

Fred. Olsen Renewables



Rothes III Wind Farm

Pre-Application Consultation Report

February 2019





Document history

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1. Introduction

- 1.1.1. This report provides a description of the pre-application consultation undertaken for the proposed Rothes III Wind Farm (herein referred to as the proposed development) located approximately 4 km west of the town of Rothes in Moray.
- 1.1.2. This Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report has been prepared to accompany the submission of an application by Rothes III Limited under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for the construction of a wind farm comprising of up to 29 wind turbines, which will act as an extension to the existing Rothes I and II Wind Farm developments. The project is centred on British National Grid Coordinates of 320933 and 848356 respectively. There will be a mixture of turbine sizes at the proposed development: 3 turbines of an overall height from base to tip up to 149.9 m; 8 turbines of an overall height from base to tip up to 200 m and 18 turbines of an overall height from base to tip up to 225 m.
- 1.1.3. The proposed development application also includes external transformer housing, site tracks, crane pads, turbine foundations, underground electricity cables, 2 onsite substations, up to 6 borrow pits, forestry felling and replanting, associated works/infrastructure and Health and Safety sign posting around the site (further information is provided in Chapter 4: Description of Development in Volume 2 of the EIAR).

2. The Applicant

2.1.1. Rothes III Limited is a subsidiary company of Fred. Olsen Renewables Ltd. (FORL). FORL has been developing and operating wind farms since the mid 1990's and is fully committed to the Scottish and UK renewable energy generation market, with an operational portfolio generating a capacity of over 569 MW. In the UK, FORL has a total of six operation wind farms, including Rothes I and II Wind Farm and nearby Paul's Hill Wind Farm in the Moray area.

3. Legislative Context

- 3.1.1. As the proposed development is an extension to an existing Section 36 development at Rothes (a development which exceeds a 50MW generating capacity) the scheme requires consent from the Scottish Government under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 and involves the Scottish Government considering the arguments for and against the proposed development before determining an application and awarding any consent. Given the size of the project the proposed development would be a s36 application in its own right if it were submitted as a separate application as it exceeds a 50 MW generating capacity.
- 3.1.2. The application also seeks deemed planning permission granted by the Scottish Government under section 57 (2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended by the Town and Country Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006, allowing for the grant of deemed planning permission for generating schemes, including ancillary development, when consent is granted under the Electricity Act 1989. Although the determining authority in this instance is therefore the Scottish Government, Schedule 8 of the Act requires that relevant local planning authorities are consulted on planning matters.

4. Overview of Public Consultation Legislation

- 4.1.1. The Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 places an emphasis on consulting those affected by new developments, and requires those planning "major" development to formally engage with prescribed community councils and local communities, to advertise and hold at least one public exhibition and to submit a Pre-Application Community Consultation (PAC) report with their planning application.
- 4.1.2. The planning legislation in Scotland is designed to make the pre-application stage of the planning process more inclusive and accessible to everyone, regardless of age, gender or cultural background. It is also designed to ensure greater openness and accountability in the development process.
- 4.1.3. Although a Section 36 consent application is not subject to the same level of statutory pre-application consultation, Rothes III Limited is applying the planning approach as good practice and recognising the benefits in carrying out early consultation, to all concerned parties. In addition, Rothes III Limited considers it an integral element of the iterative public consultation process.
- 4.1.4. Accordingly, in line with the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, the consultation guidelines followed on this project include:
 - Every Community Council whose area is within or adjoins the application site to be consulted.
 - The consultation to include at least one public event where members of the public are able to make comments to the applicant on the development.
 - Details of the proposal and consultation to be published in a local newspaper at least seven days prior to the event and include the location and description of the development, details as to where further information can be obtained, data and place of the event, a statement explaining how and by when persons wishing to make comment to the prospective application relating to the proposal may do so and a statement that comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the planning authority.
 - Consultations to be carried out in a manner that provides genuine opportunities for members of the public to engage with applicants.
 - The consultation should be a meaningful engagement with those who can represent the community's views, and should offer the opportunity to mitigate negative impacts and misunderstandings and deal with those community issues that can be addressed. The developer to also submit a Pre-Application Community Consultation (PAC) Report with the planning application detailing the consultation undertaken and any changes made to the proposal as a result.

