Fred. Olsen Renewables

natural power

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

Windy Standard I Repower

Pre-Application Consultation Report

November 2022

Fred. Olsen Renewables Limited

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Contents

Glossary

Term	Definition
Environmental Impact Assessment	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a means of drawing together, in a systematic way, an assessment of the likely significant environmental effects arising from a proposed development
Environmental Impact Assessment Report	A document reporting the findings of the EIA and produced in accordance with the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 Regulation 5
Present Windy Standard Developments	The 'present Windy Standard Developments' refers collectively to the operational existing Windy Standard I Wind Farm, Windy Standard II Wind Farm and the consented Windy Standard III Wind Farm.
The Proposed Development	The Proposed Windy Standard I Repower Wind Farm

List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
BT	British Telcom
DGC	Dumfries and Galloway Council
DSFB	District Salmon Fishery Board
EAC	East Ayrshire Council
ECU	Energy Consents Unit
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
FORL	Fred. Olsen Renewables Ltd
JRC	Joint Radio Company
PAC Report	Pre-Application Consultation Report
PAN 3/2010	The Scottish Government's Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
FLS	Forestry and Land Scotland
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SWLG	Scottish Wild Land Group
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

1. Introduction

This report provides a description of the pre-application consultation undertaken for Windy Standard I Wind Farm Repower (herein referred to as the Proposed Development), and the guidelines that the consultation process has followed.

This Pre-Application Consultation Report (PAC Report) has been prepared to accompany the submission of an application by Fred. Olsen Renewables Ltd (FORL) under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for the construction of a wind farm comprising eight turbines. The Proposed Development is located on Gallow Rig and Polwhat Rig above Carsphairn Forest. The eight turbines will have an overall base to tip height of up to 200 m.

The Proposed Development also includes external transformer housing, site tracks, crane pads, turbine foundations, battery storage, underground electricity cables, onsite substation, one temporary borrow pit, temporary laydown areas, associated works/infrastructure and Health and Safety signposting around the site (further information is provided in Chapter 5: Project Description in Volume 2 of the EIAR).

2. The Applicant

FORL is a leading developer, owner and operator of renewable energy assets, primarily onshore wind farms. The company has been developing and operating wind farms in Scotland since the mid 1990's. In Scotland alone, FORL has an operational portfolio that comprises over 500 MW across ten wind farms. Internationally the company operates over 1 GW of renewable energy projects.

Community benefit was first introduced to Scotland by FORL and to date, the company has made available over £7 million to eligible communities surrounding its wind farms and it is substantially increasing this investment as new projects come online. FORL is also committed to maximising opportunities for the local supply chain, this includes ensuring that all main contractors will spend at least 30% of the contract value locally and incentivising all contractors to use local content.

Engagement with key stakeholders and the local communities surrounding its sites is at the heart of how FORL operates. By being involved in every aspect of a wind farm's lifecycle, from site selection and planning to construction and operation, FORL is not only expert in developing successful projects, but also a good neighbour.

3. Legislative Context

As the Proposed Development is part of a complex of developments that exceeds 50 MW 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 granting consent.

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. This allows for the approval 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 the Scottish Government, Schedule 8 of the Act requires the relevant local planning authorities are consulted on planning matters.

4. Overview of Public Consultation Legislation

The Town and Country 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 two public exhibitions, and to submit a PAC Report with their planning application.

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.

Although a Section 36 consent application is not subject to the same level of statutory pre-application consultation, the Applicant is applying the planning approach as good practice, recognising the benefits in carrying out early consultation to all concerned parties. In addition, the Applicant considers early consultation an integral element of the iterative public consultation process.

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;
- 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 Proposed Development may do so;
- 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 any community issues that can be addressed; and
- The applicant submitting a PAC Report with the planning application, detailing the consultation undertaken and any changes made to the Proposed Development as a result.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Town and Country Planning (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 came into force on 24 April 2020. These emergency consultation guidelines were appropriately followed on this project at the relevant times and included:

- Temporary relaxation of pre-application consultation requirements during Coronavirus emergency period; and
- Temporary removal of requirement to hold meeting of local review body in public during Coronavirus emergency period.

In October 2021, the Pre-Application Consultation procedure for applications was updated. The key changes were:

- The Pre-Application Consultation must include at least 2 public events, held at least 14 days apart (Note: although public events can currently be held online, they must be held physically once COVID restrictions are lifted; the Regulations do not facilitate a shift to virtual events going forward); and
- At the final public event held, applicants must feedback on the comments received throughout the Pre-Application Consultation.

These changes have been considered during the Pre-Application Consultation process for the Proposed Development.

5. Process for Community Consultation

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 the 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 together - 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; and
- Standard 10 - Monitoring and evaluation; monitor and evaluate whether engagement achieves its purpose and meets the national standards for community engagement.

6. Consultation Activities

This report details the consultation activities undertaken with statutory and non-statutory consultees prior to the submission of an application. It seeks to outline the relationships built within the local community and the two-way flow of communication that took place throughout the process. In addition, it demonstrates how the Applicant has listened to feedback and how the design of the Proposed Development may have changed in response to local views and opinions.

The Applicant is committed to building long-term relationships with stakeholders and local communities and will continue dialogue locally throughout the determination process.

6.1 Consultation Methods

A range of methods for communicating with statutory and non-statutory consultees were employed throughout the consultation process. This included but was not limited to:

- Meetings and telephone calls with residents;
- Meetings and telephone calls with key stakeholders;
- Newsletters;
- Public exhibitions; and
- Posters and newspaper advertising.

6.2 Engagement with Consultees

Engagement with consultees started very early in the pre-application process. Key community consultees were contacted in April 2021 to introduce the project team and discuss the potential for repowering proposals at Windy Standard I Wind Farm.

Following which, Dumfries and Galloway Council (DGC) were contacted in July 2021 via their pre application process. Discussions with NatureScot took place in February 2021 to gather their initial views regarding the Proposed Development so they could highlight if there were any further survey requirements.

A Scoping Report was submitted on the 13th of August 2021 and the formal consultation responses were then received. The full Scoping Opinion received from the Scottish Government is presented in Appendix 1.1 in Volume 4 of the EIAR.

The Applicant went through the gatecheck process with the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) where any scoping responses and post-scoping consultations were described and discussed. The gatecheck process included how these responses will be addressed within the EIAR to be submitted. This process also sought input from DGC, NatureScot, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), Historic Environment Scotland, and Marine Scotland. These consultees were provided with, and invited to comment on the following documents in draft form:

- Layout plan of the Proposed Development;
- 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 have been dealt with in the EIAR.

Although it was indicated that DGC would not have the capacity to directly respond to any consultation specific to this development within the given timeframe prior to application submission, the Planning and Landscape Departments have been copied in to emails where appropriate to maintain transparency of decision making throughout the pre-application and EIA phase.

7. Statutory Consultees

Statutory consultees were consulted as part of the formal scoping process and throughout the EIA process. These included:

- Dumfries and Galloway Council*;
- Fisheries Management Scotland;
- Historic Environment Scotland;
- Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO);
- NATS Safeguarding with Technical and Operational Assessment;
- NatureScot;
- Nuclear Safety Directorate (HSE);
- Scottish Water;
- SEPA;
- Crown Estate Scotland;
- Carsphairn Community Council;

- Dalmellington Community Council*; and
- New Cumnock Community Council.

(*These consultees did not respond)

Summaries of the statutory consultee responses are provided in Appendix S.

Community Councils were also consulted as statutory consultees, and details on their engagement are provided in sections 9-12 of this PAC Report.

8. Non-Statutory Consultees

Non-statutory consultees were consulted as part of the formal scoping process and where required throughout the EIA process. These included

- Scottish Wildlife Trust*;
- The Mountaineering Council of Scotland*;
- Scottish Wild Land Group (SWLG)*;
- John Muir Trust*;
- British Telcom (BT);
- Civil Aviation Authority*;
- Joint Radio Company (JRC);
- Scotways*;
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Scotland;
- Visit Scotland*;
- Edinburgh Airport;
- Glasgow Airport;
- British Horse Society;
- Dee District Salmon Fishery Board (DSFB) (Kirkcudbrightshire)*;
- Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere;
- Galloway Fisheries Trust;
- Glasgow Prestwick Airport;
- Highland and Island Airports; and
- West of Scotland Archaeology Service*.

(*these consultees did not respond):

9. Community Consultation

The Proposed Development is located entirely within the boundaries of DGC and immediately adjacent to East Ayrshire Council (EAC). There are three community council areas in the immediate vicinity of the Proposed Development. Carsphairn Community Council whose area of jurisdiction covers the whole Proposed Development Area, Dalmellington Community Council area, which is located immediately to the north-west of the Proposed Development Area and New Cumnock Community Council Area, which is located immediately to the north of the Proposed Development Area.

The Applicant has focussed engagement on these community council areas, with which it has communicated with local residents and liaised extensively throughout the pre-scoping and pre-submission period. At all times the Applicant has sought to ensure that local communities are fully informed of the Proposed Development, are provided with opportunities to provide comment on the proposals, receive early notification of events and any changes to the proposals and the application timeframes.

9.1. Community Councils

The communities closest to the proposals are represented by a variety of organisations including community councils, community trusts and community associations. As detailed above, the community councils consulted included:

- Carsphairn Community Council;
- Dalmellington Community Council; and
- New Cumnock Community Council;

Engagement with community councils largely took the form of face-to-face meetings, telephone calls and written updates. This was supplemented with ongoing one-to-one engagement with members of the local community as required.

Community groups have continued to be informed about the progress of the Proposed Development during the lead up to submission. This has been undertaken utilising different methods of communication, including written updates and presentations.

The additional groups engaged include:

- Carsphairn Renewable Energy Fund Ltd;
- New Cumnock Development Trust;
- Community Enterprise Scotland;
- Dumfries and Galloway College;
- Glenkens and District Trust;
- Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership;
- Dalry Community Council; and
- Carsphairn Arts Trust

9.2. Wider Stakeholders

Throughout the public consultation process the Applicant undertook a range of measures to engage local interest groups, councillors and politicians. This included:

- Early consultation with locally elected members, MP and MSPs;
- Regular written updates on the proposals, alongside invitations and notification of key milestones including exhibitions; and
- Offering, and attending, one-to-one meetings throughout the consultation process.

10. Public Exhibitions

10.1. Introduction

This section details the public exhibitions held in both June 2021 and November 2021 and outlines the feedback received from all exhibitions.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, social distance measures had to be imposed at various events. A 'virtual exhibition' refers to the exhibitions that could not be held in person or were held virtually to allow community members who had to isolate the opportunity to attend.

The virtual exhibitions emulated an in-person event. It provided communities the opportunity to enquire about the Proposed Development and also gave them the opportunity to leave their comments and provide their opinion on the Proposed Development.

10.2. June 2021 Public Exhibitions

The first round of public exhibitions in June 2021 provided the opportunity to present the initial site layout whilst environmental survey works were still ongoing. The events sought to gather feedback from the local community and key stakeholders which would go on to inform the final submitted proposals.

The events were held online, and attendees were able to access a virtual village hall experience.

The virtual exhibition was launched on Monday 21st June and two live chat events took place on:

- Monday 21st June 2021, 17:00 – 19:00; and
- Wednesday 23rd June 2021, 17:00 – 19:00

The virtual exhibition remained online until October 2021 and the exhibition materials remain live on the dedicated project website www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk.

The events were promoted locally using various methods. This included notification in writing to community groups as well as an advert (see Appendix A) that was published in the Ayrshire Post appearing on the 9th of June 2021 and one in Galloway News which appeared on 10th of June 2021. The adverts provided a variety of information in addition to the event details, including a telephone number and email address so that readers could contact the Applicant if they had any comments or questions relating to the Proposed Development. The notice also provided a link to the website where they could access the events and further information on the Proposed Development.

A leaflet (see Appendix B) promoting the Proposed Development and the events was distributed to local households and a digital poster was provided to local community groups to encourage them to share details on social media.

Community members were able to view the following materials at the June 2021 public exhibition:

- Exhibition Banners (see Appendix C);
- Exhibition Boards (see Appendix D)
- Photomontages (see Appendix E);
- The site layout as designed at the time of the exhibition (see Appendix F); and
- Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) (see Appendix G).

If members of the community were unable to attend the events, or easily access the information online, the Applicant encouraged them to get in touch to have a conversation or to request copies of the information available.

10.2.1. Feedback from the June 2021 Public Exhibitions

Community members who attended the June 2021 public exhibitions were asked to fill out a feedback form (see Appendix H). One person out of the two public exhibitions from Dalmellington Community Council filled out the feedback form, see Appendix I for their comments.

10.3. November 2021 Public Exhibitions

Further in-person public exhibitions took place in November 2021. The purpose of the second round of public exhibitions was to demonstrate how the Proposed Development design had evolved, outline the opportunities that the project presented for the community and detail how feedback from the first round of public exhibitions had been considered and reflected in the updated proposals.

Three events took place in order to provide many opportunities to engage with the proposals. These were:

- Monday 15th of November, 11:00 – 19:00,Dalmellington Community Centre;
- Tuesday 16th of November,11:00 – 19:00, Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn; and
- Thursday 18th of November,11:00 – 19:00, New Cumnock Working Men's Club.

Appendix J shows an advert with all information for the November 2021 round of public exhibitions, this was published in the Ayrshire Post on 3rd of November 2021 and in Galloway News on 4th of November 2021.

These events were promoted using a range of methods. Community councils and key stakeholders were notified in writing and provided with a digital poster to circulate on social media and locally. A leaflet detailing the proposals and the events was distributed locally. This can be found in Appendix K. If members of the community were unable to attend the events, the Applicant encouraged them to get in touch to set up a discussion via text/call/email, request a hard copy of the information presented at the public exhibition to them, or receive a memory stick with the information on it.

At the November 2021 in-person public exhibitions, attendees were provided with an A5 brochure (see Appendix L) which contained updated information on the Proposed Development, the EIA process, a new site layout, and community benefits. Visualisations were mounted on boards to demonstration what the turbines would look like at points in the surrounding landscape (see Appendix M). Visitors to the events were able to utilise technology that enabled them to understand the anticipated visual impact of the proposals on any location they wished, such as their homes and walking routes. In addition, attendees were able to access additional information regarding the opportunities to repurpose the original turbine blades at Windy Standard I. (see Appendix R).

Photos of the November public exhibitions can be found in Appendix N.

10.3.1. Feedback from November 2021 Public Exhibitions

13 people who attended the second round of public exhibitions filled out a feedback form, which, similar to the first, contained questions on renewable energy in general, the Proposed Development and asked for feedback and comments on the plans. The feedback form can be found in Appendix O. The feedback gathered can be found in Appendix P.

Every respondent agreed there was a need to generate renewable energy. 12 out of 13 respondents agreed they supported onshore wind, one was unsure. Every respondent was in support for the Proposed Development.

The main feedback from the exhibitions was on how the public exhibition was useful and answered a lot of community members questioned. Others commented on the visual impact of the Proposed Development and how it would help declutter the landscape.

11. Further Community Consultation

Throughout the consultation process the Applicant has continually sought to meet, and exceed, statutory requirements. This has included engaging with many local community groups, individuals and stakeholder organisations – exploring how the project can best support Scotland's net zero commitment, whilst being the best fit for the local area.

The Applicant has recognised the opportunity that the repowering of Windy Standard I Wind Farm presents in raising awareness of the industry wide issues of recycling and repurposing wind turbine blades and the opportunities across the sector to deliver innovative solutions locally.

As a result, the Applicant has undertaken a range of commitments to ensure that the proposals have wider benefits to the economy, local communities and wider renewables industry.

This includes:

Developing intrinsic links with Dumfries and Galloway College:

Engagement with the local community and key stakeholders has helped to identify the opportunity for the Applicant to work closely with Dumfries and Galloway College to support renewable energy studies in the region. As a result, the Applicant has committed to proving components from Windy Standard I Wind Farm to the college. In addition, the Applicant has established a Wind Turbine Technician Training Fund worth £10,000 – focused on supporting local students to study, work and live locally.

By donating components towards the college upon decommissioning the wind farm, this will allow students to get hands on experience with turbine parts prior to entering the workforce. An opportunity that they don't currently have.

In addition, the Applicant has arranged for funding to be gifted by the Fred. Olsen Social Engagement group on behalf of Bonheur ASA which is the parent company of Fred. Olsen Renewables to support a student bursary. This will be focused on supporting students to overcome barriers that prevent them from studying, living and working in the area.

The bursary of £10,000 for the college will be utilised to help enable students from the region overcome challenges which deter them from studying Wind Turbine Technician Training locally – whether that is high transportation or accommodation costs, amongst others – and support them to study locally.

Forming a partnership with ReBlade:

The Applicant has recognised that the decommissioning process relating to Windy Standard Wind Farm will release various materials and a focus for the organisation is to identify solutions to repurpose or recycling the blades. As a result, the organisation has entered into an innovative partnership with ReBlade, a specialist

wind turbine decommissioning service in the UK, to explore solutions for reusing the turbine blades from Windy Standard Wind Farm.

The partnership with ReBlade will explore repurposing the blades and identifying opportunities to create items for use in the local area, such as playparks, bus shelters and bike racks. The initiative is focussed on embracing the circular economy, ensuring that renewables are as green as they can be – whilst supporting jobs in the region and Scotland-wide.

Supporting the local supply chain:

To date, Windy Standard Wind Farm has spent over £100m with local businesses and the team maintains ongoing relationships with many organisations during the operation of the existing wind farm.

As part of the consultation process for the Proposed Development, the Applicant has undertaken further engagement with the local supply chain to ensure that it is aware of all services and products being provided locally, and that new suppliers have had the opportunity to engage the team regarding opportunities at Windy Standard Wind Farm.

This involved a Supplier Drop-in Session which took place at Dumfries and Galloway College on Tuesday 12th April, 11am – 2pm. Local suppliers attended the event, had the opportunity to speak to members of the Applicants procurement team and learn more about the processes in place to engage the local supply chain.

The event was well attended and has led to the Applicants updating its supplier register.

12. Community Benefit and Shared Ownership

The Applicant believes that its wind farms can be an asset to the local area, supporting the local economy and helping to meet local aspirations. Each year the Applicant provides over £600,000 to eligible communities surrounding its wind farms, amounting to more than £7m to date.

The Windy Standard Complex has been operating a community benefit fund for over 25 years. This fund which amounts to more than £500,000 to date has managed to support a raft of local projects. This includes:

- Further education grants;
- Vocational support;
- Hall refurbishment; and
- Property investment

If consented, the repower of Windy Standard 1 will provide over £7m throughout the lifespan of the project. This will consist of community benefit payments of £5,000 per MW. These payments are in line with the 2017 Scottish Energy Strategy, which strongly supports the provision of community benefits for renewable energy projects.

The Applicant is committed to working closely with the communities surrounding the wind farm to ensure that the community benefit can help to address identified local challenges such as attracting families to the local area, improving housing stock and energy consumption.

The Applicant will continue to engage the local community regarding community benefit and shared ownership as the project progresses.

13. Evaluation of the Consultation Process

The level of public consultation for the Proposed Development has met the National Standards for Community Engagement whilst being in proportion with the size and nature of the Proposed Development. This is demonstrated in Table 13.1 below, in conjunction with the National Standards for Community Engagement.

Table 13.1: National Standards for Community Engagement

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. A virtual village hall was launched on Monday 21st June 2021 and two live chat events took place on: • Monday 21st June 2021, 17.00 pm – 19.00; and • Wednesday 23rd June 2021,17.00 – 19.00 Please note, if not for the social distancing measures put in place by COVID-19 the public exhibitions would have been undertaken in person at various locations within close proximity to the Proposed Development. Three further in-person events took place to provide many opportunities to engage with the proposals. These were: • Monday 15th of November, 11:00 – 19:00, Dalmellington Community Centre • Tuesday 16th of November, 11:00 – 19:00, Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn; and • Thursday 18th of November, 11:00 – 19:00, New Cumnock Working Men's Club. An update on the Proposed Development will be sent, upon submission, to key stakeholders to advise them of the submission and ways to engage the application.
2. Support	All of the exhibitions were advertised in the Ayrshire Post and the Galloway News more than seven days prior to the events. They were also promoted locally using leaflets, posters and written correspondence. This provided advance notice and the opportunity to prepare to attend/participate in the formal consultation events. The events took place online during the evenings and in person at a village hall across the day in order to provide ample opportunity for people to engage. The advertisements also provided contact details for engagement over email and telephone, alongside the opportunity to view materials online. Due to COVID-19 several of the public exhibitions were held virtually. This meant community members would not need to overcome any barriers of travelling to attend to these events. However, the consultation acknowledged

National Standard	Example
	that internet would be required and hard copy materials were available upon request by telephone. The opportunity to engage in person was also provided with the second round of events. A leaflet (Appendix B & K) was delivered to local household to promote the proposal and the events.
3. Planning	A clear scope for the community consultation was set out in the scoping report submitted to the ECU, DGC, SEPA and NatureScot. No specific issues were raised regarding community involvement.
4. Methods	The methods used by the Applicant to engage with the local community such as public exhibitions, surveys and ongoing updates were used successfully to engage in a dialogue with the local community and make sure a wide range of voices were heard. Information on how to contact the project team was available on all advertisements throughout the process.
5. Working Together	ECU, SEPA and NatureScot have all agreed on the scope of the consultation that was set out in the scoping report. There were no concerns.
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. All of the exhibition materials were available online at the dedicated project website and further hard copy materials could be requested by email or telephone.
7. Working with Others	Community councils were engaged with early in the process to communicate the project timeline and details of the development.
8. Improvement	Discussions took place with attendees at the public exhibition about how individuals could get involved with the application process of the Proposed Development. The Applicant listened to comments from the communities and statutory consultees and sought to take on board, where practicable, their concerns. Through an iterative design process the Applicant have improved the layout as a direct result of the consultation process, more information on this can be found in Chapter 3: Site Selections and Design Evolution, in Volume 2 of the EIAR.
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.

National Standard	Example
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. As demonstrated in this table and overall PAC Report, the pre-application consultation process undertaken for the Proposed Development has been evaluated against and meets the National Standards for Community Engagement[1] in the context of the scale and nature of the Proposed Development.

14. Design Evolution

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 4: Site Design and Design Evolution in Volume 2 of the EIAR.

In particular, the scoping response from Carsphairn Community Council indicated that they valued the richness and diversity of once common bird species to their local environment, in particular black grouse. They highlighted they would like the impact on black grouse to be scoped in and assessed in the EIAR.

The effects of the Proposed Development on black grouse are described in Chapter 8: Ornithology of the EIAR. No black grouse were recorded during surveys at the Proposed Development in 2020 (Figure 8.5, Volume 3). The last time lekking black grouse were recorded at the Windy Standard Complex was in 2010 during baseline survey work for Windy Standard III Wind Farm (see Figure 8.5) therefore it is considered that there will be no impacts on black grouse populations from the Proposed Development.

In lieu of suitable opportunities within the Proposed Development Area to provide enhancements for black grouse, it is proposed that post-consent and as part of the proposal, funding is provided by the Applicant to support appropriate off-site mitigation for this species in agreement by stakeholders. Discussions have been undertaken with the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere, for more information see Chapter 9: Ecology, paragraph 9.7.54

15. Scoping

A scoping report was submitted in August 2021 and formal consultation responses were then received. Each of the consultee responses have been addressed through an iterative EIA process and will be detailed within the chapters of the EIAR to which they relate. The relevant chapters will detail how the responses were addressed as the Proposed Development has progressed.

Whilst a number of consultees did not provide a response to the scoping report, it is noted that the majority of those consulted did respond and their comments have been taken into consideration within the design process and production of the EIAR.

[1] Scottish Community Development Centre (2016) National Standards for Community Engagement [Online] Available at: NSfCE+online_October.pdf (squarespace.com) [Accessed 13/12/2021]

16. Conclusions

The pre-application consultation carried out by the Applicant for the Proposed Development was open, transparent and in keeping with the Government's guidelines under PAN 3/2010.

The Applicant 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 the communities have in connection with the Proposed Development.

Communications with statutory consultees, non-statutory consultees and with communities will be maintained as the development progresses, and the Applicant will aim to continue to provide information as requested, addressing any queries as and when they arise.

Appendices

Public Exhibition June 2021

Appendix A: Advert for June 2021 Public Exhibitions
Appendix B: Public Exhibition Leaflet for June 2021 Public Exhibitions
Appendix C: Exhibition Banners for June 2021 Public Exhibitions
Appendix D: Overview of Exhibition Boards
Appendix E: Public Exhibition photomontages June 2021
Appendix F: Public Exhibition Site Layout June 2021
Appendix G: Public Exhibition ZTV June 2021
Appendix H: Blank feedback form for June 2021 Public Exhibitions
Appendix I: Feedback from June 2021 Public Exhibitions

Public Exhibitions Nov 2021

Appendix J: Adverts for November 2021 Public Exhibitions
Appendix K: November 2021 Public Exhibition Leaflet
Appendix L: November 2021 Public Exhibition Brochure
Appendix M: November 2021 Public Exhibition Photomontages
Appendix N: November 2021 Public Exhibition Photos
Appendix O: Blank feedback form from November 2021 Exhibitions
Appendix P: Feedback from November 2021 Public Exhibitions

Additional Appendices

Appendix Q: Media Coverage
Appendix R: Ideas for the repurposing of the current turbines at windy Standard I
Appendix S: Gate Check Report

A. Adverts for June 2021 Public Exhibitions

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Windy Standard Wind Farm – Virtual Consultation

Fred. Olsen Renewables is proposing to repower Windy Standard Wind Farm, located 9km North East of Carsphairn and 10km south of New Cumnock.

We are inviting local residents and interested parties to attend our virtual public exhibition to learn about our plans to replace existing turbines with new modern, larger, turbines that utilise the latest technology.

This will allow us to:

- Reduce the number of turbines on site
- Increase how much electricity we can generate
- Use existing roads, tracks and other infrastructure

In normal circumstances we would engage with communities face-to-face. We hope that as social distancing restrictions ease we will be able to meet you in person. In the interim, our virtual exhibition will help to provide an outline of our proposals and gather your views.

The exhibition will be online from **Monday 21st June** at:

www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk

Live and interactive chat events will take place on:

Monday 21st June – 5pm – 7pm
Wednesday 23rd June – 5pm – 7pm

We hope you will be able to take part.

If you are unable to access the digital documents and virtual exhibition, please email

communities@fredolsen.co.uk or call **07435 763 900**

We can post printed materials to you, a memory stick or help you to access the materials online.

www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk

Out of this world as rock on red planet named after Maybole

Residents over the moon as NASA find spot on MARS

RYAN THOM

A town is out of this world after it was confirmed a spot on MARS is named after it.

Maybole has been given its place on the red planet with a strip of rock "benches" named after the South Ayrshire town.

The Post has gone where no newspaper has before to reveal that Maybole is one of many locations named by scientists after Scottish towns.

NASA has confirmed that Maybole is one of the first series of rock "benches" discovered by their Mars team last year.

