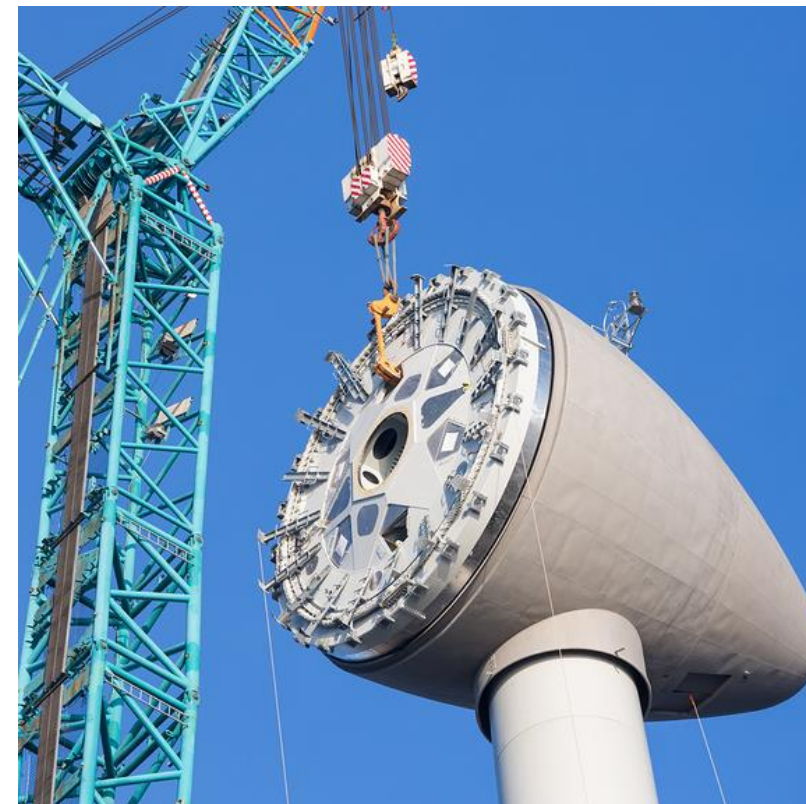


Consenting Irish wind energy projects in 2020 and beyond



Brian Keville
Environmental Director
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Consenting Irish Wind Energy Projects in 2020 and Beyond



Encouraging statements in recent An Bord Pleanála decisions

“ the proposed development would make a significant contribution towards the achievement of this (40% RES-E) Government target. “

“ The proposed development would ... make a positive contribution to the implementation of Ireland’s national strategic policy on renewable energy and its move to a low carbon energy future.”

“... the need for the proposed development has been demonstrated in national policy... “

Coole, Co. Westmeath
PI25M.300686
13-turbines
March 2019

Ballymanus, Co. Wicklow
PL27.249299
11-turbines
April 2019

Ironmills, Co. Laois
PL11.248518
11-turbines
September 2019

West Offaly Power

- Application by ESB for transition to biomass co-firing
- Refused by ABP, July 2019

“It is considered that the cessation of the use of peat as a fuel is a key component within national climate and energy policy in helping to reduce the generation of excessive greenhouse gas emissions... to assist in meeting the State’s domestic, EU and international climate change obligations in the energy sector.”



Dept. of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

- Application by Minister for turf cutting and peat extraction activities for domestic purposes, to relocate turf cutters from SAC
- Refused by ABP, September 2019

“Whilst cognisant that there were conflicting national policies applicable to the proposal, the Board considered that the proposed development was in contravention of the national climate action policy objective to achieve transition to a low-carbon energy system.”





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Wind Energy Development Guidelines

Wind Energy Development Guidelines (WEGs)

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2019

To Tackle Climate Breakdown

16

We will require, at-scale, electricity/ gas providers to provide detail on energy use and potential energy savings, for instance as part of consumers bills

Regulatory Streamlining of Renewables and Grid Development

17

Ensure that ESB Networks and EirGrid plan network and deliver on connecting renewable energy sources to meet the 2030 70% RES-E target

18

Facilitate additional hybrid connections (e.g. solar/wind/batteries) operating in the electricity market to increase RES-E penetration

19

Ensure that the next phase of renewable connection policy is fit for purpose to deliver on renewable energy targets and community projects, and report annually on the timeliness of grid connection

20

Implement energy actions under the *Government Statement on the Role of Data Centres in Ireland's Enterprise Strategy* to ensure that large demand connections are regionally balanced to minimise grid

21

Ensure that updated planning guidelines for onshore wind are published in 2019

23

Assess the network development required to integrate higher levels of RES-E and develop a high-level network development plan to (and beyond) 2030

24

Facilitate very high penetration of variable renewable electricity by 2030 (both SNSP and average) through system services and market arrangements

