



**CRAIGGORE WIND FARM NAMED ONE OF THE ‘BEST PROJECTS’ IN IRELAND
AT IRISH WIND INDUSTRY AWARDS**

Northern Ireland’s first subsidy-free wind farm, Craiggore Wind Farm, was named as one of the ‘Best Projects’ in Ireland at the second Irish Wind Industry Awards in Dublin on Friday (24th January). The Co. Londonderry wind farm, developed by leading European energy operator ERG and the world's largest independent renewable energy company RES, was praised for its commitment to meet decarbonisation targets and its exemplary stakeholder and community engagement.

Organised by the Irish Wind Energy Association, the prestigious awards recognise and celebrate the most original, innovative organisations demonstrating excellence in their fields of the Irish wind energy sector.

Craiggore Wind Farm was hailed for its pioneering approach to development – using cutting-edge technology, it features the tallest wind turbine generators in Northern Ireland, which will produce more energy (80 GWh a year) and ensure a site lifespan of 30 years, five years longer than the industry norm. The developers’ collaborative approach to working with the local community was instrumental in getting the project approved.

Due to be completed by early 2021, Craiggore Wind Farm will produce carbon free, low cost electricity to meet the demands of around 29,700 homes every year, equivalent of 54% of houses in the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, in Northern Ireland.

It is estimated that 30% of the costs for the construction of Craiggore Wind Farm will be invested in the region through local supply contracts, including work for haulers, quarries, fencers, foresters, accommodation providers and plant hire firms, worth approximately £8 million to the Northern Irish economy during its construction.

Costantino Deperu, Chief Engineering Development Officer at ERG said: “We are proud of this recognition, which is a testament to the efforts made by the whole team in championing the transition to a zero-carbon energy system, whilst keeping the local community at the forefront of all our planning.

“With the latest technology at the heart of the project, we are confident that we can meet our decarbonisation targets, helping to limit the impacts of global climate change.”

ENDS

Notes to Editors

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About Craiggore Wind Farm

Craiggore Wind Farm is located in the townlands of Moneyguiggy and Craiggore Forest, Belraugh Road, Garvagh, County Londonderry.

Overview of the project: the new wind farm will be composed by 10 WTGs (Wind Turbine Generator) of about 2,5 MW/each (25 MW overall) that will produce 80 GWh a year, on a life-span of 30 years.

Community Benefits: Craiggore Wind Farm is a subsidy free project that will guarantee £13.1 million of rates over the lifetime of the project (approximately £527,000 per annum), supporting the Council to deliver the strategic outcomes identified in the Causeway Coast & Glens Community Plan. It is estimated that 30% of the costs for the construction of Craiggore Wind Farm will be invested in the region through local supply contracts, including work for haulers, quarries, fencers, foresters, accommodation providers and plant hire firms, worth approximately £8 million to the Northern Irish economy during its construction.

Craiggore Wind Farm will produce low carbon, low cost electricity to meet the demands of around 29,700 homes every year, equivalent of 54% of houses in the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area.

About ERG

ERG Group is an European renewable power producer, based in Italy, which has been operating successfully in the energy sector for 80 years. In recent years ERG has completed a radical transformation of its business, transitioning from being a major privately-owned oil company to being a leading independent operator in the market for electricity from clean, renewable sources.

ERG is active in seven countries, owning and operating wind farms with a total installed capacity of over 1,9 GW across Europe, including in the UK, France, Germany, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and Italy, where ERG is now the leading wind energy operator. Furthermore ERG is among the top ten wind energy operators in Europe by installed capacity.

Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange, ERG is also active in the production of power from water (527 MW), sun (140 MW) and thermoelectric sources with low environmental impact (480 MW).

ERG's new Edinburgh office is located at 1 St Colme Street, EH3 6AA.

ERG Website :- <http://www.erg.eu/home>

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ERG 2018 - 2022 Business Plan :-

http://www.erg.eu/documents/10181/360691/ERG_Presentazione_BP+2018_22