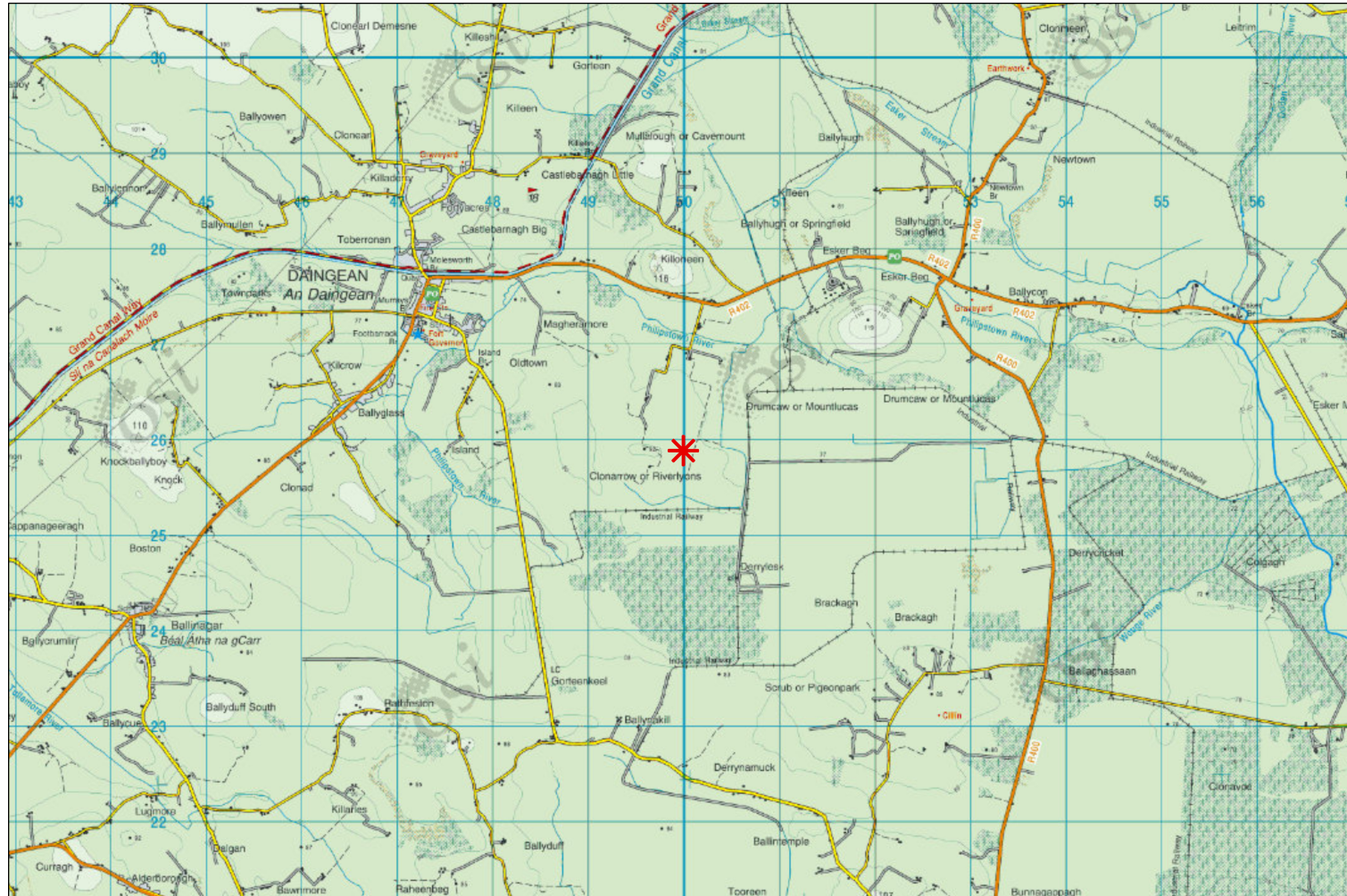


Location of Proposed Development



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Proposed Clonarrow Wind Farm

Introduction Notice, February 2024



c.24 MW

A generating capacity of up to c.24MW, powering up to 13,000 homes!



Up to 4 Turbines

with tip heights of up to 180m

Next Steps and 2024 Timelines

Engagement with the local community regarding the proposed development will commence in early 2024.

Consultation with Offaly County Council in pre-planning meetings.

We aim to submit a planning application for the project in December 2024.

Bird surveys and bat surveys will continue on the site. Noise, flood and visual impact assessments will all be undertaken as part of the EIA that will be carried out in 2024.

We will finalise a turbine layout and a delivery route for turbine components and access points into the site.

