



Knockanarragh Wind Farm

Project Booklet

Q2 2023



Knockanarragh Wind Farm



Statkraft

■ Introduction

The cost of energy and the cost of living have recently become the biggest topics of discussion in most households across the country.

Statkraft is committed to delivering affordable renewable energy on to our grid system and working with communities to explore how these projects might work best in the local areas. We are also committed to delivering local funds to assist people and communities in a real and tangible way, making lives easier, better, and more sustainable.

Recent global events have challenged us to ask ourselves if it makes sense to pay for much of our energy to come from overseas. The relevance of this question is all the greater when we have ample sources of clean energy here at home. Irish wind farms protect consumers every day by pushing expensive gas generators off the system and reducing our dependency on imported fossil fuels.

As a generation, we have a unique opportunity to make a real difference in securing our own energy independence. We believe that we can deliver for the present, while safeguarding our future.

Positive engagement and feedback on this proposal, while design is ongoing, will ensure that all possible opportunities can be captured and ultimately delivered, should the project come to fruition.

■ Who we are

At Statkraft, we believe that a better, cleaner, and more sustainable world is possible to achieve and that by working together, we can avoid the worst impacts of climate change. As Europe's largest renewable energy producer, we have been making clean energy possible for over a century and continue to lead the way towards a carbon-free future.

Statkraft has been present in Ireland since 2018 and now employs approximately 100 people across its offices in Cork and Tullamore. The Statkraft Ireland team has two decades of development experience and our staff are experts in areas such as site selection and environmental assessment.

We endeavour to develop suitable and appropriate renewable energy projects that will bring long-lasting benefits, not only to our country and future generations, but also to the local communities in which they are located.





■ The need for this project

The impacts of climate change on our world are indisputable. We are all being challenged to consider the role we play in climate action and how we can reduce our reliance on costly and polluting imported fossil fuels. The world is getting warmer, and extreme weather events are a frequent occurrence. We cannot stop climate change, but we can take action to address it. Renewable energy development is a vital part of that action.

Price hikes have put huge pressure on households and businesses, and exacerbated the cost-of-living crisis. Our electricity demands are also on the rise and providing sufficient supplies to avoid potential power shortages has become ever more challenging.

Furthermore, energy security in Ireland has come into sharp focus. Having our own secure energy supply will shield us from global market energy price increases and continue to help protect families and businesses from the worst effects of a crisis caused by our reliance on fossil fuels. We can tap into our own natural resources and roll out clean, affordable energy that won't break the bank.

■ This Proposal At A Glance

- **8 turbine project**
- **Distance to nearest turbine – over 700m**
- **Over 50MW of renewable energy to the Irish electricity grid**
- **Zero shadow flicker policy**
- **Height of turbine up to a maximum of 180m**
- **Total Community Benefit Fund of circa €4.5m**
- **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.**



■ Project proposal & design process

As with all our projects, local appropriateness is a fundamental consideration along with careful site selection. Further optimisation of this project's design is still in progress, so community feedback on the proposal is very welcome. You can find details on the final page of this brochure on how you can contact us.

The Knockanarragh location was initially identified following a review of areas that could potentially allow for the development of this type. The initial design layouts, which focused on the capacity of this area to produce renewable energy, were updated to incorporate local considerations. These included the project distance from nearby homes along with local environmental constraints, ensuring the project would be suitable and work well for the locality.

As this proposal has a wind energy output of over 50MW, submission directly to An Bord Pleanála as a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) application is a requirement. Westmeath County Council will be expected to review and actively input on any submission.

WIND ENERGY CUTS THE PRICE OF WHOLESALE ELECTRICITY

The Average Wholesale price of Electricity in February:

€ 159.19
Per Megawatt Hour

In February 2023 the Average Price of Electricity on the days with:



