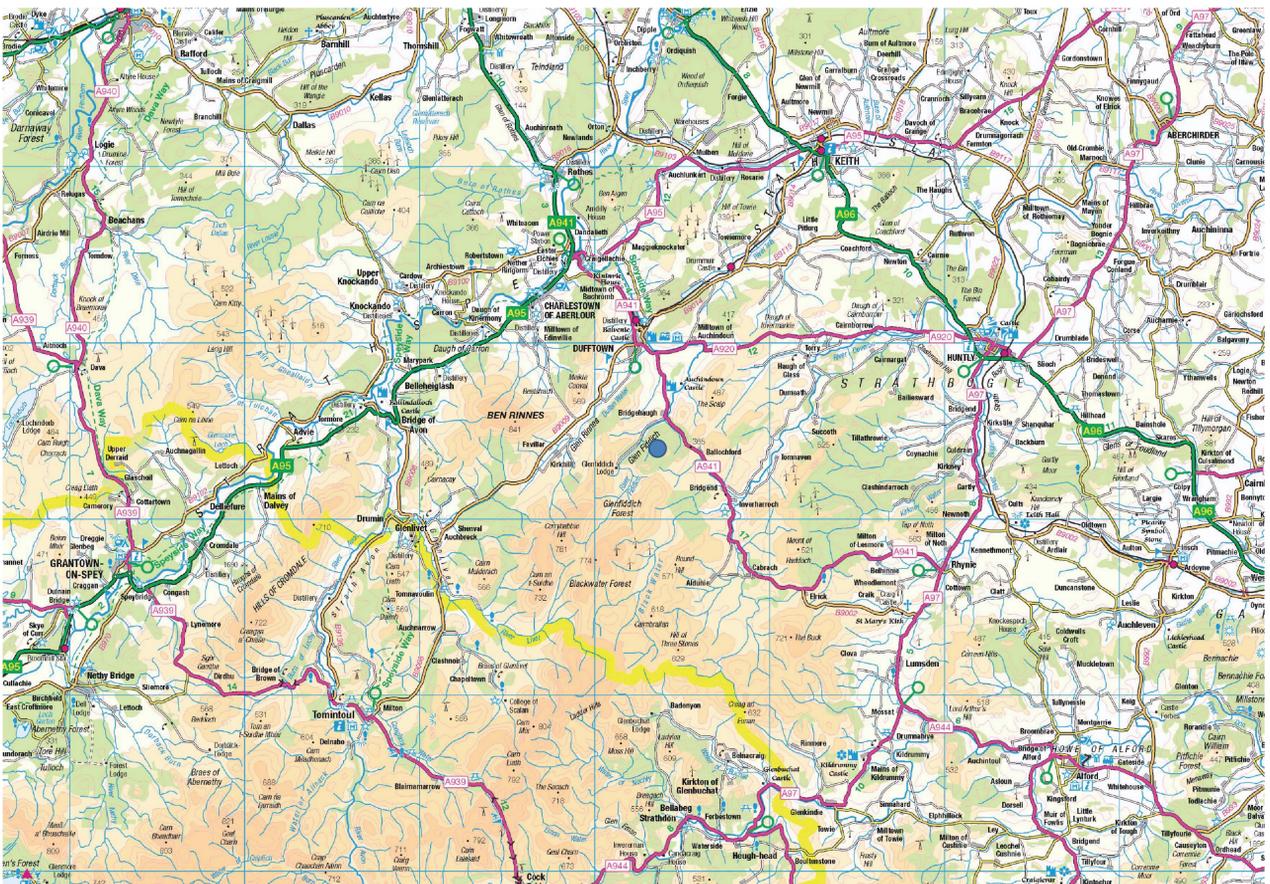




## Welcome



### Welcome to our exhibition about our proposals to develop Glenfiddich Wind Farm, located 5km south of Dufftown in Moray.

We would like to start a conversation with the local community and key stakeholders about how we can work together to develop a project that will help to support:

- The local community
- The local economy
- Scotland and the UK's net zero aspirations

We appreciate that the Covid-19 pandemic has been making face-to-face engagement very challenging. We hope that holding a virtual consultation exhibition, and a public exhibition with pre-booked time slots, will allow everyone the opportunity to view and comment on our proposals.

