Non-Technical Summary

Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm

June 2023

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Document History

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Author	Checked	Approved
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This document has been written and collated by Community Windpower Ltd. Where external consultants have been employed for assessment and report production, the sections are clearly identified.

This Non-Technical Summary (NTS) provides a summary of the original Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and also the Additional Information (AI) which has been prepared to accompany the application to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit for consent to construct a wind farm (Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm) under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 in replacement of the original NTS submitted with the EIAR.

The EIAR and AI have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the European Directives 85/337/EEC and 97/11/EC as applied through the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 as amended.

All volumes of the EIAR and the AI, plus accompanying documents are available to be viewed at the following addresses during their stated opening hours:

Location	Opening Hours
Moffat Library – DG Customer Services High St, Moffat DG10 9HF 01683 220536	Monday: 9am to 12noon Wednesday: 2pm to 5pm Saturday: 9am to 12noon
Eskdalemuir Hub Community Hub, The School, Eskdalemuir, Langholm DG13 0QJ 013873 73760	Monday: 10am to 4pm Tuesday: 10am to 4pm Wednesday: 10am to 4pm Thursday: 10am to 4pm Friday: 10am to 4pm Saturday: 10am to 4pm Sunday: 10am to 6:30pm
Johnstonebridge Community Centre Kirkbank Rd, Johnstonebridge, Lockerbie DG11 1ES 01576 470325	Monday: 9:30am to 3pm Tuesday: 9 am to 3 pm Wednesday: 9 am to 12 pm Thursday: 9 am to 3 pm Friday: 9am to 3pm Saturday: Closed Sunday: Closed

This Additional Information (AI) has been prepared for the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit to accompany the application for consent to construct a wind farm (Scoop Hill) under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 which was submitted in November 2020.

The AI has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the European Directives 85/337/EEC and 97/11/EC as applied through The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 as amended.

The AI contains additional information as requested as part of Regulation 19 of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 request, and through the thorough consultation process with relevant bodies and consultees.

All information contained in this AI submission is in accordance with Regulation 20 of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017. Figures (maps, diagrams and visualisations) and plates (photographs) have also been provided where appropriate.

To obtain a copy of the full AI, please contact Community Windpower Ltd at Godscroft Lane, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 6XU, Tel: 01928 734544, Email: project@communitywindpower.co.uk. The AI is available at a cost of £850 per hard copy and free of charge on a DVD/CD/USB. A hard copy of the Non-Technical Summary and Design and Access Statement is available free of charge upon request.

The AI, along with the EIAR and all supporting documents can also be accessed for public inspection via our application website: www.scoophillwindfarm.co.uk and via the Scottish Government Energy Consents website at www.energyconsents.scot under application reference ECU00000533.

Electricity Measurements

1 kW x 1000 = 1 MW

1 MW x 1000 = 1 GW

1 GW x 1000 = 1 TW

Kilowatt (kW): Kilowatt-hour (kWh)

A kilowatt is a unit of power representing the rate at which energy is used or produced. One kilowatt-hour is a unit of energy and represents one hour of electricity consumption at a constant rate of 1 kW.

Megawatt (MW): Megawatt-hour (MWh)

A megawatt equals 1000 kW. One megawatt-hour represents one hour of electricity consumption at a constant rate of 1 MW.

Gigawatt (GW): Gigawatt-hour (GWh)

A gigawatt equals 1000 MW. One gigawatt-hour represents one hour of electricity consumed at a constant rate of 1 GW.

Terawatt (TW): Terawatt-hour (TWh)

One terawatt equals 1000 GW. One terawatt-hour represents one hour of electricity consumption at a constant rate of 1 TW.

Wind Speed Conversion Table

Throughout the EIAR wind speeds are designated in metres per second (m/s). The following table allows for conversion of wind speed from m/s into miles per hour (mph), knots, the Beaufort Scale and the World Meteorological Organisation Description.

1 m/s = 2.24 mph = 1.94 knots

m/s	mph	knots	Beaufort Scale	World Meteorological Organisation Description (1964)	Wind Turbine Status
1	2.2	1.9	1	Light breeze	Low Wind Speed Shutdown Mode
2	4.5	3.9	2	Light breeze	
3	8.7	5.8	2	Light breeze	Cut-In Wind Speed Range
4	8.9	7.8	3	Gentle breeze	
5	11.2	9.7	3	Gentle breeze	Power Generation Wind Speed Range
6	13.4	11.7	4	Moderate breeze	
7	15.7	13.8	4	Moderate breeze	
8	17.9	15.5	4	Moderate breeze	
9	20.1	17.5	5	Fresh breeze	
10	22.4	19.4	5	Fresh breeze	
11	24.5	21.4	6	Strong breeze	
12	26.8	23.3	6	Strong breeze	
15	33.8	28.1	7	Near gale	
17	38.0	33.0	7	Near gale	
20	44.7	38.8	8	Gale	
22	49.2	42.7	9	Strong gale	
23	51.5	44.6	9	Strong gale	
24	53.8	46.6	9	Strong gale	
25	56.0	48.5	10	Storm	
26	58.2	50.5	10	Storm	High Wind Speed Shutdown Protection Mode
27	60.4	52.4	10	Storm	
30	67.1	58.3	11	Violent storm	
40	89.5	77.7	12	Hurricane	
50	111.5	97.1	12	Hurricane	
60	134.2	116.5	12	Hurricane	

