# codling wind park

### August 2023

# Keeping you informed Codling Wind Park Newsletter

# Generating A Greener Ireland

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Scott Sutherland
Project Director

"Codling Wind Park received confirmation that we were one of four successful projects in Ireland's first ever offshore wind auction.

### Hello

We have been busy! Over the past few months, the Codling team have made a lot of progress, bringing Ireland's largest renewable energy project closer to reality.

The biggest development came in May, when Codling Wind Park received confirmation that we were one of four successful projects in Ireland's first ever offshore wind auction. This win means we now have a contract to supply our renewable electricity to the Irish grid. The auction was extremely competitive and resulted in an average strike price of €86.05 per megawatt hour, which is about one third cheaper than the average price for electricity in Ireland in April (€126 per MWh). Even more importantly it means Codling, with a capacity of 1300 MW, will be able to supply over 1 million Irish homes with renewable energy.

ORESS (Offshore Renewable Energy Support Scheme) success doesn't mean a pause in activity as we bring greater focus on another key milestone, the submission of our planning application to An Bord Pleanála. The Planning Consents team is carrying out a range of surveys and collating the detailed plans for the development. This work will ensure best outcomes for the environment, minimising any disturbance to marine life, while at the same time delivering a key component Phone us on 087 1011 473

of Ireland's climate action infrastructure.

We have also completed the second phase of our public consultation where we were delighted to see firsthand the strong support which exists for offshore energy generally, and Codling in particular. All of the feedback received is helping us to shape the future of the project. We will be coming back into the local communities with our final public engagement before the end of the year and would encourage everyone in the community to meet with us to hear about the latest developments at Codling Wind Park and our exciting plans for the future.

As always, we encourage your feedback so please do not hesitate to contact Pat, Grainne or Pamela on our External Affairs team with any comments or questions on the project.

Talk soon!

Scatt Sutherland

Scott Sutherland Project Director, Codling Wind Park Email us at contact@codlingwindpark.ie

### CODLING WIND PARK NEWSLETTER



# What's Happening on the Project

### Health and Safety

Health and Safety is always our first order of business. We continually strive to maintain the highest levels of health, safety, and environmental performance. With that in mind the project team is fully committed to the ethos of "Zero Harm" which means zero harm to people and the environment.

### Government

Following the success of ORESS, the Project Director and other members of team recently had the first of a regular series of engagements with the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications. The meetings are an opportunity for the project to report on progress and flag any potential issues of concern. The Department officials noted the critical importance of the project to Ireland meeting its national climate and energy objectives.

### **MARA** and Grid

We have started engagement with the new Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) to coincide with their formal establishment in July. The authority is responsible for assessing all applications for consents in the maritime area prior to projects applying for planning permission and is now the responsible authority for matters connected with our Foreshore Licence. The grid team is also progressing a range of issues relevant to the Poolbeg substation project with Eirgrid, Dublin Port and other state agencies and companies.

### Consenting

Our Consenting team is processing the very considerable body of data and information involved in the preparation of the planning application that will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála at the end of the year. We are happy to report that to date we have also had positive

and constructive engagement with local authorities including Wicklow County Council, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and Dublin City Council. Also in the planning area, the team is currently progressing our pre application consultations with An Bord Pleanála (ABP) ahead of the application being submitted to ABP at the end of the year.

### Ports

The early delivery of new port infrastructure is important for Codling and the other Phase One projects. Most ports still need to secure funding, submit planning applications and begin construction of facilities required to support offshore renewable energy developments. As a project we are engaging with the Irish Maritime Development Office, Department of Transport, and ports companies around Ireland to help ensure sufficient port capacity is in place to support Phase I project delivery in the second half of this decade.

### Procurement

The Procurement team is progressing with tendering activities for the major contracts including wind turbines, balance of plant, and electrical systems. It is expected that main agreements will be concluded within the next 12 months. Codling Wind Park is keen to hear new ideas or potential opportunities from the local supply chain. If you want to get in contact, please complete the supply chain registration form on our website.

### Engineering

The engineering team are continuing to design and engineer the project, ahead of submitting our planning application to An Bord Pleanála. At the same time, we are engaging deeply with our potential Tier 1 contractors to identify innovative and efficient solutions and technologies with which to build this flagship infrastructure project.

