



Keeping you informed  
Codling Wind Park Newsletter

Summer 2021

# Generating a greener Ireland



# Welcome to our first project newsletter and to what will be an ongoing dialogue between Codling Wind Park, the communities in County Wicklow, and many others.

As a Phase One project, Codling Wind Park is the largest offshore wind farm planned in the Irish Sea and will make a major contribution towards the Irish Government's ambition to generate 70% of the country's electricity from renewables by 2030.

Ireland is facing a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and is on the cusp of an energy revolution. Over the next ten years Ireland will connect a number of new offshore wind farms, providing enormous amounts of clean energy to power homes, farms and businesses. We are proud to be part of this energy transformation and are looking forward to Codling Wind Park being a project of which Ireland can be justifiably proud, creating a greener Ireland not only for today's generation, but for generations to come.

Codling Wind Park is in the planning and design phase, with engagement and dialogue an important part of this process. This newsletter is designed to keep you up to date with developments and to invite your feedback as we continue to progress the project. It contains information on our recent and ongoing activities, along with details on what is coming up in the near future.

So much progress has been made by the project since it was first established back in 1999, placing Codling Wind Park at the heart of the Irish Government's offshore wind ambitions. The momentum is set to continue in the months ahead, with the completion of offshore surveys, the continuation of environmental baseline work and the selection of a preferred location for our Operations & Maintenance base.

I hope you find this newsletter useful. If you have any comments or questions about the project, please get in touch with us using the contact details at the end.

Enjoy the summer months and stay safe.

Is mise, le meas / kind regards



Arno Verbeek  
Project Director



**“We are proud to be part of this energy transformation and are looking forward to Codling Wind Park being a project of which Ireland can be justifiably proud”**

# Codling Wind Park at a glance

## Developed by Codling Wind Park Ltd

A 50/50 joint venture between Fred. Olsen Renewables and EDF Renewables.



### 13–22 km

Distance from shore, off the Wicklow coast, between Greystones and Wicklow Town.



### 1,000

Minimum number of jobs during construction.



### 70

Expected number of full-time jobs.



### 1,500MW

Maximum generating capacity of the project.



### 70% renewable

Contributing significantly to Ireland's target of generating 70% of electricity from renewables by 2030, including 5GW from offshore wind.



### 1.2 million

Number of Irish homes that could be provided with renewable electricity.



### 2 million

The equivalent number of tonnes of harmful carbon emissions that could be saved every year.



### 140

Maximum number of turbines.



### 320m

Maximum tip height of turbines.



### 16MW

Maximum individual capacity of each turbine.



### 125 km<sup>2</sup>

Overall size of project site.



### 25–30 years

Anticipated operating life of the wind farm.

## First phase of public consultation draws widespread interest

Throughout the planning and design stages of the project, we have committed to holding three phases of public consultation. This is to ensure that the public have several opportunities to hear about our plans as they take shape and, more importantly, provide feedback.

Our first phase of consultation took place throughout the month of March this year and consisted of three elements: a virtual public exhibition, a webinar with members of the project team, and a series of information clinics. All activities were designed in line with the restrictions in place around COVID-19, to make information about Codling Wind Park available in an easily accessible, safe and user-friendly format.

“We would love to have been able to host face-to-face gatherings across all local communities, but unfortunately that wasn’t possible this time around,” said Stakeholder Engagement Manager, Denise Horan.

“Instead, we provided a number of online methods and advertised these widely, through the local newspapers, local radio, local social media platforms and the Wicklow Public Participation Network. Our Community Liaison Officer, Liz Dillon, and I were also available for phone calls where people preferred that.

“Overall, we were very pleased with how it went. People were clearly interested in informing themselves and sharing their views and that’s important to us, because we want local people to be involved to inform how we shape and develop the project.”

# 26

Number of information clinic slots we were able to provide over a two-week period.



### Information clinics

The project team offered 26 information clinic slots over a two-week period (15-27 March inclusive). These meetings provided the opportunity for any interested individual or group to book time with members of the team to discuss the project.

“We want local people to be involved to inform how we shape and develop the project.”

### Virtual public exhibition

The exhibition attracted 1,743 visitors and ran online for two weeks from 1-14 March (inclusive). It comprised a series of displays, videos, fact cards, maps, and indicative photomontages, showing what the turbines could look like from nine different viewing points along the east coast. It also included an online survey to enable visitors to provide their views on climate action, offshore wind energy, and of course, the Codling Wind Park project.