Contents

Introduction

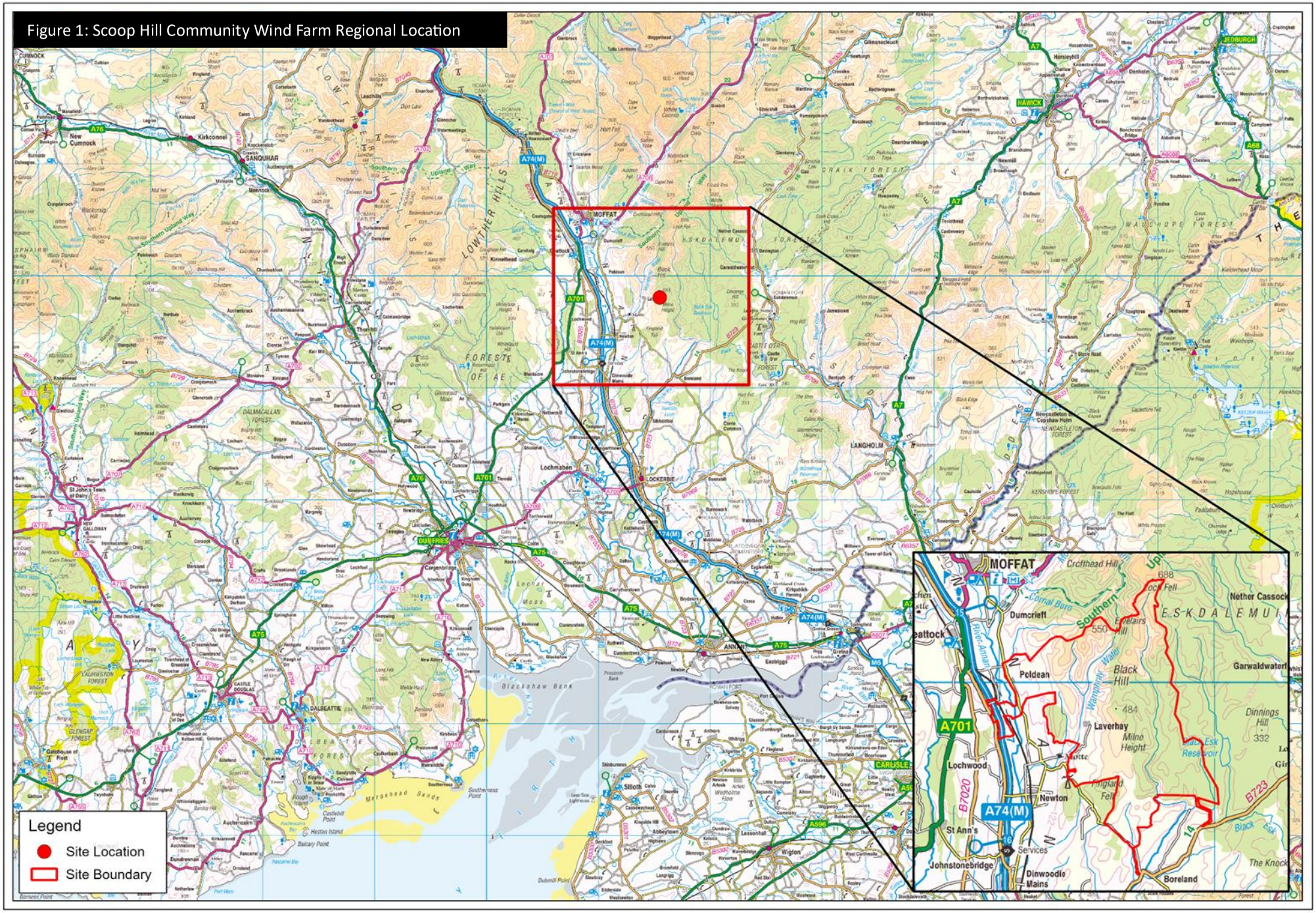
This Non-Technical Summary (NTS) accompanies the Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm Additional Information (AI) submission, summarising the updated aspects of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), submitted in November 2020, as a result of the revised layout for the proposal. This NTS was prepared to replace the NTS submitted in November 2020, and should be read in conjunction with the full application to the Scottish Government under Section 36 of The Electricity Act 1989.

The AI details the findings and conclusions of the amended Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) submitted as a part of the AI submission. This has been undertaken in line with the Electricity Works (Environmental impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 as amended.

In November 2020, CWL Energy Limited (the Applicant) submitted a proposal to design, install, operate, and decommission a wind farm comprising of 75 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 250m, located approximately 5 km southeast of Moffat and 11 km northeast of Lockerbie. After it was submitted, there was a consultation period with all stakeholders, both statutory and non-statutory consultees and local communities. After a year of consultation, it was agreed with the ECU and the Local Planning Authority, Dumfries & Galloway Council (DGC), that an AI report would be prepared and submitted.

