impacts of wind farms on property prices in Ireland. There are however a number of studies carried out in the UK and the U.S. A research study conducted by The Scottish Climate exchange in 2016 to estimate the impact on house prices from wind farm development, suggested that there is no evidence of a consistent negative effect on house prices in the vicinity of wind farm developments (Professor Gwilym Pryce, Dr. Stephen Heblich, Dr. Dan Olnier, & Professor Chris Timmins – Sheffield Univerity, University of Edinburgh, University of Bristol, Duke University 2016). The study included the analysis of over 500,000 property sales in Scotland between 1990 and 2014 and further develops studies conducted in England relating to the impact from wind farms on house prices (Gibbons 2014). An influencing factor mentioned in the study that had a bearing on property price was the fact that some wind farms examined provided economic or leisure benefits (e.g. community funds or increasing access to rural landscapes by providing tracks for cycling, walking or horse riding etc.).

14. Community Consultation

Can you clarify which individuals and/or groups have been consulted within the community?

- A public information day was held 31st May 2018 in KGK Community Centre in Knockanore from 4pm – 9pm.
- A door – to – door engagement programme ran from August to October 2018, where every house within 2km of the proposed project was approached. In the event of no one being home, contact details were left to facilitate a call back.
- Members of the community continue to be invited to get in touch with queries or concerns about the project by calling **056-771-5782** or emailing lyre@innogy.com. The project team will be available to discuss the final layout and results of the EIAR studies. Also we will have useful hyperlinks to references and studies mentioned in this document on the website.
- A letter was delivered to all houses within 2km of the proposed project in November. It listed the queries and concerns locally up to that point. This was a final check to ensure all queries were into account before the compiling this document.

Subject to demand, we intend to have further meetings with members of the community with a particular interest in aspects of the project. Otherwise, feedback received has indicated a preference towards one – to – one meetings.

We would like to hear from you about this proposed project. Please contact us on **056-771-5782** or at lyre@innogy.com to organise a private one to one consultation with a member of the innogy project team to discuss any points mentioned in this letter or renewable energy in general and how it can benefit your community.



Your Community
Our Commitment



innogy



Your community — our commitment

Ireland is going through a major energy transition

It is the Irish Government's intention that by 2050 our homes, cars, workplaces, shops, schools and leisure centres will be powered by electricity from a renewable source that is generated in Ireland. Every member of Irish society will play a key role in delivering this transition. Communities that host a renewable energy project – onshore wind, offshore wind, biomass, hydro or solar – are playing a very important role.

As an experienced and responsible company, Innogy Renewables Ireland (innogy) is committed to ensuring that communities which host our renewable energy schemes are able to share in the Ireland-wide economic and environmental benefits that these projects can deliver as well as more specific local benefits.

One of the largest energy utilities in Germany, innogy SE has a significant footprint in other European markets. We have a renewable generation capacity of over 3.9GW, including over 1.9GW of onshore wind and over 1GW of offshore wind, producing over 10billion kWh per annum in total across ten European countries. We have recently also expanded into new markets in Europe, the US, Australia and Asia. For further information visit www.innogy.com

Benefits of renewable energy



Lower electricity prices.



Funding to spend on local buildings and projects.



More jobs and employment opportunities.



Reduced reliance on fossil fuels.



Improved air quality.



Onshore — Our new onshore wind farms in Ireland will support our neighbours in two ways.

- 01** An annual fund for the local community that lasts as long as the wind farm is operational.
- 02** The opportunity for the local community to invest in the new onshore wind farm.

In Ireland, innogy's onshore wind farm community funds are all about enabling local people to solve problems and make life-enhancing improvements to their local area. Every community has different needs and ambitions, so it makes sense for our funds to be flexible and accessible

and we listen to community members' thoughts on how to make the most of them.

Our bespoke approach to each new area means that we can work with local people and groups to tailor funding to meet the needs of individual communities and households living close to our sites. We aim to put decision making as to how the fund is spent into the hands of local representatives so that local people can make decisions about how their community is supported and address what is most important to them.

Your community fund could be used for a whole variety of projects that benefit the quality of life for residents, for example, community transport schemes, projects to improve broadband, community



Onshore and offshore

innogy is committed to supporting the communities in which we operate.

buildings and groups, tourism initiatives and the development of job opportunities. The decisions will be made by a local community panel that the community fund administrator will help you to set up.

Local community investment in renewable electricity projects is commonplace in innogy's home market of Germany. We are currently working with Irish industry and community project stakeholders to assist us in designing a successful community investment model that will meet the needs of Irish communities and will allow individuals or groups to share directly in the financial benefits of the Irish renewable electricity transition.

Offshore — With our offshore wind farm projects, we are also committed to supporting the local communities in which we operate. innogy has partnered with Saorgus Energy to develop Dublin Array Offshore Wind Farm. As the project progresses we will work with communities to develop our approach to supporting the local area. More information on the Dublin Array scheme is available at www.dublinarray.com

Our offer to your community

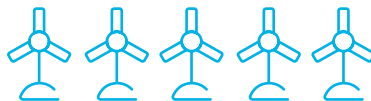
- Annual payments to our onshore wind farm community funds will be worth €2 per megawatt (MW) hour for each year over the lifetime of Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS), which we expect to be in the region of 15 years.
- innogy has elected to continue making payments after RESS. Annual payments after the lifetime of RESS will be worth €1,000 per MW installed capacity.
- Each fund needs to be administered to ensure transparency and any administration costs will be paid out of the annual fund sum.