Consultation is an important part of the development process. We welcome your feedback and opinions. Please complete a feedback form, or contact the team to discuss the plans further.

**e** [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)  
**t** 07435 763 900  
**w** [www.glenfiddichwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenfiddichwindfarm.co.uk)

### About Fred. Olsen Renewables

Fred. Olsen Renewables is one of the leading independent renewable power producers in the UK. Our operational UK wind farm portfolio comprises a total generating capacity of 529.7 MW and we have an extensive pipeline of projects coming forward.

We have been active in Moray for many years. Our wind farms, Rothes and Pauls Hill, went into construction in 2004 and were both operational by 2006.

With over twenty-five years' experience in consenting, developing and operating wind farms, we are one of the very few developers that take a project all the way from initiation and development, through to operation and ultimately decommissioning.

By being involved in every aspect of a wind farm's lifecycle, we are not only experts in developing successful projects, we are good neighbours.

[fredolsenrenewables.com](http://fredolsenrenewables.com)



## Our proposals

### About the site

To help meet Scottish Government targets Forestry and Land Scotland (formerly the Forestry Commission) selected development partners to deliver renewable energy from wind farm projects on the National Forest Estate.

Fred. Olsen Renewables was awarded exclusive rights to investigate the feasibility of new onshore wind energy projects in Grampian and Morayshire – including in Glenfiddich Forest.

Glenfiddich Forest is currently operating as a commercial forest, and will continue to do so once the wind farm is constructed.

### Glenfiddich Wind Farm

**We have been exploring the potential to develop Glenfiddich Wind Farm for over ten years and we hope that this exhibition helps to outline:**

- Our proposals for the site
- The opportunities that the wind farm can present locally

**At this stage, the main components of the proposed development are:**

- Up to 11 turbines with a height of up to 200m to tip
- Turbine foundations and crane hardstandings
- Battery storage facility
- External transformers at each turbine
- A network of new and upgraded access tracks across the site
- An anemometry mast for wind monitoring
- An onsite substation and control building
- Temporary construction compounds, laydown areas and car parking
- Temporary borrow pits





