



Lettermore

Energy Storage Project

Newsletter 1
Summer 2026



Introduction

FuturEnergy Ireland is exploring the potential for a battery energy storage project located within the townlands of Lettermore and Aughkeely, west of Drumkeen in Co. Donegal.

FuturEnergy Ireland is a leading Irish renewable energy developer established in 2021 as a stand-alone joint venture between Coillte and ESB. The company was formed with an aim to maximise the potential of Ireland's unique wind and land resources and accelerate Ireland's transformation to a low carbon energy economy.

It is our ambition to develop more than 1GW of renewable energy by 2030 through the advancement of high-quality, carefully considered onshore wind and battery storage projects. These projects, once delivered, would power an estimated 730,000 homes annually, make a significant contribution to Ireland's commitment to produce 80% of electricity from renewable sources by the end of this decade, and deliver material emissions reductions.

What is a battery energy storage system?

A battery energy storage system is a collection of weatherised container-like units that store electrical energy when it is available and release it when needed.

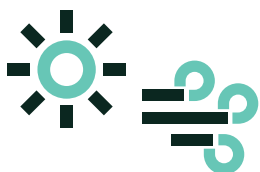
When the sun is shining or the wind is blowing, these sources generate electricity, but sometimes they produce more than we need at that moment, for example, when it is extremely windy or sunny.

At present Ireland does not have the infrastructure to store meaningful amounts of this excess energy. It ends up being wasted and then when it's a very cloudy or calm day, we have to use fossil fuel for our energy generation.

Instead of wasting that electricity, we can store it in a battery energy storage system and save it for later. Then, when we need electricity, such as at peak demand times in late afternoon or early evening, the battery system can release the stored energy to power our homes, industry, transport, devices and critical services.

Batteries can play a critical role in increasing our use of renewable energy, which will make the electricity grid and our energy supply much more secure, reliable and cost-effective.

How does it work?



Renewable Energy

Windy or sunny days can generate more energy than we need or more than the grid can take