Their space mission involves searching the planet with landmarks named after places back on Earth.

Maybole was stumbled upon by their Curiosity Rover vehicle on its 2,946th sol, with one sol a day on Mars, in November 2020.

The martian motor has been powering through the planet since 2011 and has also identified a clay-barring region which shares its name with Glen Torridon of the Highlands, with highland mountain Glen Etive also a name used.

Locals have been thrilled to see their town claim its spot on Mars.

David Kiltie, 76, told the Post: "I think it is absolutely fantastic that we have our town Maybole the ancient capital of Carrick, perpetuated on Mars.

"People have always said Maybole is the centre of the universe so it is no surprise there's another form of it out there.

"I'm sure Maybole on Mars gets a wee bit more sun than we are used to here.

"I'm delighted that the Ayrshire Post has managed to go where no newspaper has gone before and get it confirmed.

"It will surely interest some of the local primary schools to learn more about the Rover missions and the outcrop that has been named after our home."

A spokesperson for NASA told the Post: "The scientists and engineers on the rover missions need to have common names for all the features they see on Mars.

"That allows them to know they're talking about the same things when they want to drive toward a landmark, or take data from a precise target. Because there are so many features, it's convenient to have a long list of names to pull from.

"So, as they approach new areas, the team pulls names of real places of geological interest here on Earth. In the Glen Torridon region, which we're departing, they picked names from Scotland. That included a lot of town names like Maybole.

"Maybole was the first of a series of rock "benches" that the team investigated."

Eagle eyed David Kiltie is delighted rock 'benches' on Mars have been named after Maybole, and inset, the rock 'benches' named after the town

> People have always said Maybole is at the centre of the universe so it is no surprise there is another form out there

Have a say on turbines

SARAH HILLEY

Some of the tallest onshore wind turbines in the world could be erected outside New Cumnock.

Banks Renewables wants to erect the 11 renewable energy structures measuring 260 metres in height.

They would form an extension to the approved Lethans Wind Farm, which is already set to have reportedly the tallest turbines in Scotland with some measuring 220 metres.

The Lethans extension wind farm would lie about six miles from New Cumnock and about nine kilometres from Sanquhar in forestry area.

The developer said it would "deliver a community benefit fund of over £9 million over its lifespan - while displacing more than 30,000 tonnes of CO2 annually."

The windfarm extension would have a lifespan of up to 35 years.

Bank Renewables said it could provide enough power to generate "green" electricity for 87,000 people every year.

The huge turbines could be among the biggest sitting on land in the world.

The already approved Lethans wind farm will have 22 turbines. Five of those turbines would have a maximum tip hight of 220 metres.

Robin Winstanley, sustainability and external affairs manager at Banks Renewables, said: "Both Lethans and Lethans Extension will create a positive and long-lasting legacy for East Ayrshire, creating jobs and infrastructure improvements which will benefit the local communities for decades to come."

First modular homes built

PAUL BEHAN

The first four homes for Scotland's largest affordable modular housing development have been delivered to a site in Ayrshire.

The important milestone was reached this week as the first 10 modules arrived on site at Kilmarnock Road, Dundonald and were craned into place.

These modules make up the first four homes comprising three two-bedroom houses and one four-bedroom property - the beginnings of a 63-strong affordable modular housing development, which is the very first of its kind in Scotland.

It's understood the first homes will be ready for occupancy before the end of the year.

Connect Modular, a division of The Wee House Company, is working with Irvine Housing Association, part of the Riverside Group, to deliver the project.

Jennifer Higgins, managing director at The Wee House, said: "We're delighted to have delivered the first four houses to site, a great achievement for all involved, and we look forward to continuing the delivery of these houses in the coming weeks and months.

"We're making great progress with this development and couldn't have picked better weather for the delivery of our first modules to site.

"An exciting day for the people of Dundonald seeing these homes arriving by lorry and the almost instant transformation of the site."

Paul Hillard, managing director of Irvine Housing Association, added: "It's a proud moment seeing the initial delivery of modules to the site.

"This is a very exciting project - our first in South Ayrshire and our very first modular project - and will provide a range of high-quality, greener, affordable housing for people in the local area."

District news

Forum attracts two new names

Fitness guru and chippy join Castle Douglas team

STEPHEN NORRIS

Castle Douglas Development Forum (CDDF) has been given a boost after two new members joined the board.

And both local chippy owner Andrew Moore and fitness trainer Anne Halliday are looking forward to getting down to work.

Anne said: "I want to do whatever I can in this life to help support our community and our incredible area thrive.

"We all know how lucky we are to live here, but I have a saying 'no matter how good things are – they can always be better.'

"The CDDF is already achieving wonderful things and so I am very excited about being a part of something that is a force for all things good."

Andrew added: "Having lived in Castle Douglas my whole life, I'm passionate about the community and its people.

"Being a business owner I have a set of skills and experience that I can apply and bring to the board.

"I also feel it is very important to give back to the town.

As a trustee I will have the opportunity to work with a great team of passionate people who share a common goal - to support and shape the future of Castle Douglas."

CDDF project development officer Sarah-Jane Allsopp welcomed the new appointments.

She told the News: "We are delighted to have two new committee members and trustees join our team.

"They both have so much to offer the community.

"It broadens the experience and skills of the team when new people bring in new ideas."

Fry guy Andrew Moore of Moore's Fish and Chips is a new trustee

New appointment Anne Halliday has joined the board

New trainee youth workers for Stewartry

STUART GILLESPIE

The Stewartry is set to benefit from two new trainee youth workers.

The pair will work alongside the existing experienced team to help offer services in Dalbeattie and Castle Douglas.

They are among eight appointments across the region in a project between the council's youth services and employability and skills service as part of the UK Government's Kickstart scheme which is supported by the Department of Work and Pensions.

Economy and resources committee chairman Rob Davidson said: "The UK Government's Kickstart programme is a scheme to get young people into employment.

"It is great that our employability and skills and youth work services have been able to create these positions in areas of high youth unemployment across the region.

"Both departments have a proven track record of supporting young people into positive destinations and this partnership will ensure the trainees will be in a strong position to secure a job or to further their education."

In addition to developing hands on skills and experience, the trainees will be supported by a designated employability key worker with a youth work background to complete nationally recognised qualifications.

There will also be an intensive training programme.

At the end of their placements, the trainees will have new skills and valuable experience, putting them in a very strong position for future jobs in the youth work sector or further education.

Communities committee chairman Andy Ferguson said: "It is fantastic that as a local authority and an employer for the Kickstart scheme we have many placement opportunities for young people across the region and across a range of services.

"As a council we strive to improve the level of skills within our communities and work force.

"To ensure that this council priority is met, we are committed to giving these trainees the best experience possible and have a designated member of staff to support them through their training and development."

Tributes paid to book festival stalwart Anne

Wigtown Book Festival organisers have been left "heartbroken" by the death of trustee and former chairperson Anne Brown on Monday.

Former Radio Scotland producer Anne, an Australian by birth, was a stalwart of the festival since the inaugural event in 1999.

Staff at the booking office were in tears at news of Anne's passing, which came after a short illness.

In a statement, festival artistic director Adrian Turpin said: "We are heartbroken at the death of our trustee and former chair Anne Brown – she was the definition of selfless.

"Present at the first festival, she rolled up her sleeves and worked tirelessly to support the staff.

"An accomplished BBC radio producer, she was a vital part of our programming team, tenacious in chasing up authors and prolific in writing copy.

"Anne never complained and she never sought praise.

"She could be bluff - a touch of the no nonsense Australian but she was the kindest soul.

"She asked little and gave much and the longer you knew her the more that became apparent."

Much loved Wigtown Book Festival trustee Anne Brown, right, passed away on Monday

Anne began her journalistic career with the BBC in London and Newcastle before moving to Newton Stewart to raise her family.

Radio Solway in Dumfries and Radio Tweed in Selkirk owed much to her support in their formative years.

Mr Turpin added: "The sadness among those of us who knew her at the festival today is palpable.

"It won't feel like the same festival – it won't be the festival."

B. Public Exhibition Leaflet for June 2021 Public Exhibitions

Community Benefit

To date, Windy Standard Wind Farm has provided over £500,000 to communities surrounding the wind farm through their community benefit funds.

If consented, the repower of Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm will provide over £7m throughout the lifespan of the project.

We believe that the repower of Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm can continue to support the local economy and help to meet local aspirations.

We want to work closely with the community to ensure that the community benefit can address identified local challenges such as housing stock and energy consumption, in addition to recreation, tourism and ecology.

We want to hear your views on how the wind farm can continue to support your community and meet local aspirations.

Get in touch by emailing communities@fredolsen.co.uk

Supply Chain

We are pleased that Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm has employed local services so far – helping to maximise the local economic opportunities.

Services that we have employed includes:

- 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**

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Dumfries and Galloway 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 Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of Commerce. We hope that this partnership will help to bolster our efforts to employ local skills.

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm

Hello,

We are contacting you to let you know more about our proposals to repower Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm, which is located 8km North East of Carsphairn and 10km south of New Cumnock.

Windy Standard Wind Farm has been operating for over 25 years. Our repowering proposals examine the opportunity to replace the existing turbines that comprise the first phase of the project.

This will allow us to:

- Reduce the number of turbines on site
- Increase how much electricity we can generate
- Use existing roads, tracks and other infrastructure

We want to start a conversation with the local community and key stakeholders about how we can develop a project that can continue to support the local economy, contribute towards Scotland and the UKs renewable energy aspirations and be an asset to the local area.

We appreciate that the current Covid-19 restrictions are making face-to-face engagement challenging. However, we hope that as restrictions ease we will be able to meet with you in person. In the interim, our virtual exhibition in June will help to provide an outline of our proposals and gather your views.

Virtual Exhibition

We will be holding a virtual and interactive web-based consultation launching on **Monday 21st June** at www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk

Live and interactive chat events will take place on:

Monday 21st June
5pm – 7pm

Wednesday 23rd June
5pm – 7pm

If you are unable to attend the virtual chat, we would very much welcome the opportunity to:

- Set up a discussion. Text/call 07435 763 900. The team can be on hand to discuss the plans with you, and this includes after 5pm.
- Answer your questions via communities@fredolsen.co.uk
- Provide additional information either printed or on a memory stick. Send your request to communities@fredolsen.co.uk or text/ call 07435 763 900.

Thank you for taking the time to read about Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm. If you have any questions please contact communities@fredolsen.co.uk

About the Proposal

Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm has been operating for over 25 years and we are exploring opportunities to replace the existing turbines with new, modern turbines that utilise the latest technology.

Our repowering proposals will allow for a reduction of 27 turbines on site by installing larger wind turbines with a greater generating capacity offering a cleaner look to the landscape and an opportunity to help Scotland reach its net zero by 2045 target.

Proposed number of turbines	Up to 9 turbines
Proposed turbine tip height	Up to 200m to tip
Lifespan of proposed wind farm	35 years
Energy storage facility	10MW
Total wind capacity	45MW
Total installed capacity	55MW
Energy generation	31,000 homes per annum
Community fund	£325,000 per year. In excess of £7.5M over the lifetime of the wind farm

About us

Fred. Olsen Renewables Ltd has been developing and operating wind farms in the UK since the mid-1990s. Our operational wind farm portfolio, which is all in Scotland, comprises a total generating capacity of 529.7 MW and we have an extensive pipeline of projects.

We are currently one of the leading independent renewable power producers in the UK and engagement with key stakeholders and the local communities surrounding our sites is at the heart of all we do.

By being involved in every aspect of a wind farm's lifecycle, from site selection to planning, construction and operation, we are not only experts in developing successful projects – we are good neighbours.

Proposed Timeline

Site selection

Spring 2021

Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm has been operational for over 25 years. Having extended the lifespan of the original consent we are exploring the potential to repower the site

Planning

Winter 2021

We want to submit an application to the Scottish Government by Q4 2021. 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

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

At the end of the operational period, turbines are removed and the site restored. A financial bond will be put in place to cover this cost.

Next steps

We will be holding a public exhibition launching on Monday 21st June. We will continue our consultation prior to submitting an application in late 2021. The full suite of application documents will be made publicly available at this time.

www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk

C. Public Exhibition Banners for June 2021 Public Exhibitions

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Welcome

Welcome to our virtual public consultation exhibition about the proposed repower of Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm, located 9km North East of Carsphairn and 10km south of New Cumnock.

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

The current Covid-19 pandemic is making face-to-face engagement challenging. In normal circumstances we would talk through these proposals with you in person. However, we hope that these materials provide you with useful information and allows us to start a conversation about the project.

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
t 07435763900
w www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk

About Fred. Olsen Renewables

Fred. Olsen Renewables (FORL) 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 involved in the operation of Windy Standard Wind Farm since the 1990's. 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

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Our proposals

About the site

Windy Standard Wind Farm currently consists of three developments.

- Windy Standard 1 has been operating for over 25 years. The project consists of 36 turbines with a tip height of 53.5m and provides 21.6 MW of electricity.
- Windy Standard 2 was consented in 2007 and has been operational since 2017. This consists of 30 turbines with tip heights up to 120m and provides 61.5 MW of electricity.
- Windy Standard 3 which was consented in 2021. This consists of 20 turbines and is expected to be constructed in 2024.

Windy Standard 1 Repower

We are exploring opportunities to replace the existing Windy Standard 1 turbines with new, modern turbines that utilise the latest technology.

Our repowering proposals would:

- Reduce the number of turbines
- Increase the generating capacity
- Share existing infrastructure – including tracks and grid connection

The main components of the proposed development are:

- Up to nine wind turbines with a height of up to 200m to tip
- Energy Storage Facility
- Turbine foundations and hardstandings
- External transformer housing
- Onsite substation and control building
- Underground electricity cables between the turbines
- Upgrade access tracks
- Crane pads

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Fred. Olsen Renewables

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.

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Fred. Olsen Renewables

Environmental Impact Assessment

We are currently continuing the scoping and consultation phase of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed development.

We are submitting a scoping report to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in June 2021. This will describe our draft proposal and seek the views of consultees on the scope of the EIA. The stakeholders include:

- Dumfries and Galloway Council
- NatureScot
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- Historic Environment Scotland (HES)
- Community Councils

The feedback that we receive will determine 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

FORL Development Process

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Fred. Olsen Renewables

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.

Ornithology

This assessment considers any potential effect on local bird assemblages. Extensive ornithology surveys have been completed.

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. There are no statutory designations on the site.

Cultural Heritage

This assessment considers the cultural heritage assets in close proximity to the site and helps to inform appropriate mitigation proposals.

Hydrology, Geology and Hydrogeology

This assessment considers the hydrological, geological and hydrogeological characteristics of the proposed development site, and helps to inform appropriate mitigation proposals.

Aviation and Existing Infrastructure

This assessment considers the potential impact of the proposed development upon civil and military aviation interests, communication operations, core paths and existing site infrastructure, and it details proposed mitigation measures, if required.

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.

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 King George V Dock Glasgow, via the M8/M77 and A77, to the site access off the A713.

fredolsenrenewables.com

Fred. Olsen Renewables

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 a 45km 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 take into account 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.

fredolsenrenewables.com

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Repurposing the Turbines

The repowering of Windy Standard 1 will result in the removal of 36 turbines from site. This provides the opportunity to consider how we re-use and recycle the materials that we are removing as part of the decommissioning process.

We want to work with the local community and key stakeholders to explore how we can repurpose Windy Standard 1 and bring forward a unique concept for the area – focussing on sustainability and creativity.

We have some very early stage conceptual ideas for repurposing the decommissioned turbines which we hope to discuss in further detail.

Whilst these are at the very early conceptual stage, ideas for repurposing the decommissioned turbines can be seen here.

We want to hear your views and ideas on how we can repurpose Windy Standard 1 and truly support a circular economy. Get in touch **communities@fredolsen.co.uk**

Playparks

Wildlife hides

Glamping pods

Skate park

Climbing wall

fredolsenrenewables.com

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Community Benefit

To date, Windy Standard Wind Farm has provided over £500,000 to communities surrounding the wind farm through their community benefit funds.

If consented, the repower of Windy Standard 1 will provide over £7.5m throughout the lifespan of the project.

We believe that the repower of Windy Standard 1 can continue to support the local economy and help to meet local aspirations.

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 housing stock and energy consumption, in addition to recreation, tourism and ecology.

To date, the Windy Standard community benefit fund has supported a range of projects. This includes:

- Further educational grants
- Vocational support
- Hall refurbishment
- Property investment

The community benefit commitments for the repower of Windy Standard 1 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**

fredolsenrenewables.com

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Supply Chain

We are pleased that Windy Standard Wind Farm has employed local services so far – helping to maximise the local economic opportunities.

Services that we have 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**

Dumfries and Galloway 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 Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of Commerce. We hope that this partnership will help to bolster our efforts to employ local skills.

DGChamber President, Kenny Bowie:

"I'm delighted to have Fred. Olsen Renewables as our latest Gold Partner and look forward to working closely with them over coming years as they continue to work here in Dumfries & Galloway.

"Their commitment to Dumfries & Galloway sends out an important message in these uncertain times. It is also great to see them recognise the value of engaging at this level with DGChamber - the region's leading business organisation."

Natural Power

Natural Power began working with Fred. Olsen Renewables to deliver Windy Standard Wind Farm over 25 years ago and has played a pivotal role in many of our operational projects in Scotland. Since beginning work on Windy Standard, the economic benefits Natural Power has contributed to the region has been many, including:

- Natural Power's construction department has worked on **46%** of the region's wind farms. On average, construction investment equates to £1.1m per MW with c35% of that investment remaining in the local economy. Natural Power has therefore worked on projects bringing **£375.7m** to the local region (of a total of £824m).
- Natural Power employs 120 people within the South of Scotland. As it attracts a high number of professionals and technical specialists, the average salary equates to £40,000, contributing more than £4,800,000 per annum to the region.
- Natural Power has 104 South of Scotland based suppliers on its approved list, ensuring that as much money made in the region stays in the region as possible.

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Proposed Timeline

Site selection

Spring 2021

Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm has been operational for over 25 years. Having extended the lifespan of the original consent to December 2027 we are exploring the potential to repower the site.

Planning

Winter 2021

We want to submit an application to the Scottish Government by Q4 2021. The application will be supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA-R) that will show the results of all studies undertaken. The EIA-R report will be publicly available. Interested parties can formally comment on the application.

Decommissioning of current site

If approved, decommissioning of the existing turbines is expected to begin one year after consent. Decommissioning and repowering works can take between 18 and 25 months, and planning conditions will be used to manage certain elements of construction.

Construction

12-18months

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

At the end of the operational period, turbines are removed, and the site restored. A financial bond will be put in place to cover this cost.

Next steps

We hope to continue our consultation prior to submitting an application in late 2021. 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
t 07435763900
w www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk

fredolsenrenewables.com

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Meet the team

Finlay Becks-Phelps

UK Development Director

I have been involved with Fred. Olsen Renewables for a number of years, helping build the team and bring forward our growing ambitions. We came to be during the 1990s and have now been operating for over 25 years, generating over 500MW of onshore wind. We are looking to the future and planning on building on our past successes and bringing forward a new pipeline of projects across different technologies. I help support the team that looks to design technically strong projects that has community at the core of what we do.

Stuart Baungally

Land Manager

I have been involved in the development of major infrastructure projects at a regional and national level for over 10 years, including over five years exclusively in the renewables industry. I am responsible for securing sites and managing all aspects of a project's land requirements from site identification, through the development and planning process, and into construction and operation. I firmly believe that central to successfully delivering a renewables project is developing a scheme that meets the technical and planning requirements while at the same time sustaining the existing land use and contributing to the host community.

John Appleton

Senior Project Manager

I have significant experience of wind farm development, having worked in the renewable industry for almost 15 years. During this time I have overseen the development of many successful onshore wind farms – working closely with communities and stakeholders throughout the process. I am responsible for overseeing every aspect of the Windy Standard Wind Farm repowering proposals.

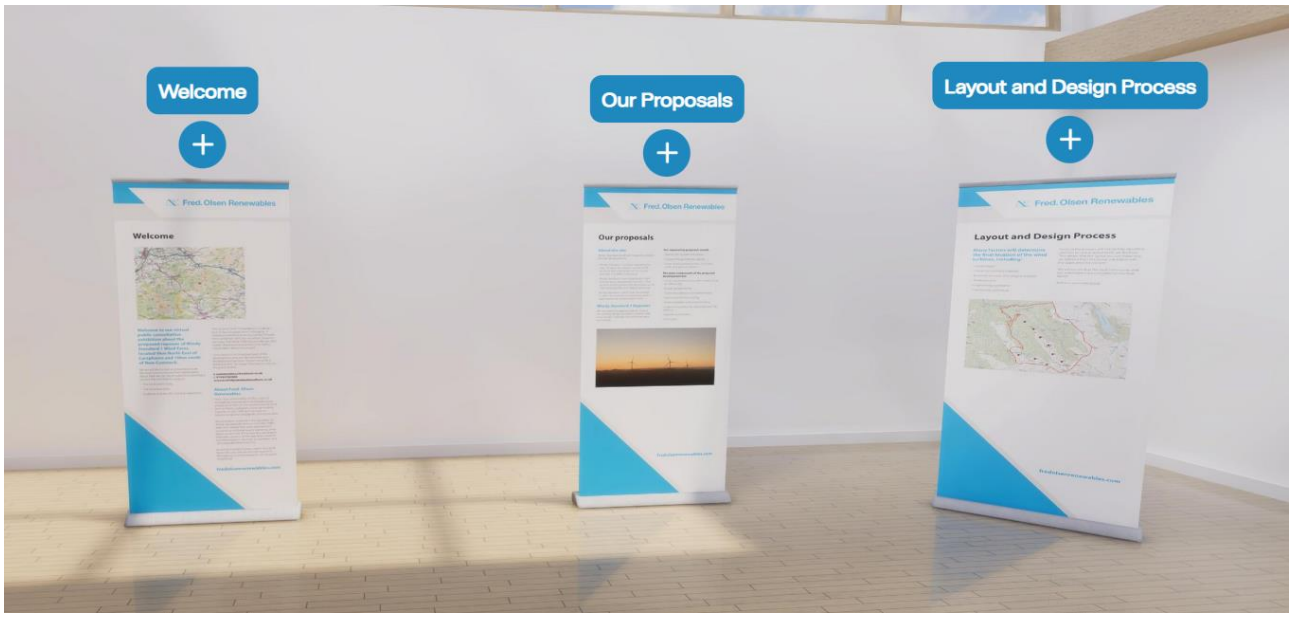
Miles McConville

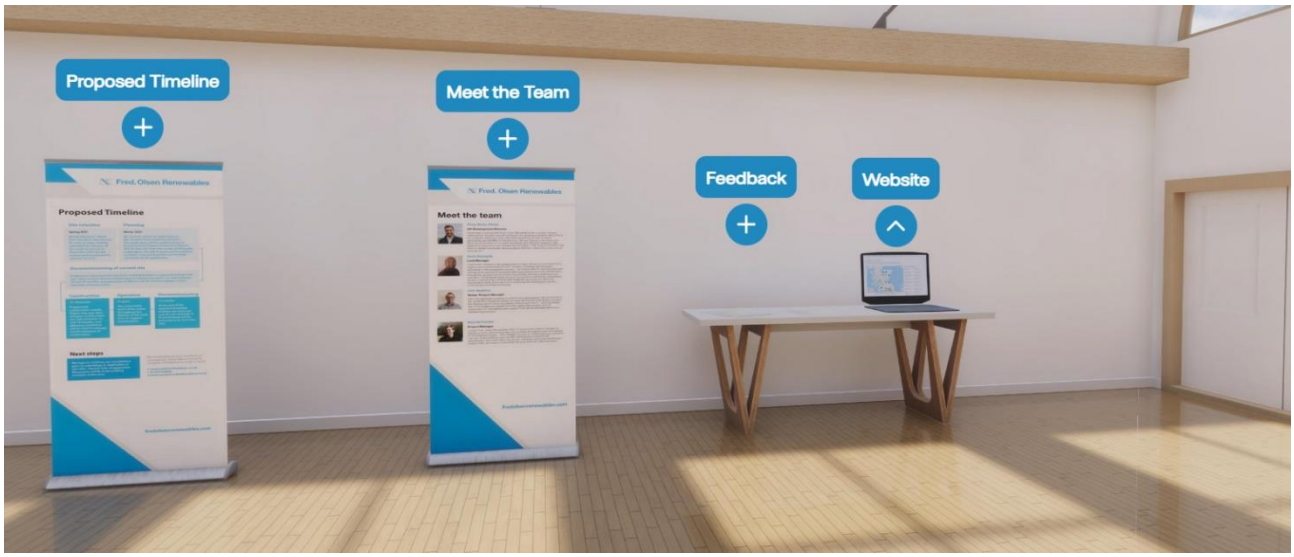
Project Manager

A GIS specialist, I have been an integral part of the Fred. Olsen Renewables team since 2019. During this time I have utilised my technical expertise to enable the company to progress significant renewable energy projects - taking them from early-stage feasibility through to consent, and ultimately operation.
As a project manager it is my responsibility to ensure that we are bringing forward the most suitable project for the area. I am very much focussed on community engagement and developing our local supply chain.

fredolsenrenewables.com

D. Overview of Exhibition Boards

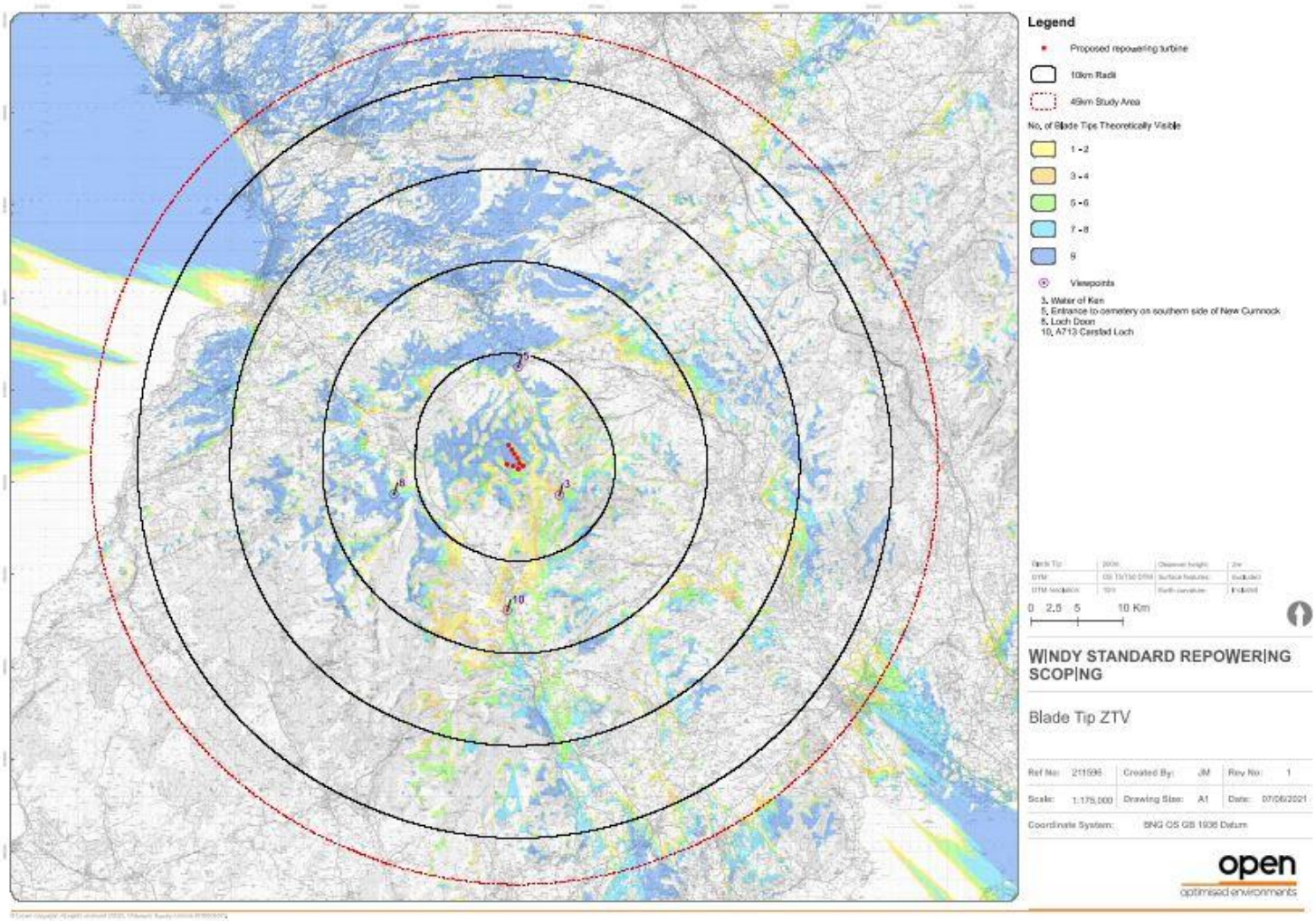



Proposed Timeline
Meet the Team
Feedback
Website
Fred. Olsen Renewables
Proposed Timeline
Next steps
Fred. Olsen Renewables
Meet the team

E. Public Exhibition Photomontages June 2021

F. Public Exhibition Site Layout June 2021

G. Public Exhibition ZTV June 2021



H. Blank Feedback form for November 2021 Public Exhibitions

Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm
Feedback Form

Thank you for visiting the Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm virtual public exhibition. We hope that you will take a moment to provide your feedback on the form below.