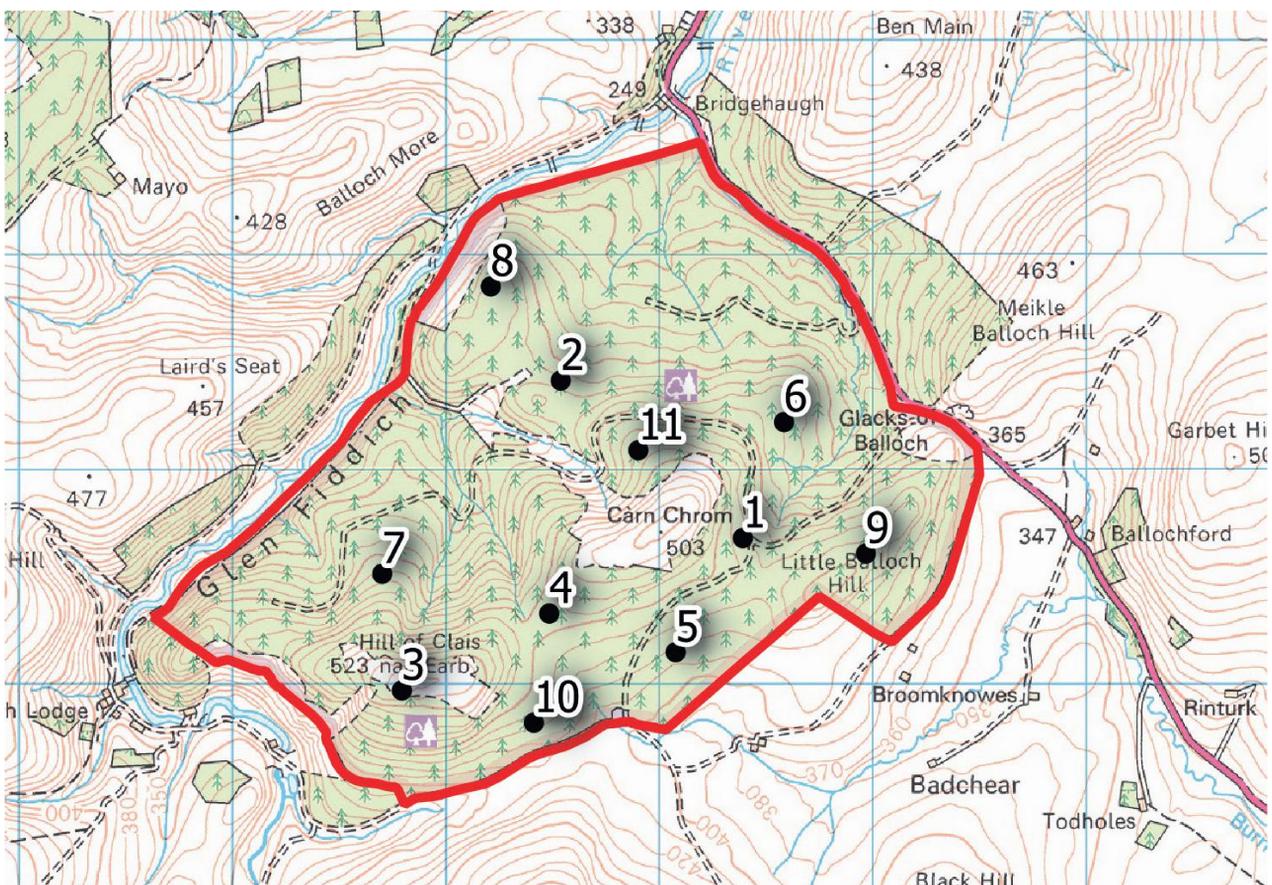
## Layout and Design Process

### Many factors will determine the final location of the wind turbines, including:

- Visual impact
- Impact on sensitive habitats
- Proximity to areas of ecological interest
- Wind resource
- Engineering constraints
- Community comments

Some of these issues will not be fully identified until the technical assessments are finished. This means that the layout you see today may be different from the layout submitted with the application for consent.

We will ensure that the local community and key stakeholders are consulted on the final layout. Below is our initial layout.





## Development Process

### We are currently undertaking the scoping and consultation phase of our development process for the proposed development.

We submitted a scoping report to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in April 2021. This described our draft proposal and invited the views of consultees on the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The stakeholders included:

- Moray Council
- Aberdeenshire Council
- NatureScot
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- Historic Environment Scotland (HES)
- Community Councils

