



Ballinla Wind Farm

Project Booklet

Q4 2024



Ballinla Wind Farm



Statkraft

■ Thank you for your engagement

Understanding the local area, its people, environment, and history forms a core part of how we approach the design, development, and operation of renewable energy projects. This project's dedicated Community Liaison Team have endeavoured over the past number of months to visit and speak with households in the locality and would firstly like to thank the community for their patience and feedback thus far.

Our team have developed a deeper understanding of the local area, which we increasingly appreciate as an area of high historical and cultural importance. The many archaeological sites and rich history are something we have had the privilege to experience, and we hope that we can continue to work together to preserve and celebrate them into the future.

During our time speaking with you, the community, we gained a greater understanding of the local community's main areas of interest in relation to the proposed development.

We are currently conducting our second round of consultation and will continue to be available to meet with residents to discuss the project, and indeed any further suggestions you may have.



■ How this project has evolved

Following our recent community engagement, further optimisation of this design was carried out. As with all our projects, local appropriateness is a fundamental consideration and the Grand Canal Way historical and recreational importance was foremost in nearly every engagement.

We have redesigned the project and increased the setback distance from the canal to the nearest turbine from 123 meters to 506 meters, an increase of 437 meters. Our design team have also optimised our turbine layout by reducing the number of turbines from 10 to 7. Despite this reduction, we are still able to achieve an output exceeding 50MW. The type of turbines selected remains unchanged, and the tip height is maintained at 185 meters.

The proposed project includes sections of Coillte property in addition to other third-party lands. If you have any queries related to Coillte, please contact lsinfo@coillte.ie

■ Community Benefit Fund

A dedicated Community Benefit Fund is a great way to invest in sustainable, local initiatives that benefit the entire community. The Ballinla Wind Farm, as proposed, could bring with it funding in the region of an estimated **€250,000 each year, or over €3.7 million** over a 15-year period. A dedicated Community Benefit Fund is a great way to invest in sustainable, local initiatives that benefit the entire community including enhancing the amenity along the Grand Canal Way. Below are some examples of can be achieved and advanced locally.

- ▶ Installation of historical signage and information boards along the canal
- ▶ Further development of walking and cycling paths including shelter and charging points
- ▶ Conservation initiatives to protect and enhance the habitat
- ▶ Energy efficiency schemes for households
- ▶ Funding for local sports clubs
- ▶ Community gardens
- ▶ EV charging points



■ Local people know the local area best

In all communities, it is the local people who know the area best. It is you, the people who live here that know the strengths, weaknesses, desires and aspirations of the area. As an area with a community that has proven its ability to identify opportunities and to develop successful initiatives, we believe that the Community Benefit Fund associated with this project could deliver very significant benefits for the local area.

Should the project secure planning approval, Statkraft will help establish a steering committee in accordance with RESS guidelines, enabling the community to decide how to allocate funds for projects that offer lasting economic, social, and cultural benefits.

■ Project sustainability

Our ambition is to contribute to a more sustainable future for all. At the same time, the way we develop our projects in local communities must be sustainable and responsible – and we are guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The sustainability of the project is also strengthened by delivering climate action and by ensuring a responsible supply chain. Supply chain management covers health and safety, environment and climate, human rights, labour rights, and business ethics. Sustainability is also supported through essential and meaningful stakeholder engagement. Statkraft is an active business supporter of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. We recognise the importance of biodiversity and a full Biodiversity Management Plan will be provided as part of the planning submission. We aim to explore ways to enhance the area's potential. Possible measures could include wildflower meadows, bird boxes, and insect hotels.

■ Our obligations and responsibilities

As a developer of renewable energy, and as a society in general, we have a responsibility to do what is right, and to do so in the right way. We would hope that our first steps in the development of this proposal will be recognised as open, transparent, and respectful. Addressing climate change and energy security warrant nothing less. Should this proposal come to fruition, it is our responsibility to operate the wind farm in a responsible way. This is something we take very seriously.

During consultation, our objective is not to seek support for the proposal but to provide information to allow you to develop your own considered opinion, based on accurate information, on what this proposal has to offer. As this process develops, we will continue to work with you to ensure that this wind farm delivers effective climate action while also delivering for the local area.

