



CRUACH CLENAMACRIE WIND FARM

PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT

November 2024

RESPONSIBILITIES

| | DATE | NAME | FUNCTION |
|--------------------|------------|----------------------|------------------------|
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| Validation | 10/11/2024 | Corey Simpson | Project Manager Review |
| Approval | 15/11/2024 | Alexander Hamilton | Applicant Approval |

REVISION HISTORY

| VERSION | DATE | AUTHOR | COMMENTS |
|------------|------------|----------------------|--|
| 1.0 | 30/05/2024 | Cavendish Consulting | First Draft for Client Review |
| 2.0 | 14/06/2024 | Cavendish Consulting | Second Draft Following Client Review |
| 3.0 | 26/07/2024 | Cavendish Consulting | Third Draft Following Client and PM Review |
| 4.0 | 25/10/2024 | Green Cat Renewables | Reformat For Submission |
| 5.0 | 08/11/2024 | Green Cat Renewables | Issued for Legal Review |
| 6.0 | 15/11/2024 | Green Cat Renewables | Submission |

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ABBREVIATIONS

| ABBREVIATION | DESCRIPTION |
|-----------------|--|
| ALenergy | Argyll, Lomond & the Islands Energy Agency |
| BESS | Battery Energy Storage System |
| CLG | Community Liaison Group |
| CTMP | Construction Traffic Management Plan |
| ECU | Energy Consents Unit |
| EIA | Environmental Impact Assessment |
| GCR | Green Cat Renewables Ltd |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| km | kilometres |
| LVIA | Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment |
| MSP | Member of Scottish Parliament |
| MW | Megawatts |
| NPF4 | National Planning Policy Framework 4 |
| PAC | Pre-Application Consultation |
| PAN | Planning Advice Note |
| ZTV | Zone of Theoretical Visibility |

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

This Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report was prepared by Cavendish Consulting to explain, in detail, the consultation activity undertaken by Voltalia UK Ltd (the Applicant) in relation to the construction and operation of the proposed Cruach Clenamachie Wind Farm (the Proposed Development) which would comprise up to six turbines with a generating capacity of approximately 45MW and approximately 20MW of Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure, located approximately 7km east of Oban in Argyll and Bute.

The project description of the Proposed Development is outlined in **EIA Report Chapter 5: Project Description** along with the associated appendices and site layout.

With a generating capacity of over 50MW, the Proposed Development is subject to Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989, administered by the Energy Consents Unit (ECU). A full Application for Section 36 consent and deemed planning permission has been submitted to the Energy Consents Unit and this report has been produced to accompany the formal application.

The Applicant followed the ECU Good Practice Guidance¹ and has applied the principles of the consultation process recommended for 'major' applications as set out in The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2022 and Planning Circular 3:2022-Development Management Procedures². This enables the local community and all those with an interest in the proposals, a clear opportunity to view the proposals, and importantly comment and feedback. The principles as adopted here exceed the requirements for projects of this nature.

This PAC Report details the comments and feedback received from the public exhibitions and local community meetings, as well as those received through a wider community engagement programme. In addition, the PAC Report also illustrates how the Applicant has responded to comments from members of the public and community groups, and where relevant has helped shape and inform the Proposed Development.

¹ [Good Practice Guidance for Applications under Section 36 and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989](#) (Accessed 08/11/2024)

² [Planning circular 3/2022: development management procedures](#) (Accessed 08/11/2024)

2 BEST PRACTICE

The Applicant is aware of the value of engaging with and seeking to involve the local people in development proposals, both prior to the submission of any application and through to the construction and operation.

The Energy Consents Unit Good Practice Guide (Applications under Section 36 and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989) outlines that the carrying out of pre-application consultation with the public is ‘considered good practice and applicants are encouraged to have meaningful engagement at the earliest possible stage’.³

Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010 – Community Engagement is an update of PAN 81 which advises that in order for community engagement to be successful, it is important that everyone interested in the future development of the community, village, town, or city they live in, should understand the planning process. Developers are advised to involve residents at the earliest opportunity so that they can feel confident that engagement in the process has been meaningful.⁴

PAN 3/2010 further highlights that the term “consultation” is used to mean the:

“Dynamic process of dialogue between individuals or groups based on a genuine exchange of views and, normally, with the objective of influencing decisions, policies or programmes of action. The terms ‘engagement’ and ‘involvement’ are generally interchangeable and are taken to mean the establishment of effective relationships with individuals or groups. Participation is everything that enables people to influence the decisions and get involved in the actions that affect their lives. In the context of this document engagement is, in effect, giving people a genuine opportunity to have a say on a development plan or proposal which affects them; listening to what they say and reaching a decision in an open and transparent way to ensure they are taking account of all views expressed.” (page 3, paragraph 1).

National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) (2023) also highlights the important role of effective engagement, stating:

*“Throughout the planning system, opportunities are available to engage in development planning and decisions about future development. Such engagement, undertaken in line with statutory requirements, should be early, collaborative, meaningful and proportionate. Support or concern expressed on matters material to planning must be given careful consideration in the determination of development proposals.”*⁵

The Applicant is committed to undertaking effective and early consultation methods in this way, including tailoring its strategies to suit individual communities. Residents’ values and issues of importance vary, and the consultation programmes are designed to reflect that.

Table 2.1 sets out the ECU Good Practice Guidance and demonstrates how the applicant has adhered to this throughout the consultation process.

³ [Good Practice Guidance for Applications under Section 36 and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989](#) (Accessed 08/11/2024)

⁴ [Planning Advice Note 3/2010: community engagement](#) (Accessed 08/11/2024)

⁵ [National Planning Framework 4](#) (Accessed 08/11/2024)

TABLE 2.1: PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION | SCOTTISH ENERGY CONSENTS UNIT GUIDANCE (JULY 2022)

| ECU GOOD PRACTICE | GUIDANCE | APPLICANT ACTION |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Pre-application consultation Events</p> | <p>The Applicant is expected to hold at least two public consultation events prior to submitting the application. The final public event should be held at least 14 days after the first public event. The public events are to give members of the public the opportunity to make comments to the Applicant as regards the proposed development.</p> | <p>October 2023 & February 2024 The Applicant held 7 public consultation events on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 3rd October 2023 • Wednesday 4th October 2023 • Thursday 5th October 2023 • Tuesday 20th February 2024 • Tuesday 20th February 2024 • Wednesday 21st February 2024 • Thursday 22nd February 2024 <p>An update of the feedback received was presented at the second phase of consultation, as evidenced in Appendix 3.7.</p> |
| <p>Notice of the pre-application consultation events</p> | <p>At least seven days before holding a public event, the Applicant should publish on the Applicant’s website and in a local newspaper circulating in the locality in which the proposed development is situated a notice containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a description of, and the location of, the proposed development; • details as to where further information may be obtained concerning the proposed development; • the date and place of the public event; • a statement explaining how, and by when, persons wishing to make comments to the Applicant relating to the proposal may do so; and • a statement that comments made to the Applicant are not representations to the Scottish Ministers and if the Applicant submits an application there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the Scottish Ministers. | <p>September 2023 & February 2024 The Applicant published details of the consultation events in line with the requirement outlined by the ECU on the Applicant’s website at least seven days before holding the events. Publications were made, in the Oban Times and in the Press and Journal on the: 21st September 2023 and 8th February 2024 (As evidenced in Appendix 2.1 / 3.1)</p> |

| ECU GOOD PRACTICE | GUIDANCE | APPLICANT ACTION |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Details of the pre-application consultation events</p> | <p>The Applicant should provide the following details at the public event and publish these details on the Applicant's website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a description of the development to be carried out; • a plan showing the outline of the site at which the development is to be carried out and sufficient to identify that site; and • details as to how the Applicant may be contacted and corresponded with. | <p>October 2023 & February 2024</p> <p>The Applicant evidenced this through the consultation boards for both sets of events. This information was also available on the project website for the duration of the consultation period. (As evidenced in Appendix 2.6 / 3.7)</p> |
| <p>Content of the pre-application consultation events.</p> | <p>The applicant is expected to prepare a pre-application consultation report ("PAC Report") setting out what has been done to accord with the guidance set out above. The PAC Report should be submitted with the application. The PAC Report should contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the dates on which and places where public events were held; • a description of any additional steps taken by the applicant to consult with members of the public regarding the development; • a list of bodies, groups and organisations who were consulted by the applicant and a description of how they were consulted; • a description of any materials sent to consultees and materials provided to those attending public events; • copies of any visual presentation shown or displayed at a public event, and photographs of any display boards or models at public events; • confirmation as to whether consultees and attendees at public events were informed that pre-application consultation does not remove the right or the potential need to comment on the final application once it is made to the Scottish Ministers; • a summary of the written responses to consultations and views raised at public events, including an indication of the number of written responses received and the number of persons who attended the public events; • an explanation of how the applicant took account of views raised during the pre-application consultation process; and • an explanation of how members of the public were given feedback on the applicant's consideration of the views raised during the pre-application consultation process. | <p>November 2024</p> <p>The Applicant has evidenced the content of the pre-application consultation events through the submission of this document.</p> |

3 PROJECT LAUNCH

3.1 Scoping Request

On 25th June 2023, the Applicant submitted a request for a Scoping Report (**Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report Appendix 1.1**) to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU).

On 14th September 2023, the ECU responded to the request (**EIA Report Appendix 1.2**), outlining that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process that was undertaken was iterative and should inform the final layout and design of proposed developments. The Scottish Ministers noted that further engagement between relevant parties in relation to the refinement of the design of this Proposed Development would be required and requested to be kept informed of such developments.

3.2 Preliminary Engagement

Political Stakeholders and community councils were made aware of the proposals in June 2023 via a letter, (**Appendix 1.2 / 1.3**), advising that the Applicant was exploring the opportunity of developing a wind farm on the Site.

The letter advised that the Applicant had submitted a request for a Scoping Report to the ECU.

The letter, along with a copy of the site boundary, was sent via email on 26th June 2023 to the elected representatives of Argyll and Bute Council's Oban, North and Lorn ward and the following community councils:

- Ardchattan Community Council;
- Avich and Kilchrenan Community Council;
- Connel Community Council;
- Dunbeg Community Council;
- Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council;
- Kilmore and Kilbride Community Council;
- Kilniver and Kilmelford Community Council;
- Oban Community Council; and
- Taynuilt Community Council.

Following the project launch, a consultation website (<https://cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk/>) was made available with a holding page made live until the first consultation event.

4 PHASE 1 CONSULTATION

4.1 Overview

Political stakeholders and community groups were informed about the first round of public consultation through an email sent in September 2023. Additionally, the Applicant distributed a letter (**Appendix 2.4**) to 1,483 properties by Royal Mail 1st Class within relative proximity to the Site. A copy of the letter's mailout radius can be found in **Appendix 1.5**.

In addition to writing to the aforementioned stakeholders, community councils and local residents, the Applicant placed an advert in The Oban Times and the Press and Journal on 21st September 2023 (**Appendix 2.1**).

The in-person events were held at the below dates and locations:

- **Tuesday 3rd October 2023 | 3pm to 7pm | Kilmore and Kilbride Village Hall**
- **Wednesday 4th October 2023 | 3pm to 7pm | Taynuilt Village Hall**
- **Thursday 5th October 2023 | 3pm to 7pm | Connel Village Hall**

A feedback form was available at all three events (**Appendix 2.7**).

The in-person events were complemented by a consultation website, which was accessible from the first event (<https://cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk/>). The website was updated throughout the consultation period by the Applicant, in order to provide the most up-to-date information to interested residents and provide contact details.

4.2 In-person Exhibition Events

The first round of in-person consultation events were held in 2023, in the Kilmore and Kilbride Village Hall on the 3rd of October, Taynuilt Village Hall on the 4th of October, and Connel Village Hall on the 5th of October.

Approximately 67 members of the local community attended the events across the three days.

Members of the development team were in attendance to present the proposals for the Proposed Development, answer any questions, and importantly listen to feedback from attendees.

On display at both events were exhibition boards (**Appendix 2.6**), which provided an overview of the Proposed Development and its preliminary design. Copies of the exhibition boards were available throughout the consultation via the designated website.