Total funds generated from a 10 turbine site:

€3,481,950

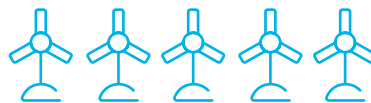
Per year of the lifetime of RESS

€208,130



Per year for remainder of project lifetime

€36,000



10 turbine site

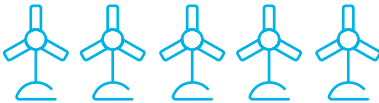
=  36MW

.....
Total funds generated
from a 20 turbine site:

€6,963,900

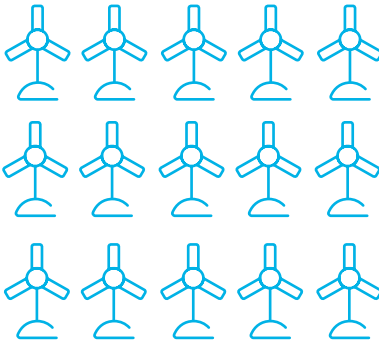
.....
Per year of the
lifetime of RESS

€416,260



.....
Per year for remainder
of project lifetime

€72,000



.....
20 turbine site

=  72MW

The funding process

- 01 innogy will consult with members of the community to collect local views on who should benefit from funding, who should be on the community panel and how should funding be invested.
- 02 innogy appoints an independent administrator with the appropriate legal structure and experience to support the community panel in administering funds.
- 03 Legal agreement between innogy and the administrator secures community fund for the future.
- 04 Community panel recruited and trained.
- 05 Community panel and administrator agree terms of reference for the panel.
- 06 Community panel decides how funding is split between **"Homes"** and **"Community"**.
- 07 Community panel makes decisions about fund applications.
- 08 Administrator advertises availability of funds, supports panel, manages application process, provides support for applicants, monitors awards.
- 09 Administrator shares annual report with the local community.
- 10 Administrator shares community fund information on the new Community Benefit Register.



The community panel

Your community panel will be a diverse group of local people recruited by the community fund administrator through a simple application process. Applications will be invited from local people who have an interest in, and passion for, making a difference in their local area. Panel members may be young or old, working, retired or unemployed. They may come from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences. The more mixed and diverse the panel, the more representative of the local community it is likely to be. During the decision making process, panel members will be asked to declare if they have an interest in any of the projects being discussed.



Homes — funds can provide direct support to the wind farm's nearest neighbours.

Community panel decides how much to invest in this scheme.

Could be available to households up to 2km from the site.

Households can select:

- A Annual contribution towards energy bill**
Benefit – reduced electricity cost.
- B Join the Energy Saving Scheme**
 - Higher level of funding per household per year.
 - Home energy audit.
 - Annual contribution towards energy saving measures which could include insulation, solar PV, heat pumps and electric vehicle charging points.
 - Assistance in accessing other funding available.

Benefits – Reduced electricity costs, improved Building Energy Rating Value on your property (increasing property value) and reduced emissions.



Community — a flexible funding program that can provide local people with the resources, flexibility and support to realise their ambitions and plan for the future with more confidence. This is especially true if our support attracts matched funding from other sources – putting much bigger projects within easier reach of the communities where we operate.

- 01** Community panel decides how much to invest in this scheme.
- 02** Potential for wider and more flexible area of benefit – agreed following feedback from local community.
- 03** Community panel helps to set funding themes and guidelines.
- 04** Simple, open and transparent application process.
- 05** Can be delivered through grants and/or interest-free loans.



innogy Community Funding in action

In 2018, renewable energy projects operated by innogy invested €2,774,648.70 into their neighbouring local communities, with decisions made by local people.



Grant of over €4,450 to support older people in Conwy.

Clwb yr efail is a friendship group supporting older people in Conwy, enabling them to meet, enjoy a hot meal and engage with likeminded people. The group's mission is to fight loneliness by providing transport and a place at the club so individuals are not housebound or isolated. Clwb yr efail used a grant of just over €4,450 from the Gwynt y Môr Offshore Wind Farm to make much needed improvements to their premises. The total Gwynt y Môr Community Fund is worth over €906,000 per year.



€55,626 grant to help reinvigorate local community hall.

A number of grants totalling almost €55,626 from the An Suidhe Wind Farm have helped the **Furnace Amenity Association** turn an ageing village hall into a vibrant modernised hub for the local community. The new welcoming environment has resulted in more local residents attending events, including many more young people. The grants have allowed them to add a small extension to the hall to accommodate a meeting room and a community-run bar so as to offset the loss of the village pub. Combined with replacement windows, new seating, a hot water cylinder and acoustic panels this much needed funding has transformed the building. The total An Suidhe Community Fund is worth over €43,000 per year.



Bradwell-on-Sea,
Essex, England

Saving their local shop



Four grants totalling €25,217 from Bradwell Wind Farm Community Fund.

When the landlord of their local shop decided to sell up, villagers of Bradwell-on-Sea in Essex faced losing the much-loved community asset entirely. A grant of just €4,005 from Bradwell Wind Farm Community Fund kicked off a new project by funding a feasibility study and business plan that enabled the community to decide the retail business was most definitely viable. In addition, the grant funded preparations for the share issue – which raised nearly €50,000 from the community. The project continues to deliver an important service to the local area and, with further funding from the wind farm, has now completed a refurbishment and expanded to offer a coffee and chat area. The total Bradwell Community Fund is worth over €42,000 per year.



Brechfa Forest Wind Farm

Helped fund local sports pitch at
secondary school



A grant of €13,143 saved the 326 bus route in Rye, East Sussex.

Rye and District Community Transport saved the 326 bus route in Rye, East Sussex when it was axed by the local authority. Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm provided four grants of €13,143 over 4 years that have contributed towards purchasing buses and covering running costs. The route now runs 6 days a week providing a vital connection between the town and other parts of the area including the hospital.



Received €61,188 over 2 years towards a 3G Sports Pitch.

