

Please see my response below:

1) With respect to key driver (i), cost levels, which of models 1,2,3,4, or variant of these, delivers the most satisfactory results? Which features of the model, or variant, are the most influential for your given choice?  
*There needs to be a cost benefit analysis underpinning the need for offshore wind. There will be massive costs and little benefit. All options should be open at the cost benefit stage.*

2) With respect to key driver (ii), environmental impact, which of models 1,2,3,4, or variant of these, delivers the most satisfactory results? Which features of the model, or variant, are the most influential for your given choice?  
*All of these will have serious negative consequences for the marine environment. The marine environment is already under serious threat because of overfishing and pollution. It is only after the project is completed will the significant environmental impacts become apparent as we have seen with Derrybrien wind farm.*

6) With respect to key driver (vi), social acceptance, which of models 1,2,3,4, or variant of these, delivers the most satisfactory results?

Which features of the model, or variant, are the most influential for your given choice?

*The only way there can be social acceptance is to fully comply with the Aarhus Convention. Ireland has not complied with the ruling made by UN Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee and therefore this project should not proceed until there is full compliance.*

8) Rank the key drivers in order of importance 1-7, which have the greatest impact on the choice of model.  
*Number 6 is the most important.*

9) How important is it for Ireland to develop an indigenous offshore wind energy industry? How best can an indigenous industry be developed?

*Not important. Since offshore wind is highly correlated with onshore wind, it will be of little benefit when there is no wind blowing and will overload the grid when too much wind is blowing. We have 4,000MW of onshore wind and we are still as reliant on fossil fuels as ever. Wind energy's low capacity credit means it cannot replace a power station. Offshore wind's capacity credit will not be much better. It would have been far preferable to focus on reducing demand and consumption than building more low credit electricity generation.*