The subjects of the boards were:

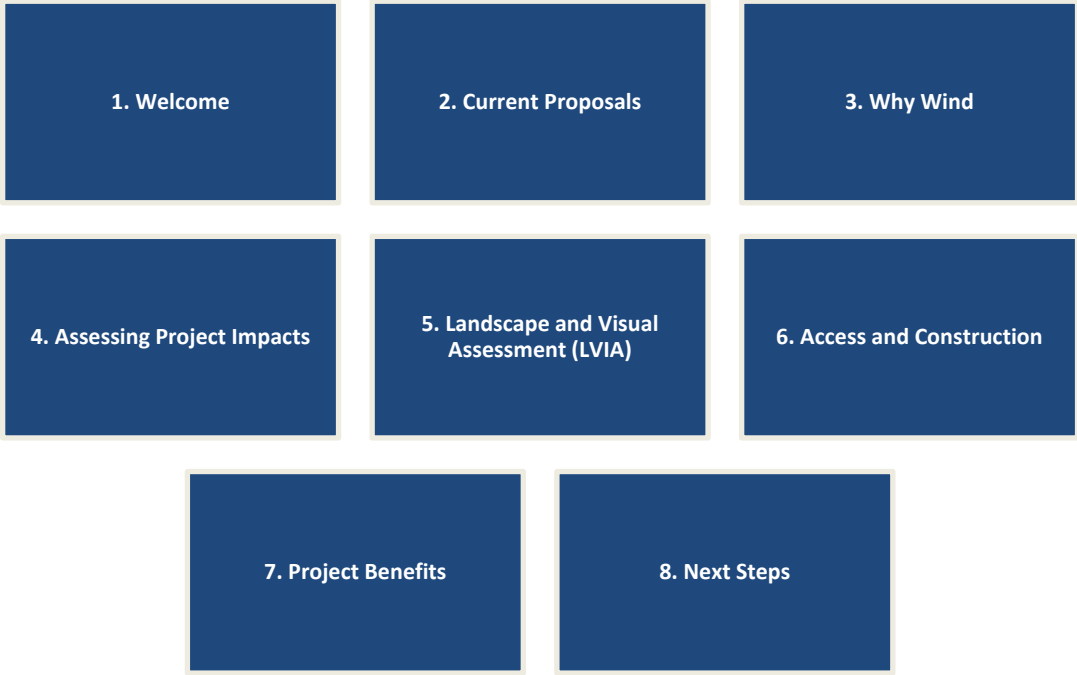


IMAGE 4.1: CONNEL VILLAGE HALL



IMAGE 4.3: KILMORE AND KILBRIDE VILLAGE HALL



IMAGE 4.2: TAYNUILT VILLAGE HALL

4.3 Feedback & Response

There were 12 completed feedback forms received throughout phase 1 of the consultation, submitted both at the consultation event and online via the project’s dedicated website. A copy of the feedback form can be viewed in **Appendix 2.7**. The Applicant’s contact details (email, address, and phone) were also prominent throughout.

Feedback obtained, where possible, has fed into the design process. **Table 4.1** below shows the key themes raised within the feedback, and the Applicant’s response to these issues.

TABLE 4.1: KEY THEMES OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES AND APPLICANT RESPONSE THROUGHOUT PHASE 1

| KEY THEMES | APPLICANT RESPONSE |
|---|---|
| <p>Landscape and Visual Impact Approximately 25% of all the topical feedback received focused on the landscape and visual aspects of the proposal.</p> | <p>We recognise that the landscape and visual aspects of the proposal are a key concern within the community and have sought to incorporate this feedback in the latest design. A comprehensive Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) has been conducted, in order to ensure the impacts of the Proposed Development on the character, setting, and scale of the surrounding landscape are as limited as possible.</p> <p>Landscape architects have undertaken extensive assessment work to inform the design development and turbine layout. Turbine locations have been optimised, as much as possible, to refine the design and minimise impacts wherever possible. The selection and placement of turbines has been considered in order to mitigate effects on landscape and visual receptors whilst also considering other environmental and technical constraints, such as wind speeds.</p> <p>The acceptability of this design will be assessed by the determining authority in relation to current energy policy and planning requirements, having considered feedback from consultees as well as representations by members of the community and wider public.</p> |
| <p>Ecology Approximately 17% respondents focused on ecology in their feedback.</p> | <p>Protecting and minimising any potential direct or indirect impacts on local wildlife and their habitats is of utmost importance and we take this responsibility seriously. We look to mitigate any potential effects of the development during construction and operation on the habitats and protected species that are found to be present or active within the Site.</p> <p>Extensive ecological and ornithological surveys will be completed across the Site between 2020 and 2024, supported by desk study and consultation. The outcome of the surveys will be reviewed, and impact assessments will be conducted to inform the design process to minimise significant effects on ecology or ornithology.</p> |
| <p>Noise Approximately 8% of respondents referenced the noise that would be generated by the wind farm</p> | <p>The acoustic profile of the turbines is one of many important considerations that have been assessed and carefully managed as part of the site design. Noise assessments will be undertaken, using baseline data a noise-modelling exercise will be completed to</p> |

| KEY THEMES | APPLICANT RESPONSE |
|---|--|
| | <p>assess potential impacts from the Proposed Development on nearby receptors, such as residential properties.</p> <p>Operation and construction noise assessments and modelling are undertaken in accordance with the relevant policy and guidance.</p> |
| <p>Community Benefit Approximately 58% of respondents referenced the community benefit fund as a key issue related to the wind farm proposals.</p> | <p>The Applicant is committed to providing environmental, social, and economic benefits to the communities that host its projects and has aligned the Proposed Development with the Scottish Government Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits.</p> <p>Communities local to the Proposed Development will benefit through the Applicant's proposed Community Benefit Fund. The Applicant is proposing to provide £5000 per MW per annum (index linked) community benefit for the lifetime of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>The Applicant is committed to working with the local community to shape the fund and focus on local priorities through the establishment of a Community Liaison Group (CLG).</p> |
| <p>Cycle Routes Approximately 8% of respondents were interested in the Wind Farm being opened up for walking/ mountain biking activities.</p> | <p>The Applicant proposes to work with local groups and landowners to help enhance access to open spaces in the area by exploring opportunities to provide/enhance walking/cycling paths and or trails.</p> |
| <p>Site Approximately 8% of respondents questioned the selection of choice of the site.</p> | <p>The Applicant undertakes a staged process when considering the feasibility of land for a wind energy development by establishing if a site meets four specific criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind Yield • Access • Viable Grid Connection • Available Land <p>A Geographic Information System (GIS) exercise is then undertaken to analyse the sites geographically in relation to the potential constraints that exist to understand their potential capacity.</p> <p>With capacity to accommodate up to six turbines, with a height of 200m, the Site offered a vital opportunity to contribute to Scotland's net zero goals, with a wind generating capacity of approximately 45MW of green electricity. Enough to power up to 48,733 homes.</p> <p>Further information on the site selection process is outlined in EIA Report Chapter 4: Assessment of Alternatives.</p> |
| <p>Traffic Approximately 8% of respondents referenced traffic</p> | <p>Access was a main theme at the first exhibition, and as such, the Applicant redesigned access arrangements to the Site. Further information on access design can be found in EIA Report Chapter 4: Assessment of Alternatives.</p> |

| KEY THEMES | APPLICANT RESPONSE |
|--|--|
| <p>as a key issue that could be a consequence of the proposals.</p> | <p>A thorough review of access arrangements for turbine load deliveries has been made, which is assessed in EIA Report Chapter 12: Transport and Access and associated appendices.</p> <p>Should the Proposed Development be consented, a detailed Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) would be prepared, which would include further information on construction traffic routing, and proposed migration measures.</p> <p>Once operational, the level of traffic will be negligible with only occasional access for maintenance vans and cars.</p> |
| <p>Scale Approximately 8% of respondents stated that they found the scale of the Proposed Development too large for the area.</p> | <p>Following the first exhibition, the Applicant redesigned the scheme, reducing the number of turbines from 8 to 6.</p> <p>Further information on the design process is outlined in EIA Report Chapter 4: Assessment of Alternatives.</p> |

5 PHASE 2 CONSULTATION

5.1 Overview

Following phase 1 of consultation in October 2023, the Applicant reconsulted with the local community through four further in-person consultation events in February 2024, to highlight the changes made to the Proposed Development design following the first phase of consultation. Political stakeholders and community groups were made aware of phase two via a letter distributed via email in February 2024. (**Appendix 3.2/3.3**).

A flyer (**Appendix 2.4**) was also issued to 1,483 nearby properties on the 9th of February 2024. A map of the mailout can be viewed in **Appendix 3.5**.

The consultation events were also advertised in The Oban Times on the 8th of February 2024 and the Press and Journal on the 8th of February 2024 (**Appendix 3.1**).

The in-person events were held at the below dates and locations:

- **Tuesday 20th February 2024 | 11am to 4pm | North Connel Hall**
- **Tuesday 20th February 2024 | 5pm to 8pm Kilmore and Kilbride Village Hall**
- **Wednesday 21st February 2024 | 3pm to 7pm | Taynuilt Village Hall**
- **Thursday 22nd February 2024 | 3pm to 7pm | Connel Village Hall**

Feedback from the previous events was provided at each of these events, additionally, members of the public had the opportunity to provide further comments through a feedback form (**Appendix 3.9**).

5.2 In-person Exhibition Events

The second round of in-person consultation events were held at North Connell Hall and Kilmore and Kilbride Village Hall on the 20th of February 2024, Taynuilt Village Hall on the 21st of February, and Connel Village Hall on the 22nd of February.

Following feedback at the first consultation event, the Applicant made the decision to hold an additional consultation in North Connell Hall due to wider interest in the local community.

Approximately 60 members of the local community attended the events across the four consultations. Landscape Architect expert Mary Fisher from Abseline Landscape Architects, supported the consultation team at Connel Village Hall to provide expert feedback to attendees. Mary was invited to attend Connel Village Hall by the Applicant as this event had previously had the largest attendance in October 2023. Technical feedback was provided by the consultation team on all disciplines and topics.

On display at both events were exhibition boards (**Appendix 3.7**), which provided an update on the design of the Proposed Development as well as, where possible, results of surveys undertaken. Copies of the exhibition boards were available throughout the consultation via the designated website.

Additional materials on display included six photomontages (as subsequently displayed on the project website) showing key viewpoints from the LVIA (3,5,6,8,10) and one cultural heritage viewpoint CH06 (**Appendix 3.6**) and a Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) (**Appendix 3.8**)

The locations of these viewpoints were:

- Viewpoint 3: Barranrioch;
- Viewpoint 5: Connel Bridge;
- Viewpoint 6: Achnacree Bay;
- Viewpoint 8: Taynuilt;
- Viewpoint 10: Loch Nell; and

- Viewpoint CH06: Ardchattan Priory

The subjects of the boards were:

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Welcome | 2. Current Proposals | 3. What has Changed since our Last Event |
| 4. Why Wind | 5. Assessing Project Impacts | 6. Landscape and Visual Assessment (LVIA) |
| 7. Access and Construction | 8. Project Benefits | 9. Next Steps |



IMAGE 5.2: CONNEL VILLAGE HALL



IMAGE 5.1: TAYNUILT VILLAGE HALL



IMAGE 5.3: NORTH CONNEL HALL



IMAGE 5.4: KILMORE AND KILBRIDE VILLAGE HALL

5.3 Feedback

Fifteen feedback forms were completed throughout phase 2 of the consultation, submitted both at the consultation events and online via the project’s dedicated website. A copy of the feedback form can be viewed in **Appendix 3.9**. Consultees are given the opportunity to provide comments, suggestions and to subscribe to receive further project information.

Feedback obtained, where possible, has fed into the design process. **Table 5.1** below shows the key themes raised within the feedback from the second phase of consultation, and the Applicant’s response to these topics.