The local secondary school to **Brechfa Forest Wind Farm, Camarthenshire** has received €61,188 over 2 years towards a 3G Sports Pitch. This grant will make a significant contribution towards the final funding shortfall for this project meaning that it can go ahead. It will be the only all-weather pitch of its kind in the county and, at the request of the grant making panel, the school will provide free sessions to clubs and groups closest to the wind farm. The total Brechfa Forest Community Fund is worth over €520,000 per year.



SJ Noble Foundation

Promotes regeneration in rural Argyll and Bute, Scotland.



A €5,562 grant helped them to secure even more match funding.

SJ Noble Foundation promotes economic regeneration in rural Argyll and Bute. By clever use of a €5,562 grant from An Suidhe Wind Farm the foundation were able to secure even more match funding. The foundation is also using the funds to provide financial assistance to new or existing small local businesses through interest-free loans or grants as well as offering business advice. Many small businesses struggle to secure funds from traditional sources, and do not meet the criteria for public funding, so would struggle to start up or develop without this kind of alternative support.

Opportunities for communities to invest in our projects



Up to 400 cooperative members invested €500,000 into Jüchen Wind Farm.

Jüchen Onshore Wind Farm, Rhein-Kreis district of Neuss, a two turbine site operated by innogy, is a role model for energy transition. Shareholders in the project are diverse, and include a local energy cooperative, BürgerEnergie eG, representing up to 400 members who invested €500,000, as well as other investors including three municipal utilities.

In Germany, innogy is experienced at working with partners that represent their local communities. Königshovener Höhe Onshore Wind Farm is a 21 turbine site which innogy operate together with the town of Bedburg.

Eschweiler Onshore Wind Farm is a 13 turbine site which innogy operate together with two municipal companies, the EWV GmbH from Stolberg and the rurenergie GmbH from Düren.

Tell us what you think

ireland@innogy.com

Phone: (056) 771 5782



Glossary

01 Building Energy Rating Value

(page 7)

A rating on the overall energy efficiency of a building.

02 Capacity Factor

(page 17)

A measure of the relationship between the amount of energy a generator produces and the amount it could produce if it operated as effectively as possible.

03 Match funding

(page 14)

The stipulation set by some grant-providing bodies that the recipients of a grant raise a certain percentage of the money they require from other sources. Community funds can be used to match some grants and make even more money available to the community.

04 Megawatt (MW)

(page 4)

A unit for measuring electrical power which is equivalent to 1 million watts.

05 Megawatt hour (MWh)

(page 4)

A megawatt hour is 1 million watts of electrical power used for 1 hour.

06 Megawatt installed capacity

(page 4)

Is the maximum output of electrical power that a generator can produce under ideal conditions.

07 Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS)

(page 4)

Irish Government scheme to provide support to renewable electricity projects in Ireland.

08 Total funds generated

(page 4-5)

- Example RESS community payment calculations are based on the assumption of a 3.6MW turbine with a capacity factor of 0.33.
- $3.6\text{MW} \times 1\text{ turbine} \times 365\text{ days} \times 24\text{ hours} \times 0.33\text{ Capacity Factor} = 10,406\text{MWh} \times \text{€}2 = \text{€}20,813$ per year or $\text{€}5,781$ per MW installed capacity.

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APPENDIX 5

**AUGUST 2020 PROJECT UPDATE
AND NEWSLETTER**



24th August 2020

Email: lyre@rwe.com

Ref: Lyrenacarriga Proposed Windfarm Update

Dear Resident,

Please find enclosed a newsletter providing an update to the community on the proposed Lyrenacarriga windfarm, together with a map illustrating the proposed turbine layout.

We would also like to invite you to view the proposed turbine layout and further information on the project at www.lyrewindfarm.com.

Following on from engagement undertaken in 2018 and 2019, we had intended to undertake a further round of community consultation including door-to-door engagement and a community hall event. In adherence with on-going COVID - 19 restrictions and associated government guidelines, as an alternative we have set up a virtual hall platform on the project website.

The virtual hall platform provides a project update and timelines, a view of the proposed turbine layout and photo montage imagery of the proposed development from a range of representative viewpoints within the locality and the wider East Cork and West Waterford area.

If you have any questions about the information presented in this newsletter, the website or on the virtual platform, please email us at lyre@rwe.com or telephone 056-7715782 and a member of the development team will be happy to get back to you.

Yours sincerely,
Charlie Langley

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Charlie Langley'.

Project Manager
RWE Renewables Ireland

Innogy Renewables Ireland Limited

Unit 5, Desart House, Lower New Street Co. Kilkenny Ireland

Registered Office: Innogy Renewables Ireland Limited · Unit 5, Desart House, Lower New Street, Kilkenny, Ireland.

Registered in Ireland no. 589120

Directors: Cathal Hennessy, George Tottenham, Peter Lefroy, Ben Freeman (British), Martin Andre-Ferreira (British)

Community & Business Benefits

Community Benefit Fund

Should Lyrencarriga Wind Farm be consented, it has the potential to provide significant additional investment into community projects that will benefit local residents and businesses.

Following the publication of the DCCAE's Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS) and the terms of conditions of the first auction under the scheme, RESS1 taking place this year (2020), it is anticipated that based on the requirement for all projects to contribute €2 per MWh of output, a community fund in the region of €6,000 per MW of installed capacity per annum could be available.

This means that a wind farm at Lyrenacarriga of 60 MW to 85 MW capacity could result in a fund upward of €360,000 per year for the local community, subject to the final installed capacity (MW) and output (MWh) of the wind farm. This represents a dependable source of income for the communities local to Lyrenacarriga.

