

May 2022

Réalt na Mara

Offshore Wind

Project Information Document: No.1

OW
OCEAN WINDS

Introduction

Ocean Winds (OW) is the result of a joint venture announced in 2019 by EDP Renewables and ENGIE and is a global leader in the offshore renewable energy sector. Both companies share a vision in which renewables, particularly offshore wind, play a key role in the global energy transition. Ocean Winds strongly supports offshore renewable energy deployment in Ireland and the significant contribution it will make to Ireland in decarbonising its economy and achieving our 2030 renewable energy targets.

In response to the Climate Emergency the Irish Government within its Programme for Government and Climate Action Plan 2021 has committed to generating 80% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2030. We are working to help deliver some of the 5GW of offshore wind which will be required to reduce Ireland’s reliance on fossil fuels and drive the transition to net zero carbon emissions by 2050. This project will bring significant environmental, economic and employment growth, supply chain opportunities and additional benefits to the local host communities.

Proposed Réalt na Mara Offshore Wind Farm

Ocean Winds are proposing the development of an offshore wind farm located in the Irish Sea, off the coast of counties Dublin and Wicklow. The proposed wind farm array study area is located approximately 12km off the coast of Dublin and Wicklow (as shown in Figure 1 below). Site investigation works will also be carried out on the proposed cable corridor study area to assess the suitability for an underground electrical cable and a substation.

The proposed offshore wind development will be known as Réalt na Mara, and it is envisaged that the project could generate up to 1.6 Gigawatts (GW) of clean renewable electricity, enough to power up to 1.5 million Irish homes per annum. The proposed development will also facilitate job creation, vastly reduce our reliance on imported oil and gas, and increase our security of electricity supply while helping Ireland become carbon neutral by 2050. Based on current project timelines it is envisaged that the project would be in commercial operation by 2030, with a lifespan of 25 to 30 years.

