



## **APPENDIX 2-1**

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RESPONSES**

## Micheal Cahill

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**From:** Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>  
**Sent:** 07 February 2024 13:02  
**To:** Shaun Doolin  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy; windfarms@rte.ie; Johnny Evans  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 - Cahermurphy 2 WF - Wind Farm Constraints Mapping

You don't often get email from matthew.craig@2rn.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Shaun,

We have no fixed linking in the area. There is however a risk of interference to broadcast services. We would therefore ask that a protocol be signed between the developer and 2rn should the site go ahead.

Regards

**Matthew Craig**

Project Engineer  
Projects and Coverage Planning  
2RN  
Block B, Cookstown Court, Old Belgard Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24, Ireland  
D24 WK28  
Phone: + 353 (0) 1 2082261  
Mobile: + 353 (0) 87 7509955

---

**From:** Shaun Doolin <sdoolin@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2024 11:37 AM  
**To:** Matthew Craig <matthew.craig@2rn.ie>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** 230843 - Cahermurphy 2 WF - Wind Farm Constraints Mapping

You don't often get email from [sdoolin@mkoireland.ie](mailto:sdoolin@mkoireland.ie). [Learn why this is important](#)

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Good morning,

We are currently undertaking a constraints mapping exercise for the viability of a wind farm development at Cahermurphy, Co. Clare. There are no turbine layouts available at this stage, although it is likely to consist of between 8 and 10 turbines.

The centre coordinates for the site are as follows:

**ITM:** 508486.986, 669045.083  
**Irish Grid:** 108516.6159, 169003.7051  
**WGS84:** 52.764689°, -9.355993°

**Approximate radius:** 1.3km

I've attached a shapefile and KML file of the site's study boundary for your convenience.

Have you any links in this area?  
If so, what set back distance(s) would you require?

Kind regards,  
Shaun

**Shaun Doolin**  
Environmental Scientist

**MKO**  
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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## Micheal Cahill

---

**From:** Roger Woods <rwoods@cnam.ie>  
**Sent:** 07 February 2024 14:33  
**To:** Shaun Doolin  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 - Cahermurphy 2 WF - Wind Farm Constraints Mapping

You don't often get email from rwoods@cnam.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Shaun

Coimisiún na Meán does not perform an in-depth analysis of the effect of wind turbines on FM networks. However, we are not aware of any issues from existing windfarms into existing FM networks. Also, the proposed windfarms are not located close to any existing or planned FM transmission sites.

Regards

Roger

Senior Executive Engineer

*My email address has now changed to [rwoods@cnam.ie](mailto:rwoods@cnam.ie), please update your address book accordingly.  
Tá mo sheoladh ríomhphoist athraithe anois go [rwoods@cnam.ie](mailto:rwoods@cnam.ie), dá réir sin déan do leabhar seoltaí a uasdátú, le do thoil.*

Coimisiún na Meán | 1 Áras Shíol Bhroinn, Bóthar Shíol Bhroinn, Baile Átha Cliath 4, D04 NP20, Éire  
Coimisiún na Meán | 1 Shelbourne Buildings, Shelbourne Road, Dublin 4, Dublin D02 XP29, Ireland  
T: + 353 (0)1 644 1200 | [rwoods@cnam.ie](mailto:rwoods@cnam.ie)

Coimisiún  
na Meán



Tá an ríomhphost seo agus aon iatán a ghabhann leis rúnda agus is leis an duine sin amháin a bhfuil siad seolta chuige/chuici a bhaineann siad. Muna duitse an ríomhphost seo, ní ceart é a léamh ná a scaoileadh chuig aon tríú páirtí. Iarrtar ort teachtaireacht a sheoladh chuig an seoltóir nó chuig [info@cnam.ie](mailto:info@cnam.ie), agus an ríomhphost seo a scrios.

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Please consider the environment before printing this email

---

**From:** Shaun Doolin <sdoolin@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2024 11:37 AM  
**To:** Roger Woods <rwoods@cnam.ie>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** 230843 - Cahermurphy 2 WF - Wind Farm Constraints Mapping

Good morning,

We are currently undertaking a constraints mapping exercise for the viability of a wind farm development at Cahermurphy, Co. Clare. There are no turbine layouts available at this stage, although it is likely to consist of between 8 and 10 turbines.

The centre coordinates for the site are as follows:

**ITM:** 508486.986, 669045.083

**Irish Grid:** 108516.6159, 169003.7051

**WGS84:** 52.764689°, -9.355993°

**Approximate radius:** 1.3km

I've attached a shapefile and KML file of the site's study boundary for your convenience.

Have you any links in this area?

If so, what set back distance(s) would you require?

Kind regards,  
Shaun

**Shaun Doolin**  
Environmental Scientist

---

**MKO**  
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
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## Micheal Cahill

---

**From:** Stratton, Laurence <laurence.stratton@cellnextelecom.ie>  
**Sent:** 06 March 2024 17:14  
**To:** Jack Smith; Signal Information  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

You don't often get email from laurence.stratton@cellnextelecom.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

We do not have any telecoms installation in the affected area.

You may want to check the ComReg map, to see if there are any other potential towers/operators affected.

Kind regards,  
Laurence

**Laurence Stratton**  
Director of Operations  
**Cellnex Telecom, Ireland**  
T: +353 (0)1 482 5890 / M: +353 (0)85 158 3620



[cellnextelecom.com](http://cellnextelecom.com)



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---

**From:** Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** 06 March 2024 16:25  
**To:** Stratton, Laurence <laurence.stratton@cellnextelecom.ie>; Signal Information <info@cellnextelecom.ie>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

Good afternoon,

We are currently undertaking a constraints mapping exercise for the viability of a wind farm development at Cahermurphy, Co. Clare. There are no turbine layouts available at this stage, although it is likely to consist of between 8 and 10 turbines.

The centre coordinates for the site are as follows:

**ITM:** 508486.986, 669045.083

**Irish Grid:** 108516.6159, 169003.7051

**WGS84:** 52.764689°, -9.355993°

**Approximate radius of site: 1.3km**

I've attached a shapefile and KML file of the site's study boundary for your convenience.

Have you any links in this area?

If so, can you confirm what set back distance(s) would you require?

Kind Regards,  
Jack.

**Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA**  
Project Environmental Scientist

---

**MKO**

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## Micheal Cahill

---

**From:** John Bagnall <john.bagnall@eir.ie>  
**Sent:** 08 February 2024 12:52  
**To:** Shaun Doolin  
**Cc:** MobileNetworksTXN@eir.ie; Eoin McCarthy  
**Subject:** Re: 230843 - Cahermurphy 2 WF - Wind Farm Constraints Mapping

You don't often get email from john.bagnall@eir.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Shaun,

We have no transmission links within the proposed area and it has no risk to the network. Best of luck with the development.



Kind regards,



**John Bagnall**

Wireless Transmission Engineer

M: +353 85 1053746

E: [john.bagnall@eir.ie](mailto:john.bagnall@eir.ie)

Address: EirCode - D08 Y42N

On Wed, 7 Feb 2024 at 11:37, Shaun Doolin <[sdoolin@mkoireland.ie](mailto:sdoolin@mkoireland.ie)> wrote:

Good morning,

We are currently undertaking a constraints mapping exercise for the viability of a wind farm development at Cahermurphy, Co. Clare. There are no turbine layouts available at this stage, although it is likely to consist of between 8 and 10 turbines.

The centre coordinates for the site are as follows:

**ITM:** 508486.986, 669045.083

**Irish Grid:** 108516.6159, 169003.7051

**WGS84:** 52.764689°, -9.355993°

**Approximate radius:** 1.3km

I've attached a shapefile and KML file of the site's study boundary for your convenience.

Have you any links in this area?

If so, what set back distance(s) would you require?

Kind regards,

Shaun

**Shaun Doolin**

Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84



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## Micheal Cahill

---

**From:** Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>  
**Sent:** 10 April 2024 09:54  
**To:** Jack Smith  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy; Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

That should be ok,

Regards,  
Peter

**Peter O'Brien** | Licensed Link planner

A: Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V946P52

M: +353867744313 | W: [www.enet.ie](http://www.enet.ie)



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Registered Offices: Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V94 6P52

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**From:** Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 9:43 AM  
**To:** Peter O'Brien <peter.obrien@enet.ie>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>; Natalia Stolarska <nstolarska@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

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Hi Peter,

A Rotor Diameter: 149m-162m, is currently being considered

Kind Regards,  
Jack.

**Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA**  
Project Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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**From:** Peter O'Brien <[peter.obrien@enet.ie](mailto:peter.obrien@enet.ie)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 9:40 AM  
**To:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>; Natalia Stolarska <[nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

What is the turbine blade diameter?

Regards,  
Peter

**Peter O'Brien** | Licensed Link planner

**A:** Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V946P52

**M:** +353867744313 | **W:** [www.enet.ie](http://www.enet.ie)



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**From:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 9:28 AM  
**To:** Peter O'Brien <[peter.obrien@enet.ie](mailto:peter.obrien@enet.ie)>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>; Natalia Stolarska <[nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

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Hi Peter,

See attached.

Kind Regards,  
Jack.

**Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA**  
Project Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

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---

**From:** Peter O'Brien <[peter.obrien@enet.ie](mailto:peter.obrien@enet.ie)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 9:24 AM  
**To:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>; Natalia Stolarska <[nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

Can you send me the turbine locations in a Google Earth kml file so that I can verify?

Regards,  
Peter

**Peter O'Brien | Licensed Link planner**

**A:** Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V946P52

**M:** +353867744313 | **W:** [www.enet.ie](http://www.enet.ie)



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COMPANIES

Gold  
standard

**From:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 4:15 PM

**To:** Peter O'Brien <[peter.obrien@enet.ie](mailto:peter.obrien@enet.ie)>

**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>; Natalia Stolarska <[nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)>

**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

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Hi Peter,

Further to our previous correspondence below please see attached a Scoping Document containing more detail on the proposed development. This document includes Figure 5-1 (page 30) which shows the indicative turbine locations and includes a set back buffer from the link you noted below. Could you review and get back with any additional comments in relation to that link or whether proposed set back (115m from the link) will suffice from your perspective?

If you need any other information please don't hesitate to ask.

Kind Regards,

Jack.

**Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA**  
Project Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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**From:** Peter O'Brien <[peter.obrien@enet.ie](mailto:peter.obrien@enet.ie)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 7, 2024 9:41 AM  
**To:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

You don't often get email from [peter.obrien@enet.ie](mailto:peter.obrien@enet.ie). [Learn why this is important](#)

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Jack,

It's 7GHz, set back of about 50m,

Thanks,  
Peter

**Peter O'Brien** | Licensed Link planner

**A:** Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V946P52

**M:** +353867744313 | **W:** [www.enet.ie](http://www.enet.ie)



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**From:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 7, 2024 9:20 AM  
**To:** Peter O'Brien <[peter.obrien@enet.ie](mailto:peter.obrien@enet.ie)>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

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Hi Peter,

Thanks for that, looks that it passes through the site boundary I'd sent on. Would you mind getting letting me know the frequency of the signal and what set back you would be looking to apply?

Kind Regards,  
Jack.

**Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA**  
Project Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

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**From:** Peter O'Brien <[peter.obrien@enet.ie](mailto:peter.obrien@enet.ie)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 7, 2024 8:50 AM  
**To:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

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Hi Jack,

We have one link passing through this area:

Link Name	A-End Coordinates	A-End Antenna Height	B-End Coordinates	B-End Antenna Height
TC Knockanore - Slievecallin Wind Farm	52.523542 -9.605230	13.3m	52.828442 -9.284739	7m

Regards,  
Peter

**Peter O'Brien** | Licensed Link planner

**A:** Enet House, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Co Limerick, V946P52

**M:** +353867744313 | **W:** [www.enet.ie](http://www.enet.ie)





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**From:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 6, 2024 4:06 PM  
**To:** Peter O'Brien <[peter.obrien@enet.ie](mailto:peter.obrien@enet.ie)>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

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Good afternoon,

We are currently undertaking a constraints mapping exercise for the viability of a wind farm development at Cahermurphy, Co. Clare. There are no turbine layouts available at this stage, although it is likely to consist of between 8 and 10 turbines.

The centre coordinates for the site are as follows:

**ITM:** 508486.986, 669045.083

**Irish Grid:** 108516.6159, 169003.7051

**WGS84:** 52.764689°, -9.355993°

**Approximate radius of site:** 1.3km

I've attached a shapefile and KML file of the site's study boundary for your convenience.

Have you any links in this area?

If so, can you confirm what set back distance(s) would you require?

Kind Regards,  
Jack.

**Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA**  
Project Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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## Micheal Cahill

---

**From:** Paul Brunel <Paul.Brunel@imaginegroup.ie>  
**Sent:** 07 February 2024 11:50  
**To:** Shaun Doolin; Ronnie O'Neill  
**Cc:** Paul Culhane; Eoin McCarthy  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 - Cahermurphy 2 WF - Wind Farm Constraints Mapping

You don't often get email from paul.brunel@imaginegroup.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Shaun,  
At present Imagine have no microwave links affected by this development.



Kind Regards,

**Paul Brunel**

Transmission Planner,  
Network Deployment.

 [www.imagine.ie](http://www.imagine.ie)

 086 388 1962

 Sandyford Business Centre |  
Blackthorn Road |Sandyford  
| D18AW89



Disclaimer: [www.imagine.ie/email-disclaimer/](http://www.imagine.ie/email-disclaimer/)

---

**From:** Shaun Doolin <sdoolin@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2024 11:37 AM  
**To:** Ronnie O'Neill <Ronnie.ONeill@imaginegroup.ie>  
**Cc:** Paul Brunel <Paul.Brunel@imaginegroup.ie>; Paul Culhane <paul.culhane@imaginegroup.ie>; Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** 230843 - Cahermurphy 2 WF - Wind Farm Constraints Mapping

This email originated outside of the organisation - please exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

Good morning,

We are currently undertaking a constraints mapping exercise for the viability of a wind farm development at Cahermurphy, Co. Clare. There are no turbine layouts available at this stage, although it is likely to consist of between 8 and 10 turbines. Unfortunately, I don't have turbine dimensions available at this stage.

The centre coordinates for the site are as follows:

**ITM:** 508486.986, 669045.083

**Irish Grid:** 108516.6159, 169003.7051

**WGS84:** 52.764689°, -9.355993°

**Approximate radius: 1.3km**

I've attached a shapefile and KML file of the site's study boundary for your convenience.

Have you any links in this area?

If so, what set back distance(s) would you require?

Kind regards,  
Shaun

**Shaun Doolin**  
Environmental Scientist

---

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## Micheal Cahill

---

**From:** Thomas Quigley <Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie>  
**Sent:** 11 April 2024 07:58  
**To:** Jack Smith  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy; Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi,

Thanks for the file.

IE will monitor the GSM-R Network and will revert if any issues are identified once construction of the site has started – is there a timeline?

Regards,

Thomas Quigley,  
National Telecoms Manager,  
SET Department



---

**From:** Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 9:17 AM  
**To:** Thomas Quigley <Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <emccarthy@mkoireland.ie>; Natalia Stolarska <nstolarska@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Thomas,

See attached KML of the indicative turbine locations.

Kind Regards,  
Jack.

**Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA**  
Project Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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**From:** Thomas Quigley <[Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie](mailto:Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 7:54 AM

**To:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>

**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>; Natalia Stolarska <[nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)>

**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

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Hi,

Submissions require a KML or KMX file to be provided to support analysis

Regards,

Thomas Quigley,  
National Telecoms Manager,  
SET Department



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**From:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 4:17 PM

**To:** Thomas Quigley <[Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie](mailto:Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie)>

Cc: Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>; Natalia Stolarska <[nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)>  
Subject: RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

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Hi Thomas,

Further to our below correspondence please see attached a Scoping Document containing more detail on the proposed development. This document includes Figure 5-1 (page 30) which shows the indicative turbine locations.

Could you review and get back with any additional comments in relation to the coordination zone you noted below.

If you need any other information please don't hesitate to ask.

Kind Regards,  
Jack.

**Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA**  
Project Environmental Scientist

**MKO**  
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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**From:** Thomas Quigley <[Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie](mailto:Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 7, 2024 8:18 AM  
**To:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

You don't often get email from [thomas.quigley@irishrail.ie](mailto:thomas.quigley@irishrail.ie). [Learn why this is important](#)

**Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.**

Hi Jack,

The proposed site is not within the GSM-R (Mobile Network for Railways) exclusion zone but is within the Coordination Zone. Please see below:

From a study carried out by the ANFR (Agence Nationale des Frequences in France), the output calls for 2 main recommendations by defining 2 main zones as follows:

- 1- **Exclusion zone:** wind farm not less than 5 Km from antenna
- 2- **Coordination zone:** : 5Km<wind farm <30Km: this area, coordination between operators is required to fix any issue and impact on the signal propagation

Regards,

Thomas Quigley,  
National Telecoms Manager,  
SET Department



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---

**From:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 6, 2024 4:09 PM  
**To:** Thomas Quigley <[Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie](mailto:Thomas.Quigley@irishrail.ie)>  
**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

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Good afternoon,

We are currently undertaking a constraints mapping exercise for the viability of a wind farm development at Cahermurphy, Co. Clare. There are no turbine layouts available at this stage, although it is likely to consist of between 8 and 10 turbines.

The centre coordinates for the site are as follows:

**ITM:** 508486.986, 669045.083

**Irish Grid:** 108516.6159, 169003.7051

**WGS84:** 52.764689°, -9.355993°

**Approximate radius of site:** 1.3km

I've attached a shapefile and KML file of the site's study boundary for your convenience.

