



# Fisheries Engagement Update

In line with Irish Government targets to achieve 5 GW capacity in offshore wind by 2030 off Ireland's Eastern and Southern coasts, ESB and Parkwind are examining a potential area off the east coast to assess its suitability for development of an offshore wind farm.

Clogherhead Offshore Wind Farm covers an area of seabed approximately 10km off the County Louth coast.

## Work to Date

ESB has been granted two Foreshore Licences, one for Clogherhead in 2018 and a second for Cooley Point in 2019, off the coast of County Louth. It is proposed that both the licence areas will be merged into a single survey area to be considered for development and it will be called Clogherhead Offshore Wind Farm.

We have completed various desktop-based environmental, marine, and engineering studies of the area; and ecological bird and mammal surveys are ongoing.

## Project Consenting

We have been granted two investigative foreshore licences by the Department of housing Planning and Local Government. These licences allow site investigation work only. Rights to develop future offshore wind farms will be allocated under a competitive process to be established by the Government under the new Maritime Area Planning Legislation.

Unlike the nearby Oriel and North Irish Sea Array (NISA) Projects; Clogherhead is not deemed a 'Relevant Project'. The government have agreed to fast track such Relevant Projects in the first consenting and auction rounds. As such the Clogherhead Offshore Wind Farm Project will have to apply in subsequent rounds and isn't expected to be in a position to apply for consent for some time after both Oriel and NISA. While details of this process have yet to be announced, we anticipate a process opening in the next 12 to 24 months.

## About Us

ESB and Parkwind have partnered to capitalise on the combined experience of our two organisations to deliver offshore wind projects off the Irish Coast. Clogherhead Offshore Wind Farm will be the second project co-developed by this partnership, following on from the nearby Oriel Wind Farm Project which is expected to commence construction in in 2023.

## Anticipated Timeline



## Fishery Engagement

Through the engagements of ESB and Parkwind with you on the Oriel Wind Farm project we recognise the concerns that the fishing industry have in relation to offshore wind development. We value your input and equally want to ensure we minimise or eliminate any possible impacts of our work on your operations. To achieve this, we propose to hold initial information sharing sessions to provide further details relating to our assessment work and details of the proposed surveys we intend to undertake.

Going forward we commit to co-existence and meaningful ongoing engagement and to working with the fishing industry throughout the project's development and construction.

As the project progresses, we will put in place a substantial community fund which will help support local fishing communities. This demonstrates our commitment to mutually beneficial co-existence. We welcome community involvement in the design of the scheme.

## Foreshore Licenses

The granting of a Foreshore Licence enables the project to undertake preliminary survey work and site investigation studies to determine suitability for an offshore wind farm and its grid connection route.

Such site investigation studies relate to the cable corridor, cable landfall areas, and the indicative location of the project turbines respectively. The results of the proposed survey work, in conjunction with other desktop studies, and community consultation will assist in determining the feasibility of developing an offshore wind farm at this location.

The limits of the foreshore licence do not reflect the proposed extent of layout of potential wind turbines on the site but simply the limits of proposed feasibility studies. Should the site be suitable for an offshore wind farm, proposed layouts will be developed within the limits of these study areas. The location of the nearest potential turbine is expected to more than 10km from shore at its nearest point.



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### Offshore Surveying

Over the coming years offshore surveying of the site will be integral to the potential development of the Clogherhead Offshore Wind Farm. These surveys will shape the project design for the feasibility and consenting process and ultimately inform the detailed design and construction phases of the project.

A number of offshore seabed and sub-seabed surveys will be required to analyse the geological and engineering characteristics of the wind farm site and associated cable routes. Surveys will consist of geophysical and geotechnical investigations and include within the scope of works:

- Side Scan Sonar
- Sub Bottom Profiling
- Magnetrometry Surveys
- Video & Photographic surveys
- Intrusive Borehole Sampling
- Cone Penetration Testing

