

Powering Up Offshore South Coast

Industry Engagement Plan

Version 1.0

November 2024

Disclaimer

In providing this Industry Engagement Plan, the information contained within and the information flow arising from the proposed engagements we do so in a spirit of collaboration whilst reserving our rights as TSO and as the designated offshore transmission asset owner and operator, whilst respecting yours as industry stakeholders. We have endeavoured to ensure the accuracy and completeness of this information as at the date of this plan. For the avoidance of any doubt, EirGrid reserves the right to change the information (as relevant new information becomes available) provided during this collaborative process. EirGrid is not responsible for any loss, damage, cost or expense whatsoever occasioned by any use of the information in this plan whether direct or indirect, financial or otherwise, arising as a result of access to, or reliance on, the information contained or any statement or claim set out herein.

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1. Introduction

The Government's Climate Action Plan 2024 aims for Ireland to get 80% of the state's energy needs coming from renewable energy sources.

Powering Up Offshore - South Coast is a project to build the new transmission grid infrastructure needed to bring power generated by offshore windfarms (OWF) into our national grid. The windfarms will be provided by the OWF Developer that will be successful in the ORESS Tonn Nua auction in 2025.

EirGrid is responsible for delivering the infrastructure that will connect the power from the windfarm off the south coast, in Area A (Tonn Nua) of the South Coast Designated Maritime Area Plan¹ (SC-DMAP) to the onshore grid.

To achieve this, we will need to develop Offshore substation(s) - to be located within Maritime Area A, a connection between the offshore substation(s) and existing substations onshore. This will involve offshore transmission cable (submarine cable) and underground transmission cables; and new substations near to existing substations onshore. This will help deliver 900 megawatts of additional electricity.

As part of its Grid Development process, EirGrid is currently consulting on potential landfall and grid connection zones. An application for a Maritime Usage Licence has been made and if successful, marine surveys are scheduled to take place next year which will help inform the design of the offshore infrastructure².

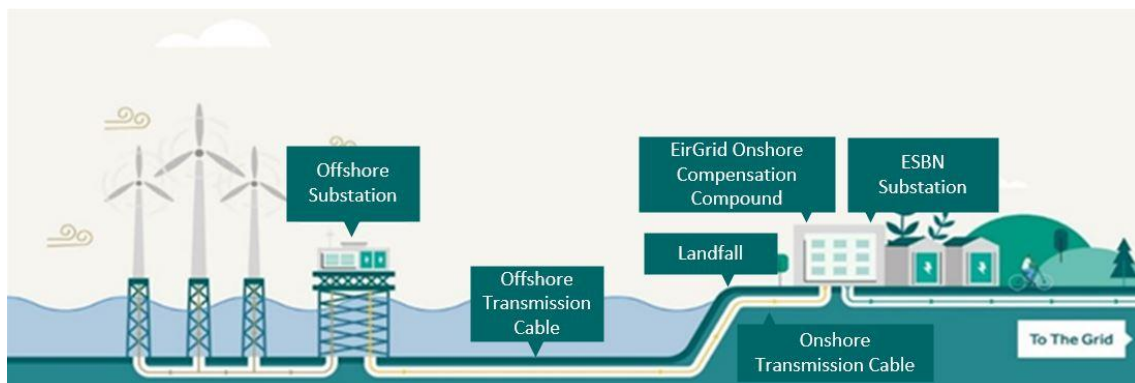


Figure 1 Typical Offshore Windfarm and Electricity Transmission System, Source EirGrid

¹ [gov.ie - The South Coast Designated Maritime Area Plan for Offshore Renewable Energy \(SC-DMAP\)](https://www.gov.ie/en/publications-and-statements/publication-the-south-coast-designated-maritime-area-plan-for-offshore-renewable-energy-sc-dmap/)

² [EirGrid - Powering Up Offshore South Coast](https://www.eirgrid.ie/en/our-work/our-projects/powering-up-offshore-south-coast/)

2. Purpose of this document

The purpose of this Industry Engagement Plan is to provide further clarity and timelines to potential OWF Developers on EirGrid's proposed engagement arrangements pre and post ORESS Tonn Nua auction as set out by CRU Decision Paper CRU2024124³ (Grid Connection Pathway for Phase 2).

This document will assist the OWF Developers and EirGrid to work together collaboratively on the delivery of the Project in Area A of the SC-DMAP and aims to facilitate effective and efficient engagement throughout the delivery lifecycle of the project. The detailed Engagement Plan in Section 3 of this document provides proposed timelines for the engagement pre and post ORESS Tonn Nua Auction, including dates for the Industry Workshop and issuance of the Grid Connection Information (GCI) Pack.

³ [CRU - Phase 2 Offshore Wind - Grid Connection Pathway](#)

3. Engagement Plan

Timing	Deliverable	Reference	Proposed Agenda	Proposed Stakeholders	Purpose	Details
Pre-ORESS Tonn Nua Auction						
20/11/2024	Engagement Plan issued	Engagement 1: Engagement Plan	N/a	EirGrid	Brief Developers on Engagement Plan	Publish on EirGrid Website
29/11/2024	Questions	Q&A	N/a	OWF Developers	Developers to submit queries for Q&A session.	Queries to issue to admin.puosc@eirgrid.com
10/12/2024	Industry Workshop (in-person)	Engagement 2: Industry Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft GCI content Draft Collaboration Agreement Draft Level 0 Schedule 	EirGrid OWF Developers WEI Others (to be advised)	Provide update on draft GCI information	Meeting in Dublin.
17/12/2024	Developer Feedback on Industry workshop	Engagement 3: Industry Feedback				Developers to issue feedback via email to admin.puosc@eirgrid.com .