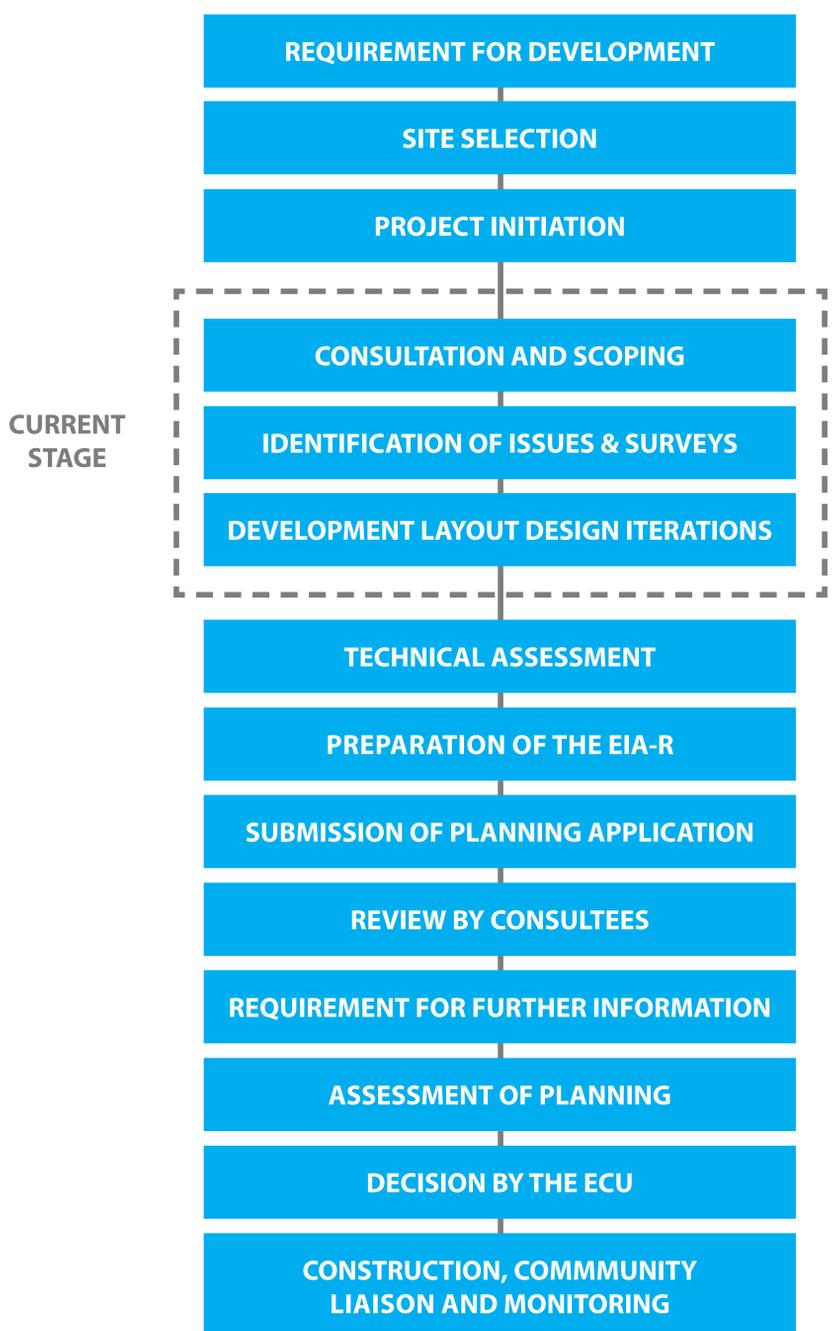
The feedback that we receive determines the scope of the EIA.

Baseline surveys are ongoing for the proposed development. These surveys will inform the final layout of the site ensuring that it minimises effects on the local environment. We then evaluate and present the effects of the project in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA-R). The EIA-R will accompany the planning application to the ECU.

#### The EIA-R will consider:

- Ornithology
- Ecology
- Landscape and visual matters
- Noise
- Geology, hydrology and hydrogeology
- Cultural heritage and archaeology
- Access and traffic
- Socio-economics, tourism and recreation
- Telecommunications
- Aviation

### Our Development Process





# Environmental Impact Assessment

## Environmental Considerations

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is being undertaken to identify and assess the potential significant environmental effects of the proposal. The information gathered through the EIA process will help to shape the design and layout of the proposed development and required mitigation measures. This includes, amongst others:

### Ornithology

This assessment considers any potential effect on local bird assemblages. Extensive ornithology surveys have been completed with no cause for concern upon potential ornithological impacts identified.

### Ecology

This assessment considers the local flora and fauna, with the exception of birds which are assessed separately. Habitat and protected species surveys have been undertaken within the site which include bats, water vole, otter, badger, red squirrel and pine marten. To date, Phase 1 habitat, bat roost and activity and fish habitat surveys have been carried out.

### Cultural Heritage

This assessment considers the cultural heritage assets in close proximity to the site and helps to inform appropriate mitigation proposals. Careful consideration will be given to any potential impacts upon cultural heritage assets such as Auchindoun Castle and Balvenie Castle.

### Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Peat

This assessment considers the hydrological, geological and hydrogeological characteristics of the proposed development site, and helps

to inform appropriate mitigation proposals. Phase 1 peat probing was carried out in 2020, as the site functions as a commercial forestry plantation, soils and peat are modified to some degree. There are some small pockets of peat on site and whilst considering other constraints, the layout will be designed to avoid deep peat as far as possible.

### Aviation and Telecommunications

This assessment will consider the potential effects of the proposed wind farm on civil and military aviation interests. Telecommunications operations will also be considered.

