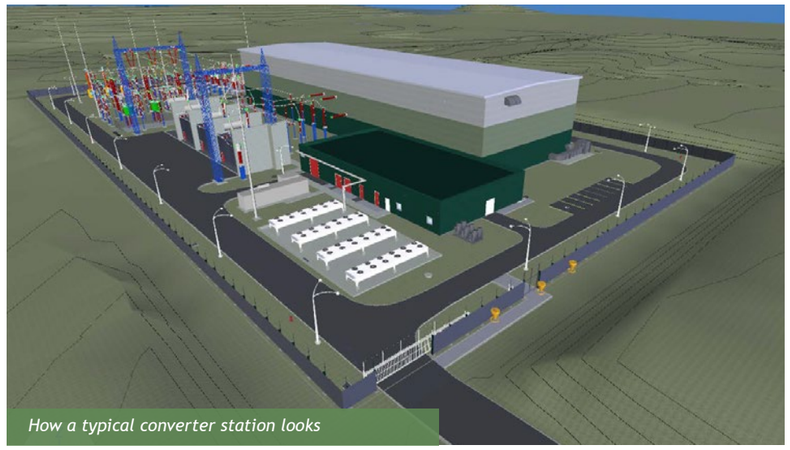
Contractor appointed

The engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contract to build Greenlink has been awarded to a consortium comprised of Siemens Energy AG (Siemens Energy) and Sumitomo Electric Industries Ltd (Sumitomo Electric).

The contract will cover works on the onshore and subsea high-voltage direct current (HVDC) cable systems, two converter stations, a tail station at Great Island in Wexford and onshore cable works in Wexford and Pembrokeshire, Wales. The award also includes a service and maintenance contract for operations and maintenance following commissioning of the project, which is expected to be in 2024.

The most up-to-date news regarding the rollout of onshore cable-laying will be available both on our website or by contacting our representatives whose details are provided in this newsletter. By the same token, it is our intention to endeavour to make contact with all residents along the cable route ahead of beginning work in their area.



How a typical converter station looks

About Greenlink

Greenlink is owned exclusively by leading global private markets investment management firm, Partners Group which has more than $119billion (USD) in assets under management with 20 offices worldwide.

Partners Group is headquartered in Switzerland with investment programmes under management in private equity, private real estate, private infrastructure and private debt. The firm employs over 1,500 people and is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange with a major ownership by its partners and employees. Partners Group has invested in over 140 direct infrastructure assets across the globe in different sectors.

A selection of the attendance at a recent supply chain event exploring opportunities for local businesses

Co-financed by the Connecting Europe Facility of the European Union

The sole responsibility of this publication lies with the author.
The European Union is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

Local Contacts

John Hartley
Site manager - Siemens Energy
John.hartley.ext@siemens-energy.com
087 184 1234

John Daly
Community Liaison Officer
john.daly@greenlink.ie
087 743 3486

Greenlink
Unit 3, 4075 Kingswood Road,
Citywest Business Campus,
Saggart, Co. Dublin
D24 YY36

info@greenlink.ie

www.greenlink.ie

Printed on 100% recycled FSC® certified paper

Community NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 | JANUARY 2022 - IRELAND

Greenlink INTERCONNECTOR

Greenlink CEO James O'Reilly addresses attendees at a recent event exploring supply chain opportunities for local businesses

Rollout of interconnector commences

Construction is set to begin on the Greenlink interconnector in the weeks ahead – a 190km subsea and underground cable linking the electricity grids in Ireland and the UK. This project, which is the first privately funded interconnector in Europe has a nominal capacity of 500 megawatts (MW) which is **equivalent to powering 380,000 homes**. It will provide a new grid connection between the existing Great Island substation in County Wexford and the UK National Grid's Pembroke substation in south Wales, thereby allowing power to flow in either direction depending on supply and demand in each country.

It will take almost three years to build the project with **around 250 jobs being created** in Ireland during construction. The company held an open day in New Ross in November last in order to meet suppliers, contractors and other local businesses which might be interested in working on the project. It's still not too late for expressions of interest to be sent to procurement@greenlink.ie

The contractors will provide a detailed outline of the works programme in due course. Residents and businesses will be notified ahead of construction taking place in their area. All work will be undertaken in the least disruptive fashion possible at all times.

New CEO appointed

Greenlink has made a number of new additions to its team in the last year to reflect the upsurge in activity as final preparations are made ahead of beginning construction of the interconnector.

In August, James O'Reilly was appointed Chief Executive Officer. Previously, he held the position of Chief Operating Officer for international renewable energy developer, Phelan Energy Group as well as having led major engineering and communication network firms in both Ireland and the USA.

IN THIS ISSUE....

250 JOBS

Around 250 jobs being created in Ireland during construction.