5. Process for Community Consultation

- 5.1.1. The Scottish Government's Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010 Community Engagement Planning with People, provides guidelines for Pre-Application Consultation. PAN 3/2010 stipulates that community engagement should be meaningful and proportionate, and take place at an early stage to influence the shape of proposals. PAN 3/2010 uses that National Standards for Community Engagement, developed by Communities Scotland, as its structure. This provides a useful framework to help plan, monitor and evaluate community engagement and sets out ten standards which are intended as best practice guidance:
 - Standard 1: Involvement; identify and involve people and organisations who have an interest in the focus of the engagement.
 - Standard 2: Support; identify and overcome barriers to involvement.

- Standard 3: Planning; gather evidence of need and resources to agree purpose, scope and actions.
- Standard 4: Methods; agree and use methods of engagement that are fit for purpose.
- Standard 5: Working with others; agree and use clear procedures that enable participants to work together efficiently and effectively.
- Standard 6: Sharing information; ensure necessary information is communicated between participants.
- Standard 7: Working with others; work effectively with others with an interest.
- Standard 8: Improvement; develop the skills, knowledge and confidence of the participants.
- Standard 9: Feedback; feed results back to the wider community and agencies affected.
- Standard 10: Monitoring and evaluation; monitor and evaluate whether engagement achieves its purpose and meets the national standards for community engagement.

Consultation Activities

- 6.1.1. Engagement with consultees commenced prior to scoping on the 10th March 2017. In accordance with the Scoping Guidelines provided by the Scottish Government's Energy Consents and Deployment Unit, Natural Power undertook an initial pre-scoping meeting with The Energy Consents and Deployment Unit, Scottish Natural Heritage, Cairngorms National Park Authority, Forestry Commission Scotland, Scottish Environmental and Protection Agency and Moray Council (Historic Environment Scotland was also invited although elected not to attend).
- 6.1.2. A scoping report was then submitted on the 5th of September 2017 and formal consultation responses were then received. A summary of the consultation responses is set out in Chapter 3: Site Selection and Design Evolution in Volume 2 of the EIAR. The full Rothes III Scoping Opinion received from the Scottish Government is presented in Appendix 1.2 in Volume 4 of the EIAR.
- 6.1.3. In addition, a Landscape & Visual specific meeting took place on the 19th of April 2018 at which Moray Council, SNH, the Cairngorms National Park Authority, the Energy Consents Unit and Natural Power were present. At this meeting the scope and details of the landscape and visual assessment were agreed.
- 6.1.4. Natural Power also went through the gatecheck process with the ECDU, where the scoping responses received and post scoping consultations were described and discussed including how these responses were addressed within the EIAR to be submitted. This process also required input from Moray Council, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), the Cairngorms National Park Authority, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Historic Environment Scotland (HES), Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) and Marine Scotland. These consultees were provided with a layout plan of the proposed development, a proposed development boundary plan, the proposed structure of the EIAR and timeline for its submission, a summary of engagement with consultees and communities to date and a spreadsheet showing the scoping responses and how these had been dealt with in the EIAR and were invited to comment on these documents.

7. Statutory Consultees

7.1.1. Statutory consultees were consulted as part of the formal scoping process and throughout the EIA process. These included the Moray Council, SNH, CNPA and SEPA. Summaries of the statutory consultees' responses are provided in Chapter 3: Site Selection and Design Evolution in Volume 2 of the EIAR.

7.1.2. Community Councils as Statutory Consultees were also consulted, and details are provided in Sections 9 – 13 of this PAC Report.

8. Non-Statutory Consultees

- 8.1.1. Non-statutory consultees were consulted as part of the formal scoping process and where required throughout the EIA process. These included:
 - Marine Scotland
 - Spey Fishery Board
 - RSPB Scotland
 - Scottish Wildlife Trust
 - Fisheries Management Scotland
 - The Crown Estate
 - The Mountaineering Council of Scotland
 - Scottish Wild Land Group
 - Garden History Society in Scotland
 - John Muir Trust
 - Historic Environment Scotland
 - Scottish Water
 - Forestry Commission Scotland
 - Transport Scotland
 - Aberdeen Airport
 - Atkins Global
 - Highlands and Islands Airport
 - Highland Gliding Club
 - BAA Aerodrome Safeguarding
 - The Coal Authority
 - British Telcom (BT)
 - Civil Aviation Authority
 - Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)
 - Joint Radio Company (JRC)
 - Scotways
 - NATS Safeguarding
 - Visit Scotland
 - British Horse Society
 - Nuclear Safety Directorate (HSE)

Communities Consulted

9.1.1. The proposed development is located entirely within the boundary of Moray Council. There are twelve communities which have been consulted as part of the scoping process. These are represented by a

variety of organisations including Community Councils, Community Associations and Village Councils. The communities consulted include Heldon Community Council; The Rothes Council; Innes Community Council; Lennox Community Council; Strathisla Community Council; Dufftown and District Community Council; Knockando Community Association; Elgin Community Council; Speyside Community Council; Carron Cardhu Community Association; Aberlour Community Association and Archiestown Village Council.