1

Do you support onshore wind farms as a source of renewable energy?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Unsure

2

Do you support the proposal to repower Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Unsure

3

Is there anything that you would like us to specifically consider as part of the Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm proposals

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes

4

Please provide any comments or suggestions as per question 3

5

Would you like to see the original Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm turbines repurposed?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Unsure

6

Are there any of the repurposing ideas that you would like us to explore further?

7

Do you have any initial comments or questions on the proposal presented?

8

Do you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can shape the community benefit offering to make it more appropriate to the local area?

Contact Details

9

Name

10

Email address

11

Address

GDPR

Fred. Olsen Renewables Limited (registered office is at 2nd Floor, 36 Broadway, London, SW1H 0BH - number 02672436) is a leading developer, owner and operator of renewable energy assets, primarily onshore wind farms. We are committed to safeguarding the privacy of individuals with whom we interact.

We process your personal data as a data controller in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 (UK GDPR).

We collect, store and use the following kinds of personal data when you complete our feedback form.

Identity & Contact: This includes your title, name, email address, postal address, and telephone number.

Marketing & Usage: Information about your marketing and communication preferences, and information you provide for the purpose of subscribing to email notifications and/or newsletters.

Using your personal information: We will use your information to send you email notifications which you have requested and/or our newsletter and other marketing communications and for legal and compliance purposes.

Disclosure of your personal data: We do not share your personal data with any other party.

Data transfer outside the EEA: We will not transfer your data outside the UK.

Your Rights: You have rights under UK GDPR. Please visit www.ico.org.uk for full details.

You may, at any time, exercise any of the above rights by contacting our Data Protection Officer by post to the registered office, or by email at dataprotection@fredolsen.co.uk

How long we keep your personal data: We will keep your data for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for, including for satisfying any legal and compliance requirements.

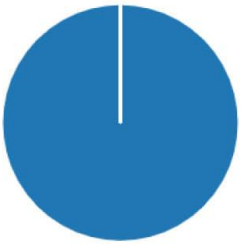
I. Feedback from November 2021 Public Exhibitions

Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm Feedback Form

1	21:53	Active
Responses	Average time to complete	Status

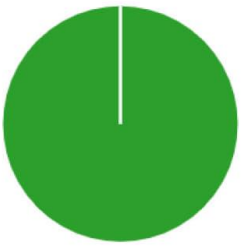
1. Do you support onshore wind farms as a source of renewable energy?

Yes	1
No	0
Unsure	0



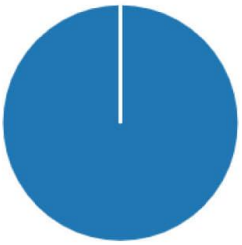
2. Do you support the proposal to repower Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm?

Yes	0
No	0
Unsure	1



3. Is there anything that you would like us to specifically consider as part of the Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm proposals

Yes	1
No	0



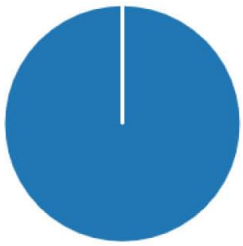
4. Please provide any comments or suggestions as per question 3

1
Responses

Latest Responses
"200m would make windy standard the tallest onshore wind farm in th..."

5. Would you like to see the original Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm turbines repurposed?

Yes	1
No	0
Unsure	0



6. Are there any of the repurposing ideas that you would like us to explore further?

1
Responses

Latest Responses
"Given the location some of the ideas are nonsense, renew the turbines..."

7. Do you have any initial comments or questions on the proposal presented?

1
Responses

Latest Responses
"no"

8. Do you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can shape the community benefit offering to make it more appropriate to the local area?

1
Responses

Latest Responses
"Take the views of the surrounding communities seriously and let them..."

J. Adverts for November 2021 Public Exhibitions

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Windy Standard Wind Farm – Public Exhibition

Fred. Olsen Renewables is proposing to repower Windy Standard Wind Farm, located 9km North East of Carsphairn and 10km south of New Cumnock.

We are inviting local residents and interested parties to attend one of our events to learn about our plans to replace existing turbines with new modern, larger, turbines that utilise the latest technology.

If you are unable to attend we would encourage you to:

- View the materials online and submit any questions you may have (**www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk**)
- Set up a discussion. Text/call **07435 763 900**. The team can be on hand to discuss the plans with you, and this includes after 5pm.
- Submit your questions via **communities@fredolsen.co.uk**
- Request additional information on memory stick. Email **communities@fredolsen.co.uk** or text/call **07435 763 900**.

The events are on:

Monday 15th November - 11am – 7pm

Dalmellington Community Centre, 38 Ayr Rd, Dalmellington, Ayr KA6 7SJ

Tuesday 16th November - 11am – 7pm

Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn, DG7 3TQ

Thursday 18th November - 11am – 7pm

New Cumnock Working Men's Club, 103 Afton Bridgend, New Cumnock, Cumnock, KA18 4JG

www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk

This place is 'out of control'

STUART WILSON

Residents live in fear

A neighbourhood has been branded "out of control" after a 24-hour crimewave rampaged through its streets.

A 36-year-old man was rushed to Crosshouse Hospital after being discovered critically injured in Ayr's River Street last Wednesday at 9.30pm.

It's understood he was stabbed and police are treating the incident as attempted murder.

And just hours later, four robberies took place in the nearby streets – leaving residents to label the Wallacetown area as a "no go zone".

One source, speaking to the Post on grounds of anonymity, said: "The streets are not safe to walk anymore and everyone around here knows it.

"It's all happening right under the nose of the police just yards from their station and they seem powerless to do anything about it.

"You see things happening openly on the street every day and it's just accepted now.

"People say 'oh it's Wallacetown' but it doesn't have to be that way.

"There are good people here – hard working families – and they shouldn't have to put up with it being a no go zone. My family has lived here for 50 years and this is as bad as I've ever known it – things are out of control."

Ward councillor, Tory Derek McCabe, said: "We have long known there are problems in Wallacetown and it's high time these concerns are taken seriously.

"We cannot have residents living in fear of their own safety and the police must work with all partners to get on top of this as quickly as possible."

Inspector Frank Braddick of Ayr Police said: "We are aware of the impact these types of crimes can have on a community and the concern they can cause.

"Our officers are committed to tackling violent crime and finding those responsible and I would like to reassure people that there will be increased patrols in the area.

"I would ask for the continued support of the public and ask residents to contact us if they see or hear an incident or any suspicious activity.

"Anyone who has any concerns is asked to contact police by calling 101."

Two men face robbery and assault charges

Two men have appeared in private at court after four robberies in Ayr.

Dylan Lindsay, of Ayr, was accused of three charges of assault and robbery when he appeared on petition at Ayr Sheriff Court on Monday afternoon.

The 22-year-old faced a further charge of theft.

And George Ralf was charged with four counts of assault and robbery when he appeared on petition at the court at the same time.

The 39-year-old, of Ayr, faced two further charges when he appeared in the dock. He was accused of theft and being in possession of a controlled drug.

Both made no plea or declaration and both were remanded in custody pending further police investigations.

They are both expected to make a second apperance in private next week.

Police began their enquiries after four robberies. Two of the incidents happened in Content Street and the other two on Victoria Street last week.

Nobody was seriously injured in any of the incidents.

Police appealed for witnesses and stepped up patrols in the area to reassure the public.

Fuel bill doubles for Gatehouse resident

Dad-of-two will now pay £740 to fill heating tank

STEPHEN NORRIS

Fears are growing of a "heat or eat" crisis in Galloway amid growing evidence of sky-rocketing fuel and electricity prices.

Gatehouse man Danny Alderslowe got a delivery of fuel oil this week and was stunned to find his bill had more than doubled.

Mr Alderslowe, who lives in rented accommodation half a mile out of town, paid £350 for 1,000 litres last year.

But when his tank was filled up the same consignment cost him an eye-watering £740.

Dad-of-two Mr Alderslowe initially thought it was a case of mistaken identity – until the penny dropped.

He told the News: "When I got the note I though they had got the wrong address.

"That was my first reaction – could you check if that's really me?

"I did laugh at first but then it wasn't so funny.

"I thought straight away of the amount of people who must be struggling.

"Up till last year my bill would average £350 to fill up the tank.

"That was for the year because we are energy aware and try not to put the heating on too much.

"When I paid my bill this week it was £740.

"In a rural area like this there are a lot of people with oil central heating who will be getting hit with big bills.

"Rents have increased, other utility bills increased but will wages increase?

Price shock Danny Alderslowe from Gatehouse with his fuel bill

"I don't think that's going to happen and National Insurance is going up as well."

Mr Alderslowe who is a member of Living Rent, a Scottish tenants' union campaigning for decent and affordable housing, added: "I honestly don't know how older folk and single parents on low wages are managing right now.

"It's terrifying – it's getting more and more difficult for people.

"A lot of folk on lower incomes are in private lets.

"You might see more evictions because people can't afford to pay their both rents and utility bills.

"It will be like a modern day heating clearances."

Jessica Benzie, communications and volunteer development manager at Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service (DGCAS), predicted a tough few months for many.

She said: "We are concerned with the energy price cap and other costs rising that fuel poverty could be a real issue this winter.

"We are aware of this issue especially with the end of furlough and the universal credit uplift coming on top of energy increases.

"People are worrying about their budgets and we are expecting a significant increase in our caseload this coming winter.

"We would urge people to get in touch if they are struggling with energy bills or financial pressures.

"We can give advice on energy bills, budgeting and do budget checks to make sure people are getting everything they are entitled to.

"This will definitely put pressure on the housing system."

Cash needed for waste unit

MARC MCLEAN

More millions are required to bring Dumfries and Galloway Council's waste facilities up to scratch – three years after the local authority spent £10.5m just to bring services back in-house.

The council was forced to shell out that amount in 2018 to wind up its disastrous waste collection deal with private firm Renewi.

That figure was initially estimated to be £6.8m but more public cash had to be ploughed in to improve assets and pay advisors sorting out the public finance initiative (PFI) fiasco.

However, taxpayers are being landed with more bills for the "rectification" of council waste service facilities.

The matter is due to be discussed at the council's ad-hoc waste collection, treatment and disposal sub-committee today.

A report due to be tabled at the meeting reads: "Following termination of the waste PFI contract, these assets reverted to the council and are now operated by the waste services team.

"At the time of the termination of the waste PFI contract in November, 2018, the need for investment in the rectification of these facilities was recognised."

Maintenance works at household waste recycling centres and transfer stations has been estimated at £240,000.

Meanwhile, essential improvements at closed landfill sites will cost around £615,000.

With the council also anticipating increased costs, an extra £255,000 has been allocated – taking the estimated bill to £1.1m.

Meanwhile, an upgrade of the eco deco plant in Dumfries has also been identified as a priority, with more than £1.4m already put aside for the works.

Furthermore, an extra £705,000 will likely be spent at the plant further down the line to "address future health and safety works", including a potential upgrade to fire suppression equipment.

The council waste services report states: "Over the next few years there is a need for investment in asset maintenance and rectification works in the waste treatment and disposal facilities.

"The communities committee meeting of October 5, 2021, agreed to the investment required at the eco deco MBT as urgent works in this financial year and the planned works required at the other waste facilities."

The council was forced to cancel its waste services 25-year deal with Renewi in September, 2018.

The private firm had made a loss of £3m in the previous 12 months – and then threatened to stop taking rubbish at its sites across the region.

Man guilty of historical sex crimes against kids

KENNY MACDONALD

A 60-year-old man is to be sentenced later this month for historical sex crimes.

Douglas Brown, of Palgowan Farm, Bargrennan, was found guilty at Dumfries Sheriff Court of four offences stretching back to 2003 involving young girls, one aged just four.

He had denied the charges but a jury found him guilty.

Brown was charged that on various occasions between April 1, 2003 and February 28, 2006, at an address in the region he used indecent practices towards a girl who was aged seven at the start of the abuse.

He lay on a mattress with the girl, removed her clothing, touched her private parts and made her commit a sex act on him.

Brown also abused a second girl, aged seven at the start of the offences, on various occasions between April 1, 2003, and May 25, 2008, at two addresses in the region.

He used lewd, libidinous and indecent practices towards her by removing her clothing, touching her private parts and causing her to commit a sex act on him.

He also had sex with a woman in her presence and caused the girl to view pornographic material.

A third girl, aged only four at the start of the abuse, was a victim between April 1, 2003, and April 26, 2010, at an address in the region.

Brown got into her bed and sexually abused her. The court heard he also had sex with a woman in her presence and caused her to view pornography.

The fourth charge was that on various occasions between April 1, 2003, and July 3, 2011, at two addresses in the region, he struck the same girl with his hand, seized her by the body and threw her over furniture then seized her by the throat, pinned her against a wall and uttered threats of violence towards her.

The jury unanimously found him guilty on the first, third and fourth charges and found him guilty by a majority verdict on the second charge.

Sheriff Scott Pattison adjourned the case for background reports including a psychological evaluation until November 23.

K. November 2021Public Exhibition leaflet

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Proposed Timeline and Next Steps

Repower Preparation

We are exploring opportunities to replace the existing Windy Standard 1 turbines with new, modern turbines that utilise the latest technology.

Consenting

We want to apply to the Scottish Government for consent by Winter 2021. 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. Alternatively we will explore options to repower the site.

Next steps

We will be holding a public exhibition, launching in November. We will continue our consultation prior to submitting an application in Winter 2021. The full suite of application documents will be made publicly available at this time.

Thank you for taking the time to read about the repowering of Windy Standard Wind Farm. If you have any questions please contact communities@fredolsen.co.uk

Windy Standard A5 Leaflet Oct.indd 1-2

Repowering Windy Standard Wind Farm

Hello,

We are contacting you to provide an update on our proposals for Windy Standard Wind Farm.

Windy Standard Wind Farm, located 9km north east of Carsphairn and 10km south of New Cumnock, has been in operation for over 25 years.

The first phase of the wind farm (Windy Standard 1) consists of 36 turbines and we are proposing to repower the project by taking down the existing turbines, replacing them with eight turbines up to 200m to tip.

We have undertaken a range of consultation on these repowering proposals, and we would like to provide an update on:

- How we have listened to feedback
- How the proposed development has changed
- The opportunities that our plans present

Exhibition

We hope that holding consultation exhibitions, alongside having materials online, will allow everyone the opportunity to view and comment on our proposals. We hope you will be able to attend.

Monday 15th November - 11am – 7pm
Dalmellington Community Centre, 38 Ayr Rd, Dalmellington, Ayr KA6 7SJ

Tuesday 16th November - 11am – 7pm
Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn, DG7 3TQ

Thursday 18th November - 11am – 7pm
New Cumnock Working Men's Club, 103 Afton Bridgend, New Cumnock, Cumnock, KA18 4JG

If you are unable to attend these events we would encourage you to:

- View the materials online and submit any questions you may have (**www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk**)
- Set up a discussion. Text/call **07435 763 900**. The team can be on hand to discuss the plans with you, and this includes after 5pm.
- Submit your questions via **communities@fredolsen.co.uk**
- Provide additional information on memory stick. Send your request to **communities@fredolsen.co.uk** or text/call **07435 763 900**.

11/10/2021 22:11

About the Proposal

Windy Standard Wind Farm currently consists of three developments.

- Windy Standard 1 has been operating for over 25 years. The project consists of 36 turbines with a tip height of 53.5m and provides 21.6 MW of electricity.
- Windy Standard 2 was consented in 2007 and has been operational since 2017. This consists of 30 turbines with tip heights up to 120m and provides 61.5 MW of electricity generation.
- Windy Standard 3 was consented in 2021. This consists of 20 turbines and it is expected construction will be completed in 2024.

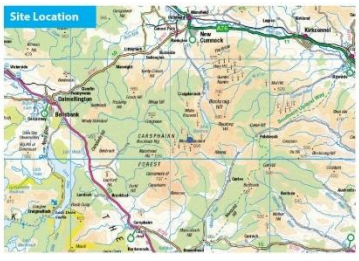
Our proposals are to repower Windy Standard 1.

We were initially considering a wind farm layout that comprised up to nine wind turbines, each up to 200m in height to tip.

We have revised our proposals and the layout now consists of eight turbines at up to 200m to tip.

The new layout will be available online and at the exhibition.

Site Location



About us

Fred. Olsen Renewables has been involved in the operation of Windy Standard Wind Farm since the 1990's. 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.

We are currently one of the leading independent renewable power producers in the UK and engagement with key stakeholders and the local communities surrounding our sites is at the heart of all we do.

By being involved in every aspect of a wind farm's lifecycle, from site selection to planning, construction and operation, we are not only experts in developing successful projects – we are good neighbours.

Community Benefit

To date, Windy Standard Wind Farm has provided over £500,000 to communities surrounding the wind farm through their community benefit funds.

If consented, the repower of Windy Standard 1 will provide over £7.5m throughout the lifespan of the project. We believe that the repower of Windy Standard 1 can continue to support the local economy and help to meet local aspirations.

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 housing stock and energy consumption, in addition to recreation, tourism and ecology.

Recycling turbines

The repower of Windy Standard 1 will result in the removal of 36 turbines from site. This provides the opportunity to consider how we re-use and recycle the materials that we are removing as part of the decommissioning process.

We are working with the local community and key stakeholders to explore how we can repurpose the turbines and bring forward a unique concept for the area – focussing on sustainability and creativity.

We hope to present some of these ideas at the exhibition and gather further feedback and suggestions.

For further information get in touch: **communities@fredolsen.co.uk**

Supply Chain

We always seek to employ local services during the construction and operation of our wind farms – helping to maximise local economic opportunities. 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**.

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

In order to support our efforts in engaging local businesses, we recently joined Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of Commerce.

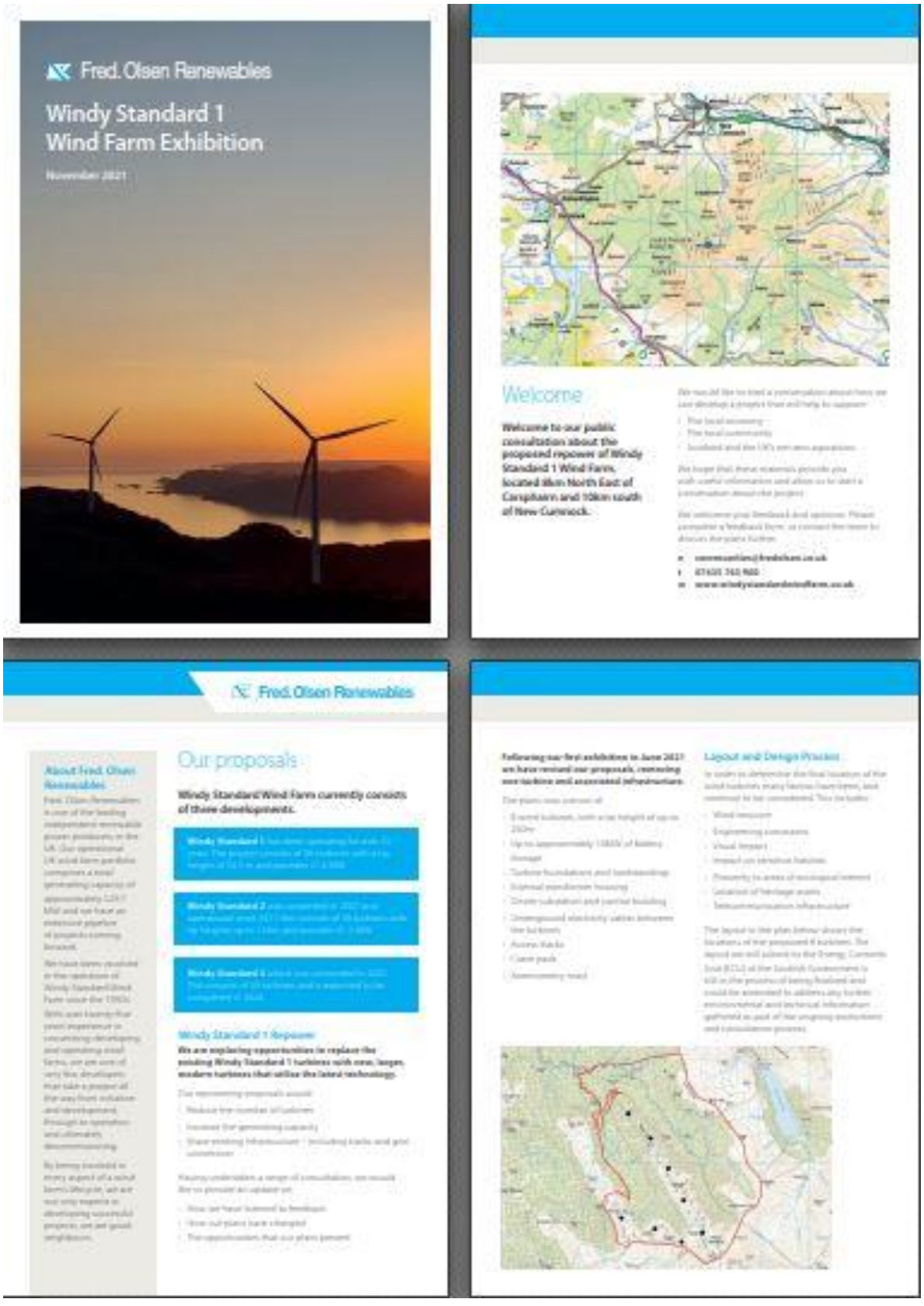
We hope to hold our first supply chain event in the near future. This will be followed with further events as our plans progress.

www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk

Windy Standard A5 Leaflet Oct.indd 3-4

11/10/2021 22:11

L. November 2021 Public Exhibition Brochure



Fred. Olsen Renewables

Development Process

We submitted a scoping report to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in August 2021.

This document our draft proposal and invited the views of consultees on the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

The feedback from our scoping has determined the scope of the EIA with further consultations still ongoing.

Baseline surveys and assessment are continuing for the proposed development. These surveys will inform the final layout of the site ensuring that if mitigation effects on the local environment, the wildlife evaluated and prevent the any potential significant effects of the proposed development within the EIA Report. The EIA Report will accompany the planning application to the Scottish Government.

The EIA Report will consider:

- Ornithology
- Ecology
- Landscape and visual receptors
- 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

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is being undertaken to identify and assess the potential significant environmental effects of the proposed development. 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

The wind farm has been subject to survey work and monitoring throughout the 23 years since it became operational. In line with guidance the assessment for repowering Windy Standard 1 has been based on relevant survey work conducted for the adjacent wind farms and additional specific surveys for raptor and black grouse within the proposed development area conducted in 2020. Various sessions with interest days and transects were also undertaken in 2020 on the existing turbines present at Windy Standard 1.

The ornithological assessment has identified that there is a typical bird assemblage associated with upland moorland and forest habitat in this region of Scotland. The dedicated surveys identified potential for breeding goshawk within the plantation woodland on the surveyed area. Other raptor species recorded using the site for foraging and commuting were hen harrier, red kite and osprey. None of these species showed evidence of breeding within the survey area. Specialist assessment did not consider the crossover of any target bird species.

The current layout has taken any sensitive ornithological areas into consideration to minimise any disruptions to bird species during the construction and operation of the proposed development.

Ecology

Windy Standard 1 forms part of the Windy Standard Complex which has been subject to survey work and monitoring for different phases throughout the 23 years since the original Windy Standard I became operational. As such Windy Standard I has been extensively covered by various walkover surveys and there is an excellent understanding of the area and the species present to provide ecological context for the proposal.

Bat surveys were conducted in 2020 following updated guidance¹, comprising of static acoustic detector surveys and ground searches (with trained dogs and handlers). Given the existing knowledge of the site, no additional protected mammals surveys have been undertaken and following the implementation of appropriate mitigation, no impacts are anticipated on mammal species known to be present (including badger, otter, pine marten, water vole and fish).

Additional habitat surveys have been undertaken in both 2020 and 2021 to identify

Fred. Olsen Renewables

any sensitive habitats within an appropriate buffer of the proposed works, ensuring that the predominant habitats found at the site is acid grassland with small areas of wet and dried modified bog. As a result, the habitats and locations of those species noted have been considered within the latest development layout, appropriate layout offs have been put in place so as to reduce or remove any impacts.

Cultural Heritage

The cultural heritage assessment considers the archaeological and cultural heritage assets within the proposed repowering site and in the wider area according to potential impacts. The assessment comprises a review of data sources which include the Dumfries and Galloway Council Historic Environment Record, Historic Environment Scotland records, historical mapping and any available LiDAR data. In addition, a detailed walkover survey across the whole site, and visits to local designated sites such as scheduled monuments and listed buildings with the potential to be indirectly impacted by the proposed development will be undertaken.

