

IWEA CONFERENCE 2019

Community Engagement on Wind Energy Developments

Pat O'Sullivan – Head of Communications and
Stakeholder Engagement Statkraft Ireland



Community Engagement

- ▶ **Engagement on infrastructural projects**

- ▶ High pressure gas pipelines
- ▶ Cross country water pipelines
- ▶ Motorways
- ▶ Wind farms
- ▶ Solar farms

- ▶ **Engagement has many common fundamentals**



What is viewed as respectful engagement?

▶ The simple provision of information

Can be perceived as paternalistic

Can be perceived as presenting a 'fait accompli'

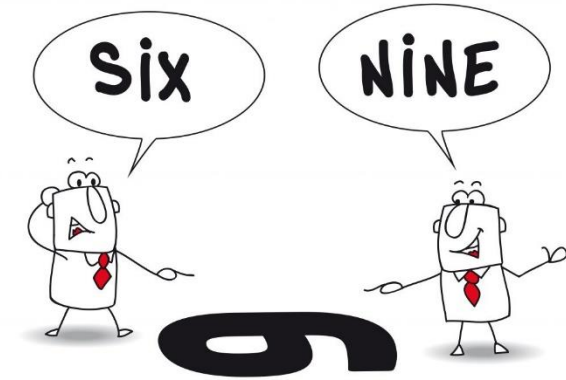
Can be perceived as providing desk based solutions to real life situations

▶ Involvement in issues and opportunities

Develops mutual understanding

Allows for improvement in design

Allows for greater inclusion and a greater sense of 'ownership'



▶ *We have identified an area that is suitable for a wind energy project*

Vs.

▶ *We have identified an area that we believe warrants consideration*

The Statkraft Approach

Considering Opportunity, Promoting Engagement, Striving for Sustainability

- ▶ So, how do we develop a project in a way that we hope is seen as respectful by the local community?
 - **Engage early** – Provide information on what is being considered, during the design phase
 - **Meet people** - Call to homes in the area and make a concerted effort to meet local people and discuss the project
 - **Incorporate local feedback** – Allow feedback to influence the design path of the project
 - **Resources and time** – Need to be committed to community engagement



Each community has its own story

► Examples of local feedback influencing project design

	Coole	Moanvane	Derrykillew Ext	Cushaling
Turbines	18t to 13t	15t to 12t	8t to 7t	No change
Tip Height	169m to 175m	No change	No change	No change
Set back	500m to 700m	500m to 600m	500m to 600m	No change
Shadow F.	Eliminated	Eliminated	Eliminated	Eliminated
Substation	No change	Relocated	No change	No change
Site Access	No change	Relocated	No change	Relocated
Traffic	Restrictions	Restrictions	No change	Restrictions

Each community has its own story

► Local feedback influencing the Community Benefit proposal

Coole	Moanvane	Derrykillev	Drehid
Services for the elderly	Provision of an amenity trail	The development of walking trails	A reduction in local energy bills
Funding for the repair of the local church	Services for the youth	Direct return for 1km area	Provision of an amenity area
Improvements to local broadband	Direct return for 1km area	Development of enterprise initiatives	Greener Living Scheme
Development of sports facilities	Greener Homes Scheme	Development of a renewable energy hub	Remote working initiative