### Socioeconomics

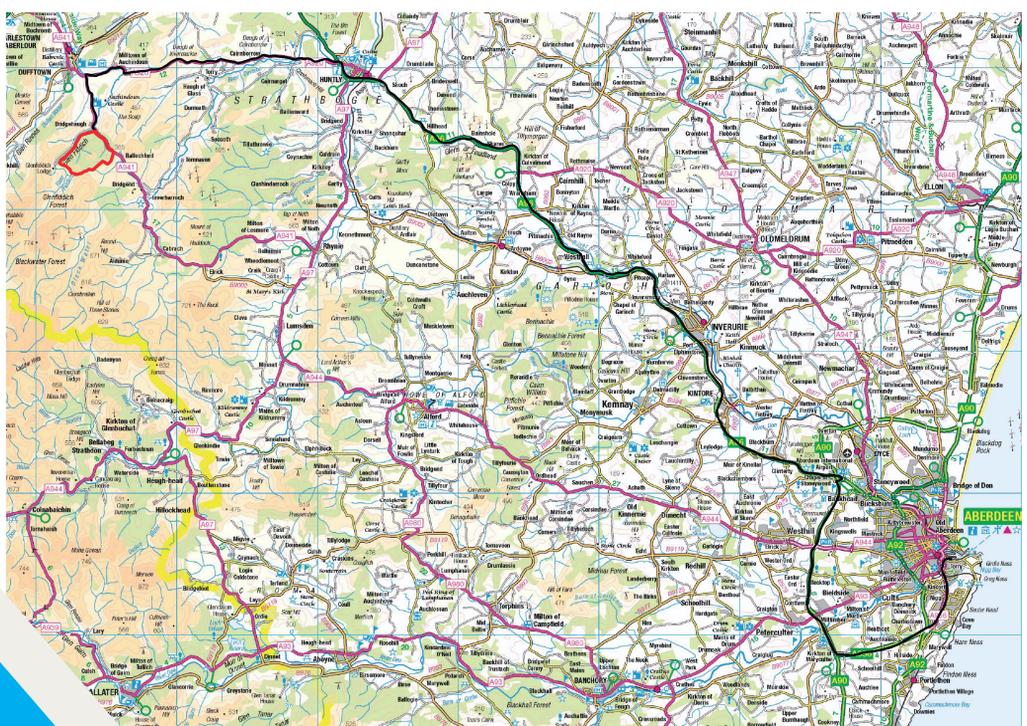
Predicted socioeconomic benefits of the proposed development will be outlined within the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA-R). This includes benefits on local, regional and national levels during the construction and operational periods of the proposed development.

### Noise and Vibration

This assessment will consider the effects of both construction and operational noise on nearby sensitive receptors, including in combination with other nearby wind farms. No perceptible ground-borne vibration is expected from the operation of the wind farm.

### Traffic and Transport

This assessment considers the impact on traffic volumes and the transport network during the construction period, operational phase and decommissioning phase of the proposed development. The initial route review and the site visit has identified that turbines can be transported from Aberdeen Harbour, along the A956, then on to the A944, A97, A96 and A920 then finally onto the A941 to site.





## Environmental Impact Assessment

### Landscape and Visual Impact

Once the design layout has been finalised, a full Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) of the proposed development will be carried out to consider effects on:

- Landscape fabric - changes to the physical form of the landscape and its elements
- Landscape character - changes in the key characteristics and qualities of the landscape as a result of the development
- Visual amenity - changes in the appearance of the landscape as a result of development

The proposed development will be analysed to identify elements with the potential to cause an effect on the landscape within the specified study area.

### Photomontages and ZTV

The images presented at this exhibition have been prepared to illustrate the visual impact of the proposed draft layout from four viewpoint locations. Photographs from each of these viewpoints have had wind turbines added using computer generated software.

A preliminary Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) diagram has been generated for the proposed development that indicates the number of turbines theoretically visible from any location within the study area.

This means that from those areas that are coloured you may be able to see the proposed development. The different colours let you know how many wind turbines you may be able to see.

The ZTV does not consider trees and buildings. These can often screen views so that fewer or no turbines are actually visible. The ZTV gives an initial idea of those areas from which you may be able to see the wind farm. This is checked by landscape architects during site visits.