All exhibition displays and photomontages remain available to view on the website [codlingwindpark.ie](http://codlingwindpark.ie).

### Webinar

The project team delivered a live one-hour webinar on the evening of 11 March 2021. Seven members of the project team, including the Project Director, presented information on the project development process and answered questions on the project.

- Eighty people attended the webinar.
- Fifty questions were submitted to the project team, either in advance of or during the webinar.

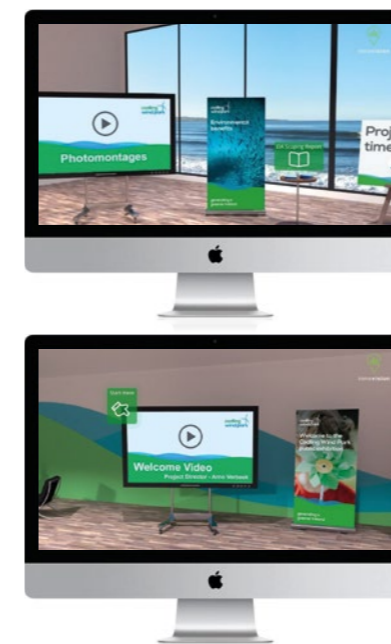
A complete recording of the webinar, along with responses to the questions not answered during the webinar (due to time constraints), is available on the project website.

# 1,743

Number of online visitors to the exhibition.

# 80

Number of people who attended the webinar.



# Feedback

We were delighted to be able to directly engage with so many members of the local communities and other stakeholders. This first round of consultation provided the opportunity to share early design plans for the project and to seek feedback to help shape the future design.

A full report on the feedback received and responses given during the first phase of public consultation is available on the Codling Wind Park website, at [codlingwindpark.ie/consultation-engagement/](http://codlingwindpark.ie/consultation-engagement/)

During the consultation period, we received over 200 queries and questions, with many common themes being raised, including;

-  The need for Codling Wind Park
-  Supply chain opportunities
-  Irish grid capacity and project energy output
-  Location and visual impact
-  Climate change
-  Construction
-  Environmental considerations
-  Energy security
-  Operation
-  Project development process
-  Wind turbine technology
-  Decommissioning
-  Consultation process
-  Onshore and offshore infrastructure
-  Fisheries
-  Community benefit

# 200 +

Number of queries and questions received.



## Onshore Scoping Report published for consultation

At the end of April, we achieved another important project milestone with the submission of our Onshore Infrastructure Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report.

It describes the proposed scope of work and methodologies to be applied in the development of the

Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the onshore elements of the project and outlines the proposed structure of the EIAR document. The report covers the land-based elements of the Codling Wind Park project, such as the point at which the cables will come ashore (landfall), the routing of onshore cabling and any electricity substation(s) that may be required to connect the project to the national grid. It also describes how the operations and maintenance base (from where the project will be operated during its lifetime) may be considered within the EIAR.

The purpose of the Onshore Infrastructure Scoping Report is to engage with consenting authorities, statutory and non-statutory consultees as part of the EIA process, inviting them to provide relevant information and to comment on the

proposed approach being taken by Codling Wind Park, to ensure that a robust EIAR is submitted in support of the project's planning application.

The report was issued to an extensive list of consultees, in addition to 280 people/organisations who registered an interest on our website to receive ongoing information. It was also added to our website and shared on our LinkedIn social media channel.

All responses received will be considered in the development of a final published EIAR.

# 280

Number of people registered to receive updates on the project.

To view or download the report, please visit [codlingwindpark.ie/onshore-infrastructure-environmental-impact-assessment-scoping-report-published/](http://codlingwindpark.ie/onshore-infrastructure-environmental-impact-assessment-scoping-report-published/)

## Environmental surveys to inform baseline understanding

A wide range of environmental surveys and desk-based studies are also ongoing as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, to assess the potential impacts of the project onshore and offshore.

Environmental surveys and studies first began on the project in 1999 and have continued at specific times since then. More recently, the focus has been on building up a good understanding of the baseline environment.



Surveys and studies will consider:

- Different types of marine ecology, including:
  - Marine mammals (whales, dolphins, seals)
  - Breeding and wintering birds
  - Seabed ecology
  - Fish ecology
- Hydrology and hydrogeology
- Geology and soils
- Landscape and visual
- Underwater noise
- Electromagnetic fields
- Noise and vibration
- Traffic and transport
- Archaeology and cultural heritage
- Amenity and community aspects.