WEGs

- Noise, likely including:
 - WHO L_{DEN}
 - AM & Tonal penalties
- x4 tip-height setback requirement

“The ‘preferred draft approach’ for visual amenity comprises”

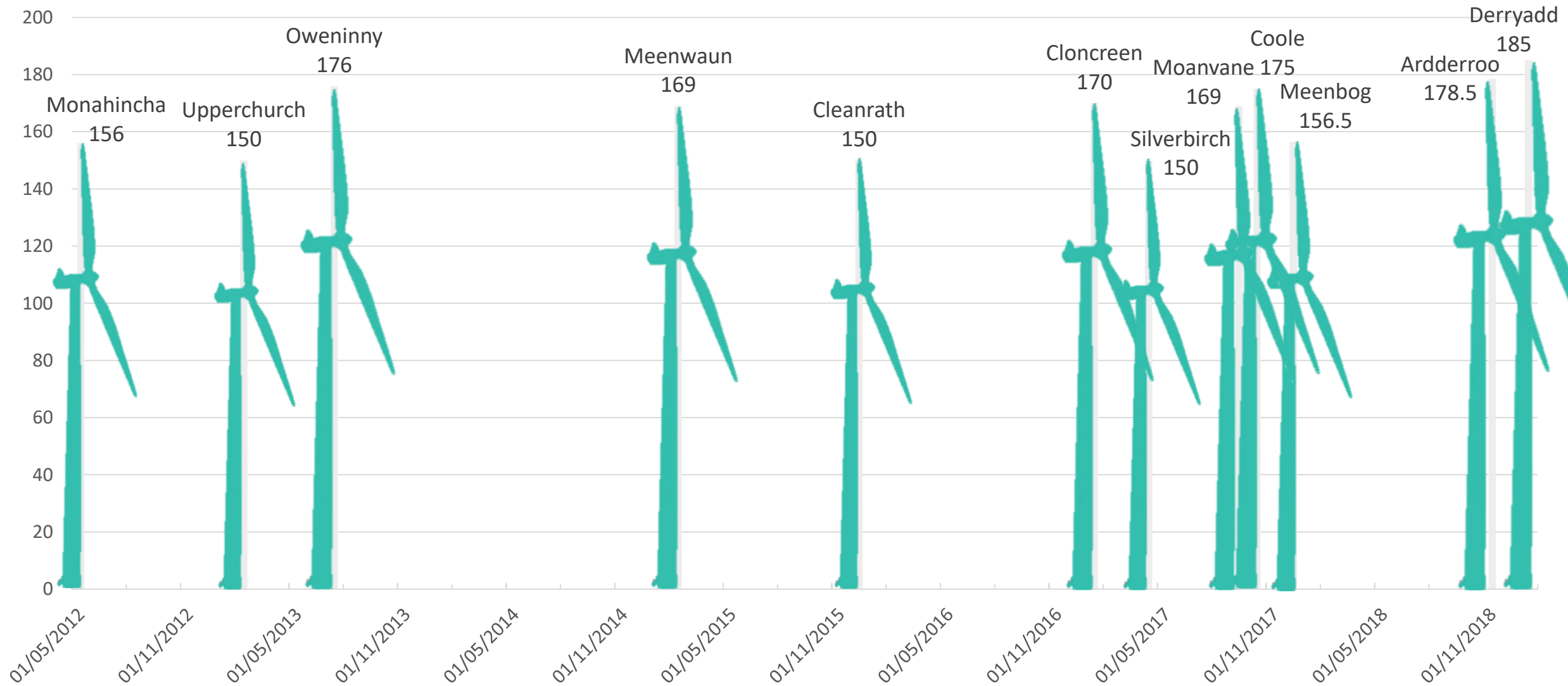
 - 600m for 150m turbine
 - 800m for 200m turbine





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Turbine Heights



Wind Energy Development Guidelines (WEGs)

October 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	2
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	3
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	4
1	27	28	29	30	31		

November 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	5

December 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	7
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	8
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31					