Should you wish to receive the ZTV and photomontages in hard copy please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk).





## Community Benefit

**To date, we have made available almost £2m to the communities surrounding our Rothes and Pauls Hill Wind Farms in Moray.**

**If consented, Glenfiddich Wind Farm will provide over £400,000 per year to the local community. This equates to over £14m throughout the lifespan of the project.**

We want to work closely with the communities surrounding the wind farm to ensure that the community benefit can address identified local challenges such as:

- Fuel poverty
- Energy efficiency
- Housing stock
- Recreation
- Connectivity
- Tourism

### Community Ownership

In addition to our community benefit package, we are also offering up to 22% in shared ownership of the wind farm. This could allow the community the opportunity to create a sustainable income stream – supporting long term initiatives and aspirations.

We would encourage the communities close to the wind farm to consider if they would like to take advantage of this.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss community ownership further and will also gladly signpost the community to useful resources that can provide guidance and support.

To learn more please contact [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)

The community benefit commitments for Glenfiddich Wind Farm are in line with the 2017 Scottish Energy Strategy, which strongly supports the provision of community benefits for renewable energy projects.

We want to hear your views on how the wind farm can continue to support your community and meet local aspirations. Get in touch [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk).





## Fred. Olsen Renewables in Moray

**To date through our Community Benefit Funds, we have voluntarily made available almost £2m to eligible communities surrounding our wind farms within the Moray Council area.**

This funding has helped to support a range of initiatives including:

- Hall repairs and maintenance
- The exploration of community renewable projects
- Defibrillators
- Play equipment

**outfitmoray**  
actively developing potential

### OutFit Moray

Since 2019, Fred. Olsen Renewables has been the main funder for Outfit Moray's Cairngorm to Coast event. The organisation is an outdoor learning and adventure charity based in Lossiemouth and has strong links to the communities neighbouring the existing Paul's Hill Wind Farm and the Rothes Wind Farm, alongside Glenfiddich Wind Farm.

This funding allows the organisation to maintain their fundraising efforts in order to deliver a range of life-changing outdoor learning and adventure activity programmes for vulnerable and disadvantaged young people across Moray.

Karen Cox from Outfit Moray:

*"We really appreciate this support from Fred. Olsen Renewables. The funding has allowed us to continue to deliver life-changing activities to young people in Moray, particularly those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged."*

*"Sponsorship of our 100km hike and bike challenge event, Cairngorm to Coast, helps us to bring in even more vital funds to make sure we are able to continue supporting young people in Moray. We hope to be working closely with Fred. Olsen Renewables for many years to come."*





## Supply Chain

**We are pleased that through our Rothes and Pauls Hill projects we have managed to employ a range of local services so far – helping to maximise the local economic opportunities associated with our wind farms.**

If our Glenfiddich application is successful we will look to local businesses to provide services to the development. Services that we have previously employed include:

- Local accommodation
- Plant hire
- Caterers
- Groundworks
- Fencers
- Concrete and aggregate

If you, or your company, are able to provide any of these services, and more, please get in touch by emailing [suppliers@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:suppliers@fredolsen.co.uk)