MOST WIND ENERGY

€ 139.61
Per Megawatt Hour



LEAST WIND ENERGY

€ 196.85
Per Megawatt Hour

Source: Wind Energy Ireland





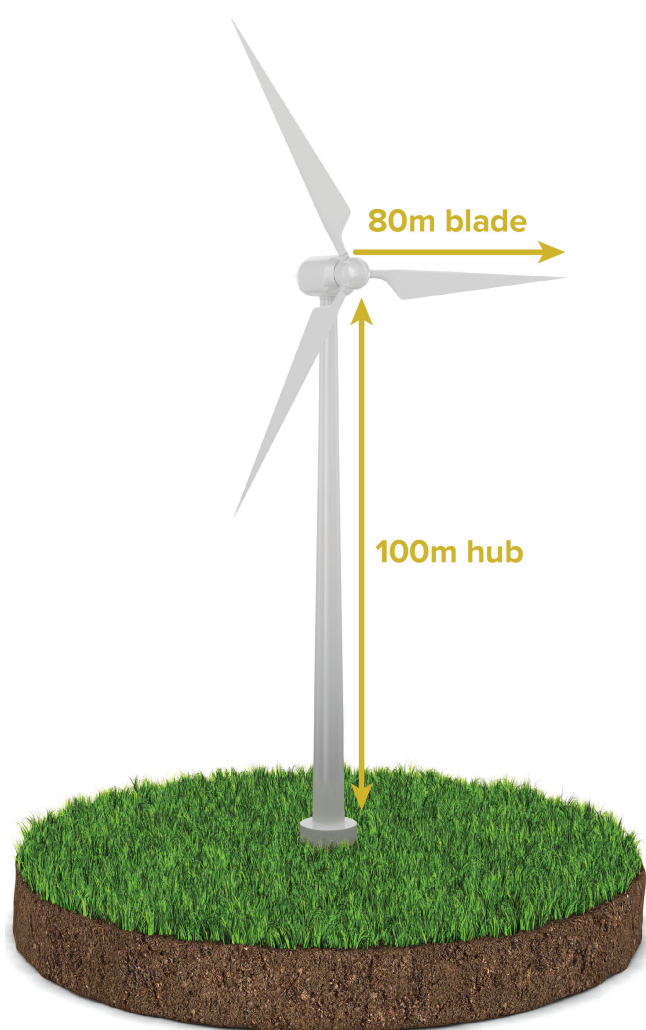
■ How this project has evolved over time

At the initial stages of consideration, designers drafted a project outline that would maximise the wind energy potential of the site. Staying in line with the guidelines, the following initial assumptions were made: The initial distance to houses was taken at 500m (subsequently increased), restricting the turbine height to 169m. Shadow flicker curtailment was taken at the maximum allowable levels.

Placing local appropriateness as a fundamental consideration, further optimisation of this design was carried out based on commonly received feedback relating to the distance to houses, number of turbines, shadow flicker and noise levels. 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 11m. The design changes are set out in the following table:

Knockanarragh Project Evolution	Concept Design	Preliminary Design	Current Design Proposal
Distance to Houses	500m	680m	720m
Number of Turbines	12	9	8
Shadow Flicker	In line with guidelines	Eliminated - no shadow flicker	Eliminated - no shadow flicker
Turbine Height	169	169	180
Potential Capacity	c. 36MW	c. 30MW	c.57MW

■ Typical configuration



■ Engagement

Understanding the local area, its people and environment form a core part of how we approach the development of renewable energy. We believe that it is critical that local communities are at the heart of consideration during all stages, and importantly, during the design and development stages of projects.

One way in which you can have your say is via the dedicated Knockanarragh website, knockanarraghwindfarm.ie, where you can find the consultation portal. This will help provide us with as much information as possible and allow us to bring a considered approach to the project development.

