

# Oweninny Wind Farm

## Oweninny Environmental Impact Statement Appendix 13

### Cultural Heritage Correspondence





# Minutes of Meeting

<b>File Reference:</b> Oweninny		<b>Document No:</b> QR-320178-24-M-006
<b>Project Title:</b> Oweninny Wind farm		<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Pre-application Consultation Meeting with National Monuments Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
<b>Venue:</b> Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Custom House Dublin 2		<b>Date of Meeting:</b> 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2012 <b>Time:</b> 10.30
<b>Participants:</b>	Catherine Desmond Paddy Kavanagh Martin Byrne	National Monuments Service (NMS) ESB International (ESBI) Byrne Mullins and Associates (BMA)
<b>Copies to:</b> ESB Wind Development and BnM		<b>Compiled by:</b> Paddy Kavanagh
<b>Approved for ESBI:</b>		<b>Date:</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2012

ITEM NO.	MINUTE	ACTION
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>1.1</p>	<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>The meeting was chaired by NMS and resulted from the response to the Scoping document issued by ESB International and discussions between BMA &amp; NMS.</p> <p>A project overview was provided by ESBI indicating the size, scale and timing of the proposed substitute permission.</p> <p>The number of turbines on site would be reduced from 180 to 112 with lesser footprint and roading requirements. However, these would be taller than the existing planning approved turbines and hence may have a more perceived visual impact.</p> <p>An A0 scale map showing the draft turbine locations (112) and bog remnants overlying the orthophotos of the area with the records of Monuments and Places shown was provided to the AHU.</p>	
<p><b>2</b></p> <p>2.1</p>	<p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>A brief discussion ensued on the records of monuments recorded on site (site area and c. 500m surrounding such)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site south of T87 (Cist) – The Archaeology may no longer be present and this is confirmed in the record (Martin Byrne). The site was recorded by Etienne Rynne in 1971, discovered by a workman erecting a gate post.</li> </ul> <p>Catherine Desmond indicated that possibly no actual excavation of this site occurred but the sub-surface aspect may only have been recorded but not removed. Given the distance to the nearest turbine the site is unlikely to be disturbed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site south of T 48 - Previously recorded Megalithic tomb may be gone also or may be located within Corvoderry area in the forest.</li> <li>• Site west of T105 (Enclosure Site) may also be gone. This was initially recorded by Margaret Keane (Senior Archaeologist, NMS) during preparation of MA Thesis in late 1980s. Was not located by Archaeological Survey in 1994 or by subsequent archaeological surveys (e.g. for previous planning application; ADS Peatland Survey 2003; reconnaissance survey by BMA in relation to present application).</li> <li>• A potential trackway may also be located on the site (listed in the topographic files) but is no longer evident.</li> </ul>	<p>BMA to query Paul Walsh, Archaeological Survey, by e-mail in relation to site.</p> <p>BMA to query Margaret Keane by e-mail to determine additional information relating to site.</p>

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	<p>Martin Byrne indicated that the Cultural Heritage Section of the EIS prepared for the 2002 proposal (and subsequently granted planning permission for 180 Turbines) did not identify any potential impacts on known artifacts or known archaeology.</p> <p>Also indicated that the site was generally not suitable for geophysics.</p> <p>2.2 Catherine Desmond advised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project to obtain a copy of the Cultural Heritage report for the gas pipeline passing through the southern portion of the site</li> <li>• BMA to review results of archaeological monitoring report with respect to gas pipeline works</li> <li>• No archaeological testing on site is required unless the report on gas pipeline indicates that this may be necessary.</li> <li>• Important to refer to the following Codes of Practice in the Report prepared for the EIS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bord na Mona</li> <li>○ Coillte</li> <li>○ EirGrid</li> <li>○ ESB Networks</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Important to include Cultural Heritage aspects of the site – (e.g. Folklore, Historical Events etc)</li> </ul> <p>3.0 <b>Recommendation</b></p> <p>3.1 Final version of the layout map showing records of monuments and places to be provided to Catherine Desmond.</p> <p>Draft Cultural Heritage Report to be submitted to NMS for comment</p>	<p>BMA to contact Bord Gais Project Archaeologist or authors of report</p> <p>BMA to contact Martin Reid, NMS Archive.</p>





***An Roinn  
Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta***  

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***Department of  
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht***

**Your Ref:** Proposed Oweninny Wind Farm Co. Mayo  
**Our Ref:** G Pre00311-2012

18<sup>th</sup> July 2012

Ms. Rose Walsh,  
Civil, Building & Environmental Engineering,  
ESB International,  
Stephen Court,  
18/21 St. Stephen's Green,  
Dublin 2.

**Re: EIA Scoping for proposed windfarm at Oweninny, Bellacorick, Co. Mayo.**

A Chara,

I refer to your recent correspondence. Outlined below are the recommendations of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in relation to archaeological heritage.

Due to the scale of the proposed development and the proximity of a number of Recorded Monuments, the archaeological implications of the proposed windfarm should be assessed by a suitably qualified archaeologist by means of a desk study and a site visit. A report of the assessment should be included in the EIA. The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will issue an informed recommendation on the basis of the assessment report.

There is a high likelihood of previously unrecorded monuments being discovered in upland areas such as those comprising the proposed development site. The assessment survey should be sufficiently thorough to ensure that such monuments are detected. In addition, well-preserved post-medieval farms and field systems are often encountered in these locations. Details of them should be included in the archaeological report, to facilitate decisions as to whether or not such features would merit Registration under the terms of the National Monuments Acts.

It is likely that detailed recommendations made on the basis of the assessment report will include requirements for geophysical investigations and/or pre-development testing, with possible follow-up work depending on the results of these investigations.

Kindly forward any further information to the following address:

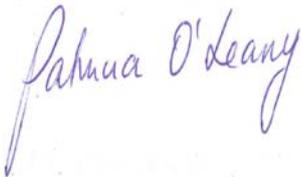
The Manager,  
Development Applications Unit,  
Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht,  
Newtown Road,  
Wexford

Alternatively, documentation associated with the above can be referred electronically to the DAU at the following address:

[manager.dau@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:manager.dau@ahg.gov.ie)

Finally, the above observations and recommendations are based on the papers submitted to this Department on a pre-planning basis and are made without prejudice to any observations the Minister may make in the context of any consultation arising on foot of any development application referred to the Minister, by the planning authority, in his role as statutory consultee under the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

Is mise le meas,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patricia O'Leary". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Patricia O'Leary**  
**Development Applications Unit**  
**Tel: (053) 911 7482**