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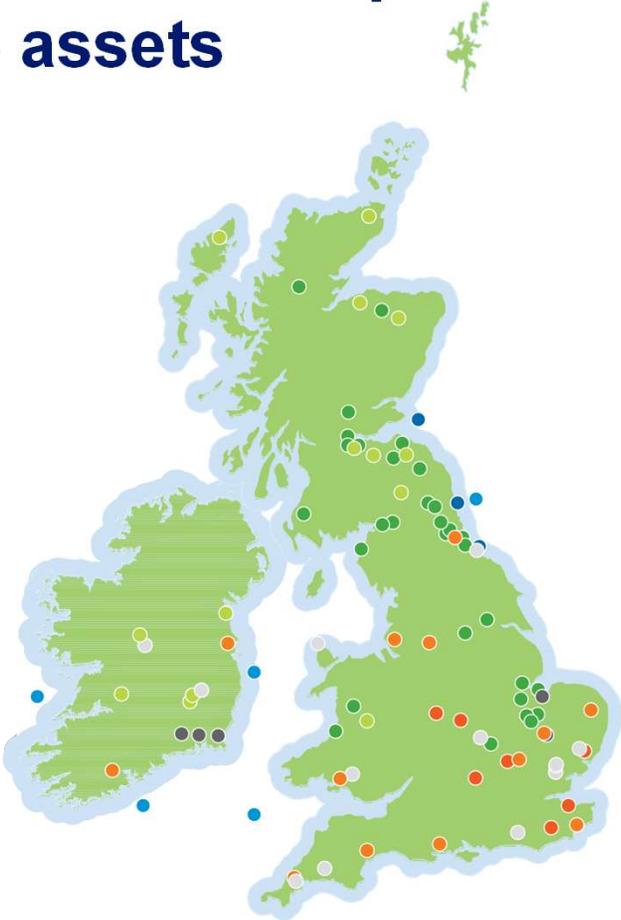
**“Drivers of change in EIA - the Risks
& Opportunities”**

Ireland's EIA Conference
05 March 2026

EDF power solutions UK & Ireland has developed a diverse portfolio of operational and future assets

 Our goal is to generate over **1GW of onshore renewable energy in Ireland by 2035**

- Offshore - Pipeline
- Offshore - Operational, under construction or post-
- FID Onshore - Pipeline
- Onshore - Operational, under construction or post-
- FID Battery Storage - Pipeline
- Battery storage - Operational, under construction or post-
- FID Solar PV – Pipeline
- Solar PV - Operational, under construction or post-FID



Why the need for more renewables and infrastructure upgrades?



Energy Security & reducing costs



Climate Action and Sustainability



Biodiversity breakdown



Economic and health benefits

A look back on 2025...



Project Ireland 2040

National Planning Framework First Revision

April 2025



Planning and Development Act 2024

Implementation Plan

Table 9.1 | Regional Renewable Electricity Capacity Allocations

Region	Energised capacity 2023 (MW)	Additional Renewable Power Capacity Allocations (MW)	Total % of National Share in 2030	Energised Capacity 2023 (MW)	Additional Renewable Power Capacity Allocations (MW)	Total % of National Share in 2030
	Onshore Wind			Solar PV		
Eastern and Midlands	284	1,966	25%	306	3,294	45%
Northern and Western	1,761	1,389	35%	0.3	959	12%
Southern	2,622	978	40%	138	3,302	43%
Total	4,667	4,333		445	7,555	

RED III [2025 cont...]

- Came into effect on 7th August 2025.

*“The Directive is broad ranging and includes provisions that aim **to speed up the permit granting process for renewable energy projects** by providing mandatory permit granting timelines for various types of renewable energy projects, as well as provisions concerned with environmental protection Directives and how they are applied to certain renewable energy projects”*

[Circular CEPP1/2025 from the DHLGH (15 August 2025)]

- “Mandatory EIA Scoping” 1st of October 2025 > 1st May 2026.
- Where CA issues a Scoping Opinion they: *“shall not subsequently extend the scope or level of detail of the information required to be included in the EIA Report”*
- Site notice changes
- Renewable Acceleration Areas (RAAs)



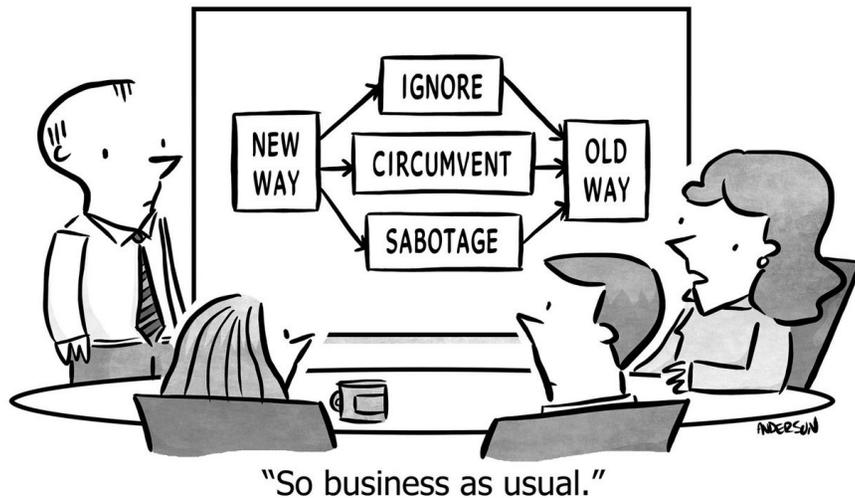
RAA's and Territory mapping



Image: Dornell Wind Farm, Scotland

- DCEE - National Territory Mapping for Renewable Electricity [Sept 2025]
- “*Appropriate locations*” [National Policy Objective 70 in the NPF]
- County Development Plan’s (CDP) previously ineffective
 - Low wind areas
 - Distance from grid
 - Exclusion of areas above 200m contour lines
 - Unjustified setback distances to dwellings
- Questions remain over Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) or Appropriate Assessment (AA)

Can't be a "Business as usual approach"



- Coolglass Decision
- Meaningful engagement at scoping stage
- Reduction in SID threshold for wind farms
- Wind Energy Development Guidelines

Learnings from other jurisdictions – e.g. Scotland

- Published in Sept 2025 with 20GW target of onshore wind by 2030.
- *Proportionality*: Focus only on "likely significant effects" to avoid over-precautionary, excessively long reports.
- *Standardisation*: Use new templates and scoping matrices for EIA Reports (EIAR) to ensure consistency across different planning authorities.
- *Data Re-use*: For repowering or life-extension projects, developers should optimise the use of existing baseline data from previous surveys rather than starting from scratch
- Standardised conditions



Guidelines on Streamlining
Environmental Impact Assessment
for Onshore Wind Farms

September 2025



Thank you