RWE Renewables Ireland supports the development of a funding process that puts decision making on what funds are spent where in the hands of local people. The flexibility of the investment that could come from Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm would mean that a panel of local community representatives could decide how to invest the income in a variety of projects that will benefit residents, local businesses and the community as a whole including creating job opportunities and skills development, tourism initiatives and area regeneration projects.

RWE have demonstrable experience in the delivery of large community benefit funds in other jurisdictions and are committed to ensuring that our projects meet or indeed exceed emerging best practice from the DCCAE and the DHPLG on Community Benefit.

Potential community shared ownership

A further potential income stream could come via RWE Renewables Ireland offering the local community the opportunity to participate in a community shared ownership scheme whereby they could invest in the wind farm in return for a share of future revenue.

Supply chain opportunities & jobs

During the construction phase of the wind farm, there will be supply chain opportunities for local businesses leading to an increase in local investment and job opportunities. Prior to construction starting, RWE Renewables Ireland will award the principle contract for Civil Balance of Plant supply and installation of the turbines, and the Electrical Balance of Plant contract.

Once these main contracts have been placed, there will be potential opportunities for supply chain companies in the region to tender for subcontracts. The types of businesses that could benefit from this expenditure is wide ranging, and is likely to include: traffic management; materials supply; plant hire; fencing, fuel, security, waste management, signing and lighting, telecommunications, drainage, catering and hotel and B&B businesses.

Payment of business rates to local council

A significant wider benefit of the proposed Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm is the annual business rates contribution estimated to be in excess of €800,000.00 for the full life of the wind farm. These business rates will be paid locally and contributions will significantly benefit the wider local economy.

Next steps

Using the contact details on the front page of this newsletter, if you have any questions or comments you would like to make please email, write or telephone to speak to us about the project. We intend to submit the planning application for Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm to An Bord Pleanála at the end of Autumn 2020.

At that time, everyone will have an opportunity to submit a letter of support, objection, or an observation on the application to An Bord Pleanála. We will publicise when this submission period opens on our website, in newspapers and by any other means agreed with An Bord Pleanála.

RWE

Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm

Newsletter

August 2020

This newsletter is intended to update the local community on the development of Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm, and includes information on the proposed turbine layout, online virtual consultation event and project development timescales as well as contact details for any questions or feedback that you may have.

All of this information, and more, in the form of a virtual online exhibition can be viewed on the project website www.lyrewindfarm.com

Photomontages that indicate the potential views of turbines from a number of identified key view-points around the site will also available online at www.lyrewindfarm.com

Company Update

On 30 June 2020, innogy Renewables Ireland became RWE Renewables Ireland. RWE now stands as the world's second largest offshore wind developer and third largest provider of renewable electricity across Europe. This concludes a process which has been ongoing for some time.

RWE Renewables Ireland is operating and developing a number of renewable projects in Ireland, across a range of renewable energy technologies. We have a

range of projects, including onshore wind, offshore wind and battery storage. Our projects, when completed, will power homes, factories, transport and services, providing clean energy for Ireland's economy and society. Collectively, they will make a major impact in reducing Ireland's emissions.

RWE plans to invest €5 billion by 2022 on renewables projects – with Ireland planned to play an important role in that investment.

Key Project Facts

The proposed wind farm site is located approximately 5 kilometres southeast of Tallow, Co. Waterford and approximately 15 kilometres northwest of Youghal Co. Cork. The total site area measures approximately 799 hectares. The site elevation ranges between approximately 140 metres and 210 metres above ordnance datum.

The site, which straddles the county boundary between Co. Waterford and Co. Cork, comprises lands including Lyrenacarriga, Lyre Mountain, Ballycondon Commons, Kilcalf Mountain, Ballycolman, Rearour North, Corrandromaun, Kilnafurrery, Kilcronat Mountain, Propoge, Shanpollagh and Knockakeo. The majority of the proposed wind farm site is currently commercial forestry, with other areas used for agriculture. These land uses will be able to continue in conjunction with a wind farm development at the site.

Based on the results from the environmental and technical surveys that have been undertaken, it is considered that:

- The site can accommodate up to 17 wind turbines
- Each wind turbine will up to 150 metres tall (from the turbine base to the top of the turbine blade, when blades are in an upright position)
- The installed capacity of each wind turbine will be between 3.5 and 5 megawatts (MW)
- A minimum setback distance of 700 metres can be achieved from all properties

Your views matter to us

Your views matter. That's why we are providing everyone in the community with an opportunity to find out more about our final proposals and to enable you to ask any questions. You can submit your feedback to us via email, written letter or telephone, whichever is easiest for you.