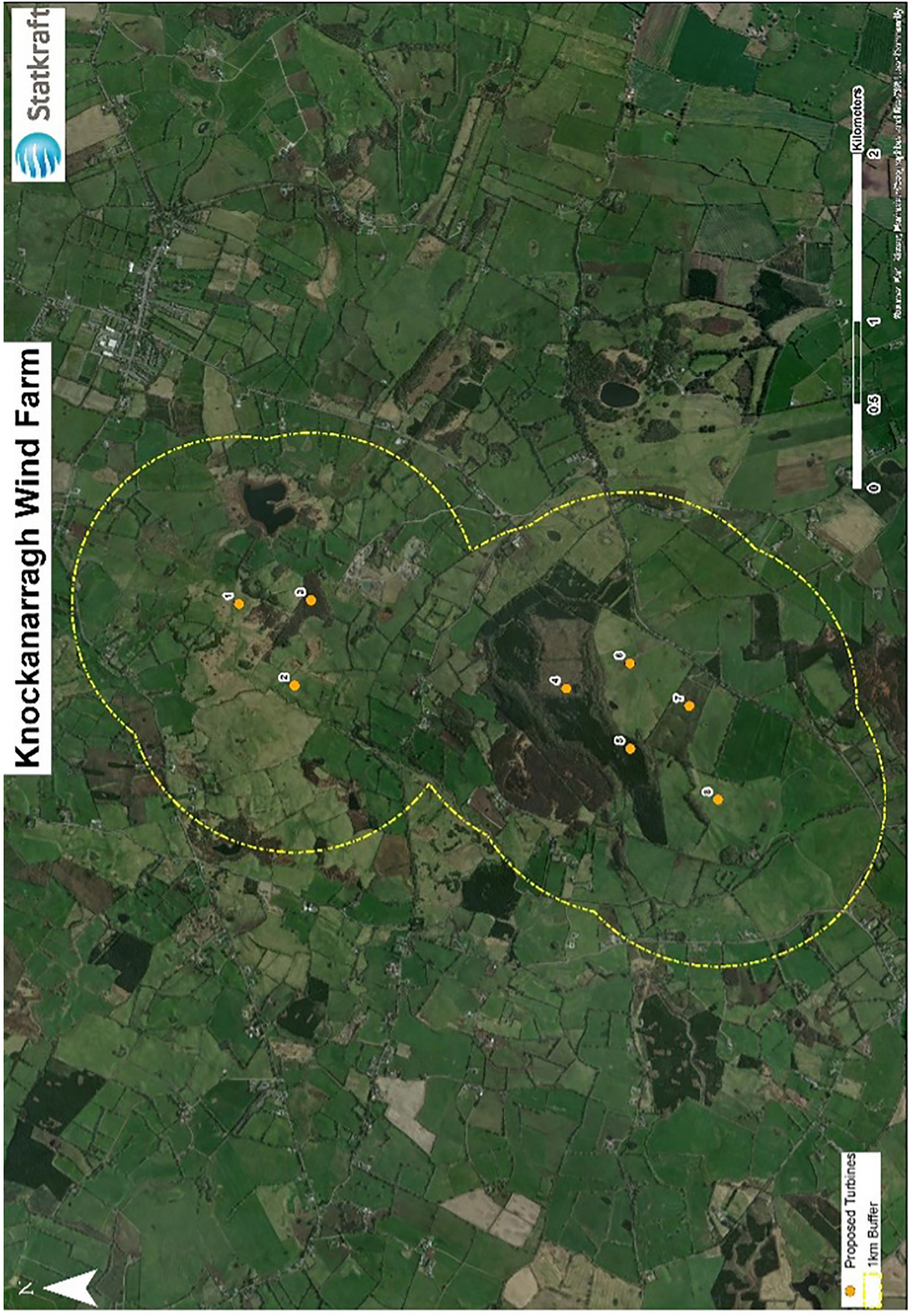
We are working to develop an understanding of the vision that your community has for the local area. There is clearly a strong voluntary ethos in the community, and people work very hard to ensure that it is an interesting and vibrant place to live with plenty of amenities on offer.



As well as that, feedback around job creation and investment in energy efficiency schemes for local houses is understood to be important.

The communities in the area around the proposed Knockanarragh Wind Farm have an opportunity to consider this renewable energy project and how, if granted planning permission, this proposal could make a real difference to the locality.

■ Site Map





■ Community Benefit Fund

A key feature of all our projects is the funding made available to benefit the local community. These funds allow for a significant sum of money to be used for the community’s economic, environmental, social and cultural wellbeing. The fundamental principle of the benefit packages we roll out is that we seek to work with local people to deliver improved sustainability to their communities.

We recognise that every community is different and that it is the local people who know the area best. Decisions on what will be funded will rest with the members of a specially formed committee, allowing them to shape the strategy to maximise the benefits for the entire community.

The Community Benefit Fund is a great opportunity to play a central role in the transition to a zero-carbon, more sustainable future, and a particular focus of the funds is to support local initiatives that align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). See below for more detail.

The Knockanarragh Wind Farm, as proposed, could bring with it funding in the region of an estimated €300,000 each year, or €4.5 million over a 15-year period.

