



# ORIEL WIND FARM

## Harnessing the Power of Nature

CONSULTATION | PLANNING | WHAT TO EXPECT

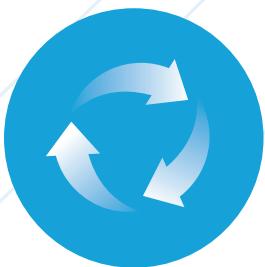


ORIEL WINDFARM  
OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY



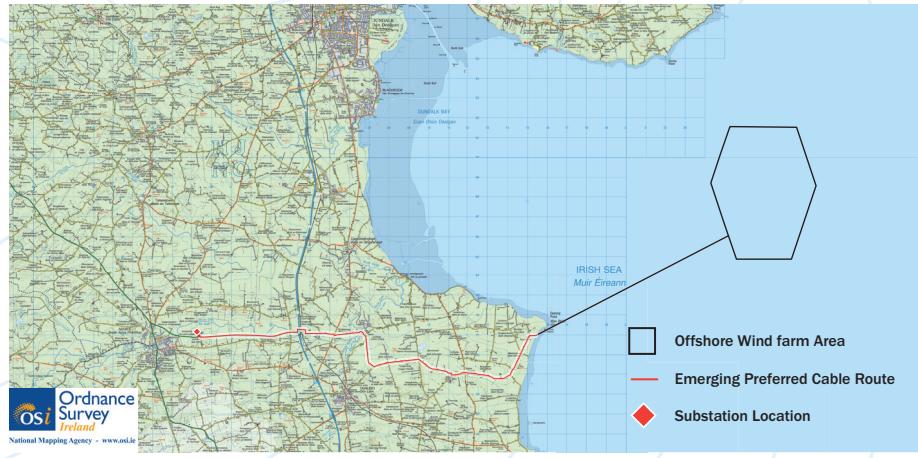
## ORIEL WIND FARM

The Oriel project is a proposed offshore wind farm to be located in the Irish Sea. The project is being developed by Parkwind and ESB. The development will be located off the north Louth coast. The project will generate clean, renewable energy capable of powering over 300,000 homes. That is enough to power every home in Louth, Meath, Cavan, Monaghan and Down. It will deliver significant economic and environmental benefits both locally and nationally.



## WHY OFFSHORE WIND?

Offshore wind energy uses the power of the wind to produce clean, renewable electricity. Since there are no obstructions at sea, and due to the large open space available, wind speeds are greater and more constant than on land. This gives offshore wind turbines excellent efficiency when compared to other renewable technologies.



## HOW WILL IT OPERATE?

Wind turbines, which are installed at sea, harness powerful winds and generate electricity. Undersea cables transport electricity from the wind turbines through an offshore substation back to shore, where it flows into the existing electricity network through an onshore substation. By locating the project close to the existing electricity network we can connect to the national grid using an underground cable without the need for any new overhead electricity lines.



# 300,000

**HOMES POWERED  
WITH CLEAN  
RENEWABLE ENERGY**

## CHOICE OF LOCATION

The site was chosen based on the following criteria

- ✓ Water depth
- ✓ Seabed sediments
- ✓ Wind speeds
- ✓ Shelter from high wave loads
- ✓ Low tidal currents
- ✓ Access to existing grid infrastructure
- ✓ Avoidance of shipping channels
- ✓ Avoidance of trawling grounds

Over the last three years we have invested over 30,000 hours studying the site. We are testing wind speeds, currents, wave height, seabed conditions, sub-sea geology, visual impacts, acoustic impacts and other environmental factors.

The Oriel project location is one of the few sites that meet all of the criteria to make it suitable for an offshore wind farm.

## BENEFITS OF THE ORIEL PROJECT

Oriel is committed to working with all stakeholders in the region to maximise the economic benefits that this project will bring and to enable local businesses to participate in Ireland's transition to a low carbon economy.

### COMMUNITY BENEFIT & FISHING COMMUNITY FUNDS

The Oriel wind farm project will have a substantial community fund, which will be paid on an annual basis. The fund will be required to provide for significant investment in local community projects each year during its lifetime.

Oriel has also put in place a fisheries fund to support the long-term sustainability of the local fishing communities and enable research into fisheries in the region. This demonstrates our commitment to mutually beneficial coexistence with other marine users and local communities.



### ELECTRICITY GENERATED FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES BY 2030

### ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT

Developing renewable energy is a key tool we have in stopping the impact of climate change. Oriel wind farm will provide a major contribution to achieving Ireland's environmental goals, reducing carbon emissions by over 600,000 tonnes per annum.



### LOCAL ECONOMIC BENEFIT

The Oriel project will deliver economic benefit both during construction and throughout its operational life. An operational base will be established for the wind farm, that will sustain local employment. Additionally, Oriel can be an anchor for the development of a sustainable green tech economy in the North East region.

### PLANNING

Oriel will apply for consent for the project under the Maritime Area Planning Act. This new legislation will provide a comprehensive and holistic approach to the management of the development and activities in the marine space and aligns the consent process with onshore planning and development.

Oriel intends to make an application for planning consent to An Bord Pleanála under this new process this year. This application will take into account the feedback from this and other parts of the public consultation process. The application will be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report and a Natura Impact Statement. When the application is made, there will be another opportunity for the public to make observations.

Details of this application will be notified in the local and national press and through the Oriel website. If you would like to be included in a distribution list for updates on the project please sign up on the Oriel website, [www.orielwindfarm.ie](http://www.orielwindfarm.ie)



## ABOUT PARKWIND

Established in 2012, Parkwind is a full life-cycle business that develops, finances and operates offshore wind farms. With 771 MW under operational management spread across four wind farms in the North Sea and 577 MW under development, it has steadily become one of Europe's leading independent offshore renewable energy companies. Parkwind is currently constructing a fifth wind farm in the German Baltic Sea. The Arcadis Ost project is a 257 MW wind farm located northeast of the island of Rügen, Germany which will be completed this year.

Parkwind's policy is to reinvest all profits into future offshore wind energy projects to accelerate the transition to green energy by contributing to the European climate and energy policy.

Parkwind employs over 120 professionals in its offices in Belgium and Ireland.

## ABOUT ESB

Established in 1927, ESB operates right across the electricity market: from generation, through transmission and distribution to the supply of customers. ESB is the owner of the distribution and transmission networks in the Republic of Ireland (ESB Networks) and Northern Ireland (Northern Ireland Electricity Networks), with a combined Networks Regulated Asset Base of €9.6bn.

ESB is a leading developer of renewable power projects in Ireland and the UK. Oriel was ESB's first Irish offshore wind project, and it has now added a further six projects to its portfolio. ESB has also bought stakes in two UK offshore wind farms.

ESB contributes almost €2 billion annually to the Irish economy through dividends, investments, taxes and jobs. ESB provides significant employment both directly, with over 7,790 employees and indirectly through contractors and service providers.

## GETTING IN CONTACT

Oriel is committed to providing information to all stakeholders. We have a website outlining all details of the project. Our team are available to discuss the project with you and to answer any questions you may have.

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