Wind Turbines at Aikengall Community Wind Farm.

Figure 1: Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm Regional Location



The AI submission is required in response to a Regulation 19 requests from NatureScot and DGC. The purpose of the AI is to collate all new information, points of clarification requested since submission of the EIAR and to document any amendments to the scheme with associated justification.

The Applicant now proposes in this AI submission, to design, install, operate, and decommission a wind farm comprising of 60 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 250m and a battery storage facility of 200 megawatts (MW). This wind farm will have an overall minimum generating capacity of 432MW and is expected to produce 1.7 terawatt hours per annum.

The AI submission focuses on the changes made to the Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm, which are summarised below:

- Removal of 17 turbines and associated infrastructure (T1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 35, 37, 38, 54, 56, 61 and 62);
- Removal of 2 new borrow pits (N1 and N4) and the relocation of 3 other new borrow pits (N6, N7 & N8);
- Reduction in height of four turbines to the south of the site to 180m to tip (T51, 53, 55 and 57);
- Addition of two new turbines in the forestry (T76 & T77);
- Removal of one temporary construction compound; and
- Removal of 3 satellite battery storage facilities, which is being replaced by one primary 200MW battery storage facility on the substation and control room construction compound.

This AI not only addresses the amendments to the proposal but also outlines any additional information that has been provided to consultees during the consultation process, whether considered to be clarification or 'new' environmental information. This AI therefore contains additional information from that which was included in the submitted EIAR.

Where the proposed amendments to the scheme result in changes to the original EIAR, the updated information is included within this AI. It is intended that the AI should be read in conjunction with the EIAR submitted in November 2020 unless otherwise stated.

Approval of this development with the proposed changes within the AI, would be a positive and progressive step to fight climate change by helping Scotland meet its renewable energy targets of increasing installed capacity of onshore wind by more than double by 2030 while benefiting local communities.

Sanquhar Wind Turbines

The Applicant/Developer

The Applicant is CWL Energy Limited, which is a sister company to Community Windpower Limited (CWL). CWL Energy Limited will be the company for which the Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm will be developed, constructed and operated by however for sake of clarity, CWL will be making the application on behalf of the Applicant. Therefore, the AI references CWL in its documentation.

Formed in 2001, CWL is a Scottish focused independent UK company working closely with host communities to build wind farms that provide tangible economic, educational and environmental benefits for whole communities.

The Applicant and CWL believe in an open and consultative approach with local communities throughout all stages of the wind farm project and particularly prior to the submission of a planning application. We are experienced in designing and operating wind farm sites that are appropriately sited and can provide local generation to meet local energy needs.

The table below details our portfolio of wind farm projects across Scotland:

Figure 2: CWL Sites

	No. of Turbines	Capacity (MW)
OPERATIONAL		
Dalry	6	18
Aikengall	16	48
Millour Hill	6	18
Calder Water	13	39
Millour Hill Extension	2	6.4
Aikengall II	19	60.8
Sanquhar	9	31.05
Aikengall IIa	19	81.7
CONSENTED		
Sneddon Law	15	30
Sanquhar 'Six'	6	19.8
APPLICATION		
Sanquhar II	44	308
Faw Side	45	315
	200	975.75



Project Description

Key Project Figures:

CURRENT SITE USE:
Agriculture and commercial forestry

SITE AREA:
Approximately 5,685 hectares (ha). It is estimated the total land take of the proposed development following construction would be approximately 54ha

NUMBER OF TURBINES:
60

TURBINE HEIGHTS:
6 turbines will have a maximum tip height of 180m (increase of 2 turbines)
29 turbines will have a maximum tip height of 200m, (reduction of 18 turbines)
2 turbines will have a maximum tip height of 225m.
23 turbines will have a maximum tip height of 250m (increase of 1 turbine)

Output:
7.2MW per turbine with a total capacity of 432MW

ELECTRICITY PRODUCED:
1.7TWh per Annum

Homes Powered:
450,000

NUMBER OF BORROW PITS:
Total of 12 with 6 new and 6 existing

ACCESS TRACKS:
52km of new tracks;
35km of existing tracks;
Total of 87km of tracks.

CONSTRUCTION PERIOD:
18 months

LIFESPAN:
40 years operational

DECOMMISIONING PERIOD:
18 months

CARBON PAYBACK PERIOD:
2.5 years

CARBON DISPLACEMENT:
735,672 tonnes of CO_2 per annum

EMPLOYMENT:
Over 250 construction jobs and during operation 52 jobs from indirect, direct and induced impacts in Dumfries and Galloway.

GRID CONNECTION:
The Proposed Development has an agreed grid connection for August 2025 at Bearholm, Moffat in Dumfries and Galloway, which is approximately 3 km away.