- 9.1.2. Natural Power has communicated with all communities (see Appendix A) and has liaised extensively with The Rothes Council, Innes Community Council, Archiestown Village Council, Heldon Community Council, Aberlour Community Association, Knockando Community Council, Elgin Community Council and Speyside Community Council during the scoping and post scoping period, ensuring that they were fully informed of the proposed development at an early stage and that they received appropriate notification regarding public exhibitions.
- 9.1.3. Telephone and email communications were also made to other community councils and associations listed in the first paragraph of section 9 above with the offer of providing presentations to communities if required.

10. Public Exhibitions

- 10.1.1. Public exhibitions were held on the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th of July 2018. These took place in Dallas at the Houldsworth Institute (3rd July); Rothes at the Grant Hall (4th July), Archiestown at Archiestown Village Hall (4th July), Aberlour at the Fleming Hall (5th July) and Elgin at the Community Centre (6th July). A total of 33 members of the public attended the exhibitions. A flier was created and made available for the public exhibitions for attendees to take away. This is shown in Appendix B.
- 10.1.2. Prior to the public exhibitions, a public notice (see Appendix C) was published in the Northern Scot newspaper, which appeared on Friday the 22nd June 2018. This notice also provided an email address so that readers could contact Fred. Olsen Renewables Ltd if they had any comments relating to the proposed development. The notice also provided a link of a website where further information on the proposed development could be found.
- 10.1.3. An A3 poster (see Appendix D) for the public exhibition was also distributed to community groups and displayed in several locations in Dallas, Rothes, Archiestown, Aberlour and Elgin prior to the public exhibitions. Representatives of these community councils and associations also informed other members of their groups of the public exhibitions.

11. Feedback from the Consultation Process

- 11.1.1. A total of 33 people attended the five public exhibitions between the 3rd and the 6th of July, most of which were local residents living within close proximity of the proposed development.
- 11.1.2. 10 of those who attended filled in an optional questionnaire, which contained questions on renewable energy in general, the proposed development and the quality of the engagement.
- 11.1.3. All but one respondent was in support of renewable energy and most believed that onshore wind should be a significant resource of renewable energy. The majority of those who responded were either in favour of or undecided on their support for the proposed development. The majority of respondents claimed that they found the exhibition useful with only two respondents not finding the engagement useful. All respondents said they would attend a similar type of event in the future.
- 11.1.4. The main concerns expressed by respondents were the visual impact and the cumulative visual impact of the wind farm including the height of the turbines; the impact on wildlife particularly black grouse and

- capercaillie. There was also concern expressed in relation to the proximity of the proposed development to local residents. These matters are all fully addressed within the EIAR.
- 11.1.5. Feedback on the standard of presentation and helpfulness of the project information advisers presented at the exhibition was positive and signalled their satisfaction that sufficient information was supplied to understand what the proposed development entails.
- 11.1.6. Positive feedback was also received from the questionnaires on the positive socioeconomic impacts that wind farms create, such as potential work for local businesses. Indeed, a representative from Leiths (Scotland) Ltd attended the exhibition. Leiths operate a number of quarries in the area and could potentially benefit with the sale and transport of aggregate during the construction of the wind farm.

12. Further Community Consultation

- 12.1.1. Community groups have continued to be informed about the progress of the development during the lead up to submission. The latest communication (see Appendix E) included a copy of the EIAR on a memory stick, a hard copy of the Non-Technical Summary and a Stage 1 Community Benefit and Investment Options leaflet.
- 12.1.2. In addition, Natural Power (on behalf of Rothes III Limited) sent a letter (see Appendix F) prior to submissions to all local residents who had expressed an interest in the proposed development and who attended the public exhibitions and left their contact details, which notified them that the application and EIAR had been submitted and how it can be accessed.

