

Submission to Kilkenny County Development Plan 2021 – 2027

Draft Wind Strategy Areas Map.

A Chara,

We, the undersigned, would like to submit a request that the Draft Wind Strategy Areas Map be amended to include an area at Seskin, Ballyragget in the Acceptable in Principal classification area. Please see area involved outlined in red on Map 1 and Map 2 attached.

This area is suitable for the following reasons.

1. Windspeeds: The SEAI Wind Atlas map shows the area in question having average windspeeds of 7.4m/s at 75m height which would equate to 7.5m/s at 80m.
2. Separation from residences and other sensitive receptors: The area can accommodate turbines up to 150m in total height and still be in compliance with the Draft Wind Energy Guidelines of 4 times the tip height separation distance from residences and other sensitive receptors.
3. Designated areas: The area is not located within an SAC, NHA or SPA designated area. A recent bird study confirms that no protected species occur in the area.
4. Access: The delivery of turbine components would be very straightforward as the area can be accessed from the N77 as shown on Map 1
5. Draft Wind Energy Guidelines 2019: This area can comply with all of the requirements outlined in the guidelines i.e. noise, separation distances, shadow flicker etc.
6. Grid connection. The grid connection would be to the Ballyragget 110kV Substation which is only 3km South East of the proposed site.
7. Land slip: The land use in the area is livestock grazing and there is no peat present on site therefore ground stability conditions will not be a significant issue.
8. Community benefit fund: Funding from a windfarm project in this area would be very beneficial to the community living in the Lisdowney area.

This area is not categorized as a Special or Sensitive area and does not contain any protected views, waymarked trails, tourism sites or heritage sites.

Date: 8th March 2021