Have you any links in this area?

If so, can you confirm what set back distance(s) would you require?

Kind Regards,  
Jack.

**Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA**  
Project Environmental Scientist

---

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Sean.

---

**From:** Shaun Doolin <[sdoolin@mkoireland.ie](mailto:sdoolin@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2024 11:37 AM  
**To:** [Alister.Cole1@three.ie](mailto:Alister.Cole1@three.ie)  
**Cc:** Sean Kelly <[Sean.Kelly2@three.ie](mailto:Sean.Kelly2@three.ie)>; DL Estates ROI <[Estates@three.ie](mailto:Estates@three.ie)>; Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** 230843 - Cahermurphy 2 WF - Wind Farm Constraints Mapping

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Good morning,

We are currently undertaking a constraints mapping exercise for the viability of a wind farm development at Cahermurphy, Co. Clare. There are no turbine layouts available at this stage, although it is likely to consist of between 8 and 10 turbines.

The centre coordinates for the site are as follows:

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**Irish Grid:** 108516.6159, 169003.7051

**WGS84:** 52.764689°, -9.355993°

**Approximate radius:** 1.3km

I've attached a shapefile and KML file of the site's study boundary for your convenience.

Have you any links in this area?

If so, what set back distance(s) would you require?

Kind regards,  
Shaun

**Shaun Doolin**  
Environmental Scientist

---

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## Micheal Cahill

---

**From:** Robert Power, Vodafone (External) <robert.power1@vodafone.com>  
**Sent:** 07 March 2024 13:50  
**To:** Jack Smith  
**Cc:** Michelle Linnane, Vodafone; Gavin Byrne, Vodafone; Siobhan Burke, Vodafone; Eoin McCarthy  
**Subject:** RE: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

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Hi Jack,

Vodafone does not have any transmission in the area. Please see screenshot below.

Kind Regards,  
Robert



**Robert Power**

Transmission Engineer

Technology- NET

+353864648455

[robert.power1@vodafone.com](mailto:robert.power1@vodafone.com)

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C2 General

**From:** Siobhan Burke, Vodafone <siobhan.burke1@vodafone.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday 7 March 2024 13:42  
**To:** Robert Power, Vodafone (External) <robert.power1@vodafone.com>  
**Cc:** Michelle Linnane, Vodafone <michelle.linnane@vodafone.com>; Gavin Byrne, Vodafone <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>  
**Subject:** FW: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

Hi Rob,

Can you please have a look at this when you get a chance.

Thanks,  
Siobhan

C2 General

**From:** Gavin Byrne, Vodafone <gavin.byrne@vodafone.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday 7 March 2024 13:02  
**To:** Siobhan Burke, Vodafone <siobhan.burke1@vodafone.com>  
**Cc:** Michelle Linnane, Vodafone <michelle.linnane@vodafone.com>  
**Subject:** FW: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

Hi Siobhan,

Can you ask of the team to take a look at the attached windfarm?

Thanks



**Gavin Byrne**

Senior TX Planning & Design Engineer

Converged Transmission

+353 876448159

[gavin.byrne@vodafone.com](mailto:gavin.byrne@vodafone.com)

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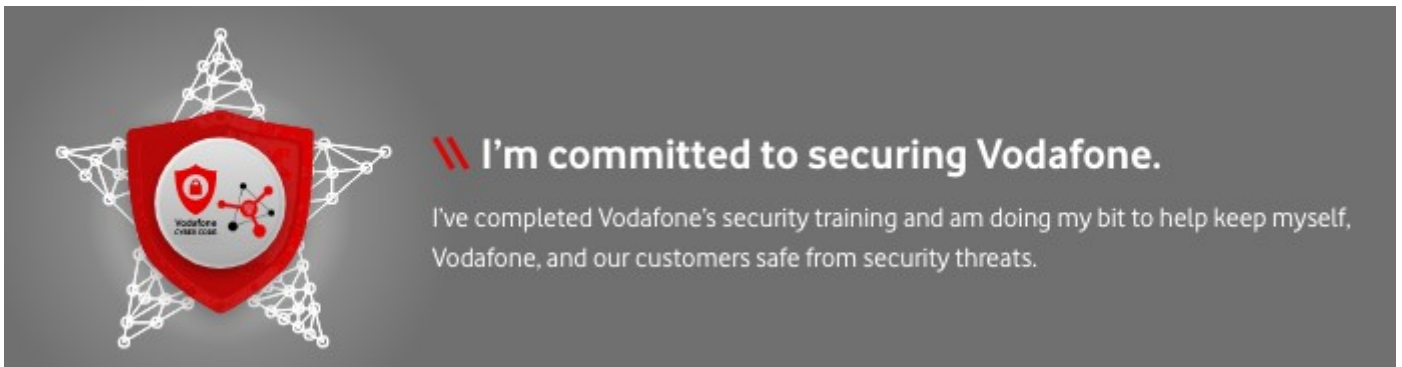
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Ireland: No. 326967

[vodafone.ie](http://vodafone.ie)

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**Ready?**



C2 General

**From:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>

**Sent:** Wednesday 6 March 2024 16:21

**To:** Gavin Byrne, Vodafone <[gavin.byrne@vodafone.com](mailto:gavin.byrne@vodafone.com)>

**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>

**Subject:** 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

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**External Email:** Be cautious about the sender email address, attachments and links. If uncertain use **Report Message** button.

Good afternoon,

We are currently undertaking a constraints mapping exercise for the viability of a wind farm development at Cahermurphy, Co. Clare. There are no turbine layouts available at this stage, although it is likely to consist of between 8 and 10 turbines.

The centre coordinates for the site are as follows:

**ITM:** 508486.986, 669045.083

**Irish Grid:** 108516.6159, 169003.7051

**WGS84:** 52.764689°, -9.355993°

**Approximate radius of site:** 1.3km

I've attached a shapefile and KML file of the site's study boundary for your convenience.

Have you any links in this area?

If so, can you confirm what set back distance(s) would you require?

Kind Regards,  
Jack.

**Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA**  
Project Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

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## Micheal Cahill

---

**From:** Sarah Broughall <sarah@whizzyinternet.ie>  
**Sent:** 07 March 2024 09:35  
**To:** Jack Smith  
**Subject:** Re: 230843 Cahermurphy 2 Telecoms Scoping

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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Hi Jack,

We have no links in this area.

Regards,  
Sarah.

On Wed, Mar 6, 2024 at 4:11 PM Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

We are currently undertaking a constraints mapping exercise for the viability of a wind farm development at Cahermurphy, Co. Clare. There are no turbine layouts available at this stage, although it is likely to consist of between 8 and 10 turbines.

The centre coordinates for the site are as follows:

**ITM:** 508486.986, 669045.083

**Irish Grid:** 108516.6159, 169003.7051

**WGS84:** 52.764689°, -9.355993°

**Approximate radius of site:** 1.3km

I've attached a shapefile and KML file of the site's study boundary for your convenience.

Have you any links in this area?

If so, can you confirm what set back distance(s) would you require?

Kind Regards,

Jack.

**Jack Smith BCL. ML. MSc. PIEMA**

Project Environmental Scientist

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## Micheal Cahill

---

**From:** Micheal Cahill  
**Sent:** 09 February 2026 12:03  
**To:** 'Paul Hennessy'  
**Subject:** RE: [External] FW: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

Thanks for the below Paul.

Le meas,  
Michéal.

**Michéal Cahill**  
Environmental Scientist

**MKO**  
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
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---

**From:** Paul Hennessy <[paul.hennessy@snnairportgroup.ie](mailto:paul.hennessy@snnairportgroup.ie)>  
**Sent:** 08 February 2026 19:08  
**To:** Micheal Cahill <[mcahill@mkoireland.ie](mailto:mcahill@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** RE: [External] FW: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare  
**Importance:** High

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Michael,

The locations of the turbines are approx. 6km from the perimeter of our safeguarding boundary. Therefore technically they are not impacting the Obstacle Limitational Surfaces (OLS). The closest area within that boundary has a height restriction of between 15m and 45m.

This is only one aspect of a combined required assessment process and consideration of potential impacts on Instrument Flight Procedures (IFP's) and NAVAIDS/Radar is also required. You should make contact with Air Nav Ireland Ltd. to seek their perspective. As previously indicated, Cathal MacCriostail is their point of contact ([Cathal.MacCriostail@airnav.ie](mailto:Cathal.MacCriostail@airnav.ie)).

Rgds,  
Paul



**Paul Hennessy**

*Safety Compliance & Environment Manager*



061 712 471 / 087 23 82453



[www.SNNAirportGroup.ie](http://www.SNNAirportGroup.ie)



Shannon Airport, Co. Clare, Ireland, V14 EE06

---

**From:** Micheal Cahill <[mcahill@mkoireland.ie](mailto:mcahill@mkoireland.ie)>

**Sent:** 26 January 2026 11:53

**To:** Paul Hennessy <[paul.hennessy@snnairportgroup.ie](mailto:paul.hennessy@snnairportgroup.ie)>

**Cc:** Eoin McCarthy <[emccarthy@mkoireland.ie](mailto:emccarthy@mkoireland.ie)>

**Subject:** [External] FW: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

**Caution:**

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Hi Paul,

I just wanted to follow up on the below to welcome any comment or requirements that Shannon Airport may have as this project nears submission to An Coimisiún Pleanála. Please also see below the final turbine coordinates in ITM.

Turbine No.	Irish Transverse Mercator Co-ordinates		Top of Foundation Elevation (m OD)
	Easting (m)	Northing (m)	
1	507772	669761	89.5m
2	508411	669739	100.5m
3	507788	669301	115m
4	508308	669151	112m
5	508887	669573	133m
6	509055	669148	122m
7	508309	668624	116.5m
8	508942	668587	113.5m

Le meas,  
Michéal.

**Michéal Cahill**  
Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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---

**From:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Sent:** Wednesday 17 April 2024 14:37  
**To:** [paul.hennessy@snnairportgroup.ie](mailto:paul.hennessy@snnairportgroup.ie)  
**Cc:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

Good Afternoon Paul,

MKO is preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to accompany a planning application, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC, for a proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.

The proposed project will likely encompass up to 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, borrow pit(s), electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent meteorological mast. It is anticipated the development will meet the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) thresholds of 25 no. turbines or 50 Megawatts (MW) for wind energy as set out in the 7th Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended).

Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the Proposed Development, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** enviroff <enviroff@clarecoco.ie>  
**Sent:** Monday 8 April 2024 14:43  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Cc:** Jack Smith; Planning Office; enviroff  
**Subject:** RE: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

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Hello Natalia,

This is a query for the Planning Section which I have included in this email.

Regards,  
Rosaleen

**Rosaleen McGrath**  
**Clerical Officer**  
**Environment Department**

Clare County Council, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2

**T:** 065 6846529 | **E:** [rmcgrath@clarecoco.ie](mailto:rmcgrath@clarecoco.ie) | **W:** [www.clarecoco.ie](http://www.clarecoco.ie)



COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR  
CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Tá an t-eolas atá sa ríomhphost seo, agus in aon cheangaltán leis, rúnda, agus is d'aird agus d'úsáid an fhaighteora nó na bhfaighteoirí amháin nó eintiteas ainmnithe thuas atá sé. Murar tusa faighteoir beartaithe an ríomhphost seo nó aon chuid de, níor chóir duit an teachtaireacht seo a úsáid, a nochtadh, a chóipeáil, a dháileadh nó a choinneáil. Más rud é gur trí bhotún a fuair tú an ríomhphost seo cuir sin in iúl don tseoltóir gan mhoill.

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**From:** Natalia Stolarska <nstolarska@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 5, 2024 4:28 PM  
**To:** enviroff <enviroff@clarecoco.ie>  
**Cc:** Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

To whom it may concern,

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Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist

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## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** esbnetworks@esb.ie  
**Sent:** Friday 5 April 2024 16:08  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** Re: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare [#1038049]

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If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist

**MKO**  
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\* \* \* \* \*

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# EIAR Guidelines for the Consideration of Tourism and Tourism Related Projects



**July 2023**

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## 1. Introduction

Tourism is a growing sector and substantial part of the Irish Economy. It contributes to both urban and rural economies in every part of the country. The impact and interaction of tourism with the environment is complex and the assessment of environmental impacts is of utmost importance to creating a sustainable tourism economy and protecting the natural resources that are so often a tourism attraction.

The purpose of this report is to provide guidance for those conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and compiling an Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR), or those assessing EIARs, where the project involves tourism or may have an impact upon tourism. These guidelines are non-statutory and act as supplementary advice to the EPA EIAR Guidelines outlined in section 2.

This guidance document has been prepared by Fáilte Ireland to update their EIA guidelines in line with changes in legislative and guidance requirements.

## 2. Background to this Document

Tourism is one of the largest and most important sectors of the economy, providing employment for approximately **260,000 people**, an economic contribution of **€9.5 billion**, and exchequer revenue of **€1.8 billion** in 2019, which helps fund other key public services.

In 2019 Ireland welcomed **9.7 million overseas visitors**.

Fáilte Ireland is the National Tourism Development Authority established by the Irish Government in May 2003. Fáilte Ireland's role is to support the tourism industry and work to sustain Ireland as a high-quality and competitive tourism destination. They provide a range of practical business supports to help tourism businesses better manage and market their products and services.

Fáilte Ireland also work with other state agencies and representative bodies, at local and national levels, to implement and champion positive and practical strategies that will benefit Irish tourism and the Irish economy.

Fáilte Ireland promotes Ireland as a holiday destination through a domestic marketing campaign (DiscoverIreland.ie) and manage a network of nationwide tourist information centres that provide help and advice for visitors to Ireland.

Tourism related projects cover a broad range of plans, programmes and developments, from the Wild Atlantic Way to a single hotel conversion. These guidelines apply to projects involving or impacting upon tourism. A tourism plan, strategy or programme where it is part of the statutory plan making process under the Planning and Development Acts (as amended), may be more appropriately assessed by a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as discussed in the next section.

It should be borne in mind that EIA is required where there is anticipated to be a significant impact on the environment, where tourism projects are of a prescribed type or meet thresholds identified below.

Where Natura 2000 Designated Sites are potentially affected by tourism development Appropriate Assessment must be carried out by the appropriate authority in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive.

### **3. Legislation and Statutory Guidance**

Environmental Impact Assessment is a procedure that ensures that the environmental implications of decisions are taken into account before planning based decisions are made. The assessment results in a report, called an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

#### ***Legislation***

These guidelines are produced under current EIAR legislative requirements, having regard to Directive 2011/92/EU (known as 'Environmental Impact Assessment' – EIA Directive), as amended by Directive EU 2014/52 which came into effect in May of 2017. These requirements were transposed into Irish Law on 1 September 2018 as most of the provisions of the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018) came into effect. The principle of both Directives is to ensure that plans, programmes and projects likely to have significant effects on the environment are made subject to an environmental assessment, prior to their approval or authorisation.

#### ***Statutory Guidance***

In response to the changes to the EIAR requirements under Directive EU 2014/52, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports in May 2022. The Guidelines are a statutory document to be regarded by those preparing EIARs and the decision makers considering the EIARs.

Some of the key changes to the EIA Directive introduced by Directive 2014/52/EU are as follows:

- Additional information to be provided in the project description to describe the location of the project, the technologies and substances used, the construction of the project and required demolition;
- The requirement for consideration of alternatives has changed from a requirement to provide 'An outline of the main alternatives studied by the developer and an indication of the main reasons for this choice, taking into account the environmental effects' to 'a description of the reasonable alternatives studied by the developer, which are relevant to the project and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for the option chosen, taking into account the effects of the project on the environment';
- A refinement of the environmental factors to be considered in the assessment with an increased focus on resource efficiency, climate change, biodiversity and disaster prevention;
- Changes to Prescribed Environmental Factors with 'Land' being added, 'Human Beings' replaced by 'Population & Human Health' and 'Flora & Fauna' replaced by 'Biodiversity';

- The developer is required to have competent experts to prepare the EIAR and the Board is required to have access to sufficient expertise to assess the EIAR;
- Requirement for the incorporation of mitigation and monitoring measures in consents and ensuring that developers deliver these measures;
- The requirements for the assessment of cumulative effects with existing and/or approved projects, taking into account existing environmental issues to be considered; and
- Reasoned decisions made with regard to the EIA outcomes must be provided.

In addition to the EPA statutory guidance, the Department of Housing has produced Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment in August 2018.