Lis Royle, Consents Manager for the project, explained their significance.

"We have a lot of historical data, which is really helpful, but in assessing the potential environmental impacts – positive and negative – and identifying ways of managing, minimising, or mitigating them, it is important that we gather up-to-date data too. That's what we're doing at the moment, and it will continue for the rest of this year and into next year," she said.

"All of our surveys are being carried out by qualified and experienced specialists and are also informed by local knowledge and understanding, which is equally important in many areas."

The results from these assessments will be reported in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and submitted with our planning consent applications.

## Offshore survey programme under way to collect important data



> LB Jill on Codling Wind Park site

throughout much of the summer. The purpose of the surveys is to gather data to inform the design of the project and the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) that will be submitted as part of the project's planning application.

Some of the vessels working on the surveys have been using Greystones Harbour for overnight berthing and crew changes, with crew members staying locally in Greystones.



Wicklow-based marine specialists Alpha Marine are among the companies that have been supporting the campaign with vessels, personnel and expertise.

Comprising mainly of geophysical and geotechnical surveys, plus some ecological and metocean studies, the programme will continue



> Fastnet Pelican on Codling Wind Park site.

**Wind wisdom – did you know?**

A typical 14MW offshore turbine provides enough electricity to power approximately 18,000 average European households every year. (Siemens SG 14-222 DD) DD)

Source: [siemensgamesa.com/en-int/-/media/siemensgamesa/downloads/en/newsroom/2020/05/siemens-gamesa-press-release-turbine-14-222-dd-en.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2wXzW3gBZGo75oZn5Wvpo74uRGqWVEcW3-JA1mPH45iUoI7\\_D-VSK-35E](https://www.siemensgamesa.com/en-int/-/media/siemensgamesa/downloads/en/newsroom/2020/05/siemens-gamesa-press-release-turbine-14-222-dd-en.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2wXzW3gBZGo75oZn5Wvpo74uRGqWVEcW3-JA1mPH45iUoI7_D-VSK-35E)

## What next for Codling Wind Park?

**The ongoing survey activities and Environmental Impact Assessment process will help to inform the wind farm layout, including the size and number of wind turbines.**

Two further phases of pre-application consultation will be held in late 2021 and early 2022, to share updated plans as the project progresses and to provide further opportunities for input and feedback, to continue to

help shape the final planning and design of the project. We hope that these consultations can be conducted in person, as well as online, and further details will be made widely available once plans and dates have been agreed.

The onshore and offshore planning applications are expected to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála during 2022. Our aim is to balance the

technical, commercial, and environmental considerations to deliver the best project – one of which Ireland can be justifiably proud.

Subject to all necessary permits and consents being received, Codling Wind Park could begin construction in 2024/25, and is expected to take two to three years to complete.



› LB Jill and AMS Panther on site at Codling Wind Park.



› Members of G-Tec and Fastnet Shipping at Greystones harbour.



## Register your interest in being part of the Codling Wind Park supply chain

**Codling Wind Park will represent one of the largest energy infrastructure investments in Ireland this decade, delivering substantial benefits for the local, regional and national economy.**

