

Appendix 1-1

Copy of Consultation Document



Preliminary Project Details

Proposed Shroneowen Wind Farm, Co. Kerry

Environmental Impact Assessment Consultation
2020



Malachy Walsh and Partners
Engineering and Environmental Consultants

Table of contents

1	INTRODUCTION.....	2
2	THE APPLICANT	2
3	PROJECT OVERVIEW	2
3.1	Location Details	2
3.2	Project Components.....	3
3.3	Preliminary Layout.....	4
3.4	Site Access – Turbine delivery.....	5
4	VIEWS /COMMENTS/FEEDBACK	5

1 INTRODUCTION

EMP Energy Limited (EMPower) is examining the feasibility of developing and operating a commercially viable wind farm project on lands at Shroneowen, Co. Kerry. Malachy Walsh and Partners has been commissioned by EMPower to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and prepare a planning application and Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the proposed development.

The development proposed by EMPower is a 12 No. turbine wind farm in the townlands of Shroneowen, Tullamore and Ballyline West.

It is envisaged that the project will exceed a 50MW capacity scale and therefore will be a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) for which an application for planning permission must be made directly to An Bord Pleanála. An Bord Pleanála has deemed the development eligible as Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) and the application will be made directly to the Board. The Board are the competent authority for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

This document provides preliminary details on the proposed wind farm project and has been prepared for consultation as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

2 THE APPLICANT

The applicant is EMP Energy Limited (EMPower), a renewable energy company established in 2015 to serve the growing renewable energy sector internationally. EMPower are headquartered in Dublin, and their management team have substantial experience gained in renewable energy development with a combined 85 years' experience for renewables.

3 PROJECT OVERVIEW

3.1 LOCATION DETAILS

The site of the proposed Shronowen Wind Farm is situated within the rural locale between Listowel and Ballylongford in North Co. Kerry. The development site is located in an area of open low peatland east of the R552 Regional Road, approximately 4km southeast of Ballylongford village and 6km north of Listowel town (Figure 1).

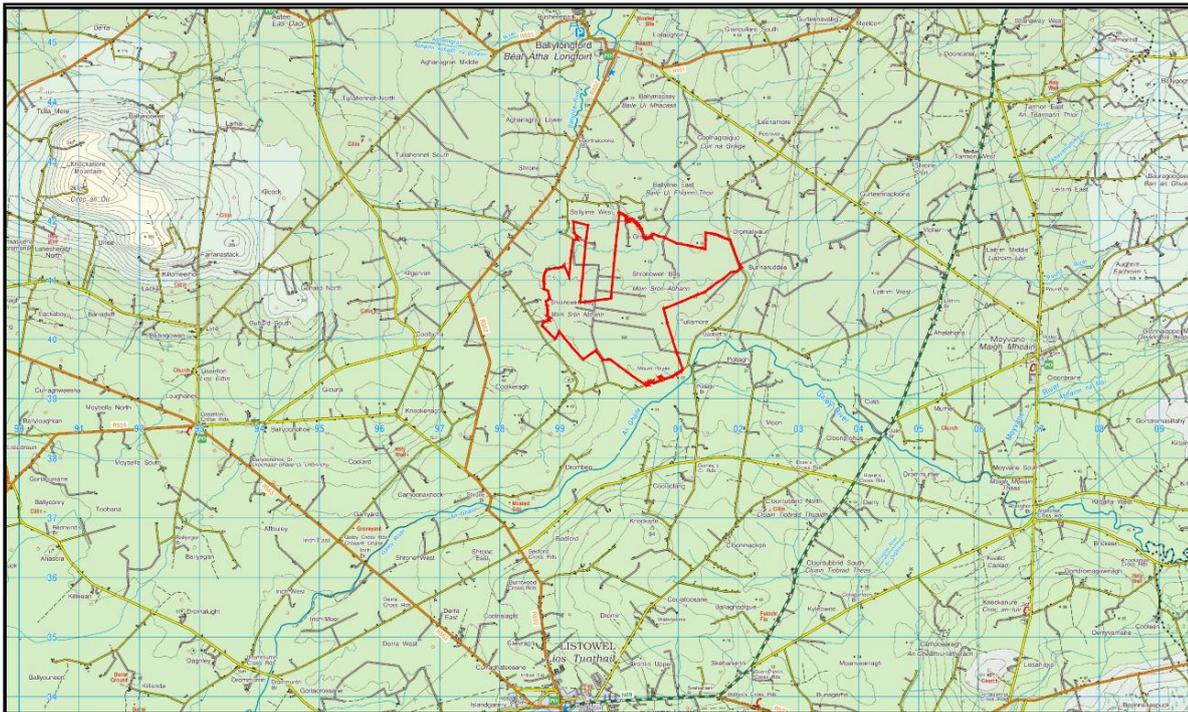


Figure 1: Site Location

Existing land cover at the site is primarily peatlands with extensive areas of active peat cutting along with areas of worked out bog. There are some areas of intact blanket bog and open field pastures which abutts the peatland habitat. There are some areas of conifer plantation within the footprint of the proposed site layout.

3.2 PROJECT COMPONENTS

It is anticipated that the project will include the following;

Main project components:

- 12 No. Wind Turbines, Foundations and Hardstand areas.
- On-site access roads.
- On-site interconnecting electrical cabling.
- 110kv Substation on the wind farm site.
- Meteorological Masts.
- Spoil management and deposition areas.
- On-site tree felling.