TABLE 5.1: KEY THEMES OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES AND APPLICANT RESPONSE THROUGHOUT PHASE 2

| KEY THEMES | APPLICANT RESPONSE |
|--|---|
| <p>Landscape and Visual Impact</p> <p>Approximately 27% of all the topical feedback received focused on the landscape and visual aspects of the proposal.</p> | <p>We recognise that the landscape and visual aspect of the proposal was a key concern within the community and has sought to incorporate this feedback in the latest design.</p> <p>A comprehensive Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment has been conducted, in order to ensure the impacts of the Proposed Development of the character, setting, and scale of the surrounding landscape are as limited as possible.</p> <p>Landscape architects have undertaken extensive assessment work to inform the design development and turbine layout. Each turbine location has moved to varying degrees to refine the design and minimise impacts wherever possible. We are looking to achieve a design that strikes an acceptable balance between the visibility of the proposal and its ability to generate significant amounts of renewable energy.</p> <p>Landscape architects have undertaken extensive assessment work to inform the design development and turbine layout. Turbine locations have been optimised, as much as possible, to refine the design and minimise impacts wherever possible. The selection and placement of turbines has been considered in order to mitigate effects on landscape</p> |

| KEY THEMES | APPLICANT RESPONSE |
|---|--|
| | <p>and visual receptors whilst also considering other environmental and technical constraints, such as wind speeds.</p> |
| <p>Ecology Approximately 7% of respondents focused on ecology in their feedback.</p> | <p>Protecting and minimising any potential direct or indirect impacts on local wildlife and their habitats is of utmost importance and we take this responsibility seriously. We look to mitigate any potential effects of the development during construction and operation on the habitats and protected species that are found to be present or active within the Site.</p> <p>Extensive ecological and ornithological surveys have been completed across the Site, undertaken between 2020 and 2024, supported by desk study and consultation. An impact assessment has been completed reviewing the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development and mitigation measures have been identified, including pre-construction surveys, and species-specific buffer zones, which have informed the design evolution.</p> <p>With mitigation, there are no significant effects predicted as outlined in EIA Report Chapter 10: Ecology and Chapter 11: Ornithology.</p> |
| <p>Community Benefit Approximately 40% of respondents referenced the community benefit fund as a key issue related to the wind farm proposals.</p> | <p>The Applicant is committed to providing environmental, social, and economic benefits to the communities that host its projects and has aligned the Proposed Development with the Scottish Government Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits.</p> <p>Communities local to the Proposed Development will benefit through the Applicant’s proposed Community Benefit Fund. The Applicant is proposing to provide £5000 per MW per annum (index linked) community benefit for the lifetime of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>The Applicant is committed to working with the local community to shape the fund and focus on local priorities through the establishment of a Community Liaison Group (CLG).</p> |
| <p>Site Approximately 20% of respondents questioned the selection of choice of the site.</p> | <p>The Applicant undertakes a staged process when considering the feasibility of land for a wind energy development by establishing if a site meets four specific criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind Yield • Access • Viable Grid Connection • Available Land <p>A GIS exercise is then undertaken to analyse the sites geographically in relation to the potential constraints that exist to understand their potential capacity.</p> <p>With capacity to accommodate up to six turbines, with a height of 200m, we felt that the Site offered a vital opportunity to contribute to Scotland’s net zero goals, with a generating capacity of approximately 45MW of green electricity provided (enough to power up to 48,733 homes).</p> |

| KEY THEMES | APPLICANT RESPONSE |
|--|---|
| | Further information on the site selection process is outlined in EIA Report Chapter 4: Assessment of Alternatives. |
| <p>Scale Approximately 6% of respondents stated that they found the scale of the Proposed Development too large for the area.</p> | <p>Following the first exhibition, the Applicant redesigned the scheme, reducing the number of turbines from 8 to 6.</p> <p>Further information on the design process is outlined in EIA Report Chapter 4: Assessment of Alternatives.</p> |

6 ADDITIONAL ENGAGEMENT

6.1 Local Community

In addition to consulting with the local community, the Applicant also engaged with various political stakeholders and community groups throughout the consultation period. This included a meeting with the Oban, Lorn & the Isles Area Committee on the 8th of November 2023 via Microsoft Teams. The PowerPoint slides used at the meeting can be viewed in **Appendix 4**. Key topics for discussion included the EIA, the consultation to date, the feedback received, and the proposed community benefit fund.

6.2 Charity & Education

The Applicant met with the local organisation Argyll, Lomond & the Islands Energy Agency (ALlenergy) in February and March 2024, following prior engagement throughout the consultation period. ALlenergy is a charity based in Oban that focuses on delivering projects that promote and develop sustainable energy use and combat fuel poverty across the Argyll and Bute region. The Applicant has arranged and held quarterly meetings with ALlenergy to update on progress and discuss ways in which the proposed community benefit fund linked to the Proposed Development could be best distributed. Ahead of an in-person meeting with ALlenergy on the 29th of August 2024, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Applicant and ALlenergy, demonstrating their commitment to progress discussion on Community Benefit Fund and any other energy reduction / fuel poverty initiatives locally.

The Applicant presented to Oban High School on the 21st of February 2024, in between consultation events, where they discussed the methodology behind Environmental Impact Assessments to second year geography students. A presentation on the methodology was delivered by Green Cat Renewables (GCR), and the Applicant supported by answering questions about the renewable industry.

6.3 Political

The Applicant then met with Jenni Minto Member of Scottish Parliament (MSP) for Argyll and Bute on Microsoft Teams on the 3rd of June 2024. The Applicant provided an update on the project, a summary of the second round of consultation, and discussed public opinion towards the scheme.

6.4 Community Benefit

The Applicant fundamentally believes that renewable energy projects should benefit the communities that host them and has aligned the Proposed Development with the Scottish Government Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits. Communities local to the Proposed Development will benefit through the Applicant's proposed Community Benefit Fund. The Applicant is proposing to provide a £5,000 per MW per annum (index linked) Community Benefit for the lifetime of the Proposed Development.

The Community Benefit Fund would provide long-term revenue which could be used to support community projects. Local communities would have the flexibility to choose how the money is spent and prioritise it on the things that matter most to them.

Community Benefit as a topic was raised by 58% of attendees and therefore, discussed at the public consultation events. Final decisions with regards to the Community Benefit arrangement will be made by communities themselves should the Proposed Development be consented, with guidance from the Applicant where appropriate. The Applicant is seeking to engage with local community councils to establish a Community Liaison Group (CLG) which could administer the fund.

7 COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP (CLG)

The Applicant was keen to ensure that an open dialogue continued with the communities surrounding the Proposed Development. In July 2024, the surrounding community councils were invited to be part of a CLG.

The community councils invited were:

- Taynuilt Community Council;
- Connel Community Council;
- Kilmore & Kilbride Community Council;
- Ardchattan Community Council;
- Glenorchy & Innishail Community Council;
- Dunbeg Community Council; and
- Oban Community Council

The inaugural meeting of the CLG was held on the 29th of August 2024 at Connel Village Hall with several community councils attending. A brief agenda was prepared and worked through at the meeting covering:

Welcome and introductions;

- Project Update;
- Role of a CLG and Terms of Reference;
- Future Meetings and Venues; and
- AOB

The CLG has been established to:

- Provide a forum for the exchange of information and discussion about the project between The Applicant, the local community, and their elected representatives;
- Establish and maintain a constructive open dialogue between the Applicant and the community around the project;
- Enable CLG members to receive and share project updates to their respective Community Councils and wider communities;
- Provide a platform for CLG members to discuss any local issues or concerns arising as a result of the project, on behalf of the communities they represent; and
- Discuss topics relating to community collaboration, which will include community benefit.

The CLG will remain active throughout the planning and construction phases of the project with further CLG meetings planned for early 2025.

8 POST-SUBMISSION ENGAGEMENT

8.1 Availability of the EIA Report

The Applicant will give public notice of the application in local and national newspapers.

Digital copies of the EIA Report will be available at the links below:

- Energy Consents Unit (ECU) Portal: <https://www.energyconsents.scot/Default.aspx>
- Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm website: <https://cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk/>

Hard copies of the EIA Report will also be available for inspection, free of charge at the following locations:

Oban Public Library

Albany Street
Oban
PA34 4AL

Opening Times:

Sunday & Monday: Closed
Tuesday & Wednesday: 9:30 am–4:30 pm
Thursday: 9:30 am–6:30 pm
Friday & Saturday: 9:30 am–1 pm

Connel Village Hall

Connel
PA37 5AL

Opening Times:

Monday – Sunday: 10:00am – 19:00pm
Times may vary, please check the online hall diary on the Connel Village Hall website, <https://www.connelvillagehall.org.uk/index.asp>
Materials will be displayed in the front entrance of the village hall.

Hard copies of the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) can be provided free of charge upon request and the full EIA Report can be provided for £1000 per hard copy. Electronic copies of the EIA Report on a USB drive are available free of charge.

To request copies of the NTS or EIA Report please contact Green Cat Renewables.

Address: Stobo House, Roslin, EH25 9RE

Email: info@greencatrenewables.co.uk

Tel: 0131 541 0060

8.2 Representation to the Application

Representations can be made via email to representations@gov.scot or in writing to Energy Consents Unit, Scottish Government, Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU.

8.3 Ongoing Engagement

The Applicant website will be updated throughout the determination period to reflect project milestones or development stages. This could include changes in legislation and or project priorities. I.e. the Applicant is currently seeking to develop a suppliers register in the area, which could be utilised during the construction and operation of the Proposed Development.

Any further opportunities to engage with the local communities and stakeholders will be sought and proposals considered.

8.4 Post-submission Information Sessions

The Applicant is committed to a programme of ongoing engagement with the surrounding communities throughout the planning, construction, and operational phases of the Proposed Development. This will include drop-in/information sessions following submission of the application and regular meetings of the CLG to update the group and the wider communities.

9 CONCLUSION

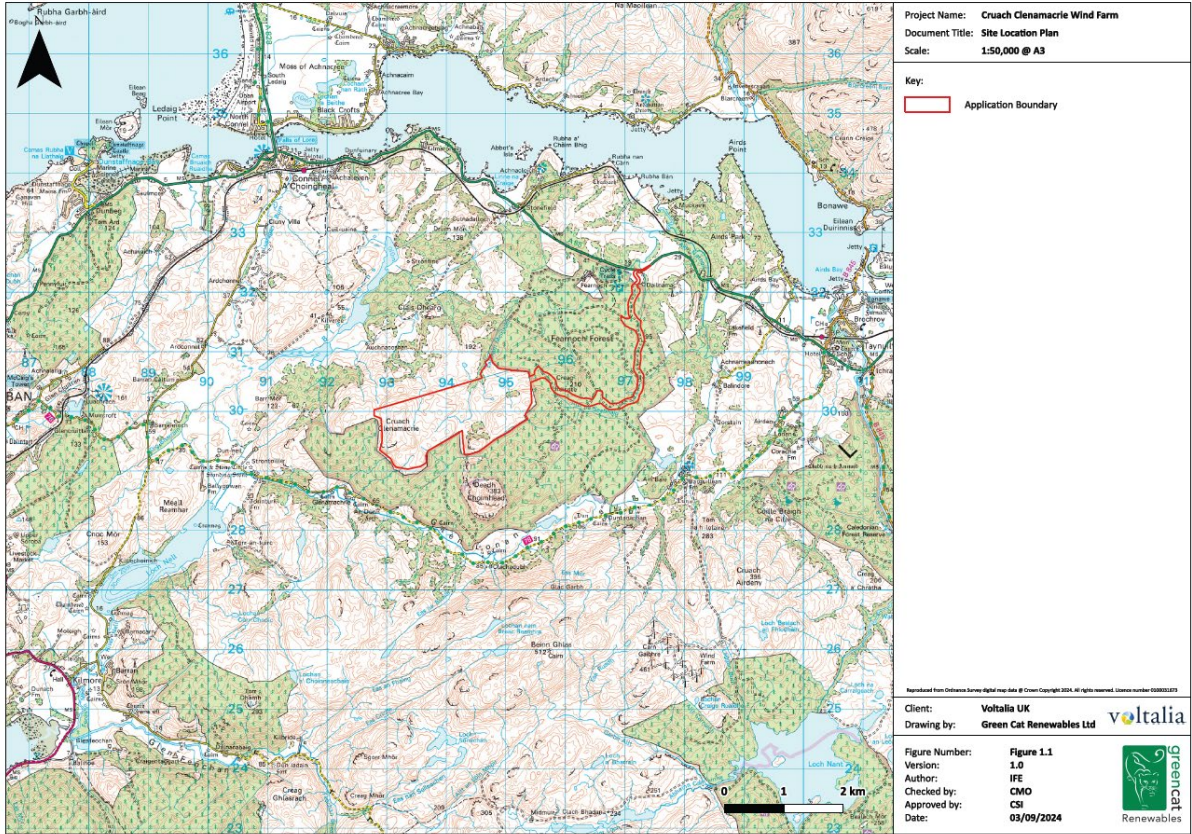
From the outset, the Applicant sought to engage and consult fully with the local community and stakeholders regarding the Proposed Development.

As demonstrated within this report, the Applicant closely followed best practice guidance regarding community engagement and public consultation. The Applicant was grateful to those who were able to attend the in-person public exhibitions and take the time to view the proposals on the project website and engage with the development via email and telephone. The Applicant has continued to engage with the local community and via Community Council representatives following the public consultation period to provide regular project updates, ensuring the project website is kept up to date.