Timing	Deliverable	Reference	Proposed Agenda	Proposed Stakeholders	Purpose	Details
90 calendar days pre ORESS Tonn Nua Auction	Grid Connection Information (GCI) Pack	Engagement 4: GCI	N/a	EirGrid	Provide GCI	Publish on EirGrid Website
Final timetable to be agreed with DECC and published by EirGrid - 90 days before auction date i.e. latest date the Final GCI pack will be published	ORESS Tonn Nua Final Auction Timetable	Engagement	N/a	EirGrid	Provide Clear timetable of key auction registration, qualification and offer submission milestones	Publish on EirGrid Website
Qualification Opening Date (-) 1 Month	ORESS Tonn Nua Qualification Information Pack (QIP)	QIP	N/a	EirGrid	Provide QIP	Publish on EirGrid Website
Qualification Opening Date (-) 1 Month	ORESS Tonn Nua Auction information event. RESS Auction Platform Registration opens.	ORESS Tonn Nua Final Timetable and QIP		EirGrid	To inform ORESS Applications regarding qualification process and communication channels	

Timing	Deliverable	Reference	Proposed Agenda	Proposed Stakeholders	Purpose	Details
Beginning of Month prior to Auction Month	Qualification Opening: Applications, Clarifications and Results	Application for Qualification Gate Opening		EirGrid	Qualify Applicants	Member Private Communication & Publications
Auction Date (-) 2 Weeks	ORESS Tonn Nua Auction Information Pack (AIP)	AIP	N/a	EirGrid	Provide AIP	Publish on EirGrid Website
Post ORESS Tonn Nua Auction						
Q3 25	Kick of Meeting post Award	Engagement 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions Programme update (EirGrid & OWF Developer) • Technical • Schedule • Data sharing • AOB 	EirGrid Functional Representatives OWF Developer	Kick-off meeting with successful bidder - OWF Developer Presentation	<p>Agreed Terms of Reference (ToR) for Post-Auction Engagement</p> <p>Slide deck of EirGrid's Progress</p> <p>Developer plans/works to date</p> <p>Exchange of technical/schedule documentation</p> <p>Record of meeting</p>
Q3 2025	Offer Process Early Engagement meeting	Early Engagement Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions • Connection Method 	EirGrid Offer Process Teams	Confirm project characteristics in advance of drafting of offer	Minutes

Timing	Deliverable	Reference	Proposed Agenda	Proposed Stakeholders	Purpose	Details
Q4 2025	Full Connection Offer	Connection Methods Meeting Post Offer Issuance Q&A	As needed	EirGrid Offer Process Teams	Confirm connection method and issue offer	Full Connection Offer
Monthly	Pre-FEED Phase Monthly Progress Meetings	Engagement +	As above	EirGrid Functional Representatives OWF Developer	Monthly technical/schedule interface meetings with OWF developer.	As above
Bi-weekly/Monthly	FEED Bi-Weekly/Monthly Progress Meetings	Engagement +	As above	EirGrid OWF Developer	Monthly/bi-monthly technical/schedule interface meetings with OWF developer.	As above
Bi-weekly/Monthly	Construction/Commissioning Phase Bi-Weekly/Monthly Progress Meetings	Engagement +	As above	EirGrid OWF Developer	Monthly/bi-monthly technical/schedule interface meetings with OWF developer (until project end).	As above

4. Industry Workshop

An Industry Workshop will be held for all potential bidders into the ORESS Tonn Nua auction on 10th December 2024. This will be an in-person event in Dublin. The location, further details and proposed agenda will be confirmed following registration. The event is limited to three attendees per developer.

When registering for the event please provide company details, name, job title and email address of each delegate attending the event.

To register for the event please visit [here](#).

The closing date for registration is **27th November 2024 at 5 PM**.

As part of the Industry Workshop, a Q&A session will be held. Attendees can submit their questions to admin.puosc@eirgrid.com. Submission deadline is 29th of November 2024. A summary of the Q&A session will be available on the EirGrid website in January 2025.

5. Grid Information Pack

The proposed draft content of the Grid Connection Information (GCI) Pack will be presented at the Industry Workshop. The final GCI pack, incorporating industry feedback, will be issued 90 calendar days prior to the ORESS Tonn Nua auction on the EirGrid Website.

6. ORESS Tonn Nua Auction

All relevant information on the ORESS Tonn Nua Auction will be made available on [RESS | Customer information | EirGrid](#).

7. Post-ORESS Tonn Nua Auction

Following auction award, the Powering Up Offshore South Coast project team will commence engagement with the successful OWF Developer. As outlined in Section 3 of this document, regular progress meetings will be held to cover topics such as schedule, technical, HSE, Interfaces etc. Details of the point of contact will be provided to the successful party after the ORESS Tonn Nua auction has concluded.

In parallel, the successful OWF Developer will engage with EirGrid as per CRU's Grid Connection Pathway decision paper for Phase 2 and apply for a Full Connection Offer (FCO) to OPMO@eirgrid.com.

8. General Queries

For general queries which are not related to the Grid Connection Information Pack or Industry Workshop please contact info@eirgrid.com.