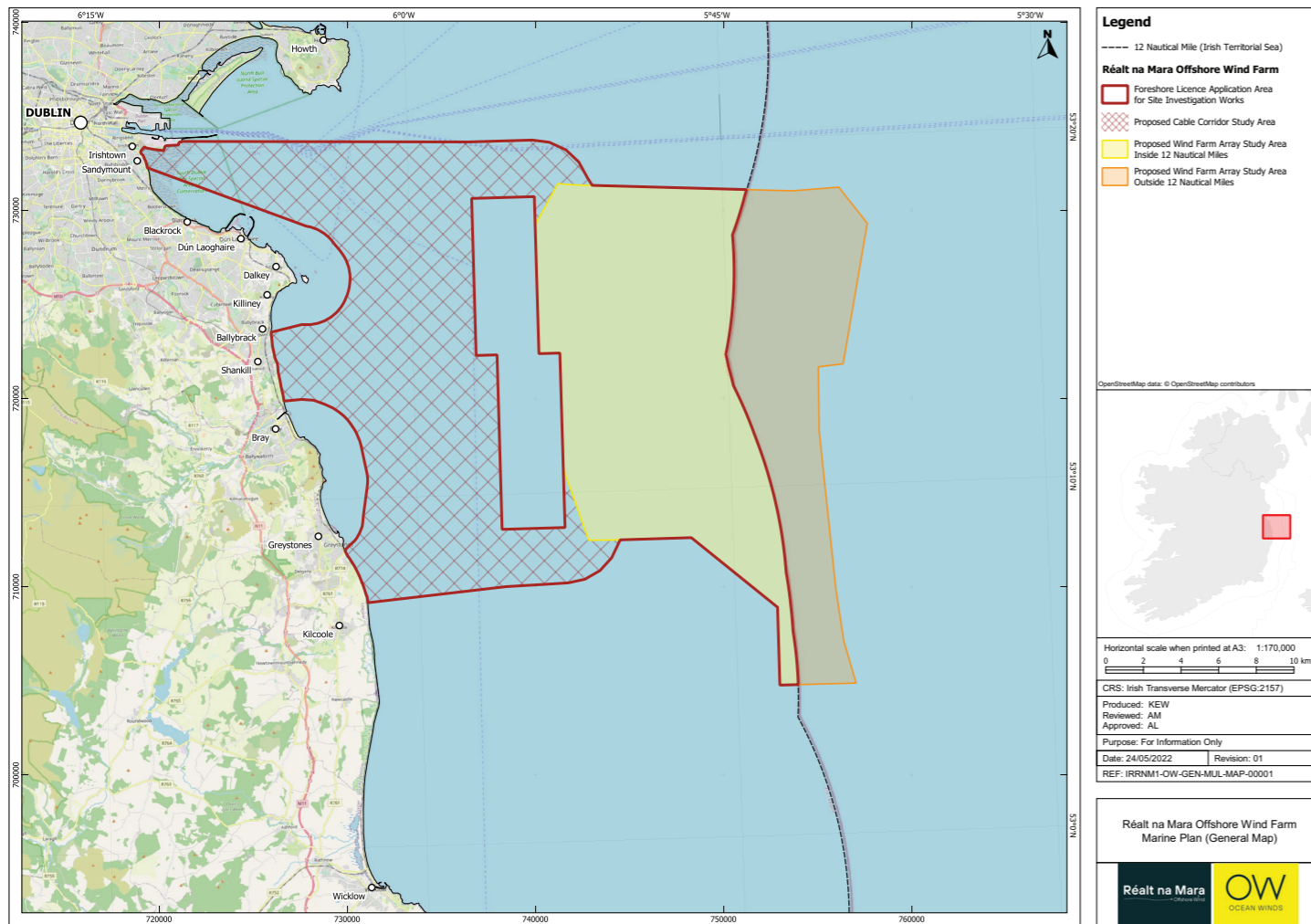


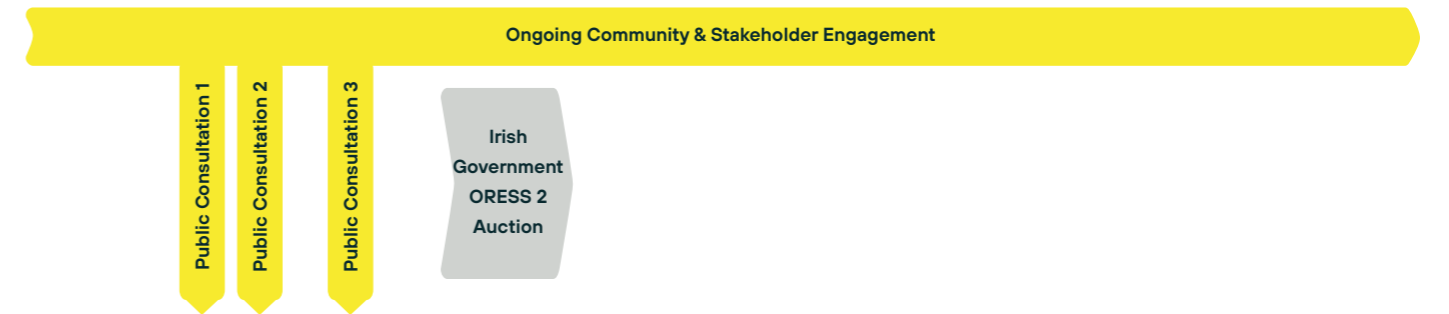
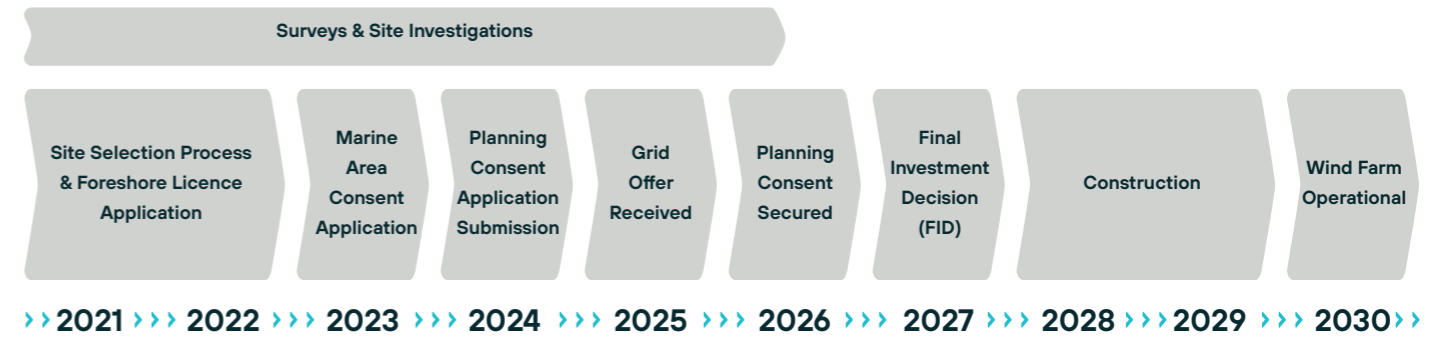
Figure 1 - Réalt na Mara Offshore Wind Farm Marine Plan (General Map)