13. Community Benefit and Shared Ownership

- 13.1.1. The proposed development will continue to provide support for community initiatives for the 35 year life of the wind farm, as have the existing Rothes I and II Wind Farms since they became operational, so allowing local communities to invest in their long term future.
- 13.1.2. In response to Scottish Government ambitions to encourage increased shared ownership opportunities, there is the potential in relation to the proposed Rothes III Wind Farm for community organisations and Forestry Commission Scotland to take up such an opportunity. Initial information about this opportunity (Stage 1 leaflet) has been disseminated to community organisations in the area and there is an ongoing process in place for community organisations to explore this opportunity in more detail as the proposed development moves forward. The shared ownership opportunity also exists for Forestry Commission Scotland, which will help in diversifying its sources of income. In taking up this opportunity, community organisation will still be able to receive community benefit payments as has traditionally been the case, albeit that these community benefit payments could be used as a potential source of their investment in the project (if they so choose). Full details of all options available to community organisations will be provided during the process.

14. Evaluation of the Consultation Process

14.1.1. The level of public consultation for the proposed development has met the national standards for community engagement while being in proportion with the size and nature of the proposed development. This is demonstrated in Table 1: Evaluation of the Consultation Process below, in conjunction with the National Standards for Community Engagement

Table 1: Evaluation of the Consultation Process

National Standard	Example
1. Involvement	The community councils for each area surrounding the proposed development were identified and contacted with information on the proposed development. Public exhibitions were undertaken in Dallas, Rothes, Archiestown, Aberlour and Elgin between the 3 rd and the 6 th of July 2018. An update letter on the proposed development was sent prior to submission to all members of the local community who expressed an interest in the proposed development and to those who attended the public exhibition and left their contact details.
2. Support	The exhibition was advertised in the Northern Scot on the 22 nd of June and by posters in various local communities, more than seven days prior to the events taking place. The advertisements advised of exhibition locations, dates and times and also gave the opportunity to engage via email. Community organisations were also notified of the exhibition locations, dates and times and were provided with posters to advertise the event.
3. Planning	The scope of the community consultation was set out in the Scoping Report and the Pre-scoping documentation submitted to the ECDU, Moray Council, CNPA, SEPA and SNH, and no specific issues were raised regarding community involvement.
4. Methods	The methods used to engage with the local community using public exhibitions, surveys and ongoing updates from Natural Power have been used successfully to engage in a dialogue with the local community. Information on how to contact the project team has been available on all advertisements throughout the process.
5. Working Together	The scope of the consultation was set out in the Scoping Report and the Pre scoping documentation and no concerns were raised by the ECDU, Moray Council, CNPA, SEPA or SNH.
6. Sharing Information	The materials exhibited at the public event covered all aspects of the proposed development and members of the project team were in attendance to guide attendees through the details of the proposed development and answer any questions. Up to date information has been made available upon request throughout the process.
7. Working with others	Community councils have been engaged early in the process to communicate the project timeline ands details of the development.
8. Improvement	Discussions took place with attendees at the public exhibition about how individuals could get involved with the planning process with this development and other proposed developments.
9. Feedback	This PAC report provides a comprehensive account of the processes and methods deployed and details of comments and feedback received throughout the pre-application consultation process.
10. Monitoring and Evaluation	The consultation process was monitored to assess its effectiveness in the context of the scale and nature of the proposed development.

National Standard	Example
	As demonstrated in this table and PAC report, the pre-application consultation
	process undertaken for the proposed development has been evaluated against
	and meets the national standards for community engagement in the context of the
	scale and nature of the proposed development.

15. Design Iterations

15.1.1. Feedback received from consultations informed the iterative design process of the proposed development. The various iterations of the layout and details of the factors influencing the layout are provided in Chapter 3: Site Selection and Design Evolution in Volume 2 of the EIAR.

16. Pre-Scoping

16.1.1. The responses received raised a number of specific issues such as transportation of large turbine components and ensuring infrastructure avoids water courses and water course buffers, as far as is practical. Responses also included a large number of generic issues and the need to address them during the development process. These responses guided for formulation of the scoping layout presented in the scoping report (see Appendix 1.1 in Volume 4 of the EIAR).

