



POWERING KERRY



www.windenergyireland.com



POWERING KERRY

Wind energy is Ireland's main source of clean energy. It cuts our carbon emissions, helping lead our fight against climate change.

It means we can use Irish energy instead of importing gas from Britain. That means more jobs at home and more investment in rural Ireland.

Wind farms in Kerry are creating jobs, supporting rural communities and investing in the local economy.

The enormous potential for offshore wind energy in our Atlantic waters means that Kerry can – and must – help to lead Ireland's coming clean energy revolution.

CHEAPER POWER.
CLEANER POWER.
IRISH POWER.

**KERRY is Ireland's
number 1 source
of renewable
energy**

Thank you to the people, organisations and Global Wind Day competition entrants whose photographs we have used.



POWERING KERRY'S COMMUNITIES

WIND FARMS PROVIDED MORE THAN €300,000 IN DIRECT SUPPORT TO KERRY COMMUNITIES IN 2019

ROCKMOUNT CARE CENTRE, KILGARVAN

provides nursing care to those living in the Kilgarvan and the greater Kenmare area. ESB's COVID-19 wind farm community fund helped ensure hot meals are delivered to the elderly and vulnerable in the community and to buy protective equipment.

"We couldn't do meals on wheels before we got the grant, now we are feeding 30 vulnerable people a day," said Mary Hussey. "I can't get it across strongly enough how much this has helped people with dementia, mental ill-health or other vulnerabilities. The service is a lifeline."



CORDAL GAA CLUB NEAR CASTLEISLAND

The community decided that a walkway with seating where the 200 people in the club and the 300 people in the wider community could gather would be a valuable addition to their community.

BALLYLONGFORD ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION

works to create meaningful, sustainable development. SSE Airtricity Leanamore Wind Farm provided funding of €13,270 over 2 years to install a lift at Ballylongford Community Hall.

"The lift helps older people and those with disabilities," said Kitty McElligot, Ballylongford. "The hall is now able to be used to its full potential."



POWERING KERRY JOBS

WORLD LEADER HEADQUARTERED IN TRALEE



ENERCON is one of the world's leading manufacturers of wind turbines. It opened its Irish headquarters in Tralee more than 15 years ago and has nearly doubled its local workforce to more than 70 fulltime employees.

These include engineers, electricians, health and safety experts, human resources specialists and many more. These secure jobs create a ripple effect, buying services from other Kerry businesses and spending money locally.

Enercon's commitment to Kerry is such that it is moving to a purpose built 7,000 sq ft office, training centre and 15,000 sq ft warehouse in Tralee during 2021.



NORANNE STACK Operations Manager with Enercon Windfarm Services Ireland Ltd.

"When Enercon opened their HQ in Tralee in 2010, jobs in Kerry were few and far between. I graduated from UCC in 2008 from a class of 30; most of them moved permanently to the UK or further afield to find work.

If it weren't for Enercon and wind industry jobs in Kerry I would have been one of them. Instead I have been able to buy a home and start my family in my native county. I know my story is similar to that of many of my colleagues in the Enercon team in Tralee."

KERRY JOBS ARE SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE BECAUSE THEY ARE WIND POWERED

ASTELLAS PHARMA established their base in Killorglin in 1990 and now employs in excess of 350. Their innovative use of renewable energy, including an onsite wind turbine to provide power, has won several awards and cut their energy costs.

The company makes immunosuppressants for distribution worldwide and packages other medication for distribution across Europe.

Astellas has a culture of consideration for the community around them and had assured itself wind turbines were safe and acceptable to the community before they proposed building the turbine.

The wind turbine has already paid for itself and has at least 20 further years of useful life.



POWERING KERRY'S ECONOMY

Wind energy is powering Kerry's economy through commercial rates, development fees, landowner payments and buying supplies and services in the county.

KERRY WIND FARMS PAY €5M IN COMMERCIAL RATES EVERY YEAR

The most recent information from the Valuation Office and Kerry County Council's budget shows that Kerry will receive more than **€5 million** in rates every year from wind farms and this is only expected to rise.

Rates from wind farms help keep libraries open, repair roads and support economic development.



"YOU HAVE NO IDEA THE SECURITY THAT INCOME GIVES ME"

Tim is a landowner in Kerry with turbines located on his property.

"I am very happy to have turbines on a piece of mountainous, exposed land that stood for years doing nothing. The land is doing something useful now and you have no idea the security that income gives me. It is so welcome.

I'm involved in the community and the local school and I see first-hand that the wind company has helped them to raise funds for things they otherwise might never have got done."

LOCAL JOBS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

EAMONN COTTER,
Site Operator, Leanamore
Wind Farm, near Tarbert.



"As site supervisor for SSE's wind farms in north Kerry, and being from the area myself, I see the economic benefit first-hand from the employment the wind farms creates and our community funds.

All our service technicians are local. We use local contractors where possible and any specialists we need to bring in use local accommodation, shops, restaurants etc.

I also see the benefit for farming families who get rental payments which provide them a secure long term income.

I am proud to be working in Kerry and playing my part fighting climate change, and reducing the county's dependency on fossil fuels."

WORKING IN WIND ALLOWED ME TO MOVE FROM DUBLIN TO BE NEAR FAMILY IN KERRY

MARK COLEMAN works for SSE Grid Services from his home in Kilcummin.

"I've been working for SSE from home in Kerry since 2016. In that time we've started a family and now have two boys signed up to the local primary school, who'll be togging out for Kilcummin in a few years.



I think you'd be surprised by how many people in Kerry are actually employed in the wind industry. If you pass my house and see me working on the laptop you'd never know what I was working at!

I know two other families in Kilcummin who have people employed in the wind industry. Wind turbines have to be maintained after they are built, there's at least 25 years work in that."

POWERING KERRY'S FUTURE

KERRY IS ON THE CUSP OF AN ENERGY REVOLUTION

Over the next ten years Ireland will connect a new generation of offshore wind farms, providing enormous amounts of clean energy to power homes, farms and businesses.

This will accelerate the ongoing decline in CO₂ emissions from the electricity sector and drastically cut our bill for fossil fuel imports.

The Programme for Government has set a target of 30 GW of offshore wind energy for Ireland's Atlantic waters and Kerry is perfectly situated to lead the way and gain economically from this.



JOHN MCGUCKIN, Offshore Engineering Manager, Energia

"Having spent almost 14 years living and working in Dublin, I am delighted to have the opportunity to relocate with my family to North Kerry."

Renewable projects provide many opportunities for direct employment in rural Ireland and with offshore projects beginning, Kerry's economy is really set to benefit."



BIG OPPORTUNITY FOR COASTAL COMMUNITIES

A recent report by The Carbon Trust on the economic opportunity for Ireland from offshore wind examined two local harbours.

They identified **Fenit / Tralee Port** as having waters deep enough to allow it to become an operations and maintenance base to service offshore wind farms on the Atlantic coast. A similar base has already been identified in Arklow, Co Wicklow, where it is expected to create 80 fulltime jobs over the 25-year lifetime of the project.

Shannon Foynes Port, only minutes from North Kerry, was found to have strategically advantageous deepwater suited to facilitating shipping for the construction of wind farms.

With the right investment and support, the commercial and job creation opportunities for Kerry from offshore wind energy are enormous.

OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY IS IRELAND'S ECONOMIC STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE.