



Cultural Heritage Assessment, Rothes III Wind Farm Proposed Tip Height Extension

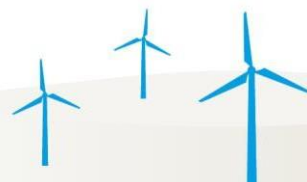
Fred Olsen Renewables
Limited

JUNE 2024



Contents

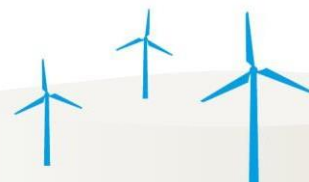
CONTENTS	1
SUMMARY	2
BACKGROUND	3
STATEMENT OF IMPACT	4
BIBLIOGRAPHY	5
APPENDIX A. CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSETS	6
APPENDIX B. FIGURE	10



Summary

This Cultural Heritage assessment was undertaken in response to a Section 36C Application for a proposed tip height extension to 3 no. wind turbines within the consented Rothes III wind farm.

This report and accompanying site visit confirmed that there will be a Negligible Magnitude of Impact and a Negligible Significance of Effect upon previously assessed Cultural Heritage assets as a result of the proposed tip height extension. Further, there are no additional Cultural Heritage Assets requiring assessment as a result of the proposed tip height extension.



Background

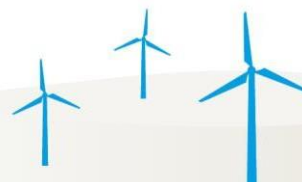
The proposed development is in respect of the Consented Rothes III wind farm with a generating capacity exceeding 50 MW, located approximately 4 kilometres to the west of Rothes village and just over 2.5 kilometres north of the village of Archiestown in Moray. This application is for the increase in tip height of 3 no turbines from an overall height not exceeding 149.9m to an overall height from base to tip not exceeding 200m (Turbines 9, 13 and 14, Figure 1).

This assessment has been carried out to identify whether there would be an impact upon the Cultural Heritage resource as a result of the proposed tip height extension. The statement was produced by Ms Amy Talbot at Locogen which assessed the heritage assets undertaken on the consented development and confirmed there would be no change to the previously assessed assets as a result of the proposed tip height extension. A copy of Ms Talbot's CV is included in Appendix 11.

The process utilised the updated Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV), and a site visit. The updated ZTV used is the 'Figure 2.2 Comparative Blade Tip ZTV' as depicted in the supporting Landscape and Visual Assessment Document (June 2024)' submitted as part of this application.

The assessment was undertaken in-line with the following standards and guidance:

- National Planning Framework 4;
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979);
- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas (Scotland) Act 1997 ((as amended by Town and Country Planning (Historic Environment Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2015));
- Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013;
- Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989;
- Regulation 4 (3) (d) of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) 2017;
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014, Updated 2020) 'Standard and guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment';
- Historic Environment Scotland Act (2014);
- Historic Environment Scotland Planning Service Standard (2018);
- Historic Environment Scotland 'Historic Environment Policy (HEP) for Scotland' (2019);
- Historic Environment Scotland 'Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting' (2016, updated 2020);
- Moray Wind Energy Landscape Sensitivity Study (2023); and
- Planning Advice Note 2/2011: Planning and Archaeology (PAN 2/2011) (2011).



Statement of Impact

An updated ZTV was provided by Pegasus based on the proposed tip height extension of Turbines 9, 13 and 14. The colour purple in the updated ZTV depicts areas that could undergo visibility as a result of the tip height extension.

As ZTV's are indicative tools for potential visibility, the site visit was undertaken in February 2024 to visit to complement the original application assessment and methodology (Hastie 2018). The site visit confirmed there would be no impact on the Cultural Heritage assets as a result of the tip height extension.

The 42 Cultural Heritage assets, as outlined in the document titled 'EIAR Appendix 9.2 Cultural Heritage Assets within the Outer Study Area' are outlined in Table 1 (Appendix A) below. These were checked against the updated ZTV and confirmed on the site visit.

