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DROMBEG
SOLAR FARM

Issue 2 - August 2024

Drombeg Solar Farm Newsletter

Drombeg Solar Farm is a new renewable energy project located north of Listowel, Co. Kerry that is being developed by Tullamore Solar Farm Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ESB. See www.drombegsolarfarm.ie for more details.

The project has received full planning permission to generate 73MWp of clean electricity that will have enough capacity to power up to 16,000 homes.

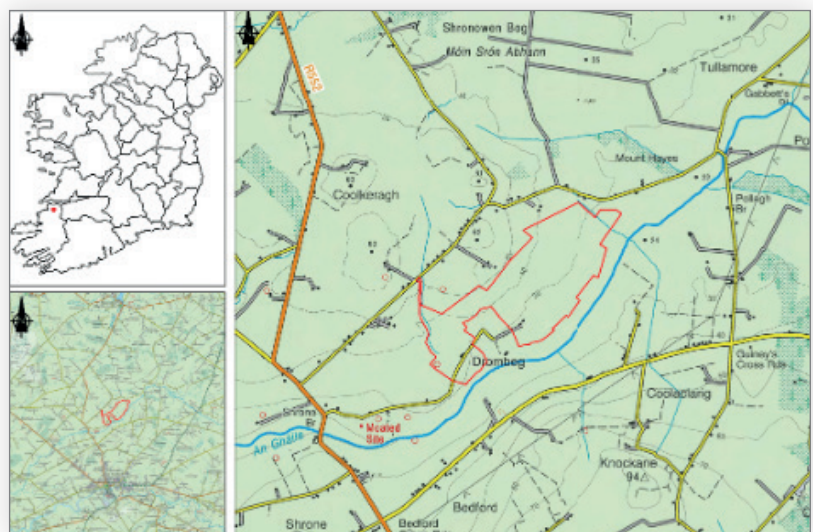
As part of this project, we are committed to engaging closely with the local communities surrounding the site to ensure the successful delivery of Drombeg Solar Farm in 2025.

Drombeg Solar Farm achieved full planning permission in May 2019 from An Bord Pleanála. The substation element of the project achieved full planning permission in March 2020 from An Bord Pleanála.

The project was successful in the second Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS 2) auction in June 2022.

Drombeg Solar Farm will connect to the electricity grid through a new 110kV substation on the solar farm site that will loop into an existing overhead line that traverses the site.

Drombeg Solar Farm will consist of rows of solar panels mounted on a typical galvanised metal framework. The panels face in a southerly direction with the highest point of the top of the panels up to 2.8m above ground level.



Development Progress

Construction of this project commenced in Autumn 2022 with the construction of the access road and preparation of the substation site.

Construction of the substation is well underway and is expected to be completed early in 2025.



Next Steps

Construction of the Solar Farm will commence in September 2024. This will involve the installation of ground mounted solar panels on steel frames and the associated underground cables to connect the panel arrays to the substation.

Construction is scheduled to take 10 months.

Traffic Management

Where will the site access be?

The site is accessed from the new site entrance that was constructed on the L-1009 minor road. Construction traffic will approach the site from the R552 road and travel along the L-1009 road to the site entrance. Due to the provision of this dedicated haul route, construction vehicles will enter the site from the southwest so no construction vehicles will travel on the L-1009 to the northeast of the proposed access.

A detailed traffic management plan is in place and the L-1009 road will be maintained throughout the construction program.



Solar Components for Delivery?

The solar panels and ancillary components are relatively small and are transported in pallets before being assembled on site. The pallets will be delivered in 40-foot containers that are transported by articulated lorries.

Will there be traffic diversions & delays?

There are no plans for any diversions to be in place and delays will be kept to a minimum. Any changes to this will be detailed on the project website.

Community Benefit Fund

The Drombeg Solar Farm project will have a Community Benefit Fund which will distribute grants to organisations in the local area once the solar farm is operational. The fund is to be used for the wider economic, environment, social and cultural wellbeing of the local community.

ESB has an independent dedicated administrator for Wind and Solar Farm Community Funds, and they are called SECAD. This is their application portal website: www.communitybenefitfunds.ie and there is a help section on the site that communities may find helpful, including links to webinars. While the solar fund is not operational yet, we encourage you to start thinking about the kind of projects you might submit and the supporting information SECAD require.

Current Development Timeline

Proposed Programme Timelines

Autumn 2022	Enabling Works on site commenced.
Autumn 2023 – Spring 2025	Electrical Works duration.
Autumn 2024 - Spring 2025	Solar Farm panels installed on site.
Summer 2025	Commissioning and project operational.



Contact Us

The project team is committed to keeping the local community up to date with the construction of Drombeg Solar Farm.

Our Community Liaison Officer (CLO) and members of the project team are available to meet you to discuss all aspects of the project at your convenience. We will provide updates through the project website.

Website: www.drombegsolarfarm.ie
Email: ESBSolarFarms@esb.ie
Phone: 086 235 8913 (Garry Keegan - CLO)
Post: Drombeg Solar Farm Project
ESB Head Office
27 Fitzwilliam Street Lower
Dublin 2
D02 KT92
Ireland



CLO: Garry Keegan
CLO Phone: 086 235 8913

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