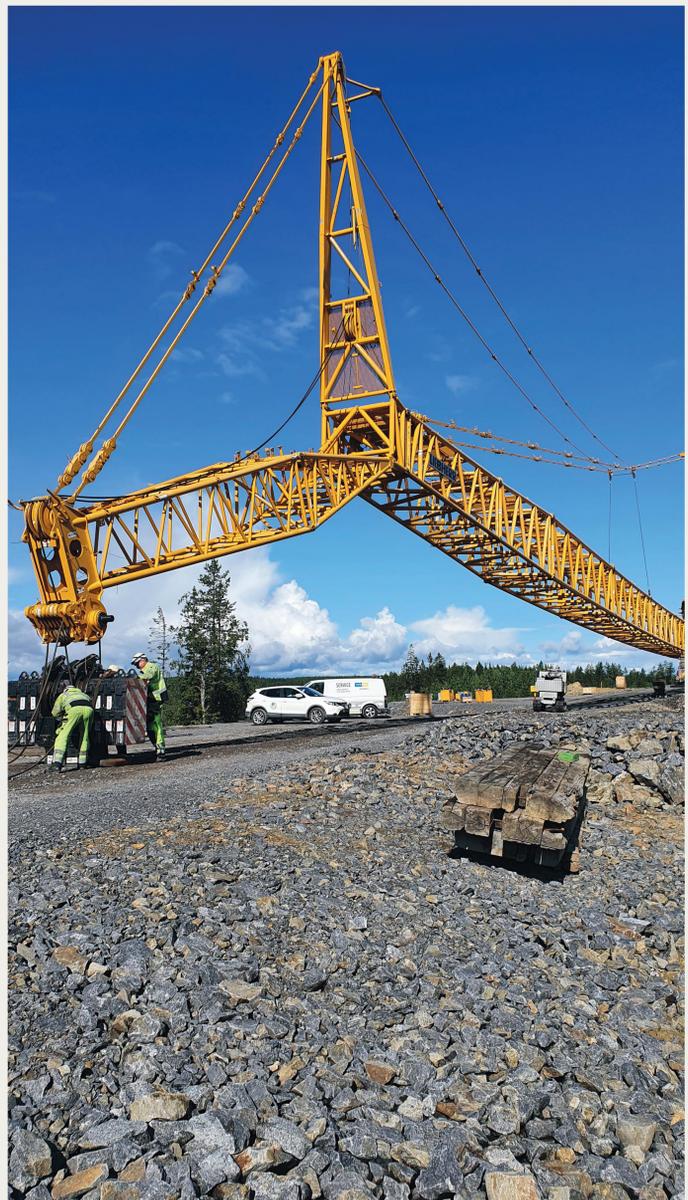


### Moray Chamber of Commerce

In order to support our efforts in engaging local businesses throughout the development, construction, operation and decommissioning of our projects, we recently joined Moray Chamber of Commerce. We hope that this partnership will help to bolster our efforts to employ local skills.

*"We are delighted to welcome Fred. Olsen Renewables to the network at Moray Chamber of Commerce. We look forward to working closely with the team as they start to prepare for a new project in the local area.*

*"Their commitment to supporting and engaging the local business community is vital, and we are keen to support the team at Fred. Olsen Renewables in making the connections required to support both the local community and our local businesses."*





## Proposed Timeline

### Site selection

Glenfiddich was awarded to Fred. Olsen Renewables as part of a tendering process by The Forestry Commission (now Forestry Land Scotland) in 2010.

Research has been ongoing and shows good wind speeds and minimal constraints.

### Planning

We want to apply to the Scottish Government for consent by early 2022. Ahead of then we will undertake a range of public consultation and seek to gather as much feedback as possible.

The application will be supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report that will show the results of all studies undertaken. The EIA report will be publicly available. Interested parties can formally comment on the application.

### Construction

12-18 months

If approved, construction usually begins one year after consent.

Construction can take between 12 and 18 months, and planning conditions will be used to manage certain elements of construction.

### Operation

35 years

The community fund will be active throughout the lifetime of the wind farm to support local projects.

### Decommissioning

12 months

A decommissioning plan will form part of the application.

At the end of the operational period, turbines are removed and the site restored.

A financial bond will be put in place to cover the cost of decommissioning.

## Next steps

We hope to continue our consultation prior to submitting an application in late 2021/early 2022. The full suite of application documents will be made publicly available at this time.

We would welcome your comments on our proposals. Please take a moment to complete a feedback form or get in touch.

**e** [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)

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## Improving Access

**We recognise that the development of Glenfiddich Wind Farm also presents the opportunity to open up, and improve, access in and around the site.**

In recognition of the outdoor opportunities at Glenfiddich we are proposing to develop a detailed outdoor access plan to accompany our application.

This will include a commitment to further consultation with outdoor recreation and access groups, and the community, to develop detailed proposals to support:

- Improving access in and around the Glenfiddich site
- Upgrading existing paths
- Identify opportunities to link into existing path networks
- Installing waymarkers and interpretation panels
- Opening up access to a wide range of users – cycling, walking, running, amongst others