To register your business interest, contact procurement@greenlink.ie

New infrastructure

The underground onshore cable is approximately 23km in length. The cables will be buried underground along a route which is primarily on the local road network. Suitable traffic management plans will be put in place in consultation with Wexford County Council in order to safely undertake the works and minimise disruption to road users.

Greenlink will use high voltage direct current voltage source converter (HVDC VSC) technology to link the Irish and UK power systems. HVDC has been selected over an AC connection because AC is technically difficult over this distance. VSC technology's principal benefit is that it reduces the size of the converters when compared to similar technologies.

Two converter stations will also be developed on either side of the Irish Sea. In Wexford, the site is at Great Island which will convert electricity from DC to AC and vice versa.

Onshore cable route

Community gain

Notwithstanding the spin-off to construction and supply chain businesses in the South East, Greenlink has worked closely with Wexford County Council as well as other local community groups to identify suitable projects and initiatives to support.

It has been agreed to provide parking at Baginbun Beach as well as street lights and footpaths in the village of Ramsgrange, both of which are located along the cable route.

Greenlink will always endeavour to direct as much economic activity as it can locally including site maintenance, accommodation, building supplies, civil works and other professional services. Greenlink is a member of Wexford Chamber of Commerce and the British Irish Chamber of Commerce.

New footpaths and street lights will be developed in Ramsgrange

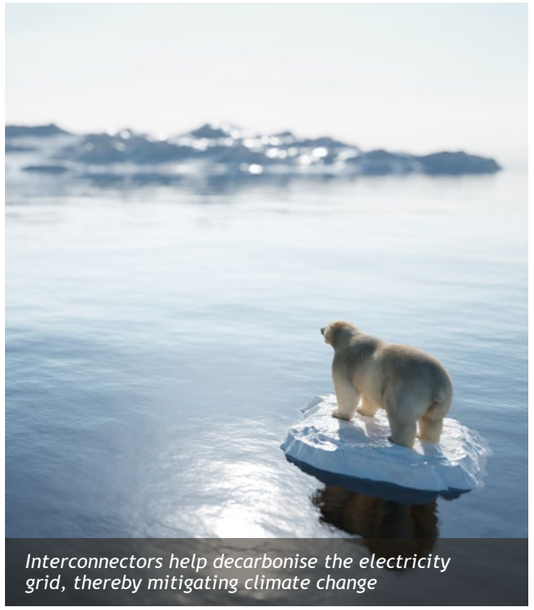
Greenlink will develop in excess of 50 car-parking spaces for users of Baginbun beach

Helping mitigate climate change

The Irish Government recently revised its target of renewable electricity upwards to 80% by 2030. Interconnection has a crucial role to play in realising this legally-binding ambition as world leaders intensify their call for positive action on climate change.

As we move away from traditional finite energy sources to green renewable power, the availability of infrastructure which allows power to flow between different jurisdictions is paramount. Since interconnectors allow electricity to flow from where it is generated to where it is needed across national transmission networks, they are a key part of the solution.

This supports the integration of green, low carbon energy sources in an affordable manner while simultaneously improving the security and reliability of our power supply. Of particular importance is Greenlink's ability to maximise the integration of green energy generated in both Ireland and the UK by exporting surplus energy between the two countries.


Interconnectors help decarbonise the electricity grid, thereby mitigating climate change

Project benefits

In addition to placing downward pressure on wholesale energy prices and reducing curtailment, Greenlink will also provide security of supply at a time of increased concern around grid outages and potential electricity blackouts.

The project is considered of critical importance in Europe and was awarded "Project of Common Interest" status by the European Commission. It is the first privately owned interconnector in Europe to operate under the cap and floor pricing model which guarantees a minimum level of support while protecting consumers from excessive energy costs.

380,000
Potential to power 380,000 homes*

Investment
€500m/£420m of private capital investment for Ireland and Wales

Energy
Supports the growth and integration of low carbon energy

Security
Enhances the security of supply for electricity consumers

Value for Money
Downward pressure on electricity bills

Jobs
Jobs and knock-on economic benefits during construction

*Figure for number of homes is based on typical annual Irish household use of 4,200 kWh (CER, Review of Typical Consumption Figures - Decision Paper 12 March 2017 (CER17042) and estimated total flows from UK to SEM of 1,600,000 MWh/yr.

CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

JANUARY 2022 — Work starts on converter station site at Great Island

SPRING 2022 — Underground cable pre-construction surveys begin (onshore)

AUTUMN 2022 — Rollout of underground cabling begins

SPRING 2024 — Installation of Irish section of offshore cables begins

BY END OF 2024 — Trial operation and final commissioning of interconnector

All dates are approximate at this stage. Our construction schedule will be regularly updated and made available on our website as well as in future communications, including the next edition of our project newsletter in the summer.