The baseline records for the proposed repowering site include the known recorded route of a Roman road. Walkover surveys undertaken for the Windy Standard extension have identified other cultural heritage assets such as clearance cairns and field boundaries, and it is possible that the walkover survey of this proposed development will reveal previously undiscovered assets of a similar kind. Historic map evidence indicates that the site was undeveloped and largely consisted of open moorland. The site includes areas of peat. The assessment will include a review of the peat survey data to identify whether any of the peat deposits have the potential to preserve palaeoenvironmental remains. If present, these could have the potential to provide information on past environments in and around the site.

Throughout the design process close consideration is given to any potential impacts upon cultural heritage assets, turbines and associated infrastructure elements have been located away from known cultural heritage assets within the site, and data from the walkover survey and desk top (the on-going design process). Consultation is ongoing with stakeholders to discuss the potential visual effects of the proposed repowering on assets outwith the site. care will be taken, to identify and avoid the potential to avoid adversely affecting an asset's setting and thereby the ability to understand and appreciate the asset in its wider context.

Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Peat

This assessment considers the hydrological, geological and hydrogeological characteristics of the proposed development site, and seeks to inform appropriate mitigation proposals. A desk based study has been undertaken in order to establish the baseline conditions underlying the proposed developments area, supported by a site survey to measure the range of peat depths across the site.

In terms of spatial coverage, the recorded depths along the ridge line between Cullow Rig, Jedburgh Knees and Wind Standard are considerably less than 0.5 m. The peat begins to deepen away from the ridge towards its deepest areas found in the valleys of Dargall and Chapard Burn. The existing land use is a combination of mature commercial forestry with the upper summits, along the ridge line, dominated by the existing Windy Standard Wind Farm and open moorland.

The existing land use has significantly altered the condition of the peatland habitat. Hydrological processes across the proposed development have also been altered and described a new equilibrium because of the commercial forestry.

The turbine layout has taken into consideration the habitats and watercourse across the site and looked to keep turbines, any areas of deep peat and away from watercourses.

Aviation and Telecommunications

Assessments and consultation has been undertaken to assess whether the turbines could adversely affect the operation of commercial and military aviation interests and infrastructure. Detailed consultation is ongoing with aviation and telecommunication organisations to ensure that the final development layout has no impact on telecommunications, airport or military operations or that radar mitigation measures are agreed with the relevant authority.

Socioeconomics and Tourism

Potential socioeconomic benefits of the proposed development will be outlined within the EIA Report. This will include the potential benefits on local regional and national levels during the construction and commercial periods of the proposed development. The tourism assessment will consider the levels of tourism in the county and identify whether there are any potential for effects associated with the proposed development that could lead to changes in tourist behaviour and on the tourism economy.

Noise and Vibration

The assessment will consider the effects on both construction and operational noise on nearby sensitive residential receptors including in combination with other nearby wind farms. Background noise monitoring has been carried out at a number of residential properties and locations in the vicinity of the proposed site and in consultation with Dumfries and Galloway Council. The predicted noise levels during construction and operation of this wind farm will be modelled and compared against the measured background noise levels and will be set so that they do not breach the agreed limits set by the local authority.

Traffic and Transport

The 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 noise sensitive receptors and the site visit has identified that turbines can be transported from King George V Dock (Glasgow) via the M8/M77 and A77 to the site access off the A713.


Fred. Olsen Renewables
Landscape and Visual Amenity
Community Benefit
Fred. Olsen Renewables
Repurposing Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm Turbines
Playparks
Wildlife hides
Climbing wall
Skate park
Glamping pods
Supply Chain
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
natural power

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Why Wind Farms?

A substantial amount of carbon emissions come from energy used across power, heating and transport.

Renewable energy such as wind power, does not emit greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

Therefore, by using renewable energy technologies like wind turbines, solar panels, and hydro we are reducing carbon emissions created by traditional energy consumption.

Wind power, as the most advanced renewable technology available at a large scale, has a vital role to play in achieving our zero carbon electricity system.

By bringing more wind turbines to Scotland, we can:

- Reducing our reliance on fossil fuels
- Improving energy security by reducing imports
- Meeting government targets
- Tackling climate change

Wind power has a carbon footprint:

99% less than coal fired power plants

98% less than natural gas

75% less than solar

Wind Farms and Climate Change

What is Climate Change?

Climate is the average weather we experience over many years. The rapid climate change we are now seeing is caused by human's using oil, gas and coal for their homes, factories and transport.

Average global temperatures have risen by more than 1°C since the 1850s.

We are already seeing the negative impacts of climate change. Unless action is taken, temperatures will continue to rise and we will see more extreme catastrophic impacts.

The impact of Climate Change?

Environment

We are already witnessing changes to our environment such as sea levelling at our edges and glaciers with less lying and coastal cities at particular risk of flooding.

Climate change is expected to increase the frequency, intensity, and impacts of some types of extreme weather events. For example, increases in temperature have resulted in a greater risk of wildfires that we recently seen in the USA and Australia.

People

Climate change is affecting people in far reaching ways. Things that we all depend upon and value — water, energy, wildlife, agriculture, ecosystems, and human health — are experiencing the effects of a changing climate.

These extreme weather events (floods, storms and wild fires) will become more common and intense, threatening lives and livelihoods.

Nature

There is already evidence that animals, birds and plants are being affected by climate change in both more distribution and behaviour.

Changes are happening so fast that many species do not have time to adapt to the loss of habitats or food and will soon become extinct.

For example, the loss of sea ice has already seen large reductions in the numbers of Polar Bear (animal) whilst increasing sea temperatures has dramatically impacted coral reefs – a vital habitat for many sea creatures.

Impacts in the UK

Changes to the climate are also being felt in the UK.

Our winters are becoming warmer and wetter resulting in increased flooding. Whilst our summers will become hotter and drier increasing the likelihood of droughts will increase.

People, nature and infrastructure are already vulnerable to a range of climate impacts today and these will only increase in the coming years as the climate continues to change.

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Proposed Timeline

Baseline Preparation

We are exploring opportunities to replace the existing Windy Standard I turbines with new, modern turbines that utilise the latest technology.

Consenting

We want to apply to the Scottish Government for consent by Winter 2021. 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 share 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 would begin in the year after consent.

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

Operation

30 years

The community fund will be in the development for lifetime of the wind farm to support local projects.

Decommissioning

<1 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. Alternatively we will explore options to repower the site.

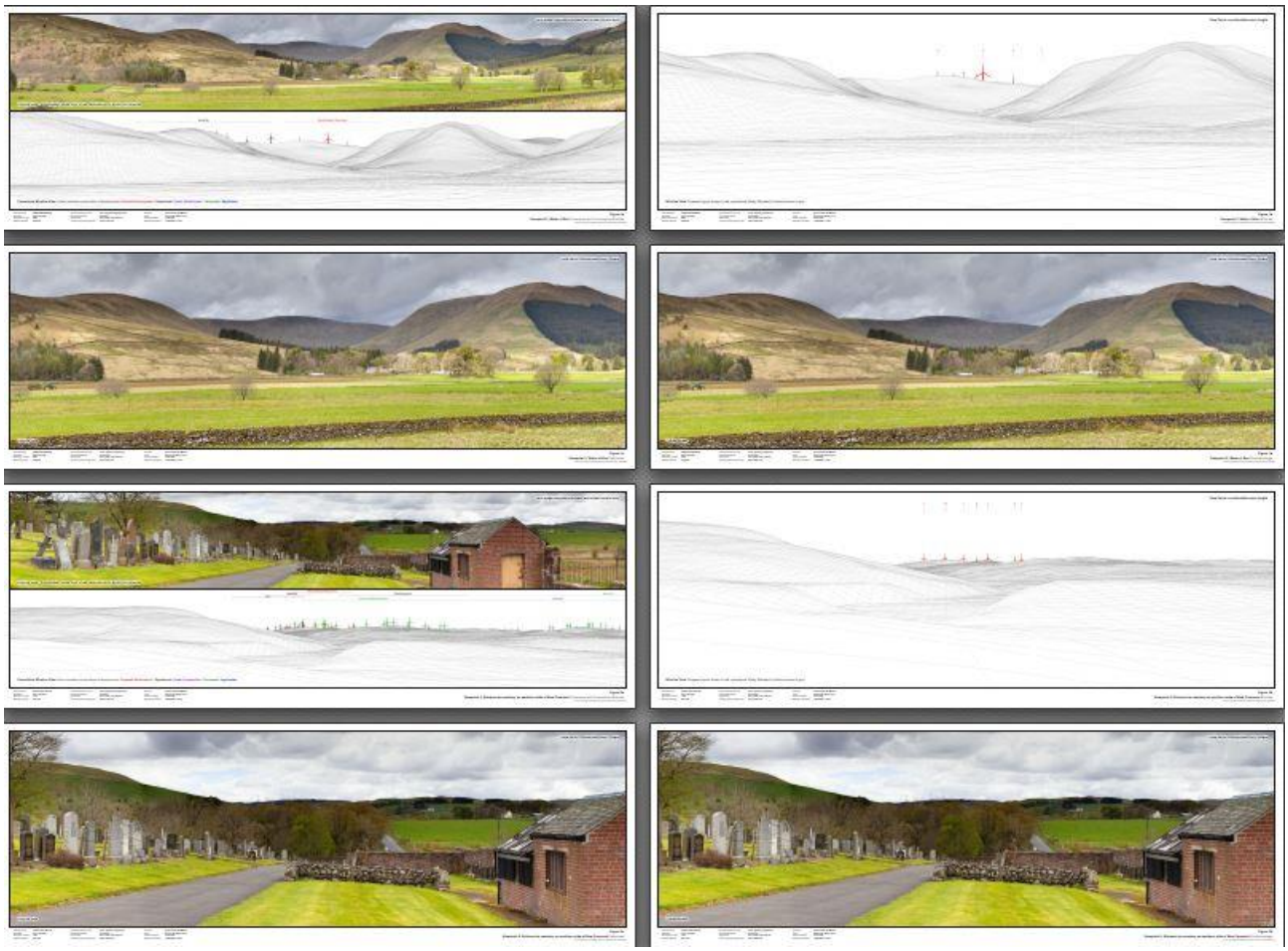
Next steps

We will be holding a public exhibition, [wording] in November. We will continue our consultation prior to submitting an application in Winter 2021. 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.

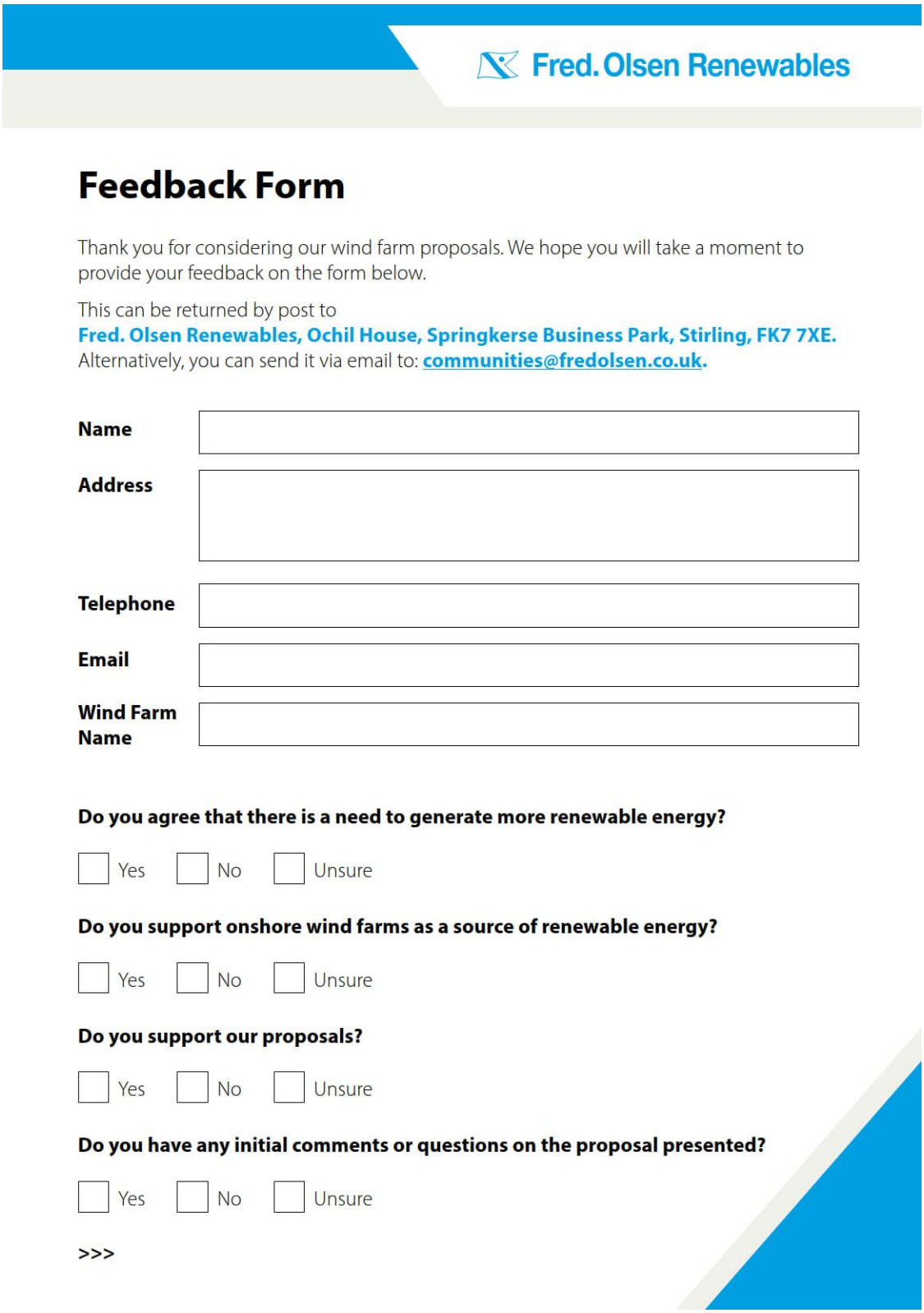
e [redacted]@fredolsen.co.uk
t 07920 343 900
w www.windystandardextension.co.uk

M. November 2021 Public Exhibition Photomontages



N. November 2021 Public Exhibition Photos

O. Blank Feedback form from November 2021 Exhibitions



Fred. Olsen Renewables

Feedback Form

Thank you for considering our wind farm proposals. We hope you will take a moment to provide your feedback on the form below.

This can be returned by post to
Fred. Olsen Renewables, Ochil House, Springkerse Business Park, Stirling, FK7 7XE.
Alternatively, you can send it via email to: **communities@fredolsen.co.uk.**

Name

Address

Telephone

Email

Wind Farm Name

Do you agree that there is a need to generate more renewable energy?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

Do you support onshore wind farms as a source of renewable energy?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

Do you support our proposals?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

Do you have any initial comments or questions on the proposal presented?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

>>>

Comments/Questions...

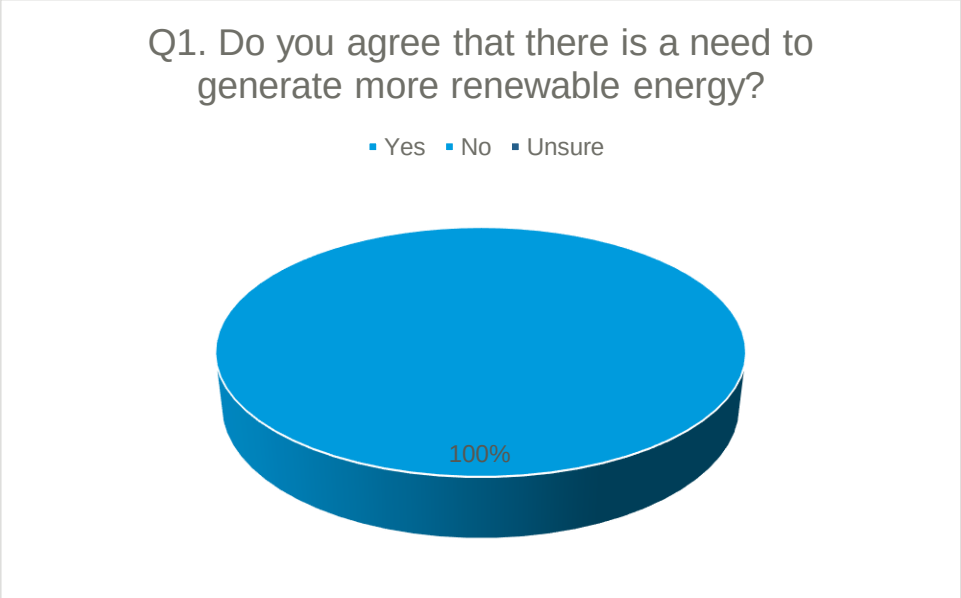
Do you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can shape the community benefit offering to make it more appropriate to the local area?

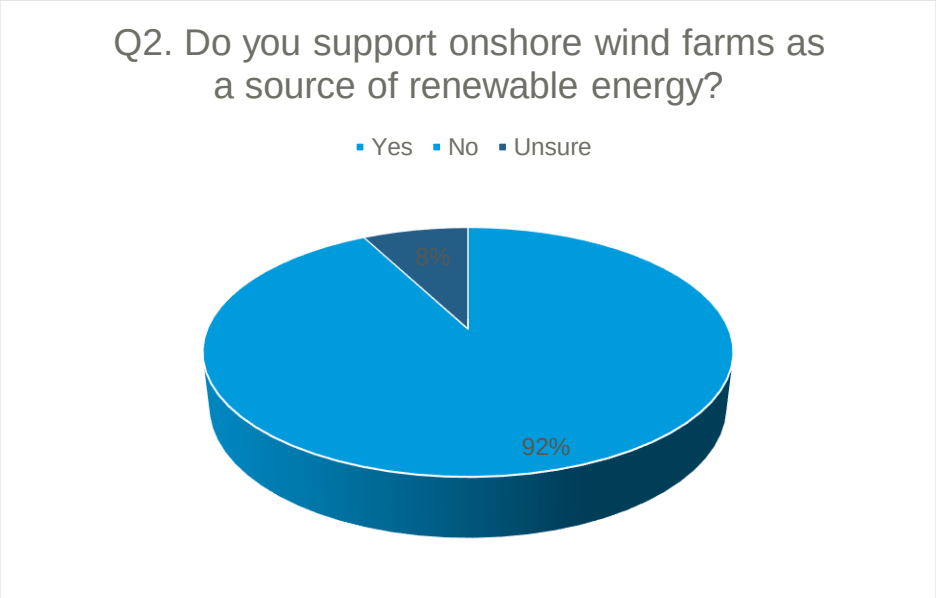
Any further comments?

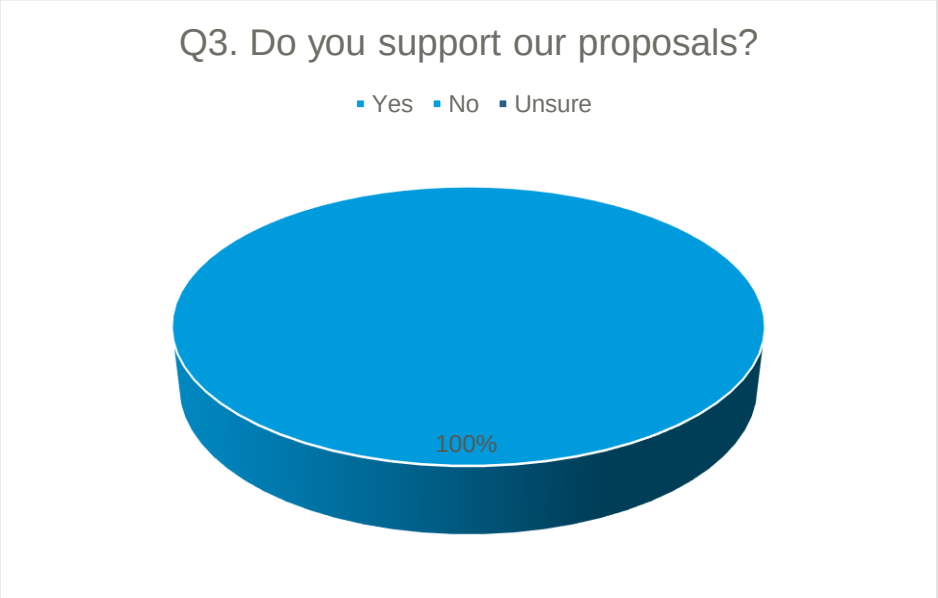
Thank you!

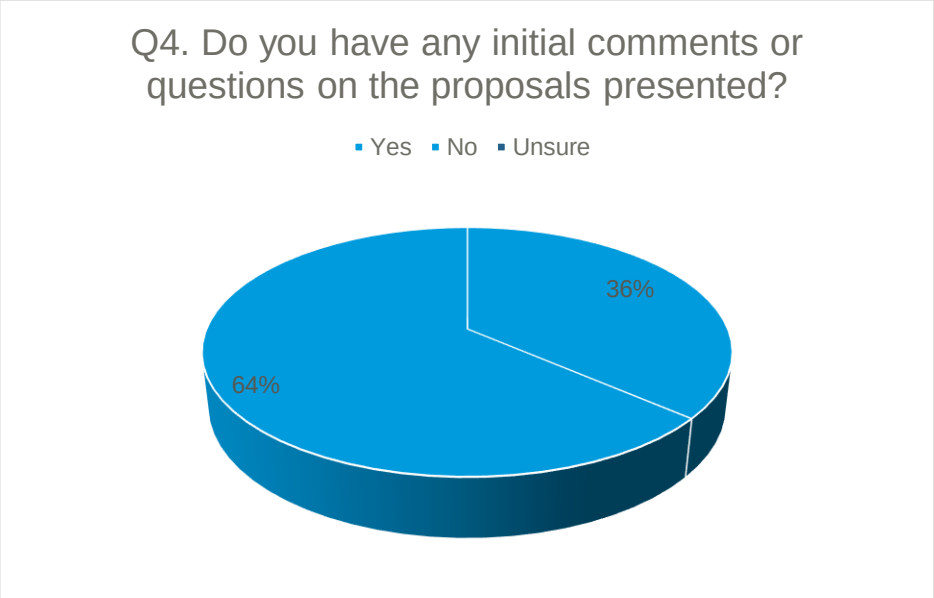
Fred. Olsen Renewables Limited (registered office is at 2nd Floor, 36 Broadway, London, SW1H 0BH - number 02672436) is a leading developer, owner and operator of renewable energy assets, primarily onshore wind farms. We are committed to safeguarding the privacy of individuals with whom we interact. We process your personal data as a data controller in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 (UK GDPR). We collect, store and use the following kinds of personal data when you complete our feedback form. **Identity & Contact:** This includes your title, name, email address, postal address, and telephone number. **Marketing & Usage:** Information about your marketing and communication preferences, and information you provide for the purpose of subscribing to email notifications and/or newsletters. **Using your personal information:** We will use your information to send you email notifications which you have requested and/or our newsletter and other marketing communications and for legal and compliance purposes. **Disclosure of your personal data:** We do not share your personal data with any other party. **Data transfer outside the EEA:** We will not transfer your data outside the UK. **Your Rights:** You have rights under UK GDPR. Please visit www.ico.org.uk for full details. You may, at any time, exercise any of the above rights by contacting our Data Protection Officer by post to the registered office, or by email at dataprotection@fredolsen.co.uk **How long we keep your personal data:** We will keep your data for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for, including for satisfying any legal and compliance requirements.

P. Feedback from November 2021 Public Exhibitions









Q5. Comments / Questions

I am chair of the local trust dealing with community benefit arrangements so take a neutral approach to development

Please consider a 30 year future use of the concrete bases, so that the next generation of turbines can use this massive concrete structure. Plan ahead to save the planet.

Very informative exhibition

Good to see the landscape will look less cluttered and the concrete foot prints of the decommissioned turbines will be addressed with the landscape in mind

Battery storage

Great to see the project being redesigned for another 30 years operation

Questions answered at the public meeting

We are a local New Cumnock security company called Jaege security and would be interested in providing security for the Windy Standard Wind Farm

We are the local security company and my wife and I would be interested in providing the security aspect.

Q6. Do you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can shape the community benefit offering to make it more appropriate to the local area?

Listen to the community and seek to draw community cloer rather than division in how you approach it - work with other developers to make it easier for the community

Use your power as a fundert to mandate minimum levels of transparency, accountability and administration of community benefit funds. Lean into individual communities to build their capacity to achieve this or encourage them to join umbrella organisations if necessary

Community Liaison meetings

The exhibition has answered many of our questions and we understand that benefit (financial) will be given to the CCTrust to support community projects

I think it would be a good idea to revisit the idea of battery storage and solar panels for residents

Will share ideas at first liaison meeting

Q7. Any further comments?

Looking forward to contiuing the conversation (Helen at Glenkens Community and Arts Trust)

As many parts as possible made in the UK. Old turbines help for flooding? We'd have a pod and childresn play would be great for the village

Thanks for coming along today. It has been really good to chat.

Q. Media Coverage

Cumnock Chronicle – August 2021

CUMNOCK Chronicle

Wind Farm plans to replace 36 shorter turbines with nine taller ones

15th August 2021

BY CALAM PENGILLY
REPORTER
@CalPeng

Share

Plans for Windy Standard Wind Farm would see 36 turbines replaced with nine taller ones producing the same amount of energy.

The firm, which operates the wind farm, is seeking the public's view on how best to reuse the old turbines.

Windy Standard 1 is located 10km south of New Cumnock, it has been operational for 25 years. The turbines onsite measure roughly 50 metres tall. The new ones proposed would be roughly 200 metres in height.

Fred Olsen Renewables wants to bring forward a unique concept for the local area focusing on sustainability and creativity. Suggestions include converting the decommissioned turbines into glamping pods, a skate park, or a climbing wall.

The company is inviting the public to view an exhibition and give their views on the plans, which presents early stage concepts for repurposing the decommissioned turbines, before they are submitted.

Miles McConville, project manager, said: "We are really excited about the opportunities that our proposals to repower Windy Standard Wind Farm present.

"Our exhibition presents a variety of options for re-using the turbines, ranging from climbing walls to playparks and cattle troughs to glamping pods.

"We want to work with the community to explore these ideas further, learn about what they would like see delivered locally."

BBC Online – October 2021

Could Scotland's unwanted wind turbines be turned into playparks?

By Nichola Rutherford
BBC Scotland News

2 October 2021

Five former turbine blades have been used to create a playground in Rotterdam

When Windy Standard was built in Dumfries and Galloway in the mid-1990s, it was Scotland's second largest wind farm.

Now it is coming to the end of its functional life and the old turbines are set to be replaced by more powerful machines.

But what happens to the original turbines? Owner Fred Olsen Renewables wants to find creative and sustainable ways to ensure they do not end up in landfill.

Instead, the towers and blades could be turned into playgrounds, climbing walls, skate parks and even pedestrian bridges.

Why do the turbines need to come down?