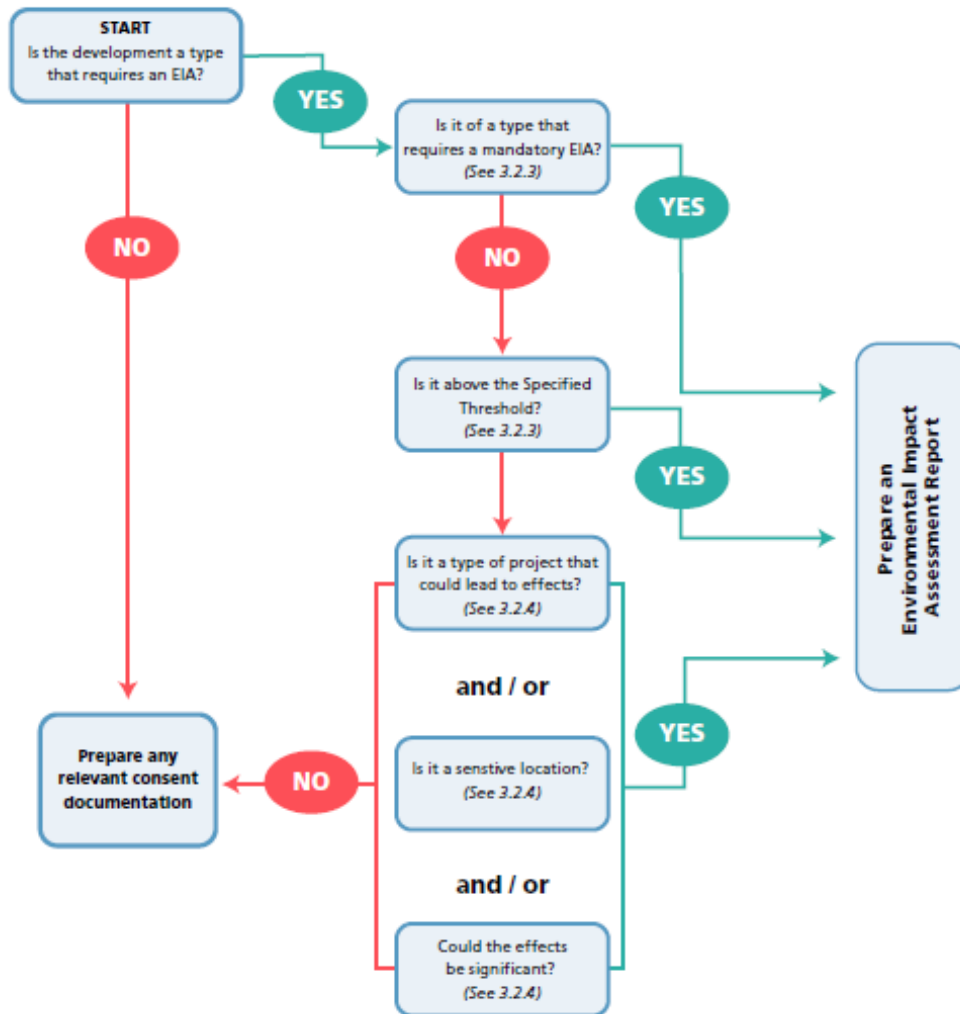
The process of EIA is set out in the EPA EIAR Guidelines, this document should be read in conjunction with and used as supplementary guidance to the EPA EIAR Guidelines. The process for ascertaining whether an EIAR is required is known as ‘screening’ and the process to determine the breadth and scope of an EIAR is known as ‘scoping’. Guidance on this can be found in Section 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines.

### **Screening**

Through EIA Screening, developments are either considered as requiring an EIAR due to the project type or because they exceed a threshold level. The screening process begins by establishing whether the proposal is a ‘project’ as understood by the Directive (as amended).

The prescribed development types and thresholds are set out in Annex I and II of the EIA Directive as transposed into Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2010-2018 (as amended). Development which does not exceed these thresholds but may require an EIAR are called sub threshold. Sub-Threshold considerations are outlined in Schedule 7 of European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018) as transposed from Annex III of the Directive. The Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment Reports note that projects at first glance may not appear to come under the Schedule but on closer examination when the process is further examined, they may do so because of the sensitivity or significance of the receiving environment etc. Sub threshold developments require an EIAR if they are likely to have significant environmental impacts and must undergo assessment for likely significant impacts through an EIAR screening report. The contents of a screening report for subthreshold development are contained in Annex III of the EIA Directive.

Figure 1: EIAR Screening Process



(Taken from Fig 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines)

Tourism locations should be identified as sensitive receptors in screening assessments for particular impacts, depending on scale and sensitivity, as they would in a full EIAR. Section 6 below can act as guidance for Screening Reports as well as for full EIAR.

The screening process for considering where an EIAR is necessary, is summarised above in Figure 1 (excerpted from Figure 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines).

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a more strategic level of environmental assessment that examines plans, policies, objectives and programmes specifically rather than projects. For some tourism developments it may be more appropriate that they be examined through SEA, while individual projects or specific proposals are likely to be more assessed through EIAR. If a project is part of a plan, programme or policy/objective assessed by SEA there may still be a requirement for an EIAR for that development (subject to EIA Screening assessment).

## *EIAR Scoping*

Scoping an EIAR is an opportunity to look at the breadth of issues and ensure that any areas of possible significant impact are assessed. Identifying sensitivities and stakeholders should take account of tourism facilities and consider Fáilte Ireland in scoping requests where necessary.

### **4. Assessing Tourism**

There is no legal definition of 'tourism' in Irish legislation. The UNWTO definition of sustainable tourism is "*Tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities*". This is widely accepted as a key definition of tourism as we move to a more sustainable future.

Tourism assessments are frequently carried out by economic consultants and by specific tourism consultants. It is always advisable, particular for tourism projects, that suitably qualified and experienced personnel are used to determine the impact of tourism related projects or to assess the impact of more general proposals on a tourism asset identified in a particular location. There is a requirement for EIAR under current legislation to contain a statement of competency within all EIAR documents, including screening and scoping reports.

#### ***Projects which involve a tourism element***

Tourism projects are wide ranging and diverse. While there are some projects which cater to tourism and are easily identified as such - Hotels, Museums, etc. there are other projects where tourism is a key service or element, but which may not be immediately obvious – walking/cycling/forest trails, greenways, blueways, community facilities and others. EIAR conducted for developments containing tourist elements should be completed in accordance with the current guidance from the EPA.

Projects which include a tourism element can have potential for particular environmental effects which differ from a non-tourism development. These impacts can be intermittent, event related, inconsistent, dependent on weather, temporal, temporary or seasonal. This is considered within the prescribed environmental topics for EIAR outlined in Section 7 below.

#### ***Projects which may have an impact upon tourism***

While tourism projects may be diverse, the projects which can impact tourism are considerably more wide ranging, from large infrastructural developments to local energy developments. Disruption to or suppression of a tourist resource or amenity can have very local or more strategic impacts, directly or indirectly- for example energy projects in a rural area can have both a negative and positive impact in different regards. There can be temporary, periodic or even seasonal impacts occurring during construction or operational periods.

According to the Fáilte Ireland Tourism Facts 2019 Report, the most important factors in determining the attractiveness of tourism destinations for visitors to Ireland are;

- Beautiful Scenery and Unspoiled Environment
- Hospitality
- Safety
- Nature, Wildlife and Natural Attractions
- History and Culture

- Pace of Life

These factors used for the promotion of tourism in Ireland are also barometers of sensitivity to change in tourism sensitive or dominant locations where development may have an impact upon the tourism asset. The potential for development to impact these sensitivities, and the environmental criteria under which they can be considered, are identified in section 7 of the guidelines.

## **5. Guiding Principles of EIAR**

As outlined in the EPA EIAR Guidelines, the fundamental principles to be followed when preparing an EIAR, including screening and scoping, are:

- Anticipating, avoiding and reducing significant effects
- Assessing and mitigating effects
- Maintaining objectivity
- Ensuring clarity and quality
- Providing relevant information to decision makers
- Facilitating better consultation.

Environmental assessment should be undertaken in accordance with the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018.

## **6. Consideration of Competency and Qualifications**

As per Section 2.5 of the EPA Guidelines, EIAR is required to be completed by '*competent experts*'.

Contributors to the preparation of environmental impact assessment reports, including screening and scoping assessments, should be qualified and competent. Sufficient expertise, in the relevant field of the project concerned, is required for the purpose of its examination by the competent authorities in order to ensure that the information provided by the developer is complete and of a high level of quality so that a full and proper assessment can be undertaken.

For tourism related projects, or projects likely to affect tourism assets, competent experts in the area of tourism should be utilised in the environmental assessment.

The competency of all involved in the production of an EIAR or any related report (e.g. Screening and scoping) is required to be stated at the beginning of the EIAR report with further details as necessary in each following chapter.

Where tourism projects involve for example heritage or cultural components, input from heritage consultants, conservation architects, or historians may be required.

## **7. EIAR Requirements**

The following are the key requirements for an EIAR under the current guidance. This is not a definitive list and should be read in conjunction with regulations.

- project description;
- assessment of alternatives considered;
- baseline assessment;
- assessment of effects;
- cumulative impact;
- interaction of impacts;
- mitigation & monitoring; and
- residual impacts

### ***Project Description***

Project descriptions are required to describe the whole project including site, scale, design and key factors. It is important that the EIAR and design team have a consistent understanding of the development description in full. The key requirements are outlined in section 3.5 of the EPA Guidelines however they identify the following;

- the location of the project
- the physical characteristics of the whole project
- the main characteristics of the operational phase of the project
- an estimate, by type and quantity, of the expected residues and emissions

The location of the project should include identifying key sensitive receptors (including tourism receptors). In the operational phase of the project any tourism based, or potentially tourism related activity, should be identified.

### ***Assessment of Alternatives***

The assessment of the various reasonable alternatives is an important requirement of the EIA process.

Where tourism projects are location dependent the assessment of reasonable alternatives should consider alternative methods, layouts, technologies and mitigations, detail the key considerations culminating in the selection of the option/design, the reasoning for these and the environmental effect of these decisions. This is particularly important for tourism projects which are often location tied. The EPA EIAR Guidelines indicate that it is generally sufficient to provide a broad description of each main alternatives and the key issues associated with each, showing how environmental considerations were taken into account in deciding on the selected option.

### ***Baseline Assessment***

Baseline descriptions are evidence based, current descriptions of environmental characteristics with consideration of likely changes to the baseline environment evidenced in planning histories, unimplemented permissions, and applications pending determination. Baseline assessments should identify any tourism sensitivities in the zone of influence of a development. This zone of influence of a development is highly dependent on its **Context, Character, Significance, and Sensitivity**, as outlined in the EPA EIAR Guidelines. These characteristics apply to both the development and the environment.

For example, in a tourism context;

The location of sensitive tourism resources that are likely to be directly affected should be highlighted, and other premises which although located elsewhere, may be the subject of in combination impacts such as alteration of traffic flows or increased urban development.

The character of an area from a tourism perspective should be described and the principal types of tourism in the area. Where relevant, the specific environmental resources or attributes in the existing environment which each group uses or values should be stated and where relevant, indicate the time, duration or seasonality of any of those activities.

The significance of the tourism assets or activities likely to be affected should be highlighted. Reference to any existing formal or published designation or recognition of such significance should be included. Where possible the value of the contribution of such tourism assets and activities to the local economy should also be provided.

If there are any significant concerns or opposition to the development known to exist among tourism stakeholders and interest groups, this should be highlighted. Identify, where possible, the particular aspect of the development which is of concern, together with the part of the existing tourism resource which may be threatened or impacted.

In addition, the baseline should include any methodologies employed in the study to obtain information, if particular databases are used to locate sensitive receptors they should be acknowledged. In relation to tourism information, the suggested information sources at the end of this document are a non-exhaustive list which may be of assistance in identifying tourism receptors.

### ***Impact Assessment***

The topics for consideration of impact are prescribed in the EIA Directive and transcribed into Irish law by the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018). Impact assessment should contain the likely significant effects of a development arising from both construction and operation of a development. Advice on describing the effects is contained within the EPA EIAR Guidelines and includes the **quality, significance, extent, probability, type** and **duration** of the effect, with particular descriptors for each. In describing effects upon tourism receptors these descriptors should take account of the particular aspects and sensitivities of tourism, for example a temporary annual effect from a development may have different impacts upon tourism if it falls at peak season rather than off-peak.

Impact assessment should be carried out as per EPA guidelines and the best practice for that prescribed topic. It may be considered appropriate to consider impact on tourism under the 'Population and Human Health' and / or 'Landscape' topics as suggested below.

#### Population and Human Health

The consideration of tourism projects within the Population and Human Health is extensive, with impacts ranging from rural employment population impacts of seasonal tourism, to the health impact of air pollution from increased traffic in urban areas.

The impact upon tourism can be considered within this section through the sensitivities of Hospitality, Safety and Pace of Life. Changes in population can impact the perception of pace of life or safety in a particular location. Impacts upon these issues in areas which rely heavily on tourism or have a particular sensitive tourism generator should be considered in this section. The EPA guidelines makes reference to amenity “..which may be relevant under 'Population and Human Health' and 'Landscape'”.

#### Biodiversity

Particular tourist activities can have a significant impact upon biodiversity. Landscapes which are 'unspoiled' can be attractors of tourism. However, the disturbance to ecology must be managed to minimise impacts.

Biodiversity is also a tourism asset and should be protected as such from other development and should be provided for in proposals where possible.

The assessment should also consider current Government policy on nature conservation as outlined in the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 (NBAP) (and subsequent iterations (Including draft NBAP recently open for public consultation, to cover 2023 to 2027) which also includes Ireland's vision for biodiversity below.

*'That biodiversity and ecosystems in Ireland are conserved and restored, delivering benefits essential for all sectors of society and that Ireland contributes to efforts to halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystems in the EU and globally.'*

#### Land, Soils and Geology

A link between tourism and this prescribed environmental factor, beyond the normal development impacts, is rare, however particular activities or facilities which use geological features may have an impact upon soils and geology, such as mountain biking trails, recreational uses of old quarries etc.

The impact upon Geotourism related to geoh heritage within the natural environment, e.g., any impacts on UNESCO Global Geoparks, of which we currently have three on the island of Ireland; Copper Coast in Co. Waterford, Burren and Cliffs of Moher in Co. Clare, and Cuilcagh Lakelands in Cavan and Fermanagh should be considered (where applicable) in this section.

Indirect impacts such as material use for extensive landscaping and public realm should also be considered.

#### Water

Tourism uses can be water intense, depending on development type. Recreational use of a surface water feature, water-based leisure centres etc have different impacts to standard development.

#### Air Quality and Climate

Tourism impact upon air quality is dependent on the activity proposed and sensitivity of the location. If the tourism project includes a large increase in transportation services, collection of baseline air emission data is advised. Transportation emissions affect not only air quality, but also greenhouse gases. Changing climatic patterns due to climate change should be factored into this analysis.

#### Noise and Vibration

A link between tourism and this prescribed environmental factor, beyond the normal development impacts, is rare, however the impact upon tourism of issues of noise and vibration can be significant. Construction adjoining hotels for example should consider the sensitivity of the development and ensure mitigation is in place.

#### Material Assets; Traffic and Transport

The different transport patterns associated with tourism activities is a key impact of tourism and should be considered especially for tourism projects. These produce temporal and seasonal changes on the norm and specialist consideration and interpretation should be given. Tourism proposals should, where possible, be well served by public transport and should be accessible by modes other than the car. The impact of traffic on tourism assets can be substantial and can vary in severity according to season, the weather, etc. The impact of construction traffic can be a particular concern in tourism sensitive areas in terms of noise pollution and visual impact. The construction programme of developments should work to

avoid peak tourism periods in tourism areas and should consider planned or anticipated tourism events and festivals.

#### Cultural Heritage

Cultural heritage can be a key component of tourism projects and the impact of tourism on the maintenance of cultural heritage should be given the utmost consideration, whether positive or negative. As a tourism attraction, cultural heritage should be strongly considered in non-tourism developments and the impact upon tourism considered as a potential impact.

#### Archaeology

Archaeology can be of tourism interest and can be an attractive or key component of tourism projects. Archaeology can be a tourism attractor and given that national policy emphasis on the non-renewable nature of the archaeology and archaeological heritage, focus should be a presumption in favour of its preservation in-situ or where preservation in-situ is not the option chosen, there must be preservation by record (i.e. archaeological excavation and recording must take place) in line with statutory requirements.

#### Material Assets; Waste Management

Tourism is a resource heavy activity and can impact waste streams and waste segregation. Impacts here should be considered strongly and with knowledge of the variation that arises from the particular tourist activity. Waste and Waste disposal issues can also impact the perception of an unspoiled environment, effecting tourism, which should be considered.

#### Material Assets

Material assets outside of the material assets already referenced that should be considered are built services (utilities) and infrastructure. Tourism development should include impact assessment on built services (utilities) and infrastructure while non tourism related development should consider the effect on tourism, which should be considered.

#### Landscape

The visual impact of a tourism development, especially in locations which are visually sensitive or renowned for their scenic or landscape beauty, should be considered carefully. A development intended to utilise or enjoy a particular vista or environment should minimise impact upon that environment.

#### ***Major Accident and Natural Disaster***

There is a requirement for tourist developments to describe expected significant effects on the environment of the proposed development's vulnerability to major accidents and/or natural disasters relevant to it. Where appropriate measures should be identified to prevent or mitigate the significant adverse effects of such accidents or disasters, including resulting from climate change, on the environment and detail the preparedness for the proposed response.

#### ***Interaction of Impacts***

Where two or more environmental impacts combine or interact they should be considered under the prescribed topics. It is best practice to provide a table of interactions within an EIAR or EIA Screening Report.

#### ***Cumulative Impact***

The cumulative impact is that of the project combined with any known likely project which will interact or compound an environmental impact.

### **Transboundary Impact**

Transboundary impacts should be included in EIAR. In the case of tourism, especially international travel, the transboundary impacts may not be proximate to the EIAR site.

### **Mitigation & Monitoring**

Mitigation should follow the hierarchy of minimisation in descending order of preference- Avoid, Reduce, Remedy.

*Avoid* sensitive tourism resources- such as views, access and amenity areas including habitats as well as historical or cultural sites and structures.