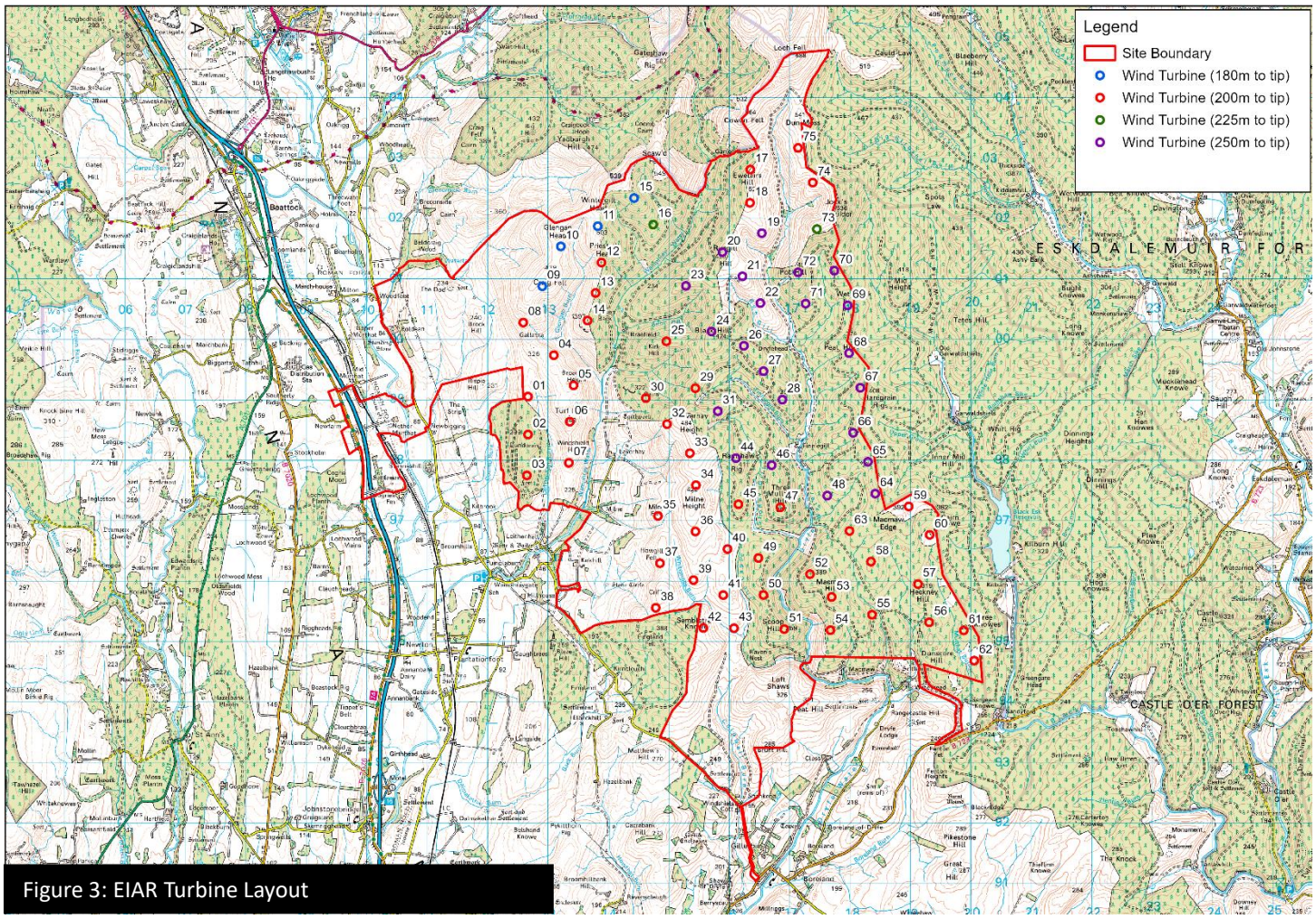



Figure 3: EIAR Turbine Layout

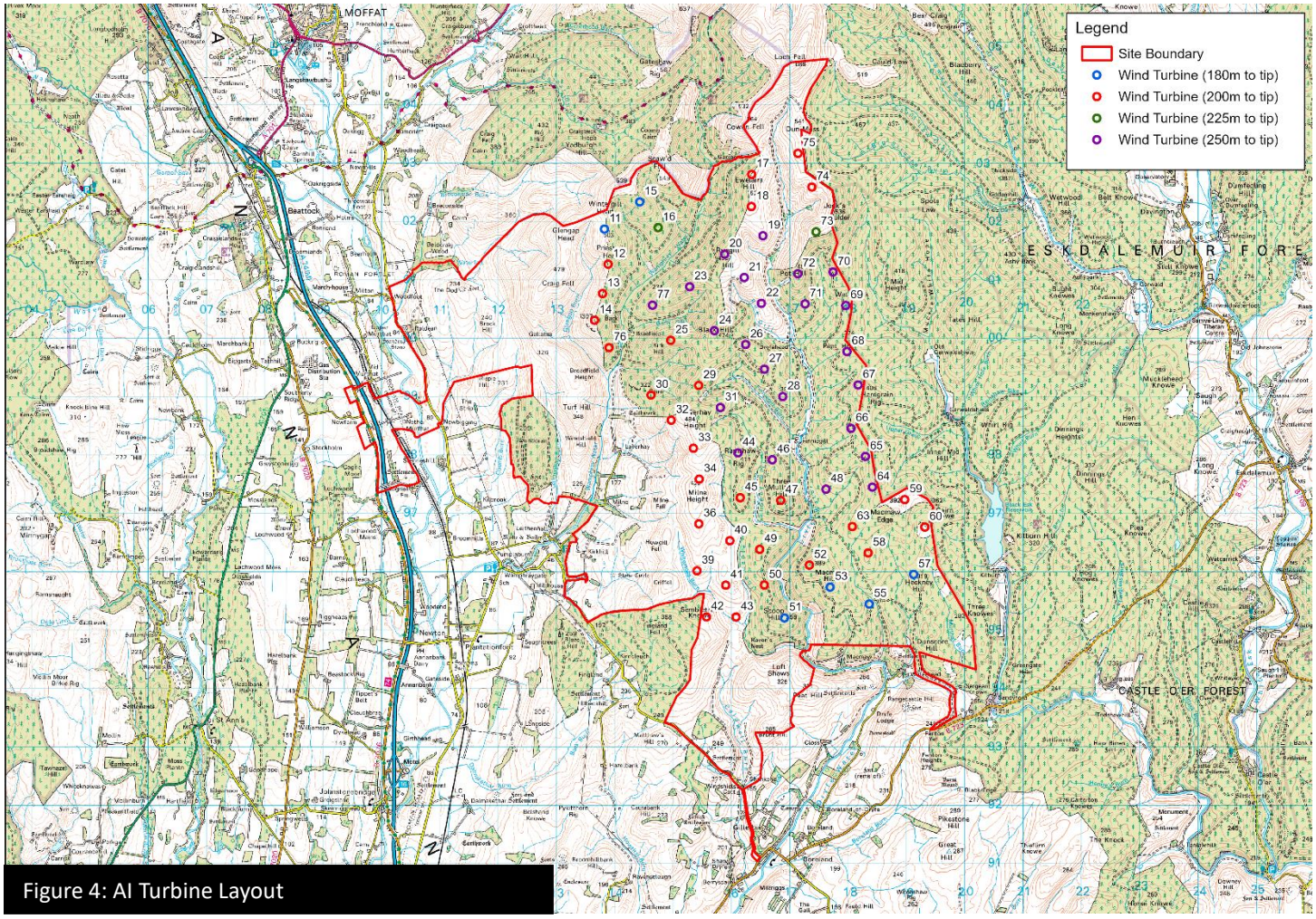


Figure 4: AI Turbine Layout

Main Elements

The development is described in detail within Section 2 of the AI. This summary describes the changes in the infrastructure proposed in the AI submission compared to the original submission in November 2020. The revised application includes 60 wind turbines and their foundations, crane hardstand areas, onsite access tracks, substation/control room buildings and compound and satellite substations, underground cables to each turbine, 3 meteorological masts and a 132kilovolt (kV) connection to a grid supply point

In addition to this, the following will be required for the construction of the wind farm: up to 6 new temporary borrow pits (areas of stone excavation) and use of 6 existing borrow pits which will be reinstated post construction, concrete batching plants which will be used onsite and construction and site storage compounds which will be removed post construction. The exception to this is the substation and control room compound which will be used for a 200MW battery storage facility. A map of the revised turbine layout is shown in Figure 4.

Site Location

The proposed wind farm development is situated within Dumfries and Galloway, approximately 5 kilometres (km) southeast of Moffat, as measured to the nearest turbine. The proposed wind farm will cover an area of approximately 5,685 Hectares (ha) and is centred on the National Grid Reference (NGR) NY155985 as shown in Figure 1.

The Scoop Hill proposal is also located in close proximity to a number of operational or consented third party wind farms. The nearest being Little Hartfell which is a nine-turbine scheme with a tip height of 160m which was consented in September 2019 but has yet to be constructed.