The Applicant was pleased to meet and present to local residents and will seek to continue to do so following the submission of their application.

10 APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1: Site Location Plan



10.2 Appendix 2: First Consultation Appendices

10.2.1 Appendix 2.1: Public Notice



Cruach Clenamachie Wind Farm

Voltage is exploring the potential to develop Cruach Clenamachie Wind Farm on land located 7km east of Oban, and 5km south of Connel.

We invite you to our consultation events to meet the development team, where you can view and comment on our initial proposals for the site.

Our in-person drop in events will be held on the following dates:

- 3rd October 2023 - Kilmore Hall, PA34 4XT, 15:00-19:00
- 4th October 2023 - Taynuilt Village Hall, PA35 1JH, 15:00-19:00
- 5th October 2023 - Connel Village Hall, PA37 1PA, 15:00-19:00

Our project website contains information regarding the proposals and will contain the exhibition materials displayed at the consultation events. You can also provide feedback via our electronic and printable comment form to the project team. This information can be accessed at <https://cruach-clenamachie.co.uk>

For further information please contact info@cruach-clenamachie.co.uk, via phone at 0131 376 0893, or via post at **Cruach Clenamachie Wind Farm, c/o Cavendish, 80 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3BU.**

Please note that any comments made to Voltage are not representations to the determining authority. If an application is submitted, there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the consenting authority.

10.2.2 Appendix 2.2: Letter to Community Councils



Dear [REDACTED]

Proposed Cruach Clenamachie Wind Farm

I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself and Voltage, and to make you aware that we are exploring the potential of developing a wind farm located in the local area, approximately 7km east of Oban, 5km south of the A85 at Connel and 1km north of the National Cycle Network Route 78 (see attached location plan).

Voltage is an international energy producer and service provider, specialising in renewable energy solutions, with over 1.6 GW of power in operation. Headquartered in France, Voltage operates renewable energy production facilities across Europe, South America and Africa, including biomass, hydro, wind and solar energy technology. This will be our first onshore wind farm development in the United Kingdom.

Our initial assessments for the site suggest it could accommodate a wind farm with an installed capacity of over 50MW. We have therefore submitted a request for a Scoping Opinion to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) for the proposed wind farm. The Scoping Request, and the response from the ECU, will help Voltage to understand the environmental information that consultees would like to see accompany any potential subsequent application for the wind farm; this will include the methodologies proposed to undertake these assessments and will also seek feedback on the development proposals.

The submission of the Scoping Report is the first stage in this process, and we want to ensure that there will be plenty of opportunities for stakeholders and local residents to view the proposals and to have their say. At Voltage, we believe that proactive community consultation is an integral element of the planning process and that it is essential that the local community and other stakeholders are given the opportunity to view the proposals and importantly feedback their views directly to the project team.

Over the coming months, we will be hosting a number of public information events in the local area and our project website (www.cruach-clenamachie.co.uk) will be going live in conjunction with these. The feedback from these events will be used by Voltage, along with the various technical and environmental studies undertaken as part of the planning application process, to help shape and inform the proposal going forward. Further information on the public information sessions will be advertised in due course.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss the emerging proposals with you in more detail. Should you be amendable or have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our communications consultants Cavendish Consulting on 0131 376 0893 or via email at rhys.lewis@cavendishconsulting.com.

Yours sincerely,

Rosie Vetter

UK Head of Development, Voltage

Voltage UK Ltd
Unit 1, Headley Park 8, Headley Road East, Woodley, RG5 4SA, United Kingdom
T. +44 (0) 2039 941094 · solar.uk@voltage.com · www.voltage.com

Register Company Number: 07489990



10.2.3 Appendix 2.3: Letter to Elected Councillors



Dear [REDACTED]

Proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm

I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself and Votalia, and to make you aware that we are exploring the potential of developing a wind farm located in the local area, approximately 7km east of Oban, 5km south of the A85 at Connel and 1km north of the National Cycle Network Route 78 (see attached location plan).

Votalia is an international energy producer and service provider, specialising in renewable energy solutions, with over 1.6 GW of power in operation. Headquartered in France, Votalia operates renewable energy production facilities across Europe, South America and Africa, including biomass, hydro, wind and solar energy technology. This will be our first onshore wind farm development in the United Kingdom.

Our initial assessments for the site suggest it could accommodate a wind farm with an installed capacity of over 50MW. We have therefore submitted a request for a Scoping Opinion to the Scottish Government’s Energy Consents Unit (ECU) for the proposed wind farm. The Scoping Request, and the response from the ECU, will help Votalia to understand the environmental information that consultees would like to see accompany any potential subsequent application for the wind farm; this will include the methodologies proposed to undertake these assessments and will also seek feedback on the development proposals.

The submission of the Scoping Report is the first stage in this process, and we want to ensure that there will be plenty of opportunities for stakeholders and local residents to view the proposals and to have their say. At Votalia, we believe that proactive community consultation is an integral element of the planning process and that it is essential that the local community and other stakeholders are given the opportunity to view the proposals and importantly feedback their views directly to the project team.

Over the coming months, we will be hosting a number of public information events in the local area and our project website (www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk) will be going live in conjunction with these. The feedback from these events will be used by Votalia, along with the various technical and environmental studies undertaken as part of the planning application process, to help shape and inform the proposal going forward. Further information on the public information sessions will be advertised in due course.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss the emerging proposals with you in more detail. Should you be amendable or have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our communications consultants Cavendish Consulting on 0131 376 0893 or via email at rlys.lewis@cavendishconsulting.com.

Yours sincerely,

Rosie Vetter

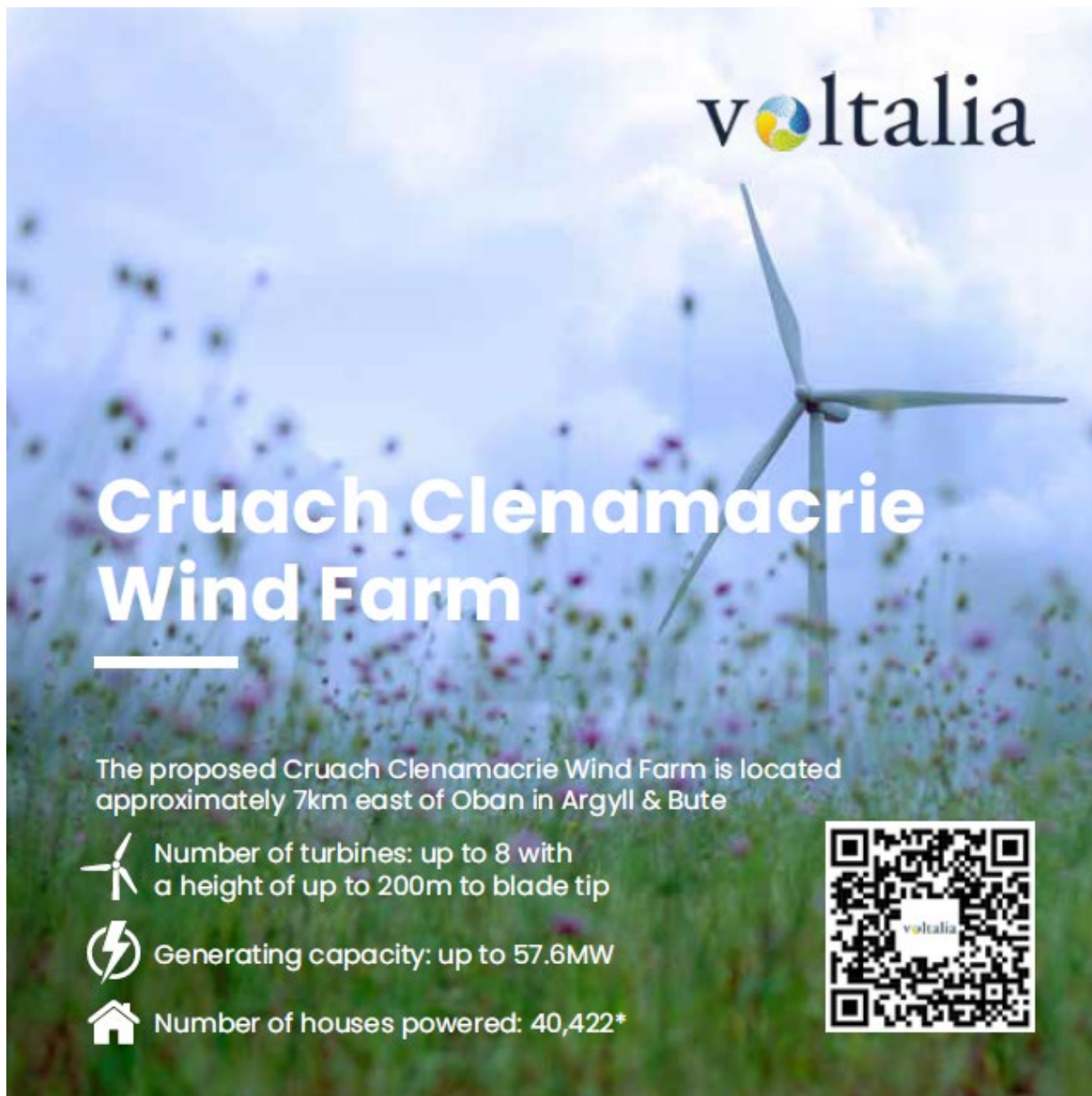
UK Head of Development, Votalia

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 Unit 1, Headley Park 8, Headley Road East, Woodley, RG5 4SA, United Kingdom
 T. +44 (0) 2039 941094 - solar.uk@votalia.com - www.votalia.com

Register Company Number: 07489990






10.2.4 Appendix 2.4: Residents Exhibition Invitation




voltaia

Cruach Clenamachie Wind Farm

The proposed Cruach Clenamachie Wind Farm is located approximately 7km east of Oban in Argyll & Bute


-  Number of turbines: up to 8 with a height of up to 200m to blade tip
-  Generating capacity: up to 57.6MW
-  Number of houses powered: 40,422*




View the proposals and meet the development team at our upcoming public exhibitions:

- 3rd October 2023 Kilmore Hall, PA34 4XT, 15:00-19:00
- 4th October 2023 Taynuilt Village Hall, PA35 1JH, 15:00-19:00
- 5th October 2023 Connel Village Hall, PA37 1PA, 15:00-19:00

Members of the project team will be present to discuss the proposals, and to answer any questions that you may have.

 cruach-clenamachie.co.uk

 info@cruach-clenamachie.co.uk

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm lies 7km east of Oban and 5km south of Connel. The Fearnoch Forest borders the site on all sides but the north, and the waters of the Lusragan Burn and Black Loch run through it. Your views will help inform the design of the proposed wind farm, together with ongoing environmental surveys.

WHO IS VOLTALIA?

Founded in 2005, Votalia is a global renewable energy and service provider developing, constructing and operating wind, solar, hydro, biomass and battery storage projects.

Operating across three continents and in over 20 countries, Votalia is committed to improving the global environment whilst fostering local development. In the UK, Votalia is working to decarbonise the UK's electricity generation and combat the climate crisis by supplying an affordable and renewable source of clean electricity.

WHY WIND?

Scotland has set the ambitious target of reaching Net Zero by 2045. Wind energy will play a critical role in meeting these targets, with the Scottish Government setting the ambition to deploy a minimum of 20GW of onshore wind in Scotland by 2030.

✉ info@cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk

*Based on the average consumption per home of 3,748kWh and the average Scottish onshore wind load factor from 2012 to 2022 of 30% detailed in renewable electricity capacity and generation *ET 6.1) BEIS, 2023



COMMUNITY BENEFIT:

Votalia is committed to providing environmental, social and economic benefits to the communities which host our projects and encourage communities to engage with us on their needs and aspirations.

We are proposing a Community Benefit Fund for local communities of up to £288,000 per year (index-linked) for the lifetime of the project, totalling up to £11.5million. We are keen to work with the local community to shape the fund and focus on local priorities.

10.2.5 Appendix 2.5: Residents Exhibition Radius – September 2023



10.2.6 Appendix 2.6: Exhibition One Display Materials



Welcome to our public exhibition for the proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm in Argyll and Bute.

This public exhibition is part of Voltaia UK Ltd's commitment to engaging with the local community and it is important to us that those with an interest in the project have the opportunity to view and comment on the plans and provide us with feedback.