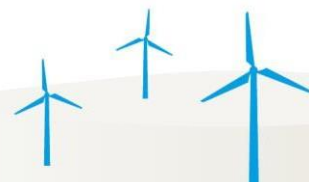
The consultee comments summarised below are from the original application. These confirm that the assessment provided an appropriate level of assessment of the assets in the Study Areas.

Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS, 16/04/2029) did not object to the original proposal, subject to a condition, setting out a programme of archaeological works within the Inner Study Area (proposal application site). They made no comment regarding the Cultural Heritage Assets within the Outer Study Area.

Historic Environment Scotland (HES, 21/03/2019) did not object to the original proposal. HES's remit is world heritage sites, scheduled monuments and their setting, category A-listed buildings and their setting, and gardens and designed landscapes (GDLs) and battlefields in their respective inventories. HES were content with the visualisations provided for Rothes Castle (SM2444), Knockando House, Church 300m SSW of (SM2749) and Knockando Churchyard, 500m E of Upper Knockando, three carved stones (SM1225).

HES confirmed they were satisfied the original proposal did not raise issues of national significance for their historic environmental interests.

This assessment, based on the ZTV and supported by the site visit concluded that there would be no additional significant cumulative effects nor intensification of effects arising from the proposed development on the assets assessed and considered for the application of the Consented Development. Further, there are no additional assets requiring assessment and consideration as a result of the proposed tip height extension.



Bibliography

Hastie, M. (2018a). Chapter 9. Cultural Heritage. Pages 1-13. Rothes III Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Report. Fred Olsen Renewables (CFA Archaeology)

Hastie, M. (2018b). Appendix 9.2 Cultural Heritage Assets in the Wider Study Area. Pages A.9.2 Pages 1-12. Rothes III Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Report. Fred Olsen Renewables (CFA Archaeology)

Pegasus Group (2024). Rothes III 'Option 4' Comparative ZTV. Personal Communications 01/11/2024 (Email)

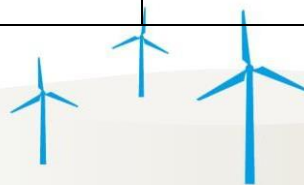
Appendix A. Cultural Heritage Assets

There are 42 Heritage Assets as outlined in the document titled 'EIAR Appendix 9.2 Cultural Heritage Assets within the Outer Study Area' which are detailed in Table 1 below. They are listed in accordance with the EIAR document.

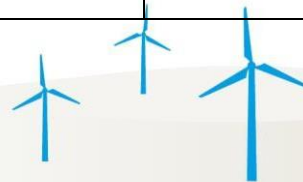
Table 1. Cultural Heritage Assets

Type	Des Ref	Des Title	Category	X/Y	Significance of Effect on Setting
Heritage Assets within 5km of the outer turbines of the proposed development					
Scheduled Monument	SM1225	Knockando Kirkyard, 500m E of Upper Knockando, three carved stones	Crosses and carved stones: symbol stone	318674/ 842880	Negligible
Scheduled Monument	SM2749	Knockando House, church 300m SSW of	Ecclesiastical: church	320265/ 842188	Negligible
Scheduled Monument	SM2455	Rothes Castle	Secular: castle	327651/ 848973	Negligible
Listed Building	LB8493	Archiestown, The Square, Old Free Church Manse	B	322938/ 844246	Minor
Listed Building	LB8494	Archiestown, The Square, Old St Andrews	B	322965/ 844238	Minor
Listed Building	LB8483	Archiestown, 31 High Street, The Cottage, Gatepiers And Enclosing Walls	B	323191/ 844193	Negligible
Listed Building	LB8499	Knockando House	B	320431/ 842457	Minor
Listed Building	LB8500	Knockando House, Dovecot	B	320557/ 842429	Negligible
Listed Building	LB8503	Wester Elchies, Dovecot	B	325590/ 843039	Negligible