Energy in

Excess green energy charges utility-scale batteries



Energy Storage

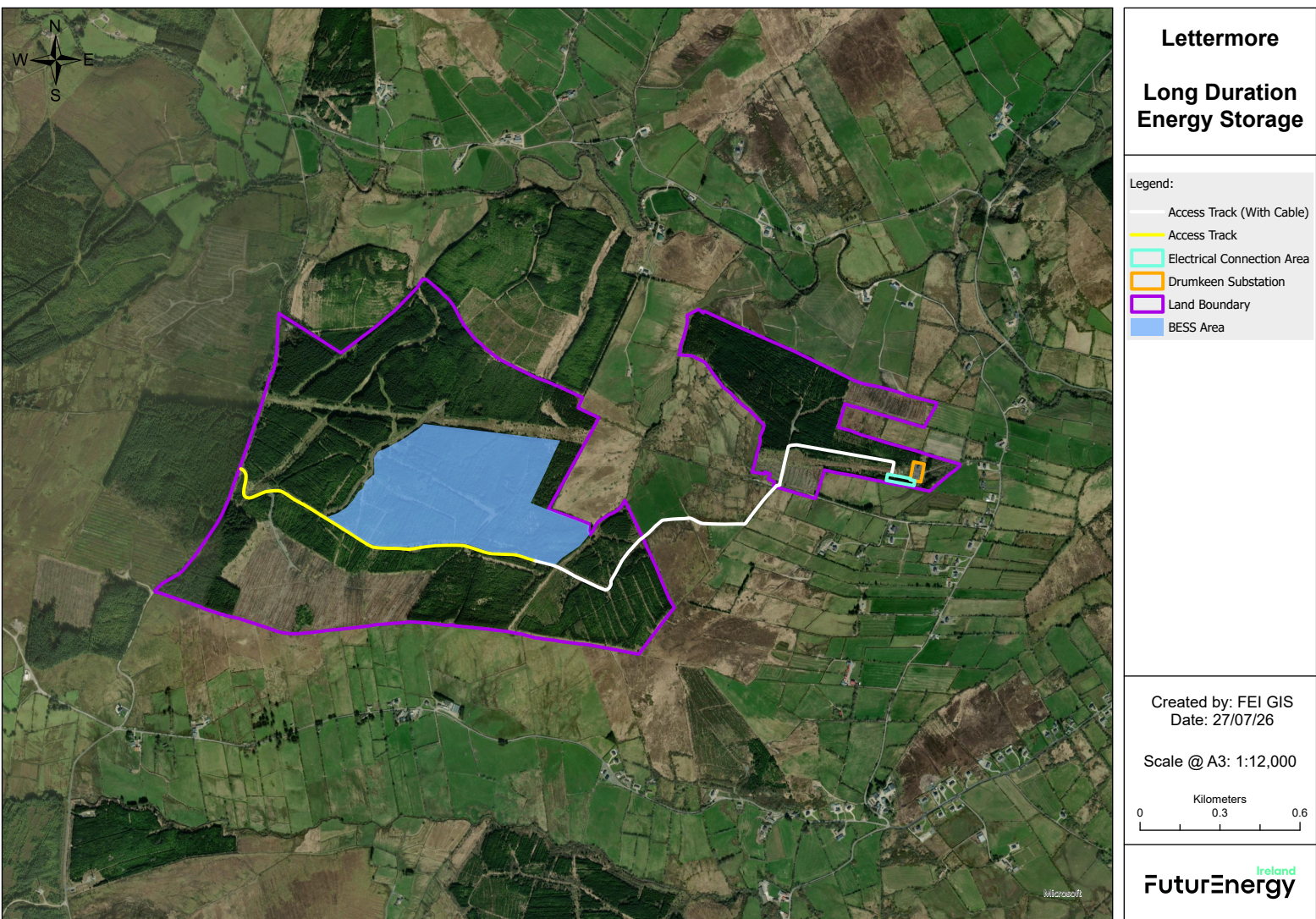
Batteries store excess renewable energy

Project details

The proposed site for Lettermore Energy Storage is outlined on the map below. This rural upland setting is mainly on Coillte land with some third-party land included in the site study area. The main entrance to the site is from the west on road L-6634. The project will connect to the 110kV Drumkeen substation.

This site was primarily chosen due to:

- **The region's energy infrastructure challenges.**
- **Proximity to Drumkeen substation.**
- **The forestry location would reduce visual impact and provide distance buffers to dwellings.**



Energy out

Batteries release the stored renewable energy when it is needed



More Green Power

Released energy powers our homes, industry, transport, devices and critical services.





A computer-generated image of what a FuturEnergy Ireland project might look like

The safety of iron-air batteries is one of this project's strongest assets

The technology

Form Energy and iron-air batteries

FuturEnergy Ireland is working in partnership with Form Energy, a US company driving innovation in energy storage technology by manufacturing batteries based on iron-air chemistry which are capable of storing energy for up to 100 hours, significantly longer than other common battery types such as lithium ion.

Iron-air chemistry is very different from lithium-ion: it is based on a chemistry using iron, air, and water. Each battery module contains a stack of many smaller, individual battery cells. Each cell is filled with iron and air electrodes, as well as water-based, non-flammable electrolyte, like the electrolyte used in AA batteries.

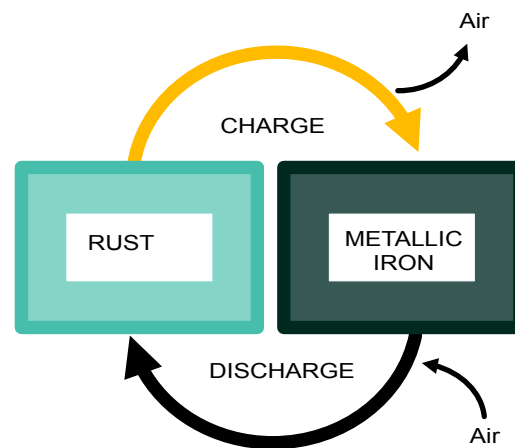
There is no pathway for thermal runaway (i.e. fire risk) with iron-air batteries, which is a failure mechanism in other battery technologies.

Roughly 95% of materials used are recyclable or salvageable.



A closer look at how iron-air batteries work

- The principle is reverse rusting
- While discharging, the battery ‘breathes in’ oxygen from the air and converts iron metal to rust
- While charging, the application of an electrical current converts the rust back to iron and the battery ‘breathes out’ oxygen.
- This cycle repeats, providing us with low-cost, stable, safe energy storage when and where it is needed.



What does an iron-air battery storage project look like?