Windy Standard is near Carsphairn in Dumfries and Galloway

The earliest phase of the Windy Standard wind farm - now officially known as Brockloch Rig 1 - has permission to operate in Carsphairn Forest until the end of 2027, after its original 25-year consent was extended.

After that, planning conditions state that all the original turbines should be removed and the land "restored to its former condition".

However, Fred Olsen Renewables hopes to "repower" the site - removing the existing turbines and replacing them with new, more powerful machines, using existing tracks and infrastructure on the hillside.

Each of the 36 turbines that make up the original phase of the wind farm measure 53.5m (175ft) from base to tip and together produce 21.6MW of energy - enough to power about 16,000 homes.

Under the new plans, they would be replaced by no more than nine new turbines.

At up to 200m (656ft) tall, each could be more than three times the height of the existing turbines, but together they have the capacity to generate more than twice as much energy (45MW) and power 38,000 homes.

Can the old turbines be recycled?

The Windy Standard turbines are made from 75% recyclable material, including the steel tubes that form each tower.

But each tower has three 17m (55ft) blades made from carbon fibre reinforced plastic which cannot easily be recycled.

It means green energy firms such as Fred Olsen Renewables need to find ways to re-use or repurpose the components.

What could happen to the turbines?

This playground in Terneuzen in the Netherlands is made from discarded wind turbine blades

The firm has drawn up some very early concepts for breathing new life into the Windy Standard turbines, after taking inspiration from some European projects.

In the Netherlands, decommissioned wind turbine blades have been used to build playgrounds in Rotterdam and Terneuzen.

And in the Port of Aalborg - which claims to be Denmark's first carbon neutral port - a bicycle shed has been built from a disused blade.

The Windy Standard proposals - which include using the blades to create public seating, wind breaks and pedestrian bridges - now form the basis of a **consultation asking for ideas and opinions.**

The towers could be engineered into skate parks, spiral staircases, wildlife hides, climbing walls, planters, and food troughs for cattle.

And the nacelles - which house the gearboxes and generators - could become glamping pods.

There have also been talks with Dumfries and Galloway College about donating components and parts to help train the turbine technicians of the future.

"The repowering proposals for Windy Standard wind farm provide a unique opportunity to explore how we can re-use the turbines and their components locally," project manager Miles McConville said.

"This will help to address an ongoing industry challenge regarding the recycling of components and help to ensure that wind farms really are part of a truly circular economy."

It has been welcomed as an "exciting prospect" by Green MSP Mark Ruskell who is keen to see local communities such as Dalmellington and New Cumnock benefit.

"I think it's a great opportunity really because we are going to see many more wind turbines getting repowered in years to come," he said.

Dumfries and Galloway councillor Rob Davidson suggested the proposals could tie in with the Scottish government's pledge to invest £5m in refurbishing playparks across the country.

What about other wind farms?

As the turbines on Scotland's first commercial wind farms begin to reach the end of their productive lives, finding ways to reuse or recycle turbines in becoming increasingly urgent.

A recent **report by Zero Waste Scotland** estimated that as many as 5,613 turbines will be decommissioned between 2021 and 2050, generating between 1.25m and 1.4m tonnes of material.

And by 2040 the renewables sector will have to find a way to deal with about 240 out-of-use turbines a year - will they choose to recycle, repurpose, reuse or landfill?

So far, only a handful of turbines have been "retired" in Scotland and data about their disposal is extremely limited.

It is understood that many have been given a second life overseas - there is a thriving global market for second-hand wind turbines, especially in Europe, Asia and Latin America, according to RenewableUK.

Zero Waste Scotland said this was one of the best options for turbines nearing the end of their life in terms of reducing their environmental impact.

It would also like to see the turbines' natural life extended at their current site, or their components refurbished for use as spare parts.

Charlotte Stamper, partner for energy infrastructure at Zero Waste Scotland, welcomed Fred Olsen Renewables' initiative.

"Extending the lifespan of existing materials and resources for as long as possible is vital to protecting our economy against potential resource shortages and the rising cost of materials," she said.

"The work by Fred Olsen on repurposing material from decommissioned wind turbines in Scotland is a fantastic example of our growing circular economy, and we anticipate similar projects in Scotland over the next 10 to 20 years."

Glenkens Gazette – April/May 2022

WINDY STANDARD WIND FARM COMMUNITY UPDATE

Fred Olsen Renewables is proud to be developing and operating wind farms across Scotland for over 25 years.

Windy Standard Wind Farm was our first operational project in Scotland and has allowed us the opportunity to build up close relationships with suppliers in and around the region – allowing us to deliver economic benefits locally through job creation and investment.

We look forward to continuing these partnerships as we move forwards with our proposals for the repowering of Windy Standard Wind Farm and also the construction of Windy Standard III. However, we are also always keen to meet with new suppliers and learn about the services that they can provide as part of our supply chain.

Please get in touch with suppliers@fredolsen.co.uk to find out more.

Glenkens Gazette - Feb/March 2022

WINDY STANDARD WIND FARM COMMUNITY UPDATE

We would like to wish everyone a healthy and happy new year.

As we reflect on the past twelve months, despite its challenges, we have really valued the time that the community has spent talking to us and discussing our proposals for Windy Standard Wind Farm. The feedback that we have gathered has been fantastic and we hope to continue these conversations in 2022.

Looking forward, we plan to submit our application to the Scottish Government for the Windy Standard Repowering in late March. Ahead of then we will continue to speak to stakeholders and the local community and keep everyone up-to-date with our progress.

In the meantime, we are continuing to explore how we can reuse the blades we will be removing from the wind farm site. We are also looking into arranging an open day on site for when restrictions ease and the weather improves. We hope to see you there!

For further information you can visit the website www. windystandardwindfarm.co.uk

We want to hear your views - please contact us on communities@fredolsen. co.uk or 07435 763 900

Glenkens Gazette - Dec/Jan 2022

WINDY STANDARD WIND FARM COMMUNITY UPDATE

We recently held our public exhibitions about our proposals to repower Windy Standard Wind Farm.

The events were held in Dalmellington, Carsphairn and New Cumnock and attracted a number of visitors.

We really enjoyed discussing the plans with local residents and we hope that everyone managed to have their questions answered.

We are encouraging everyone to have their say on the proposals. We are still collecting feedback and can easily discuss the plans in further detail.

We would encourage everyone to visit the website www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk, view the exhibition materials and provide their comments.

The team is also available to have answer any questions that people may have. Please get in touch by contacting communities@fredolsen.co.uk or by phoning 07435 763900.

Glenkens Gazette - Oct/Nov 2021

WINDY STANDARD WIND FARM COMMUNITY UPDATE

We are progressing with our plans to re-power Windy Standard Wind Farm.

The 36 existing turbines on site will be removed and replaced with nine turbines, with a height of up to 200m to tip.

As an update, we recently submitted an Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit (ECU). This submission formally requests the initial views of key consultees on our proposals and this feedback will help to shape our final proposals.

We have also undertaken the majority of surveys on site and hope that we can have an in-person event in early November where we can display our plans and discuss them in further detail with the local community.

We are very keen to continue our conversations ahead of then. All of the information can be viewed at www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk. Please do get in touch by contacting communities@fredolsen.co.uk or by phoning 07435 763900. We really welcome your feedback, insight and opinions.

Miles McConville, Project Manager, Windy Standard Wind Farm

Glenkens Gazette - Aug/Sept 2021

WINDY STANDARD WIND FARM COMMUNITY UPDATE

Windy Standard Wind Farm has been in operation for over 25 years.

We are currently exploring how we can continue to operate the wind farm with fewer turbines, increase electricity production and continue to invest in the local community.

We have created an online exhibition where you can learn more about our plans to remove 36 of the existing turbines, replacing them with nine turbines with a height of up to 200m to tip. The exhibition can be accessed at www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk.

We would really welcome your feedback and opinions on what we are proposing. You can make comments online, by email to communities@fredolsen.co.uk or by phone on 07435 763 900.

If you have any problems accessing the exhibition please get in touch and let me know. I can easily provide the information on memory stick or hard copy and talk you through the proposals.

We are very excited about the opportunities that our plans present. This includes re-using the turbine components that will be removed from the site. We want to work with the community and stakeholders to identify how a unique concept for the local area can be brought forward, focussing on sustainability and creativity.

The online exhibition details a range of potential uses for the turbines including cattle troughs for use by local farmers, playparks for local children, climbing walls for outdoor centres, benches and even glamping pods.

I really hope that you will take the time to have a look and provide some feedback. And please do get in touch should you have any questions.

Miles McConville, Project Manager, Windy Standard Wind Farm

Pictured are two ideas for reusing turbine components; as glamping pods and skate ramps for a skate park.

Glenkens Gazette - June/July 2021

WINDY STANDARD WIND FARM COMMUNITY UPDATE

Hello - I am Miles McConville and I would like to introduce myself as the project manager for Windy Standard Wind Farm, located North East of Carsphairn.

Fred. Olsen Renewables (FORL) has been involved in Windy Standard Wind Farm since the 1990s. It currently consists of 66 turbines and provides a substantial community benefit fund.

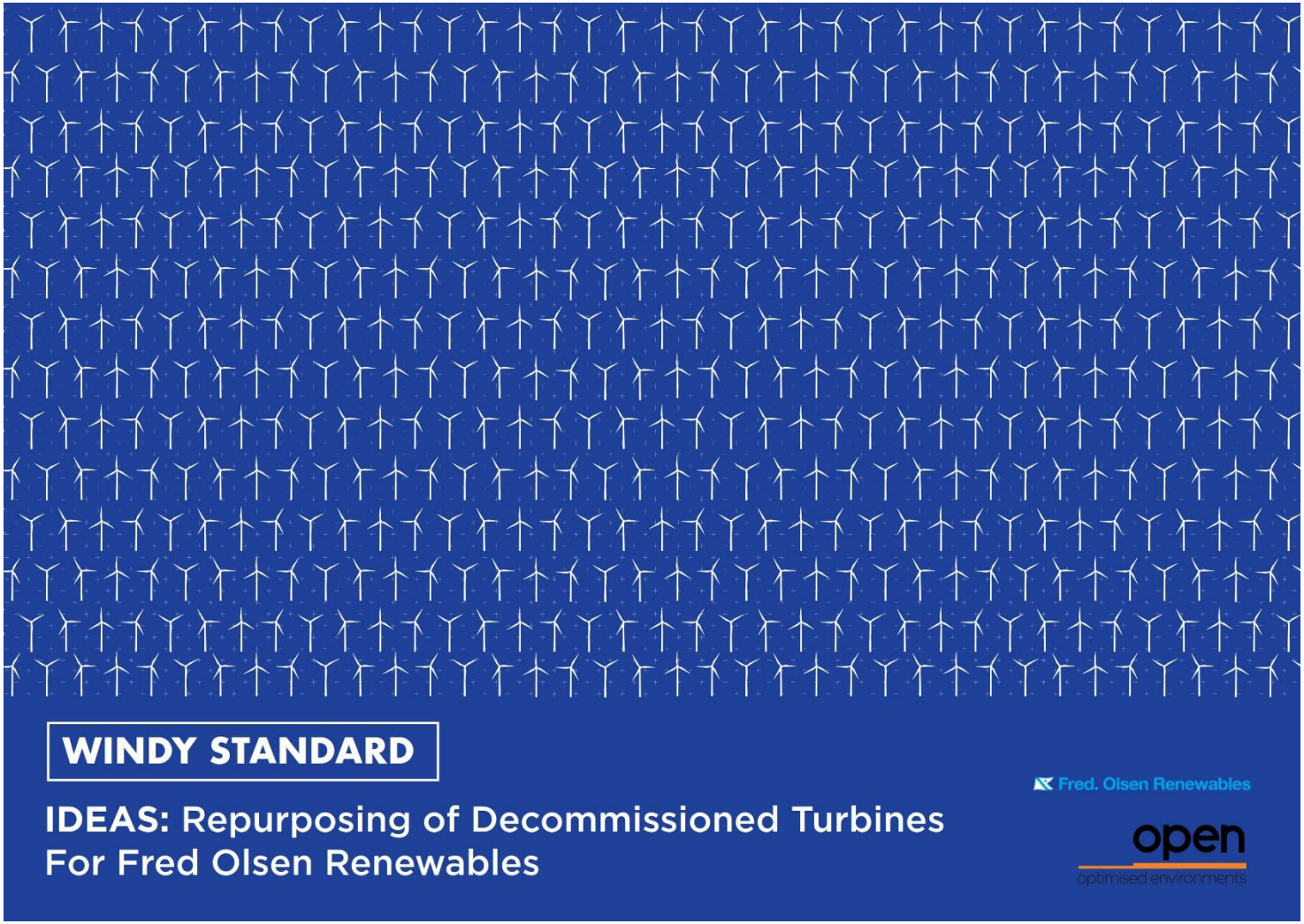
Windy Standard 1, the first phase of the wind farm, is approaching the end of its operational life and we are exploring opportunities to repower the development. These plans would reduce the number of turbines on site and increase the amount of power generated.

We are speaking to local residents about our plans and will be holding a virtual consultation in June which will be accessible at www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk

I would like to encourage everyone to get in touch should you have any questions - my email is communities@fredolsen.co.uk or you can phone me on 07435 763 900. Alternatively, visit https://fredolsenrenewables.com for further information.

Advertisement

R. Ideas for the repurposing of the current turbines at Windy Standard I



Introduction

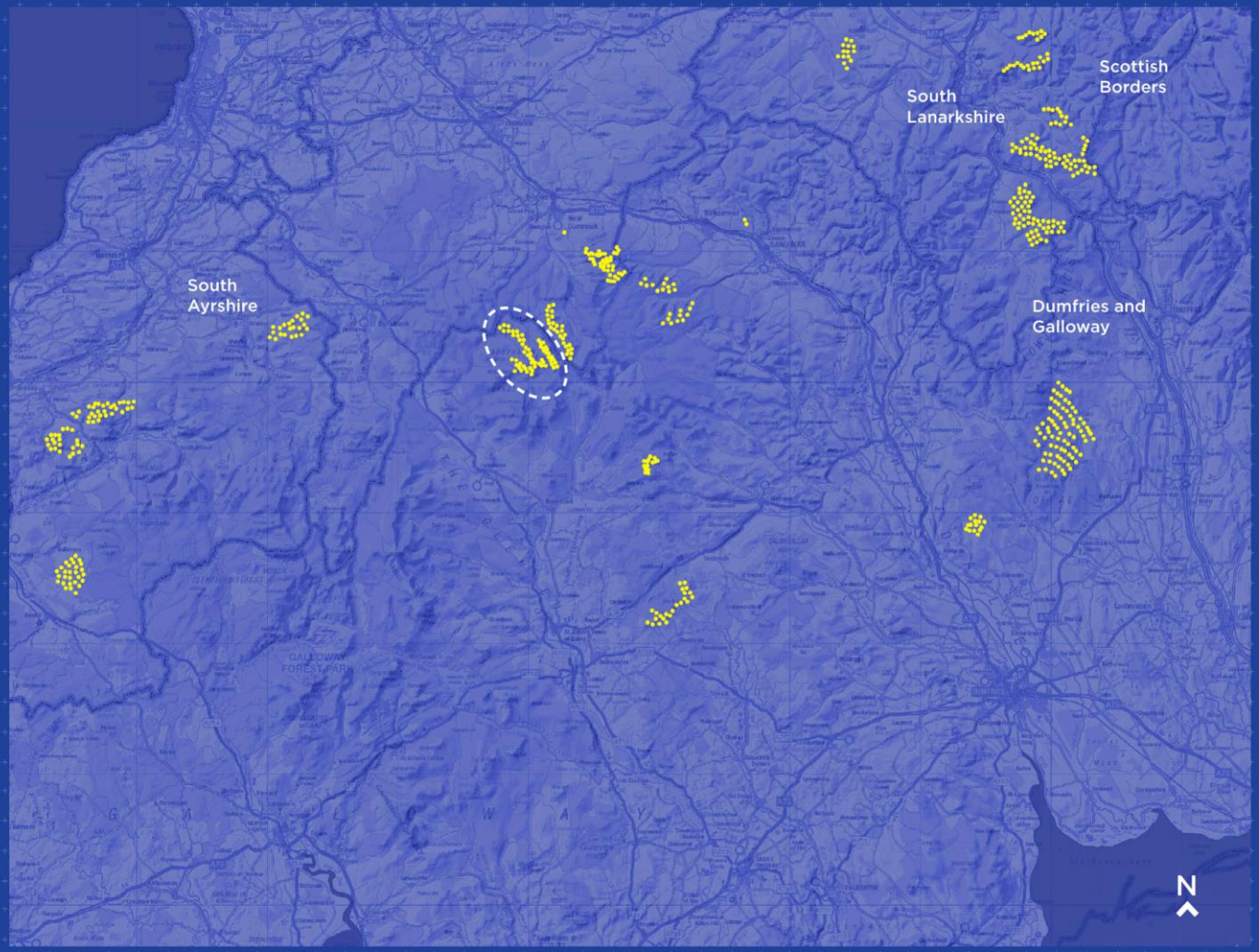
Brief and Response

The purpose of this document is to explore, in very outline initial detail, a range of conceptual ideas for how Windy Standard turbines may be repurposed when decommissioned. Whilst many of the ideas could be applied very specifically to the Dumfries and Galloway region – for example a series of wildlife hides throughout a particular forest or landscape – they could apply equally to other parts of Scotland, the UK, Europe, and the wider world.

This project perfectly encapsulates OPEN's core design disciplines, each of which are focused on both creativity and sustainability.

OPEN:
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
LANDSCAPE DESIGN
ARCHITECTURE

Turbine Locations

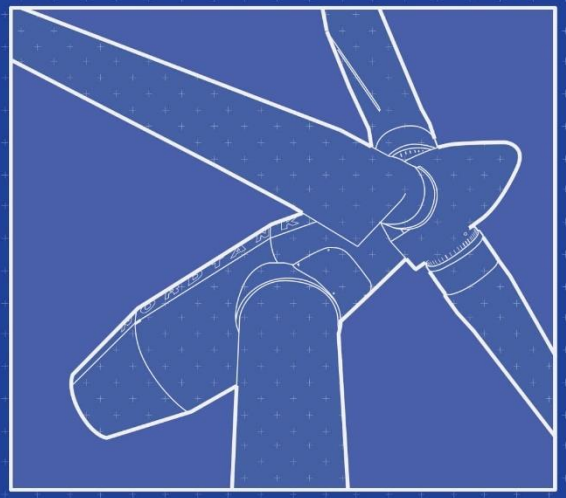


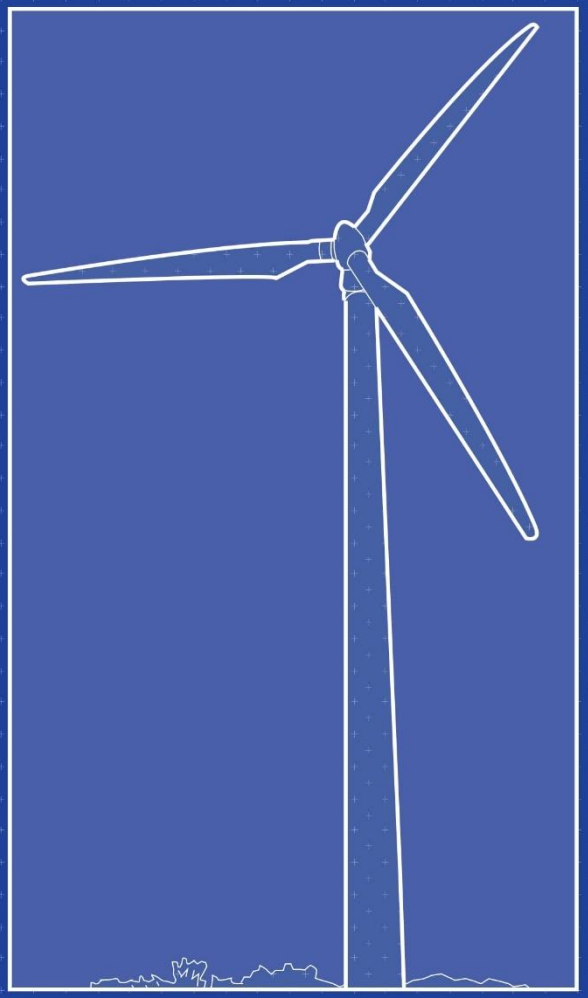
KEY

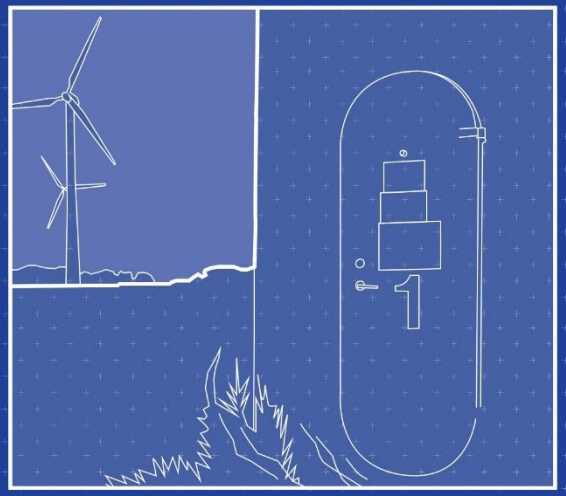
- Existing Turbine Locations
- Windy Standard

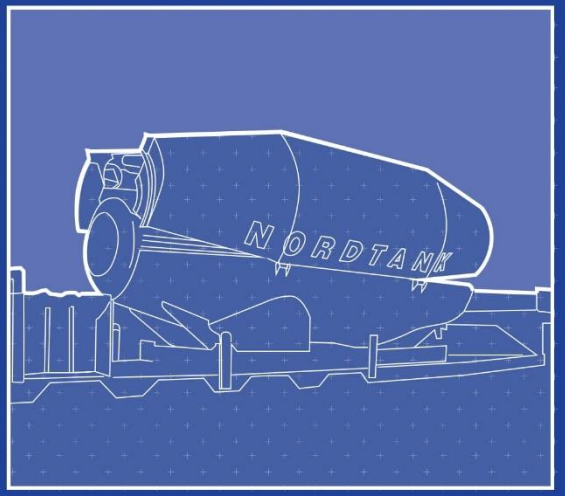
Turbine Model

Nordtank NTK 500/37

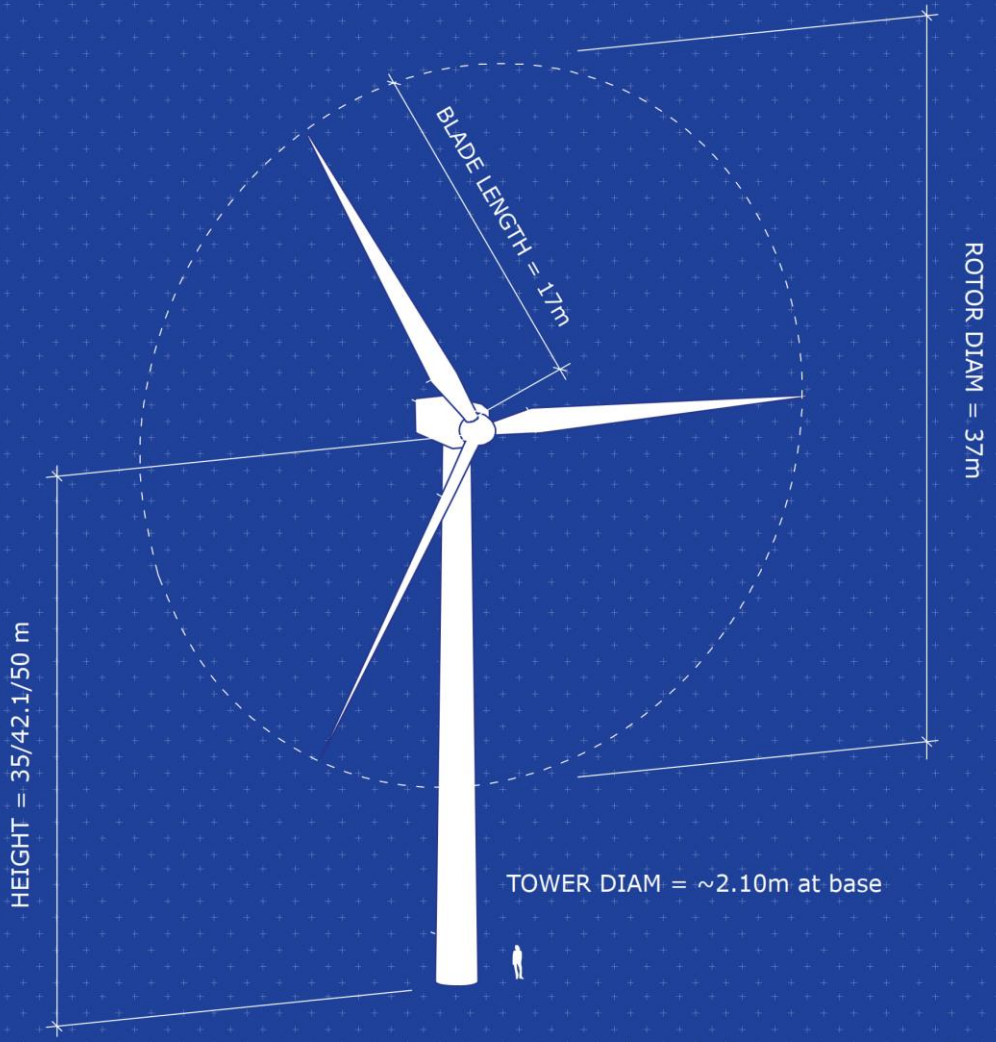








Dimensions + Materials



Materials & Components

Nordtank NTK wind turbines are predominantly made of steel (~75% of total turbine mass); CFRP (~14%); cast iron (~11%); copper (1%); aluminium (~1%).

While the tower is a steel tube, the blades are manufactured from CFRP (carbon fiber reinforced plastics), a non-biodegradable composite materials whose typical features make their recycle particularly difficult.