Telephone
056 771 5782



Email
lyre@rwe.com



Post
Lyre Wind Farm, RWE,
Unit 5 Desart House,
Lower New Street, Kilkenny City

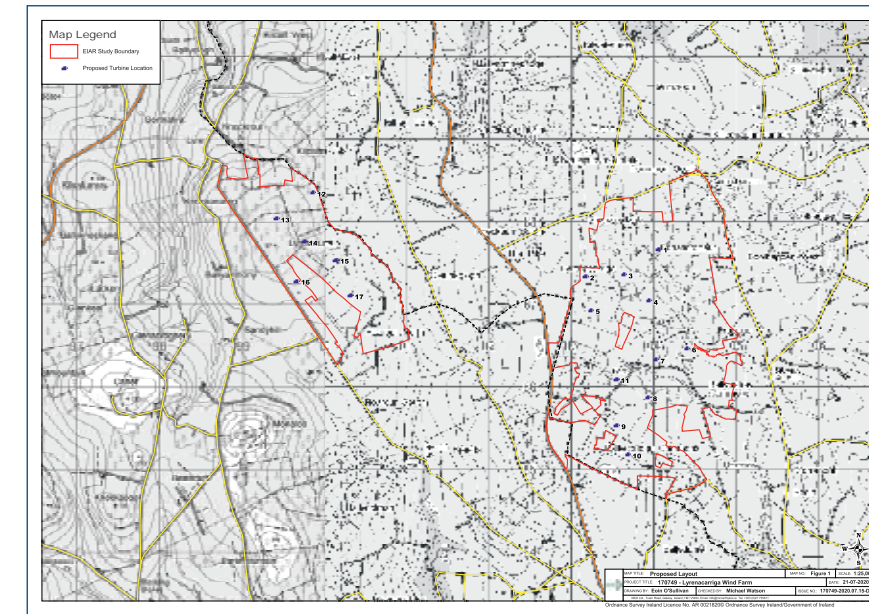
www.lyrewindfarm.com

Development of turbine layout plan

At our public information event in May 2018, we presented the potential for up to 25 turbines within the viable area of the proposed site. It has been a lengthy process to get to the final turbine layout (comprising 17 turbines), during which we have undertaken extensive environmental and technical surveys as well as consultation with local residents within 2km of the site, to ensure that we have designed the most effective wind farm that will help to deliver Ireland's 2030 energy targets.

The wind farm design has been governed by national guidance on many criteria including; noise, set back distance and shadow flicker, hydrology & hydrogeology as well as comprehensive environmental impact assessments.

Surveys have been carried out in the following areas, amongst others. Full details will be submitted on a dedicated project website, once the application has been submitted.



- Shadow Flicker
- Biodiversity: Flora & Fauna
- Biodiversity: Birds
- Land, Soils and Geology
- Hydrology and Hydrogeology
- Air and Climate
- Noise and Vibration
- Landscape and Visual
- Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage

The results of these surveys, along with feedback from statutory consultees and members of the public, including your opinion, have contributed to finalising the design of the wind farm.



Project Timeline

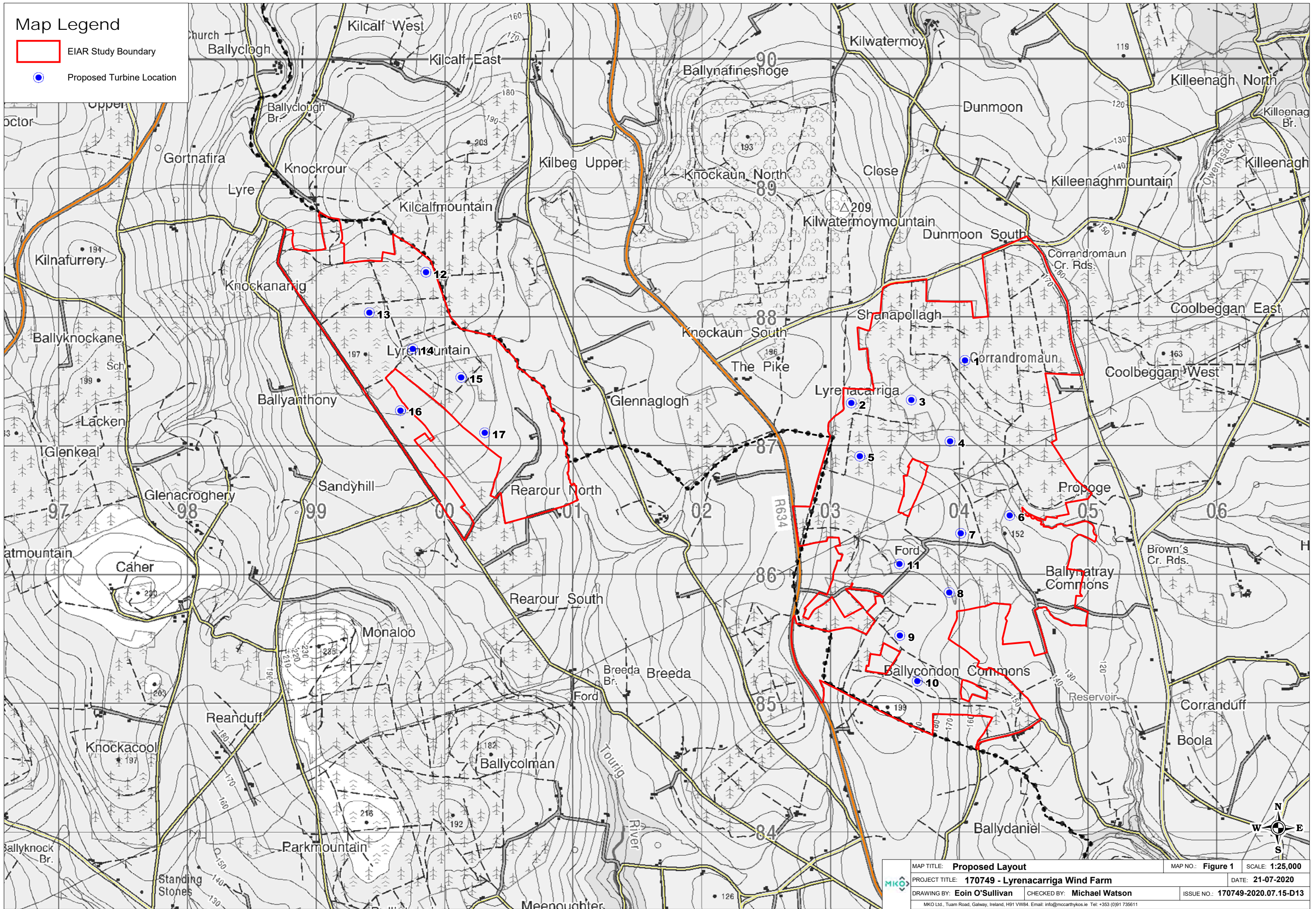
Please note that a planning application has not yet been submitted for Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm. It is our intention to submit a Strategic Infrastructure Development application to An Bord Pleanála in Autumn 2020.

