

Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm FEI Appendix 2.1 Response to Woodland Trust

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Cathy Johannesen Woodland Trust



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Response to Woodland Trust on Application ECU00004841

Dear Cathy,

Thank you for providing your response to our application for Cruach Clenamacrie Wind Farm (ECU00004841). We have reviewed your response and note that your concerns relate to the access track going through woodland listed on the Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI), we would like to provide you with the following information which we hope addresses your concerns.

The access to the proposed wind farm goes through Fearnoch Forest which is operated by Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS). As such, while a lot of the forest is listed on the AWI, it is actually classified as a Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) and the forestry that is currently in place is largely Sitka Spruce and not native woodland.

EIA Report Chapter 13: Forestry outlines that:

"There is a commitment in the Taynuilt LMP to restore the areas of PAWS within Fearnoch Forest; in order to contribute to this goal, all commercial conifer cleared for the access track works will be replaced with native broadleaves."

As such, all commercial conifer removed in order to upgrade/construct the access routes will be replaced with mixed native broadleaves as illustrated on **Figure 13.3** submitted as part of the EIA. This restock is in line with the aims of the Taynuilt Land Management Plan (LMP) and will restore native woodland to the area.

Additionally, the Proposed Development, as far as possible has made use of the existing forestry tracks and as such, they will only require upgrades, rather than full construction. Where the Proposed Development requires new tracks to be constructed, this is largely in areas outwith AWI and has been kept to a minimum.

I hope this information is useful and helps to address the concerns raised within your response. Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any further questions.

Kind regards,

Isla Ferguson

Senior Environmental Consultant – Green Cat Renewables Ltd