Off-site project components:

- Turbine component haulage route
- Grid connection; overhead line or underground cable, any requirements to upgrade substation offsite

To facilitate a grid connection and export of renewable electricity to the National Electricity Grid (NEG), the proposed development will connect to the existing 110kv transmission line to the east of the site by means of an Overhead Looped in connection from the wind farm substation. The final selected grid route and connection strategy will be confirmed by way of a future grid connection offer process and as determined by EirGrid.

3.3 PRELIMINARY LAYOUT

An indicative layout for a wind farm of 12 wind turbines is shown in Figure 2. The rationale behind the current turbine locations is as a result of a preliminary environmental constraints study. This layout will be finalised as the studies and the Environmental Impact Assessment progress with the likelihood that final positions of the wind turbines will be refined through the assessment process in order to avoid or reduce impacts. Adjustments to turbine locations may occur due to social, environmental or engineering issues.

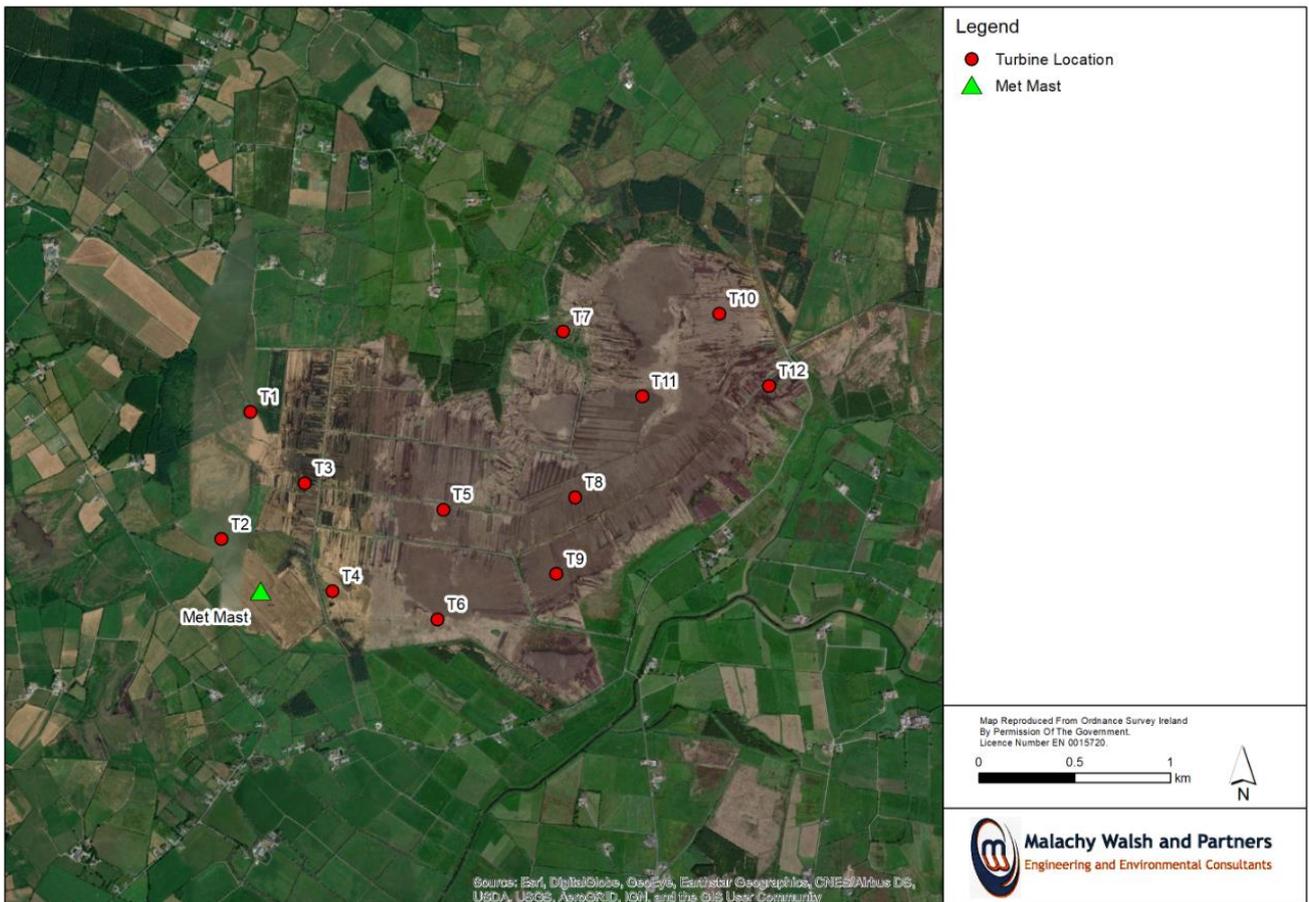


Figure 1 Preliminary Turbine Layout

3.4 SITE ACCESS – TURBINE DELIVERY

The turbine components are expected to be delivered to Foynes Port in Co Limerick by sea and transported to site along the national, regional and local road network as follows:

- Starting at Foynes Port;
- Travelling westwards along the N69 coastal road towards Tarbert.
- At Tarbert follow the R551 in a south westerly direction to the intersection of the L-6021;
- Then due south west along the L-6021 to Leanamore Cross roads.
- Follow the L-6021 in a southern direction to the new proposed site entrance.

4 VIEWS /COMMENTS/FEEDBACK

It is recognised that consultation is a critical component of the EIA process and we therefore value your input at this stage with regard to any issues or concerns that you may have in relation to wind energy development in this area. Comments to the proposed wind farm development are invited from all interested parties and can be forwarded to:

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