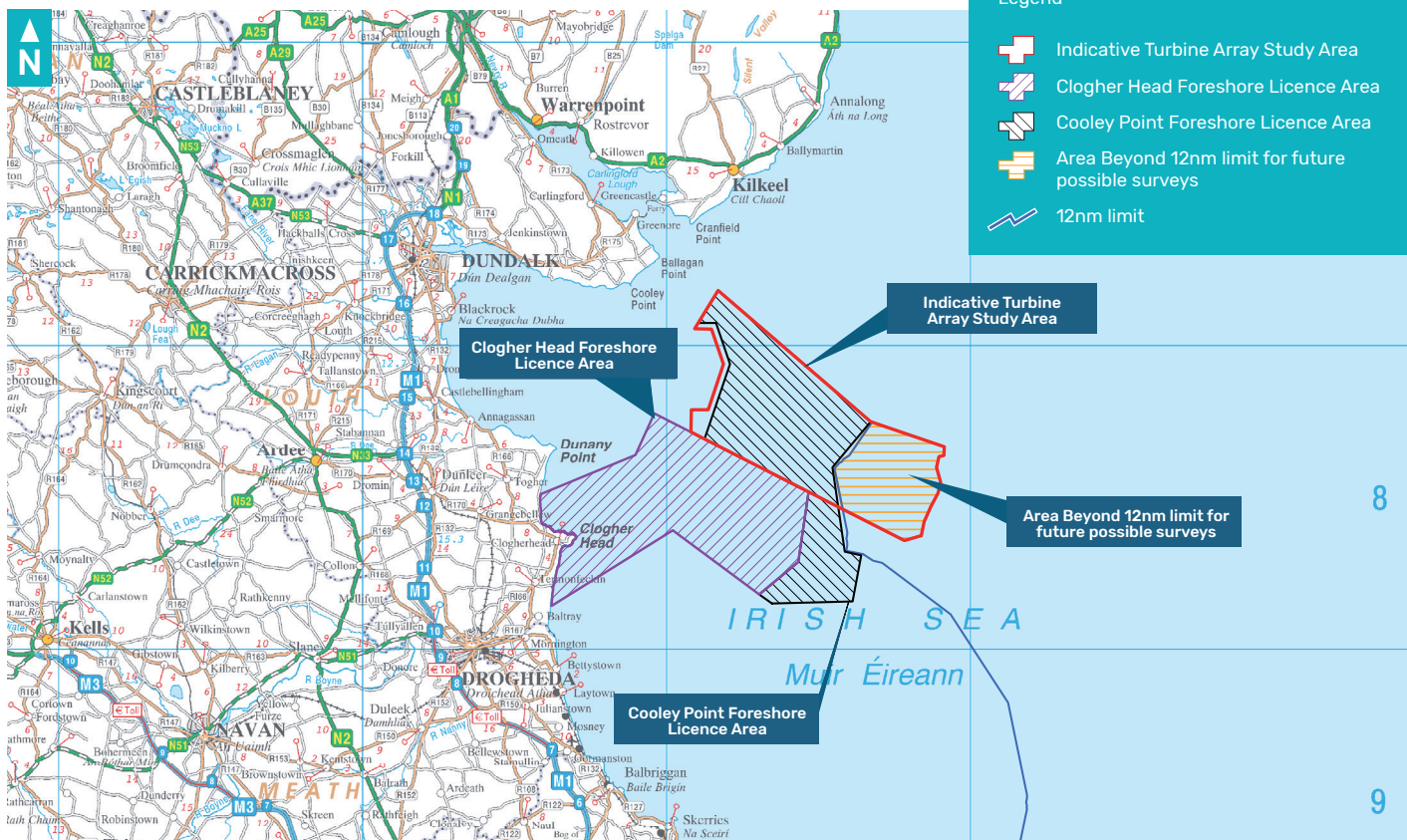
Data collected will be used to build a comprehensive model of the seafloor and sub seafloor environment and will be used to help determine the feasibility for the development of a wind farm. This data will also inform the need for further surveys, and provide preliminary input to foundation design and cable route design including the optimum installation methodologies.

These surveys will be vessel based.

In addition to the geophysical and geotechnical surveys, both wind resource and metocean surveys will be required at the proposed Clogherhead Offshore Farm Wind site in order to provide wind (speed, direction), oceanographic (wave & tidal), and other meteorological data (temperature, humidity, pressure) which will be used to inform the wind farm engineering design, turbine selection, operational and installation parameters and estimate the future annual energy production at the site. These surveys are most likely to be conducted by means of temporary floating LiDar moored within and/or nearby the study area.

An array of environmental surveys will also be undertaken of the study area. These will include benthic surveys, marine mammal surveys (ongoing), ornithology surveys (ongoing) and various other surveys required as the project design and environmental impact assessment necessitates. These will be both vessel based and aerial based surveys.





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## Mapping

The above map shows the extents of the foreshore licenses granted to the project as well as an area beyond the 12NM limit which the project may in the future consider for surveys, subject to appropriate licenses being in place.

It is important to stress that these areas do not reflect the extents of any potential wind farm designs or the density of turbines. These areas reflect the areas within which we will study to understand their potential for locating turbines and cable routes. Following a design process these areas will be significantly refined and reduced.

## Your views

Your views are important to us and we commit to engaging with you at every step of the project. We are currently proactively engaging individuals and representatives of the fishing industry to introduce the project. To facilitate this engagement, we have appointed Mark O'Reilly of Fishery Liaisons Limited as the Fisheries Liaison Officer ("FLO") for the project. Recruitment of Fishing Industry Representatives ("FIR's") is ongoing.

We would be eager to meet with you to hear your views and concerns and to understand ways in which we can best design the project and community supports initiatives. As our design develops, we will hold more structured engagement which will help us refine our designs and ensure co-existence measures are integral to our project.

## Contact Us

We understand that people may have questions in relation to the proposed survey work or the project in general at this early stage of the process.

If there are any queries you believe we can help you with, please feel free to contact our Project Director or our Fisheries Liaison Officer at the email addresses provided and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

### Fishery Liaison Officer

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### Project Director

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