

Connecting to the electricity network

A number of potential routes to bring the electricity cables ashore have been identified. These routes take into consideration marine traffic, environmental factors, maritime third-party activities, fishing, seabed characteristics and the distance to existing onshore local substations and infrastructure.

Once ashore the subsea cables will be connected to the onshore underground cables within a transition joint bay, which is essentially a buried concrete chamber adjacent to the landfall. The cables will then proceed underground to an onshore substation or other suitable connection point.

Landfall sites

We are currently investigating a number of landfall options.

Ecology

Onshore and offshore Ecology surveys commenced for the project in Spring 2021. Bird & Marine Mammal aerial surveys commenced in April 2021. The survey planes take photographs of bird and marine mammal activity in, on and above the sea to enable a detailed assessment of any possible impacts the project may have on certain wildlife.

Similarly, Coastal Ecology surveys for habitat, bird and other wildlife activity commenced in March 2021 and will inform an environmental assessment for the planning application. These surveys are carried out by independent, third-party, qualified ecologists.

Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

Royal HaskoningDHV together with Mott MacDonald were appointed as lead environmental consultants for the project in February 2022. They will deliver a full EIAR. This is a report of the effects which the proposed project, if carried out, could have on the surrounding onshore and offshore environment.

Outreach

Offshore wind farms will require a workforce with skills and expertise for construction as well as for long term operation and maintenance. We are currently investing in science and technology outreach courses to be brought to national and primary schools to foster an interest in offshore engineering.



Education & Jobs

This project will allow us to establish training schemes that will contribute to the upskilling of existing offshore/technical/maritime experience to re-direct these specialist skills and introduce newly skilled workers to the offshore wind industry.

Community Benefit Fund

As the wind farm begins construction, an Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park Community Benefit Fund will be developed to allow local communities to gain access to funds for important community improvement projects. Details of the Community Benefit Fund will be made available as and when it is developed.

We understand that a proposal such as the Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park can generate concerns and raise many questions for all members of the community. If you have any questions, suggestions or comments, please contact us.



Your Community and Stakeholder Liaison Manager

Yvonne Cronin is DP Energy's Community and Stakeholder Liaison Manager. Yvonne is available to answer any questions you might have on the Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park project or DP Energy. Please call Yvonne on the number below if you have any questions.

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Alternatively you can email or send a letter to DP Energy Ireland, 2nd Floor, 1 Horgans Quay, Waterfront Square, Cork City, T23 PPT8

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Contact Us

For more information scan the QR code to visit our website at the address below



Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park



For more information about the Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park project and to sign up for email alerts please visit www.inisealgamarineenergypark.com/contact

Introduction

DP Energy and Iberdrola entered a joint venture in early 2021 to develop a 3GW pipeline of Irish offshore wind projects. Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park is the name chosen for DP Energy and Iberdrola's offshore wind farm off the coast of counties Waterford and Cork. The Developer is Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) created by DP Energy and Iberdrola.

DP Energy is an Irish-based renewable energy developer, headquartered in Buttevant, Co. Cork, which is developing wind and solar projects across Australia, North America and the UK as well as here in Ireland. It has played a leading role in the Irish Wind Industry since its earliest days. DP Energy's first wind projects in Ireland were Bessy Bell, Co. Tyrone commissioned in 1995, and Corrie Mountain, Co. Leitrim in 1998.

Iberdrola is one of the world's biggest energy companies and a leader in renewables, spearheading the energy transition to a low carbon economy. The group supplies energy to almost 100 million people in dozens of countries. With a workforce of nearly 40,000 and assets in excess of €141.7 billion, the company posted revenues of €39 billion and a net profit of over €3.9 billion in 2021. Globally, Iberdrola helps to support 400,000 jobs across its supply chain, with annual procurement of €12.2 billion. It also has substantial experience in the construction and operation of offshore wind projects.

More information about DP Energy can be found on their website www.dpenergy.com

More information about Iberdrola can be found on their website www.iberdrola.com/home

The Project

The Irish Government has committed that 80% of all electricity will be generated from renewable sources by 2030; that carbon emissions will be reduced by 51% by 2030, and that the country will achieve NetZero emissions by 2050. The development of offshore wind is a key enabler for Ireland to meet this target and to ensure Ireland maintains its global leading role in renewable energy generation.

The Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park project is expected to have a capacity of approx. 1,000 MW (1 GW) and will make a substantial contribution to helping Ireland meet these commitments. However, until the surveys and studies are complete, this figure is indicative only.

A Foreshore Licence Application was submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in October 2019 (App Ref No: FS006859) to seek permission to investigate the sea bed for its suitability to host an offshore wind farm and to aid both detailed design and environmental assessment.

An additional Foreshore Licence Application was submitted in July 2021 (App Ref No: FS007404) for an alternative cable route investigation area between Youghal and Ballymacoda.



Indicative Project Timeline

The timeline below shows the major milestones for the Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park project.



Technology

Due to the water depths in the area (>60m), the project will utilise Floating Offshore Wind (FLOW) technology, which involves turbines mounted on a floating platform that is secured to the seabed by mooring cables and anchors.

There are several floating foundation types including Barge, Semi-Submersible, Tension Leg and Spar. The foundation type will be decided on during the wind farm design phase.

One of the main advantages of Floating Offshore Wind (FLOW) technology is that it can be deployed in much greater water depths.

The number of turbines that will make up the wind farm will depend on the size of the turbines chosen. However, based on current technology at 15MW, a 1 GW wind farm would comprise of approx. 70 turbines.

Offshore Wind

The electricity generated by each wind turbine will be collected by subsea cables and connected to an offshore substation. At this substation, the electricity from the offshore wind farm will be exported to an onshore substation and then into the Electricity Network where it will power Irish homes and businesses.