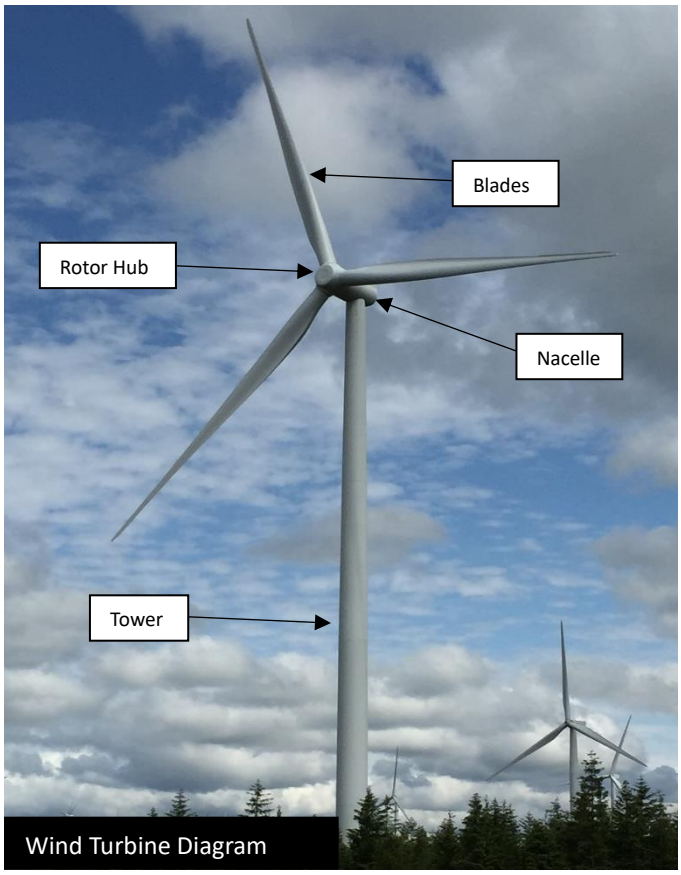
Turbine Construction at Sneddon Law Wind Farm

Wind Turbines

The revised wind farm design will comprise of 60 wind turbines and associated infrastructure. This is a total reduction of 15 turbines from the previous 75 proposed in the original submission.

The proposed turbine tower is a conical multi-sectioned structure. The turbines are to be three-bladed horizontal axis machines. The turbines are pitch regulated, upwind turbines with active yaw (a device which allows the machine to turn itself towards the prevailing wind). The turbine blades are typically airfoil shells bonded to supporting beams and constructed of fibreglass reinforced

epoxy and carbon fibres, although there are different construction methods employed by different manufacturers.



Wind Turbine Diagram

The proposed turbines will have a typical generating capacity of 7.2 MW. The turbines will be operated for 40 years and will be regularly serviced by engineers from the turbine supplier.

The final choice of turbine specification and manufacturer will be decided following a tendering process and commercial and technical appraisal; however, the turbines will not exceed the maximum tip height of 250m.

The tower, blades and nacelle will have a semi matt, light grey finish (International Colour Reference RAL 7035, RGB 230, 230, 230). This colour has been selected as the industry standard colour.

Turbine Foundations

Turbine foundations typically consist of either a square, circular, or octagonal steel reinforced concrete base usually 18m in diameter and founded approximately 3.5 m below the ground surface.

The base tower section of the turbine is connected to the foundation by either an embedded end-can that is cast into the foundation, or alternatively bolts that are cast into the upstanding section of the foundation. The weight of the foundation and the backfill material provides the stability required for the turbine.

Crane Hardstand

The construction of each turbine will require a primary large sized crane and a secondary small sized crane. These cranes will require areas of hardstand to provide stable, firm ground conditions during the installation of turbines. These hardstand areas will also be available for the outriggers of the respective cranes.

The hardstand areas will remain for the operational life of the wind farm to allow for future potential crane access, if repairs to the turbine are required during the operational phase of the project.

Meteorological Mast

Three permanent meteorological masts, typically 125m in height, will be installed on site. The masts will be used to monitor the on-site wind conditions (speed and direction) along with meteorological conditions, to provide information for the effective control and operation of the site.

Mast “A” can be found between turbines 20 and 21 with a grid reference of NT160011. Mast “B” is further south and can be found between turbines 52 and 58 with a grid reference of NY178936. Mast “C” is south of turbine 43 with a grid reference of NY160948.

The mast will be a lightweight triangular lattice tower made of galvanized steel pipe and welded together in a lattice arrangement. The mast will have circular hollow section legs and solid round

bracings and will either be self-supporting or guyed, depending on the final design selected.

Substation/Control Room Buildings and Compound

The proposed development will require an on-site main substation compound accommodating a network owner control building, wind farm control building and outdoor electrical infrastructure as well as three smaller satellite substations across the site.

The underground 33kV cables routed from the proposed turbines would be brought to three satellite substations within the wind farm, where the voltage would be stepped up to 132kV. From the satellite substations, 132kV cables would transmit the generated electricity to the primary onsite substation. The primary onsite substation will connect to the grid substation at Bearholm, Moffat, located only 3km from the proposed site.

The substation is proposed to be constructed using metal cladding. The building will be coloured dark green to minimise its visual impact and to resemble agricultural outbuildings. However, the exact configuration, layout and finish of the building and compound will be agreed prior to construction commencing.

Electrical Infrastructure and Energy Storage Facility

All electrical cabling will be placed in trenches that generally follow the on-site access tracks. A separate communication cable and earth tape will also be laid in the trench. The route of the cables will be clearly marked above the ground with identification posts. The cables will be buried to a depth of approximately 1m.

A further change in the AI is the removal of the three battery storage and the inclusion of a 200MW energy Storage facility located on the site of the primary substation and control room temporary construction compound.