# **Codling Deliver Unique Fisheries Fund & Charter**

In May, we announced details of our €500,000 Fisheries Fund and the industry's first offshore Fisheries Charter. The Fisheries Charter, or code of practice, commits Codling Wind Park to engage with fishers on a regular basis and to follow a range of sustainable development practices. It also highlights our commitment to protecting biodiversity and affirms our responsible stewardship of the waters and seabed on the Codling Bank.

The purpose of the Fisheries Fund is to support opportunities for both inshore and offshore fishing by fishers associated with Codling Wind Park. More importantly, the Fishers have the opportunity to decide how this generous fund is used by bringing forward their ideas. The fund is available for 5 years, and we would encourage fishers in the locality to reach out to discuss their ideas with us.

In addition to the fund, we also confirmed that we will consider other initiatives to support fishers, including helping establish a lobster hatchery. The lobster hatchery would involve raising and releasing young lobsters

"This €500,000 fund will help support the fishing industry and long-term sustainable fishing on the Codling Bank. We want to work with the fishers in the area to develop the terms of reference for this fisheries fund to ensure the funds generate maximum benefit back into the Irish Sea to increase fishing for the fishing industry into the future. We opportunities in the area. The project is want to hear from the fishers about what they engaging with fishers on this proposal which think this fund should be used for." would significantly support a sustainable and productive fishery in the area. "We are also very proud to be the first

Speaking at the announcement of the Charter which commits the project to Fisheries Fund and Charter, Project Director engaging fairly with fishers, to boosting of Codling Wind Park Scott Sutherland said: marine biodiversity and to developing "The purpose of this fund is to support sustainable fishing practices." initiatives that could be of benefit to fishing communities, rather than benefitting one You can see the full charter on our website. individual fisher over another. For example, To submit an idea or proposal for the €500,000 Fisheries Fund, please contact: adding value to a fishery, improving port infrastructure, improving safety, or exploring Fisheries Engagement Manager Courtney innovation and fishery diversification." French, courtney.french@codlingwindpark.ie

### **Public Consultation Success**

As part of our development plan, we committed to three phases of non-statutory project for all involved." public consultation and engagement. The first of these took place in March 2021, One submission noted how there was where we presented an introduction to the project. Since then, the project had excellent outreach to those affected in advanced significantly, and the project team ran Phase 2 of the public engagement and Wicklow throughout the consultation. consultation process for four weeks, across January and February this year. This second Submissions described the Codling phase of engagement and consultation provided an even greater level of project detail Wind Park team at the public events to the people in the community. This was all done to seek feedback on the project plans as "knowledgeable", "enthusiastic" and and to support our ongoing engagement with local communities and stakeholders. referenced how they were impressed with the engagement. For more information on our Pat Sammon, External Affairs Manager at youth and public consultations from January Codling Wind Park commented: "Everyone click <u>here.</u>

The consultation included briefings for Wicklow and Poolbeg stakeholders, a virtual consultation room, four public information days and engagement clinics. We also took an innovative approach to hear the voice of local young people, and also facilitated a local Transition Year workshop with Coláiste Chraobh Abhann in Kilcoole.

The Codling Wind Park team would like to thank all of those who attended the consultation events and provide their feedback.

on the team was really impressed with the attendance and level of engagement at our public and youth consultation events. It was great to see such positivity towards the project. This was matched by a real desire to understand how it will work and to find out more about the opportunities Codling can provide at a national and local level. The feedback received is extremely useful and will help inform the next stage of development and ultimately improve the developer in Ireland to publish a Fisheries

We will be bringing more information into local communities again with our final public and youth engagement before the end of the year, and we encourage you to avail of the opportunity to meet with us and hear about the exciting developments at Codling Wind Park. More information about the engagements will be available closer to the time on our <u>website</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u> pages.



### **Wicklow Hospice Announced as Codling** Wind Park Charity Partners

We are delighted to announce our continued partnership with Wicklow Hospice this year and look forward to supporting its excellent care and attention to people across our community here in Wicklow. We've seen first-hand the amazing work done within Magheramore and throughout the community which relies on funding and community support. In October, Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services (OLH&CS), Wicklow are hosting a popular and important fundraiser at Greystones Beach. The 'Dip in the Nip' event which last took place in 2019 is making a welcome return with the support of Codling Wind Park and help from former Irish Rugby player and Wicklow Hospice ambassador, Shane Byrne. To take part, men, groups, clubs and workplaces are asked to raise at least €100 for Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services, Wicklow, all of which will go towards supporting the delivery of services and care in Wicklow Hospice.