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Decision Timeframes

ABP Ref.	Case Type	Project	No. of Turbines	Date Lodged to ABP	Date Of ABP Decision	Weeks for ABP Decision
PL04.246824	Appeal	Ardglass, Cork (Ardglass Windfarm)	7	28/06/2016	19/01/2017	29
PL20.244346	Appeal	Dysert, Roscommon (Gaeltech)	16	16/01/2015	28/02/2017	110
PL08.245464	Appeal	Kilmorna, Kerry (March Winds)	3	09/09/2015	27/03/2017	81
PL04 .246742	Appeal	Cleanrath, Cork (CWFL)	11	16/06/2016	19/07/2017	48
PL92.247190	Appeal	Ballydine, Tipperary (DunoAir)	8	01/09/2016	14/07/2017	45
PL07.247582	Appeal	Lisbeg, Galway (O'Domhnaill & Bourns)	5	16/11/2016	01/08/2017	39
PL02.247401	Appeal	Taghart, Cavan (Taghart Energy)	7	13/10/2016	03/08/2017	42
PL03.248008	Appeal	Slaghbooly, Clare (Brookfield)	11	16/02/2017	14/09/2018	82
PL19.301619	Appeal	Moanvane, Offaly (MWFL)	12	15/05/2018	21/11/2018	27
PL08.248768	Appeal	Toreengarrive, Kerry (Silverbirch)	14	26/06/2017	27/11/2018	74
PL08.300368	Appeal	Tullahennel, Kerry (Ballylongford)	8	04/12/2017	08/01/2019	57
PL25M.300686	Appeal	Coole, Westmeath (CWFL)	13	16/01/2018	26/03/2019	62
PL04.248153	Appeal	Barnadivane, Cork (BWE)	6	13/03/2017	02/04/2019	107
PL27.249299	Appeal	Ballymauns, Wicklow (ABO)	11	22/09/2017	04/04/2019	80
PL11.248518	Appeal	Ironmills, Laois (Pinewood Wind)	11	16/05/2017	03/09/2019	120
Average ABP Appeal Decision Period + Average Period Pre-Appeal						66 Weeks + 38 Weeks

S.I.D. Wind Farm Decision Timeframes

ID	Wind Farm Name ABP Ref. No	Duration (Weeks)	2011	2012					2013					2014					2015					2016					2017					2018					2019				
			Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4								
1	Shragh (PA0025)	92																																									
2	Oweninny (PA0029)	152																																									
3	Cluddaun (PA0031)	84																																									
4	Yellow River (PA0032)	27																																									
5	Ardderroo – No.1 (PA0036)	66																																									
6	Emlagh (PA0038)	70																																									
7	Carrickaduff (PA0040)	59																																									
8	Maighne (PA0041)	79																																									
9	Grousemount (PA0044)	46																																									
10	Castletownmoor (PA0046)	48																																									
11	Cloncreen (PA0047)	27																																									
12	Meenbog (300460)	28																																									
13	Maighne (Remitted App.) (300746)	14																																									
14	Ardderroo – No. 2 (303086)	34																																									
15	Derryadd (303592)	>38																																									

Average
Decision Period
32+ Weeks

Average
Decision Period
75 Weeks

Average
Decision Period
32+ Weeks

Average
Decision Period
75 Weeks



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Grid Connections





- > Requires EIAR, Planning Permission.
- > Planning application requires landowner consent

- > Roads Authority “letter of consent” a proxy consent?
- > Length of grid connection?
- > Likelihood of objections/challenge?

- > Section 34(13) P&DA ...
“A person shall not be entitled solely by reason of a permission ... to carry out a development”

ABP Decision Periods For Grid Connections

ABP Ref.	Case Type	Project	Date Lodged to ABP	Date Of ABP Decision	Weeks for ABP Decision
PL05E.248796	Appeal	Underground cable (22km) from permitted wind farm to existing substation (Co. Donegal)	29/06/2017	25/07/2018	56
PL92.301959	S.182A	110kV substation and underground cable (27.5km) from permitted wind farm to existing overhead line (Co. Tipperary)	28/06/2018	17/12/2018	25
PL04.301000	Appeal	Underground grid connection from permitted wind farm to existing substation	22/02/2018	04/02/2019	50
PL21.300811	S.261A	Substitute consent for underground grid connection	31/01/2018	05/02/2019	53
PL12.301812 PL21.302422; PL20.302722;	Appeal	Underground grid connections in Co. Leitrim, Roscommon, Sligo	05/06/2018 28/08/2018 09/10/2018	15/03/2019 05/03/2019 25/03/2019	40 27 Avg. 30 24
PL04.248152	Appeal	Redesign of previously permitted electricity substation, Cork	13/03/2017	02/04/2019	107
PL88.301563	Appeal	110kV substation and underground cable between permitted wind farm and existing substation (Co. Cork)	08/05/2018	21/06/2019	58
PL02.301717	Appeal	9km of underground cable (Co. Meath)	24/05/2018	03/07/2019	58
PL10.248392	Appeal	2km of underground cable and site tracks (Co. Kilkenny)	25/04/2017	03/09/2019	123
Average ABP Appeal Decision Period + Average Period Pre-Appeal					56 Weeks +45 Weeks



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Challenges & Opportunities Ahead

- Suitable sites; Lots of activity
- Forestry assessments and new Forest Service requirements
- Repowering, including in SPAs & expectation for “Net Biodiversity Gain” and new, good, Irish science!
- Reaching EIAR design freeze, with all landowners consents for a “shovel ready project”
- Transport access for larger blades
- The number of consents required: On-site PP; Off-site PP; ROLs; Felling; Replanting; CRU



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