Underground cables will be installed to connect the energy storage facility to the wind farm's point of connection at the primary substation, located adjacent to the energy storage facility. The design and inclusion of the energy storage facility provides real-time grid stabilisation to the National Grid, allowing excess electricity generated Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm, to be stored in the energy storage facility during times of low demand. This stored energy can then be fed back into the grid during times of peak demand which will also improve energy security for Scotland.

Access Track Construction at Sneddon Law

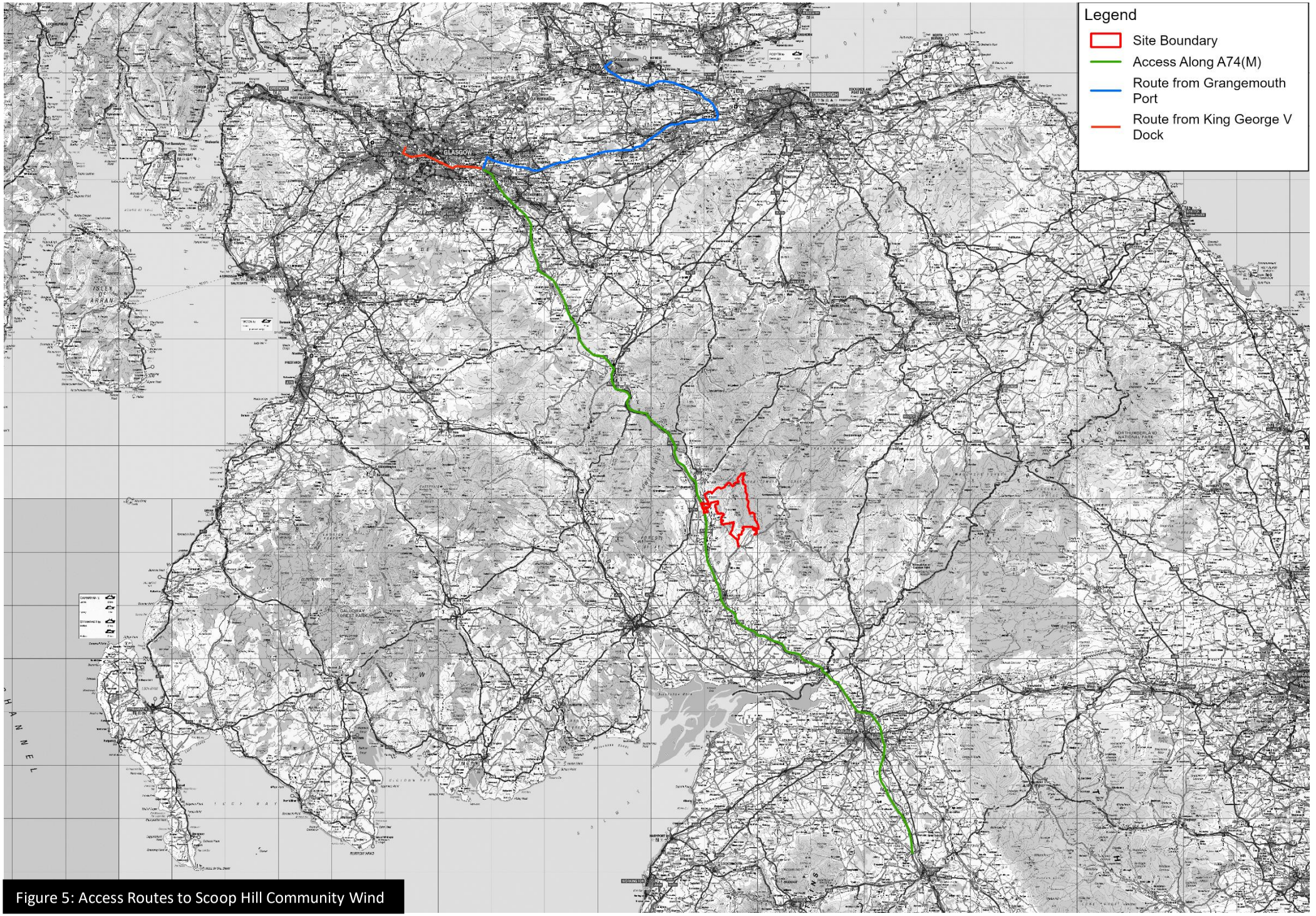


Figure 5: Access Routes to Scoop Hill Community Wind

Transportation and Access

Construction of the wind farm will require delivery of large items of plant and equipment to the site. The proposed access route for construction traffic, including abnormal load deliveries will be via the three proposed route options below.

Option 1 (For Abnormal loads and Construction related traffic) will exit the A74M using the northbound exit slip at Junction 18:

- Turn right onto B723;
- At the next two roundabout, take the 2nd exit, continuing on the B7076;
- Turn right towards Breckenry Road;
- Turn right onto Breckenry Road;
- Continue onto B723; and
- Turn left onto C102A before Boreland.