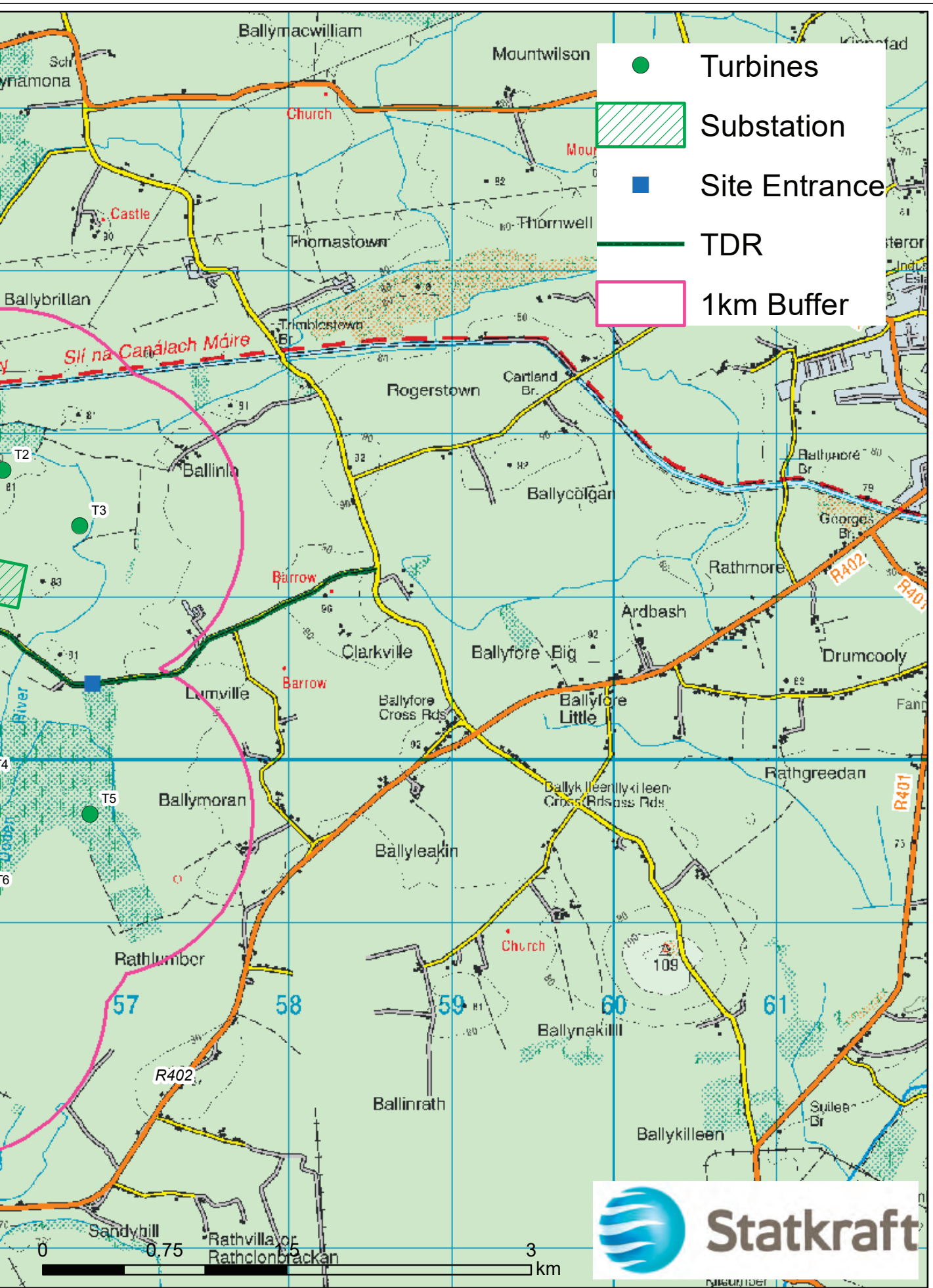
■ This Proposal At a Glance

- 7 turbine project
- Residence distance to nearest turbine - 740m*
- Over 50 MW of renewable energy to the Irish electricity grid
- Commitment to zero shadow flicker policy
- Height of turbine up to a maximum of 185m
- Total Community Benefit Fund of circa €3.7 million, depending on the final design
- Over €825,00 a year in annual rates payments to Offaly County Council. These rates go towards public services including street lighting, libraries, footpath and road upkeep
- Associated works will include access tracks, turbine foundations and hard standing areas, drainage works, temporary site compound, grid systems services, substation, underground electrical and communications cables between turbines, and an underground cable to connect the proposed project to a local substation
- All cables underground

*A residential property is within this area by agreement









For more information, visit the following websites

www.windenergyireland.com Wind Energy Ireland (WEI)	www.epa.ie Environmental Protection Agency
www.seai.ie Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland (SEAI)	www.gsi.ie Geological Survey Ireland
www.un.org/climatechange UN Climate Change Website	www.npws.ie National Parks and Wildlife Service
www.climatecouncil.ie Ireland's Climate Change Advisory Council	www.offaly.ie Offaly County Council
www.localenterprise.ie/green Local Enterprise Office	

■ Talk to our Community Liaison Officer

Our lead Community Liaison Officer, John Lowry. He is also supported by a dedicated team who have years of experience in both renewable energy and community development. The team are available to provide information on this proposal or indeed the wider issues of climate action. We would encourage anyone who has an interest in this proposal or wider environmental, cultural or recreational development to get in touch with us using the contact details below.

■ Dedicated Website

There is a dedicated project website in place where all information and updates relevant to the project will be posted. Please do have a look at the information provided.

If you have any further questions, you can contact our dedicated Community Liaison Officer on the contact details provided below.



www.ballinlawindfarm.ie



"Climate change is a fundamental problem that we must solve and not merely pass on to the generations to come. We can't let our children and grandchildren look back on this critical period in time and say that we failed them." Mary Robinson



Privacy Policy

Here at Statkraft we take your privacy seriously and we treat your information with respect. To facilitate environmental safety management systems and to ensure appropriate assessment and development; consultation and domiciliary data within the study area is collected. For more information about how Statkraft processes personal data, please consult our general privacy policy at <https://www.statkraft.ie/privacy-statement/> - or you can also direct any specific questions you have to privacy@statkraft.com

■ Contact Us

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www.ballinlawindfarm.ie