Once submitted, all planning application documents and drawings will be available for viewing in the offices of Waterford County Council, Cork County Council and An Bord Pleanála, and on a dedicated project website.

Following lodgement of the application, members of the community can make submissions to An Bord Pleanála during the public consultation period (duration to be specified by An Bord Pleanála; minimum 7 weeks) and RWE Renewables will need to respond to these submissions.

Map Legend

-  EIAR Study Boundary
-  Proposed Turbine Location



MAP TITLE: Proposed Layout	MAP NO.: Figure 1	SCALE: 1:25,000
PROJECT TITLE: 170749 - Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm	DATE: 21-07-2020	
DRAWING BY: Eoin O'Sullivan	CHECKED BY: Michael Watson	ISSUE NO.: 170749-2020.07.15-D13
<small>MKO Ltd., Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland, H91 VW84. Email: info@mkocarthykos.ie Tel: +353 (0)91 735611</small>		



APPENDIX 6

**AUGUST 2020 VIRTUAL PUBLIC
INFORMATION EVENT
INFORMATION BOARDS**

RWE

Due to COVID – 19 Public Health Restrictions we are unable to hold our planned face to face consultation event and have moved to an online platform.

We are pleased to share our virtual public exhibition with you. Please visit www.lyrewindfarm.com where you will be able to view updated project information, photomontages and the proposed turbine layout.

If you would like more information, request an information pack or to discuss your comments please:

- Email: lyre@rwe.com
- Telephone: 056 771 5782 during office hours. (9.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday)
- Look at the comprehensive set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) available to download from this webpage

www.lyrewindfarm.com

anpost
commerce

AdMailer

Return address: Unit 17/18 Holly Avenue, Sillanpää Ind. Pk, Co. Dublin

Postage Paid Postcode 00000	Registration 123456789
€	Leadlines 10154

RWE

Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm

Online Public Exhibition Launched

August 2020

www.lyrewindfarm.com



Welcome to the Lyrenacarriga wind farm virtual exhibition

The proposed Lyrenacarriga windfarm is being developed by Curns Energy Limited, a joint venture between Innogy Renewables Ireland Ltd (now called RWE Renewables Ireland) and Highfield Energy Ltd. The purpose of this virtual public exhibition is to:

- Share our proposed turbine layout map with you
- Explain why this site and layout have been selected;
- Provide an overview of technical and environmental impact assessments which have been undertaken
- Describe the potential benefits the proposed Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm could bring to the community
- Provide you with the opportunity to ask the wind farm development team any questions you might have about the potential development and to give us feedback on the proposal.

If you have any questions about the information presented here, please email us at lyre@rwe.com or telephone 056 771 5782 and a member of the development team who will be happy to help you.



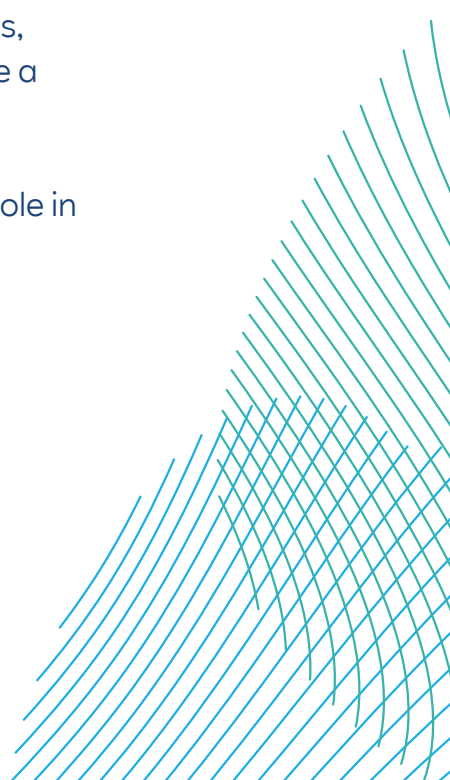


Company update

On 30 June 2020, Innogy Renewables became RWE Renewables, the newest subsidiary of the RWE Group, one of the world's leading renewable energy companies. This concludes a process which has been ongoing for some time. It will not impact on the team in Ireland, except in new email addresses and branding on our website.

RWE Renewables Ireland is operating and developing a number of renewable projects in Ireland, across a range of renewable energy technologies. We have up to 1.3GW of projects in our development portfolio, including onshore wind, offshore wind and battery storage. Our projects, when completed, will power homes, factories, transport and services, providing clean energy for Ireland's economy and society. Collectively, they will make a major contribution to reducing Ireland's emissions.

RWE plans to invest €5 billion by 2022 on renewables projects – with Ireland planned to play an important role in that investment.





About the Lyrenacarriga wind farm site

Location and description

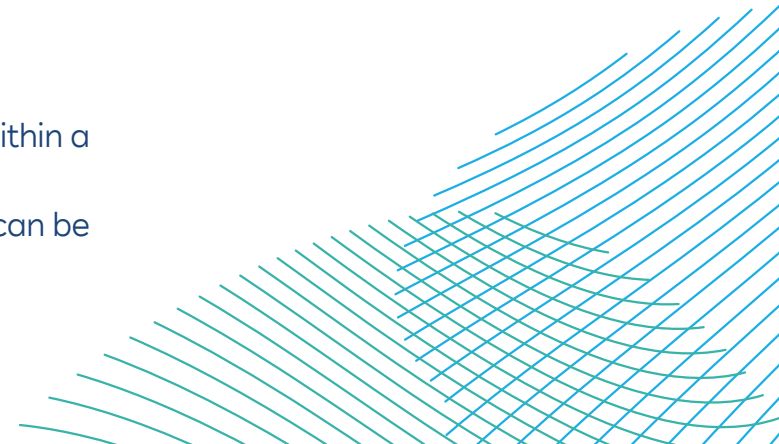
The wind farm site is located approximately 5 kilometres southeast of Tallow, Co. Waterford and approximately 15 kilometres northwest of Youghal Co. Cork. The total site area measures approximately 799 hectares. The site elevation ranges between approximately 140 metres and 210 metres above ordnance datum.