17. Scoping

- 17.1.1. A scoping report was submitted in May 2017 and formal consultation responses were then received. Each of the consultee responses have been addressed through an iterative Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and will be detailed within the chapters of the EIAR to which they relate. Within the relevant chapters it will be detailed how the responses were addressed as the proposed development has progressed. Table 3.1 in Chapter 3: Site Selection and Design Evolution of the EIAR also details all of the scoping responses and detailed how these have been addressed in the EIAR.
- 17.1.2. While a number of consultees did not provide a response to the scoping document, it is noted that the majority of those consulted did respond and their comments have been taken into account in the design process and production of the EIAR.

18. Conclusions

- 18.1.1. The pre-application consultation carried out by Natural Power for the proposed development was open, transparent and in keeping with the Government's guidelines under PAN 3/2010.
- 18.1.2. Natural Power acting on behalf of Rothes III Limited has, as part of this proposed development, engaged with the local community through the relevant community organisations and via public exhibitions. This has allowed the communities to be informed about the proposed development and for the Applicant to respond directly to any concerns that they have in connection with the proposed development.
- 18.1.3. Communications with Statutory Consultees, Non-Statutory Consultees and with communities will be maintained as the development progresses, and the aim of the Applicant will be to continue to provide information as requested and address any queries as and when they arise.

Appendix A: Copy of Letter sent with Scoping Report

15 September 2017



Local Office Registered Office

«Contact» «Community_Council» «Address_1» «Address_2» «Address_3» «Address_4» «Postcode»

> Ochil House, Springkerse Business Park, Stirling, FK7 7XE SCOTLAND, UK Tel: +44 (0) 1786 542 300

> > www.naturalpower.com sayhello@naturalpower.com

The Natural Power Consultants Limited The Green House Forrest Estate, Dairy, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire, DG7 3XS

> Registered No. SC177881 VAT No: GB 243 6926 48

Dear «Contact».

Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017. Scoping Opinion request for proposed Section 36 Application for Rothes III Wind Farm.

Natural Power, on behalf of Fred.Olsen Renewables Ltd (FORL) submitted a Scoping report for Rothes III Wind Farm in Moray to the Energy Consents and Deployment Unit (ECDU) on Tuesday 12th September 2017. Natural Power is managing the application on behalf of FORL. Please find enclosed a memory stick containing the Scoping Report and associated figures.

Under Part 4 of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment)(Scotland) Regulations 2017 Scottish Ministers are required to consult the specified statutory bodies (and other interested parties) as to their views on the information which ought to be provided in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR); the scoping process enables this consultation to happen.

The ECDU will be in touch within the next three weeks, requesting a formal scoping opinion, detailing the time limit for responses, should you like to submit one. The scoping report contains a series of questions, which may help form the basis of a response.

The proposed turbines for Rothes III Wind Farm development will be sited in close proximity to the existing Rothes Wind Farm. It will be the aim that the turbines will be located so that they are perceived in conjunction with the existing wind turbines.

Further to this, FORL's unique position to readily make use of existing infrastructure will ensure that minimum disturbance to the environment will occur during the construction, operation and ultimately the decommissioning of the wind farm.

Please find a very brief summary of the development below:

The proposed development is for a wind farm comprising of up to 29 wind turbines with an overall height from base to tip not exceeding 225 m. Other infrastructure includes external transformer housing, site tracks, foundations, underground electricity cables, borrow pits, crane pads, temporary construction and storage compounds and

Page 1 of 2



associated works/infrastructure.

As far as possible, the proposed development will also utilise existing tracks which will help minimise potential effects on the local environment. The proposed development will be complementary in design to the existing and consented developments at Rothes and the surrounding area.

I trust the above is satisfactory, but if you should require any further information please let me know, likewise if you require a hard copy of this document (or any of the associated figures) please let me know and I will organise this being sent out to you. If you would like for us to come and make a presentation on the proposal at a community council meeting we would be more than happy to do so.

Yours Sincerely

Craig Potter Senior Project Manager 01786 542910

craigp@naturalpower.com

Appendix B: Copy of Newspaper Notice for Public Exhibitions

★ Fred. Olsen Renewables

Notice of Public Exhibition: Rothes III Wind Farm

Rothes III Limited. (a Fred. Olsen Renewables Ltd. company) invite members of the public and interested stakeholders to attend public exhibitions, which will illustrate the proposed 29 turbine extension to the Rothes Wind Farm, located on the hills of Carn na Cailliche near Rothes in Moray. We are committed to Scotland's ambitious renewable energy targets and always aim to consult widely. Public exhibitions will take place at the following times and venues listed below.