Karen Gallagher, Interim Director of Fundraising & Communications at OLH&CS said: "Fundraising and community support continue to be the life blood of our work at Wicklow Hospice, whether that's in our in-patient facility which cared for 196 inpatients last year or through our Community Palliative Care Team, which made 3,285 visits to people's homes. Initiatives like Dip in the Nip help to ensure the continued provision and development of our services, so we urge the people of Wicklow and surrounds to come out and support it, whether that be through participation or sponsoring one of the brave participants". She added, "This year's event takes place on Sunday 8th October at 10.00am. The women of Wicklow are also asked to show their support by supporting friends or family taking part". For more information and to register for Dip in the Nip, please click here.

# 2. Codling Wind Park, Part of the Community

Codling Wind Park is committed to supporting local communities and enabling them to share the benefits of offshore wind energy. It's really important to us, that our neighbours benefit from the opportunities renewable energy brings, and we do our best to facilitate that locally. Here's a selection of some of the local events we have recently supported. If your event, club, or charity would benefit from Codling Wind Park sponsorship, please go to our website to complete the sponsorship form.



a) We had the pleasure of sponsoring and attending the Coláiste Chraobh Abhann Showstoppers Concert in Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow in February. Well done to all the students for organising this hugely successful sell-out show.

# Codling Wind Park Teams Up With Éire Óg Greystones

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting local community organisations across Wicklow, we were delighted to announce our sponsorship of Éire Óg Greystones' U15 Féile hurling team. This sponsorship followed the team's fantastic achievement in winning the county Féile competition and came ahead of their trip to Kilcotton Borris GAA club in Laois for a Regional Féile where they proudly represented Wicklow against clubs from other counties. Éire Óg Greystones, which can trace its roots back over 100 years to 1920, has approximately 1,500 members and around 35 different teams competing in hurling, camogie, gaelic football and ladies' football in Wicklow league and championship competitions. The club, which also acts as a vital community hub for children with disabilities as well as older members, was one of the first in the country to adopt the one club initiative, which combines camogie, GAA and LGFA under the one club model.and stakeholders.

Gráinne Fennell, our Community Engagement Manager said the project was delighted to support this vibrant and growing local GAA club. "It is a real honour for Codling to partner with a leading sporting and community organisation such as Éire Óg Greystones. The club, just like the wider GAA family in Wicklow and beyond, provides a wonderfully inclusive environment for young people of all ages and abilities to enjoy themselves while pursuing a healthy lifestyle and developing their sporting skills. In a wider sense Codling Wind Park is also about creating a safer and healthier environment for both current and future generations of our young people."

Jim Darcy, Head Coach of the U15 hurlers

described the sponsorship as a wonderful boost to the players and the club in general. "The boys have had a great year – this was actually our first year entering Féile as a standalone club - but we want to build on that success for the club's future. Obviously, that comes with costs, and we wouldn't be able to provide the supports they or other teams in the club need without the backing of partners such as Codling Wind Park. We're catering for boys and girls of all ages across different levels and the numbers are growing massively. That's why we really appreciate this support from Codling, and we hope it will be the start of a long-term relationship between our young members and the project."



b) After a 3-year hiatus, the Greystones St. Patrick's Day Parade, supported by Codling Wind Park made a very welcome return on the 17th of March.



c) Newtownmountkennedy Tidy Towns hosted a Festival of Remembrance for the 225th Anniversary of the 1798 Rebellion on Sunday 28th of May supported by Codling Wind Park.



### NEWSLETTER

### CODLING WIND PARK







### Wicklow's First #Pride Parade

We were proud and privileged to sponsor Wicklow's first ever <u>#Pride</u> parade on July 1st. It was such a fun, joyful and life-affirming day. Our support for <u>#PrideMonth</u> and LGBTQ+ communities doesn't stop there, we firmly believe on the project that generating a greener Ireland is better for our climate, for our energy security, and for human rights everywhere. By investing in renewable energy, we're helping to build a more sustainable, diverse and inclusive world. Conor Kirwan, Secretary of Wicklow Pride Festival, welcomed the sponsorship saying "Codling Wind Park's support has been incredible and the impact the parade and festival has had was immense. Thank you for supporting that, it's incredibly important. A huge day for Wicklow and laying down the foundations of a better future".



