

Brittas Wind Farm Project

Fighting climate change with Green Energy Solutions



ABOUT ØRSTED

The Ørsted vision is a world that runs entirely on green energy

Ørsted is a renewable energy company taking action to create a world that runs entirely on green energy. We develop, construct, own and operate onshore and offshore wind farms, solar farms, energy storage facilities, renewable hydrogen and green fuels facilities, and bioenergy plants. Ørsted is ranked the world's most sustainable electricity utility company in Corporate Knights Global 100 index for 2023.

Ørsted owns and operates 19 wind farms across Ireland providing 327MW of electricity to the national

grid, with additional renewable projects in the construction and planning phases. It is our ambition to grow our capacity significantly over the next decade to support the Irish Government's emission reduction targets. To achieve this, we aim to develop new onshore assets, repower existing assets, and grow our presence in Ireland's nascent energy storage market.



WHAT WE HOPE TO DO

As outlined in our last newsletter, we are exploring the potential to develop a wind energy project in the townlands of Brittas, Rossestown and Clobanna, near Thurles, Co. Tipperary. We are aiming to complete environmental surveys, prepare the project design and to submit a planning application in December 2023. The project aims to supply clean and sustainable electricity to the national grid, supporting Ireland’s objective to achieve 80% renewable electricity by 2030.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project will consist of a wind farm of between 9 and 11 wind turbine generators. The turbines will be linked by new and upgraded access tracks. The project will include a new onsite electricity substation and a grid connection connecting the project to the national electricity grid. The project will also include a turbine delivery route which is the route chosen to transport large turbine components from the port of entry to the project site.

The project is currently at its initial design stage. We have identified environmental constraints across the site and are currently designing a first draft layout of the project. This process involves the examination and mapping of a range of sensitive environmental constraints along with requirements set out in the Wind Energy Development Guidelines. This process will result in the mapping of a developable area where wind turbines can be located. The current developable area being considered for the project is illustrated in this newsletter.

Constraints considered at this stage included the following:

- Setback from residential dwellings.
- Setback from rivers and streams.
- Setback from public roads.
- Setback from registered archaeological monuments.
- Avoidance of sensitive ecological habitat.



COMMUNITY

Ørsted is committed to engaging inclusively with the whole community and developing a responsible project that is good for society and for our neighbours. As part of the project, we want to help bring forward sustainable, long-term community initiatives that meet local priorities, needs and objectives.

In accordance with the government-led Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS), the project, if consented, will deliver a substantial and long-term community benefit fund during the operational period of the Wind Farm. In line with government guidance, this fund is expected to provide €2 per MW hour for the first 15 years of the project and will include a near neighbour scheme. For a 50MW project, the community benefit fund could amount to €280,000 per annum.

The community benefit fund must be used for the wider economic, environmental, social and cultural well-being of the local community. The distribution of the fund will ultimately be for the community living in proximity to the project to decide in partnership with the Ørsted team. Details of the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme and community benefit can be found on the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland’s website.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENT

Ørsted’s Brittas Wind Farm development team will be hosting an information event in Thurles Sarsfields Gaelic Athletic Association Clubhouse, Townspark, Thurles on Monday the 17th of April 2023. The purpose of the event is to invite members of the local community to view the progress of the proposed project and to speak to the project team. The event will take place between 4pm and 8pm. If you cannot attend the event, please contact our team and we will send you an information pack.

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental studies are underway at the site. Ecology studies began in 2021 and are being conducted by Woodrow Sustainable Solutions. Ecology studies include bird surveys, habitat surveys and aquatic ecology surveys.

Malachy Walsh and Partners have begun the environmental impact assessment of the site. This will include detailed assessments of noise, shadow flicker, traffic, hydrology, soils and geology and landscape and visuals. These studies, along with feedback from the local community and other stakeholders, will be used to inform the design of the project.



Meet the team

Eamon Hutton

Eamon is Ørsted's project manager for the Brittas Wind Farm project. Eamon is responsible for bringing renewable energy projects from initial conception, through the Environmental Impact Assessment and planning process to consent.



Aidan Stakelum and Alan Barry

Aidan and Alan are the community liaison representatives for the project. They are responsible for developing community engagement strategies and stakeholder management plans to engage with communities on Greenfield projects. Aidan and Alan are available to discuss the proposed project with the local community.



CONTACT US

We welcome all engagement and interaction on all aspects of the proposed Brittas Wind Farm Project.

You can contact us by email: info@brittaswindfarm.com

Or call a member of the project team on:

Aidan: 0861037437, Alan: 0861030464

Or write to us at: **Brittas Wind Farm, Floor 5, City Quarter, Lapps Quay, Cork City, Ireland.**

Visit the project website at: www.brittaswindfarm.ie

