

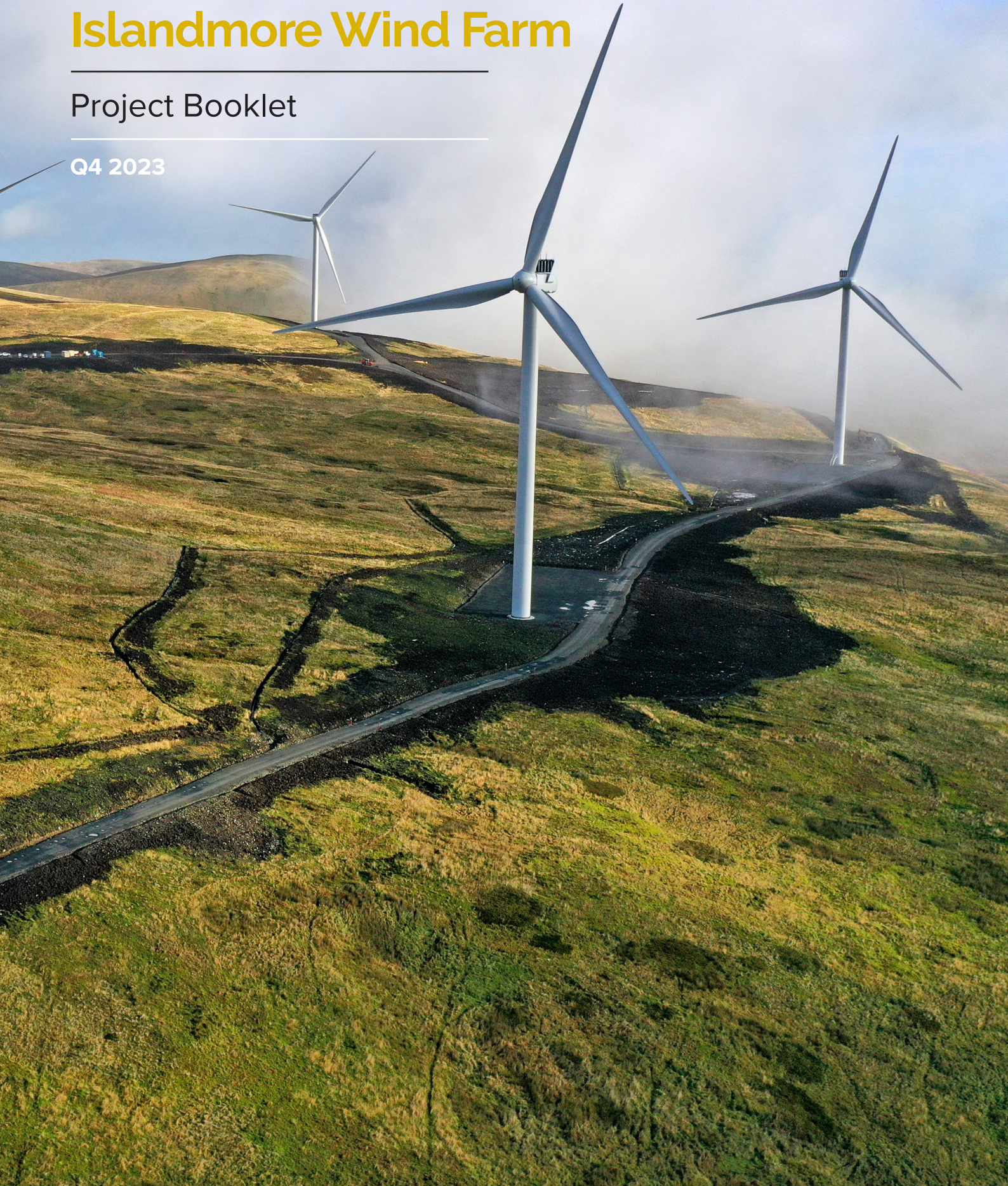


Statkraft

Islandmore Wind Farm

Project Booklet

Q4 2023





Islandmore Wind Farm



Statkraft

■ Introduction

Statkraft is committed to delivering affordable renewable energy on to the Irish grid system and working with communities to explore how these projects might work best in their local areas. As a generation, we have a unique opportunity to make a real difference in securing our own energy independence. Statkraft is working to harness Ireland's natural resources to produce clean energy that can deliver for the present, while safeguarding our future.