### St Pat's GAA, Wicklow Town

Codling Wind Park was delighted to support a family day organised by St. Pat's GAA club in Wicklow, with Community Engagement Manager Gráinne on hand to make a presentation to John Smith, Chair of St. Pat's GAA Club in Wicklow town. John commented "A huge thank you to Codling Wind Park for their very generous sponsorship of our club. The project team presented a cheque at our Family Fun Day and Codling wind Park's sponsorship will make a huge difference to all of our teams and players".



### Design a Tote Bag Competition

We were delighted to announce the winners of our 'Design a Tote Bag' competition that we ran with Coláiste Chraobh Abhann school in Kilcoole. The overall winner was Frances Simpson, and we were so impressed with the quality of entries that we also awarded two runner-up prizes to Ben Fenelon and Bella Arnold. They each received a tote bag featuring their very own design and Frances' bag design will be given out to the public at our next consultation event later this year. We would like to thank all the students who entered; we were so impressed with your creativity and attention to detail.



### Sandymount Community **Centre Launch**

The team at Sandymount Community Centre hosted a 'Street Party' on the 11th of June to officially launch their centre, a vibrant hub for activities and community groups in the Sandymount and Ringsend areas. Jessica Ryan, the Community Centre Manager said, "The Sandymount Community Centre is delighted to have partnered with Codling Wind Park to officially launch the centre in our community. The work that Codling is doing is necessary and important and we hope that we can continue our relationship into the future!! The day was made all the more special and memorable to the community thanks to their generous donation!!"

Thanks to all of our suppliers, sponsorship recipients and local establishments supporting Codling Wind Park



# **Codling Wind Park Committed to Using Local Suppliers**

It's important for us to source as many goods and services as we can in the Wicklow and Poolbeg areas and to use the local supply chain wherever possible. Throughout our current development phase and into the future construction and operational phases, there will be significant opportunities for contractors, sub-contractors, suppliers, facilities, and service providers to work with us.



Some of the local suppliers we currently work with include Loman Cusack Design

in Kilcoole Co. Wicklow. Loman's award-winning design agency supports us will all our information graphics and design helping us communicate as effectively as possible with you and all our stakeholders.



Oscar Christie of **PMP** Print & Marketing **Partners** in Charvey Way Business Park, Rathnew, Wicklow, is

an established print house which provides us with all our printing needs. Oscar and his team produce exactly what we need in premium quality print with fast turnaround times and high-quality finish.

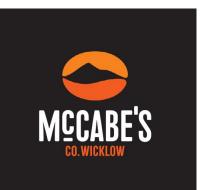
Michael Kelly is a professional photographer working out of Wicklow for many years. Mick has been with us to capture all of our community engagements; staff events and consultations and we look forward to working with Mick as the project progresses.



From event production, to live streaming to health and safety Mick Glynn and his team from planetsound.ie have supported us and thanks to Mick and his team, all of our engagement events have run smoothly and professionally.

Recently some members of our team attended a coffee-tasting morning at McCabe's Coffee, a local coffee business in Newtownmountkennedy.

# ÉIRE ÓG GAA GREYSTONES GREYSTONES SAILING CLUB



Thanks to all at McCabe's who gave so freely of their time to tell us all about their business and sustainability initiatives. We look forward to working together

codling ork

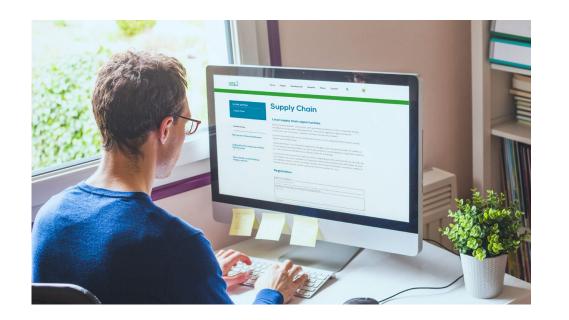
In this section

Supply Cha

Latest news

and drinking more of your delicious coffee in the future.

If your business would like to be considered for work on the Codling Wind Park project, please complete the registration form on our website.



**Codling Wind Park is** committed to supporting local communities and enabling them to share the benefits of offshore wind energy. It's really important to us, that our neighbours benefit from the opportunities renewable energy brings, and we do our best to facilitate that locally.