The site, which straddles the county boundary between Co. Waterford and Co. Cork, comprises lands including Lyrenacarriga, Lyre Mountain, Ballycondon Commons, Kilcalf Mountain, Ballycolman, Rearour North, Corrandromaun, Kilnafurrery, Kilcronat Mountain, Propoge, Shanpollagh and Knockakeo.

The majority of the proposed wind farm site is currently commercial forestry, with other areas used for agriculture. These land uses will be able to continue in conjunction with a wind farm development at the site.

Why have we chosen this site?

- The section of the site in Co. Waterford is located within a 'Preferred' area for wind energy development, as designated by the Wind Energy Strategy as part of Waterford County Development Plan 2011-2017 (as extended).
- The section of the site located in Co. Cork is located within an area 'Open to Consideration' for wind energy development, as designated by the Wind Energy Strategy as part of Cork County Development Plan 2014.
- The site has good annual average wind speeds.
- The site is not located within a Natura 2000 site, meaning that it is not located within a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or a Special Protection Area (SPA).
- Existing onsite roads/tracks will be used where possible. The onsite road access can be readily improved to make turbine transport straightforward; and locally the road network can be improved as required.



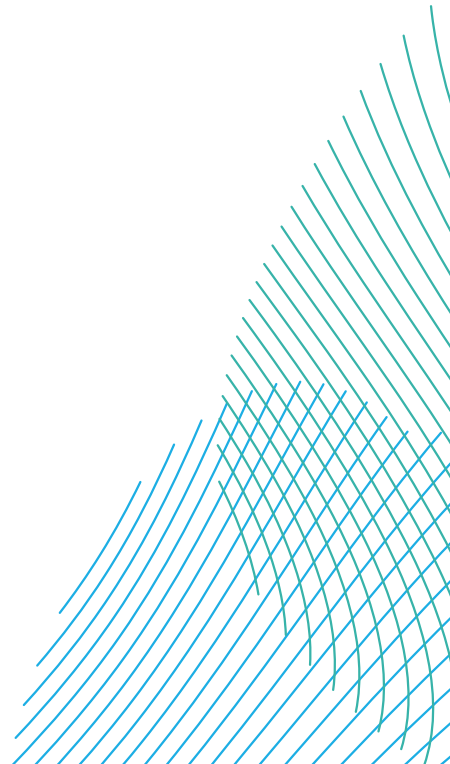
The proposed development

Based on the results from the environmental and technical surveys that have been undertaken, it is considered that:

- The proposed site can accommodate 17 wind turbines
- The tip height of each wind turbine will be up to 150m tall (from the turbine base to the top of the turbine blade, when blades are in an upright position)
- The installed capacity of each wind turbine will be up to 5 megawatts (MW)
- A minimum setback distance of 700 metres can be achieved from properties

In addition to the construction of the wind turbines, the development would also encompass the following infrastructure and ancillary works:

- Upgrade of existing onsite roads on the site and construction of proposed new access roads;
- Upgrade of existing site entrance(s) or construction of new site entrance(s);
- 'Borrow pits' for the sourcing rock on-site;
- Electricity substation, wind farm control buildings, storage facility & ancillary works.;
- Temporary construction compounds;
- Permanent anemometry mast;
- Detailed drainage design;
- Connection to the national electricity grid;
- Potential recreation or amenity facilities.



The planning process

Scoping and Consultation

Throughout the scoping of the project and in the preparation of Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), we have not identified any significant issues. A Scoping Document was circulated to statutory and non-statutory consultees in 2018 and 2019, which provided them with an opportunity to comment and to inform the development design and assessment process. The feedback received from those consultees, and throughout the public consultation process has informed the proposed development design and assessments undertaken during the EIAR preparation.

Community Consultation

Since the first public information day held at the KGK Hall on 31 May 2108, we have carried out a comprehensive engagement programme with the communities closest to the proposed development.

A door – to – door engagement programme ran from August to October 2018, where every house within 2km of the proposed project was approached. In the event of no one being home, contact details were left to facilitate a call back.

A letter was delivered to all houses within 2km of the proposed project in November 2018 and this was followed up in March 2019. These letters addressed the queries and concerns raised locally up to that point.

It was intended that a further round of door-to-door consultation and engagement during Spring 2020 would go ahead. However, due to Covid-19 health & safety restrictions we have been unable to do so and therefore are presenting a virtual opportunity for you to view the updated information and to consult with us.

Members of the community continue to be invited to get in touch with queries or concerns about the project by calling 056-771-5782 or emailing lyre@rwe.com . The project team will be available to discuss the final layout and results of the EIAR studies. Also we have useful hyperlinks to references and studies on the website that may be of interest to you.

Planning Application

The project was deemed a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) in May 2020 and therefore the intention is that Curns Energy Ltd will submit the planning permission application directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the requirements of Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006.

Once submitted, all planning application documents and drawings will be available for viewing in the offices of Waterford County Council, Cork County Council and An Bord Pleanála, and on a dedicated project website. Following lodgement of the application, members of the community can make submissions to An Bord Pleanála during the public consultation period (duration to be specified by An Bord Pleanála; minimum 7 weeks) and Curns Energy Ltd need to respond to these submissions.