Date: Tuesday 3rd July 2018

Time: 16:00 - 20:00

Venue: Houldsworth Institute, Dallas,

Forres IV36 2SA

Date: Wednesday 4th July 2018

Time: 10:00 - 14:00

Venue: Grant Hall, 46-48 New Street,

Rothes AB38 7BJ

Date: Wednesday 4th July 2018

Time: 16:00 - 20:00

Venue: Archiestown Village Hall, North Lane

Archiestown, Aberlour AB38 7QL

Date: Thursday 5th July 2018

Time: 16:00 - 20:00

Venue: Aberlour Fleming Hall, Queen's Road

Aberlour AB38 9PR

Date: Friday 6th July 2018

Time: 10:00 - 14:00

Venue: Elgin Community Centre, Trinity Road

Elgin IV30 1UE

The public exhibition will be in the form of an informal drop-in session. Our team will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. Any comments relating to the proposal may be made by email to **press@fredolsen.co.uk** by the end of August 2018.

Please note that any such comments made to Rothes III Limited are not representations to the consenting authority. If Rothes III Limited submits an application, there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the consenting authority.

Further information on the project can be found at: fredolsenrenewables.com/windfarms/rothes-iii/

for further information press@fredolsen.co.uk fredolsenrenewables.co.uk

Appendix C: Copy of Poster Notice for Public Exhibitions

K Fred. Olsen Renewables

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Date: **Wednesday 4th July 2018** Time: 10:00 - 14:00

Venue: Grant Hall, 46-48 New Street,

Rothes, AB38 7BJ

Date: **Wednesday 4th July 2018** Time: 16:00 - 20:00

Venue: Archiestown Village Hall, North Lane Archiestown, Aberlour AB38 7QL

Date: Thursday 5th July 2018

Time: 16:00 - 20:00 Venue: **Aberlour Fleming Hall,** Queen's Road Aberlour, AB38 9PR

Date: Friday 6th July 2018

Time: 10:00 - 14:00 Venue: **Elgin Community Centre**, Trinity Road,

Elgin, IV30 1UE

Further information on the project can be found at: fredolsenrenewables.com/

windfarms/rothes-iii/

The public exhibition will be in the form of an informal drop-in session. Our team will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. Any comments relating to the proposal may be made by email to press@fredolsen. co.uk by the end of August 2018.

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press@fredolsen.co.uk fredolsenrenewables.com

Appendix D: Copy of Flier Available at Public Exhibitions

K Fred. Olsen Renewables

Rothes III Wind Farm

About the Developer

The wind farm is being proposed by Fred. Olsen Renewables Ltd. (FORL), a company wholly owned by its parent company, Bonheur ASA (listed on the Oslo Stock Exchange) and is responsible for their renewable energy activities. FORL uses Natural Power Consultants Ltd. (Natural Power) as its lead consultant on all its projects in the UK, including Rothes Wind Farm.



The Proposed Development

The proposed development is located on the hills of Carn na Cailliche, approximately 4 km west of the town of Rothes in Moray. It is located to the south east of the existing Rothes I and II Wind Farms. Rothes I Wind Farm comprises 22 turbines and has been operational since 2005. Rothes II Wind Farm comprises an additional 18 turbines and became operational in 2013.

The proposed development will comprise 29 turbines:

- 3 of which will be up to 149.9 m to tip height
- 8 of which will be up to 200 m to tip height
- 18 of which will be up to 225 m to tip height

The proposed development is due to be connected to the grid between 2021 and 2023.

The existing infrastructure and access tracks from the existing Rothes I and II Wind Farms will be utilised as far as possible. Associated infrastructure will include: access tracks, temporary construction and storage compounds, underground electricity cables, external transformer housing, crane pads, turbine foundations, borrow pit search areas and 2 substations.



for more information
press@fredolsen.co.uk
fredolsenrenewables.com

Environmental and Social Considerations

When developing a wind farm, it is a requirement to assess a range of potential environmental and social issues to ensure the environment is protected and potential social impacts are considered. For Rothes III Wind Farm the following potential impacts will be considered in the written Environmental Impact Assessment Report: landscape and visual; ecology; ornithology; cultural heritage; hydrology, geology and hydrogeology; forestry; noise; aviation and existing infrastructure; traffic and transport and socioeconomics.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be freely accessible for public viewing.

