

CELTIC SEA ARRAY **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2022



ABOUT SSE RENEWABLES

We are SSE Renewables, a leading developer, owner and operator of renewable energy across the UK and Ireland, an existing portfolio of around 4GW of onshore wind, offshore wind and hydro. Part of the FTSE-listed SSE plc, we employ around 1,000 people in Ireland and over 10,000 in the UK, who support our strategy to drive the transition to a net zero future through the world class development, construction and operation of renewable energy assets.


SSE Renewables is constructing more offshore wind energy than any other company in the world right now. We are currently constructing the world's largest offshore wind farm, the 3.6GW Dogger Bank Wind Farm in the North Sea, a joint venture with Equinor and Eni. In Scotland we are constructing the country's largest offshore wind farm, the 1.1GW Seagreen Offshore Wind Farm in the Firth of Forth, which is a joint venture with TotalEnergies. We also have the largest offshore wind development pipeline across the UK and Ireland at around 7GW, of which around 1.5GW is already in construction and nearly 800MW is fully consented.


Our Irish offshore portfolio currently has three projects in development, targeting over 3GW combined, Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2 off the coast of Wicklow, Celtic Sea Array off the coast of Waterford and Braymore Wind Park off the coast of Louth.


SSE Renewables owns nearly 2GW of operational onshore wind capacity with a pipeline of over 1GW under development. Our 1,459MW hydro portfolio includes 300MW of pumped storage and 750MW of flexible hydro. Our operational portfolio consists of 487MW across two offshore joint venture sites, Beatrice and Greater Gabbard, both of which we operate on behalf of our asset partners.


Through our sister company SSE Airtricity, we power over 720,000 Irish homes and businesses every year with clean, renewable energy.

BENEFITS OF CELTIC SEA ARRAY

 1.2GW of green, renewable energy, enough to power over 1.25 million homes per year.*


 Over 1.2 billion kg of carbon offset annually.*

 Positive contribution to Ireland's Climate Action target of 7GW of offshore wind by 2030.

 Significant employment opportunities during construction and operational phases.

 Support local supply chain.

 Capital investment of up to €2.5bn.

 Contribute millions of Euro annual through a multi-million community fund and payment of commercial rates.

*1,251,429 homes powered based on projected installed capacity, typical projected wind load factor of 50%, and typical annual consumption: 4,200kWh. Quoted 1,240,416,000 kilos of carbon emissions abated based on projected annual MWh output and latest average CO2 Emissions (0.236g/kWh) in the All-Island Single Electricity Market, and published by the CRU in its Fuel Mix Disclosure and CO2 Emissions for 2020, October 2021.

ABOUT CELTIC SEA ARRAY

Celtic Sea Array is a c1.2GW project situated off the coast of Waterford approximately 25km from shore.

It has been in development since 2018 and we are currently awaiting determination on a Foreshore Licence application lodged with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in 2019.

The site is situated in charted water depths of 65m – 75m.

The indicative site location has been chosen following a phased site selection process that considered regional resources, physical and environmental constraints and assessed the renewable generation capacity of the area. In addition, a preliminary shipping and navigation review was undertaken to ensure navigational risks were better understood.

These assessments and consideration have informed the position, size and shape of the proposed area to be surveyed.

Once this information has been gathered, we will use it, alongside information gathered during consultation with stakeholders to further refine the site area.

All surveys conducted on the site will be used to consider the baseline environment and inform project design and alternatives along with measures for monitoring, mitigation and/or compensation. This will be documented in an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and other relevant documents to support our application for consent.

Once operational, Celtic Sea Array will be capable of supplying clean, renewable energy to over 1.2 million customers and offsetting over 1.2 billion kgs of harmful carbon annually.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

A Public Consultation phase will run over a four-week period in October and November 2022 during which we will share information about Celtic Sea Array and seek feedback from the public.