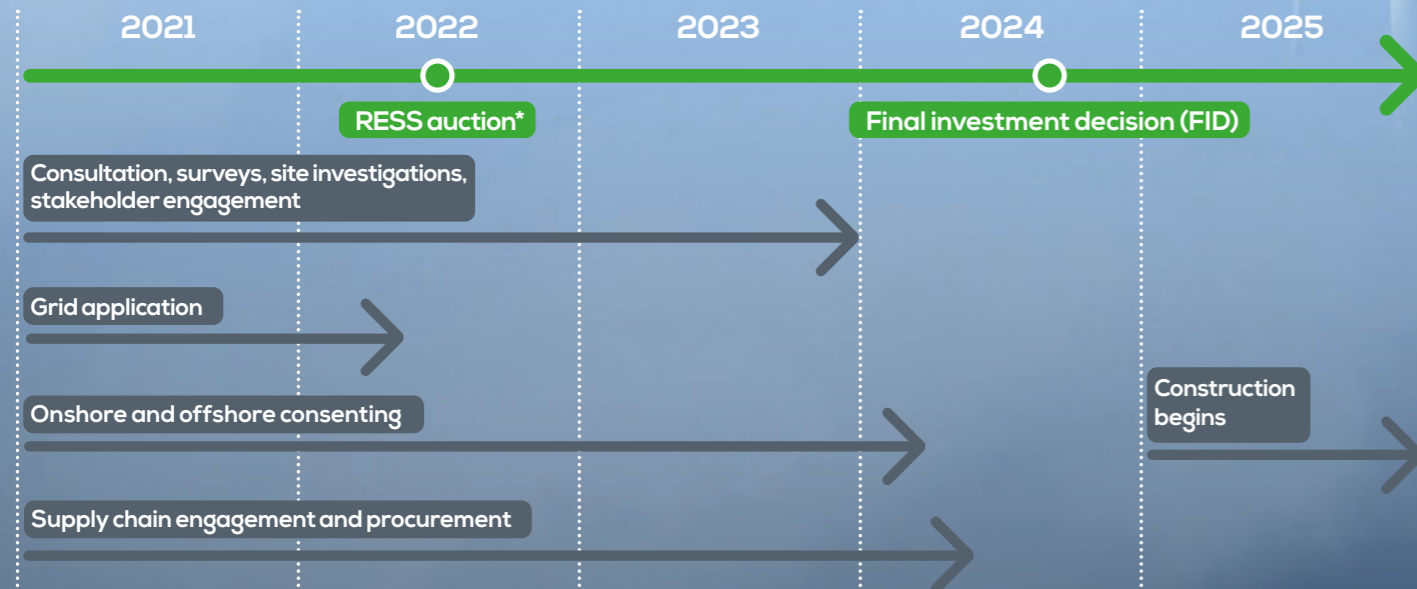
During the development, construction and operational phases of Codling Wind Park, there will be significant opportunities for Irish contractors, sub-contractors, suppliers, and service providers.

We are committed to maximising the opportunities available to Irish businesses, and in particular those in County Wicklow, as the project progresses.

To date on the Codling Wind Park project, almost €4m has been spent with businesses in Ireland. These include specialist planning, engineering, design, marine and environmental services, vessel providers,

accommodation providers and food suppliers. Ten businesses based in County Wicklow have so far benefitted from the Codling project and we look forward to broadening and deepening these local relationships in the months and years ahead. If you are a business that would like to be considered for work on the Codling Wind Park project, you can register your details on our website [codlingwindpark.ie/supply-chain/](https://codlingwindpark.ie/supply-chain/)

### Indicative project timeline



\*RESS = Renewable Electricity Support Scheme

# 2024

Possible date construction of Codling Wind Park could be underway.

**We intend to hold “Meet the Buyer” events over the next 12-18 months. All those who have registered their interest in working on the project will be notified of these events. We will also promote the events on our website and through other channels.**

# Codling Wind Park becomes a corporate partner of Wicklow Hospice



> **Eleanor Flew**, Director of Fundraising & Communications, Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services and **Arno Verbeek**, Project Director, Codling Wind Park.

**Codling Wind Park has entered into a corporate charity partnership with Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services, Wicklow, with the project committing to providing financial and practical supports to the facility and its team.**

Located in Magheramore, Wicklow Hospice is the first facility in the county to provide specialist palliative care services for patients and their families, and its opening in December 2020 marked the culmination of over ten years of fundraising by the local community. It provides inpatient care for those with life-limiting conditions and a new base for the Wicklow Specialist Community Palliative Care team, who care for end-of-life patients in their homes.

The partnership began recently with a visit by members of the Codling Wind Park team to the hospice to hand over a cheque for €10,000, specifically to support the development of the hospice's inner courtyard.



> Reading left to right:  
**Sinead Tarmey**, Campaign & Events Coordinator – Wicklow Hospice.  
**Arno Verbeek**, Project Director, Codling Wind Park.  
**Liz Dillon**, Community Liaison Officer, Codling Wind Park.  
**Eleanor Flew**, Director of Fundraising & Communications, Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services.  
**Denise Horan**, Stakeholder Engagement Manager, Codling Wind Park.

In addition, the Codling project has committed to supporting the hospice through volunteering and fundraising initiatives throughout the year.

**Arno Verbeek, Project Director of the Codling Wind Park project, said:**

"Visiting the Wicklow Hospice recently gave me a first-hand insight into the amazing work taking place there. The high standard of care provided – in a beautiful setting – is a source of great comfort to patients and their families at the most difficult of times.