Community Benefit

There will be community benefits associated with the proposed wind farm in terms of community benefit payments and work available for local businesses. The payments will be based on what the project can afford at the time the wind farm begins operation. Local businesses that can potentially benefit from the development include construction sub-contractors, local suppliers and local facilities such as hotels, restaurants and pubs. There will also be the opportunity for operational employment.

Community benefit payments from the existing Paul's Hill wind farm have funded a variety of projects in the nearby Heldon Community Council area and Rothes.

These include, for example:

- Floodlighting
- Computers
- · Xmas gifts and lights
- · Upgrade of bathroom
- · Hall keepers flat upgrade
- Village hall insulation
- Decorate hall and refurbish kitchen
- Resurfacing roads
- New tables & chairs for hall
- Installation of a 10 kW solar array
- Replacement windows and guttering
- Hall-floor refurbishment
- Purchase of defibrillators
- New crockery & cutlery
- · Replace emergency exit doors



FORL's contribution to National Targets

FORL's combined Scottish onshore operating wind farm capacity of 569.5 MW equates to approximately 7.6% of the Scottish total wind capacity.

If the Rothes III is consented, the combined Rothes Wind Farm will contribute approximately 3% of the Scottish total wind capacity.

for more information
press@fredolsen.co.uk
fredolsenrenewables.com

Appendix E: Letter of Notification to Community Organisations

29 January 2019



«Contact_»
«Address_1»
«Address_2»
«Address_3»
«CityTown»
«County»
«Postcode»

Ochil House, Springkerse Business Park,
Stirling, FK7 7XE
SCOTLAND, UK

The Natural Power Consultants Limited
The Green House
Forrest Estate, Dalry,
Castle Douglas, Kirkoudbrightshire,
DG7 3XS

www.naturalpower.com Registered No. SC177681 sayhello@naturalpower.com VAT No: GB 243 6826 48

Dear «Contact ».

APPLICATION FOR CONSENT OF THE PROPOSED ROTHES III WIND FARM, WEST OF ROTHES VILLAGE, MORAY UNDER THE ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 AND FOR DEEMED CONSENT UNDER THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997. THE ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT IS SUBMITTED UNDER THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017.

Tel: +44 (0) 1786 542 300

Natural Power, on behalf of Rothes III Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary company of Fred.Olsen Renewables Ltd) has recently submitted, an Application Letter and associated Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the proposed Rothes III Wind Farm in Moray to the Energy Consents and Deployment Unit (ECDU). Natural Power is managing the application on behalf of Rothes III Limited. Please find enclosed a memory stick containing the whole EIAR and a hard copy of the Non-Technical Summary (NTS).

A copy of the Application Letter and the Environmental Impact Assessment Report discussing the Company's proposals in detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, are available for public inspection in person, free of charge, during normal office hours at:

Location	Opening Hours	Address
Moray Council Headquarters	8.45am to 5pm Monday to Friday	High Street, Elgin, IV30 1BX Tel: 01343 543451
Aberlour Library	Monday 10.00am - 12 noon	94 High Street
	Tuesday 2.30pm - 5.00pm; 5.30pm - 6.00pm	Aberlour,
	Wednesday 10,00am - 12 noon	AB36 9QA
	Thursday 2.30pm - 5.00pm; 5.30pm - 6.00pm	Tel: 01340 571693
	Friday Closed	
	Saturday 10.00am - 12 noon	

The EIA Report can also be viewed at the Scottish Government Library at Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ; on the application website at https://fredolsenrenewables.com/windfarms/rothes-iii/; or at https://fredolsenrenewables-iii/; or at <a href="https:/

All representations should be received not later than the date falling 30 days from the date of the last print publication of the newspaper adverts proposed for the 8th Feb 2019, in the Northern Scot, The Herald and Edinburgh Gazette. Scottish Ministers may consider representations received after this date.

Page 1 of 2



Copies of the EIA Report may be obtained from Natural Power (telephone: 01786 5427910/email: craigp@naturalpower.com) at a charge of £900 hard copy and £10 on CD/Memory Stick. Copies of a short non-technical summary are available at a charge of £10.

Any representations to the application may be submitted via the Energy Consents Unit website at www.energyconsents.scot/Register.aspx; by email to the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit mailbox at representations@qov.scot or by post to the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU, identifying the proposal and specifying the grounds for representation.

Written or emailed representations should be dated, clearly stating the name (in block capitals), full return email and postal address of those making representations. Only representations sent by email to representations@gov.scot will receive acknowledgement.