Development

project

Home

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supply chain Local supply chain opportunities struction, and operational phases of a m During the development, construction, and operational phases of a infrastructure project like Codling Wind Park, there will be significant infrastructure project like contractors autocontractors and contractors and contrac

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to tully explore these possibilities, we ask you to consent to our main contractors. Please see our Privacy Policy for full

In instances where we contract with you directly, depend In Instances where we contract with You directly, depering may need to ask you to complete our Contractor Verific may need to ask you to complete our Contractor Ventra accreditation status in relation to Health, Safety, Envir accreditation status in relation to Health, Sarety, Envi terest and any contract specific questions that we

# **3. Meet the Codling Team**



### **Erlend Christensen, Our Offshore Licensing** Manager

Erlend Christiansen is our Offshore Licensing Manager and also local to the proposed site for Codling Wind Park. He grew up in Wicklow Town and moved to Bray in 2016, after working on a variety of offshore projects all over the world. Read more about his career path to Codling Wind Park and the importance of his work.

### **Q.** What's your role at Codling Wind Park?

**A.** I'm the Offshore Licensing Manager for the project, and my main focus over the last three years has been securing a range of marine consents and licences for the Codling Wind Park Project. This involved securing Foreshore Licenses, statutory sanctions and other marine consents that are required to enable site investigations and surveys to commence on the offshore site. The site investigations and offshore surveys are important as they are used to inform the project's EIAR / consent application and are also used to inform the design of the offshore infrastructure.

### **Q.** What was your career path to Codling Wind Park?

**A.** My career began in the oil and gas industry. When I graduated with a BEng in Environmental Engineering from the University of Galway in 2009, we'd just gone into a recession! So I continued my studies and completed a Masters in Sustainable Energy Systems at the University of Edinburgh.

My first job was as an Offshore Supervisor in the oil and gas sector. I worked on the construction (jacket installations) of oil and gas platforms all over the world: from the North Sea to the Indian Ocean and Australia. I was also an offshore grouting supervisor during the jacket installations on Belgium's Thornton Bank Phase 2. This was in 2012 and 2013 and was my first taste of offshore wind! I loved the travel. From an early age, I always wanted to work offshore; I did a lot of sailing from a young age – and my brothers and I

navigated the waters around Africa and Europe on a sailing boat aged 23.

I switched to tidal energy after three years, working for an Irish company called Open Hydro. Here I led the marine operations for turbine installations in France, Canada, and the Orkney Islands. Then, after four years, I joined Eirgrid – Ireland's transmission system operator.

I was the offshore lead for developing the Celtic Interconnector Project, which is a planned power link to allow the exchange of electricity between Ireland and France. Here, I was responsible for managing delivery of the offshore EIA, marine surveys, route optioneering, crossings, cable burial studies and fishing liaison. I was here for three years before joining Natural Power Consultants.

I joined Natural Power in 2020, and after a few weeks, I was seconded into Codling Wind Park - and I've been here ever since! There were only ten or so of us on the project back then; now there are over 60 on the team, and it has been great to see the project progress and expand so successfully.

### **Q.** What's a typical day like in your role?

A. For the delivery of the Foreshore Licence, I managed a team of about 20 consultants at Natural Power, and they complete the assessments and documentation as part of the licence applications – writing environmental reports, developing our Natural Impact Statements and so on. So I spend a lot of time working with them to ensure our work schedule is complete and on track.

A lot of my time is spent engaging with

government departments, stakeholders and statutory bodies (Ports, Harbours, NPWS, UAU, the Marine Institute, Sea Fishers Protection Agency, Commissioners of Irish Lights and so on). We want to keep them up to date with our plans and address any concerns they might have ahead of securing licences or permits for marine works. I work very closely with our legal advisers too.

### **Q.** Have you always been interested in renewables?

**A.** Definitely. At the age of 18, I chose to study Environmental Engineering to get into the renewables industry. From an engineering perspective, I always found the different technologies in renewables extremely fascinating. (Be it tidal, hydro, wave wind or solar).

It's also very satisfying to be part of a project that's leading the charge for offshore wind in Ireland. Codling Wind Park is a project that is helping us to achieve greater energy security and one that will significantly help Ireland to deliver our climate goals. This makes working in renewables very interesting

### **Q.** Are there challenges in being one of the first projects?

**A.** Yes, there are always going to be challenges, especially as offshore wind is in its infancy in Ireland. But that's also a privilege – these are the kinds of challenges I love to work on. We have a very strong team at Codling Wind Park, supported by consultants like Natural Power and Tobin, so we all pull together to make sure we overcome any of the challenges that we are faced with.

