



View from the R692 towards the Site to the North

Knockroe Wind Farm

Project Newsletter No.1

December 2020

Introduction

ABO Wind Ireland Limited are at an early stage of developing a wind farm proposal in your local area within the townlands of Knockroe, Kilnagranagh and Tullowcussaun, Co. Tipperary.

We want to ensure there is open, transparent and two-way communication with the closest neighbours of the project from the outset. We are therefore calling to all houses in the immediate vicinity (circa 1.5km) of the wind farm site to introduce ourselves and answer any initial questions or concerns that people may have about the project.

Throughout the development process you will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback to the ABO Wind Ireland Community Liaison Officer. This will help shape the proposals and allow us to explore ways in which the project could bring benefits to the local community.

Who are ABO Wind?

ABO Wind Ireland are based in Cornelscourt Co. Dublin. We develop, construct and operate wind farms in the Republic of Ireland. We currently have a number of wind farms in development across the country, one wind farm in construction in Co. Donegal, and four operational wind farms in counties Tipperary, Wexford and Laois.

We are part of the larger ABO Wind Group based in Germany who develop wind, solar and bioenergy projects in 16 countries across four continents.

Why wind energy?

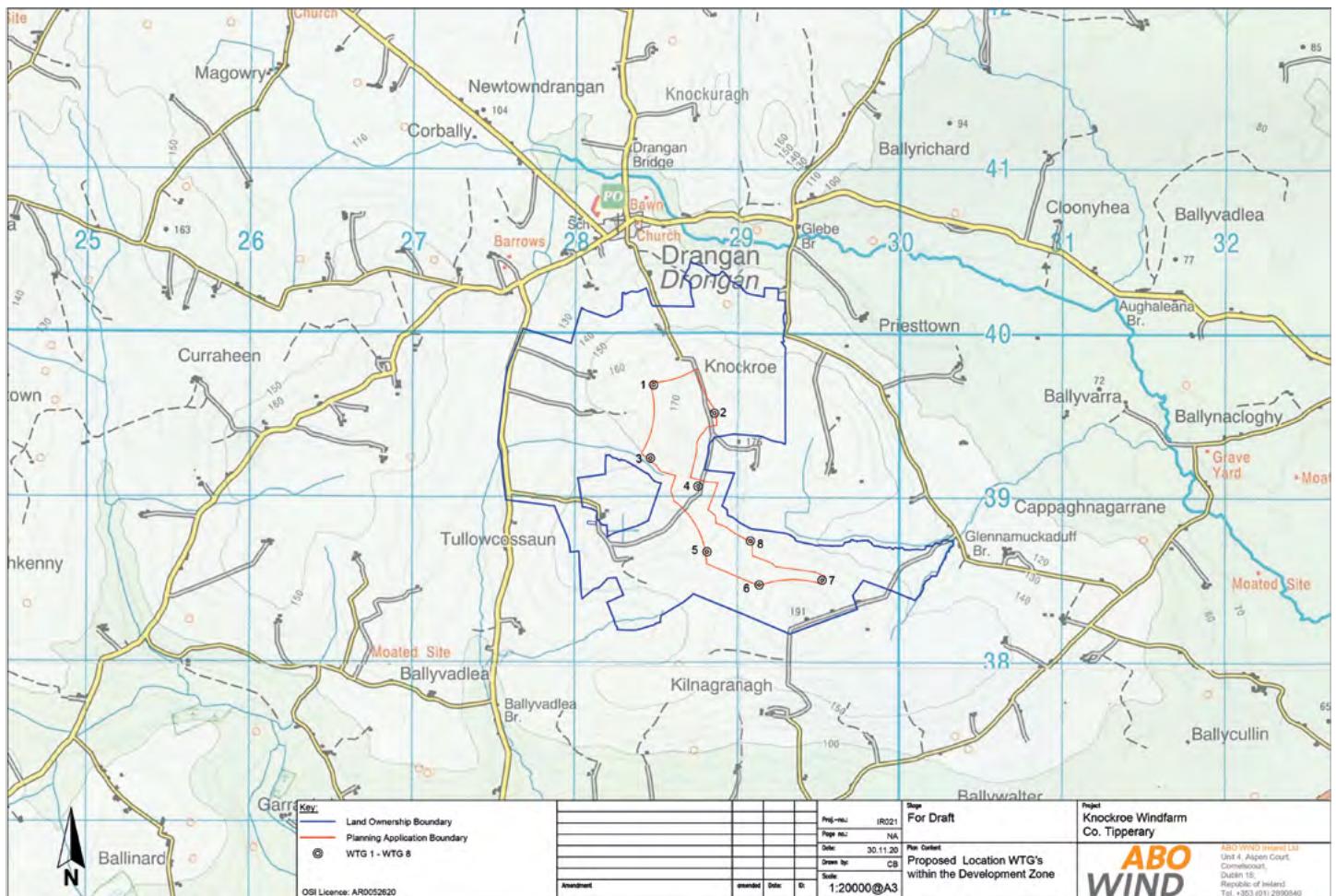
It is widely acknowledged that climate change is a very real threat to our society and that we must take immediate action to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. One of the key ways to do this, as identified by the Government's Climate Action Plan 2019, is to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels such as coal, peat and gas and increase the share of renewables providing us with our electricity from 40% in 2020 to 70% by 2030. In order to reach this target, the Climate Action Plan states that we require approximately 8GW of onshore wind to be installed. There is approximately 4GW of installed onshore wind capacity in Ireland.

Therefore, a significant increase in the amount of onshore wind is required to meet our climate change objectives. As Ireland's largest renewable electricity resource, onshore wind further brings the added benefit of being the cheapest form of electricity for consumers across the island.

Site Selection

The proposed wind farm site falls within the "Areas Open for Consideration" category in the Tipperary Wind Energy Strategy (April 2016) as set out in the South Tipperary County Development Plan 2009 (as varied). This means that wind farm developments in these areas may be considered appropriate subject to detailed environmental assessment and the principles of proper planning and sustainable development.

Over the past months, we have carried out some early stage feasibility and constraints studies in order to establish whether the Knockroe site would be a suitable location for a wind farm. These studies included a landscape and visual assessment, ornithology and ecology surveys, and an archaeology site walkover. Following a detailed review of the findings, no problematic sensitivities were revealed and we believe that the site has the capacity to accommodate approximately 8 wind turbines with a maximum overall height of between 150m-160m.



Site Boundary Map- Knockroe Property Boundary (Blue Line) And Wind Site Boundary (Red Line)

Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Planning Application

Over the coming months we will be carrying out more detailed environmental studies across the site including ecology/ornithology, geology and hydrology, landscape and visual, shadow flicker, noise, archaeology, traffic and transport, air quality, forestry, population and human health, and telecommunications in order to ensure that the proposed development will not have an adverse effect on the local environment or on people living in the area.

These studies will be compiled into an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) which will be submitted along with a planning application to Tipperary County Council. We are targeting submitting the planning application and the EIAR in Quarter 2 2021.

Contact Details

Community Liaison Officer – Gary Magee
Email – knockroewindfarm@abo-wind.com

Direct phone number – 01 289 0845
Website - www.knockroe-windfarm.com

We have set up a project website that we will keep up to date with project information and news. There will also be a forum on the website where you can ask questions about the project and provide us with your views.

Community Benefit Fund and Community Investment

If the project receives planning permission and is constructed, ABO Wind will set up a community benefit fund. This will benefit communities living closest to the wind farm. This fund can be tailored to meet the needs of the local community and we are happy to take on board any ideas or suggestions relating to the fund.