*Reduce* the exposure of sensitive resources to excessive environmental impact.

*Reduce* the adverse effects to tourism land uses and patterns of activities, especially through interactions arising from significant changes in the intensity of use or contrasts of character or appearance.

*Remedy* any unavoidable significant residual adverse effects on tourism resources or activities.

Mitigation measures must be measurable and achievable within the bounds of the project.

With regard to Monitoring, Article 8a of the EIA Directive requires that:

*1. 'The decision to grant development consent shall incorporate at least the following information ...*

*(b) any environmental conditions attached to the decision, a description of any features of the project and/or measures envisaged to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset significant adverse effects on the environment as well as, where appropriate, monitoring measures. ... 4 Member States shall ensure that the features of the project and/or measures envisaged to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset significant adverse effects on the environment are implemented by the developer, and shall determine the procedures regarding the monitoring of significant adverse effects on the environment. The type of parameters to be monitored and the duration of the monitoring shall be proportionate to the nature, location and size of the project and the significance of its effects on the environment. Existing monitoring arrangements resulting from Union legislation other than this Directive and from national legislation may be used if appropriate, with a view to avoiding duplication of monitoring.'*

### **Residual Impacts**

The residual impacts are the final predicted or intended impacts which occur after the proposed mitigation measures have been implemented.

## 8. Sources of information on Tourism

### *Information available online*

#### *Fáilte Ireland*

Fáilte Ireland offers detailed research analysis and insights into the Irish Tourism Industry. The National Tourism Development Authority has a portfolio of research across a number of areas including facts and figures, Environmental Surveying and Monitoring, briefing papers and reports and visitor feedback. The Fáilte Ireland website has a dedicated research library which can be accessed [here](#)

Fáilte Ireland also manages an environmental surveying and monitoring database as part of the Wild Atlantic Way Operational Programme which can be accessed [here](#). The purpose of this is to work with and demonstrate to our stakeholders and partners that we are committed to the sustainable development of the Wild Atlantic Way, and to be able to pre-empt and avoid environmental effects in the future should they occur.

#### *Discover Ireland:*

Operated by Fáilte Ireland, the Discover Ireland website includes comprehensive information on tourist attractions in destinations all around Ireland, including listings for activities, accommodation, events and experiences for every county, major town and region in Ireland. The website features elements from the four destination brands – Wild Atlantic Way, Ireland's Ancient East, Ireland's Hidden Heartlands and Visit Dublin and can be accessed [here](#).

#### *Tourism Ireland*

Tourism Ireland is responsible for marketing the island of Ireland overseas as a holiday and business tourism destination. Tourism Ireland publishes a range of research documents including; visitor facts and figures, seasonal updates and industry insights which are accessible [here](#)

#### *Local Authorities*

Local Authorities are an invaluable source of information. They produce tourism strategies and audits of tourism assets within their jurisdiction. Local authorities will also produce landscape and seascape studies. Protected views and prospects as well as the record of protected structures and other designated protected buildings are contained within the Statutory Development Plans.

#### *Regional Assemblies*

Regional Assemblies can also be consulted on high level strategic tourism and potential Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSESs) should be consulted.

#### *Central Statistics Office*

The Central Statistics Office (CSO) is Ireland's national statistical office and their purpose is to impartially collect, analyse and make available statistics about Ireland's people, society and economy. The Tourism and Travel Section of the Central Statistics Office is the major source for tourism statistics in Ireland and is updated regularly.

## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 23 April 2024 11:30  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** RE: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare  
**Attachments:** Fáilte Ireland EIAR Guidelines 2023.pdf

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hello Natalia,

Thank you for your email regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to accompany a planning application, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC, for a proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.

Please see attached a copy of Fáilte Ireland's Guidelines for the Treatment of Tourism in an EIA, which you may find informative for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed project. The purpose of this report is to provide guidance for those conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and compiling an Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR), or those assessing EIARs, where the project involves tourism or may have an impact upon tourism. These guidelines are non-statutory and act as supplementary advice to the EPA EIAR Guidelines outlined in section 2.

Regards,

Yvonne

---

**From:** Natalia Stolarska <nstolarska@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 5, 2024 4:07 PM  
**To:** planning applications <planning.applications@failteireland.ie>  
**Cc:** Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

**[ATTENTION]** This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

MKO is preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to accompany a planning application, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC, for a proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.

The proposed project will likely encompass up to 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, borrow pit(s), electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent meteorological mast. It is anticipated the development will meet the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) thresholds of 25 no. turbines or 50 Megawatts (MW) for wind energy as set out in the 7th Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended).

Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the Proposed Development, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist

**MKO**  
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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## Natalia Stolarska

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**From:** Forestry Info <forestryinfo@agriculture.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** Friday 5 April 2024 16:09  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** Auto-Reply

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Sir/Madam,

We would like to acknowledge and thank you for your correspondence to the Forestry Division in the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

Your correspondence will be brought to the attention of the relevant area in this Division within 3 working days.

Yours sincerely,

Forestry Division  
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Disclaimer:

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

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An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Tá an t-eolas sa ríomhphost seo, agus in aon cheangaltáin leis, faoi rún agus tá sé dírithe ar an bhfaighteoir/na faighteoirí beartaithe amháin agus níor cheart ach dóibh siúd é a úsáid. D'fhéadfadh an t-eolas seo a bheith faoi réir pribhléid dhlíthiúil agus ghairmiúil. Mura tusa faighteoir beartaithe an ríomhphost seo, níor cheart duit an teachtaireacht seo, nó aon chuid di, a úsáid, a nochtadh, a chóipeáil, a dháileadh nó a choinneáil. Má fuair tú an ríomhphost seo go hearráideach, cuir an seoltóir ar an eolas láithreach agus scríos gach cóip den ríomhphost seo ó chóra(i)s do ríomhaire, le do thoil.

MKO  
Tuam Road  
Galway  
H91VW84

8<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Re: Scoping Request for the proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The following are the comments from this Division in relation to the proposed development:

If the proposed development will involve the felling or removal of any trees, the developer must obtain a Felling License from this Department before trees are felled or removed. A Felling Licence application form can be obtained from **Felling Section, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford**. Email: [felling.forests@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:felling.forests@agriculture.gov.ie) or Web [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) - [Tree Felling Licences \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

A Felling Licence granted by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine provides authority under the Forestry Act 2014 to fell or otherwise remove a tree or trees and/or to thin a forest for silvicultural reasons. The Act prescribes the functions of the Minister and details the requirements, rights and obligations in relation to felling licences. The principal set of regulations giving further effect to the Forestry Act 2014 are the Forestry Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 191 of 2017).

The developer should take note of the contents of **Felling and Reforestation Policy** document which provide a consolidated source of information on the legal and regulatory framework relating to tree felling; [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) - [Tree Felling Licences \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie) As this development is within forest lands, particular attention should be paid to deforestation, turbulence felling and the requirement to afforest alternative lands.

In order to ensure regulated forestry operations in Ireland accord with the principles of sustainable forest management (SFM), as well fulfilling the requirements of other relevant environmental protection laws, the Department (acting through its Forest Service division) must undertake particular consultations, and give certain matters full consideration during the assessment of individual Felling Licence applications. This includes consultation with relevant bodies, the application of various protocols and procedures (e.g. Forest Service Appropriate Assessment Procedure), and the requirement for applicants on occasion to provide further information (e.g. a Natura Impact Statement).

Consequently, when the Forest Service is considering an application to fell trees, the following applies:

1. The interaction of these proposed works with the environment locally and more widely, in addition to potential direct and indirect impacts on designated sites and water, is assessed. Consultation with relevant environmental and planning authorities may be required where specific sensitivities arise (e.g. local authorities, National Parks & Wildlife Service, Inland Fisheries Ireland, and the National Monuments Service);

2. Where a tree Felling Licence application is received, the Department will publish a notice of the application before making a decision on the matter. The notice shall state that any person may make a submission to the Department within 30 days from the date of the notice. The notices are published online at: [gov.ie - Felling Licence Applications \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)
3. Third parties that make a submission or observation will be informed of the decision to grant or refuse the licence, and on request, details of the conditions attached to the licence, the main reasons and considerations on which the decision to grant or refuse the licence was based, and where conditions are attached to any licence, the reasons for the conditions. Both third parties and applicants will be also informed of their right to appeal any decision within 14 days to the Forestry Appeals Committee. Felling Licence decision are published online at: [gov.ie - Felling Licence Decisions \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

It is important to note that when applying to a **Local Authority**, or **An Bord Pleanála**, for planning permission where developments are:

- a) subject to an EIA procedure (including screening in the case of a sub-threshold development) and any resulting requirement to produce an EIAR; and/or
- b) subject to an Appropriate Assessment procedure (including screening) and any resulting requirement to a Natura Impact Statement (NIS); and
- c) the proposed development in its construction or operational phases, or any works ancillary thereto, would directly or indirectly involve the felling and replanting of trees, deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use, or replacement of broadleaf high forest by conifer species,
  1. that there is a requirement inter alia under the EIA Directive for an overall assessment of the effects of the project or the alteration thereof on the environment to be undertaken, including the direct and indirect environmental impact of the project;and
  2. pursuant to Article 2(3) of the EIA Directive, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine strongly recommends that, notwithstanding the fact that a parallel consent in the form of felling licence may also have to be applied for, any EIAR and/or NIS produced in connection with the application for planning permission to the Local Planning Authority or An Bord Pleanála, should include an assessment of the impact of and measures, as appropriate, to prevent, mitigate or compensate for any significant adverse effects direct or indirect identified on the environment arising from such felling and replanting of trees, deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use, or replacement of broadleaf high forest by conifer species.
  3. Please note that there must be absolute spatial consistency between the felling licence areas submitted to DAFM (second authority) and all related planning documents submitted to the first authority in respect of the felling area(s)

Yours sincerely,

---

**Catherine Boyce**  
**Felling Section**  
**Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine**

**Johnstown Castle**  
**Co Wexford**



MKO,  
Tuam Road,  
Galway  
H91 VW84

08 April 2024

**Re: the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Cahermurphy 2  
windfarm Co. Clare.**

Dear Ms. Stolarska,

I refer to your letter dated 05 April 2024, in relation to the proposed Cahermurphy 2 windfarm located in Co. Clare.

I wish to advise at the outset that any determination in relation to a planning consent is solely a matter for the planning authorities and/or ABP, as appropriate. Therefore, the following observation is made on a non-prejudicial basis, and is not intended to be used to rely on for a prospective planning application, nor is this observation to be relied on in the event of any commercial transaction pertaining to such lands and it is not to be relied on in the event of any contract exchange pertaining to same.

As a matter of practice, the Department of Defence does not provide observations or advice in the scoping process, except where the relevant parties have been directed by a planning authority to seek the Department's views.

Based on the information supplied and following consultations with the subject matter in the Irish Air Corps, the Department of Defence wishes to make the following observations:

- All turbines should be illuminated by Type C, Medium intensity, Fixed Red obstacle lighting with a minimum output of 2,000 candela to be visible in all directions of azimuth and to be operational H24/7 days a week. Obstacle lighting should be incandescent or, if LED or other types are used, of a type visible to Night Vision equipment. Obstacle lighting used must emit light at the near Infra-Red (IR) range of the electromagnetic spectrum, specifically at or near 850 nanometres (nm) of wavelength. Light intensity to be of similar value to that emitted in the visible spectrum of light.



Any Irish Air Corps (IAC) requirements for are separate to Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) require

We would appreciate if you could keep us informed on any progress relating to this proposed development.

Nothing in the above observation shall be taken as a binding response by the Minister for Defence in the event that a planning application is made. The Minister reserves the right to comment on an actual planning application as and when it is submitted in accordance with the provisions of the planning regulatory code.

Please contact me if you have any queries in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

*Sent via e-mail*

---

Don Watchorn  
Property Management Branch  
Department of Defence  
Station Road  
Newbridge  
Co. Kildare W12 AD93  
045 452199 [don.watchorn@defence.ie](mailto:don.watchorn@defence.ie)

## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** Defence Property Management Planning  
<PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie>  
**Sent:** Wednesday 17 April 2024 10:15  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Cc:** Jack Smith; Don Watchorn (Defence); Sarah Kelly (Defence)  
**Subject:** RE: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare  
**Attachments:** 2024-04-17 Observation Letter for Cahermurphy Windfarm.pdf  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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Dear Ms. Stolarska,

Re: Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Windfarm Development

With reference to your e-mail below and your letter dated 05 April 2024, please see attached response from the Department.

Kind Regards,  
Gillian

**Gillian Holden**

*Property Management Branch*

---

**An Roinn Cosanta**

*Department of Defence*

**Bóthar an Stáisiúin, An Droichead Nua, Contae Chill Dara, W12 AD93.**

Station Road, Newbridge, Co.Kildare, W12 AD93.

---

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[www.defence.ie](http://www.defence.ie)

---

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---

**From:** Defence Property Management Planning

**Sent:** Monday 8 April 2024 10:18

**To:** 'Natalia Stolarska' <nstolarska@mkoireland.ie>

**Cc:** Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>; Don Watchorn (Defence) <Don.Watchorn@defence.ie>; Sarah Kelly (Defence) <Sarah.Kelly@defence.ie>

**Subject:** RE: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

Dear Ms. Stolarska,

The Department of Defence wishes to acknowledge receipt of your email below re: the proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm, Co. Clare

The Department is currently consulting with the Defence Forces subject matter experts and we will revert in due course.

Kind Regards,  
Gillian

---

**From:** Natalia Stolarska <nstolarska@mkoireland.ie>

**Sent:** Friday 5 April 2024 15:59

**To:** Defence Property Management Planning <[PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie](mailto:PropertyManagementPlanning@defence.ie)>

**Cc:** Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>

**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

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To whom it may concern,

MKO is preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to accompany a planning application, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC, for a proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.

The proposed project will likely encompass up to 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, borrow pit(s), electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent meteorological mast. It is anticipated the development will meet the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) thresholds of 25 no. turbines or 50 Megawatts (MW) for wind energy as set out in the 7th Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended).

Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the Proposed Development, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin

[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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**Your Ref:** 230843

**Our Ref:** G Pre00123/2024

*(Please quote in all related correspondence)*

17 May 2024

MKO  
Tuam Road  
Galway  
H91 VW84

Via email to: [nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)

**Proposed Pre Planning Development: Cahermurphy Renewables DAC for proposed wind farm development at Cahermurphy, approximately 25 km southwest of Ennis, Co Clare**

A chara,

I refer to correspondence received in connection with the above. Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations of the Department co-ordinated by the Development Applications Unit under the stated headings.

### **Archaeology**

The Department has reviewed the 'Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Document: Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm, Co Clare'.

The information provided was not sufficiently detailed to allow for a full assessment of the archaeological implications of this proposal, however, the Department notes that an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) is scoped into the proposed EIA process as part of the overall Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of the proposed development and will be carried out by Tobar Archaeological Services Ltd. The supplied methodology indicates that this will incorporate a detailed desktop study and field inspection. In this regard, the Department awaits the results of the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (CHIA) and full EIAR for the scheme before commenting further.

Further to the above and by way of general archaeological advice, please note that, whilst the proposed development site (PDS) may or may not contain within it known or subsurface



Recorded Monuments and/or Archaeological sites that may require assessment as part of the overall CHIA, the PDS itself is located within a wider area of known archaeological settlement and activity (the Department's initial review of the Record of Monuments and Places, [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie) and cartographic sources). All of these Recorded Monuments, both within and outside the PDS, are subject to statutory protection in the Record of Monuments and Places, established under section 12 of the National Monuments Act 1930-2014. Therefore, the CHIA should include an assessment of the possible effects of the proposal on the wider archaeological landscape. It is of importance that the study area for the CHIA should be of sufficient size and extent to support this.

The Department advises that in addition to a robust desk-study supported by a comprehensive field inspection the CHIA should incorporate a visual impact assessment (to assist in identifying any possible impacts to the setting of sites or monuments).

In this respect it should be noted that in addition to site-specific vulnerabilities to impact on setting many monument types—for example prehistoric monuments such as Standing Stone Alignments, Standing Stone Rows, Single Standing Stones, as well as some megalithic tombs—are often considered to represent a wide area of associated archaeological settlement and activity. As a result, the bunding/stockpiling of materials, intrusion into viewsheds may have a negative visual impact on such monuments and may diminish or interrupt alignment views and alter key aspects of their original function and layout. The Visual Impact Assessment should:

- Set out the key characteristics of the monument(s) and its surroundings that contribute to its setting and the degree to which this setting is integral to the significance and appreciation of the monument.
- Assess the effects of the development—both positive and negative—on these key characteristics. The development should be considered in terms of its location and siting relative to the monument as well as its form, appearance and permanence.
- Be supported by appropriate illustrations of the monument, its setting and the development.

The Department further advises that the following are also carried out as part of the overall CHIA to ensure a comprehensive assessment of the proposed development:

- The desk-study and field inspection regime should inform:



- Targeted non-intrusive advance geophysical survey or prospection (such as Ground Penetrating Radar Surveys).
- Targeted advance archaeological test excavation.
- Any and all intrusive advance investigations (such as, but not limited to, ground investigations for soils/geology/hydrogeology) carried out as part of the EIA or design process should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

The results of these investigations should inform the EIA process and be incorporated within the EIA Report. The Department is happy to provide further advice and clarification as and if required in relation to the preparation of suitably comprehensive assessments as outlined above, with particular regard to the scope and locations for any advance non-intrusive prospection or advance test excavation that would be appropriate to inform the assessment of this proposed scheme.