### Q. What's special to you about Codling Wind Park?

**A.** I'm from Wicklow town – I grew up here. And I've moved back to the Wicklow area after working overseas. I live in Bray now with my wife and our three young girls, so this project is in our backyard; we live close to the seafront, and we will actually be able to see Codling Wind Park from my home. Although it sounds like a cliché, by working on Codling Wind Park, we are helping to

safeguard the environment for our kids and future generations, and this makes me tremendously proud to be part of a team that is helping to achieve this.

### **Q.** What's the best thing about your job

**A.** The job diversity gives me great satisfaction, and I learn something new every day, either from my colleagues in the Codling project or from the wider industry, we're also a very passionate and driven team, and I feel we all get on very well together – we always have great craic when we get together!!

### **Q.** Would you recommend a career in renewables to a young person?

**A.** Definitely. There are great opportunities in the offshore wind industry in Ireland and in renewables as a whole. There is currently a very strong market in Ireland, the UK and in Europe with strong commitment from governments to deliver their climate targets. With this commitment comes employment with a range of diverse and interesting employment opportunities. Looking forward, these opportunities will only increase.



We also have a

great interview with our Fisheries Engagement Manager <u>Courtney</u> French, telling us about her career pathway to Codling Wind Park, the importance of her role on the project, and the initiatives she has put in place to support local fishers.

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## **Fair Seas Conference**

Our External Affairs Manager Pat Sammon attended the inaugural World Ocean Day Conference hosted by Fair Seas in Cork on June 8th. We welcomed the opportunity to have Codling Wind Park represented in the critical conversation regarding Marine Protected Areas in Irish Waters as we develop the offshore wind industry in Ireland. Pat said "It was great to hear from and meet with ocean advocates, government, and industry representatives as well as stakeholders at the conference. There was so much positivity about the immense potential of seas around our island to help us heal the planet and sustain communities". Thanks to Fair Seas for bringing together impactful speakers and thought leaders and for delivering a superb conference. We look forward to continuing the discussion further.

Codling Wind Park will provide clean energy for more than 1 million Irish homes



# **Global Wind Day**

We celebrated Global Wind Day with colleagues in the wind industry on June 15th with the shared message of creating a cleaner, greener future by harnessing the power of wind. Check out our clip on LinkedIn which show some incredible drone footage of our local communities in Wicklow.



Codling Wind Park were proud supporters of the @RNLI Family Open Day in Wicklow. We sponsored the children's area and members of our team were there on the day to talk about the project and promote the RNLI's message of being water safe. Thanks to all those who attended and the organisers for hosting such a fantastic day.

# Wicklow RNLI Open Day



## Wind Energy Ireland's **Offshore Conference**

Engaging with other offshore wind projects, policy makers, suppliers and industry experts is important for our team and a great way to share and gain knowledge. Wind Energy Ireland recently hosted their Offshore Wind Conference at the Royal Convention Centre in Dublin, celebrating the start of Ireland's Offshore Wind Energy revolution. Members of Codling Wind Park team attended and after listening to a range of excellent speakers took part in lively discussions on the outcome of the country's first offshore wind auction and Irelands ability to lead the response to the global climate and energy crisis.



## Wind Europe Conference

We turned out in style at the Wind Europe annual event recently held in Copenhagen where several team members had the opportunity to meet with industry colleagues and potential suppliers.

# 4. Did You Know?

Ireland has immense offshore wind potential and Codling Wind Park is proud to be working with the Government, state agencies and local communities to ensure that the significant benefits of Irish offshore energy can be delivered to the people of Ireland. In this section, we will share some industry and project facts as well as answer some of the questions we receive when out and about.

Pro-

### Do we really need more renewable energy and offshore wind?

Global warming is placing enormous stress on our environment. This is happening now, and we are seeing the results of widespread and rapid change as average global temperatures increase year on year. This warming of the planet is fuelled by increases in greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere which are mainly produced when we burn fossil fuels, from industrial processes, and emissions associated with land-use. This change impacts everyone in the world, and we all must adapt in some way to save the planet. Ireland's climate action targets commits us to achieving a 51% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. However, Ireland's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently reported that we will miss our emission reduction targets by a significant margin if we continue on the current path and immense change is required if we are to realise the opportunities and socio-economic benefits that can be delivered through decarbonisation.