The Islandmore Wind Farm project offers many opportunities for you and your community. Should this project come to fruition, your local community can look forward to benefits including job creation, funding to support the community, and reduced energy costs for homes and businesses through the Government-led Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS).

Our community liaison team will be calling to people in the local area, and we would invite you to meet with us over the coming weeks. If you would like to contact us to arrange a visit, please do not hesitate to do so on the contact details located at the back of this booklet.

■ The need for this project

Projects like Islandmore Wind Farm enable communities to utilise their own natural resources and provide clean affordable energy solutions that reduce carbon emissions and our dependence on expensive fossil fuels.

Electricity prices have put huge pressure on households and businesses, especially as the cost of living continues to rise. Recently, some providers have begun to reduce the price of electricity thanks to the increase in renewable energy on the Irish grid. However, to keep these prices stable, there must be a continued supply of clean energy. Irish wind farms will protect consumers now and into the future by reducing our dependency on imported fossil fuels.

The impacts of climate change on our world are indisputable. We are all being challenged to consider the role we play in climate action. Renewable energy sources not only reduce our reliance on imported, polluting fossil fuels but they also ensure security of supply through climate-driven disruptions.

The nearby Largan Hill Wind Farm is already a symbol of how the community have adapted to the challenges of climate change and are making the most of their natural resources.

■ Different perspectives

The shift to a low-carbon economy will require some changes in Ireland's landscape and we understand that renewable energy projects may generate mixed views within communities. Some people may find wind turbines aesthetically pleasing and symbolic of a better future, while others may dislike their appearance. Our goal is to provide accurate information on our plans and to seek feedback on the following aspects: how to design this project in a way that maximises its sustainability and suitability for the local area, and how the associated Community Benefit Fund (CBF) could make a meaningful contribution to the lives of local people.



■ This proposal

We believe this this proposal has the capacity to deliver climate action while bringing very real benefits to the local area and its people.

This proposal is to develop a 13-turbine wind farm in the vicinity of Islandmore and Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon. Communities in this area have a long history of renewable energy. In 1906, they were among the first places in Ireland to have electric lights, powered by a hydroelectric and battery plant on the Lung River. Today, this area has been identified as a suitable location to generate clean and green electricity. The project would use modern turbines that are efficient, quiet and reliable.

This wind energy proposal is a strategic infrastructure project (SID) as it has an output that is in excess of 50MW and qualifies for to be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval.

A Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) is a development which is of strategic economic or social importance to a local area.

It is important to Statkraft that our projects fit well in their surroundings and are considered in terms of the climate change challenges we are currently facing. It is also vital that they are appropriate for the area and suitably located. In addition, these projects bring real benefits to local people and support the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of local areas. Local appropriateness is a fundamental consideration, so continued community feedback on the design proposal is very welcome.



A full project overview can be found at:

www.islandmorewindfarm.ie

Or by scanning the QR code.

■ This Proposal At A Glance

- 13 turbine project.
- Over 58 MW of renewable energy to the Irish electricity grid.
- Zero shadow flicker policy.
- Height of turbine up to a maximum of 185 M.
- Total Community Benefit Fund of circa €4 million, depending on the final design.
- Over €800,000 a year in annual rates payments to Roscommon County Council. These rates go towards public services including street lighting, libraries, footpath and road upkeep.
- Associated works will include access tracks, met mast, 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.



■ Typical configuration





■ How this project has evolved over time

At the initial stages of consideration, designers drafted a project outline that would maximise the wind energy potential of the site. Placing local appropriateness as a fundamental consideration, further optimisation of this design was carried out. Following feedback received during initial community engagement, distance to houses, number of turbines, shadow flicker and noise were also considered. It was found that it was possible to increase the distances to houses, reduce turbine numbers further and improve general performance levels of the proposed wind farm by increasing the tip height by 35m.