Project Development Update

As the project is at an early stage, the size and number of turbines has not been determined. However, based on preliminary assessments, it is envisaged that the project could generate up to 1.6GW of clean renewable electricity. The project is proposing to use fixed bottom technology where the turbines sit on top of foundations installed in the seabed.

The first step in defining our project design is applying to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for a foreshore licence to carry out surveys to assess the potential of this location (see Figure 1) for offshore wind farm development. The feedback from public consultation and site surveys completed under the foreshore licence will enable us to refine this project design. As part of that process we will apply for a seabed lease (Marine Area Consent) to the new Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA). In parallel, OW is commencing the environmental impact assessment process which will also feed into our project layout and design.

Project Timeline



Community & Stakeholder Engagement

A full programme of community and stakeholder engagement is planned for the project with the first phase commencing in May 2022. Phase One will see the launch of the project consultation website to facilitate local coastal and fisheries communities to engage with the project team, provide feedback and sign up to the project mailing list.

The second stage of public consultation is expected to commence in Autumn 2022. As the project progresses Ocean Winds will continue to engage on an ongoing basis with local communities regarding the development of the proposed Réalt na Mara Wind Farm through the use of:

- Fisheries Liaison Officer
- Dedicated project website
- Project Mailing List
- Virtual Consultation Room
- Community Liaison Officer
- Online Feedback Questionnaire
- Community & Stakeholder Engagement Sessions
- Project Newsletter

Next Steps

- Phase 1 of our Public Consultation process commenced in May 2022 and is currently underway. To provide any feedback to the project team please visit www.realtnamaraoffshorewind.ie to complete our online feedback questionnaire.
- The Foreshore Licence Application (FLA) process is currently underway, and a statutory consultation process will form part of this.
- A draft wind turbine layout indicating the number of turbines and their locations will be made available at the next stage of public consultation expected to take place in Autumn 2022.
- The project team will be aiming to submit a Marine Area Consent (MAC) application in the first half of 2023.

How you can Get in Touch



Call Us:

If you wish to make a comment or require further information about the proposed offshore wind farm please call:

Stakeholder Executive, **Jeff: +353 87 946 0284***
Fisheries Liaison Officer, **Mark: +353 85 139 9000***
**9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday excluding bank holidays*



Email:

Email us any comments or queries via:
contact@realtnamaraoffshorewind.ie



Join our Mailing List:

Keep informed of all project updates by signing up to our project mailing list. Please visit the project website to complete the sign-up form:
www.realtnamaraoffshorewind.ie



Online Feedback Questionnaire

We welcome your feedback at all stages of the project. Please visit the project website to complete our online feedback questionnaire:
www.realtnamaraoffshorewind.ie



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