This feedback, along with ongoing technical assessments and engagement with consultees, will help shape our final wind farm design that will form a future section 36 application to be submitted at a later date.



About Voltaia

Founded in 2005, Voltaia UK Ltd is a global renewable energy and service provider developing, constructing and operating wind, solar, hydro, biomass and storage projects.

Operating across three continents and in over 20 countries, Voltaia UK Ltd is committed to improving the global environment whilst fostering local development.

In the UK, Voltaia UK Ltd is working to decarbonise the UK's electricity generation and combat the climate crisis by supplying an affordable and renewable source of clean electricity. With a long history of successfully building and operating onshore wind, Voltaia UK Ltd currently owns and operates over 1.3GW of onshore wind across Europe and Latin America.



www.voltaia.com www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk



Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm

The proposed site lies 7km east of Oban and 5km south of Connel, within the Argyll and Bute Council area. To the north, the site borders private land and all other sides are bordered by Fearnoch Forest.

Our initial assessment indicates that the site could accommodate a wind farm of up to eight turbines, with a blade tip height of up to 200m, with the potential to generate enough electricity to power up to 40,422 homes*. There is also the potential for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) as part of the project to help store any excess electricity produced by the proposed wind farm and release it back into the grid when required.

As the proposed installed capacity of the project is estimated to be greater than 50MW, the application would be determined by the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989, with Argyll and Bute Council acting as an important Statutory Consultee in that process.

The Energy Consents Unit is made up of Scottish Ministers, who are responsible for approving applications to build, operate or modify onshore electricity generating stations with capacities exceeding 50 megawatts.

In June 2023, we submitted a request for a Scoping Opinion to the ECU for the project. The Scoping Opinion will help us understand the environmental information that consultees would like to see submitted as part of the subsequent planning application. This will include the methodologies proposed to undertake these assessments and will also seek feedback on project proposals.

The submission of the Scoping Report is the first stage in this process, and we want to ensure that there will be plenty of opportunities for stakeholders and local residents to view the proposals and to have their say.

*Based on the average consumption per home of 3,748kWh and the average Scottish onshore wind load factor from 2012 to 2022 of 30% detailed in renewable electricity capacity and generation (ET 6.1) BEIS, 2023.



www.voltaia.com www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk



Why Wind

Scotland plans to reach Net Zero by 2045, with additional targets set to reduce emissions - 75% by 2030 and 90% by 2040. National Grid predict that Scotland's peak demand for electricity will at least double in the next two decades to support the delivery of these Net Zero ambitions.

As the lowest-cost form of new-build electricity in the UK, onshore wind will play an important role in ensuring Scotland can meet its Net Zero targets and a shift towards a renewable led energy system.

To achieve this, the Scottish Government has set the ambition to deploy a minimum of 20GW of onshore wind in Scotland by 2030, with projects such as the Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm playing a key role in achieving this.



How a wind farm and BESS works

- Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) store excess renewable electricity generated by wind turbines.
- This excess electricity is released into the grid at a later time, providing a short-term, fast response during periods of increased demand.
- BESS systems work to balance the grid to ensure that there is sufficient energy provided by wind farms during periods of low wind.



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Assessing Project Impacts

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EiAR) will be submitted as part of the project's section 36 application. This will report the findings of a comprehensive EiAR.

The potential impacts which will be examined in detail in the EiAR are outlined below.

Ecology and Ornithology

There are two statutory international/European designated sites and six national designated sites for ecological features located within 10km of the site.

Significant effects on ecological and ornithological receptors will be avoided or minimised where possible through the design process. A habitat and breeding bird protection plan will be put in place to ensure that all reasonable precautions are taken to protect, and enhance conditions for ecological and ornithological features of interest within the proposed project.

Archaeological and Cultural Heritage

Any potential impacts that the proposed project will have on the archaeological and cultural heritage assets, on and in proximity to the site, will be assessed through visits and set out in the EiAR.

Noise

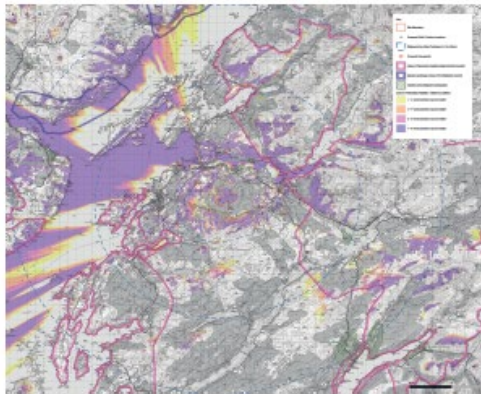
Projects of this nature have strict guidelines concerning noise impacts. The final design of the proposed project will take full account of these guidelines. The potential noise effects to be considered include construction traffic noise, construction plant on the site, as well as from the project once operational.

Geology, Hydrogeology, Hydrology and Soils

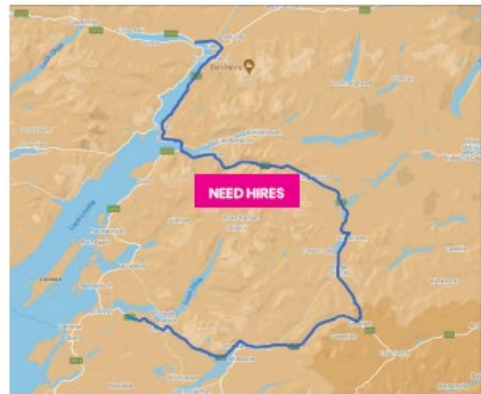
The principal considerations for hydrology and hydrogeology relate to peat, watercourses and waterbodies.

Avoiding peat is a key part of the design process. Protection of sensitive water receptors will form an important part of the assessment.

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A comprehensive LVIA assessment is being undertaken to examine the impacts of the proposed project on the character and appearance of the surrounding landscape. Views from residential properties and recreational areas, as well as public rights of way and transport routes will be considered. The assessment will carefully consider cumulative landscape and visual impacts within 25km of the proposed project.



There may be some potential impacts on users of the access route during the construction and wind turbine delivery phase. Consultants will undertake a traffic survey in the area to establish the extent of these impacts and proposals will be set out as to how best to minimise disruption during construction.

Measures to mitigate and manage potential impacts including construction traffic and turbine delivery will be detailed in a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP).

Once operational, it is envisaged that the level of traffic associated with the wind farm would be minimal, with monthly or weekly maintenance checks.



www.voltalia.com  www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk



www.voltalia.com  www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk



Project Benefits

Opportunities for Local Businesses

Voltaia UK Ltd is keen to give local business every opportunity to benefit from the construction and operation of the wind farm. If you are a local business or service provider, please do leave us your details and we will add you to our register of interest and keep you updated about future opportunities to become involved in the project.

Community Benefit

Voltaia UK Ltd is committed to providing environmental, social and economic benefits to the communities which host our projects and encourage communities to engage with us on their needs and aspirations.

We are proposing to establish a Community Benefit Fund, in line with the Scottish Government's Community Benefit Good Practice Guidelines and recommended rate of £5,000 per MW (index linked) of installed capacity for the lifetime of the project.

For example, if the currently proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm was constructed (57.6MW), a fund of up to £288,000 per year (index linked) would be available for the lifetime of the project. We are keen to work with the local community to shape the fund and focus on local priorities.



www.voltaia.com www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk



Next Steps

Thank you for visiting our first round of public exhibitions.

Feedback received during the public consultations and from key stakeholders will inform the proposed project design.

We will look to submit a section 36 application to the ECU in Spring 2024.

Argyll and Bute Council will conduct its own consultation process where members of the public can submit comments to the Local Planning Authority on the final proposals once the planning application has been formally submitted.

Voltaia wants to ensure that the community has their say on the proposals and consultation will continue throughout the development process. We would encourage you to complete a questionnaire and return it to us today or via the contact details.

Timetable:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| October 2023 | Public Consultation |
| January 2024 | Public Consultation |
| Spring 2024 | Application submission to Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit |

If you have any further questions about the proposals, please contact us at:

Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm, c/o Cavendish,
 80 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3BU
 0131 376 0893
info@cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk



www.voltaia.com www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk

10.2.7 Appendix 2.7: Feedback Form



We would like to thank you for attending today's Public Exhibition and viewing our proposals for the proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm. It is very important to us that the local community has the opportunity to provide feedback that will help inform the design, construction, and operation of the proposed wind farm.

We would therefore appreciate your views:

1. Approximately how far do you live from the site?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Within 2km | <input type="checkbox"/> Within 10km |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Within 5km | <input type="checkbox"/> Beyond 10km |

2. Do you have any comments or suggestions on the project?

*Please use reverse side if required

Name:

Home address:

Email:

We look forward to receiving your comments on our proposals today or, if you prefer, you can provide comments to: info@cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk or in writing to:

Voltaia, c/o Cavendish, 80 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3BU

Please ensure your comments reach us by 27 October 2023.

Please note that the data provided in the feedback form is collected and stored in line with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Comments made will be collected and used by Voltaia, not the consenting authority. Representations to the consenting authority will still be possible following the submission of a planning application. By providing your details you are giving your consent to Voltaia to process this data.

www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk

10.3 Appendix 3: Second Consultation Appendices

10.3.1 Appendix 3.1: Public Notice



The proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm is located approximately 7km east of Oban in Argyll and Bute.

We invite you to our second round of consultation events to meet the project team, where you can view and comment on our updated proposals for the site. **Our second round of in-person events will be held on the following dates:**

- 20th February 2024** – North Connel Hall, PA37 1QX – 11:00–14:00
- 20th February 2024** – Kilmore and Kilbride Village Hall, PA34 4XT, 17:00–20:00
- 21st February 2024** – Taynuilt Village Hall, PA35 1JH, 15:00 – 19:00
- 22nd February 2024** – Connel Village Hall, PA37 1PA, 15:00–19:00

Our project website contains updated information regarding the proposals and will contain the exhibition materials displayed at the consultation events. You can also provide feedback via our electronic and printable comment form to the project team. This information can be accessed at <https://cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk>

For further information please contact info@cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk, via phone at 0131 376 0893, or via post at Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm, c/o Cavendish, 80 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3BU.

Please note that any comments made to Voltaia UK Ltd are not representations to the determining authority. If an application is submitted, there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the consenting authority.

10.3.2 Appendix 3.2: Letter to Community Councils – February 2024



8th February 2024

Via email

Dear [REDACTED]

Proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm

As you may be aware, Voltaia UK Ltd submitted a request for Scoping Opinion to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in June 2023. Three public consultation events were held in the villages of Kilmore, Connel and Taynuilt in October 2023 introducing the proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm, sited approximately 7km east of Oban, and 5km south of the A85 at Connel.

About Voltaia

Founded in 2005, Voltaia is a global renewable energy and service provider developing, constructing and operating wind, solar, hydro, biomass and battery storage projects.

Operating across three continents and in over 20 countries, Voltaia is committed to improving the global environment whilst fostering local development. In the UK, Voltaia is working to decarbonise the UK's electricity generation and combat the climate crisis by supplying an affordable and renewable source of clean electricity.

Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm

Since the submission of the scoping request, we have received a number of scoping responses from consultees, and gathered extensive feedback from the community and key stakeholders following our consultation events. This has contributed to developing a revised design ahead of submission of an application for planning consent to the determining authority.

In order to present the revised proposals to the community, we will be hosting a further round of public consultation events on the following dates:

- 20th February 2024 – North Connel Hall, PA37 1QX – 11:00-14:00
- 20th February 2024 – Kilmore and Kilbride Village Hall, PA34 4XT - 17:00-20:00
- 21st February 2024 – Taynuilt Village Hall, PA35 1JH - 15:00 –19:00
- 22nd February 2024 – Connel Village Hall, PA37 1PA - 15:00-19:00

At the events, attendees will have the opportunity to view the revised proposals and to provide comment. Members of the project team will be present to answer any questions and discuss the proposals.

Our project website, www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk, will also be updated to contain the revised exhibition materials and the latest project information.

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T. +44 (0) 2039 941094 - solar.uk@voltaia.com - www.voltaia.com

Register Company Number: 07489990



Votalia is committed to ensuring that there are ample opportunities for stakeholders and local residents to have their say on the proposals, and that community consultation is an integral part of the planning and design process.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to provide an update on the proposals in more detail. Should you be amenable, or require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our communications consultants Cavendish Consulting 0131 608026 or via email at rhys.lewis@cavendishconsulting.com.