Listed Building	LB8498	Knockando Watch House And Burial Ground To Parish Church	C	318601/ 842897	Minor
Conservation Area	CA193	Archiestown	NA	323043/ 844177	Minor
Heritage Assets within 5-10km of the outer turbines of the proposed development					
Scheduled Monument	SM1224	Upper Manbeen, symbol stone	Crosses and carved stones: symbol stone	318691/ 857613	Negligible
Scheduled Monument	SM5621	Church of Dundurcas, old parish church	Ecclesiastical: church	330238/ 851047	Minor
Listed Building	LB15827	Dundurcas Old Church Burial Ground, excluding Scheduled Monument No 5621 'Church of Dundurcas, old Parish Church', near Rothes	B	330216/ 851042	Minor
Scheduled Monument	SM1218	Pitchroy, stone circle 240m NNE of	Prehistoric ritual and funerary: stone circle or ring	317818/ 838228	Minor
Listed Building	LB2353	Aberlour House, West Lodge, Gatepiers And Gates	A	327479/ 843530	Negligible
Listed Building	LB20872	St Margaret's Episcopal Church And Burial Ground	A	327188/ 843137	Negligible
Listed Building	LB2349	Aberlour House And Terrace (Aberlour House Preparatory School)	A	327939/ 843614	Minor
Listed Building	LB2352	Aberlour House, East Lodge, Gatepiers And Gates	A	328189/ 843973	Negligible
Listed Building	LB2359	Kinermony House And Garden Wall	B	325372/ 842021	Minor
Listed Building	LB40440	High Street/Seafield Square, Rothes Parish Church (Church Of Scotland)	B	327786/ 849170	Negligible
Listed Building	LB40442	6 High Street	B	327775/ 849155	Negligible
Listed Building	LB40443	8, 10, 12, 14, 16, High Street	B	327772/ 849149	Negligible



Listed Building	LB20870	Mary Avenue, Aberlour Primary School And Enclosing Walls.	B	326586/ 842773	Negligible
Listed Building	LB40441	Off High Street, Kirk Place, Land Farm Barn/Store	B	327816/ 849155	Negligible
Listed Building	LB20871	Queen's Road, Fleming Hall And Cottage Abutting Rear Gable	B	326702/ 842816	Negligible
Listed Building	LB2358	Fisherton	B	327376/ 843417	Negligible
Listed Building	LB2351	Aberlour House, Column	B	327843/ 843734	Negligible
Listed Building	LB2350	Aberlour House, Stables	B	327978/ 843578	Negligible
Listed Building	LB2354	Aberlour House, Walled Garden	B	328106/ 843370	Negligible
Listed Building	LB2361	Aberlour House, Chef's House (Aberlour House Preparatory School)	B	328086/ 843399	Negligible
Listed Building	LB2355	Craigellachie, John Street, Primary School And Front Railings	B	329035/ 845034	Minor
Listed Building	LB2316	Arndilly, Macdowall Bridge Over Macdowall Burn	B	329627/ 845786	Negligible
Listed Building	LB2341	Dallas, Cots Of Rhininver	B	311449/ 852391	Negligible
Listed Building	LB49841	Blacksboat Railway Station Including Goods Shed, Platform And Boundary Walls	B	318317/ 838954	Negligible
Listed Building	LB2338	Dallas Lodge And Gatepiers (South Entrance)	B	310935/ 852729	Negligible
Listed Building	LB8472	Inveravon Parish Church, Macpherson - Grant Mausoleum	B	318311/ 837598	Negligible
Listed Building	LB8488	Inveravon Parish Church (Church Of Scotland) Burial Ground And Gatepiers	B	318295/ 837577	Negligible



Listed Building	LB8473	Inveravon House, (Former Inveravon Church Of Scotland Manse) And Steading	B	318247/ 837561	Negligible
Listed Building	LB15861	Hazelwood	B	331788/ 844486	Negligible
Listed Building	LB8456	Ballindalloch Castle, East Lodge	B	318448/ 837063	Negligible
Listed Building	LB8457	Ballindalloch Castle, General James Grant Mausoleum	B	318046/ 837222	Negligible



