

# ORIEL WIND FARM AND NATURE

In designing the Oriel wind farm, we respected the sensitive natural habitats and ecologies found both offshore and onshore.

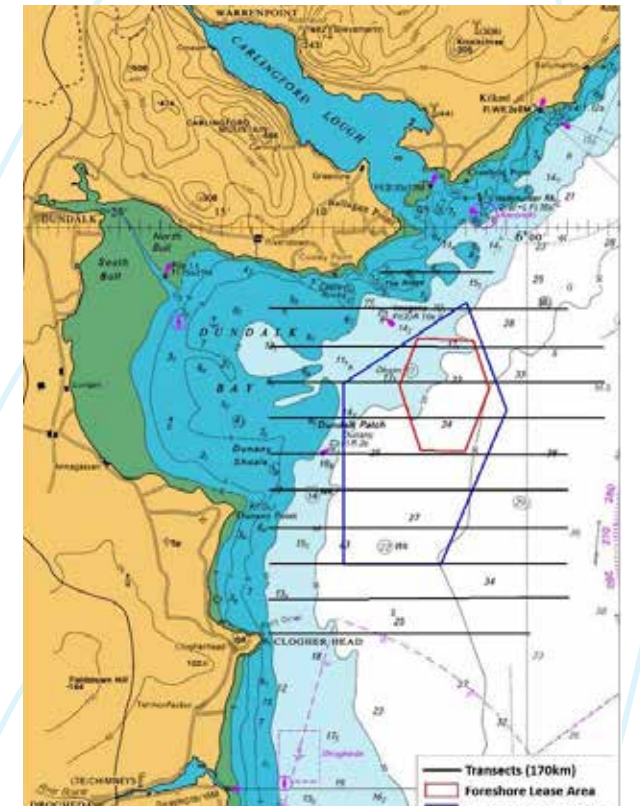
Extensive environmental assessments have been undertaken and a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement will accompany the planning application.

Over the last three years the Oriel team has conducted over 20,000 hours of ecological studies, both onshore and offshore. We have worked in collaboration with the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT) and Birdwatch Ireland, amongst others. Studies that have already been undertaken include:

- Marine mammals, including whales and dolphins
- Fish and Shellfish
- Benthic (seabed) ecology
- Bird species and activities
- Land Flora and Fauna

Environmental studies have shown that the Oriel project will have no significant adverse effect on any ecology, sensitive species or habitats.

In fact, Oriel will have a significant positive effect on the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, including Carbon, Methane, NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>x</sub>, and improving air quality.



Map of the bird and mammal survey area



### Benthic sampling

Collection of seabed muds for the identification of sediment type and fauna.



### C-Pod

Devices for static acoustic monitoring of any whale and dolphin activity.



### The Fastnet Petrel

Vessel used for the Oriel site environmental surveys.