Yours sincerely,

Rosie Vetter

Rosie Vetter

UK Head of Development, Votalia

Votalia UK Ltd
Unit 1, Headley Park 8, Headley Road East, Woodley, RG5 4SA, United Kingdom
T. +44 (0) 2039 941094 · solar.uk@votalia.com · www.votalia.com

Register Company Number: 07489990



10.3.3 Appendix 3.3: Letter to Elected Councillors – February 2024



8th February 2024

Via email

Dear [REDACTED]

Proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm

As you may be aware, Votalia UK Ltd submitted a request for Scoping Opinion to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in June 2023. Three public consultation events were held in the villages of Kilmore, Connel and Taynuilt in October 2023 introducing the proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm, sited approximately 7km east of Oban, and 5km south of the A85 at Connel.

About Votalia

Founded in 2005, Votalia is a global renewable energy and service provider developing, constructing and operating wind, solar, hydro, biomass and battery storage projects.

Operating across three continents and in over 20 countries, Votalia is committed to improving the global environment whilst fostering local development. In the UK, Votalia is working to decarbonise the UK's electricity generation and combat the climate crisis by supplying an affordable and renewable source of clean electricity.

Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm

Since the submission of the scoping request, we have received a number of scoping responses from consultees, and gathered extensive feedback from the community and key stakeholders following our consultation events. This has contributed to developing a revised design ahead of submission of an application for planning consent to the determining authority.

In order to present the revised proposals to the community, we will be hosting a further round of public consultation events on the following dates:

- 20th February 2024 – North Connel Hall, PA37 1QX – 11:00-14:00
- 20th February 2024 – Kilmore and Kilbride Village Hall, PA34 4XT - 17:00-20:00
- 21st February 2024 – Taynuilt Village Hall, PA35 1JH - 15:00 –19:00
- 22nd February 2024 – Connel Village Hall, PA37 1PA - 15:00-19:00

At the events, attendees will have the opportunity to view the revised proposals and to provide comment. Members of the project team will be present to answer any questions and discuss the proposals.

Our project website, www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk, will also be updated to contain the revised exhibition materials and the latest project information.

Votalia UK Ltd
Unit 1, Headley Park 8, Headley Road East, Woodley, RG5 4SA, United Kingdom
T. +44 (0) 2039 941094 · solar.uk@votalia.com · www.votalia.com

Register Company Number: 07489990



Voltage is committed to ensuring that there are ample opportunities for stakeholders and local residents to have their say on the proposals, and that community consultation is an integral part of the planning and design process.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to provide an update on the proposals in more detail. Should you be amenable, or require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our communications consultants Cavendish Consulting 0131 608026 or via email at rhys.lewis@cavendishconsulting.com.

Yours sincerely,

Rosie Vetter

Rosie Vetter

UK Head of Development, Voltage

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T. +44 (0) 2039 041094 · solar.uk@voltage.com · www.voltage.com

Register Company Number: 07489990



10.3.4 Appendix 3.4: Residents Exhibition Invitation – February 2024

Cruach Clenamachie Wind Farm

The proposed Cruach Clenamachie Wind Farm is located approximately 7km east of Oban in Argyll and Bute

- Up to 6 turbines with a blade tip height of up to 200m
- Generating up to 43.2MW
- Powering around 30,309 homes*

Take a look at our revised proposals and catch up with the project team at our upcoming public exhibitions:

- 20th February 2024 – North Connel Hall, PA37 1QX – 11:00-14:00
- 20th February 2024 – Kilmore and Kilbride Village Hall, PA34 4XT, 17:00-20:00
- 21st February 2024 – Taynuilt Village Hall, PA35 1JH, 15:00 – 19:00
- 22nd February 2024 – Connel Village Hall, PA37 1PA, 15:00-19:00

Members of the project team will be present to discuss the project, and to answer any questions that you may have.

cruach-clenamachie.co.uk

info@cruach-clenamachie.co.uk

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm lies 7km east of Oban and 5km south of Connel. The Fearnoch Forest borders the site on all sides but the north, and the waters of the Lusragan Burn and Black Loch run through it.

REVISED PROPOSALS

The feedback provided during our first round of consultation events, as well as our environmental and technical studies, have helped us to shape the proposals ahead of the submission of an application for planning consent.

Since our initial events, we have been busy updating the scheme's design, and we will be hosting a further round of public consultation events to present these revised proposals. This also provides the opportunity to discuss the development in more detail with the community.

Information will be provided on:

- Design and layout
- Potential power generated
- Environmental and technical surveys
- Community Benefit
- Access and construction

info@cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk

*Based on the average consumption per home of 3,748kWh and the average Scottish onshore wind load factor from 2012 to 2022 of 30% detailed in renewable electricity capacity and generation *ET 6.1) BEIS, 2023



GET IN TOUCH

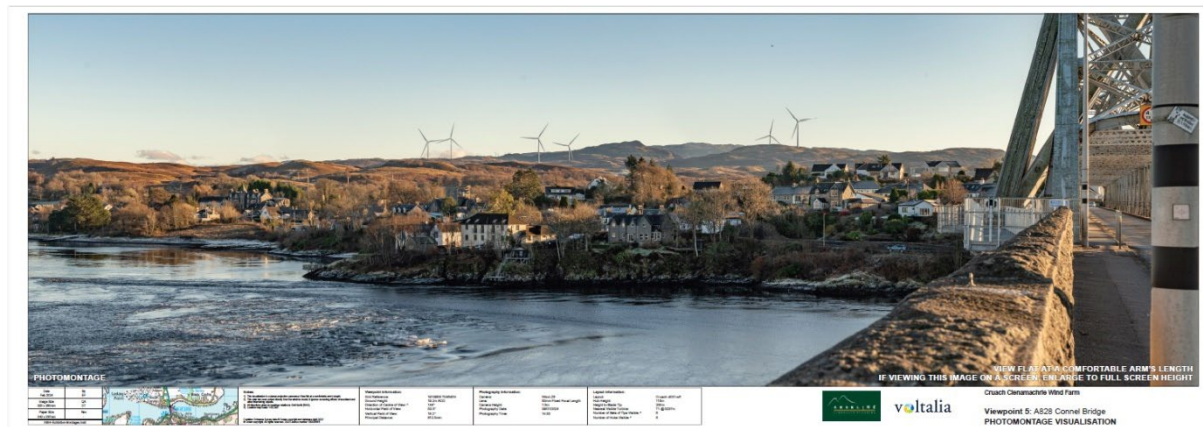
If you have any questions or comments, we'd love to hear from you. You can contact the project team via email at info@cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk. The information displayed at our events will also be available via our project website, cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk.

10.3.5 Appendix 3.5: Residents Exhibition Radius – February 2024

The mailout was identical to the first round, with 1,447 addresses contacted.



10.3.6 Appendix 3.6: Exhibition Photomontages/Viewpoints





10.3.7 Appendix 3.7: Exhibition Two Display Materials



Welcome to our second public exhibition for the proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm in Argyll and Bute.

This second round of events is part of Voltaia UK Ltd's continued commitment to engaging with the local community and it is important to us that those with an interest in the project have the opportunity to view and comment on the plans as they progress.

This information, along with the ongoing technical assessments and engagement with consultees has helped us to shape our final design that will form a future Section 36 application to be submitted to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in late summer 2024.



About Voltaia

Founded in 2005, Voltaia is a global renewable energy and service provider developing, constructing and operating wind, solar, hydro, biomass and storage projects.

Operating across three continents and in over 20 countries, Voltaia is committed to improving the global environment whilst fostering local development.

In the UK, Voltaia is working to decarbonise the UK's electricity generation and combat the climate crisis by supplying an affordable and renewable source of clean electricity. With a long history of successfully building and operating onshore wind, Voltaia currently owns and operates over 1.3 gigawatts (GW) of onshore wind across Europe and Latin America.



www.voltaia.com www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk



About Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm

The proposed site lies 7km east of Oban and 5km south of Connel, within the Argyll and Bute Council area. To the north, the site borders private land and all other sides are bordered by Fearnoch Forest.

Based on community feedback, as well as technical and environmental assessments, our revised assessment indicates that the site could accommodate a wind farm of up to six turbines, with a blade tip height of up to 200m, that would provide up to 43.2MW of green electricity – enough to power up to 30,309 homes*. We are also proposing to include a 20MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) as part of the development. This system would store any excess electricity produced by the proposed wind farm and release it back into the grid where required

As the proposed installed capacity of the project is estimated to be greater than 50 megawatts (MWs), the application would be determined by the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989, with Argyll and Bute Council acting as an important Statutory Consultee in that process.

The ECU is made up of Scottish Ministers, who are responsible for approving applications to build, operate or modify onshore electricity generating stations with capacities exceeding 50MW.

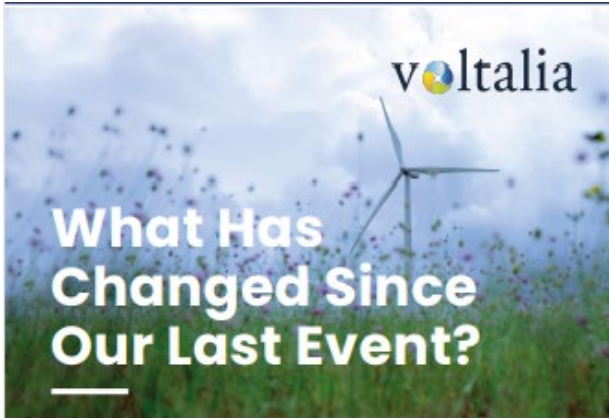
Following the submission of a request for Scoping Opinion to the ECU for the project, we have received a number of scoping responses from key consultees.

As part of our revised proposals, we have sought to address any environmental and technical considerations that could impact the development. Following our redesign, we want to continue to provide the community and key stakeholders with as many opportunities as possible to provide comment and feedback on the design.

*Based on the average consumption per home of 3,748kWh and the average Scottish onshore wind load factor from 2002 to 2022 of 30% detailed in renewable electricity capacity and generation *ET 6.1) BEIS, 2023.

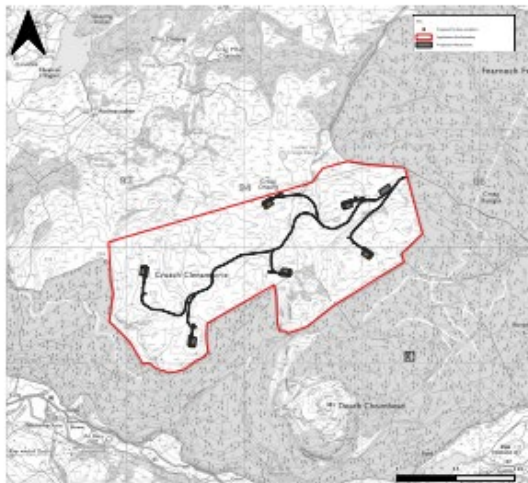


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What Has Changed Since Our Last Event?

Since our last round of events, we have redesigned the scheme to reflect the feedback received from the community, as well as consultee responses to our Request for Scoping Opinion.



The key changes to the design are:

- Reduction in number of turbines to six
- Reconfigured turbine layout
- Redesigned access arrangements to the site



www.voltalia.com www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk



Why Wind

Scotland plans to reach Net Zero by 2045, with additional targets set to reduce emissions - 75% by 2030 and 90% by 2040. National Grid predicts that Scotland's peak demand for electricity will at least double in the next two decades. Renewable energy projects will make up a significant proportion of Scotland's electricity supply and will help meet this increase in peak demand.

As the lowest-cost form of new-build electricity in the UK, onshore wind will play an important role in ensuring Scotland can meet its Net Zero targets and a shift towards a renewable led energy system.

To achieve this, the Scottish Government has set the ambition to deploy a minimum of 20GW of onshore wind in Scotland by 2030, with projects such as the Cruach-Clenamacrie Wind Farm playing a key role in achieving this.



How a wind farm and BESS works

- Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) store excess renewable electricity generated by wind turbines.
- This excess electricity is released into the grid at a later time, providing a short-term, fast response during periods of increased demand.
- BESS work to balance the grid to ensure that there is sufficient energy provided by wind farms during periods of low wind.



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Assessing Project Impacts

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report will be submitted as part of the project's section 36 application. This will report the findings of a comprehensive EIA.

The potential impacts which will be examined in detail in the EIA Report are outlined below.

Ecology and Ornithology

There are three statutory International/ European designated sites and six national designated sites for ecological features located within 10km of the site.

Archaeological and Cultural Heritage

Any potential impacts that the proposed project will have on the archaeological and cultural heritage assets, on and within 10km of the site, will be assessed through visits and visualisations, and will be set out in the EIA.