Appendix B. Figure

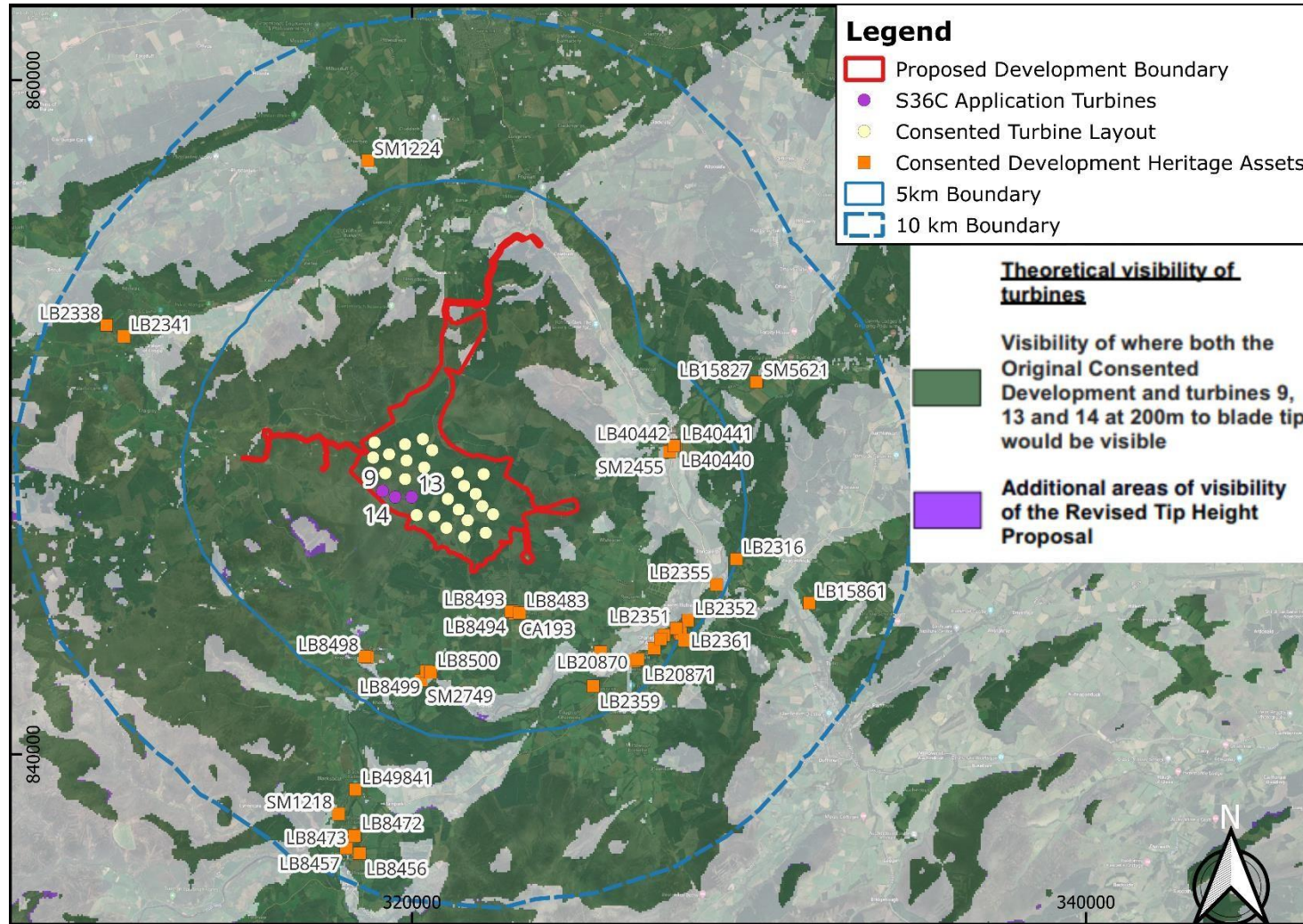


Figure 1. Location Plan