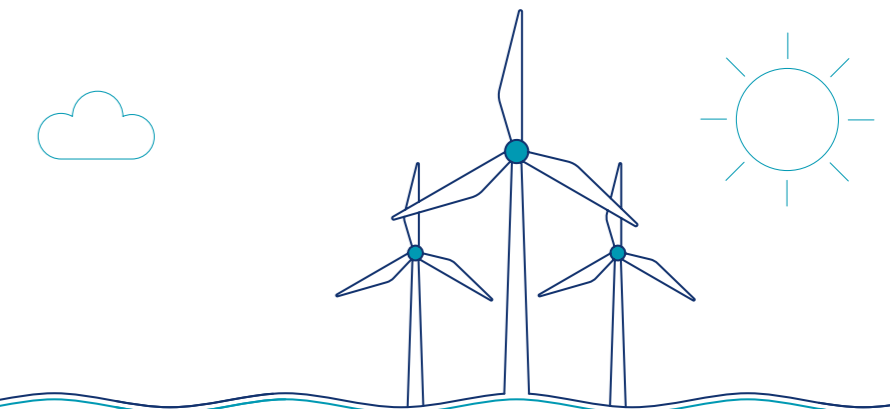
This information booklet is designed to share plans which are currently in the early stages of development.

Many decisions have yet to be made including the locations of landfall, substation and cable route, all of which will be selected through a rigorous site selection process.

The purpose of public consultation is to gather as much public opinion and feedback on the project as possible which in turn informs our plans and helps us to consider the impacts on the environment and on those living and working in the vicinity of the wind farm.

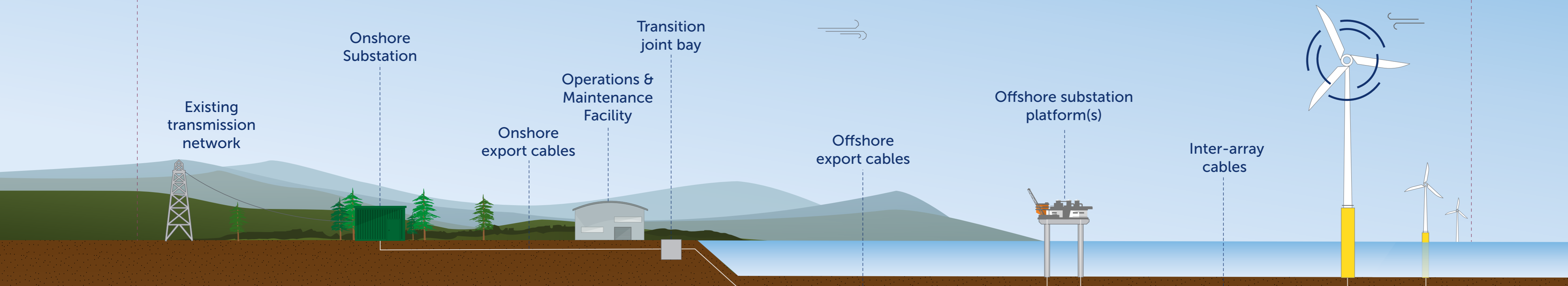
All the feedback gathered will be recorded and appended to our consent applications. In order to share this information as widely as possible we are taking an approach which we hope will facilitate stakeholders regardless of how they prefer to receive information.

We are committed to keeping stakeholders informed at all stages of development and will deliver two public events, an online webinar, far-reaching print and digital advertising and social media campaigns and targeted stakeholder briefings.



ONSHORE INFRASTRUCTURE

OFFSHORE INFRASTRUCTURE



Celtic Sea Array is comprised of three major components:

1. ONSHORE GRID INFRASTRUCTURE

- Underground electricity cables to connect the landfall point to the onshore substation
- A new 220 kV onshore substation and connection to the transmission system to distribute the energy to customers

2. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY (OMF)

- Purpose built-maintenance base which will be used to operate, service and maintain the wind farm infrastructure
- Office, parking and warehouse facilities for staff
- Marine infrastructure, including berthing facilities for crew transfer vessels (CTVs)

3. OFFSHORE INFRASTRUCTURE

- Approximately 50-70 turbines, each comprising a fixed bottom foundation, nacelle and rotor assembly
- Offshore Substation Platforms (OSP) and foundation substructures
- A network of inter-array cabling
- Two offshore export cables

Illustration is indicative only and is not to scale.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS / CONSENTING PROCESS

We are currently working to develop our approach to the consenting of the project.