Any subsequent additional information which is submitted by the developer will be subject to further public notice in this manner, and representations to such information will be accepted as per this notice.

As a result of a statutory objection from the relevant planning authority, or where Scottish Ministers decide to exercise their discretion to do so, Scottish Ministers can also cause a Public Local Inquiry (PLI) to be held.

Following examination of the environmental information, Scottish Ministers will determine the application for consent in two ways:

- . Consent the proposal, with or without conditions attached; or
- · Reject the proposal.

If you require any further information about the Application and/or EIA Report please do not hesitate to contact me.

On another related matter, you may recall that with the proposed Rothes III Wind Farm there is the possibility for community investment in all of the turbines that will be located on Forestry Commission Scotland land (11 turbines). I enclose the stage 1 leaflet that was made available to all those attending the public exhibitions, which took place in several locations in the area in July last year. As you will note from the information provided all that you need to do at this stage (Stage 2a) is register an interest to receive more information if the Community Council would like to find out more. If you would like further information please do hesitate to contact me and I will answer any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Craig Potter

Senior Project Manager

01786 542910 craigp@naturalpower.com

Enc. Memory stick containing EIAR, hard copy of NTS and Stage & 1 Community Benefits and Investment leaflet.

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Appendix F: Letter of Notification to Local Residents

23 January 2019



«Contact_» Local Office
«Address_1»
«Address_3»
«Address_3»
«CityTown»
«County»

Ochil House, Springkerse Business Park, String, FK7 7XE SCOTLAND, UK Tel: +44 (0) 1756 542 300

> www.naturalpower.com sayhello@naturalpower.com

The Natural Power Consultants Limited
The Green House
Forrest Estate, Dalry,
Castle Douglas, Kirkoudbrightshire,
DG7 3XS

Registered No. SC177881 VAT No: GB 243 6926 48

Dear «Contact ».

«Postcode»

APPLICATION FOR CONSENT OF THE PROPOSED ROTHES III WIND FARM, WEST OF ROTHES VILLAGE, MORAY UNDER THE ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 AND FOR DEEMED CONSENT UNDER THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997. THE ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT IS SUBMITTED UNDER THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017.

As you have previously expressed an interest in the proposed Rothes III Wind Farm, this is a letter to formally notify you that Natural Power, on behalf of Rothes III Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary company of Fred.Olsen Renewables Ltd) has recently submitted, an Application Letter and associated Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the proposed Rothes III Wind Farm in Moray to the Energy Consents and Deployment Unit (ECDU). Natural Power is managing the application on behalf of Rothes III Limited.

A copy of the Application Letter and the Environmental Impact Assessment Report discussing the Company's proposals in detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, are available for public inspection in person, free of charge, during normal office hours at:

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	Wednesday 10,00am - 12 noon	AB36 9QA
	Thursday 2.30pm - 5.00pm; 5.30pm - 6.00pm	Tel: 01340 671683
	Friday Closed	
	Saturday 10.00am - 12 noon	

The EIA Report can also be viewed at the Scottish Government Library at Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ; on the application website at https://fredolsenrenewables.com/windfarms/rothes-iii/; or at https://fredolsenrenewables-iii/; or at <a href="https:/

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- · Consent the proposal, with or without conditions attached; or
- · Reject the proposal.

If you require any further information about the Application and/or EIA Report please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Craig Potter

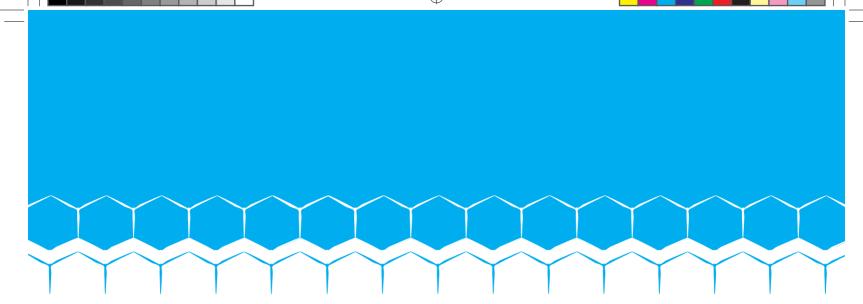
Senior Project Manager

01786 542910

craigp@naturalpower.com

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Natural Power acting as lead consultants on behalf of Fred. Olsen Renewables.

