

April 2024

## **Proposed Changes to Kingsmountain & Dunneill Wind Farms**

Dear Householder,

I hope you are keeping well.

We are calling to residents on behalf of SSE Renewables as we would like to share some information in relation to proposed changes to the existing Kingsmountain and Dunneill wind farms.

SSE Renewables is Ireland's leading developer, owner, and operator of onshore wind farms. We operate 31 onshore wind farms on the island making us the largest generator and provider of renewable energy across Ireland. We are proud to have contributed over €11.4 million in funding since 2008 to communities close to our wind farms in Ireland. This funding has been able to assist almost 4,500 community-based projects located closest to our wind farms, including in County Sligo.

As you will be aware, we operate the Kingsmountain Wind Farm (since 2003) and the neighboring Dunneill Wind Farm (since 2010), with the latter receiving an approval to extend its operational life last year. Together, both wind farms constitute over 36MW of clean energy, powering 24,000 homes and eliminating 29,000 tonnes of harmful carbon dioxide emissions from Ireland's electricity fuel mix. Furthermore, the annual community benefit funds associated with these wind farms have contributed over €575,000 to local community groups since 2004. These wind farms also contribute significantly to commercial rates which help improve services in Sligo more widely.

We are now examining the potential to repower these wind farms. In short, repowering would involve the dismantling and replacement of turbine equipment, with existing infrastructure on site such as roads and grid connection equipment being reused where possible. Repowering of these existing wind farms will reduce the total number of wind turbines located within the site boundary of the existing Dunneill and Kingsmountain wind farms. Repowering can provide several benefits including continuing the productive use of existing windfarm sites, significantly increases the clean energy produced and is a cheaper alternative to new-build wind farms, resulting in lower energy costs and increasing energy security.

The project team is also assessing the potential for a greenfield development located South-South-West of the existing Dunneill and Kingsmountain wind farms.

We are keen to work closely with the local community on this project and that is why we are calling door-to-door to let you know about our plans at this early development stage. This contact is also part of a wider engagement plan with additional consultation to take place in the forthcoming months.

In the meantime, if you wish to contact me to discuss any aspect of the project, please contact me at the email address provided below.

Kind Regards,

Conor Joy, External Relations Manager, SSE Renewables

**Email:** [clo@sse.com](mailto:clo@sse.com)