Notwithstanding the above, the Department awaits the submission of this assessment before commenting further.

### **Nature Conservation**

The Department refers to the request for observations on the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm development, Co Clare, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC. The following nature conservation observations are made at pre-planning stage and are intended to assist in addressing the obligations that arise in relation to European sites and biodiversity in general in the context of this project. The observations here are not exhaustive, and are made without prejudice to any recommendation that may be made by this Department in the future. Data collected and surveys carried out in connection with this proposed development may raise other issues that have not been considered here. Previous correspondence from this Department in relation to the Cahermurphy 2 windfarm that is currently before An Bord Pleanála (the Board) in a remitted first party grounds of appeal (ABP-318525-23) should also be considered along with the following observations.

The Department notes the scope of ecological surveys set out in the EIAR scoping document (including a Natura Impact Statement (NIS)) provided by MKO. The Department recommends the following points for consideration:



- Bird surveys for all species should cover bird usage and facilitate assessment of potential collision risk, habitat loss, barrier effect and displacement for these species and should be based around the daily and seasonal activity patterns of the species being surveyed. Survey work should cover year-round site use and should cover a minimum of two years to allow for an accurate determination of site usage. Hinterland surveys should include breeding raptor surveys, including roost watches, surveys for nocturnal species and other species-specific surveys as appropriate. Vantage point surveys should be done in a manner that ensures sufficient data is collected to allow an assessment of the importance of all the flight paths into, out of and between sites and assess migratory movements. Consequently, the Department recommends that a visibility analysis of topography and vegetation is used in the selection of vantage points for ornithological surveys. Technological solutions should also be considered in conjunction with VPs surveys to ensure sufficient data is compiled for assessment. Results for species need to be referenced back to the relevant population and their dynamics as, in some cases even a small risk to a population of a species could be considered significant. Cumulative impact on birds from surrounding sites needs to be considered in the assessment. It is important that bird migration routes (day and night) are assessed as well as the flight lines (day and night) of bird species travelling between roosting and feeding areas. Limitations in guidance documentation, used in the analysis and discussion of results from any bird surveys, should be acknowledged, e.g. species that are covered by the guidance, data gaps and application to the Irish environment. Surveys should be designed to also include an assessment of improved agricultural lands. These types of intensified landscape features have the potential to provide feeding habitat and attract wintering wildfowl species.
- The proposed development site is in the 'North & West Clare region area', which is zoned as an important region for Hen Harrier. There has been a short term decline of 50% in the density of Hen Harriers in this area since 2010 with 12-16 pairs recorded in 2010, 3-9 pairs recorded in 2015<sup>1</sup>, and 4-7 pairs recorded in 2022<sup>2</sup>. Furthermore, this 2022 national survey also confirmed hen harrier breeding in the 10 kilometres square (R06) where the proposed wind farm is located. Knowledge of Hen Harrier distribution and activity is necessary to determine the risks to the species as a result of habitat loss, displacement and collision arising from the proposed windfarm on its own, and in combination with other windfarms, afforestation, including forestry management and harvesting, and land reclamation in this general area. Knowledge of Hen Harrier nesting and foraging habitat availability is also required to assess the risks. Existing data from

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/IWM93.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Ruddock, M., Wilson-Parr, R., Lusby, J., Connolly, F., J. Bailey, & O'Toole, L. (2024). The 2022 National Survey of breeding Hen Harrier in Ireland. Report prepared by Irish Raptor Study Group (IRSG), BirdWatch Ireland (BWI), Golden Eagle Trust (GET) for National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS). Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 147.



EIARs should be reviewed and included in the assessment of indirect and cumulative impacts. It must be demonstrated, including through landscape modelling over the lifespan of the windfarm, that there will be sufficient habitat for the Hen Harrier population in the event that all permitted windfarms are constructed and as conifer plantations mature, and undergo successive rotations. The report should include proposals for future monitoring of Hen Harriers as required.

- The proposed site is located within the Annageragh, Creegh and Doonbeg Freshwater Pearl Mussel catchments. Freshwater Pearl Mussel is protected under the Wildlife Acts 1976, as amended, and is a 'protected species' under the Environmental Liability Directive. The primary risk to water quality from the proposal is from hydrocarbon spillage and leakages and silt run-off from exposed soil / peats when earthworks and excavations will be undertaken at the site during construction, and any works required along the proposed haul route and grid connection routes. Therefore, all potential impacts on water quality as a result of this proposal will need to be thoroughly assessed.
- Bat roosts may be present in trees, buildings and bridges. Bat species are protected under the Wildlife Act 1976, as amended, and are subject to a regime of strict protection pursuant to the requirements of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) as transposed in Irish law in Regulation 51 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (as amended). Therefore, damage/disturbance to any such roosts must be avoided in the first instance. While the Minister may grant a derogation licence under Regulation 54 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011-2015, a licence can only be granted once a number of strict criteria have been met (see Regulation 54). Furthermore, following a recent CJEU judgment on the Hellfire Massey Case C-166/22, the Department recommends any potential derogation must necessarily be adopted before development consent is given. An assessment of the impact of the proposed wind farm on bat species should be carried out noting recent guidance available, "*Bat and Onshore Wind Turbines: Survey, Assessment and Mitigation, 2019*" published jointly by Scottish Natural Heritage and Bat Conservation Trust and other stakeholders. The Department would like to highlight new research on patterns of bat activity in upland wind farms<sup>3</sup> which indicates it is more appropriate to use 30 day survey periods with static automated detectors, in each season, and in different weather conditions to reduce sampling bias and to accurately determine when the curtailment mitigation is required during the operational phase. This survey should include use of detectors at different heights. Any proposed bat friendly lighting should be proven to be effective and follow up-to-date guidance.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://cieem.net/resource/cieem-webinar-patterns-of-bat-activity-at-upland-windfarms-implications-for-sampling-and-mitigation/>



- Wetlands are important areas for biodiversity and ground and surface water quality should be protected during construction and operation of the proposed development. The EIAR should include a detailed assessment of the hydrological impacts on wetlands from the proposed development. Any watercourse or wetland which may be impacted on should be surveyed for the presence of protected species and species listed on Annexes II and IV of the Habitats Directive. For example, these species could include Otter (*Lutra lutra*) which are protected under the Wildlife Acts and listed on Annex II and IV of the Habitats Directive, Salmon (*Salmo salar*), Lamprey (three species in Ireland) listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive, Freshwater Pearl Mussel (*Margaritifera* species) and White-clawed Crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*) which are both protected under the Wildlife Act and listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive, Frogs (*Rana temporaria*) and Newts (*Trituris vulgaris*) protected under the Wildlife Acts and Kingfishers (*Alcedo atthis*) protected under the Wildlife Acts and listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409 EEC). Further to potential impacts on the species listed above, for example, one of the main threats identified in the threat response plan for otter is habitat destruction. A 10 metre riparian buffer on both banks of a waterway is considered to comprise part of the otter habitat. Therefore, any proposed development should be located at least 10 metres away from a waterway and should consider movements between waterways and waterbodies by otters.
- A detailed hydrological assessment should be carried out in terms of the potential impacts arising from the proposed development on Natura 2000 sites which has direct hydrological links as well as other sites including Natural Heritage Areas and proposed Natural Heritage Areas within the zone of influence; noting that designated sites at some distance can be intrinsically linked and supported by the surrounding habitats (e.g. agricultural fields) and hydrological processes. A detailed site drainage map will be required and should show all existing watercourses, drainage ditches, flushes, lakes or ponds; new drainage ditches; all outfall points to watercourses or lakes; and all settlement ponds.
- The Department notes that the proposed development site contains a number of peatland habitats. Peat stability should be assessed where required. Potential loss of these habitats should be considered in light of their ecological significance and importance as wetland habitats and the associated environmental services that they provide with regard to waterflow/flood regulation. As such, there should be full consideration of the amount of peat to be excavated, stored, and disposed/recovered. A detailed plan for the safe storage, disposal and rehabilitation of excavated or disturbed peat should form part of the report. Excavated or exposed peat should not pose any threat to surface waters and water quality, or natural or semi-natural habitats. Any proposals to combine peat disposal



with habitat restoration or rehabilitation measures will require a detailed plan to show the location, nature and area of lands in question, and provide details of how such areas will be reinstated, managed and improved for habitats and/or species, together with proposals for monitoring and reporting.

- Marsh fritillary surveys should be carried out as per standard Marsh Fritillary Larval Web Survey methodology.
- Hedgerows and scrub should be maintained where possible, as they form wildlife corridors and provide areas for birds to nest in. Hedgerows provide a habitat for woodland flora, roosting places for bats and Badger setts may also be present. The EIAR should provide an estimate of the length/area of any hedgerow/scrub that will be removed. Where it is proposed that trees or hedgerows will be removed there should be suitable planting of native species in mitigation incorporated into the EIAR. Hedgerows, trees, scrub and uncultivated vegetation (including semi-natural habitats) should not be removed during the nesting season (i.e. 1 March to 31 August), noting the protection afforded under the Wildlife Act 1976-2018.
- The EIAR should also address the issue of invasive alien plant and animal species such as *Rhododendron ponticum* and Japanese Knotweed, and detail the methods required to ensure they are not accidentally introduced or spread during survey and or construction.
- If tree felling is required at this site, it should be included as an intrinsic element of the overall development and should be assessed fully in the report. The extent of tree felling should be mapped, and the future use and management of all cleared areas should be specified. The impacts of tree felling on wildlife, habitats and surface waters (e.g. water quality) should be assessed, including the risk of Phosphate mobilisation from peat soils as a result of tree clearance and ground disturbance. Tree felling is licensed and regulated by the Forest Service; any additional requirements in respect of this element of the proposed development, including any obligations to replant on other lands, should be made known at the planning application stage.
- Any associated improvement or reinforcement works required for access and transport along the proposed haul route(s) should be included in the EIAR and NIS, as appropriate, and subjected to ecological impact assessment with the inclusion of mitigation measures where necessary.



- Along with the standard National Parks and Wildlife Service data requests, which are recommended, other sources of habitat and species information beyond those already identified include (but are not be limited to): the National Biodiversity Data Centre ([www.biodiversityireland.ie](http://www.biodiversityireland.ie)), Inland Fisheries Ireland ([www.fisheriesireland.ie](http://www.fisheriesireland.ie)), BirdWatch Ireland ([www.birdwatchireland.ie](http://www.birdwatchireland.ie)), Irish Raptor Study Group, Golden Eagle Trust and Bat Conservation Ireland ([www.batconservationireland.org](http://www.batconservationireland.org)). Data may also exist at a County level within the Planning Authority. Some guidance and reference documents are provided in the Appendix to this letter. To note that the local ESB offices may be able to provide useful information with regard to collision/strikes of birds to power lines in the locality.
- The scoping document states the project will likely seek to connect into the existing 400 kV Moneypoint Substation. The Department notes the presence of a Lesser Horseshoe Bat roost at Moneypoint.
- All potential cumulative, in-combination and ex situ impacts must be assessed.
- Complete project details including Construction Management Plans (CMPs) need to be provided in order to allow an adequate EIAR (and appropriate assessment) to be undertaken. CMPS should contain sufficient detail to avoid any post construction doubt with regard to the implementation of mitigation measures, timings and roles and responsibilities for same. Any mitigation needs to be included in detail and if being relied upon to reach conclusions must be proved to be achievable and likely to be effective in any given scenario it is needed. Proof of effectiveness will be required with examples of where similar techniques have been employed previously. Applicants need to be able to demonstrate that CMPs and other such plans are adequate, all mitigation is included and effective and supported by scientific information and analysis and that they are feasible within the physical constraints of the site. The positions, locations and sizes of construction infrastructure and mitigation such as settlement ponds, disposal sites and construction compounds may significantly affect European and other designated sites, habitats and species in their own right and could have an effect for example on, drainage, water quality, habitat loss, and disturbance. If these are undetermined at time of the assessment all potential effects of the development on the site are not being considered.
- Such developments, given their scale and duration, can be an opportunity for ecological enhancement. Enhancement measures have been included in similar projects in Ireland. However, any proposed enhancement measures must have sufficient information to be implemented effectively. It is suggested that a Habitat Management Plan (HMP) is carried



out, outlining specific enhancement measures to be undertaken, the timescale for implementation, objectives to be achieved and ecological monitoring requirements.

- In order to carry out the Appropriate Assessment screening, and/or prepare a Natura Impact Statement, information about the relevant European sites including their conservation objectives will need to be collected. Details of designated sites and species and conservation objectives can be found on <http://www.npws.ie/>. Site-specific, as opposed to generic, conservation objectives are now available for many sites. Each conservation objective for a qualifying interest (QI) is defined by a list of attributes and targets and is often supported by further documentation. Where these are not available for a site, an examination of the attributes that are used to define site-specific conservation objectives for the same QIs in other sites can be usefully used to ensure the full ecological implications of a proposal for a site's conservation objective and its integrity are analysed and assessed.
- Finally, the Department recommends the following Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management advice note on the lifespan of ecological reports and surveys be used in the preparation of the Biodiversity: Flora and Fauna chapter - <https://cieem.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Advice-Note.pdf>

The above observations/recommendations are based on the papers submitted to this Department on a pre-planning basis and are made without prejudice to any observations that the Minister may make in the context of any consultation arising on foot of any development application referred to the Minister, by the planning authority/authorities, in his/her role as statutory consultee under the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

You are requested to send any further communications to this Department's Development Applications Unit (DAU) at: [manager.dau@npws.gov.ie](mailto:manager.dau@npws.gov.ie)

Is mise, le meas,

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Brian Bone  
Development Applications Unit  
Administration

## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** Friday 17 May 2024 10:02  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co Clare  
**Attachments:** G Pre001232024.pdf

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

**Your Ref:** 230843  
**Our Ref:** G Pre00123/2024  
*(Please quote in all related correspondence)*

Good morning Natalia,

Please find attached heritage-related observations/recommendations for the above mentioned proposed development.

Regards,

---

**Brian Bone**  
*Executive Officer*

---

**An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta**  
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

**Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt**  
Development Applications Unit

**Oifigi an Rialtais, Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman, Y35 AP90**  
Government Offices, Newtown Road, Wexford, Co Wexford, Y35 AP90

---

## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** Friday 5 April 2024 16:46  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** RE: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare- FAO NPWS

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

**Your Ref: 230843**  
**Our Ref: G Pre00123/2024**  
*(Please quote in all related correspondence)*

Good afternoon Natalia,

On behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, I acknowledge receipt of your recent consultation.

In the event of observations, you will receive a co-ordinated heritage-related response by email from Development Applications Unit (DAU).

The normal target turnaround for pre-planning and other general consultations is six weeks from date of receipt. In relation to general consultations from public bodies under the European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004 to 2011, the Department endeavours to meet deadline dates, where requested.

Please note, the Development Applications Unit (DAU) is the coordinating unit for the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, coordinating responses/submission from National Parks and Wildlife Service, National Monuments Service, Architectural Heritage and Underwater Archaeology Unit. All Correspondence is to be issued to and from DAU only. There is no need to email/send additional copies to any of these functions.

If you have not heard from DAU and wish to receive an update, please email: [manager.dau@npws.gov.ie](mailto:manager.dau@npws.gov.ie)

Regards,

---

**Brian Bone**  
*Executive Officer*

---

**An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta**  
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

**Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt**  
Development Applications Unit

**Oifigi an Rialtais, Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman Y35 AP90**  
Government Offices, Newtown Road, Wexford, Co Wexford, Y35 AP90

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**From:** Natalia Stolarska <nstolarska@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** 05 April 2024 16:02  
**To:** Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>  
**Cc:** Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare- FAO NPWS

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To whom it may concern,

MKO is preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to accompany a planning application, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC, for a proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.

The proposed project will likely encompass up to 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, borrow pit(s), electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent meteorological mast. It is anticipated the development will meet the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) thresholds of 25 no. turbines or 50 Megawatts (MW) for wind energy as set out in the 7th Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended).

We would be grateful if you could issue the attached scoping document for comment to the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the Proposed Development, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist

**MKO**  
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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## Natalia Stolarska

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**From:** Transport GCU <GeneralCo-OrdinationUnit@transport.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** Thursday 2 May 2024 12:18  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska; Transport GCU  
**Cc:** Jack Smith  
**Subject:** RE: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare  
**Attachments:** 20240430 DoT submission April 24 2.docx  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good afternoon Natalia,

Please find attached for your attention submission on behalf of Department of Transport in relation to an EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare.

Kind regards  
Jacqui

**Jacqui Traynor**  
*Central Policy, Coordination and Reform*  
**An Roinn Iompair**  
*Department of Transport*  
Lána Líosain, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 TR60  
Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60  
T +353 (0)1 604 1177  
[gcu@transport.gov.ie](mailto:gcu@transport.gov.ie) [www.gov.ie/transport](http://www.gov.ie/transport)

---

**From:** Natalia Stolarska <nstolarska@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 5, 2024 4:04 PM  
**To:** Transport GCU <GeneralCo-OrdinationUnit@transport.gov.ie>  
**Cc:** Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

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To whom it may concern,

MKO is preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to accompany a planning application, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC, for a proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.

The proposed project will likely encompass up to 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, borrow pit(s), electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent meteorological mast. It is anticipated the development will meet the

Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) thresholds of 25 no. turbines or 50 Megawatts (MW) for wind energy as set out in the 7th Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended).

Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the Proposed Development, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist

**MKO**  
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** DECC GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 16 April 2024 13:08  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Cc:** DECC GSI Planning; DECC Planning Advisory  
**Subject:** RE: EIS 24/121 - Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Windfarm Development, Co Clare  
**Attachments:** 24\_121 Cahermurphy Windfarm Co Clare.pdf; GSI datasets relevant to EIA & SEA\_20210421.pdf

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Natalia,

With reference to your letter received on the 05 April 2024, concerning the Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm, please find attached response and dataset sheet from Geological Survey Ireland.

Yours sincerely,

Trish Smullen



**Trish Smullen Geoh Heritage & Planning.**

**Geological Survey Ireland**, Booterstown Hall, Booterstown Ave., Co. Dublin A94 N2R6.

**Email:** [trish.smullen@gsi.ie](mailto:trish.smullen@gsi.ie) [www.gsi.ie](http://www.gsi.ie)

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*A division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.*

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**From:** DECC GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 9:52 AM  
**To:** Patricia Smullen (DECC) <Trish.Smullen@gsi.ie>  
**Cc:** DECC GSI Planning <GSIPlanning@GSI.ie>; DECC Planning Advisory <PlanningAdvisory@decc.gov.ie>  
**Subject:** EIS 24/121 - Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Windfarm Development, Co Clare

EIS 24/121

Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Windfarm Development, Co Clare. Request for observations by MKO. Letter and Scoping Document are enclosed.

Regards,

John

---

**From:** Natalia Stolarska <[nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 5, 2024 4:10 PM  
**To:** DECC GSI Planning <[GSIPlanning@GSI.ie](mailto:GSIPlanning@GSI.ie)>  
**Cc:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>; Patricia Smullen (DECC) <[Trish.Smullen@gsi.ie](mailto:Trish.Smullen@gsi.ie)>  
**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

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To whom it may concern,

MKO is preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to accompany a planning application, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC, for a proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.

The proposed project will likely encompass up to 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, borrow pit(s), electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent meteorological mast. It is anticipated the development will meet the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) thresholds of 25 no. turbines or 50 Megawatts (MW) for wind energy as set out in the 7th Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended).

Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the Proposed Development, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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Natalia Stolarska  
MKO  
Tuam Road,  
Galway, H91 VW84

16 April 2024

**Re: Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm**  
**Your Ref: 230843**  
**Our Ref: 24/121**

Dear Natalia,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability. We recommend using these various data sets, when conducting the EIAR, SEA, planning and scoping processes. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly to 'Geological Survey Ireland'.

The publicly available data referenced/presented here, should in no way be construed as Geological Survey Ireland support for or objection to the proposed development or plan. The data is made freely available to all and can be used as independent scientific data in assessments, plans or policies. It should be noted that in many cases this data is a baseline or starting point for further site specific assessments.

With reference to your letter received on the 05 April 2024, concerning the Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm, Geological Survey Ireland would encourage use of and reference to our datasets. Please find attached a list of our publicly available datasets that may be useful to the environmental assessment and planning process. We recommend that you review this list and refer to any datasets you consider relevant to your assessment. The remainder of this letter and following sections provide more detail on some of these datasets.

### **Geoheritage**

A national inventory of geoheritage sites known as County Geological Sites (CGSs) is managed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland. CGSs, as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include sites that are of national importance which have been selected as the very best examples for NHA (Natural Heritage Areas) designation. NHA designation will be completed in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). CGSs are now routinely included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#).

The audit for Co. Clare was completed in 2005. The full report details can be found [here](#). **Our records show that there are no CGSs in the vicinity of the proposed EIAR Site Boundary.**

### **Groundwater**

Geological Survey Ireland's [Groundwater and Geothermal Unit](#), provides advice, data and maps relating to groundwater distribution, quality and use, which is especially relevant for safe and secure drinking water supplies and healthy ecosystems.

Proposed developments need to consider any potential impact on specific groundwater abstractions and on groundwater resources in general. We recommend using the groundwater maps on our [Map viewer](#) which should include: wells; drinking water source protection areas; the national map suite - aquifer, groundwater vulnerability, groundwater recharge and subsoil permeability maps. For areas underlain by limestone, please refer to the karst specific data layers (karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels (gwlevel.ie). Background information is also provided in the Groundwater Body Descriptions. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data.

**The Groundwater Data Viewer indicates an aquifer classed as a 'Locally Important Aquifer - Bedrock which is Moderately Productive only in Local Zones' underlies the EIAR Site Boundary. The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates the range of groundwater vulnerabilities within the area covered is variable. We would therefore recommend use of the Groundwater Viewer to identify areas of High to Extreme Vulnerability and 'Rock at or near surface' in your assessments, as any groundwater-surface water interactions that might occur would be greatest in these areas.**



[GWClimate](#) is a groundwater monitoring and modelling project that aims to investigate the impact of climate change on groundwater in Ireland. This is a follow on from a previous project (GWFlood) and the data may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans. Maps and data are available on the [Map viewer](#).

Geological Survey Ireland has completed Groundwater Protection Schemes (GWPSs) in partnership with Local Authorities, and there is now national coverage of GWPS mapping. A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.

**The Groundwater Protection Response overview and link to the main reports is here:** <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater/projects/protecting-drinking-water/what-is-drinking-water-protection/county-groundwater-protection-schemes/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Geological Mapping**

Geological Survey Ireland maintains online datasets of bedrock and subsoils geological mapping that are reliable and accessible. We would encourage you to use these data which can be found [here](#), in your future assessments.

Our subsoils or Quaternary maps provide information regarding the type of sediments present in the subsoils and the geomorphology of the deposits. Our physiographic maps include an interpretation of the landforms and geomorphology of the Quaternary sediments and deposits. Physiographic maps are cartographic representations of the broad-scale physical landscape of a region. They delineate physical regions showing internal uniformity with respect to one or more environmental attributes that can be clearly differentiated from neighbouring regions. They are valuable for regional land-use planning, and in studies of the influence of physical landscape on the ecological environment.

**Please note we have recently launched QGIS compatible bedrock (100K) and Quaternary geology map data, with instructional manuals and videos. This makes our data more accessible to general public and external stakeholders. QGIS compatible data can be found in our downloadable bedrock 100k .zip file on the [Data & Maps](#) section of our website.**

### **Geohazards**

Geohazards can cause widespread damage to landscapes, wildlife, human property and human life. In Ireland, landslides, flooding and coastal erosion are the most prevalent of these hazards. We recommend that geohazards be taken into consideration, especially when developing areas where these risks are prevalent, and we encourage the use of our data when doing so.

Geological Survey Ireland has information available on landslides in Ireland via the National Landslide Database and Landslide Susceptibility Map both of which are available for viewing on our dedicated [Map Viewer](#). Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.

Geological Survey Ireland also engaged in a national project on Groundwater Flooding. The data from this project may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans, and is described in more detail under 'Groundwater' above.

### **Natural Resources (Minerals/Aggregates)**

Geological Survey Ireland provides data, maps, interpretations and advice on matters related to minerals, their use and their development in our [Minerals section](#) of the website. The Active Quarries, Mineral Localities and the Aggregate Potential maps are available on our [Map Viewer](#).

We would recommend use of the Aggregate Potential Mapping viewer to identify areas of High to Very High source aggregate potential within the area. In keeping with a sustainable approach we would recommend use of our data and mapping viewers to identify and ensure that natural resources used in the proposed grid connection route, are sustainably sourced from properly recognised and licensed facilities, and that consideration of future resource sterilization is considered.



### **Guidelines**

The following guidelines may also be of assistance:

- Institute of Geologists of Ireland, 2013. Guidelines for the Preparation of the Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology Chapters of Geology in Environmental Impact Statements.
- [EPA, 2022](#). Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR)

### **Other Comments**

Should development go ahead, all other factors considered, Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. The data would be added to Geological Survey Ireland's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to the Geological Mapping Unit, at <mailto:GeologicalMappingInfo@gsi.ie>, 01-678 2795.

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to the Geological Survey Ireland Planning Team at [GSIPlanning@gsi.ie](mailto:GSIPlanning@gsi.ie).

Yours sincerely,

### **Geoheritage and Planning Programme**

Enc: Table - Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes.

**Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes**  
following European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018  
(S.I. No. 296 of 2018)


Geological Survey Ireland Programme	Dataset	Relevant EIA Topic	Coverage	Description / Notes / Limitations	Link to Geological Survey Ireland map viewer
Geohazards	Landslide: National landslide database and landslide susceptibility map	Land & Soil/Climate/Landscape	National	Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a9044a5981f950e9b9c5625c">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a9044a5981f950e9b9c5625c</a>
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Historic)	Water	Regional	Provide information of historic flooding, both surface water and groundwater. [A lack of flooding presented in any specific location of the map only indicates that a flood has not been detected. It does not indicate that a flood cannot occur in that location at present or in the future]	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc</a>
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Predictive)	Water	Regional	Provides information on the probability of future karst groundwater flooding (where available). [The maps do not, and are not intended to, constitute advice. Professional or specialist advice should be sought before taking, or refraining from, any action on the basis of the flood maps]	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc</a>
Geohazards	Radon Map	Land & Soils/Air	National		<a href="http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/">http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/</a>
Geoheritage	County Geological Sites as adopted by National Heritage Plan and listed in County Development Plans	Land & Soils/Landscape	Regional	All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0b2fbd2aaac3c228">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0b2fbd2aaac3c228</a>
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	National	1:100,000 scale and associated memoirs.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	Regional	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Sediments	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Geomorphology	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7e1b6ab8d58&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Physiographic units:	Land & Soils	National	Broad-scale physical landscape units mapped at 1:100,000 scale in order to be represented as a cartographic digital map at 1:250,000 scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a420f54877843aca1bc075c62b">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a420f54877843aca1bc075c62b</a>
Geological Mapping	GeoUrban: Spatial geological data for the greater Dublin and Cork areas	Land & Soils	Regional	Includes 3D models	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b794c16093beb2212a850ce6&amp;scale=0">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b794c16093beb2212a850ce6&amp;scale=0</a>
Geological Mapping	Geotechnical database	Land & Soils	National	Digitised geotechnical and Site Investigation Reports and boreholes which can be accessed through online downloads	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a2718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a2718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c</a>
Goldmine	Historical data sets including geological memoirs and 6" to 1 mile geological mapping records	Land & Soils/Water	National	available online	<a href="https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html">https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater resources (aquifers)	Water	National	Data limited to 1:100,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater recharge.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale; long term annual average recharge	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater vulnerability.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Group scheme and public supply source protection areas.	Water	National	Not all PWS / GWS have SPZ / ZOC. Check with IW / coco / NFGWS for private supplies.	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater Protection Schemes	Water	National	Data is limited to scale of 1:40,000. Data does not include all of the source protection areas	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Catchment and WFD management units.	Water	National		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	karst specific data layers	water	National	For areas underlain by limestone, includes karst features, tracer test database; turf/rough water levels (gwlevel.ie)	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Wells and Springs	Water	National	Not comprehensive, there may be unrecorded wells and springs	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater body Descriptions	Water	National	Not exhaustive; only those in designated SACs; could be other GWDTEs; for more information contact NPWS / EPA / site investigations Also, Roadmap for a Policy and Regulatory Framework for Geothermal Energy, November 2020	<a href="https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx">https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Geothermal Suitability maps	Land & Soils/Water	National		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9eae46bee08de41278b90a9916d0c0b9e">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9eae46bee08de41278b90a9916d0c0b9e</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	INFOMAR - Ireland's national marine mapping programme; providing key baseline data for Ireland's	Water	National		<a href="https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/">https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	CHERISH - Coastal change project (Climate, Heritage and Environments of Reefs, Islands, and Headlands)	Water	Regional		<a href="http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/">http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI).	water / Land & Soils	Regional	Currently the project is being carried out on the east coast and will be rolled out nationally	<a href="https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx">https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx</a>
Minerals	Aggregate potential	Land & Soils/Material Assets	National	Consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a material asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956</a>
Minerals	Active quarries	Land & Soils	National		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956</a>
Minerals	Historic mines	Land & Soils/Cultural Heritage	National	Inventory and Risk Classification 2009. Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Minerals Division and Geological Survey Ireland (DECC).	<a href="https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?zesting=7&amp;northing=7&amp;lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilities_Extractive_Facilities">https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?zesting=7&amp;northing=7&amp;lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilities_Extractive_Facilities</a> <a href="https://www.epa.ie/enforcement/mines/">https://www.epa.ie/enforcement/mines/</a>
Tellus	Geochemical data: multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754</a>
Tellus	Airborne geophysical data including radiometrics, electromagnetics and magnetics	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754</a>
Tellus	urban geochemistry mapping (Dublin SURGE project).	Land & Soils	Regional		<a href="https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754">https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754</a>

- Notes:  
**1. The maps and data listed above are available on the Geological Survey Ireland map viewer <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx>**  
**2. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data**  
**3. Geological Survey Ireland and Irish Concrete Federation published guidelines for the treatment of geological heritage in the extractive industry in 2008.**



**An tSeirbhís Sláinte Comhshaoil  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,  
Ionad 6, Páirc Ghnó Bothar Chuinche,  
Inis, Co. An Chlár.**

**Environmental Health Service,  
Health Service Executive,  
Unit 6, Quin Road Business Park,  
Ennis, Co. Clare.**

 **(065) 6706660**

FAO: Natalia Stolarska  
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd  
Tuam Road,  
Galway,  
Ireland  
H91 VW84

#### HSE EIA Scoping

National Environmental Health Service Submission Report

**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
**Our reference:** EHIS 3873  
**Report to:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Type of Consultation:** EIA Scoping 230843

**Proposed development:** proposed wind energy development at Cahermurphy and adjacent townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, County Clare.

Comprising approximately 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, borrow pit(s), electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent meteorological mast. It is envisioned that the proposed grid connection route will follow the public road network generally southwest and will include a dedicated 110kV connection into Moneypoint 400kV substation, with several road corridor options currently under consideration.

The following HSE stakeholders were consulted on the scoping on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024:

- Emergency Planning – Kay Kennington
- Estates – Helen Maher/Stephen Murphy
- Director of National Health Protection – Eamonn O' Moore/Ina Kelly
- CHO – Maria Bridgeman

Clarification on the content of this submission should be made, in the first instance to [Gerry.leen@hse.ie](mailto:Gerry.leen@hse.ie)

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Gerard Leen  
Principal Environmental Health Officer

## Visit by the National Environmental Health Service to the Proposed Development Area

A visit to the proposed development site was carried out by a SEHO on the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

As a result of this visit, it is important that the following are specifically considered in the EIA:

- a) Any likely significant effect on Cahermurphy National school located to the south eastern boundary of the proposed site. This includes any likely significant impacts from noise and emissions to air at both the construction and operational phase. Also any likely significant impacts from construction traffic during the day and particularly at the start and end of the school day.
- b) The impact on the local roads during the construction phase. The roads are narrow country roads and the EIA should include a detailed traffic impact assessment that includes impacts on local road usage at different times of the day and different days of the week.
- c) Any likely significant effect on Doolough Lake through any hydrological connections and any likely significant effect on drinking water supplies. Doolough is the source of both West Clare New and Old Regional Rural water supplies. Both water treatment plants are operated by Uisce Eireann.

## General Introduction

The following documents should be taken into consideration when preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment Report:

- Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment [https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidelines\\_for\\_planning\\_authorities\\_and\\_an\\_bord\\_pleanála\\_on\\_carrying\\_out\\_eia\\_-\\_august\\_2018.pdf](https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidelines_for_planning_authorities_and_an_bord_pleanála_on_carrying_out_eia_-_august_2018.pdf)

EU publication: Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects Guidance on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, EU, 2017

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/pdf/EIA\\_guidance\\_EIA\\_report\\_final.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/pdf/EIA_guidance_EIA_report_final.pdf)

Adoption of the Directive (2014/52/EU) in April 2014 initiated a review of the National Guidance for EIA and the EIAR accompanying a planning application. New guidelines can be seen at:

<https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/guidelines-on-the-information-to-be-contained-in-environmental-impact-assessment.php>

The introduction of the new Guidance is supported by a Webinar produced by the EPA and can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/ejKVFUztxBY>

The applicant should also consider the findings of the High Court judgement issued in the judicial review of the Derryadd Wind Farm. (2021 IEHC 390 [20202 No. 557 JR] P. Sweetman v An Bord Pleanála)

Generally the Environmental Impact Assessment should examine all likely significant impacts and provide the following information for each:

- a) Description of the receiving environment;
- b) The nature and scale of the impact;
- c) An assessment of the significance of the impact;
- d) Proposed mitigation measures;
- e) Residual impacts.

Directive 2014/52/EU has an enhanced requirement to assess likely significant impacts on Population and Human Health. It is the experience of the National Environmental Health Service (NEHS) that impacts on human health are often inadequately assessed in EIAs in Ireland. It is recommended that the wider determinants of health and wellbeing are considered in a proportionate manner when considering the EIA. Guidance on wider determinants of health can be found at [www.publichealth.ie](http://www.publichealth.ie)

In addition to any likely significant negative impacts from the proposed development, any positive likely significant impacts should also be assessed.

The HSE will consider the final EIAR accompanying the Planning application and will make comments to the Local Planning Authority on the methodology used for assessing the likely significant impacts and the evaluation criteria used in assessing the significance of the impact.

