



Wind Value Community Engagement Interview Information



Thank you for considering the Wind Value research project. This document explains what the study is about and what your participation would involve so you can make an informed choice.

The purpose of this study is to assess attitudes towards wind energy and the possibility of community ownership of onshore wind farms. Should you choose to participate, you will be asked to take part in a one-to-one interview with a member of the research team and to complete an online survey afterwards. This interview will be audio recorded and is expected to take 15 - 20 minutes. The online survey should take less than 6 minutes.

Participation in this interview and the survey is completely voluntary. There is no obligation to participate, and should you choose to do so, you can refuse to answer specific questions, or decide to withdraw from the interview; similarly with the survey, you may answer as many or as few questions as you wish. You may take part in either the interview or the survey or both. Once the interview has been concluded, you can choose to withdraw at any time in the subsequent month. In this case, the information you supplied in the interview will not be used. Similarly with the survey, you may withdraw up to a month after submitting your questionnaire and your information will not be used. The right to withdraw from either the interview or survey cannot be permanent as research reports and papers will be written based on anonymized information received from you and all the participants.

All the information you provide will be kept confidential and anonymous and will be available only to the Wind Value research team (for an up-to-date list of team members see https://windvalue.ie/?page_id=14). The only exception is where information is disclosed which indicates that there is a serious risk to you or to others. In that event, suitable statutory authorities will be notified. Once the interview is completed, the recording will immediately be transferred to a safe University College Cork (UCC) data storage platform and wiped from the recording device. The interview will then be transcribed by one of the research team, and all identifying information will be removed. Once this is done, the recording will also be deleted and only the anonymized transcript will remain. Similarly, the results from the survey will be anonymised and stored securely. Your information will be stored on a UCC supported cloud storage platform, on the Wind Value Microsoft Teams account which may only be accessed from the researchers' UCC login. The data will be stored for minimum of ten years. The anonymized information you provide may contribute to research publications and/or conference presentations as well as a PhD thesis and research reports available on the project website at <https://windvalue.ie/>.

We do not anticipate any negative outcomes from participating in this study. At the end of the interview, I will discuss with you how you found the experience and how you are feeling. Should you experience distress arising from the interview, see support contact details below.

This study has obtained ethical approval from the UCC Social Research Ethics Committee. If you have any queries about this research, contact me at peter.deeney@ucc.ie.

If you agree to take part in this study, please sign the consent form overleaf.

Project Website:

<https://windvalue.ie/> ;

Project Twitter Handle:

@WindValue

Support Contact Details

The Samaritans ☎ 116123

MABS ☎ 0818 07 2000

Project Contact:

Dr Peter Deeney

G0.3 Cleaner Production Promotion Unit,

Environmental Research Institute,

Ellen Hutchins Building, Lee Road, Cork T23X10

peter.deeney@ucc.ie



This study is funded by the Irish Research Council No. IRC*21/PATH-A/9348.