Iron-air batteries are housed in units that resemble shipping containers and installed on level concrete foundations. The containers are approximately 12 metres by 2.5 metres by 2.5 metres (see below for a Form Energy unit).

As part of the planning design, the project will be surrounded by enclosed palisade fencing and include landscaping and planting along site boundaries. A biodiversity plan to include planting for additional screening of the site will be designed specifically for the proposed Lettermore Energy Storage project.

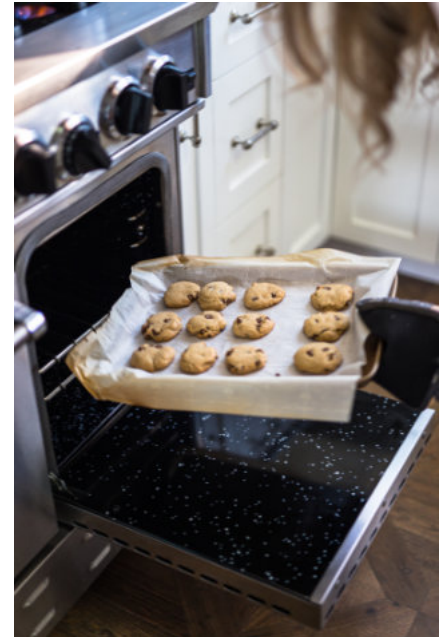
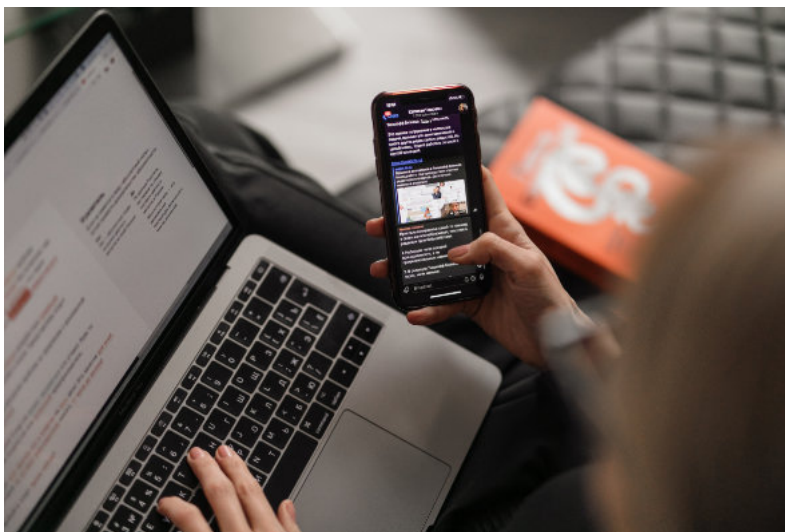




What are the benefits?

We need a reliable clean, economic source of electricity to ensure that daily life runs smoothly from the moment we wake up.

Homes, hospitals, businesses, schools, public transport and water sanitation all rely heavily on a reliable electricity supply. Battery energy storage systems have the potential to support our energy needs by providing a consistent, home-produced, secure source of renewable electricity.



Energy efficiency

Sometimes we have more wind energy available in a region than the electrical lines can carry or more than the system demand requires. Battery energy storage systems provide this energy with a place to go, which stops potential green energy going to waste.

Environmental responsibility

By reducing the country's reliance on fossil fuels, we contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. This will help the Government to reach its target of becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

Community Benefit Fund

An annual fund based on the size (MW) of the project is designed to support local community initiatives. More details will be shared in the next newsletter.

Local economic boost

The construction phase creates jobs for skilled workers and contractors while supporting local suppliers and service providers.

County funding

The county council receives substantial long-term revenue through rates payments that support essential services such as road maintenance, public lighting and fire services.



Grid reliability

Storing excess energy ensures a consistent, reliable power supply. This capability helps the overall stability of our grid. This is critical to support our electrical infrastructure and Ireland's increasing energy needs.

Stable energy costs

Energy storage systems help to stabilise electricity costs by optimising energy usage and reducing our dependence on expensive fossil fuel power generation.

Energy security

Battery energy storage systems reduce our reliance on fossil fuel imports and our economy's exposure to geopolitical events such as the recent Middle East conflict, which led to energy supply challenges and significant increases in fuel bills.