The design changes are set out in the table below:

Islandmore Project Evolution	Concept Design	Current Design Proposal
Distance to Houses	500m	Between 600 and 740m, depending on turbine height
Number of Turbines	15	13
Shadow Flicker	In line with guidelines	Eliminated
Turbine Height	150m	Varying between 150m and 185m
Potential Capacity	c. 52MW	c. 58MW

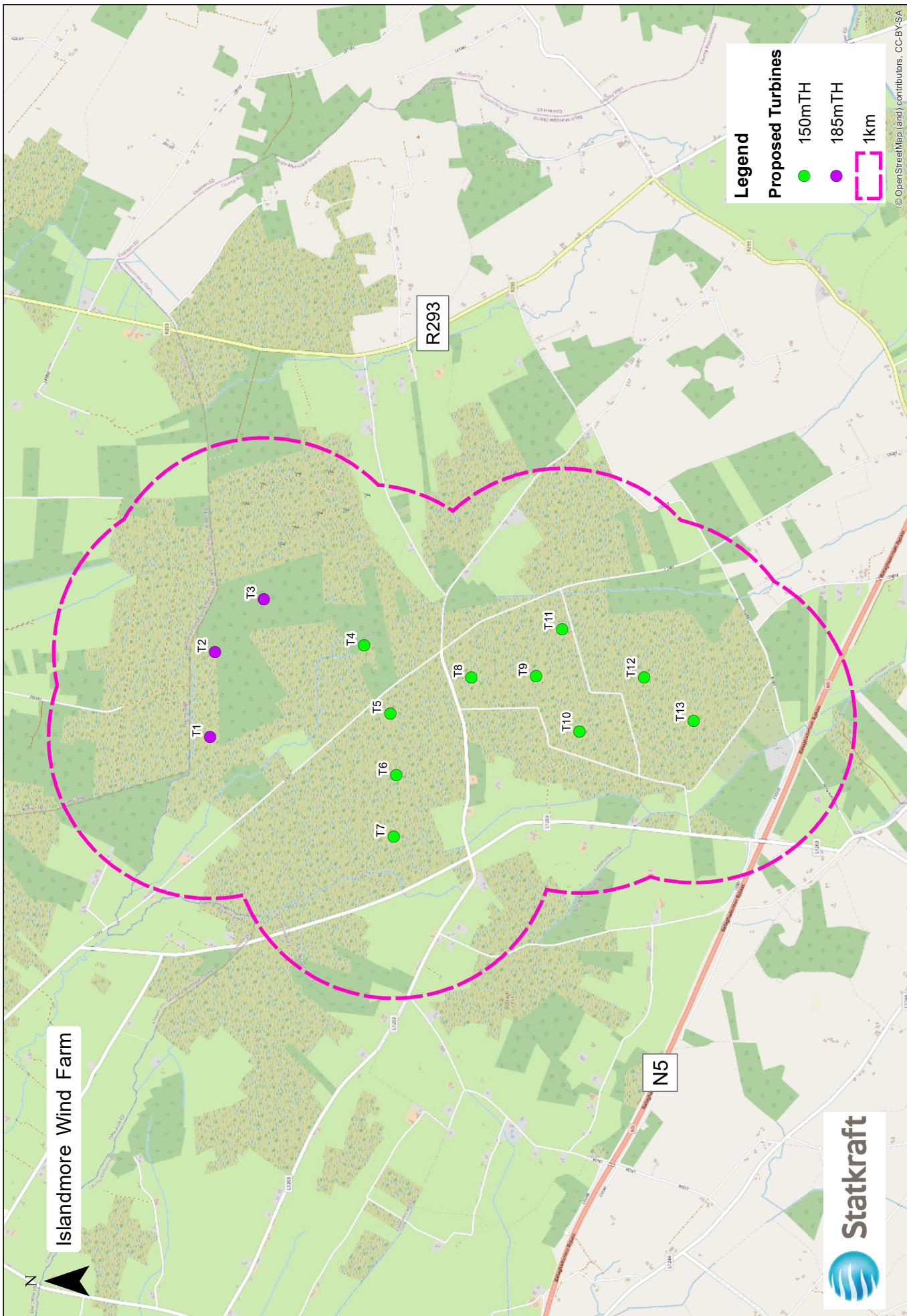
■ Design stages

This proposal is still at design stage and as such details of the proposal may change. Our community engagement team will be working in the area to ensure that information is available and that you have an opportunity to discuss the various aspects of this proposal.