Noise and Light Impact

An operational noise assessment will be conducted to determine turbine noise levels at nearby properties. This has been informed by a background noise survey, conducted at the two nearest sensitive receptors. This assessment has influenced the updated wind farm design. Noise is not expected to significantly impact the existing environment due to the large intervening distance between receptors and the Proposed Development.

Higher levels of noise are generated during construction, although these impacts have a relatively short duration and are temporary. Construction noise levels are largely controlled by:

- Placing restrictions on when construction activity can occur, using industry best practice.
- Where necessary, choosing plant or equipment with relatively low sound power ratings.

Construction noise is likely to be strictly controlled by planning conditions that limit the construction hours.

Geology, Hydrogeology, Hydrology and Soils

Avoiding peat has formed a main consideration in the design process, including recent updates to move proposed infrastructure out of areas of peat identified in recent surveys. Key protections for water receptors will be included in the assessment, covering sediment management and pollution prevention.

Forestry

Within the site boundary there is no commercial forestry.

The Ancient Woodland Inventory Scotland identifies extensive areas of Fearnach as Ancient Woodland. The Native Woodland Survey of Scotland further identifies these areas as PAWS sites - Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites. A core issue for the Fearnach block is the restoration of the PAWS sites to native woodland.

The extent of woodland loss will be minimised by utilising existing forestry tracks within Fearnach wherever possible. In compliance with the Scottish Government's Control of Woodland Removal Policy and NFF4 there will be a presumption against the removal of ancient woodland to facilitate the construction of the Proposed Development.

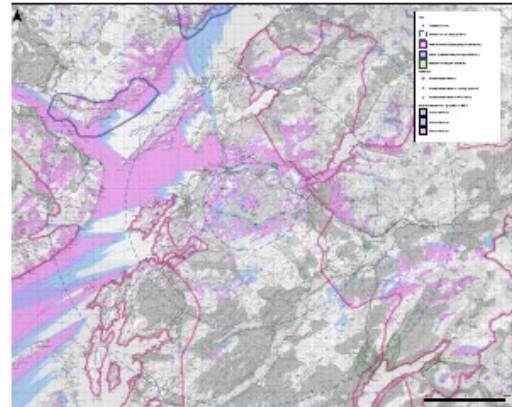


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Landscape and Visual Assessment (LVIA)



A comprehensive Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment will be conducted, which will examine the impacts of the proposed project on the character, setting and scale of the surrounding landscape.

Views from residential properties and recreational areas, as well as public rights of way and transport routes will be considered. The assessment will carefully consider cumulative landscape and visual impacts within 25km of the proposed project.



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Access and Construction



A detailed review of the construction access and potential traffic impact will be provided in the EIA, including any temporary road modifications necessary to accommodate the necessary abnormal loads.

This will be considered in detail and will outline what temporary effects could be expected during the peak of construction activities.

A thorough review of access arrangements for turbine load deliveries has been made, considering access from Corpach to the proposed site access junction.

To help reduce impacts on local road users as much as possible, a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) is being prepared and will be included in the EIA.

Once operational, the level of traffic will be negligible, with only occasional access for maintenance vans and cars.



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Project Benefits

Opportunities for Local Businesses

Voltaia UK Ltd is keen to give local business every opportunity to benefit from the construction and operation of the wind farm. If you are a local business or service provider, please do leave us your details and we will add you to our register of interest and keep you updated about future opportunities to become involved in the project.

Community Benefit

Voltaia UK Ltd is committed to providing environmental, social and economic benefits to the communities which host our projects and encourage communities to engage with us on their needs and aspirations.

We are proposing to establish a Community Benefit Fund, in line with the Scottish Government's Community Benefit Good Practice Principles and recommended rate of £5,000 per MW (index linked) of installed capacity for the lifetime of the project.

For example, if the currently proposed Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm was constructed (432MW), a fund of up to £216,000 per year (index linked) would be available for the lifetime of the project. We are keen to work with the local community to shape the fund and focus on local priorities.



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Thank you for visiting our second round of public exhibitions.

Comments received during the public consultations and from key stakeholders will inform the final project design.

We will look to submit a Section 36 application to the ECU in Summer 2024.

Argyll and Bute Council will conduct its own consultation process where members of the public can submit comments to the Local Planning Authority on the final proposals once the planning application has been formally submitted.


Voltalia continues to regard community engagement as a key pillar of the planning and design process. We would encourage you to complete a questionnaire and return it to us today or via the contact details below.


We would be grateful if all feedback is returned to us by 19th March 2024.


Timetable:

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| October 2023 | Public Consultation |
| February 2024 | Public Consultation |
| Summer 2024 | Application submission to Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit |

If you have any further questions about the proposals, please contact us at:

 Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm Consultation, c/o Cavendish, 1 West Regent Street, Glasgow, G2 1RW

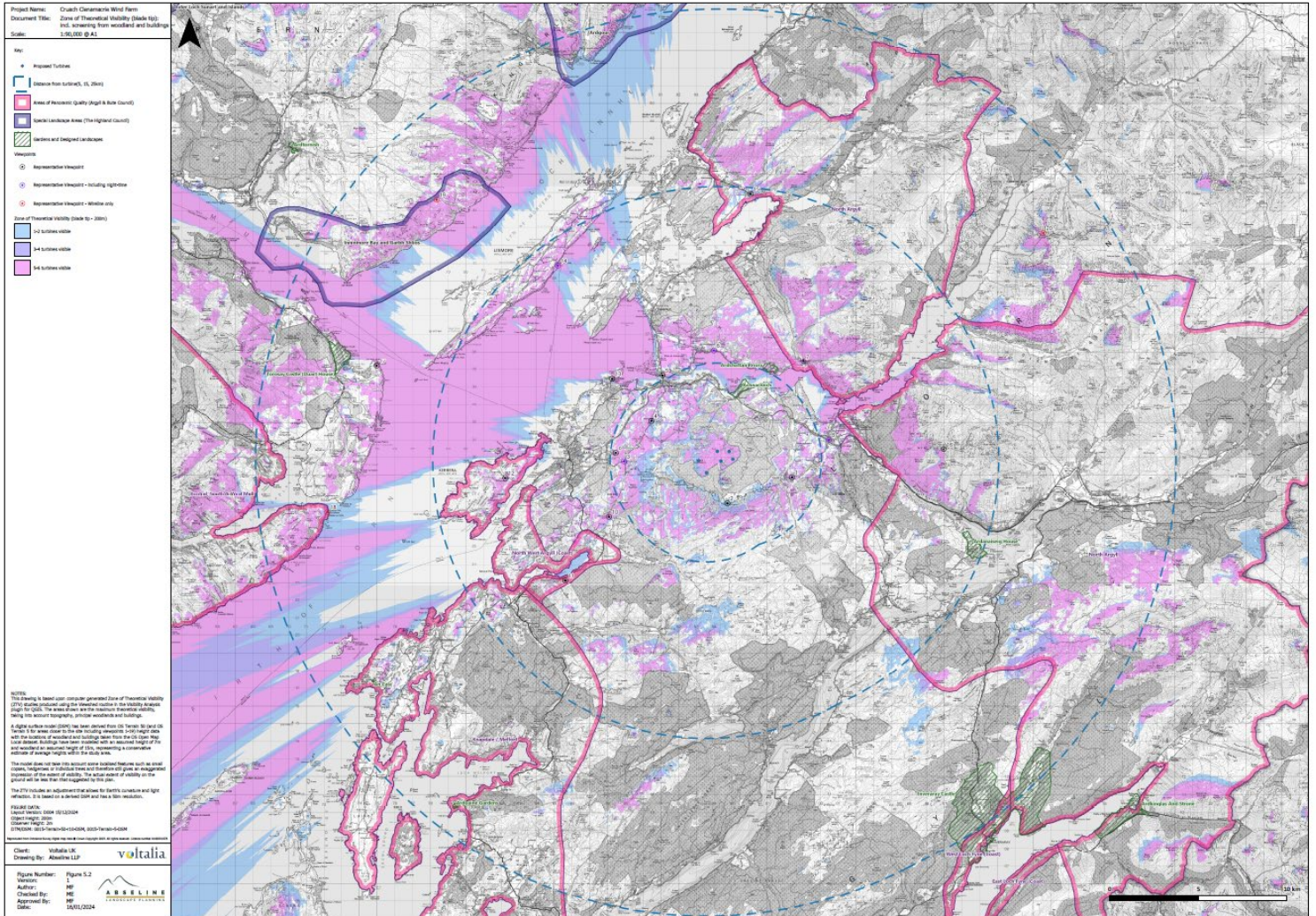
 0141 264 2831

 info@cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk



www.voltalia.com  www.cruach-clenamacrie.co.uk

10.3.8 Appendix 3.8: Exhibition Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)



10.3.10 Appendix 3.9: Feedback From



We would like to thank you for attending today's second public exhibition for the proposed Cruach Clenamachie Wind Farm. It is very important to us that the local community continues to have the opportunity to provide feedback that will help inform the final design, construction, and operation of the proposed wind farm.

We would therefore appreciate your views:

1. Approximately how far do you live from the site?

- Within 2km
- Within 5km
- Within 10km
- Beyond 10km

2. Do you have any comments or suggestions on the project?

*Please use reverse side if required

Name:

Home address:

Email:

We look forward to receiving your comments on our proposals today or, if you prefer, you can provide comments to: info@cruch-clenamachie.co.uk or in writing to:

Voltaia, c/o Cavendish, 1 West Regent Street, Glasgow, G2 1RW

Please ensure your comments reach us by 19 March 2024.

Please note that the data provided in the feedback form is collected and stored in line with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Comments made will be collected and used by Voltaia, not the consenting authority. Representations to the consenting authority will still be possible following the submission of a planning application. By providing your details you are giving your consent to Voltaia to process this data.

www.cruach-clenamachie.co.uk

10.4 Appendix 4: Oban, Lorn & the Isles Area Committee Presentation

voltalia
**Cruach
 Clenamachie
 Wind Farm**
 Oban, Lorn & the Isles Area Committee

November 2023



**Cruach
 Consultation
 Team**



Alexander Hamilton
 Voltalia

Part of the Project Manager team within Voltalia, responsible for progressing the proposed project through planning



Euan Glen
 Cavendish Consultants

Communication and public relations manager, responsible for communicating and coordinating the project plans to stakeholders.

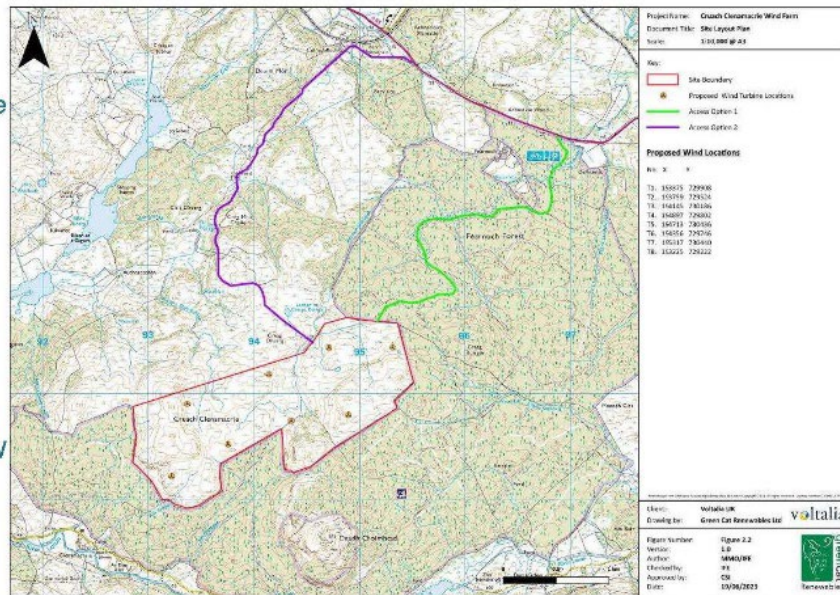


Corey Simpson
 Green Cat Renewables

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Lead and Planning coordinator, helping manage the EIA, and planning obligations prior to and during planning determination.

