



Comhairle Contae **Lú**  
**Louth** County Council

Louth County Council submission in response to  
the Draft Offshore Renewable Energy Future  
Framework Policy Statement

February 2024



Louth County Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the 'Draft Offshore Renewable Energy Future Framework Policy Statement'. It is noted that the draft Policy Statement provides a comprehensive framework for the varied considerations relating to the provision of Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE). This submission primarily relates to Louth County Council's planning considerations relating to the provision of ORE.

National and regional planning policy promotes Offshore Renewable Energy. NPO 42 of The National Planning Framework supports offshore renewable energy potential, including domestic and international grid connectivity enhancements and RSES contains several policy objectives 10.19 to 10.24 supporting renewable energy and associated infrastructure.

Louth County Council is innovative and proactive in its support for renewable energy infrastructure. This is set out in the Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027 (CDP 2021-2027), as varied and the Louth Draft Climate Action Plan. The County Development Plan as varied, and Louth Draft Climate Action Plan set out a policy framework and goals to increase renewable energy production and provision of associated infrastructure. The Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027, as varied contains two policy objectives supporting the provision of ORE.

County Louth, with its coastal location presents significant opportunities for economic development in servicing offshore wind developments and a great opportunity to increase local renewable energy production. There are four Off-Shore Wind Projects proposed off the Louth coastline. These projects are at an early stage with surveys and preliminary designs ongoing. No project was at the planning application stage. The North Irish Sea Array successful in the wind energy auction under the Offshore Renewable Energy Support Scheme (ORESS) in Q2 2023. This is the North Irish Sea Array Project. The unsuccessful projects may still find a route to market via a Corporate Power Purchase Agreement (CPPA).

In conclusion, Louth County Council support the sustainable and appropriate provision of Offshore Renewable Energy and associated infrastructure.



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Cuirfear fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras Gaeilge - Correspondence in Irish is welcome