We will apply to the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA), once established, for a Maritime Area Consent (MAC) and from there we will consider our onshore and offshore consent applications.

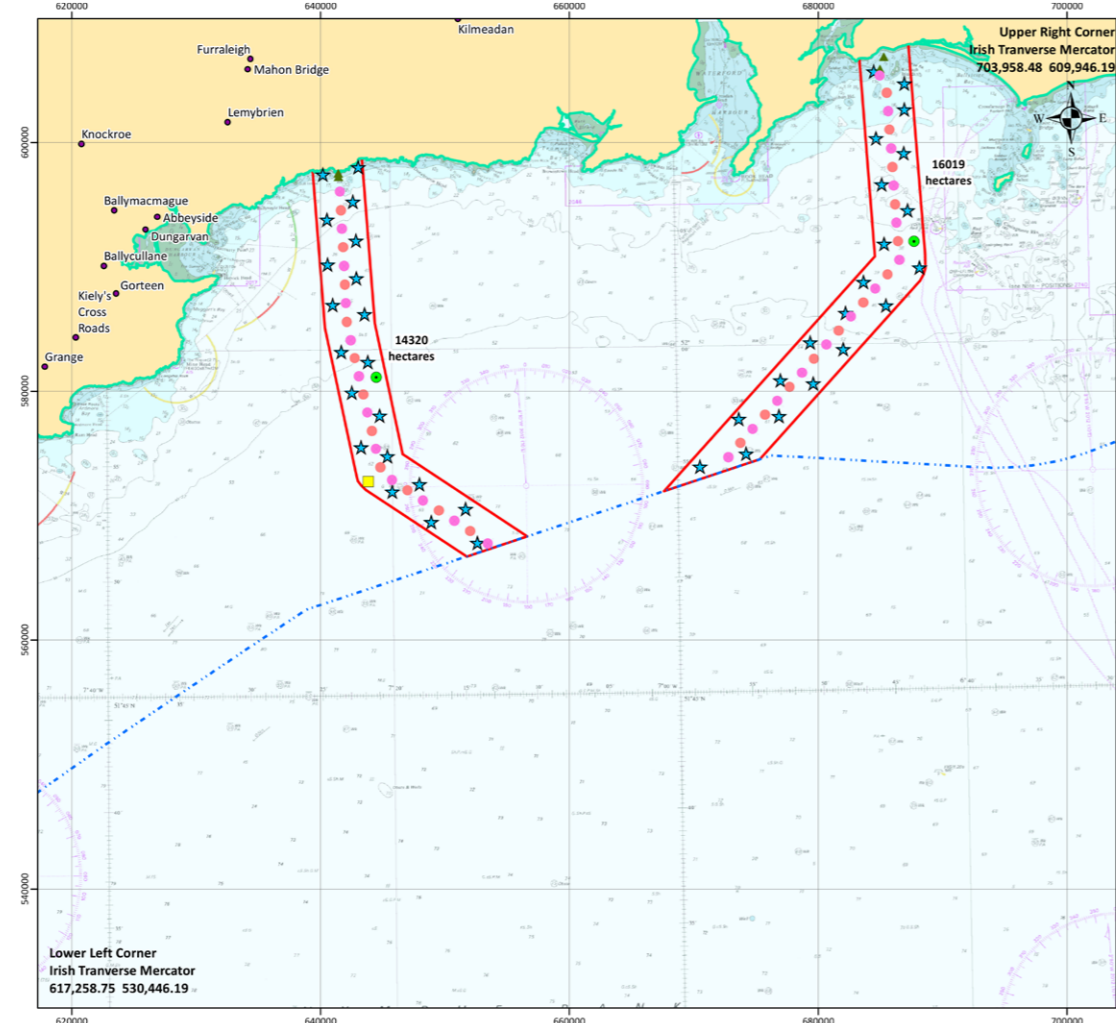
To secure the necessary permissions to construct Celtic Sea Array we need:

- Maritime Area Consent: this is an authorisation from the State to construct a wind farm on the seabed
- Permission from An Bord Pleanála (ABP) for the Offshore and Onshore Infrastructure.