■ What are the Sustainable Development Goals?

The Sustainable Development Goals or Global Goals 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.



■ A sustainable future

At Statkraft, we are committed to creating a world where renewable energy powers every community, home and business. We believe sustainability is about more than operating responsibly. It’s an opportunity to support the communities we’re a part of and to make a bigger impact on the world.

We base our operations on a strong commitment to sustainability and responsible business practices, with the aforementioned Sustainable Development Goals providing direction for our work.

Statkraft regards climate, energy, biodiversity and human rights as particularly important areas to which the company is well-positioned to contribute. We take a precautionary approach to environment. This means that we conduct risk assessments and implement mitigating actions where needed. We are acutely aware of the increase in biodiversity loss and the importance of biological diversity for nature and our way of living. For every wind farm we construct, there is the potential to build environmentally sustainable measures into the project design. For example, Statkraft is an active business supporter of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. Also, for

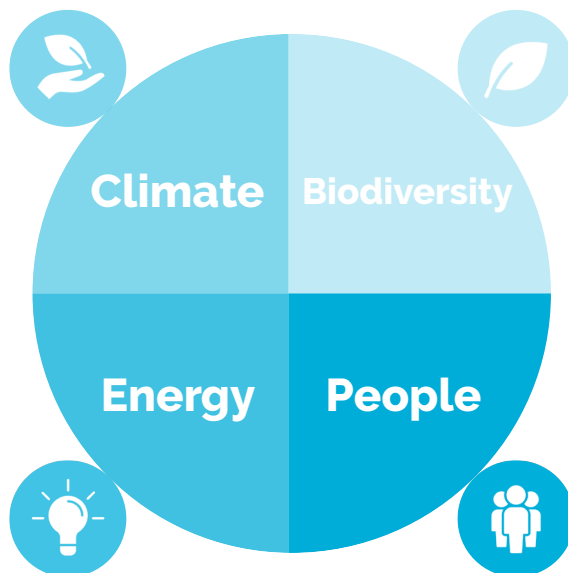
the Knockanarragh Wind Farm, a Biodiversity Management Plan will be provided as part of the planning submission. Wind farms can make a positive contribution to the habitat types and diversity of an area through several measures including planting wildflower meadows, providing sections of species-rich grass, improving hedgerows, tree planting, and providing bird nesting.

Sustainability is also supported by engaging in essential and meaningful stakeholder engagement. It provides opportunities for Statkraft to align practices and actions with environmental issues that matter most to the local community helping to drive long-term sustainability. This dialogue provides us with valuable input and helps us to continuously improve and strengthen our relationships and business practices.

What does sustainability mean to us? And what does that mean to you?

Replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy is the only way to avoid harmful global warming. Statkraft is involved in the development of onshore wind energy, battery storage and grid services which are aimed at facilitating a grid system that can run entirely on renewable energy. All of these technologies will support Ireland's ambitious decarbonisation plans, eliminating our reliance on polluting fossil fuels. Climate change is a challenge for us all.

A core part of Statkraft's business is the commitment to delivering affordable renewable energy. We see this not only as a way of protecting people against energy price inflation but also as a key element in combatting climate change and supporting households and businesses.



We are in the midst of a biodiversity crisis and at Statkraft we are committed to capturing opportunities that will serve our environment well. Examples of these types of initiatives include planting wildflower meadows, providing sections of species-rich grass and improving hedgerows. Protecting and enhancing our biodiversity will make our local environment more resilient.

Sustainability encompasses more than simply protecting the environment or delivering climate action it also includes people, communities and delivering for society as a whole. This includes the communities where we operate and the people who work with us.

■ Our obligations and responsibilities

As a developer of renewable energy, and as a society in general, we have a responsibility to not only do what is right, but to do it 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 goes without saying that there will be an onus on us to operate the wind farm in a responsible way. This is a responsibility that we take very seriously.

During consultation, our objective is not to seek support for the proposal but rather to provide information which will 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 make sure that this wind farm delivers, not only effective climate action, but positive benefits for the local area.

**If you have thoughts or ideas on this proposal,
please reach out to us and let us know.**





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.westmeathcoco.ie Westmeath 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.knockanarraghwindfarm.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

Community Liaison Team

Phone: +353 579 379 032

www.knockanarraghwindfarm.ie