Contact Us

Please visit our project website which we will keep updated as the project progresses:
<https://regnumrenewables.ie/projects/clonarrow-wind-farm/>

If you have any feedback, comments or queries in relation to the project, please do not hesitate to contact us through our dedicated Community Liaison Officer for the project:
Daragh Browne;
t: +353 87 487 6422
e: daragh@regnumrenewables.ie

Alternatively, you can email the project team at:
hello@regnumrenewables.ie



Introduction

Regnum Renewables Developments Ltd (Regnum) would like to introduce ourselves and our proposed wind farm development, to be known as Clonarrow Wind Farm.

This information is being circulated to you and your neighbours, as the proposed site boundary is within the townland of Clonarrow / Riverlyons. The purpose of this leaflet is to introduce you to the project and to encourage open, two-way dialogue. We are committed to engaging with you, to ensure transparency and keep you updated on the status of the project.

About Us

Regnum is an Irish company where respect for the land and the people who live on it is always utmost in our design. To be truly sustainable and deliver the renewable energy innovation that our parishes, villages, towns, and cities need; we must work closely with the surrounding communities.

Our focus throughout the development process is to benefit local communities which host a wind farm in their area during the operational lifetime of the wind farm. Benefits come from creating new jobs, boosting the local economy, upgrading the local infrastructure and environment; and providing direct community investment.

We, at Regnum, believe in driving Ireland's energy future through our expertise in renewable technologies.

Climate Action Plan 2024

Addressing climate change is a shared global responsibility to ensure a sustainable and habitable planet for future generations. The science is indisputable, and the effects of climate change are already clear.

Ireland is committed to achieving climate neutrality by 2050. The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2021 is a legislative framework in Ireland which sets a legally binding target of a 51% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, compared to 2018 levels.

The Act establishes clear targets and commitments to align with national, EU, and international climate goals.

Electricity will play a crucial role in the decarbonisation of various sectors through electrification, such as transportation, heating, and industry.

The Climate Action Plan 2024 (CAP24) is the latest update in Ireland's climate strategy, aiming to build upon the previous Climate Action Plan 2023. CAP24 focuses on implementing policies, measures, and actions to support the attainment of the 2030 and 2050 climate targets.

Specific targets for 2030 include achieving 9,000MW from onshore wind, 8,000MW from solar, 5,000MW from offshore wind energy, to raise the share of renewable electricity to 80% by 2030.

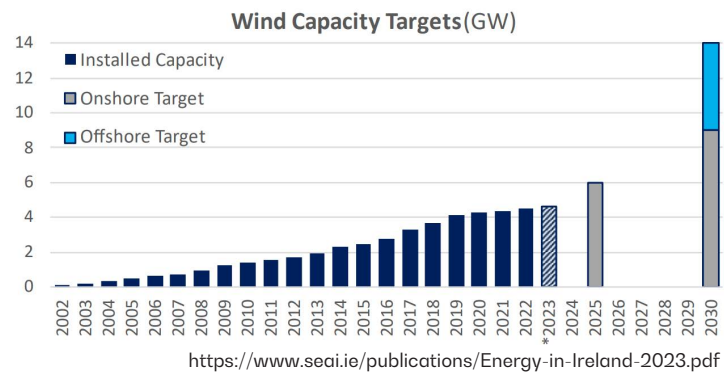
1. SEAI Energy in Ireland Report, December 2022, Section 10.4, Table.42

Onshore Wind in Ireland

Ireland has one of the best wind resources and generation potentials in Europe. Wind energy is a clean energy source which does not produce greenhouse gases when generating electricity.

Onshore wind contributed a record high of 35% of total electricity generation in Ireland in 2023. It is the largest source of renewable electricity generation that we have in Ireland, accounting for over 85% of renewable electricity generated in Ireland in 2022 (SEAI).

By 2030, 80% of Ireland's electricity is targeted to be generated from renewable energy and onshore wind will be the largest contributor, but this requires a significant increase in the rate of deployment of onshore wind farms.



While offshore wind energy will play a significant role in decarbonisation of the electricity market in Ireland, we remain reliant on onshore wind energy to meet the 2030 targets set out in Government's Climate Action Plan 2024.

For context, in Ireland, the historical average deployment of onshore wind installed capacity connected between 2008 and 2020 inclusive was ~280 MW per annum. To achieve the necessary emissions abatement, an approximate eight-times increase of renewable energy deployment to 2,300 MW annually will be needed between 2024 and 2030 (CAP24).