The National Environmental Health Service (EHS) recommends that the following matters are included and assessed in the EIAR

- Public Consultation
- Decommissioning phase of the proposed wind farm
- Siting and location of turbines

- Noise & Vibration
- Shadow Flicker
- Air Quality
- Surface and Groundwater Quality
- Geological Impacts
- Ancillary facilities
- Cumulative impacts

### **Public Consultation**

It is recommended that early and meaningful public consultation with the local community is undertaken to ensure all potentially significant impacts of the proposed windfarm development have been adequately addressed.

All parties affected by the proposed development, **including those who may benefit financially from the project**, must be fully informed of what the proposal entails especially with regard to potential impacts on surrounding areas. Sensitive receptors and other stakeholders should be identified to ensure all necessary and appropriate mitigation measures are put in place to reduce the likelihood of any complaints about the proposed wind farm development in the future.

The National Environmental Health Service expects that meaningful public consultation, where the local community is fully informed of the proposed development, will be undertaken. Members of the public should be given sufficient opportunity to express their views on the proposed windfarm development.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) should clearly demonstrate the link between public consultations and how those consultations have influenced the decision-making process in the EIA.

**To assist with the consultation and planning process it is recommended that the applicant develops a dedicated website for the proposed windfarm development. All correspondence, maps, project updates and documentation including the EIAR should be uploaded to the website**

The EIAR should state the period of planning permission sought, the length of time construction is estimated to take and if it is anticipated that the windfarm development will be decommissioned and removed or will continue to operate (following any further planning consent) at the end of this period of planning permission (should permission be granted)

### **Decommissioning**

The EIAR should detail the eventual fate of the wind turbines and associated material i.e. will the material be recycled or how will it be disposed of.

Information should also be provided regarding the proposed methodology to be used for the disposal of the materials forming the foundations of the wind turbines.

The EIAR should indicate the proposed future use of the development site at the end of the planning permission period.

### **Siting, Location and details of Turbines**

The EIAR should include a map and a description of the proposed location of each of the proposed wind turbines.

The National Environmental Health Service expects that details (height and model) of the turbines to be installed will be available at the time planning permission is sought and will be included in the EIAR.

Details of the foundations for the wind turbine including depth, quantity and material to be used should be included in the EIAR.

### **Assessment of Consideration of Alternatives**

The EIAR should consider an assessment of alternatives. The NEHS recommends that alternative renewable energy options to on- shore wind farms should be assessed as part of the EIAR.

### **Noise & Vibration**

The potential impacts for noise and vibration from the proposed development on all noise sensitive locations must be clearly identified in the EIAR. The EIAR must also consider the appropriateness and effectiveness of all proposed mitigation measures to mitigate noise and vibration.

A baseline noise monitoring survey should be undertaken to establish the existing background noise levels. Noise from any existing turbines in the area should not be included as part of the background levels.

In addition, an assessment of the predicted noise impacts during the construction phase and the operational phase of the proposed windfarm development must be undertaken which details the change in the noise environment resulting from the proposed development.

The Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines were published in December 2019. Whilst these have yet to be adopted, any proposed wind farm development should have consideration of the draft Guidelines.

[https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/public-consultation/files/draft\\_revised\\_wind\\_energy\\_development\\_guidelines\\_december\\_2019.pdf](https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/public-consultation/files/draft_revised_wind_energy_development_guidelines_december_2019.pdf) .

### **Shadow Flicker**

It is recommended that a shadow flicker assessment is undertaken to identify any dwellings and sensitive receptors which may be impacted by shadow flicker. The assessment must include all proposed mitigation measures. Dwellings should include all occupied properties and any existing or proposed properties for which planning consent has been granted for construction or refurbishment.

It is recommended that turbine selection will be based on the most advanced available technology that permits shut down during times when residents are exposed to shadow flicker. As a result no dwelling should be exposed to shadow flicker.

### **Air Quality**

Due to the nature of the proposed construction works generation of airborne dust has the potential to have significant impacts on sensitive receptors. A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) should be included in the EIAR which details dust control and mitigation measures. Measures should include:

- Sweeping of hard road surfaces
- Provision of a water bowser on site, regular spraying of haul roads
- Wheel washing facilities at site exit
- Restrict speed on site
- Provide covers to all delivery trucks to minimise dust generation
- Inspect and clean public roads in the vicinity if necessary
- Material stockpiling provided with adequate protection from the wind
- Dust monitoring at the site boundary
- Truck inspection and maintenance plan
- Details of a road maintenance agreement between the wind farm operator and the Local Roads Authority to clarify responsibility for the upkeep and repair of access roads during the construction phase of the project

### **Surface and Ground Water Quality**

The proposed development has the potential to have a significant impact on the quality of both surface and ground water. All drinking water sources, both surface and ground water, must be identified. Public and Group Water Scheme sources and supplies should be identified in addition to any private wells supplying potable water to houses in the vicinity of the proposed development. Measures to ensure that all sources and supplies are protected should be described. The National Environmental Health Service recommends that a walk over survey of the site is undertaken in addition to a desktop analysis of Geological Survey of Ireland data in order to identify the location of private wells used for drinking water purposes.

Any potential significant impacts to drinking water sources should be assessed. Details of bedrock, overburden, vulnerability, groundwater flows, aquifers and catchment areas should be considered when assessing potential impacts and any proposed mitigation measures.

Any impacts on surface water as a result of the construction of the underground cables should be identified and addressed in the EIAR.

### **Geotechnical and Peat Stability Assessment**

A detailed assessment of the current ground stability of the site for the proposed windfarm development and all proposed mitigation measures should be detailed in the EIAR. The assessment should include the impact construction work may have on the future stability of ground conditions, taking into consideration extreme weather events, site drainage and the potential for soil erosion.

Information should be provided on the make and model of the turbines and on construction details for the turbine foundations, including the depth and volume of concrete required. An accurate assessment of the potential impacts of the foundations on water quality and peat stability cannot be undertaken without this information.

Reference is made to a peat slide which occurred near Ballybofey in Co. Donegal on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020 which may have been linked to construction activity at Meenbog Wind Farm. Potential impacts on water supply associated with contamination following a peat slide include sedimentation and alteration of pH levels.

The National Environmental Health Service recommends that a detailed Peat Stability/Geotechnical Assessment should be undertaken to assess the suitability of the soil for the proposed development. The EIAR should include provision for a peat stability monitoring programme to identify early signs of potential bog slides ('pre-failure

indicators' see the Scottish Government's 'Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessments: Best Practice Guide for Proposed Electricity Developments 2017)  
<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2017/04/peat-landslide-hazard-risk-assessments-best-practice-guide-proposed-electricity/documents/00517176-pdf/00517176-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/00517176.pdf>

### **Ancillary Facilities**

The EIAR should include details of the location of all site office, construction compound, fuel storage depot, sanitary accommodation and canteen, First Aid facilities, disposal of wastewater and the provision of a potable water supply to the site canteen.

### **Cumulative Impacts**

All existing or proposed wind farm developments in the vicinity should be clearly identified in the EIAR. The impact on sensitive receptors of the proposed development combined with any other wind farm/renewable energy developments in the vicinity should be considered. The EIAR should include a detailed assessment of any likely significant cumulative impacts of the proposed windfarm development.



Andrew Sulley  
Senior Environmental Health Officer



---

Rory O'Dea  
Senior Environmental Health Officer

## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** Andrew Sulley <Andrew.Sulley@hse.ie>  
**Sent:** Wednesday 22 May 2024 12:26  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** FW: EIA Scoping Application 230843 for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare  
**Attachments:** Proposed wind energy development at Cahermurphy - NEHS report.pdf

You don't often get email from andrew.sulley@hse.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Natalia,

Some observations by the National Environmental Health Service on the scoping of the EIA for Cahermurphy WF,

Regards

Andrew

Andrew Sulley  
Senior Environmental Health Officer  
Environment Climate Change Network Support Unit  
Plassey Technology Park  
Plassey  
Limerick  
087 2913740  
[Andrew.sulley@hse.ie](mailto:Andrew.sulley@hse.ie)

---

**From:** Natalia Stolarska <[nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Sent:** Friday 5 April 2024 16:10  
**To:** Environmental Health <[environmental.health@hse.ie](mailto:environmental.health@hse.ie)>  
**Cc:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

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To whom it may concern,

MKO is preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to accompany a planning application, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC, for a proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.

The proposed project will likely encompass up to 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, borrow pit(s), electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent meteorological mast. It is anticipated the development will meet the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) thresholds of 25 no. turbines or 50 Megawatts (MW) for wind energy as set out in the 7th Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended).

Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the Proposed Development, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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Need information and advice on COVID-19? Go to [www.hse.ie/coronavirus](http://www.hse.ie/coronavirus)

"Tá an fhaisnéis sa ríomhphost seo (ceangaltáin san áireamh) faoi rún. Baineann sé leis an té ar seoladh chuige amháin agus tá sé ar intinn go bhfaighfidh siadsan amháin é agus gurb iadsan amháin a dhéanfaidh breithniú air. Más rud é nach tusa an duine ar leis é, tá cosc iomlán ar aon fhaisnéis atá ann, a úsáid, a chraobhscaoileadh, a scaipeadh, a nochtadh, a fhoilsiú, ná a chóipeáil. Seans gurb iad tuairimí pearsanta an údar atá san ríomhphost agus nach tuairimí FSS iad.

Má fuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí dhearmad, bheadh muid buíoch dá gcuirfeá in iúil don Deasc Seirbhíse ECT ar an nguthán ag [+353 818 300300](tel:+353818300300) nó ar an ríomhphost chuig [service.desk@hse.ie](mailto:service.desk@hse.ie) agus ansin glan an ríomhphost seo ded' chóras."

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## Natalia Stolarska

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**From:** Christophe O'BRIEN <Christophe.O'BRIEN@IAA.ie>  
**Sent:** Wednesday 17 April 2024 10:36  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Cc:** Jack Smith; Planning  
**Subject:** RE: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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Good morning Natalia,

As no proposed turbine locations or specific blade tip heights appear to be provided in the documentation, the IAA can only offer very high-level comments at this time.

As identified in the list of consultees and given the relative distance to the centroid coordinate provided identifies Shannon Airport as being 30km West of the proposed site, Air Nav Ireland (listed as Aviation Navigation Ireland in Table-1?) and Shannon Airport (Shannon Airport Authority) should both be consulted in relation to the proposal for the potential impact on both Shannon Airport and en route communication, navigation and surveillance aids.

Please contact: [planning@airnav.ie](mailto:planning@airnav.ie) & [paul.hennessy@snnairportgroup.ie](mailto:paul.hennessy@snnairportgroup.ie)

In general terms, the IAA has no specific requirements for inclusion in the scoping reports based on the very high-level information presented. More formal observations can be provided when an indicative scheme of turbine coordinates and positions / blade tip heights are available.

If a formal planning application is progressed, subject to Air Nav Ireland and Shannon Airport Authority advising no concerns over the proposed wind farm, it is likely that the following general observations would be proffered by the Authority during the planning process:

*In the event of planning consent being granted, the applicant should be conditioned to contact the Irish Aviation Authority to:*

- (1) agree an aeronautical obstacle warning light scheme for the wind farm development,*
- (2) provide as-constructed coordinates in WGS84 format together with ground and blade tip height elevations at each wind turbine location and*
- (3) notify the Authority of intention to commence crane operations with at least 30 days prior notification of their erection.*

Best Regards,

Christophe

*Christophe O'Brien*

Aerodromes Inspector

M: +353 (0) 86 33 22022 |

E: [obrienc@iaa.ie](mailto:obrienc@iaa.ie) | [www.iaa.ie](http://www.iaa.ie)

The Times Building, 11-12 D'Olier Street, Dublin 2, D02 T449



ÚDARÁS EITLÍOCHTA NA hÉIREANN  
IRISH AVIATION AUTHORITY

---

**From:** Natalia Stolarska <nstolarska@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 5, 2024 4:14 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@iaa.ie>  
**Cc:** Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>; Christophe O'BRIEN <Christophe.O'BRIEN@IAA.ie>  
**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

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To whom it may concern,

MKO is preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to accompany a planning application, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC, for a proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.

The proposed project will likely encompass up to 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, borrow pit(s), electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent meteorological mast. It is anticipated the development will meet the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) thresholds of 25 no. turbines or 50 Megawatts (MW) for wind energy as set out in the 7th Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended).

Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the Proposed Development, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist

**MKO**  
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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## Natalia Stolarska

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**From:** info <info@fisheriesireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Friday 5 April 2024 16:15  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

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## IRISH RED GROUSE CONSERVATION TRUST

Patrons: Mr. P. J. O Hare Mr. Dan Kinney

Merlin Becker  
The Wilderness  
Lough Dan  
Roundwood  
Co. Wicklow  
[info@irgct.com](mailto:info@irgct.com)  
083 081 7554

14<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear MKO/ MCRE WINDFARM LIMITED,

We hope this finds you all well in these challenging environmental times. The IRGCT is writing to you in relation to an important matter regarding the management of Ireland's upland and bogland environments.

We are making this submission on behalf of our members and supporter as well as the native flora and fauna of the island of Ireland. The IRGCT fully supports the governments drive for renewable energy but feels mitigation efforts should be significantly increased to help combat the damage that anthropogenic activities are causing to our planet.

In light of the climate and biodiversity emergency that Ireland now faces, the IRGCT finds it extremely pertinent that funds from lucrative renewable energy developments should be put in place to achieve a net biodiversity gain during and after the development of such a site. One such example could be to employ local contractors to conduct sensitive habitat management work coupled with nest protection efforts as this combination of land management options are scientifically proven to increase wading bird productivity three-fold. Forestry England is now employing personnel to control generalist predators such as foxes and crows, the number one driver of ground nesting bird species declines, on many of their sites. The IRGCT strongly believes Bord na Móna, Coillte and other large landowners across Ireland should also adopt these forward-thinking conservation measures as without it, numerous species face imminent extinction in less than 10 years.

Many red listed species like curlew and lapwing, all of which reside on or around the Cahermurphy area of Co. Clare, are vanishing in front of our very eyes. The question is will large renewable energy companies responsible for delivering positive change for the people of Ireland, stand by and support this wipeout of our natural heritage or will they stand together for the protection and preservation of our precious natural environments through meaningful practical land management actions that delivers tangible results on the ground.

Yours sincerely

Merlin Becker



IRGCT Hon Secretary  
on behalf of the Irish Red Grouse Conservation Trust

## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** Irish Red Grouse Conservation Trust <info@irgct.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 14 May 2024 11:55  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** Re: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare  
**Attachments:** IRGCT Letter to MKO MCRE WINDFARM LIMITED May 14th 2024.pdf

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Natalia

Thank you for this email.

Please see attached the IRGCT's response and comments to your EIA Scoping Report and proposed works.

With best wishes

Merlin Becker  
IRGCT Secretary

On Fri, Apr 5, 2024 at 4:14 PM Natalia Stolarska <[nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)> wrote:

To whom it may concern,

MKO is preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to accompany a planning application, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC, for a proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.

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be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**

Graduate Environmental Scientist

**MKO**

Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84



Offices in Galway and Dublin

[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611

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## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** Claire Breen <cbreen@southernassembly.ie>  
**Sent:** Monday 8 April 2024 15:50  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** RE: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

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Hi Natalia,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of the below correspondence. This correspondence has been forwarded to the planning department for review.

Le dea-ghuí,

*Claire*

**Claire Breen**

**Clerical Officer – Regional Planning**

**Southern Regional Assembly**

Assembly House, O'Connell Street, Waterford, X91 F8PC

[cbreen@southernassembly.ie](mailto:cbreen@southernassembly.ie) | :: [www.southernassembly.ie](http://www.southernassembly.ie); [www.eufunds.gov.ie](http://www.eufunds.gov.ie); [#EuropeInMyRegion](https://twitter.com/EuropeInMyRegion)

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an Deiscirt  
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Assembly



---

**From:** Natalia Stolarska <[nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 5, 2024 4:21 PM

**To:** info <[info@southernassembly.ie](mailto:info@southernassembly.ie)>

**Cc:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>

**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

To whom it may concern,

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The proposed project will likely encompass up to 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, borrow pit(s), electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent meteorological mast. It is anticipated the development will meet the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) thresholds of 25 no. turbines or 50 Megawatts (MW) for wind energy as set out in the 7th Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended).

Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the Proposed Development, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist

---

**MKO**  
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

Offices in Galway and Dublin  
[mkoireland.ie](http://mkoireland.ie) | +353 (0)91 735 611



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## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** INFO <Information@tii.ie>  
**Sent:** Friday 12 April 2024 12:00  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Subject:** TII Ref: TII24-126824 - EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare. Your Ref: 230843

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Dear Ms. Stolarska,

Thank you for your correspondence of 5 April 2024 regarding the above. Transport Infrastructure Ireland's (TII's) position in relation to your enquiry is as follows.

TII will endeavour to consider and respond to planning applications referred to it, given its status and duties as a statutory consultee under the Planning Acts. The approach to be adopted by TII in making such submissions or comments will seek to uphold official policy and guidelines, as outlined in the Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DoECLG, 2012). Regard should also be had to other relevant guidance available at [www.TII.ie](http://www.TII.ie).

The issuing of this correspondence is provided as best practice guidance only and does not prejudice TII's statutory right to make any observations, requests for further information, objections or appeals, following the examination of any valid planning application referred.