Overview of the Design Stages		
Design Stage	% Design	Description
Initial Scoping	0 - 40%	Based on high level information
Preliminary Layout	40% - 80%	Fluid and frequently open to change
Design Layout	80% - 100%	Sufficiently fixed to allow meaningful discussion
Planning Layout	100%	Fixed for presentation to the appropriate planning authority



■ Site Map





■ Community Benefit Fund

A dedicated CBF is a great way to invest in sustainable, local initiatives that benefit the entire community. The funds are directly linked to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (below) and focus on areas such as sustainable communities, climate action, decent work and economic growth, and quality education.

The Islandmore Wind Farm, as proposed, could bring with it funding in the region of an estimated **€275,000 each year, or over €4 million** over a 15-year period. Below are some examples of what has been considered in other areas where we have worked and might give a good indication of what can be achieved and advanced locally.

- Direct benefit schemes, such as near neighbour payments
- Energy efficiency schemes for households
- Funding for local heritage initiatives
- Job creation and investment into local economy
- Tourism development
- Funding for recreation projects such as sports clubs and local amenities
- Support for local education schemes
- Biodiversity initiatives

■ Local people know the local area best

In all communities, it's the local people who are the experts of their own area. You, the people, have the best knowledge of the area's strengths, weaknesses, needs and goals. As a community you are best placed to recognise opportunities and create innovative initiatives and we think that the CBF from this project could bring great benefits for the local area.

The fundamental principle of any community benefit package that we roll out is that we seek to work with local people to deliver increased environmental, economic, and social sustainability to local communities.

■ What are the Sustainable Development Goals?

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 interlinked global goals designed to be a “blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all”. The SDGs were set up in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly and are intended to be achieved by 2030.

Renewable energy projects and the UN SDGs can have a positive impact on Irish society now and in the future by enhancing environmental, social and economic well-being. Renewable energy projects can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy security, create green jobs and foster innovation. The UN SDGs can provide a framework for addressing the most pressing challenges facing humanity, such as poverty, inequality, climate change, health, education and peace.



■ Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS)

Guidance on how the Community Benefit Funds associated with RESS projects are to be administered is centred around community decision-making. Therefore, decisions on what will be funded will rest with the local community in the form of a specially formed committee. This means that the community has a direct say in how the project benefits their local area. The local communities in this area have a great history in community involvement and that involvement will be key to the success of the fund. The guidance on how the fund will be divided includes allocations for: nearby houses, not-for-profit community enterprises aligned with the UN SDGs, administration fees, and initiatives proposed by clubs and societies. The CBF is a great opportunity for local communities to play a central role in the transition to a zero-carbon, more sustainable, future.

■ 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 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. Statkraft is an active business supporter of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. For every wind farm we build, there is the potential to build environmentally sustainable measures into the project design. Wind farms can make a positive contribution to the habitat types and diversity of an area through several measures including: planting wildflower meadows; providing sections of species-rich grass; improving hedgerows; tree planting, and providing bird nesting. A Biodiversity Management Plan will be provided as part of the planning submission. We see that biodiversity will be integral to the project and our goal is to help maximise the potential for the area. Wildflower meadows, bird boxes and insect hotels are among the measures included in our management plan.

Please contact us if you have any ideas for further enhancing the biodiversity of the area.

■ Our sustainable energy future

There are many challenges that we face in terms of energy security, climate change and global instability. But we can be optimistic about the future. Ireland is on the right path to decarbonisation and has ambitious targets when it comes to climate action. Renewable energy is a vital part of a cleaner, more sustainable future. Support for appropriate, well-thought-out projects like this one will make a positive contribution to the country, and the world, for generations to come.

■ 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.





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.roscommon.ie Roscommon County Council
www.sligococo.ie Sligo County Council	www.mayo.ie Mayo County Council

Talk to our Community Liaison Team

The Community Liaison Team have many years' experience in both wind energy and working with communities. While they are very knowledgeable about renewable energy projects, they also appreciate the fact that individuals and communities have different thoughts on what works in their individual areas. 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 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.islandmorewindfarm.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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