Project update

ABO Wind Ireland Limited (ABO Wind) are developing a wind farm proposal in your local area at Kilranelagh, Co. Wicklow. We want to ensure there is open, transparent and two-way communication with the local community throughout the development process. After a pause in activity due to Covid 19 restrictions in April and May, we have been busy over the last few months carrying out site surveys to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), consulting with the individual specialists and refining the design and layout of the wind farm.

Reduction in turbines

In February 2020 and May 2020, we publicised the preliminary site layout for consultation with the local community.

We have fully reviewed and considered all of the feedback received and have made amendments to the site layout where it was necessary and practicable to do so. The table below identifies the key feedback received along with the resultant amendments to the layout.

Feedback | Layout change
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The proximity of the wind farm development to neighbouring residential properties was noted as a concern having regard to the potential associated impacts of noise and shadow flicker produced by the turbines. | To respond to this concern, we have increased the setback distance from the wind turbines to the closest residential properties. This has been increased to 700m from 600 m. This has resulted in the removal of Turbine #9.

Turbine #2 has been moved 32m west and turbine #4 has been moved 15m to the north to allow for this greater degree of separation.

Concerns were noted regarding potential archaeological impacts, on the Kilranelagh Hillfort. | To respond to this concern, we undertook a detailed review of the siting of Turbine #1 having regard to its impact on the Kilranelagh Hillfort. Through extensive consultation with our expert archaeologists and to ensure that any potential impacts on the hillfort are appropriately mitigated we have removed Turbine #1.

Concerns were noted regarding the potential archaeological impacts of Turbines #5 and #8 on the stone circle at Boleycarrigeen during the summer solstice sunrise. | To respond to this concern, we undertook a detailed review of the siting of Turbines #5 and #8 having regard to their impact on the stone circle at Boleycarrigeen. Through extensive consultation with our expert archaeologists and to ensure the impacts on the stone circle are appropriately mitigated we have removed both Turbines #5 and #8.
Accordingly, having regard to the key feedback received and the subsequent amendments to the original layout, a total of 4 turbines have been removed from the wind farm development proposal. A revised layout has now been produced consisting of a total of 5 turbines of up to 165m maximum height. Figure 1 illustrates the final 5 turbine layout, the revised turbine numbering and the associated infrastructure required to facilitate the wind farm development.

**Grid Connection**

We have also been working on the grid connection aspect of the project. It is proposed that the Kilranelagh wind farm will connect into the existing Stratford 110kV substation. The proposed underground cable route will be approximately 6.5km in length and follow existing public roads, as shown in Figure 2.

**Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Planning Application**

Over the coming weeks we will be compiling and finalising the EIAR based on the 5-turbine layout as well as compiling the planning documentation required to support our planning application.

We plan to submit our planning application to Wicklow County Council in October. The planning application will be advertised in the Wicklow People and on our website. We will also send out a notification to everyone on our mailing list as soon as it has been submitted. All planning documentation including the EIAR will be available to view on the Wicklow County Council planning portal.

**Contact Details**

Please get in contact to discuss the project in more detail –

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This is kept up to date with all relevant project information and news.