1. Tower (Foundation, Connection to grid, Access ladder, Wind orientation control)
2. Nacelle (Generator, Anemometer, Brake, Gearbox)
3. Rotor hub
4. Rotor blades

Initial Responses

Difficulties

- Appropriate use of composite materials making up blades
- Weight of large sections of steel posts

Opportunities

- Using parts of sections of turbines which are not necessarily instantly recognisable for what they are
- Giving back to local communities
- Further raising awareness of sustainable energy, and sustainable repurposing
- Reducing landfill waste

Relevant Sectors:


Agriculture & Farming


Social & Community


Education


Tourism, Sports & Leisure


Construction

Initial Responses

Difficulties

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Relevant Sectors:


Agriculture & Farming

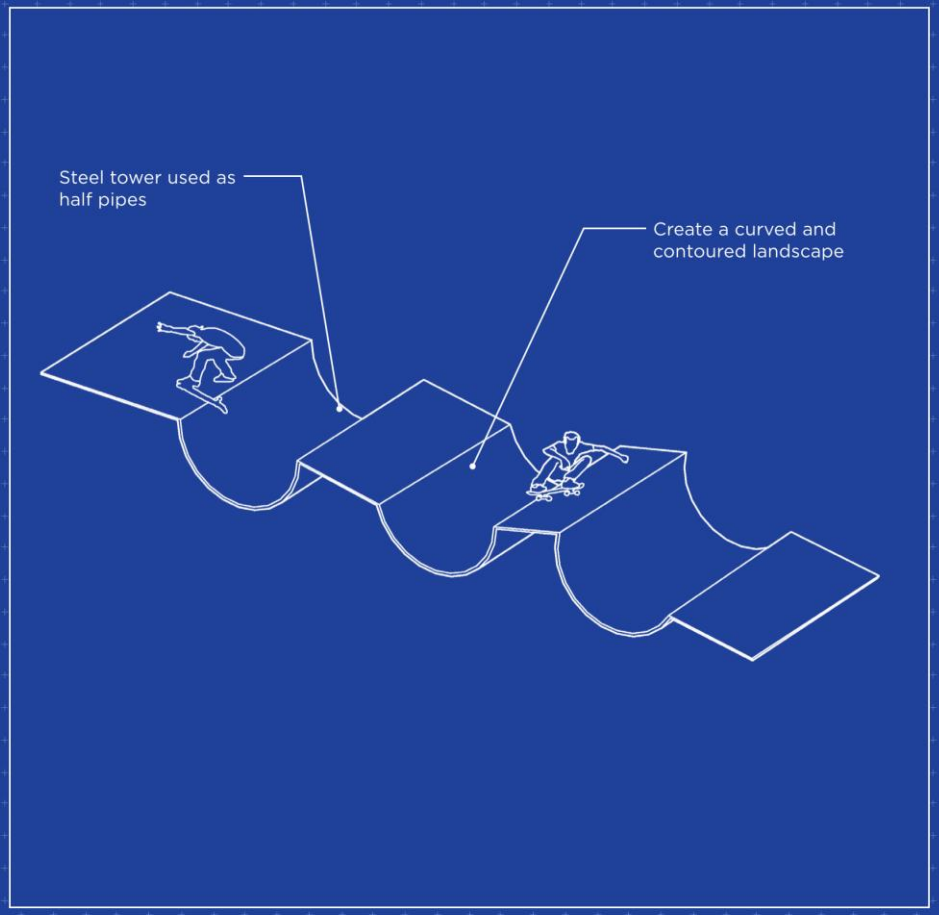

Social & Community


Education


Tourism, Sports & Leisure

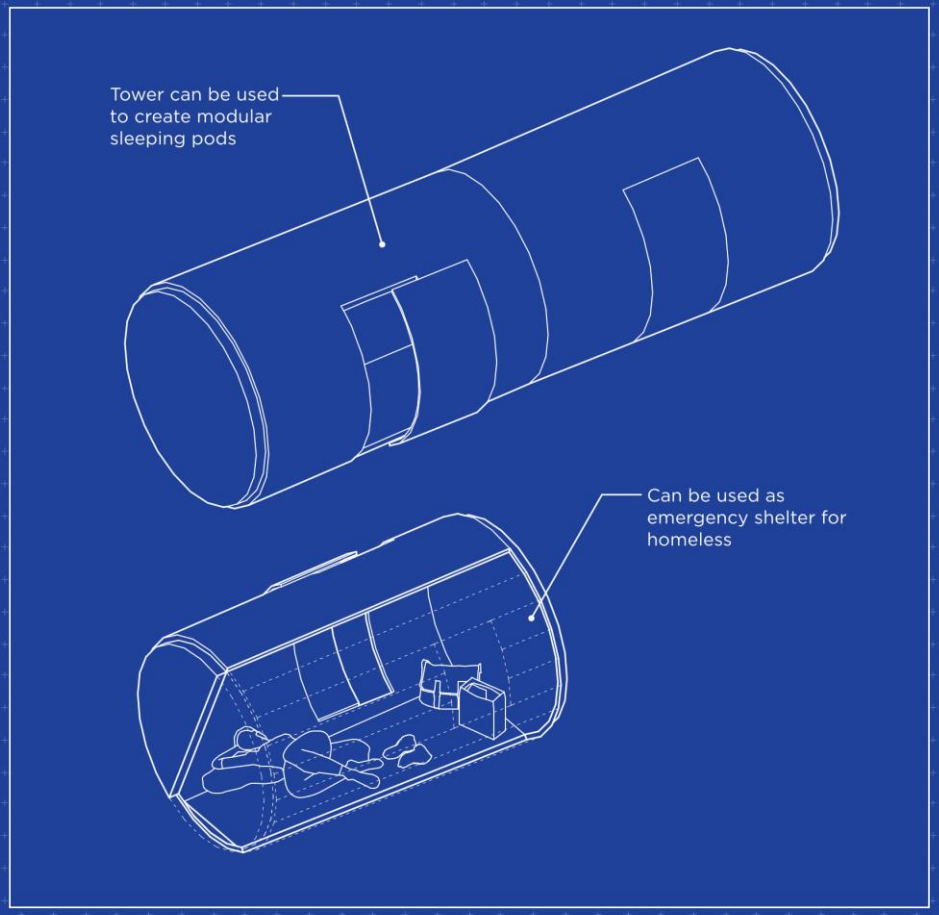

Construction

Skate Park


Steel tower used as
half pipes
Create a curved and
contoured landscape

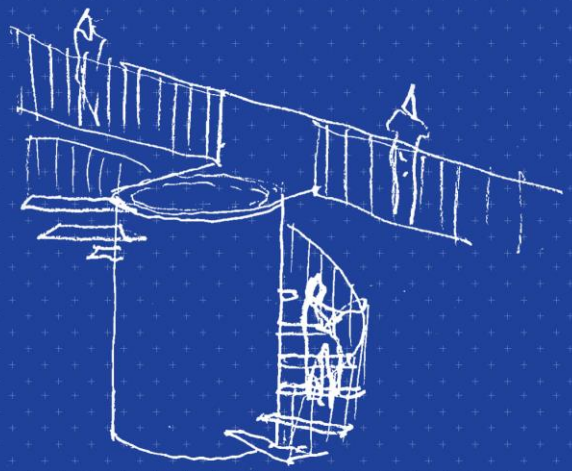

sections of support pour as skatepark?

Sleeping Pods



tubular support pair as homeless pods?

Spiral Staircase & Viewing Platform



Wildlife Hide

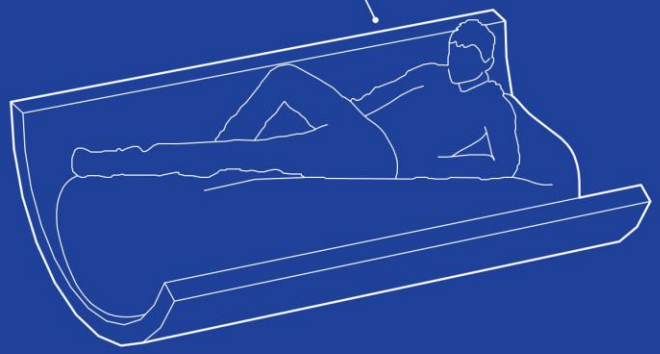
Wildlife Hide

Planters in Public Realm

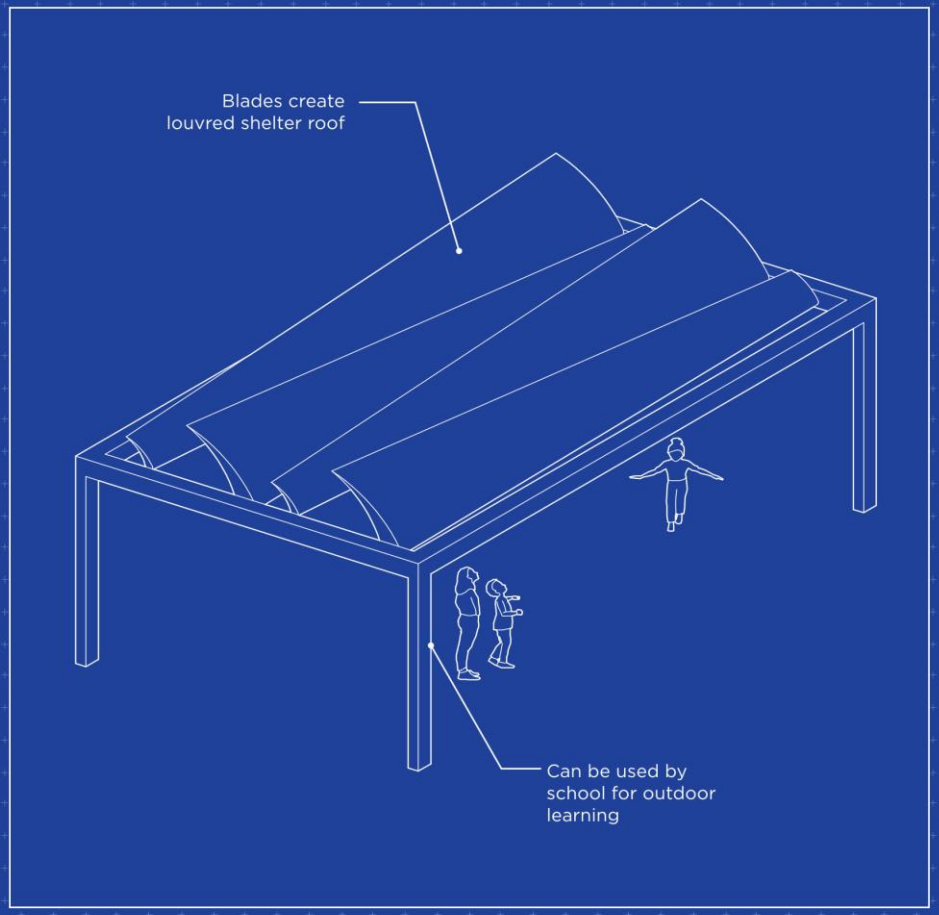
Planters in Public Realm

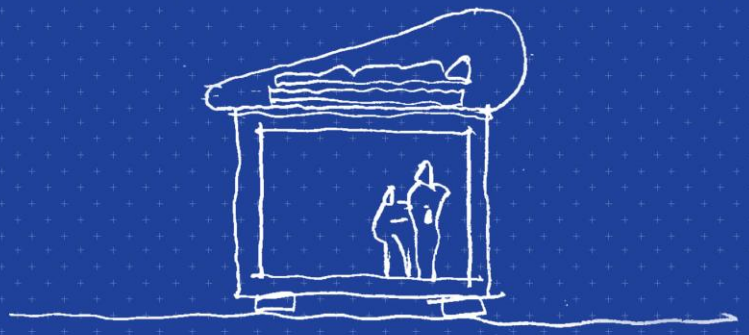
Lounge Pod

Post can be cut in half and used as loungers in the public realm

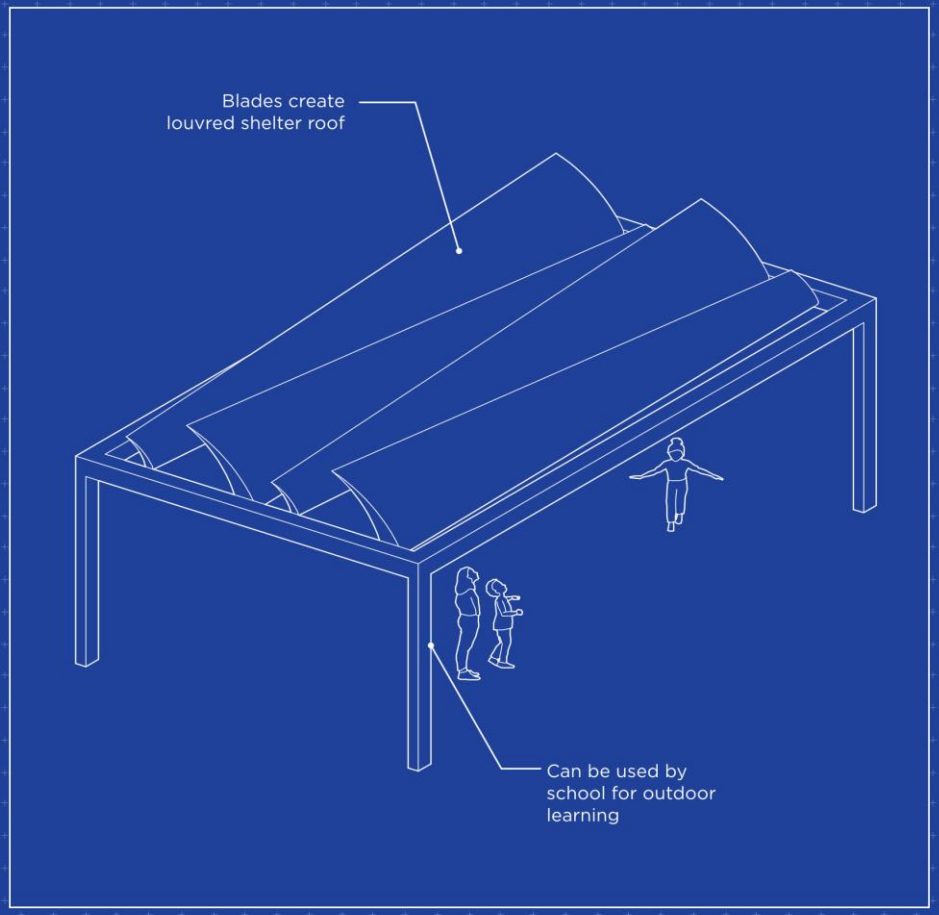


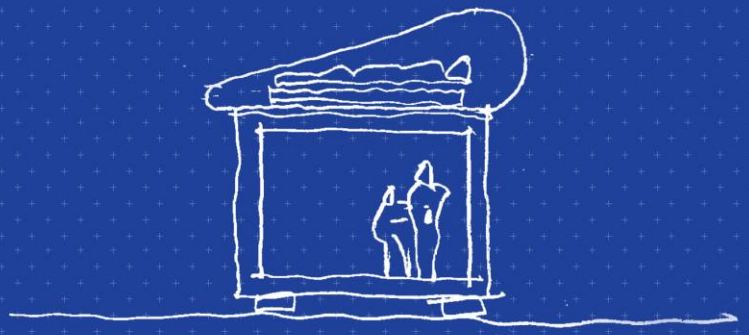
Pavilion & Shelters



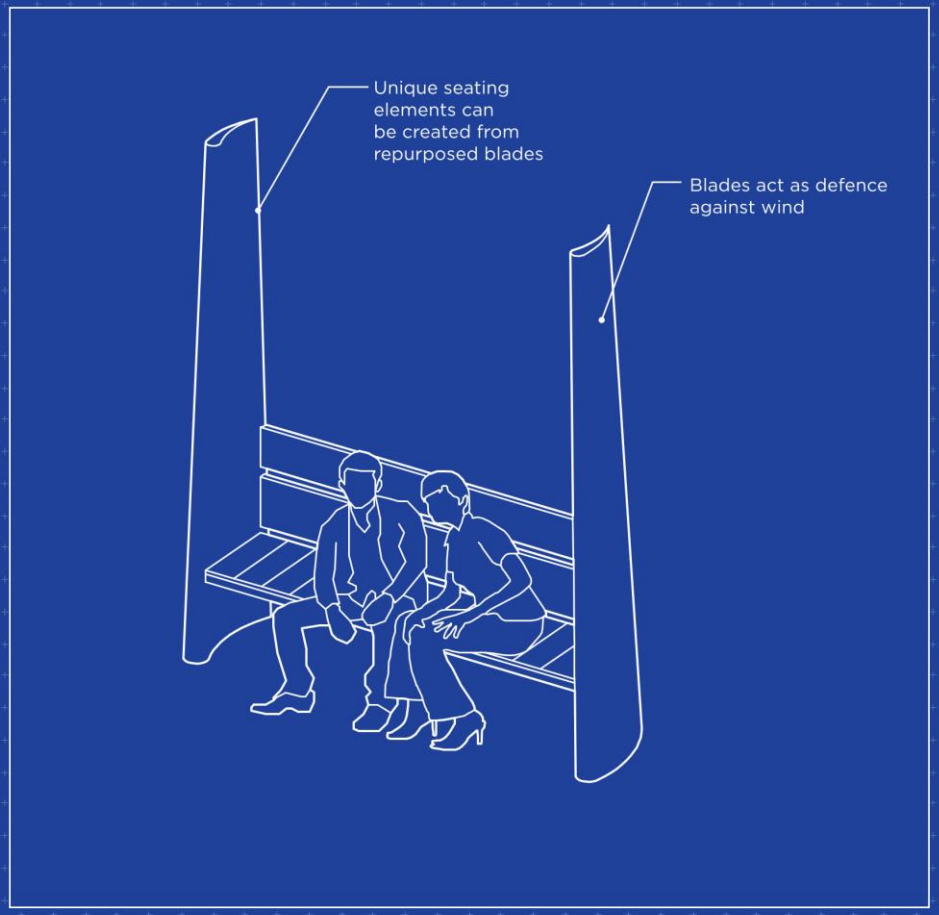


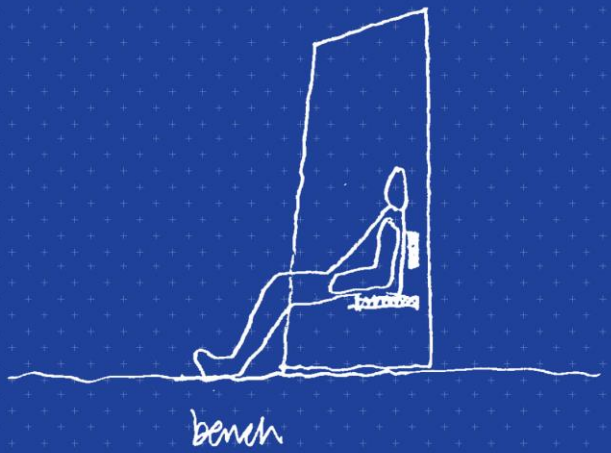
Pavilion & Shelters



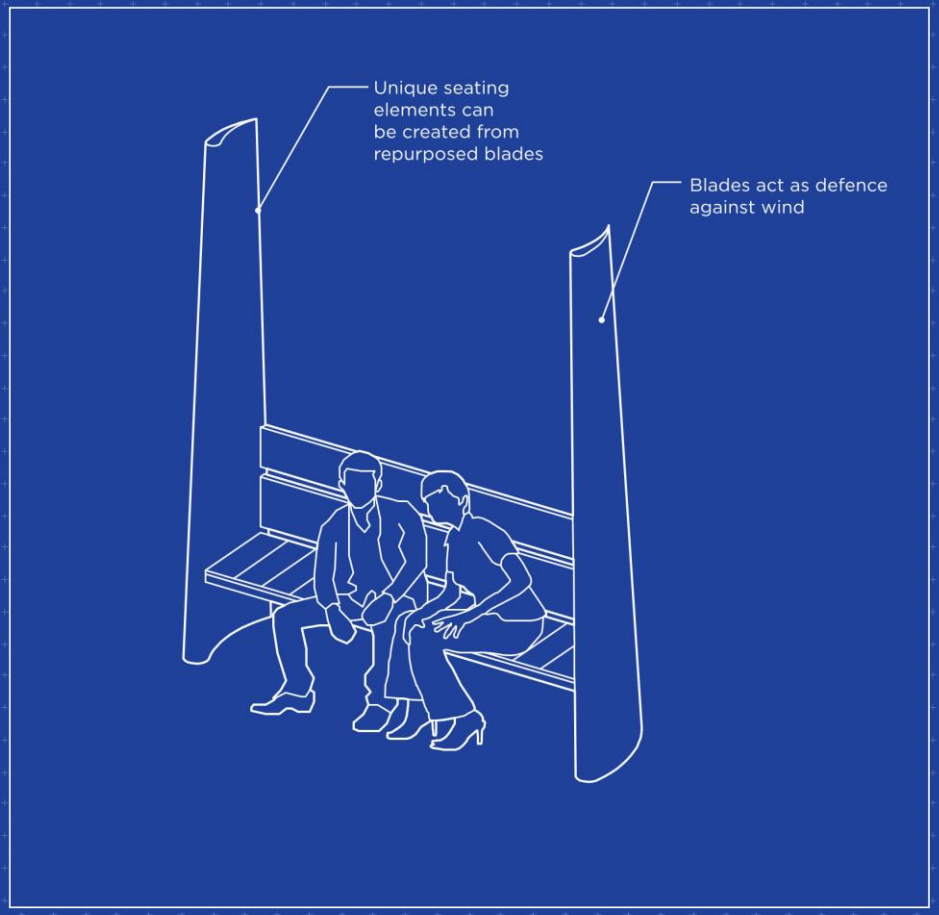


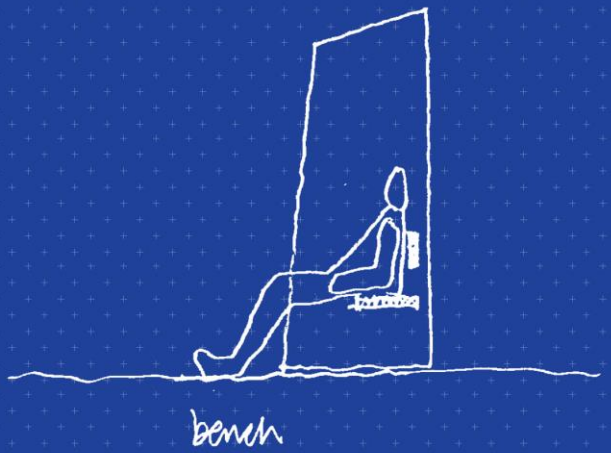
Public Seating Elements



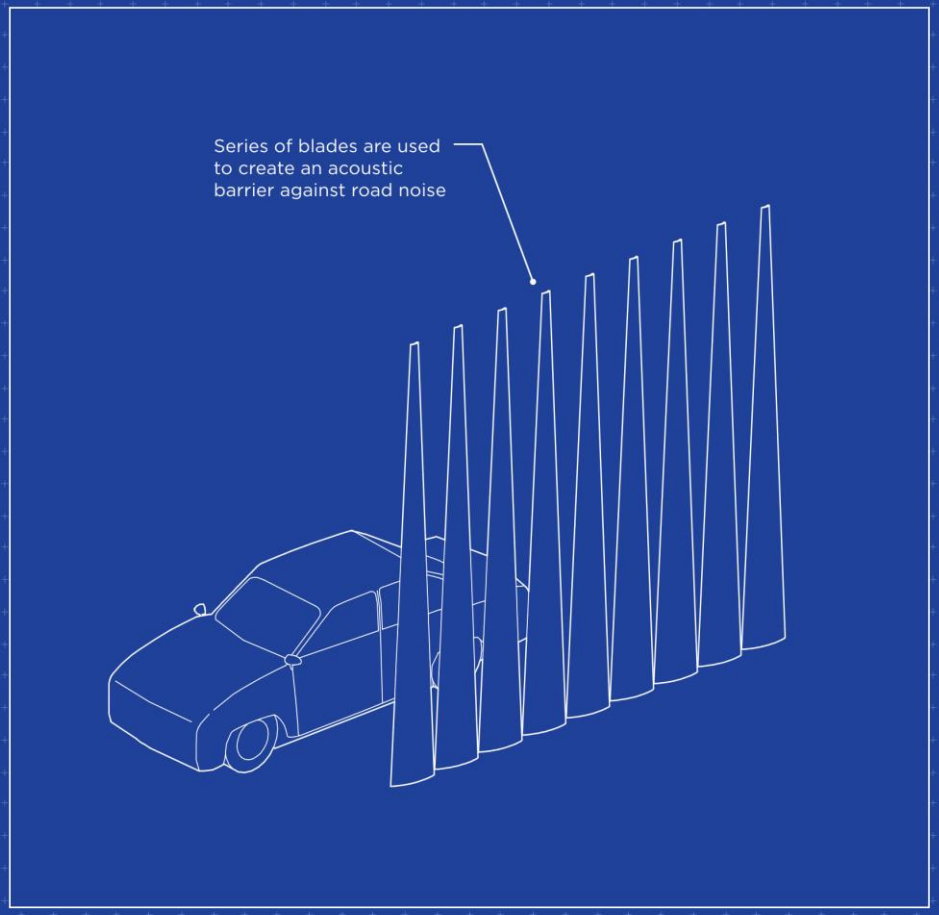


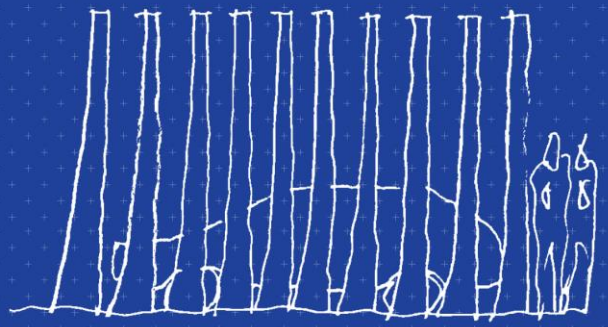
Public Seating Elements



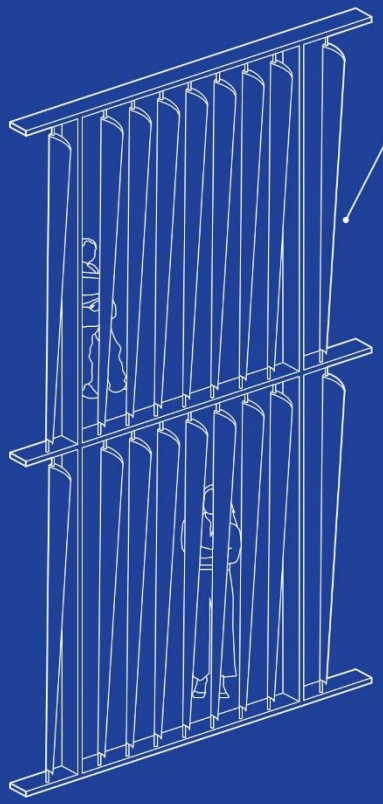


Acoustic Barrier





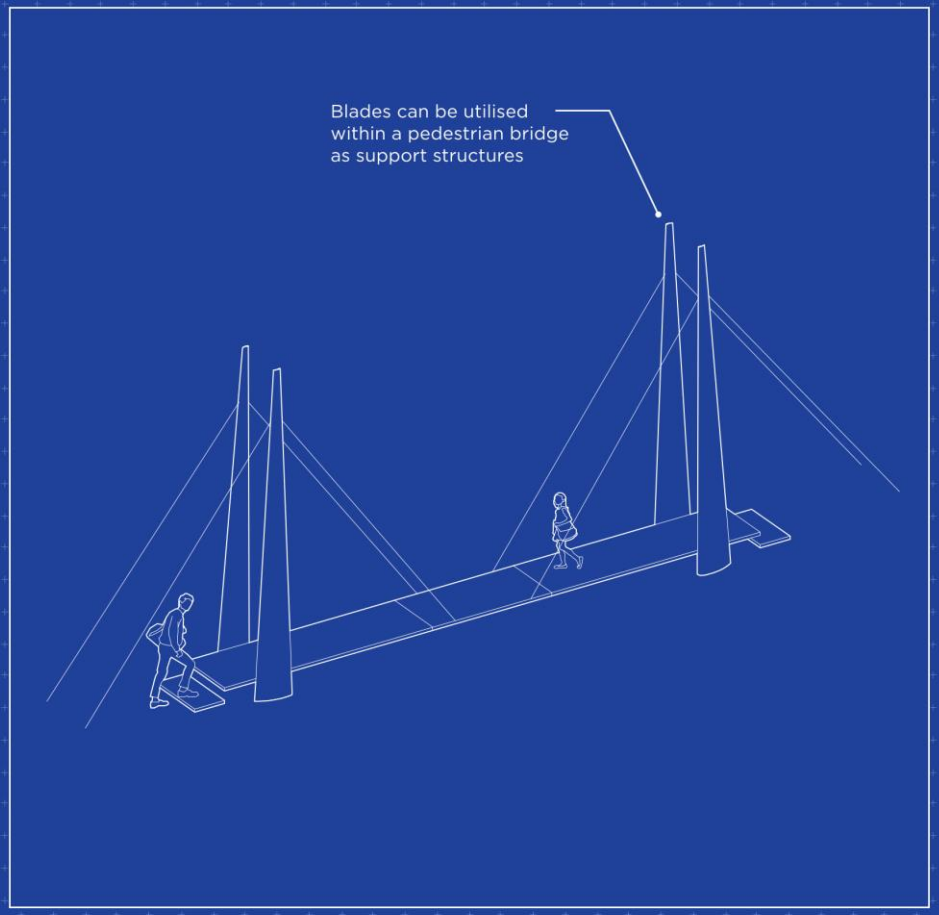
Facade Brise Soleil



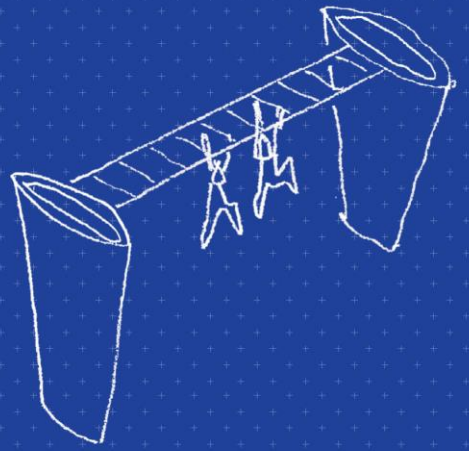
Blades used to create a unique and distinct brise soleil to be used on building facade to protect building from heat gain

building facade brise soleil

Pedestrian Bridge



Play Equipment



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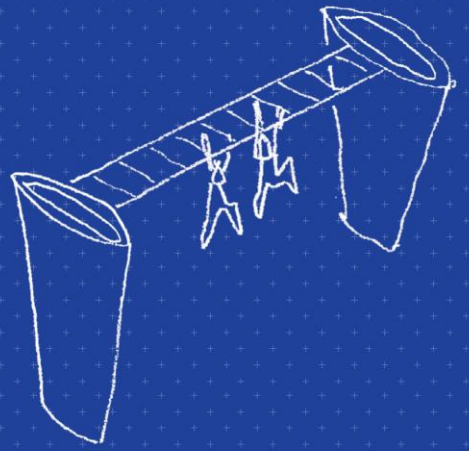

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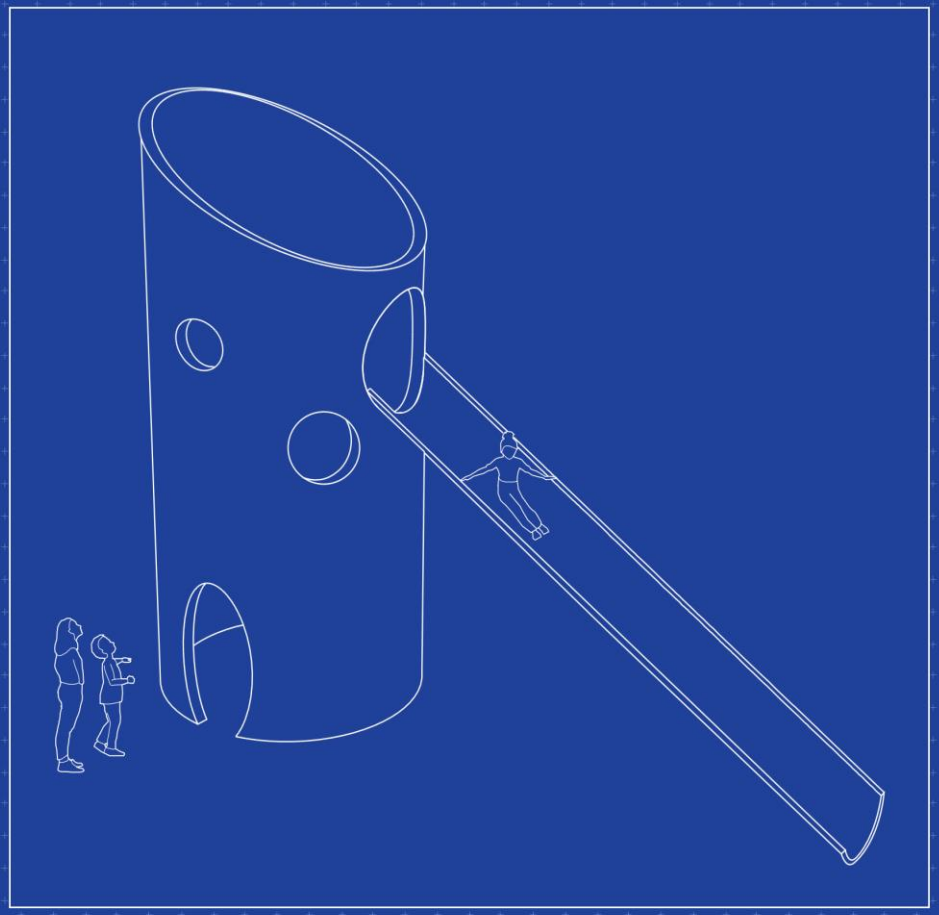
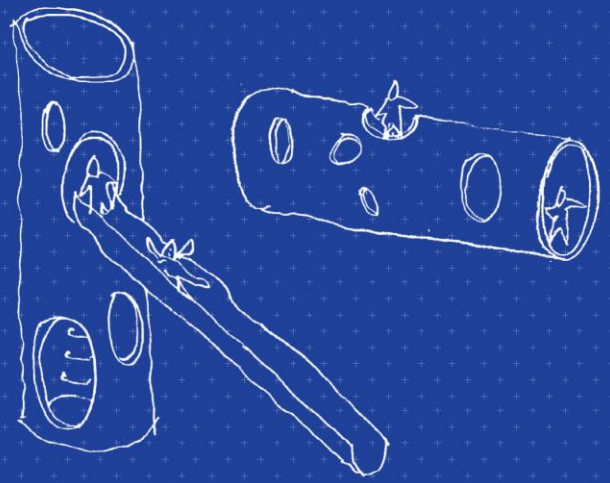
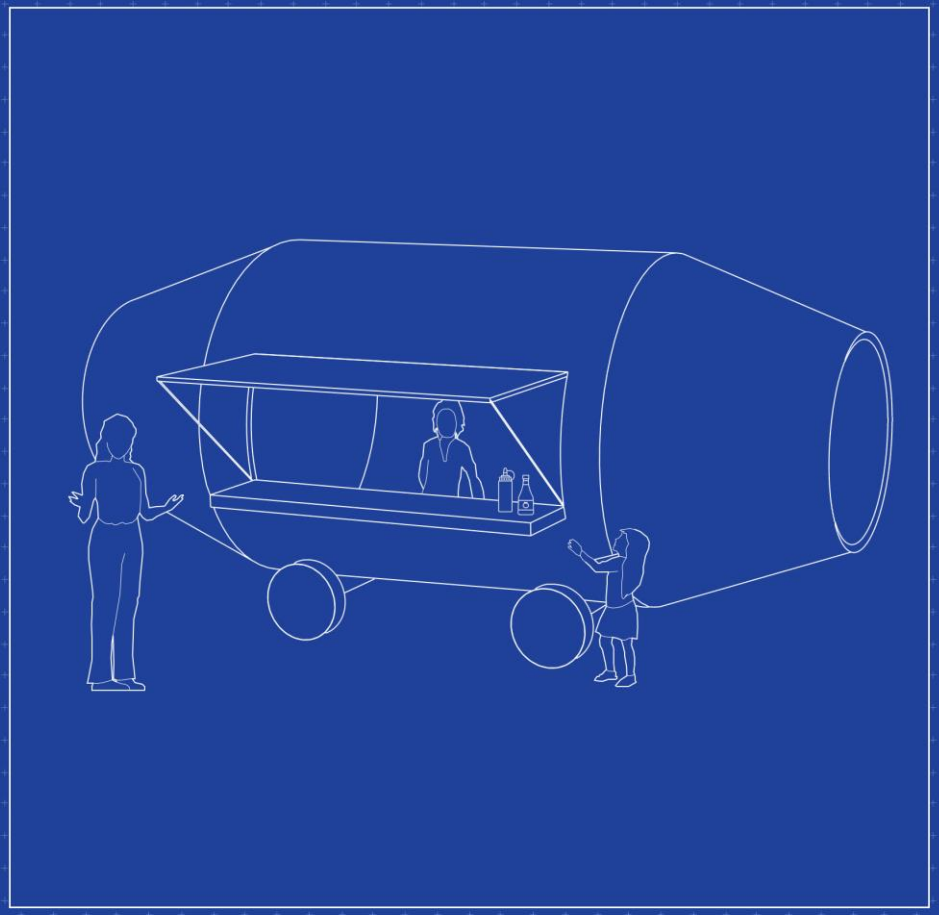




Pop-up Kiosk



coffee kiosk


The Story So Far.....

S. Gate Check Report

Windy Standard I Repower

ECU Gate Check 1 Report

14 March 2022

Fred. Olsen Renewables Limited

Document history

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Checked	Louise Broatch, Project Manager	04/03/2022
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Contents

1. Introduction

To help design the best wind farm within the site's economic and environmental constraints, Fred. Olsen Renewables Ltd. (FORL) has proactively engaged with statutory consultees, local people, communities and stakeholders from pre-scoping (June 2021) and continues to do so. As this is a repower of Windy Standard I (the Proposed Development), FORL already have established strong relationships with a number of consultees in the local area over the 25-year operational period of the existing development.

Throughout, the aim has been to inform, listen, answer, be accessible and, where feasible, add value and/or reduce burdens on consultees. This has been against the unfortunate backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, which limited the 'traditional tools' used for pre-scoping but allowed FORL to develop and utilise digital tools to reach as broad an audience as possible. When restrictions were lifted, face-to-face consultation was undertaken at the earliest opportunity in November 2021.

In this report, FORL demonstrates that consultee points that have been raised throughout the evolution of the proposed Windy Standard I Wind Farm Repower have been addressed in design iterations and that any remaining matters have been set out and discussed in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

1.1. Key project facts

The existing Windy Standard Wind Farm is located on Gallow Rig and Polwhat Rig above Carsphairn Forest, consisting of 36 Nordtank wind turbines with a height of 53.5 m to tip and a combined rated output of 21.6 megawatts (MW).

The existing turbines currently at the site of the Proposed Development will be removed, and the site will be reinstated except where infrastructure will be used for the repowering. The Proposed Development has been through a number of design iterations which will be fully described in Chapter 4 Site Design and Design Evolution of the EIAR.

A Scoping Report was submitted to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) on 13 August 2021. A copy of this will be found in Technical Appendix 1.1 of the EIAR. The full Scoping Opinion was received from the ECU on 22 December 2021 and will be provided in Appendix 1.2 of the EIAR. It informs the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken for the Proposed Development. The Scoping Opinion was used during the design evolution along with other assessments of the Proposed Development. As a result, the Proposed Development was amended, reducing turbines from 9 to 8.

The Proposed Development's generating capacity of renewable electricity will be approximately 49.6 MW, subject to final wind turbine procurement. The specific turbine model will not be selected until pre-construction procurement processes have been completed. For the purposes of this EIA a typical turbine of the 6.2 MW class of machine having a tip height of up to 200 m, with a rotor diameter of approximately 162 m and hub height of around 119 m, with approximate 6.2 MW generating capacity for each of the proposed eight machines has been modelled and assessed throughout the EIAR. The Proposed Development is an extension to an existing S36 development, therefore, the application is made pursuant to Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 and the EIA has been undertaken in accordance with The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

The Proposed Development comprises the following main elements:

- Up to 8 turbines;
- Turbine foundations and hardstandings;
- External transformer housing;
- Crane pads;
- Access tracks;

- Underground electricity cables;
- Permanent anemometry mast;
- Borrow pits;
- Batching plant
- Temporary construction and storage compounds and ancillary infrastructure;
- Site signage; and
- Waste water and surface water drainage.

The Proposed Development will also make use of existing shared infrastructure from Windy Standard I, Windy Standard II and Windy Standard III (substation, control building and existing onsite temporary borrow pits) and their use will be extended over the life of this Proposed Development.

1.2. EIA project team

FORL has been developing and operating wind farms in the UK since the mid 1990's demonstrating long term commitment to the renewable energy generation market in the UK, and more specifically in Scotland. The company's operational wind farm portfolio, all in Scotland, comprises Rothes I and Rothes II (92 MW), Paul's Hill (64.4 MW), Mid Hill (75.9 MW), Crystal Rig, Crystal Rig II and Crystal Rig III (247.3 MW), Windy Standard I (21.6 MW) and Windy Standard II (61.5 MW) giving a total generating capacity of 529.7 MW. FORL's portfolio also consists of consented wind farms, comprising of Windy Standard III, Crystal Rig IV and Pauls Hill II which will add to the total generating capacity of the wind farms owned and managed by FORL when operational.

The Proposed Development has been designed by the Applicant with input from its lead EIA consultants, Natural Power, and the EIA chapter authors in an iterative way to minimise environmental effects as much as possible. Natural Power has been appointed to coordinate and produce this EIAR and associated EIA documentation.

Natural Power has been providing expertise to the renewable energy industry since the company was formed in 1995 and is one of the UK's leading renewable energy consultants. Natural Power currently employs over 400 people working full time providing renewable energy services nationally and internationally. Testimony to Natural Power's experience and ongoing commitment to competency and continual improvement, its Planning & Environment Department is accredited by the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment. In addition, Natural Power also operates in formally accredited health and safety (IOSAS 18001), environmental (14001) and quality (9001) management systems. As well as development and EIA services, Natural Power also provides expert advice and due diligence consultancy, site construction management and site operation and maintenance. Thus, Natural Power is a competent, experienced consultant to co-ordinate and undertake EIA and to prepare the EIAR. Natural Power is head quartered approximately 16 km from the Proposed Development.

1.3. Structure of the EIAR

The EIAR will be prepared in accordance with the EIA Regulations and follows the structure presented in Table 1.1 below. Where relevant each EIAR chapter considers the baseline environment, the likely significant effects for each phase of the development and cumulative impacts.

Table 1.1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report Indicative Contents

Volume	Chapter	Title
1		Non-Technical Summary
2	1	Introduction
	2	Legal and Policy Context
	3	Approach to EIA
	4	Site Design and Design Evolution
	5	Project Description
	6	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
	7	Cultural Heritage
	8	Ornithology
	9	Ecology
	10	Hydrology, Geology and Hydrogeology
	11	Forestry
	12	Traffic and Transport
	13	Aviation and Existing Infrastructure
	14	Noise
	15	Socio-Economic
	16	Climate Change
	17	Synergistic Effects, Summary of Mitigation and Residual Effects
3		Figures
4		Technical Appendices (indicative list) • Scoping Report • Scoping Opinion • Landscape & Visual Impact Methodology • Cumulative Sites • Landscape Character Assessment • Protected & Designated Landscapes Assessment • Viewpoint Assessment • Sequential Routes Assessment • Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) • Construction Method Statement (CMS) • Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) • Noise Prediction Methodology • Ecology Technical Appendix • National Vegetation Survey Report • Bat Survey Impact Assessment • Ornithology Technical Appendix

Volume	Chapter	Title
		• Private Water Supply Risk Assessment • Interpolated Peat Depth • Borrow Pit Assessment • Abnormal Load Assessment • Traffic Counts • Cultural Heritage Walkover Survey Report for The Proposed Development Area • Carbon Balance Assessment
5		Pre-Application Consultation Report Planning, Design and Access Statement

Source: Natural Power

2. General Engagement: Windy Standard I

Public engagement for the Proposed Development is outlined in Table 2.1.

As the early stage of the consultation coincided with the global COVID-19 pandemic, it was necessary to significantly adapt an approach away from the traditional 'village hall' led engagement to an online strategy designed to maximise opportunities to discuss plans and gather feedback. This approach reflected the Town and Country Planning (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 which came into force on 24 April 2020.

Table 2.1: Public Engagement

Consultation Activity	Description
Public Exhibitions	Public exhibitions were undertaken virtually on Monday 21st June 2021 with live chat between 17:00 – 19:00 and Wednesday 23rd June 2021 with live chat between 17:00 – 19:00. Please note, if not for the social distancing measures put in place by COVID-19 the public exhibitions would have been done in person at various Community Council halls within close proximity to the Proposed Development. Further public exhibitions also took place in November 2021: A public exhibition for members of Dalmellington Community was held on Monday 15th of November, between 11:00am – 19:00pm at the Dalmellington Community Centre. On Tuesday 16th of November between 11:00am – 19:00pm a public exhibition was held for members of the Carsphairn Community at Lagwyne Hall. A further public exhibition was held on Thursday 18th of November between 11:00am – 19:00pm for New Cumnock Community members at New Cumnock Working Men's Club.
Live Interactive Chat	There were a total of 160 visits to the online exhibition. Of these there were 112 unique visits. Nine live chats were undertaken between members of the community and FOR staff.
Adverts In Paper	***Exhibition 1*** Ayrshire Post Galloway New

Consultation Activity	Description
	Exhibition 2 Ayrshire Post Galloway New
Community Council Engagement	There are three communities which the Applicant have communicated with and have liaised with extensively 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. The communities consulted include: • Carsphairn Community Council; • Dalmellington Community Council; and • New Cumnock Community Council.
Future Events	Community groups have continued to be informed about the progress of the development during the lead up to submission. FORL will send a letter prior to submission to all local residents who had expressed an interest in the Proposed Development and who attended the public exhibitions and left their contact details, to notify them that the application and EIAR has been submitted and how it can be accessed.
Community Benefit	The Proposed Development will be able to provide support for community initiatives for the 35-year life of the wind farm, allowing local communities to invest in their long-term future. Community benefit payments will be £5,000 per installed MW. The community benefits are in line with the 2017 Scottish Energy Strategy, which strongly supports the provision of community benefits for renewable energy projects.

Source: Natural Power

3. EIA Consultation Summary: Windy Standard I Repower

FORL has proactively engaged with consultees from Scoping (September 2021) and continues to do so.

Throughout, the aim has been to inform, listen, answer, be accessible and, where feasible, add value and/or reduce burdens on consultees. Table 3.1 details consultations undertaken for each topic, FORL's responses and where these will be addressed in application.

No scoping responses were received from the following consultees:

- Dumfries & Galloway Council (DGC);
- Civil Aviation Authority (CCA) – Airspace;
- Dalmellington Community Council;
- Dee District Salmon Fishery Board (DSFB) (Kirkcudbrightshire);
- John Muir Trust;
- Mountaineering Scotland;
- New Cumnock Community Council;
- Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society (ScotWays);
- Scottish Wild Land Group (SWLG);

- Scottish Wildlife Trust;
- Visit Scotland; and
- West of Scotland Archaeology Service

Although it was indicated that Dumfries and Galloway Council would not have the capacity to directly respond to any consultation specific to this development within the given timeframe prior to application submission, the Planning and Landscape Departments have been copied in to emails where appropriate to maintain transparency of decision making throughout the pre-application and EIA phase.

Table 3.1: Consultation by topic

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
Aviation and Existing Infrastructure	Edinburgh Airport	Falls outwith their Aerodrome Safeguarding zone - therefore no objection or comment on this proposal or to consult further.	N/A
Aviation and Existing Infrastructure	Glasgow Airport	The site is located outwith the obstacle limitation surfaces and radar consultation zone for Glasgow Airport. It is within the safeguarding area for Instrument Flight Procedures (IFPs) and this will require further assessment.	Discussions are ongoing with Glasgow Airport. The outcome of these will be discussed in Chapter 13 Aviation and Other Infrastructure.
Aviation and Existing Infrastructure	Glasgow Prestwick Airport (GPA)	While aviation lighting is solely a matter for the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) to consider, if an Aircraft Detection Lighting System is proposed as part of any alternate proposed lighting scheme, GPA respectfully request to be consulted with. Primary radar line of sight analysis at the proposed maximum turbine tip heights of 200 m indicates that there is the potential that all 9 proposed turbines would be visible to the GPA primary radars. It will be necessary for further detailed radar modelling assessments/flight trials be undertaken to confirm the exact number of turbines visible to GPA primary radars – and whether the clutter from the visible turbines can be mitigated for the lifetime of the wind farm via an appropriate radar technology solution and associated mitigation agreement.	Aviatica has requested that GPA run an IFP assessment to determine some aspects of the conventional IAPs for runway 30. Radar flight data collected during the flight over for Windy Standard III can be utilised to undertake a radar assessment. Discussions are ongoing and these will be summarised within Chapter 13 Aviation and Existing Infrastructure.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		Given the proposed maximum tip height (200 m) of the turbines, we also request that the Developer engages with GPA to agree who undertakes the IFP Assessment to establish fully if the Proposed Development is likely to have any impact on our published IFP's, both conventional and RNAV/RNP published IFP's as published in the UK Aeronautical Publication (AIP) for GPA (EGPK). Preliminary analysis indicates that it may also be necessary to conduct a detailed Technical Safeguarding Assessment in respect of the protection of the Airport's Runway 30 Instrument Landing System (ILS) and VHF/UHF Radio Navigation Equipment(s). GPA has concerns that the cumulative impact and proliferation of wind farms in the vicinity of the Proposed Development may have an impact on the low-level coverage that GPA currently enjoys from the SSR data feed it receives from the NATS Lowther Hill SSR. These concerns will need to be considered as part of the overall Technical Safeguarding Assessment. A preliminary Air Traffic Control (ATC) Operational Assessment indicates that this proposed development lies on the edge of Prestwick Airport's Controlled Airspace and in an area where GPA provide an air traffic service, and as such, if some (or all) of the turbines are confirmed visible to our primary	

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		radar then mitigation will be required, together with a review of any impact on our flight procedures or aeronautical charts as published in the UK AIP for Prestwick Airport. GPA raises concerns in respect of the cumulative impact, due to other operational, consented and proposed wind farms in the vicinity of the proposed Windy Standard I Repower Wind farm and the impact that this cumulative proliferation of wind farms may have on the Airports Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CAN) equipment(s), together with the potential for ATC operational impact in having such a cluster of wind farms in the vicinity of the aerodrome in an area of airspace that is operationally significant to ATC.	
Aviation and Existing Infrastructure	Highlands and Islands Airport Limited (HIAL)	The proposed development would not impact the safeguarding of any of HIAL's Aerodromes.	N/A
Aviation and Existing Infrastructure	MoD Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	MoD have concerns about the Proposed Development as it would have an impact on Tactical Training Area 20T in which military fixed wind aircraft engage in operational low flying training down to 45.7 m. Therefore, in the interests of air safety, the MoD would request that the development be fitted with MoD accredited aviation safety lighting in accordance with the Civil Aviation Authority, Air Navigation Order 2016.	The Tactical Training Area (TTA) is a daytime-only low flying area therefore lighting cannot mitigate any impacts on aircraft undertaking Operational Low Flying. The requirement for aviation lighting only requires lights to be on at night. In addition, the Proposed Development is in a part of the Borders TTA which has always been designated by the MoD as a "low priority military low flying area

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
			less likely to raise concerns". Discussions are ongoing with the MoD and will be summarised in Chapter 13 Aviation and Existing Infrastructure.
Aviation and Existing Infrastructure	NATS Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	The Proposed Development has been examined by NATS technical safeguarding teams and they conclude that it conflicts with their safeguarding criteria. Therefore NATS (En-Route) plc "objects to the proposal". NATS has determined that turbine heights were assessed as being visible to Great Dun Fell and Lowther RADAR. En-route operational assessment of RADAR impact: Engineering – Unacceptable Prestwick ATC – Unacceptable No impact is anticipated on NATS' navigation aids. No impact is anticipated en-route radio communication aids. Therefore, a technical impact is anticipated by NATS, which has been deemed to be unacceptable for the three proposed heights.	Discussions are ongoing with NATS and Prestwick Airport regarding radar mitigation options. This will be discussed in Chapter 13 Aviation and Existing Infrastructure.
Aviation and Existing Infrastructure	NatureScot Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	Key concern is landscape and visual impacts including from aviation lighting with special consideration given to the sensitivity of the neighbouring wild land area and the Dark Sky Park.	Discussions with the CAA are ongoing regarding an appropriate lighting scheme for the Proposed Development. The visible lights will be of a type with the narrow horizontal beam, dimmed to 10% of intensity during good