The deployment of renewable energy systems including offshore wind is a core measure which will enable emissions reduction and help us to achieve our targets. Currently, around 40% of the electricity used in Ireland comes from renewable sources. However, under the Government's Climate Action Plan, this needs to hit 80% by 2030. Codling Wind Park alone can provide over 25% of the 5GW offshore wind target set out in Ireland's Climate Action Plan 2023 while also offsetting the equivalent of 1.7 million tonnes of  $CO_2$  emissions.

# Will the wind turbines spoil my view?

While many people see turbines as graceful symbols of our clean energy future, others express concern over their visibility from the coast. The Codling Wind Park turbines will be visible, they will be located approximately 13 kilometres away at the closest points and 22 kilometres at the furthest point from the shore. That is roughly the distance from Bray Head to Dún Laoghaire. A recent survey by Wind Energy Ireland, revealed that 79% of those polled are in favour of offshore wind energy use in Ireland with over 83% agreeing that offshore can support energy security in Ireland.

During our Public Consultation in January of this year, we met with the transition year students from Coláiste Chraobh Abhann in Kilcoole. We were so impressed with the feedback and level of engagement. One of the comments in relation to the visibility of the turbines from a student was **"Are there really people who are worried about what the turbines look like? If** we don't do this, we, the next generation won't have a view to look at!"

Assessing visual interactions is taken extremely seriously by the project and will be examined in detail in our Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). This assessment is done in accordance with current guidance and as advised by regulators. The EIA will include a Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA) prepared by Chartered Landscape Architects in accordance with best practice and current guidance. All this information will be publicly available and subject to further assessment by the planning authorities.



## What area of the seabed will the turbines cover?

The turbines that will be used at Codling Wind Park have a **Diameter** of 9m

- 9m –

This means that the turbines will only cover 0.005% of the 125 square kilometers of the Codling site area.

**13km** 

Contributing significantly to

Ireland's target of generating

The closest turbine will be **13 kilometers** offshore and the furthest is 22 Kilometer

### Key facts

Total installed capacity **= 1,300** megawatts (MW)

5 GW from offshore wind by 2030

**Clean electricity** for the equivalent of over 1 million Irish homes every year

Offset up to **1.7 million** 

tonnes of CO2 each year



### What is the ORESS auction?

Six offshore wind projects were issued Maritime Area Consents (MACs) in December 2022. The projects underwent the Offshore Renewable Energy Support Scheme (ORESS) qualification process, and then bid in their price to the auction which was overseen by the Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU), Ireland's independent energy and water regulator. The key point here is that in this auction, it is the lowest price that wins. The results of the auction provided four projects with a combined capacity of 3GW with a route to market for the electricity they produce. In simple terms, the four projects agreed a price with the customer for the electricity they will produce and the customer, in this case the Irish grid, agreed to purchase that electricity. The auction was designed to drive competition between bidders. The lower the price they bid the better their chances of succeeding. This meant the customer, ultimately the Irish

consumer, paid a lower price. The hugely competitive price secured, at an average of €86.05/MWh, is one of the lowest prices paid by an emerging offshore wind market in the world. Just to compare, the average wholesale electricity price in Ireland over the past 12 months was in excess of €200/MWh. It is expected that this price will save Irish electricity consumers hundreds of millions of euros per year.

Codling Wind Park was one of the successful projects in Ireland's first ORESS auction. Minister Eamon Ryan said it was a "breakthrough moment" for Ireland's offshore wind future. He also said it is "a hugely positive story not just for Irish energy consumers, but for Ireland as a whole. The results are further evidence of what many of us have known for a long time; that we, as a nation, can develop and produce enormous quantities of clean energy - securely and at low cost,"

### **Getting in Touch** 5

Through everything we do on the Codling Wind Park project, our ambition is not only to develop a project which Ireland can be proud of, but to go even further and help create the right conditions for the development of a strong and sustainable offshore wind industry in Ireland. An industry that will bring benefits to the country and environment for generations to come.

Listening to and engaging with the public and all our stakeholders is an important part of this.

There are multiple options to get in touch with us, ask questions, provide feedback or even just to stay in touch as our plans develop. We very much look forward to hearing from you.



### **General enquiries**

Email us at contact@codlingwindpark.ie

Phone us on 087 1011 473

Available during working hours. If the line is busy, just leave a message and we will get back to you.

### Postal address

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