Cruach Clenamacrie

- ~660 Acres
- Up to 77.6 MW
- 8 * (7.2MW) Turbines
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of up to 20MW



Who We Are

- Voltalia UK is bringing their international expertise to Scotland for the first time, with a strong pipeline of solar, wind, storage and hybrid projects.
- Through collaboration with local and national Scottish-based trade bodies, consultants and partners, Voltalia UK is contributing to the wider circular economy and developing projects to help Scotland achieve its goal of more than 20GW of onshore renewable energy by 2030.
- As the pipeline of projects develops in Scotland, Voltalia UK is looking to work with local and national regulatory bodies to help deliver sustainable, ethical and responsible projects.

Local benefit

- Voltalia UK are committed to providing local environmental, social and economic benefits through their projects. **Over £1 million was invested in the local economy** during construction of South Farm Solar Park in Dorset, via accommodation and food, tradespeople and service providers.
- We are working with Scottish-based industry bodies and organisations to establish best practice and develop a bespoke and meaningful package of community benefits, aiming to be proportionate and suitable for each local community surrounding our projects. Our work in the local community involves consulting with the communities to understand their needs and wants and may also include establishing Community Liaison Groups to collaborate as best as possible.

Corporate Partnership

- Voltalia works with business and industry leaders to supply renewable electricity from our projects, providing reliable and competitive long-term power security to clients including City of London Plc, Renault, IKEA and Air France.
- Our business model ensures projects go through Development, Construction and Operation, which allows us to power businesses and industries with renewable electricity from dedicated plants.
- Generation sites can be located directly at the end-use facility, or in a third-party location. The Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) and other mechanisms can provide reliable and competitive long-term power security directly or virtually

Public Consultation

- **Project website - www.cruach-clenamachie.co.uk**
- Scoping Submission letter sent 20 June 2023
- Virtual exhibition
- Project updates
- **First Round of Public Events advertised:**
 - Flyer to 1483 properties within 7.5km radius of the site
 - Advertisement in Oban Times
- **Engagement with community councils;**
 - Taynuilt, Connel, Kilmore & Kilbride, Avich & Kilchrenan, Ardchattan, Glenorchy & Innishail, Dunbeg and Oban
- **Second round of events planned for early 2024**



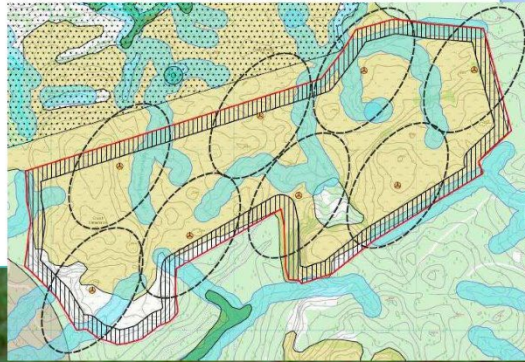
Public Consultation

- **Kilmore Hall – Tuesday 3rd October:**
 - 15 attendees
- **Taynuilt Village Hall – Wednesday 4th October:**
 - 13 attendees
- **Connel Village Hall – Thursday 5th October:**
 - 39 attendees
- **Key issues raised:**
 - Landscape impacts
 - Community Benefit Fund
 - Cumulative impact from other wind farms
 - Visual impact



Environment

- **Surveys Undertaken to date**
 - Ornithology surveys (two years)
 - Ecology surveys (habitats and protected species)
 - Archaeology walkover
 - Phase 1 peat probing
-
- **Surveys to be completed**
 - Baseline noise monitoring
 - Landscape and Visual photography
 - Hydrology walkover
 - Phase 2 peat probing
 - Route to site report



Environment

- **Next Steps:**
- The information and data from baseline surveys will be used to refine the proposed layout and also to identify ways in which we can reduce or mitigate any potential impacts
- Consultation with key stakeholders such as Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) and NatureScot are currently ongoing
- Next design iteration will be taken forward at next consultation events to be held in early 2024
- An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report will be prepared once the design has been finalised. This is planned to be submitted in Spring 2024.



10.5 Appendix 5: Community Liaison Group Presentation

voltalia
**Cruach Clenamacrie
Wind Farm**
**Community Liaison
Group**

29th August 2024



Agenda

1. Welcome & Intros
2. Project Update
3. Role of a CLG & ToR
4. Future Meetings
5. AOB



Welcome & Introductions



Doug Wilson
Director – Smithy House Associates



Alex Hamilton
Senior Project Manager



Luke Major
Project Manager



Rosie Vetter
Head of Development – UK



Jess Anand
E&S Specialist



Key Figures

2.9 GW
in operation or under construction

16.6 GW
pipeline of projects



20+
countries on 3 continents

1880
dedicated employees

As of 31.12.2023





VOLTALIA IS A MISSION DRIVEN COMPANY*

**Improve global environment
fostering local development**

OUR VALUES



INTEGRITY



INGENUITY

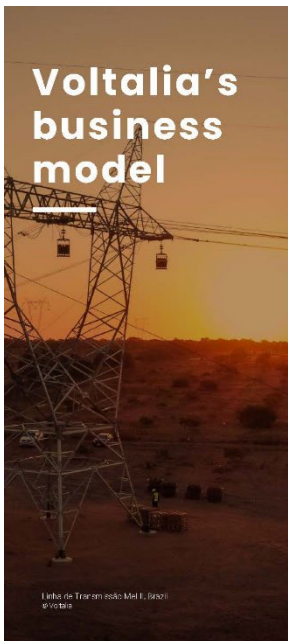


ENTREPRENEURSHIP



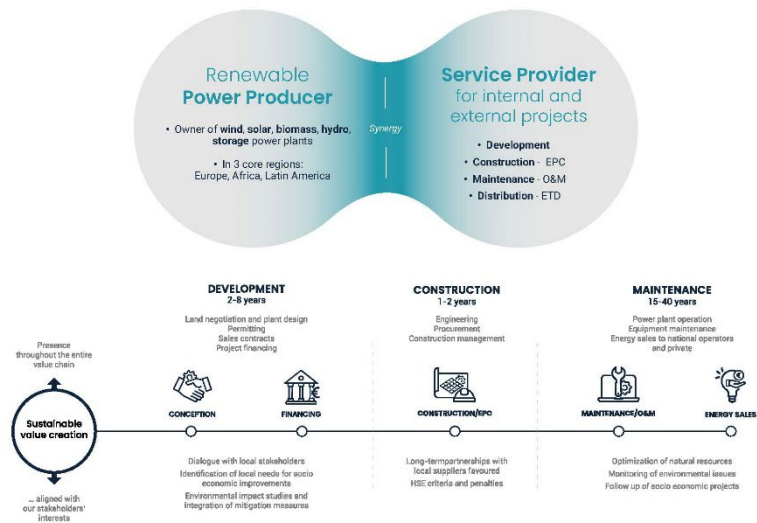
TEAM SPIRIT

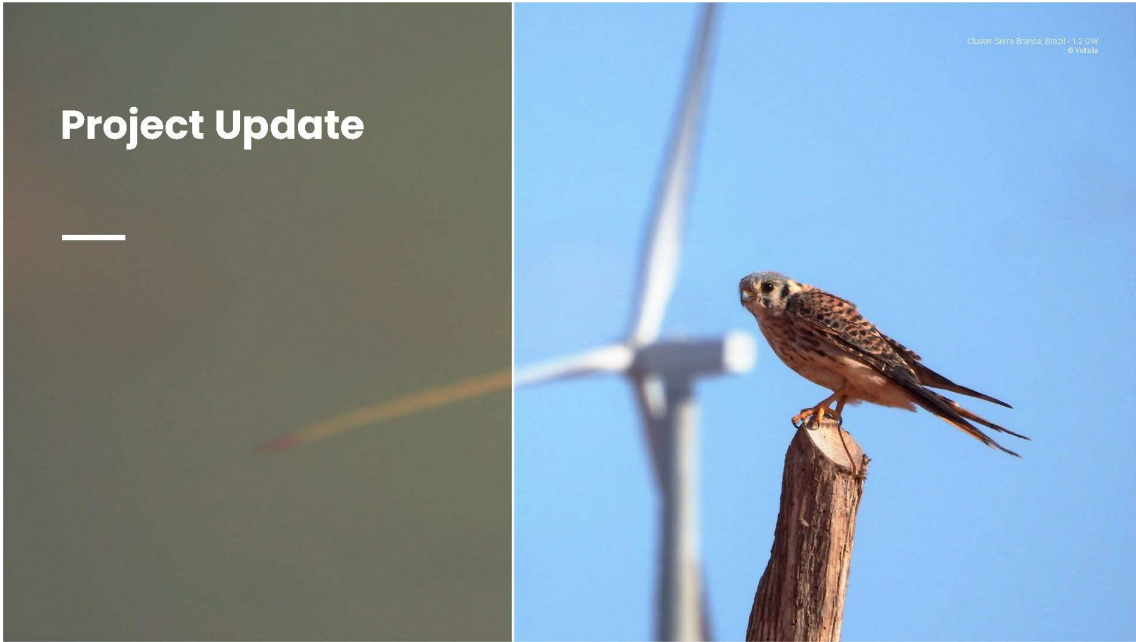
*Voltalia became a Mission driven Company in May 2021 voted at General Assembly (99.98%). The company has registered in its by-laws a purpose and environmental and social objectives.



**Voltalia's
business
model**

Linha de Transmissão Mel I, Brasil
© Voltalia





Project Update

Voltalia held a second round of public consultation events in February 2024 at:







- North Connel Hall
- Kilmore and Kilbride Village Hall
- Taynult Village Hall
- Connel Village Hall

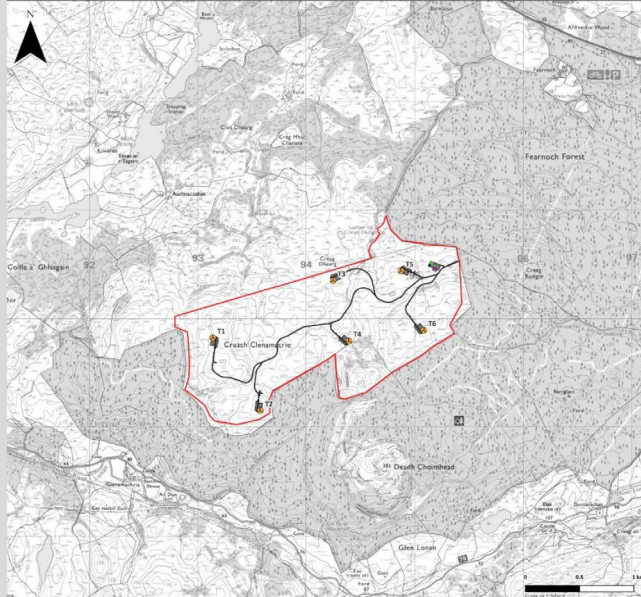
Overall, we had good engagement across the four events with +60 attendees with feedback from 15:



Project Update

Key:

-  Proposed Turbine Locations
-  Application Boundary
-  Proposed Infrastructure
-  BESS Infrastructure
-  Substation Building
-  Car Parking Area



Purpose of CLG and Terms of Reference



Purpose of the CLG

The CLG has been established to:

1. Provide a forum for the exchange of information and discussion about the project between representatives of Votalia, the local community and their elected representatives.
2. Establish and maintain a constructive open dialogue between Votalia and the community around the project.
3. Enable CLG members to receive and share project updates to their respective Community Councils and wider communities.
4. Provide a platform for CLG members to discuss any local issues or concerns arising as a result of the project, on behalf of the communities they represent.
5. Discuss topics relating to community collaboration, which will include community benefit and community shared ownership.

The CLG will remain active throughout the planning and construction phases of the project.

11

Summary of Terms of Reference

Attendance

- Up to two representatives from each community body in attendance can attend the CLG.
- The CLG membership will be discussed and agreed at the first meeting, including suggestions for additional members.
- Meetings will not be open to members of the public.
- If a nominated representative is unable to attend a CLG meeting, they can nominate a substitute to attend on their behalf.

Meeting arrangements

- Doug Wilson (Smithy House Associates) will be the independent chair for the CLG and secretariat for the meeting. These roles involve issuing the meeting invite, agenda and recording and issuing a note following the meeting.
- A preferred format for the meetings will be discussed and agreed at the first CLG meeting.

12



Future Meetings and Venues

Meetings and Venues

Future Meetings:

We want to hear your thoughts on how you would like future meetings to be run, including:

- Suggestions for additional community-based organisations to join the group to widen the engagement of the group.
- The preferred format of the meetings and if these are to be held in-person, online, or a mix of both?
 - Each meeting will last for one-hour and will include a project update.
- The meeting frequency, dates and times that work best.
- The meeting venues to be used and agreed ahead of each meeting.