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
			visibility, and will only come on between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise. An assessment of visual impacts of lighting will be included in the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), including night-time visualisations and photomontages from the viewpoint locations agreed with NatureScot (and DGC, though response is unlikely prior to submission), and in line with the methodology validated at the public inquiry for the consented Windy Standard III Wind Farm.
Aviation and Existing Infrastructure	BT Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	We have studied this wind farm using the attached [coordinates] with respect to EMC and related problems to BT point-to-point microwave radio links. The conclusion is that the Project indicated will cause interference to BT's current and presently planned radio network. Turbine 2 fails our 100 m required infringement zone and therefore we reject this, all other turbine locations pass. Turbine 2 is 37.29 metres away from our active radio link.	FORL are aware of the radio link interference as it relates to the Control Centre on site. Discussions have already been undertaken with the private installer to relocate this link prior to construction. This will be discussed in Chapter 13 Aviation and Existing Infrastructure.
Aviation and Existing Infrastructure	Joint Radio Company (JRC) Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	This proposal cleared with respect to radio link infrastructure operated by: Scottish Power and Scotia Gas Networks.	A brief summary will be provided in Chapter 13 Aviation and Existing Infrastructure.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
Cultural Heritage	Carsphairn Community Council (CCC) Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	CCC contest the very limited Baseline Conditions assertion that within the proposed Windy Standard I Repower red line boundary. Cultural heritage assets are limited to one 'findspot', a 'post-medieval sheepfold' and a possible 'Roman road'. The description 'post-medieval sheepfold' is misleading in itself. There are in fact several other dry-stone structures in the immediate area that may be better described as either stock pens and/or possible burial yards of indeterminate antiquity. Not only does the Scoping Report omit reference to what appears to have been a very early medieval or older complex of ruined buchts and enclosures at Foxes Yird, but any mention whatsoever of several other sites of historical value, including three glacial erratic 'standing stones' of local renown, Luke's Stone, Porrit Stone and the Deil's Putting Stone, and a supposed antimony mine on the upper Clennoch Burn. Taken in conjunction with the Roman/Damnonian via feoderati discussed below it may be concluded that far from being limited the cultural heritage assets of the area are decidedly more numerous. The 'possible Roman road' that the FORL report refers to briefly is a previously recorded heritage asset that requires further	A site walkover survey has been undertaken and will inform the assessment to be detailed within Chapter 7 Cultural Heritage.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		research. Whether it is actually 'Roman', or [more likely] whether it was built by Damnonian client Feoderati, we believe it to be an asset of both local and national importance that should not be disturbed by any work or structure undertaken in the construction of the re-powered Windy Standard I. FORL should take note of the fact that sections of what the 1850 Ordnance Survey Map describes as a 'Roman road' were still a discernible feature in 1995, and that, although due to the subsequent removal of grazing sheep from the proposed red line boundary area, the entire summit of Windy Standard Hill is now so overgrown with re-generated vegetation as to render most of this undoubtably ancient road invisible, there remains sufficient physical evidence of both its course and method of construction as to warrant a more detailed archaeological survey.	
Cultural Heritage	Historic Environment Scotland (HES) Pre-scoping consultation response June 2021	We recommend that a bareland ZTV should be prepared for the proposals, showing the visibility of the proposed development to at least 15 km distance and preferably more. This should be used to scope which scheduled monument within 15 km of the development have potential visibility of the turbines. Where there is visibility, the impact on the scheduled monuments should be assessed.	A ZTV will be produced to accompany Chapter 7 Cultural Heritage. This extends out to the requested 15 km rather than 10 km that was initially proposed.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
Cultural Heritage	HES Pre-scoping consultation response June 2021	We recommend that consideration should be given to potential setting impacts on a number of monuments in the area for which long-distance views of the landscape may be important. These include Kings Cairn SM1046, Craigengillan Cairn SM2238, Kemps Castle SM656, Stroanfreggan Craig Fort SM1095, Cairn Avel Cairn SM1006, but this list is not comprehensive and analysis of the ZTV may reveal more monuments that have the potential to be affected by the development. Where impacts on the settings of designated historic environment assets are identified, we would like to see visualisations of these impacts, including photomontages as well as wireframe images.	The list of assets has been taken into consideration, along with other nationally important heritage assets. Where there is a realistic prospect of indirect impacts due to changes in the setting of the asset, this has been assessed. The basis of selection of nationally designated heritage assets for assessment, including those listed in HES's response, will be described in Chapter 7 Cultural Heritage.
Cultural Heritage	HES Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	We note that a detailed assessment methodology specifically for the historic environment chapter has not been produced within the Scoping Report. We are happy to provide advice regarding the proposed methodology prior to the application being submitted if that would be helpful. Advice on good practice in the assessment of impacts on the historic environment is available in Appendix 1 of the EIA Handbook. We welcome that the report states that an appropriately experienced archaeological organisation will undertake the assessment for the historic environment, and we will be	The assessment methodology employed in the cultural heritage chapter (Chapter 7) takes cognisance of the advice in the EIA Handbook, especially Appendix 1.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		happy to provide further advice to the relevant consultants if helpful.	
Cultural Heritage	HES Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	We welcome that a cultural heritage chapter, which should include a heritage impact assessment and mitigation proposals, will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment for this Proposed Development. We advise that impacts on designated monuments up to 15 km away from the proposed development should be considered.	Noted.
Ecology	Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	The Biosphere take a position whereby any development outwith the core or the buffer of the Biosphere we leave to local planning and make no comment, which is the case with this proposal.	N/A
Ecology	Marine Scotland Science (MSS) Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	MSS advise that the developer carries out baseline fish population surveys and/or obtains up to date information on the presence and abundance of fish populations within and downstream of the proposed development area. An integrated water quality and fish population monitoring programme should be drawn up following MSS generic monitoring programme guidelines. The results from the baseline surveys, proposed mitigation measures and monitoring programmes should be presented in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.	It has been agreed with Galloways Fisheries Trust that a fish assessment will be submitted within the Chapter 9 Ecology of the EIAR which is based on existing information. Standard mitigation has been included and a recommendation for a fish monitoring plan (to include baseline, construction and operational surveys).

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
Ecology	NatureScot Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	We appreciate that the Applicant may have excellent understanding of the site and that good practice will be employed prior to and during construction. However, without recent, site-specific surveys for these protected species, it is hard to see clear evidence of sufficient quality that provides reassurance on their presence or absence, and which then underpins the consideration prior to determination. We therefore advise that the results of recent, site-specific survey work covering otter, pine marten, red squirrel and badger are provided in the application. The information on these protected species (including the presence or absence of holts, dens, dreys, setts) can then be taken into account in the decision-making process. This will help to determine whether there could be a breach of legislation, and if the scheme needs to be designed or mitigated in such a way that this will not happen.	Additional protected species surveys have been caried out post scoping. No evidence was found of the presence of any protected species. The results of these surveys will be presented in Chapter 9 Ecology.
Ecology	NatureScot Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	We note the bat survey work, and the helpful post-construction bat monitoring (caracass searches), that the Applicant has carried out. We are content with the survey effort but advise that, at application stage, the presentation of the bat activity data should follow the format described in the guidance and be entered into an online tool (Ecobat) to	The presentation of the bat survey data will follow the format described in the guidance and will be presented as a Technical Appendix to Chapter 9 Ecology.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		gain a measure of the level of bat activity relative to other locations in the region.	
Ecology	NatureScot Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	Based on Table 12.2 in the Scoping Report the site contains 10.75 ha of dry modified bog and 1.23 ha of wet modified bog (both M20 Eriophorum vaginatum blanket and raised mire). This bog is capable of regeneration, and we encourage the developer to consider restoration work as part of an Outline Habitat Management Plan submitted with the EIA report. We also suggest that there could be consideration of this and other possible measures in the context of encouraging restoration of black grouse habitat. No black grouse were recorded during their 2020 survey, but they have been found in low numbers in the wind farm cluster in the past. The Scoping Report also says: "In the 2001 EIA it was stated that "Information from the Dumfries and Galloway Black Grouse Recovery project officer (pers. comm.) suggests that the area from Loch Doon to Scaur Water is one of the two areas most favoured by black grouse in South-west Scotland. There are recent records of leks within one kilometre of the proposal as well as records of occasional birds on the site". It does appear that there is some scope for recovery if suitable measures were put in place. Black grouse measures might include native scrub planting, reduction of grazing	Discussions are ongoing with the RSPB regarding targeted improvement for black grouse, depending on the outcome of discussions, a formal Habitat Management Plan (HMP) may be produced as a Technical Appendix to Chapter 9 Ecology.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		pressure to promote natural regeneration, the removal of deer fences (and implementing associated deer control) and legal predator control.	
Ecology	Marine Scotland Science (MSS) Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	Our advice is that all areas directly (e.g. watercourse crossings) or indirectly (e.g. sediment run off) affected by the development and appropriate buffers up and downstream should have a habitat survey following the Scottish Fisheries Coordination Centre method, which should then inform the need or otherwise for species-specific surveys.	It has been agreed with Galloways Fisheries Trust that a fish assessment will be submitted within the EIAR which is based in existing information. Standard mitigation has been included and a recommendation for a fish monitoring plan (to include baseline, construction and operational surveys).
Ecology	Galloways Fisheries Trust (GFT) Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	GFT do not agree with the assumption that previously collected data is adequate so that there is no need for new baseline surveys. GFT also disagree with the statement on page 27 which implies that the site is unlikely to be important to fish and that no fish surveys are required. The applicant also does not appear to understand the process of why SEPA has given a POOR status to this part of the upper catchment – it is due to migratory fish not being able to access this part of the river due to a man-made dam further downstream. This 'SEPA' status does not imply that it is of poor quality for non-migratory fish species. The upper Dee system supports an important Brown trout population which is considered sensitive and	Follow up consultation was undertaken with the GFT as outlined below.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		potentially at risk from the construction/re-powering of the wind farm. A fish survey to consider baseline fish stocks should be undertaken. This information will help the developer understand what measures are required when considering any instream work, know where fish rescues may be required if new or upgraded river crossings takes place and identify if any issues do occur and if necessary, outline mitigation works. We do not agree that 'impacts on fish' should be simply scoped out of the EIAR.	
Ecology	Galloways Fisheries Trust (GFT) Email – 21/02/22 following call of 21/01/22	Agreed that the EIAR will be submitted with a fish assessment which will be based on existing information. Standard mitigation will be included, as will a recommendation for a fish monitoring plan (to include baseline, construction and operational surveys). GFT will then conduct baseline fish surveys for this project in June this year, and, should the results of these surveys provide information that does not align with the assessment in the EIAR, then survey details and an additional assessment will be submitted as Supplementary Environmental Information (SEI) to the planning application.	It has been agreed with GFT that a fish assessment will be submitted within the EIAR which is based in existing information. Standard mitigation has been included and a recommendation for a fish monitoring plan (to include baseline, construction and operational surveys). An outline Water Quality and Fish Population Monitoring Plan has been prepared and is provided as an Appendix to Chapter 9.
Forestry	Scottish Forestry Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	Note that on the whole the scheme is very much centred round the existing turbine locations and the exciting open space on the site. However, it is recognised that there is a	The layout has been designed to minimise felling. Full reference to forest plans are contained within Chapter 11 Forestry.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		proposal to push more turbines into areas that are currently afforested (specifically turbines 1, 2 and 3). In those cases the impact on forestry will need to be assessed. There is a requirement to consult Scottish Forestry on development proposals that may have an impact on any type of woodland. Should there be a requirement to undertake any felling, restocking or compensatory planting proposals as a result of the development then these must be compliant with the UK Forestry Standard, the reference standard for sustainable forest management in the UK.	
Hydrology	Scottish Water Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	Scottish Water has no objection to what was outlined in the scoping report. Providing comment on water and wastewater capacity assessment, as well as drinking water protected areas and surface water.	Conditions will be captured in Chapter 10 Hydrology, Geology and Hydrogeology, flood risk assessment. Design evolution shows the changes in layout to minimise risks. Embedded mitigation is presented in the hydrology chapter and presents additional measures and control employed during the design to accommodate for provisions in the referenced precautions document.
Hydrology	SEPA Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	We understand that the 'cumulative effect of both the construction of the repowering scheme and decommissioning and restoration of the operational scheme will be assessed as a coordinated operation'. We	A decommissioning plan will be submitted to DGC as part of the consent conditions for the existing wind farm – it is expected that DGC will consult with all statutory

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		recommend the applicant consult us on their proposals to decommission the existing wind farm.	consultees including SEPA at this stage.
Hydrology	SEPA Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	Although an indicative wind turbine layout is provided, limited supporting survey information is available at this stage to allow us to folly comment on the proposed design. However, we can offer the following initial advice: In line with our scoping advice, the site should be designed to avoid sensitive receptors and incorporate appropriate distances. We welcome the buffers proposed to hydrological features summarised in Table 14.1. We welcome the initial information to demonstrate the project will be designed to avoid development on deep peat (Figure 14.1: Interpolated Peat Depth). We recommend the proposed Phase 2 peat surveys further inform site design to minimise impacts on peat (particularly around Turbine 1 and 2 which are in proximity of greater peat depths than other wind turbines). It is our preference that the developer utilises existing infrastructure (e.g. existing access roads) as far as possible. We therefore welcome the commitment to do this.	All watercourses have been buffered by the industry standard of 50 m from the outset of designing this development. Phase 2 peat probing has been undertaken around Turbines 1 and 2 and ancillary infrastructure to better understand peat depths within these areas. An updated peat depth figure will be presented as part of Chapter 10 Hydrology, Geology and Hydrogeology.
Landscape and Visual	Carsphairn Community Council (CCC)	CCC are concerned to learn that as stated in the 18.1 introduction to this subject that aviation warning lighting may be installed on all the	It is a requirement of the CAA that all turbines of a height greater than 150 m.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
	Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	proposed nine new Windy Standard I turbines, which may be up to 200 metres high from base to tip. One of the district's most important environmental assets is the almost total absence of light pollution. If so equipped, nine turbines of this height on Windy Standard Hill cannot fail to have an adverse impact on to date the pristine night sky enjoyed by many if not all Carsphairn residents, and indeed on the continued viability of the adjacent Craigengillan Dark Sky Planetarium which lies within line of sight a little over 10 km distant from proposed re-powered Windy Standard I wind farm. The installation of warning lights on the proposed heightened Windy Standard I turbines is inherently likely to establish a precedent with respect to a number of other adjacent wind farm projects in the area. The cumulative adverse impact of still more lighting in the night sky would be considerable. We recommend that FORL should consider other options. One practical solution to this problem that will not reduce the design output envisaged for this wind farm that CCC could accept would be to increase the number of turbines while at the same time reducing their height, to the extent that warning lights are simply not required, as is the case with the Windy Standard II turbines which currently operate without aviation warning lights.	This is discussed in Chapter 13 Aviation and Existing Infrastructure. Night-time visualisations are presented as part of Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment where key viewpoints have been considered. A reduced lighting scheme is currently under discussion to minimise the number of lights required on the proposed turbines.
Landscape & Visual	NatureScot Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	As an update to the guidance 'Visual Representation of Wind farms: Version 2.2' (SNH, February 2017) we advise that the	Noted.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		'baseline panorama and wireline' visuals should show the existing wind farm turbines (to be repowered), but that these turbines should not be included in the single page wireline or the final photomontage visual. This approach follows the 'standard' visualisation advice as far as is reasonable.	
Landscape & Visual	NatureScot Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	The existing Windy Standard I turbines would be 'replaced' and are mutually exclusive with the repowered proposal. However, noting that the baseline for EIA should consider projects that exist and/or have been approved, we recommend that these turbines are included the cumulative assessment baseline, as per scoping report Figure 11.3, and as per the above discussion of visualisations. We advise that the cumulative assessment should follow our guidance (see slightly updated version published in March 2021). It should assess whether, or how, adding the proposed turbines to the cumulative baseline could create significant new (or intensified) cumulative effects on landscape character or visual amenity for receptors. The assessment should not simply be about the magnitude of change to a view or landscape area but should encompass the specific cumulative aspect. We trust this provides clarification in relation to the applicant's possible intentions (e.g. at Section 11.5).	Further consultation has been undertaken with NatureScot and it has been confirmed by Paul Taylor's email, dated 09/02/22, that visualisations will be carried out in accordance with the scoping advice. OPEN have proposed cumulative Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTVs) to NatureScot. These were also sent to DGC. This will be detailed in Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
Landscape & Visual	NatureScot Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	The Scoping Report notes that the Merrick Wild Land Area (WLA) lies approximately 19 km to the southwest of the proposal. Section 11.4 notes that the potential for a significant effect on the wild land qualities of this WLA will be reviewed once the layout has been finalised and that, if required, the scope of any assessment will be discussed with Dumfries and Galloway Council and NatureScot. We ask that the Applicant contact us to discuss the potential need for, and possible scope of, such an assessment once the proposal has been finalised. This is noting the greater than 19 km distance, but also the potential for visible lighting, the elevated position of the proposal, and the patch of visibility in the central and eastern section of the Merrick WLA from where lights could be visible. We advise that it would help inform such discussion if a wireline was provided for a location (with hub visibility) on a north-easterly-facing slope in the area to the east of Shalloch on Minnoch.	Further consultation has been undertaken with NatureScot. It has been confirmed by Paul Taylor's email, dated 09/02/22, that there is sufficient evidence to scope out a Wild Land Assessment.
Landscape & Visual	NatureScot Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	We are content that effects on National Scenic Areas (NSAs) be scoped out, noting that the nearest NSA is the Fleet Valley NSA, which is over 38 km to the south.	Noted.
Landscape & Visual	NatureScot Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	We note the likely requirement for visible aviation lighting and that there is an aspiration to explore lighting mitigation options as part of the EIA (Section 18.6). We	An aviation lighting assessment will be undertaken in this LVIA (Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual) and will also be considered in detail in

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		highlight the relative sensitivity of the WLA and Dark Sky Park to lighting. We advise the need for assessment of the effects of turbine lighting, including provision of night-time visualisations for a few selected locations. Our advice on the scope of turbine lighting assessment is contained within our general pre-application and scoping guidance. We ask that the applicant discuss with us the proposed locations for night-time visualisations at the same time as the potential need for wild land assessment.	Chapter 14: Infrastructure and Aviation. It has been confirmed by Paul Taylor's email, dated 09/02/22, that NatureScot are content with the location of the three night-time viewpoints (Water of Ken, New Cumnock and Loch Doon).
Landscape & Visual	NatureScot Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	We are content with the proposed viewpoint list, but advise that it would be helpful for the applicant to produce (and share with us) a combined ZTV map illustrating the difference in visibility between the existing Windy Standard I and the proposed Windy Standard I Repower. This will help show if any new areas of visibility, and consequently any additional viewpoint locations, should be considered. If a Wild Land Assessment is required we may request additional assessment points and wirelines where relevant.	It has been confirmed by Paul Taylor's email, dated 09/02/22, that NatureScot are content with the viewpoints proposed. These will be considered in detail within Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.
Landscape & Visual	New Cumnock Community Council (NCC) Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	NCC has prepared a guidance document for developers for viewpoint locations, so that a standardised approach is taken by all developers. We encourage developers to use this where practically possible. It is not a	Viewpoints are noted. New Cumnock will be represented within the photomontages of the EIAR as agreed with NatureScot.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		definitive listing, and it is therefore possible that alternative or additional viewpoints may be sought. We request that photomontages are produced showing worst case scenario visual impacts and avoid washed out and over exposed turbine representations. As New Cumnock is subject to some 5 existing wind farms, 1 under construction, 6 that have been consented and 7 that are in the planning system, we request that cumulative photomontages are made available to allow residents to view the proposed project and how it sits in the wider landscape with all the other wind farms. This should include all wind farms currently in the planning system.	A cumulative assessment has been undertaken to account for all developments either constructed or currently in the planning system, in line with the NatureScot 2021 cumulative guidance and will be presented alongside commentary in Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.
Landscape & Visual	New Cumnock Community Council (NCC) Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	As the proposed 9 turbines are 4 times the height of the current 39, and exceed 150 m height by 50 m, these will have to be visibly lit to comply with current CAA night-time lighting regulations. We therefore request that cumulative night-time photomontages are made available to allow residents to view the proposed project and how it sits in the wider landscape with all the other wind farms. This should include all wind arms currently in the planning system.	An aviation lighting assessment will be undertaken in this LVIA (Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual) and will also be considered in detail in Chapter 14: Infrastructure and Aviation.
Noise	Scottish Government Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	Specified that the assessment should be carried out in line with the relevant legislation.	Addressed in Chapter 14: Noise. The relevant legislation is described and used for the noise assessment.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
Noise	Scottish Government Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	Specified that the assessment should include the details recommended at Table 6.1 of the Institute of Acoustics Good Practice Guide.	All relevant factors from this table have been included in the assessment.
Ornithology	Carsphairn Community Council (CCC) Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	CCC are pleased with the species protection plan although certain statements that follow in this chapter are somewhat inconsistent with a plan that helps present further extinction of important bird species, once common in the area. FORL state in 13.8.1 that there are 'no statutory sites with a designation for ornithological interests located within 10 km of the proposed development'. However although strictly this is correct, it should be noted that only just outside this zone on the east shore of Loch Doon the protected site of an Osprey nest is an important visitor attraction, and we understand that there is at least one other pair nesting in the district. Ospreys are known to range well in excess of 10 km in search of fishing grounds, and although by virtue of its lack of standing water Windy Standard is not one of these, there does exist a collision risk in passage to these wide-ranging birds of prey. CCC are concerned at the proposed scoping out of designated sites as stated above, also at the additional proposed scoping out of the EIAR of the impact on black grouse, breeding raptors and breeding upland birds on the	All sensitive bird species found on site during the survey period have been included within the Collision Risk Modelling (CRM). This includes sensitive bird species as appropriate. There was no evidence of osprey on site therefore it has not been included within the CRM. Surveys have been undertaken for target species and any species known in the vicinity have been assessed. This will be detailed in Chapter 8 Ornithology.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		basis of their rarity in the red-line zone. The value of the richness and diversity of once common bird species to our local environment cannot be underestimated. The statement [see Section 13.5] that the Windy Standard Complex 'is not of particular importance to any Schedule 1 raptor species' is simply incorrect, as is the conclusion that 'significant disturbance/displacement impacts on breeding raptors associated with the construction and operation of the proposed development are considered highly unlikely'. The fact that due to a number of unrelated factors previously thriving populations of hen harriers, peregrine falcon and golden eagles in the region have declined sharply in recent years is no excuse for scoping them out of the EIA. It is instead a pressing reason for positive action that may lead to an increase in population of these iconic raptors, and indeed of other threatened moorland birds. CCC would like to see Osprey included in the collision impacts on Schedule 1 raptor and wader species which are being scoped in to the EIAR, despite the seeming absence of carcasses of this species in the red line zone and the fact that they are not included as target species, the reasons for which are given in our comment on 13.8.1 above.	

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
Ornithology	NatureScot Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	In relation to black grouse, Section 13.9.2 notes that "Given the wider regional decline in populations of this species, and the lack of field evidence that this species has been present for the past ten years, it is considered that there will be no impacts on black grouse populations from the proposed development. As such, we propose that impacts on black grouse are scoped out of the EIAR". We accept that the proposal is unlikely to significantly affect black grouse but see our comments below about the potential for enhancement of black grouse habitat (as part of an Outline Habitat Management Plan). In relation to breeding raptors, Section 13.9.3 discusses goshawk being the principle raptor interest at the Windy Standard Complex. There appears to be the potential for construction disturbance to breeding goshawk, and there is an intention to scope potential disturbance to Schedule 1 raptors out of the EIA, given 'embedded mitigation' (e.g. pre-construction survey and a Species Protection Plan). We advise that it would be better to cover the issue of potential for disturbance to breeding goshawk within the EIA report. This potential risk can then be addressed through proposed mitigation e.g. in the form of a Species Protection Plan (SPP). We expect that such a SPP would include pre-construction survey, and the	Discussions are ongoing with the RSPB regarding targeted improvement for black grouse, depending on the outcome of discussions, a formal Habitat Management Plan may be produced as a Technical Appendix to Chapter 9 Ecology.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		need for appropriate buffers between any active goshawk nests and construction-related works. More generally, we consider that the term 'embedded mitigation' is more applicable to 'mitigation by design', e.g. in the form of changed design layout to avoid impacts.	
Ornithology	RSPB Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	In response to question 15 regarding the survey programme, RSPB have concerns regarding the reliance on the vantage point surveys carried out for Windy Standard III. They are now 11 years old and the viewsheds cover just over half the site. The areas not covered are those closest to the larger expanses of open ground, where it would be expected that there might be a higher level of flight activity from potentially vulnerable species. However, we appreciate that site conditions have remained reasonably constant, except for the erection of wind turbines. Ideally, a Brown and Shepherd survey would have been carried out across the site, to confirm that the species assemblage on site has also remained constant, although we acknowledge that surveys from elsewhere in the Windy Standard complex do suggest that this is likely the case.	Survey methodology will be described in Chapter 8 Ornithology.
Ornithology	RSPB Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	We note the statement in section 13.4 of the Scoping Report, that "no adverse effects have been predicted or recorded as a result	Discussions are ongoing with the RSPB regarding targeted improvement for black grouse,

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		of the construction and operation of any of the Windy Standard Complex wind farms to date." We disagree with this statement, specifically for black grouse, given that birds were recorded during the survey work for Windy Standard III (2010), the EIA acknowledged that there was potential for displacement and there were historic leks known from this site prior to construction of Windy Standard III. As noted in paragraph 12.6.1 the habitats on site remain largely unchanged, so it would appear unlikely that habitat change has resulted in the loss of black grouse from the site. We acknowledge that there are several factors that could influence the use of habitats and persistence of any single population of birds, but black grouse appear to have abandoned the area around the Windy Standard complex since the construction of the turbines. Whilst we agree with the statement in paragraph 13.9.2, that there is evidence that black grouse are not displaced by turbines, there is also evidence to the contrary, and a precautionary approach should be applied when assessing developments in areas where populations are small of locally threatened. Furthermore, as demonstrated in the EIA for Windy Standard III, the detection of black grouse can vary considerably between years. Therefore, we believe that black grouse	depending on the outcome of discussions, a formal habitat management plan may be produced as a Technical Appendix to Chapter 9 Ecology.

Topic	Addressee	Scoping Comment	Addressed in EIAR
		should be scoped into the EIA, to allow for an assessment of the loss of the local population since the construction of the turbines. In addition, we believe that scoping Black Grouse into the EIA will ensure that it is a focal species for habitat management, including as part of the restoration of the existing turbine footprint. This should be a priority, as this area is a key corridor for connecting populations in the east and west of Southern Scotland, there are known lek sites within 2 km of the area and considering the large decline this species is undergoing across the area, including at the development site.	
Socio-economics	Carsphairn Community Council (CCC) Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	CCC wish to pursue the subject in future of community and visitor access to a number of remarkable viewpoints. This we believe will encourage more visitors to the area and in the process make Windy Standard I a showcase of sympathetic landscape design and good practice	FORL have sought to build upon relationships with the community in order to establish a means by which community ideas can be realised.
Traffic and transport	Transport Scotland Formal scoping response to ECU December 2021	Transport Scotland is satisfied with the approach outlined in the Scoping Report. They provide a few guiding comments on the assessment of potential trunk road related environmental impacts and the abnormal load assessment.	Noted and addressed in Chapter 12 Traffic and Transport.

4. Conclusion

FORL has proactively engaged with statutory consultees, local people, communities and stakeholders throughout application process.

A broad range of media has been utilised including local and community press, digital and online tools and direct mail due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and associated restrictions. When restrictions were lifted, face-to-face consultation resumed to allow all members of the community to contribute to the consultation for the Proposed Development.

This has resulted in designing a wind farm that will add value and/or reduce burdens on local people, communities and stakeholders as FORL are listening to the feedback that is coming out of their ongoing consultations with both the local community and technical consultees.

FORL consider that any remaining matters, that have not already been addressed through the design iteration process, of the proposed Windy Standard I Repower have been set out and addressed in the EIAR.

It is anticipated that the application will be submitted late April 2022. It is anticipated that adverts will be agreed with the ECU two weeks prior to submission along with a consultee list. Proposed locations for public viewing of the EIAR include:

Carsphairn Shop & Tearoom	Dalmellington Area Centre	Dumfries and Galloway Council
Mainstreet	33 Main Street	English Street
Carsphairn	Dalmellington	Dumfries
DG7 3TQ	KA6 7QL	DG1 2DD

FORL will continue to engage with communities post-submission and throughout the development phase until a determination is reach by Scottish Ministers.

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