Timeline

It is our current intention to submit this planning application in Autumn 2020.

Frequently Asked Questions

Following consultation and discussion with residents we have created a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and have provided answers to each of these questions. These FAQs can be accessed on the project website via www.lyrewindfarm.com

These include queries about:

- Health
- Noise
- Infrasound
- Shadow Flicker
- Water and hydrology issues
- Tourism

If you have any other questions that you would like to see added to this list please contact us lyre@rwe.com

Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), which outlines the results of all the surveys undertaken in respect of the development, will accompany the planning application to An Bord Pleanála. The EIAR details the results of all assessments carried out under the following categories:

1. Introduction
2. Background to the Proposed Development
3. Site Selection and Reasonable Alternatives
4. Description of the Proposed Development
5. Population & Human Health
6. Shadow Flicker
7. Biodiversity: Flora & Fauna
8. Birds
9. Land, Soils and Geology
10. Water
11. Air and Climate
12. Landscape and Visual
13. Noise and Vibration
14. Cultural Heritage
15. Material Assets
16. Interaction of Effects
17. Schedule of Mitigation

The results of these surveys, along with feedback from statutory consultees and members of the public, have informed the final design of the wind farm.

Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) (Continued)

Access, Traffic and Transport

The proposed wind farm site is accessed via local roads from the R634 Regional Road, which travels between Tallow and Youghal, and the R627 Regional Road, which travels between Tallow and Middleton. The site itself is served by a number of existing forestry roads, which have been incorporated into the site design. The design and construction of access to the proposed site has been assessed and will be described as part of the Description of the Proposed Development and Traffic and Transport sections of the EIAR.

The delivery of the wind turbine components and all other construction materials to the proposed development site has been assessed and will be described as part of the Traffic and Transport section of the EIAR.

Grid connection

We propose to connect the wind farm to the National Grid via a looped connection to the existing 110kV network which connects the Woodhouse 110kV substation and the Knockraha 220kV substation.

The grid connection has been assessed as part of the EIAR, which will also provide a detailed description of the final proposed connection route.



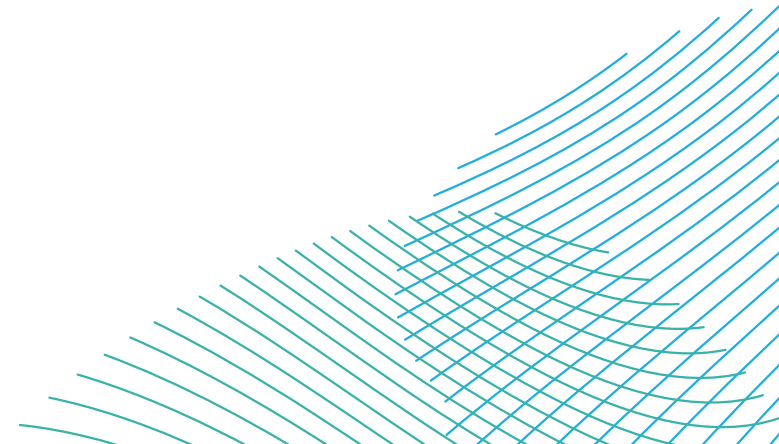
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (or LVIA) has been carried out in respect of the proposed development at Lyrenacarriga. LVIA is a study of how the proposed layout design might interface and mesh with the observed fabric and topography of the surveyed landscape within the study area.

The LVIA will have taken into account any effect or impact that the proposed development might have in respect of near neighbours and local communities but also any effects up to 20km radius of the proposed site.

For the purposes of this EIAR, where the 'proposed development site' or 'the site' is referred to, this relates to the primary study area for the proposed development, as delineated in red on the Turbine Layout Map.

Photo montages are available under the designated link within the virtual hall portal via the project website www.lyrewindfarm.com





Community and Local Business Benefits

Community Benefit Fund

Should Lyrencarriga Wind Farm be consented, it has the potential to provide significant additional investment into community projects that will benefit local residents and businesses.

Following the publication of the DCCAE's Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS) and the terms of conditions of the first auction under the scheme, RESS1 taking place this year (2020), it is anticipated that based on the requirement for all projects to contribute €2 per MWh of output, a community fund in the region of €6,000 per MW of installed capacity per annum could be available.

This means that a wind farm at Lyrenacarriga of 60 MW to 85 MW capacity could result in a fund of circa €360,000 per year for the local community, subject to the final installed capacity (MW) and output (MWh) of the wind farm. This represents a dependable source of income for the communities local to Lyrenacarriga.

RWE Renewables Ireland supports the development of a funding process that puts decision making on what funds are spent where in the hands of local people. The flexibility of the investment that could come from Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm would mean that a panel of local community representatives could decide how to invest the income in a variety of projects that will benefit residents, local businesses and the community as a whole including creating job opportunities and skills development, tourism initiatives and area regeneration projects.

RWE have demonstrable experience in the delivery of large community benefit funds in other jurisdictions and are committed to ensuring that our projects meet or indeed exceed emerging best practice from the DCCAE and the DHPLG on Community Benefit.



Potential community shared ownership and Citizen Investment

A further potential income stream could come via Curns Energy Ltd offering the local community the opportunity to participate in a community shared ownership scheme whereby they could invest in the wind farm in return for a share of future revenue. RWE are closely monitoring emerging guidance from the DCCAE in this regard and in line with our approach to the establishment of Community Benefit funds, we support a flexible and transparent approach to delivery Community Investment initiatives.

Payment of business rates to local County Council

A significant wider benefit of the proposed Lyrenacarriga Wind Farm is the annual business rates contribution estimated to be in excess of €800,000.00 per annum for the full life of the wind farm. These business rates will be paid locally and contributions will significantly benefit the wider local economy.