"It's a privilege for the Codling project to work with the team there to support them in whatever way we can," he said.

**Eleanor Flew, Director of Fundraising & Communications, Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services said:**

"We are very grateful to Codling Wind Park for their support. This donation for enhancements to the courtyard will help transform the experience of patients and families. It will connect them to nature and biodiversity and make this a welcoming sheltered space to enjoy the outdoors.

"As an organisation heavily reliant on fundraising, support from businesses in the community and the public is vital to us. COVID-19 really impacted our ability to raise money, resulting in a decrease of 32% in fundraised income last year. We warmly thank Codling Wind Park for this commitment to working with us and we look forward to working with them as sponsors and through volunteering activities."

To find out more about Wicklow Hospice and how you can get involved in supporting their amazing work, please visit [wicklowhospice.ie](http://wicklowhospice.ie).

## Meet the Codling team

**Momentum has really built up over the past 10 months as we have grown the Codling team to around 50 full-time people.**

Behind Codling Wind Park, there is a vast amount of knowledge and experience within the team, gained from offshore wind projects around the world as well as from a variety of sectors and industries across the island of Ireland.

The team is being led by Arno Verbeek who himself has 25 years' experience in the energy industry, 20 of those in offshore wind, having worked on 17 different projects in 8 countries. This includes building Ireland's first and only offshore wind farm, Arklow Bank.

Supporting Arno is a talented team of individuals with over 250 years of offshore wind experience between them and hundreds more years across other sectors.

Within each newsletter, we would like to introduce you to a couple of them, starting with:



**Lis Royle**

**Role/Responsibility**  
 Consents Manager

**Professional experience**

I have 16 years' experience in consenting onshore and offshore wind farms in the UK, primarily in Scotland. I've worked in many different roles

supporting projects throughout all stages of development. I joined the Codling Wind Park project in January 2021 and look forward to supporting the successful delivery of this nationally significant project.

**Career highlight to date**

I am most proud of helping to take projects from a shape on a map to fully operational renewable energy projects. I am particularly proud of leading the development of an innovative underwater noise mitigation strategy designed to minimise impacts on marine mammals, whilst also reducing construction programme risks. The strategy was the first in the global offshore wind industry and was nominated for a Scottish Renewables Green Energy Award.

**What excites you about your current role?**

Working on an Irish project is very exciting as the offshore wind industry is in its infancy, so there are plenty of opportunities to realise benefits.

This includes anything from job creation, boosting Ireland's supply chain and increasing our understanding of the marine environment, through to reducing carbon emissions and supporting reliable energy supply.

**What keeps you busy in your free time?**

Most weekends I go wild water swimming, and when I'm not swimming in a freezing loch I prefer to spend time with my family and friends outdoors.



**Eric McCarthy**

**Role/Responsibility**  
 Onshore Package Manager

**Professional experience**

I have been involved in the wind industry since 2009, where I have been involved in more than 1,500MW of projects in the construction phase, plus the development of 303MW of onshore wind farms in Ireland. I have successfully completed 273 turbines consisting of 8 onshore and 1 offshore wind farm. My regional experience includes wind farms in Ireland, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, Croatia and the Netherlands.

**Career highlight to date**

My career highlight to date has been working on Europe's largest onshore wind farm in Sweden, a 474MW wind farm consisting of 114 turbines.

**What excites you about your current role?**

I am passionate about renewables and the need to address the existential threat that is climate change. I am most excited about being part of the Codling Wind Park team and the significant role Codling will play in Ireland achieving its

ambitious Climate Action Plan targets to reach 70% renewable electricity by 2030, and to be carbon neutral by 2050.

**What keeps you busy in your free time?**

With a young family and my children heavily involved in sport, I don't get much time these days for my own sporting adventures, however I hope to make time in the future for something challenging, such as the last multi-day race in the Sahara Desert – described as the toughest footrace on earth.





## Getting in touch

As we continue to shape and design the project, your feedback is very important to us.

You can contact us by email at [contact@codlingwindpark.ie](mailto:contact@codlingwindpark.ie) or by getting in touch with our team members.

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## Project website

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

Our new project website is the initial 'go to' place for information on the project, latest news and getting in touch with the project team.

## LinkedIn

You can also stay in touch with news and updates through our **Codling Wind Park LinkedIn page.**

## Media enquires

For media enquiries, please contact:

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