As part of the consenting process, we are required to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). We will prepare all other relevant reports to support our application including the Appropriate Assessment documentation.

In advance of this, we will publish scoping documents which will:

- Share a description of the project with stakeholders
- Clarify what issues and themes the EIAR should consider when assessing the project
- Identify possible direct and indirect impacts that the EIAR will examine
- Identify available information and data to determine if any further environmental investigations are required
- Detail mitigation and monitoring measures for consideration



Offshore environmental considerations include:

- Coastal Processes
- Airborne Noise
- Air Quality & Climate
- Benthic, Intertidal and Subtidal Ecology
- Fish, Shellfish and Sea Turtle Ecology
- Marine Mammals
- Offshore Ornithology
- Commercial Fisheries
- Shipping and Navigation
- Civil and Military Aviation
- Seascape Landscape and Visual Impact
- Marine Archaeology
- Infrastructure and Other Users
- Underwater Noise and Vibration
- Major Accidents and Natural Disasters

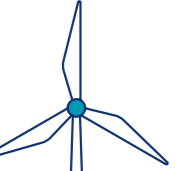
Onshore environmental considerations include:

- Air Quality
- Climate
- Land and Soils
- Water
- Noise and Vibration
- Biodiversity
- Traffic and Transportation
- Landscape and Visual
- Archaeology, Architectural and Cultural Heritage
- Resource and Waste Management
- Material Assets
- Population and Human Health
- Major Accidents and Natural Disasters





DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE



Foreshore Licence application submitted 2019

Maritime Area Consent (MAC) application Q2 2023

Offshore Ground Investigation works

Submit planning application to ABP 2025

Offshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (ORESS)

Commence construction 2027

First energy 2030

**Timeline is for indicative purposes only. This sequence of events is subject to change*

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

SSE Renewables has a proud history of supporting communities in which we develop and Celtic Sea Array will be no different. To date we have paid out over €350,000 to communities near our Irish offshore projects through development phase sponsorship funds.

Nationally, We are the largest operator of Community Benefit Funds and have invested over €12m in Ireland and Northern Ireland to communities around our 27 onshore wind farms since 2002.

We expect the Community Benefit Fund for Celtic Sea Array to be in excess of €6m per annum.



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT HAVE YOUR SAY

We are committed to working with local communities and stakeholders to gather feedback and local information that will inform the project on an ongoing basis. Local knowledge is key to us so that we understand the issues that are important to the community and can refine our plans accordingly.

We commit to keep you informed as the project develops and will endeavour to seek your feedback in relation to key project activities, where possible. We welcome your feedback during this consultation process and throughout the project lifecycle.

YOUR TEAM



Martin Sweeney
Lead Project Manager



Bryan O'Connor
Project Manager



Aoibhín Flanagan
Consents Manager



Deborah Coleman
External Affairs Manager

FIND OUT MORE

We have created a dedicated website where you will find lots of information about the project and keep up to date with future events and updates. Visit www.sserenewables.com/celticsearray for more.

Public Exhibitions

Meet our team and learn more about the project at our public events.

Wednesday, October 19

Fethard, Co. Wexford – St. Mary's Hall 10am-12:30pm
Dunmore East, Co. Waterford – Carbally Community Centre – 3:30-6pm

Wednesday, October 26

Youghal, Co. Cork – The Mall Arts Centre 10am-12:30pm
Dungarvan, Co. Waterford – The Park Hotel 3:30-6pm

Join us for an online community briefing

Our project team will host an online information session. Register at www.sserenewables.com/celticsearray or email clo@sse.com for further information.

Get in touch!

If you would like to send us a letter or post your feedback form to us. Mark the envelope for the attention of Deborah Coleman, External Affairs Manager, Celtic Sea Array and send it to:

**SSE Renewables, South County Business Park,
Red Oak South, Leopardstown, Dublin 18, D18 W688**
or email: clo@sse.com

