

Wind Energy

Transactions

Dromdeeveen Wind Farm – 24MW

Bawnmore Wind Farm – 25.3MW

Gortahile Wind Farm – 22MW

Boggeragh Wind Farm - 57MW

Bindoo Wind Farm - 48MW

Coomacheo Wind Farm - 41.4MW

About Us

Mason Hayes+Curran's Energy Group has been recognised by Infrastructure Journal as one of the top 10 European legal advisors in wind energy and in the top 20 legal advisors for renewable energy finance projects based on past deals. This reflects Mason Hayes+Curran's position as a market leader in the Irish renewable energy sector.

Mason Hayes+Curran has advised on wind energy projects since 1993 and has acted on projects with generation capacity in excess of 350MW and a combined funding/development value of approximately €600 million.

These achievements, combined with Mason Hayes+Curran's role in advising the Commission for Energy Regulation and Northern Ireland

Authority for Utility Regulation on the development and drafting of the all-island Single Electricity Market Trading and Settlement Code, and our recent corporate transactions acting for sellers of wind farms with a total capacity in excess of 250MW marks the Mason Hayes+Curran Energy Group as a leading provider of renewable energy-related legal services.

Mason Hayes+Curran has advised:

- Lenders: Allied Irish Banks p.l.c., Bank of Ireland, Barclays Bank plc, KBC Bank Ireland plc, Nord/LB and Ulster Bank.
- Wind farm developers: SSE Renewables (formerly Airtricity), Eco Wind Power, ABO Wind AG and other private consortia developers.

Construction

Mason Hayes+Curran's Energy Group advises on all aspects of wind farm construction, including the drafting and negotiation of development agreements, turbine supply and operation contracts, balance of plant agreements and the preparation of lender due diligence reports on project construction contracts.

Mason Hayes+Curran has advised on projects involving the review and negotiation of turbine and transformer supply, operation, maintenance and service contracts entered into with many of the major international turbine suppliers including Enercon, Gamesa, General Electric, Mitsubishi, Siemens, Nordex and Vestas.

In addition, Mason Hayes+Curran advises lenders and employers in relation to balance of plant, sub-station, grid connection, gridline, and relevant interface agreements.



Real Estate

Mason Hayes+Curran advises wind farm lenders and developers on a wide variety of real estate issues. For example, Mason Hayes+Curran reviews and investigates title to the wind farm sites, together with comprehensive analysis of access and wayleaves, including gridline access. We also advise lenders on step-in rights in wind farm leases and direct agreements to ensure that step-in rights are available to the lender to safeguard its interests in the wind farm.

Mason Hayes+Curran has acted for a mixture of landowners and wind farm developers in negotiating and agreeing wind farm leases. We also advise extensively on the planning regime for wind farms in Ireland, including full review of planning permissions and ancillary permits, and ensuring compliance with all pre-development conditions and standards.

Banking

Mason Hayes+Curran's Energy Group advises on all financing and banking aspects of wind farm developments on behalf of both financial institutions and promoters/developers. Our experience includes negotiating and drafting facility agreements, security documentation and ancillary corporate documentation, as well as reviewing and negotiating power purchase agreements.

Mason Hayes+Curran is an associate member of the Loan Market Association and can produce both bilateral, club and syndicate credit documentation for lenders, allowing for subsequent sell down of credit facilities in the debt markets.

The increasing complexity and sophistication of the funding of renewable projects can often see promoter equity, senior debt, mezzanine debt, and convertible loan note tranches all present in the financing structure of a wind farm. We have experience advising on all inter-creditor and priority issues which arise in this regard.

Regulatory

Our experience advising the Commission for Energy Regulation gives us an insight, which our industry and financial clients find particularly valuable, complementing our renewable energy projects team.

In particular, Mason Hayes+Curran advises on REFIT and non-REFIT power purchase agreements, generation and supply licences, participation in the SEM and other authorisations required by the Commission for Energy Regulation.

Planning

We have advised wind farm developers in respect of the various legal planning issues which arise during the course of a development including planning applications and extensions, RFIs, and appeals.

Corporate

Mason Hayes+Curran advises on all aspects of corporate business including shareholders agreements, venture capital, BES, section 486b investment, restructurings and mergers and acquisitions activity. The firm has advised on a number of recent substantial transactions in the wind sector, acting for sellers of portfolios of wind farms in excess of 250MW.

Your Project

Mason Hayes+Curran's extensive experience in wind energy and our recognition as the only Irish law firm to be ranked by Infrastructure Journal within the European Top 10 wind energy law firms means that we can provide all necessary advice relating to your wind energy project.

Conclusion

Wind energy projects are by their nature complex and benefit from early liaison and interaction between the various disciplines involved. Should you wish to discuss any aspect of the services we can offer, please do not hesitate to contact us.

For more advice and information on Wind Energy issues please contact one of our team:



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