Currently:

- ✓ 39% of total electricity generation from renewables (2022)
- ✓ 4,671MW onshore wind installed (April 23)

2030 Targets:

- 80% share of electricity generation from renewables
- 9,000MW onshore wind installed



Identifying Suitable Sites

Our Development Team carry out a systematic site selection process to select potential wind farm sites, overlaying constraints including;

- o County Development Plan Designations,
- o Residential setbacks,
- o Wind resource,
- o Environmental Designations (SPAs / SACs & NHAs),
- o Linear Constraints (including roads, rivers, utilities),
- o Telecoms,
- o Land use,
- o Distance from grid and grid capacity
- o Slope stability land slide susceptibility,
- o Hydrology / flood plains,
- o Ecology (terrestrial and ornithology),
- o Landscape, topography and cumulative impact,
- o Heritage - Built and Natural,
- o Transport routes,
- o Aviation.

Once we have selected a site, we commission feasibility reports on planning, grid, preliminary wind assessment and engineering to verify our selection work.

What makes Clonarrow suitable for a wind farm?

- ✓ There is a strong wind resource available at the site.
- ✓ Mandatory setbacks from housing achievable, in line with Wind Energy Development Guidelines.
- ✓ The site is designated as 'Open to Consideration' for wind energy development, in the Offaly County Development Plan (CDP).
- ✓ No ecological concerns identified based on a desktop review.
- ✓ There has been positive engagement from private landowners.
- ✓ Accessible grid route from the site.

Proposed Development

The proposed 4-turbine layout and turbine dimensions will be subject to change as the detailed environmental studies progress, which will take place in the coming months.

The project will also include access tracks, a substation and ancillary infrastructure, a temporary construction compound, a temporary meteorological mast, underground cabling and a grid connection which links the wind farm to the national electricity grid.

Project to date

- ✓ Completed a preliminary **feasibility study** for the proposed project
- ✓ Completed desktop energy yield assessments for the proposed site
- ✓ **Bird surveys** have commenced on site and will continue through 2024 and 2025
- ✓ An **Environmental Impact Assessment Report** will be completed for the proposal and will accompany the planning application

Project Benefits

Potential local, regional and national benefits from this project;

Locally:

- ❖ Establishment of a Community Benefit Fund, supporting positive local initiatives, clubs and schools, with up to €1.5 million to be invested over the lifetime of the project
- ❖ Substantial commercial rates paid to the Local Authority, each year
- ❖ Up to 100 jobs supported during construction
- ❖ Potential infrastructure improvements and upgrades, if required
- ❖ Development contributions to be paid to the Local Authority in advance of construction as per the adopted S48 Contribution Scheme

Nationally:

- ❖ Significant reduction of electricity prices by removing expensive fossil fuel generators from the system and replacing with cheaper renewable alternatives
- ❖ Increased security of energy supply and progression towards energy independence for Ireland, reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels
- ❖ Cleaner air and water quality through the offset of over 335,000 tonnes CO₂eq over the lifetime of the project (Carbon Calculator)
- ❖ Contribution to national and regional renewable energy targets for both 2030 and 2050 targets



Community Benefit Fund

If the wind farm is granted planning permission, Regnum is committed to setting up a community benefit package to support the residents living closest to the project. We will collaborate closely with the community to customise this financial support package, placing local individuals at the forefront of decision-making regarding its implementation and impact.

€4,321,225 of funding was provided to communities in Ireland from Wind Energy Projects in 2021 (WEI).

This money was used to support;

- ❖ Education initiatives,
- ❖ Installation of solar panels and energy efficiency upgrades,
- ❖ Biodiversity and community enhancement projects to support local wellbeing,
- ❖ Local services and resources,
- ❖ Local schools,
- ❖ Sports clubs,
- ❖ Tidy Towns groups,
- ❖ Community development associations.

Draft Wind Energy Guidelines 2019

The latest guidance for developing onshore wind farms in Ireland is the draft wind energy guidelines 2019, which we at Regnum use to develop our wind farms.

These guidelines cover the critical topics of wind farm development and provide guidance on best practice in design for Noise, Visual Impact, Shadow Flicker, Community Engagement, Grid Connections, Environmental Considerations, Archaeology, as well as processes in Construction through to Decommissioning.

Environmental Impact Assessment

A significant component of the planning application for a wind farm, is a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). The EIAR will assess the site as it is currently, and investigate any elements that could be impacted by the construction or operation of the proposed wind farm. It will consider the project in the context of local and national policy.

The EIAR is comprised of several chapters, each covering a different topic relating to the proposed development, including:

- o Project Overview
- o Biodiversity
- o Ecology
- o Ornithology
- o Geology
- o Traffic
- o Hydrology
- o Noise & Vibrations
- o Visual Impact
- o Shadow Flicker
- o Air Quality
- o Archaeology

The EIAR will be undertaken by specialist consultants who will assess the impacts of the proposed development. It will be made available for the public to view with the planning application.