Our commitment to you

Our aim is to develop responsible renewable energy projects in a way that respects the local community and the environment.

From the outset, we will place a fundamental focus on inclusion and partnership with stakeholders. The Lettermore team will keep you updated and informed as the project progresses. We will also upload all information onto the project website www.lettermoreenergystorage.ie.

We welcome your feedback on this project. If you wish to speak to a member of the team or would like to be included in updates, please subscribe on the project website or use the contact details in this newsletter. There is also a **Support Us** page on the website for your feedback.



The FuturEnergy Ireland approach

We commit to the following community engagement principles.



User-friendly, relevant and up-to-date information

We ensure that the local community is kept updated, informed and has access to project information in a user-friendly format.



Constructive conversation

Open, honest engagement is key. We listen to feedback, seek to understand any concerns raised and address these to the extent possible.



Building relationships

The Lettermore project team is committed to strengthening partnerships with local communities now and into the future.

Meet the Team

The project team directly involved in the Lettermore Battery Energy Storage includes a planning and environmental consultancy, a technology partner and a dedicated in-house team that includes specialists in areas such as grid, planning and community engagement.



Joseph Kelly
LDES Development Manager

Joseph has been working in renewables for ten years and has a keen interest in energy storage, which was the subject of his PhD. He firmly believes that battery energy storage systems are the missing part of the puzzle to achieving a reliable, decarbonised grid.



Shane Lowry
Community Engagement Manager

Shane is your point of contact for this project. As an experienced community engagement manager, he feels strongly that individuals and communities should be continually kept up to date on a local project and have ease of access in contacting the team.



Form Energy

FuturEnergy Ireland has partnered with Form Energy, a US company driving innovation in energy storage technology and manufacturing. Form Energy's multi-day energy storage solutions are designed to ensure a clean, secure and reliable electric grid, even during prolonged periods of stress on the grid. Form Energy's first commercial product is an iron-air battery system that can cost-effectively store and discharge energy for up to 100 hours. Form's battery system is a sustainable, safe, and scalable answer to the world's growing need for grid security.



Fehily Timoney

Fehily Timoney and Company (FT) is one of Ireland's largest indigenous consultancies specialising in energy and renewables, sustainable infrastructure, circular economy and environment.

Established in 1990, FT employs more than 110 professionals, including planners, scientists, engineers, geotechnicians and technical support staff in Cork, Dublin and Carlow. The company's success is driven by its multi-disciplined approach to all stages of project development. With the expertise and technical depth of its planning team, FT combines technical excellence with regulatory insight to provide holistic solutions, supporting Ireland's transition to a sustainable, low-carbon future



The development timeline

It can take six to 10 years from project initiation to operation of a typical battery storage project. This is due to the sequential process of designing a project, obtaining planning permission, securing project finance and construction.

Sometimes, for reasons beyond our control, timelines may change. If this should happen, we will keep the community informed through letter-drops and via the project website.



Next steps

All information, timelines and contact details are available on the dedicated website: www.lettermoreenergystorage.ie. and will be updated as the project progresses.

Design Phase

(4 - 9 months)

Development timeline

Summer 2026

The Lettermore community engagement manager calls to houses adjacent to the proposed site to introduce the project and deliver Newsletter 1.

Newsletter 1 distributed to local political representatives.

The website www.lettermoreenergystorage.ie launches, which includes all project information and FAQs.

Summer/Autumn 2026

Newsletter 2 delivered to local homes and political representatives with updates, including project timeline, community benefit fund details, a site map and visuals.

Community engagement manager calls to local homes.

Autumn/Winter

Advance notice given to the local community of the planning application.

Planning application submitted to Donegal County Council.

Planning application documents uploaded to www.lettermoreenergystorage.ie

Contact Us

We welcome your feedback. Please email, call or text Community Engagement Manager Shane Lowry to obtain information, ask questions and request to be kept up to date. Alternatively, send us a message via the **Contact Us** form on the website

Email: lettermore@futureenergyireland.ie

Call: Shane Lowry on 087 210 5889

Address: Shane Lowry, Lettermore Energy Storage, c/o, FuturEnergy Ireland, 27/28 Herbert Place, Dublin 2. D02 DC97
www.lettermoreenergystorage.ie



Lettermore

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Project

FuturEnergy ^{Ireland}

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