Consultation approach – Moanvane Wind Farm

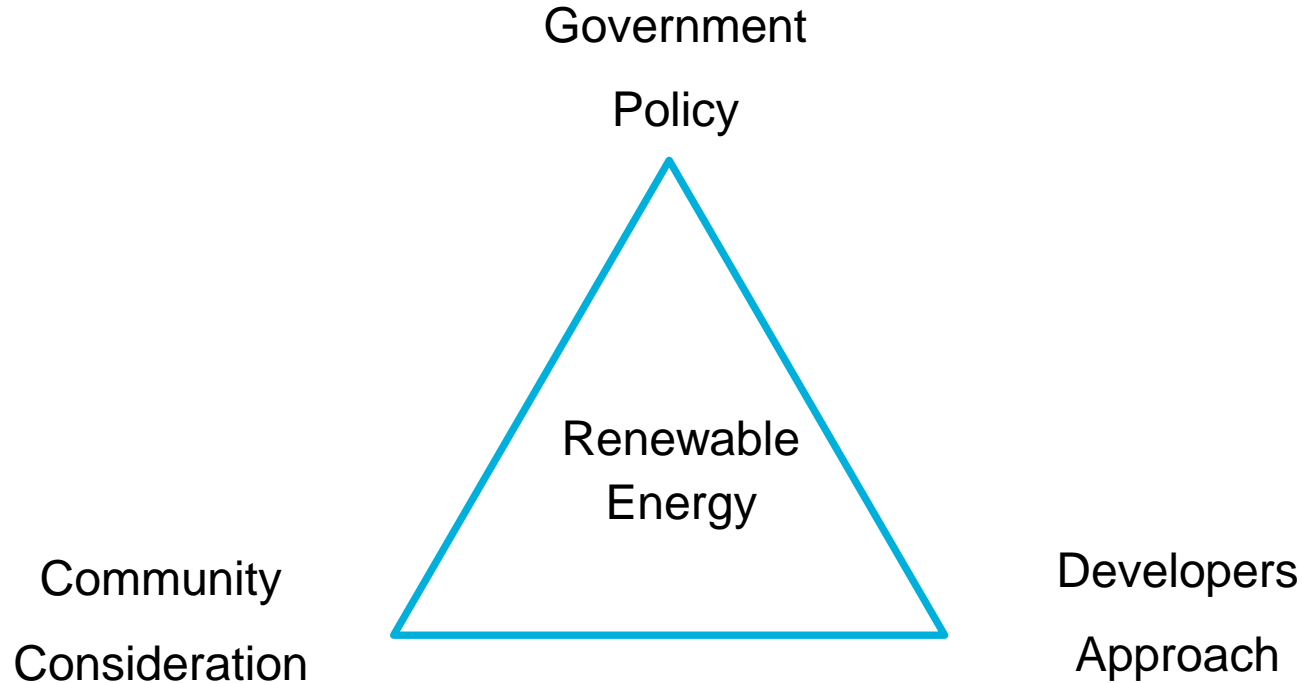
- ▶ • A dedicated CLO was appointed December 2016
- ▶ • **Early stage engagement** - critically during the design phase
- ▶ • A Project Website was developed - www.moanvanewindfarm.ie
- ▶ • **1 to 1 calls** to all homes commenced - a minimum of 4 calls to each house
- ▶ • Round 1 - An initial introduction
- ▶ • Round 2 - Further detailed information and feedback gathered
- ▶ • **Design review** incorporated feedback – 3 turbines dropped from design, set back increased, site access relocated, substation relocated
- ▶ • Round 3 – Information on revised layout and further feedback gathered
- ▶ • **Design review** – Based on feedback - Elimination of Shadow Flicker, Development of Community Benefit Package including Community Investment, Household Dividend, Greener Homes Scheme, Community Benefit scheme, The inclusion of the Amenity Walkway
- ▶ • Public Consultation event was held
- ▶ • Round 4 – Information on final layout
- ▶ • 54 houses within 1km of 12 turbines.
- ▶ • **c. 565 meetings with 113 individual households in the area.**
- ▶ • Round 5 – Brochure drop to houses in the Local villages – 550 brochures were distributed. Approximately 400 of these were personally delivered. In total, c. 1,000 brochures distributed.

The Statkraft Community Engagement Vision

- ▶ Develop viable renewable energy projects, that are suitable and appropriate, which will provide a financial return
- ▶ Develop a positive long term relationship with the local community, through inclusion
- ▶ Deliver real and tangible benefits to local communities - led by local communities
- ▶ Encourage involvement in the development and instill a real sense 'ownership', promoting the concept of the 'Energy Citizen'
- ▶ Working together - Deliver effective climate action



70 by 30 - Responsibilities





THANK YOU



www.statkraft.com