National Strategic Outcome 2 of the National Planning Framework includes the objective to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the national road network. In addition, Chapter 7 'Enhanced Regional Accessibility' of the National Development Plan, 2021 – 2030, sets out the key sectoral priority of maintaining Ireland's existing national road network to a robust and safe standard for users. This requirement is further reflected in the publication of the National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland and also the existing Statutory Section 28 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities'.

With respect to EIAR Scoping issues, the recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of an EIAR, which may affect the national road network.

The developer should have regard, inter alia, to the following:

- Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office, with regard to the locations of existing and future national road schemes.
- TII would be specifically concerned as to potential significant impacts the development would have on the national road network (and junctions with national roads) in the proximity of the proposed development, including the potential haul route.
- The developer should assess visual impacts from existing national roads.
- The developer should have regard to any EIAR/EIS and all conditions and/or modifications imposed by An Bord Pleanála regarding road schemes in the area. The developer should, in particular, have regard to any potential cumulative impacts.

- The developer, in preparing EIAR, should have regard to TII Publications (formerly DMRB and the Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works).
- The developer, in preparing EIAR, should have regard to TII's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, including the 'Guidelines for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes' (National Road Authority (NRA), 2006).
- The EIAR should consider the 'European Communities (Environmental Noise) Regulations, 2018, (S.I. no. 549 of 2018)', and, in particular, how the development will affect future action plans by the relevant competent authority. The developer may need to consider the incorporation of noise barriers to reduce noise impacts (see 'Good Practice Guidance for the Treatment of Noise during the Planning of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2014)').
- It would be important that, where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment (TTA) be carried out in accordance with relevant guidelines, noting traffic volumes attending the site and traffic routes to/from the site, with reference to impacts on the national road network and junctions of lower category roads with national roads.

In relation to national roads, TII's 'Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines' (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the national road network. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of TII's TTA Guidelines, which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA.

Any improvements required to facilitate development should be identified. It will be the responsibility of the developer to pay for the costs of any improvements to national roads to facilitate the private development proposed, as TII will not be responsible for such costs.

- The designers are asked to consult TII Publications to determine whether a Road Safety Audit is required.
- In the interests of maintaining the safety and standard of the national road network, the EIAR should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network.
- TII recommends that the applicant/developer should clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. Where abnormal 'weight' loads are a feature of the development, e.g., turbine or substation components, separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route. All national road structures on the haul route through all the relevant County Council administrative areas should be checked by the applicant/developer to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal 'weight' load proposed.

In addition, the haul route should be assessed to confirm capacity to accommodate abnormal 'length' loads and any temporary works required are identified.

The national road network is managed by a combination of PPP Concessions, Motorway Maintenance and Renewal Contractors (MMaRC) and local road authorities, in association with TII.

The applicant/developer should also consult with all PPP Companies, MMaRC Contractors and road authorities over which the haul route traverses, to ascertain any operational requirements, including delivery timetabling, etc., to ensure that the strategic function of the national road network is safeguarded.

Where temporary works within any MMaRC Boundary are required to facilitate the transport of turbine components to site, the applicant/developer shall contact [thirdpartyworks@tii.ie](mailto:thirdpartyworks@tii.ie) in advance, as a works specific Deed of Indemnity will be needed by TII before the works can take place.

Additionally, any damage caused to the pavement on the existing national road arising from any temporary works due to the turning movement of abnormal loads (e.g., tearing of the surface course, etc.) shall be rectified in accordance with TII Pavement Standards and details in this regard shall be agreed with the road authority prior to the commencement of any development on site.

- Any grid connection and cable routing proposals should be developed to safeguard proposed road schemes, as TII will not be responsible for costs associated with future relocation of cable routing where proposals are catered for in an area of a proposed national road scheme. In that regard, consideration should be given to routing options, use of existing crossings, depth of cable laying, etc.

TII acknowledges that grid connection routing options are indicated in your EIAR Scoping referral, with connection proposed to Moneypoint 400kV substation by dedicated 110kV connection. The proposed route includes a crossing of the N68, national road, and laying cabling in a section of the N67, national road.

Therefore, please note, in the context of the existing national road network, in accordance with the National Planning Framework National Strategic Outcome no. 2 'Enhanced Regional Accessibility', there is a requirement to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the network. This requirement is further reflected in the National Development Plan, the National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland and also the existing Statutory Section 28 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities'.

There is around 99,000km of roads in Ireland. The national road network, which caters for strategic inter-urban travel, consists of only approx. 5.4% of this. There is a critical requirement to ensure the strategic capacity and safety of this national road network is maintained and significant Government investment already made in the national road network is safeguarded.

The provision of cabling along the national road network represents a number of significant implications for TII and road authorities in the management and maintenance of the strategic national road network and TII is of the opinion that grid connection cable routing should reflect the foregoing provisions of official policy.

For all renewable energy developments requiring grid connection to the national grid, TII recommends that a full assessment of all route alternatives to grid connection takes place, including alternatives to public road, where appropriate.

In TII's experience, grid connection accommodated on national roads has the potential, inter alia, to result in technical road safety issues such as differential settlement due to backfilling trenches and can impact on ability and cost of general maintenance, upgrades and safety works to existing national roads.

Other consents or licences may be required from the road authority for any trenching or cabling proposals crossing the national road. TII requests referral of all proposals agreed and licensed between the road authority and the applicant which affect the national road network.

Where grid connection involves proposals to cross a motorway, Works Specific Deeds of Indemnities, arrangements for third party access or consent from TII in accordance with Section 53 of the Roads Act, 1993, is required. Arrangements for third party access are also likely to be required. Contact should be made to 'thirdpartyworks@tii.ie' to progress this element when proposals for the crossings have been developed.

General requirements for directional drilling under a motorway include:

- The launch and reception pits for the crossing are located outside the Motorway boundary.
- The cabling will be installed at such depth so as not to conflict with the drainage for the Motorway.
- Neither the works nor the cable crossing will damage or interfere with the Motorway.
- Any maintenance and/or future planned upgrades of the cabling at the crossing location can be carried out without access to the motorway boundary.
- There are no bolted joints in that part of the crossing within the motorway fence-line.
- A pre and post construction survey shall be required along the length of the crossing over the extents of the motorway boundary.
- Specific requirements may also arise for these proposed works.

Cable routing should avoid all impacts to existing TII infrastructure such as traffic counters, weather stations, etc. and works required to such infrastructure shall only be undertaken in consultation with and subject to the agreement of TII. Any costs attributable shall be borne by the applicant/developer. The developer should also be aware that separate approvals may be required for works traversing the national road network.

Notwithstanding any of the above, the developer should be aware that this list is non-exhaustive, thus site and development specific issues should be addressed in accordance with best practice.

I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

---

Andrew Moore  
Senior Regulatory & Administration Executive

---

**From:** Natalia Stolarska <[nstolarska@mkoireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 5, 2024 4:24 PM  
**To:** Landuse Planning <[LandUsePlanning@tii.ie](mailto:LandUsePlanning@tii.ie)>  
**Cc:** Jack Smith <[jsmith@mkoireland.ie](mailto:jsmith@mkoireland.ie)>  
**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

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If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

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Graduate Environmental Scientist

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**Uisce Éireann Ref:** PN24000002746  
**Planning Authority:** Clare County Council  
**Issue Date:** 18 April 2024  
**By Email:** [nstolarska@mkofireland.ie](mailto:nstolarska@mkofireland.ie)

**Uisce Éireann**  
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**T:** +353 1 89 25000  
**F:** +353 1 89 25001  
**[www.water.ie](http://www.water.ie)**

**Re: EIA Scoping Request –**EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare.

Dear Natalia Stolarska,

Uisce Éireann has received notification of your Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping request relating to Cahermurphy Renewables DAC Ltd.'s forthcoming planning application for a windfarm in Co Clare. Please see attached, Uisce Éireann's scoping opinion in relation to Water Services.

On receipt of the planning referral, Uisce Éireann will review the finalised Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) as part of the planning process.

Queries relating to the terms and the EIA scoping opinions below should be directed to [planning@water.ie](mailto:planning@water.ie)

PP *Alí Robinson*

Signed on behalf of Geoffrey Burke  
Connections and Developer Services

## Uisce Éireann's Response to EIA Scoping Requests

At present, Uisce Éireann does not have the capacity to advise on the scoping of individual projects. However, in general the following aspects of Water Services should be considered in the scope of an EIA where relevant;

- a) Where the development proposal has the potential to impact an Uisce Éireann Drinking Water Source(s), the applicant shall provide details of measures to be taken to ensure that there will be no negative impact to Uisce Éireann's Drinking Water Source(s) during the construction and operational phases of the development. Hydrological / hydrogeological pathways between the applicant's site and receiving waters should be identified as part of the report.
- b) Where the development proposes the backfilling of materials, the applicant is required to include a waste sampling strategy to ensure the material is inert.
- c) Mitigations should be proposed for any potential negative impacts on any water source(s) which may be in proximity and included in the environmental management plan and incident response.
- d) Any and all potential impacts on the nearby reservoir as public water supply water source(s) are assessed, including any impact on hydrogeology and any groundwater/surface water interactions.
- e) Impacts of the development on the capacity of water services (*i.e. do existing water services have the capacity to cater for the new development*). This is confirmed by Uisce Éireann in the form of a Confirmation of Feasibility (COF). If a development requires a connection to either a public water supply or sewage collection system, the developer is advised to submit a Pre-Connection Enquiry (PCE) enquiry to Uisce Éireann to determine the feasibility of connection to the Uisce Éireann network.  
  
All pre-connection enquiry forms are available from <https://www.water.ie/connections/connection-steps/>.
- f) The applicant shall identify any upgrading of water services infrastructure that would be required to accommodate the proposed development.
- g) In relation to a development that would discharge trade effluent – any upstream treatment or attenuation of discharges required prior to discharging to an Uisce Éireann collection network.
- h) In relation to the management of surface water; the potential impact of surface water discharges to combined sewer networks and potential measures to minimise and or / stop surface waters from combined sewers.

- i) Any physical impact on Uisce Éireann assets – reservoir, drinking water source, treatment works, pipes, pumping stations, discharges outfalls etc. including any relocation of assets.
- j) When considering a development proposal, the applicant is advised to determine the location of public water services assets, possible connection points from the applicant's site / lands to the public network and any drinking water abstraction catchments to ensure these are included and fully assessed in any pre-planning proposals. Details, where known, can be obtained by emailing an Ordnance Survey map identifying the proposed location of the applicant's intended development to [datarequests@water.ie](mailto:datarequests@water.ie)
- k) Other indicators or methodologies for identifying infrastructure located within the applicant's lands are the presence of registered wayleave agreements, visible manholes, vent stacks, valve chambers, marker posts etc. within the proposed site.
- l) Any potential impacts on the assimilative capacity of receiving waters in relation to Uisce Éireann discharge outfalls including changes in dispersion / circulation characterises. Hydrological / hydrogeological pathways between the applicant's site and receiving waters should be identified within the report.
- m) Any potential impact on the contributing catchment of water sources either in terms of water abstraction for the development (*and resultant potential impact on the capacity of the source*) or the potential of the development to influence / present a risk to the quality of the water abstracted by Uisce Éireann for public supply should be identified within the report.
- n) Where a development proposes to connect to an Uisce Éireann network and that network either abstracts water from or discharges wastewater to a "protected"/ sensitive area, consideration as to whether the integrity of the site / conservation objectives of the site would be compromised should be identified within the report.
- o) Mitigation measures in relation to any of the above ensuring a zero risk to any Uisce Éireann drinking water sources (Surface and Ground water).

*This is not an exhaustive list.*

**Please note;**

- Where connection(s) to the public network is required as part of the development proposal, applicants are advised to complete the Pre-Connection Enquiry process and have received a Confirmation of Feasibility letter from Uisce Éireann ahead of any planning application.
- Uisce Éireann will not accept new surface water discharges to combined sewer networks.

## Natalia Stolarska

---

**From:** Planning <Planning@water.ie>  
**Sent:** Thursday 18 April 2024 10:10  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska; Planning  
**Cc:** Jack Smith  
**Subject:** RE: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare EMAIL:0307016  
**Attachments:** UisceÉireann\_EIAScopingOpinion\_Cahermurphy .pdf

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Good morning Natalia.

Please find attached Uisce Éireann's response to your EIA scoping request relating to the proposed windfarm in Cahermurphy Co.Clare.

Could you please notify myself OR [planning@water.ie](mailto:planning@water.ie) upon submission on this planning application so that we can get a heads up and ensure we receive the referral in adequate time.

If you have any questions, please let me know and I will do my best to assist you with your query.

Kind regards,

**Cillian Claffey**  
Development Management Planning

**Mallow**  
**Uisce Éireann**  
Teach na hAbhann Duibhe, Mala, Co. Chorcaí, P51 K3CX  
**Uisce Éireann**  
Blackwater House, Mallow, Co. Cork, P51 K3CX

----- Original Message -----

**From:** nstolarska@mkoireland.ie;  
**Received:** Fri Apr 05 2024 16:18:29 GMT+0100 (Irish Standard Time)  
**To:** Planning <planning@water.ie>;  
**Cc:** jsmith@mkoireland.ie;  
**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

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If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**  
Graduate Environmental Scientist  
**MKO**  
Tuam Road, Galway, H91 VW84

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Is don duine amháin nó don eintiteas amháin ainmnithe ar an seoladh an fhaisnéis agus d'fhéadfadh ábhar faoi rún, faoi phribhléid nó ábhar atá íogair ó thaobh na tráchtála de a bheith mar chuid den fhaisnéis. Tá toirmeasc ar aon daoine nó aon eititis; nach dóibh siúd an fhaisnéis- aon athbhreithniú a dhéanamh, aon atarchur a dhéanamh nó aon athdháileadh a dhéanamh, nó aon úsáid eile a bhaint as an bhfaisnéis, nó aon ghníomh a bhraithfeadh ar an bhfaisnéis seo a dhéanamh agus d'fhéadfaí an dlí a shárú dá ndéanfaí sin. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas as aon ghníomh agus as aon iarmhairt bunaithe ar úsáid neamhúdraithe na faisnéise seo. Séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le seachadadh iomlán agus ceart na faisnéise sa chumarsáid seo agus séanann Uisce Éireann dliteanas maidir le haon mhoill a bhaineann leis an bhfaisnéis a fháil. Má tá an ríomh-phost seo faighte agat trí dhearmad, déan teagmháil leis an seoltóir más é do thoil é agus scríos an t-ábhar ó gach aon ríomhaire. D'fhéadfadh ríomhphost a bheith so-ghabhálach i leith truailithe, idircheaptha agus i leith leasuithe neamhúdraithe. Séanann Uisce Éireann aon fhreagracht as athruithe nó as idircheapadh a rinneadh ar an ríomhphost seo nó as aon dochar do chórais na bhfaighteoirí déanta

ag an teachtaireacht seo nó ag a ceangaltáin tar éis a sheolta. Tabhair faoi deara go bhféadfadh monatóireacht a bheith á dhéanamh ar theachtairreachtaí chuig Uisce Éireann agus ó Uisce Éireann d'fhonn ár ngnó a chosaint agus chun a chinntiú go bhfuiltear ag teacht le beartais agus le caighdeáin Uisce Éireann. Is cuideachta gníomhaíochta ainmnithe é Uisce Éireann atá faoi theorainn scaireanna, a bunaíodh de bhun fhorálacha na n-Achtanna um Sheirbhísí Uisce 2007-2022, a bhfuil a bpríomh-ionad gnó ag Teach Colvill, 24-26 Sráid na Talbóide, BÁC 1.

Go raibh maith agat as d'aird a thabhairt.

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Thank you for your attention.

## Natalia Stolarska

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**From:** Sabine Browne <Sabine.Browne@waterwaysireland.org>  
**Sent:** Friday 5 April 2024 16:43  
**To:** Natalia Stolarska  
**Cc:** Jack Smith  
**Subject:** RE: 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

**Caution:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good afternoon Natalia,

This is not within any Zone of Influence of our waterways so we will not be commenting.

Kind regards,

**Sabine Browne**

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**From:** Natalia Stolarska <nstolarska@mkoireland.ie>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 5, 2024 4:24 PM  
**To:** Sabine Browne <Sabine.Browne@waterwaysireland.org>  
**Cc:** Jack Smith <jsmith@mkoireland.ie>  
**Subject:** 230843: EIA Scoping Request for Proposed Cahermurphy 2 Wind Farm Development, Co. Clare

Dear Ms Browne,

MKO is preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to accompany a planning application, on behalf of Cahermurphy Renewables DAC, for a proposed wind farm development located at Cahermurphy and surrounding townlands, approximately 25km southwest of Ennis, Co. Clare.

The proposed project will likely encompass up to 8 no. wind turbines, access roads and entrance(s), electricity substation and wind farm control buildings, borrow pit(s), electrical cabling for grid connection, temporary construction compound and a permanent meteorological mast. It is anticipated the development will meet the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) thresholds of 25 no. turbines or 50 Megawatts (MW) for wind energy as set out in the 7th Schedule of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended).

Please see attached a Cover Letter and Scoping Document providing details of the proposed project. As part of the EIA process, we would welcome any comments that you might have in relation to the Proposed Development, including baseline data, survey techniques or potential impacts that should be considered as part of the assessment process and in the preparation of the EIAR. If you could return any comments or suggestions at your earliest convenience, it would be much appreciated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Natalia.

**Natalia Stolarska**

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Graduate Environmental Scientist

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**MKO**

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Offices in Galway and Dublin

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