Option 2 (For Abnormal loads and Construction related traffic) will exit the A74M using the northbound exit slip road at Junction 17:

- Turn right onto B723;
- At the next two roundabout, take the 2nd exit onto the B7076;
- Continue along the B7076 until either:
  - Turn right after Cogrieburn Farm, towards Cogrie Farm and Cottages, over the existing A74(M) bridge;
    - After Cogrie Cottages, turn left along a stone track toward the existing old quarry road and over the existing railway bridge heading to Murthat Bank (old Quarry);
    - Cross the River Annan with a new bridge; and
    - Cross the B707 at the site entrance. Or;
  - Turn right along the old quarry road, which travels under the A74(M);
    - Continue along this private track, over the existing railway bridge heading towards Murthat Bank (old Quarry);
    - Cross the River Annan with a new bridge; and
    - Cross the B707 at the site entrance. Or,
  - Turn right towards Mid Murthat Farm, over the existing A74(M) bridge;
    - Before the railway turn right, along an existing stone track heading south alongside the railway;
    - Swing left on to the existing old quarry road and over the existing railway bridge heading to Murthat Bank (old Quarry);
    - Cross the River Annan with a new bridge; and
    - Cross the B707 at the site entrance.

Option 3 (For Abnormal loads and Construction related traffic) will exit the A74M using the northbound exit slip at Junction 17:

- Turn right onto B723;
- At the next two roundabout, take the 1st exit onto the B7076;
- Turn right towards Breckenry Road;
- Turn right onto Breckenry Road;
- Continue onto B723; and
- Turn left before Sandyford Water treatment plant, at the entrance to Silton Forestry.

Once the entrance to the Scoop Hill development site has been reached, existing on-site access tracks will be utilised wherever possible and upgraded where necessary. However, sections of new access tracks will need to be constructed to connect existing access tracks to the individual turbine locations proposed. These new access tracks will be constructed using site-won stone from the existing and new onsite borrow pits to ensure tone and character of the tracks are in keeping with the local area. The tracks will have a running width of around 5m to allow for two-way traffic and allow passage for larger vehicles such as turbine components and cranes.

Borrow Pits

On-site borrow pits are required to source locally won stone for construction work, including the construction of access tracks and crane hardstands. Sourcing the stone on-site will

minimise transportation movements to and from the site, and crucially reduce the developments overall carbon footprint.

There are 6 existing borrow pits and quarries that have been identified for potential usage within the development boundary. The locations of the existing quarries/borrow pits were identified through consultation with the forestry managers, landowners and though site walkovers. Where possible these borrow pits and quarries will be re-opened first to reduce the potential extraction of material from fresh sources.

The AI proposes that 6 new temporary borrow pits may be required to extract the stone needed, a reduction from the 8 proposed in the original submission through the removal of pits N1 and N4. The AI also includes relocating three of the borrow pits (N6, N7 & N8) from areas near commercial forestry, to remove the need for felling. Section 2 of the AI provides further information on the details and dimensions of the borrow pits proposed.

Temporary Construction Compound and Site Storage Compound

Due to the size of the proposed Scoop Hill development, more than one temporary construction and site storage compound will be required to provide site offices, and welfare facilities for the on-site construction teams. This will look to minimise movements of personnel around the site, as well as having suitably sited locations for health and safety and welfare units.

Temporary construction/site storage compounds will be used around the site to minimise movement of vehicles on site, as well as rest areas for personnel. These compounds are either located adjacent to the proposed access tracks or directly adjacent to the 3 satellite substations.

Blade Delivery By Scottish Company Colletts at Sneddon Law Wind Farm

These smaller compounds will also provide storage and a laydown area for plant and materials and for the secure storage of turbine components and equipment. All fuels and oils would be securely bunded or stored with double skinned containers of 110% capacity.

The construction compound that is located immediately adjacent to the main substation will be utilised to form the base and compound for the energy storage facility once the substation construction work is complete.

The construction and storage compounds will all be constructed using locally won stone from the onsite borrow pits as a hardstand area will be required which will be constructed at a sensible gradient, utilising geo-textile material to reduce excavation depths to below 500mm.

The AI proposes that at the end of the construction period, all equipment will be removed from the compounds and the hardstand areas will be covered over with stored topsoil, with the exception of the substation construction compound, which will be re-used for the energy storage facility.

Turbine Construction at Aikengall II Community Wind Farm

Wind Farm Development Stages

Site Selection

CWL and the Applicant are engaged in a continual search and assessment of potential wind farm sites throughout Scotland to progress and develop into wind farm applications.

Wind power development is constantly evolving and becoming more efficient. This efficiency consists of taller turbines which benefit from more consistent wind speeds, and longer blades which cover a wider swept area which increases the capacity of the turbine. This 'new generation' of larger wind turbines has been universally adopted by the wind energy industry, and the Scottish Government's acceptance of larger turbines has been unequivocally demonstrated with the consent of 12 onshore wind farms developments in Scotland since 2020, with tip heights of 200m and above.

Due to a change in Scottish policy, the Applicant considers that the use of larger turbines up to 200m to tip and above are more efficient and reduce the overall number of turbines required on site to reach the desired output. Therefore, Scoop Hill has been designed with a range of tip heights which means the design is sympathetic to the landscape and minimises visual impacts.

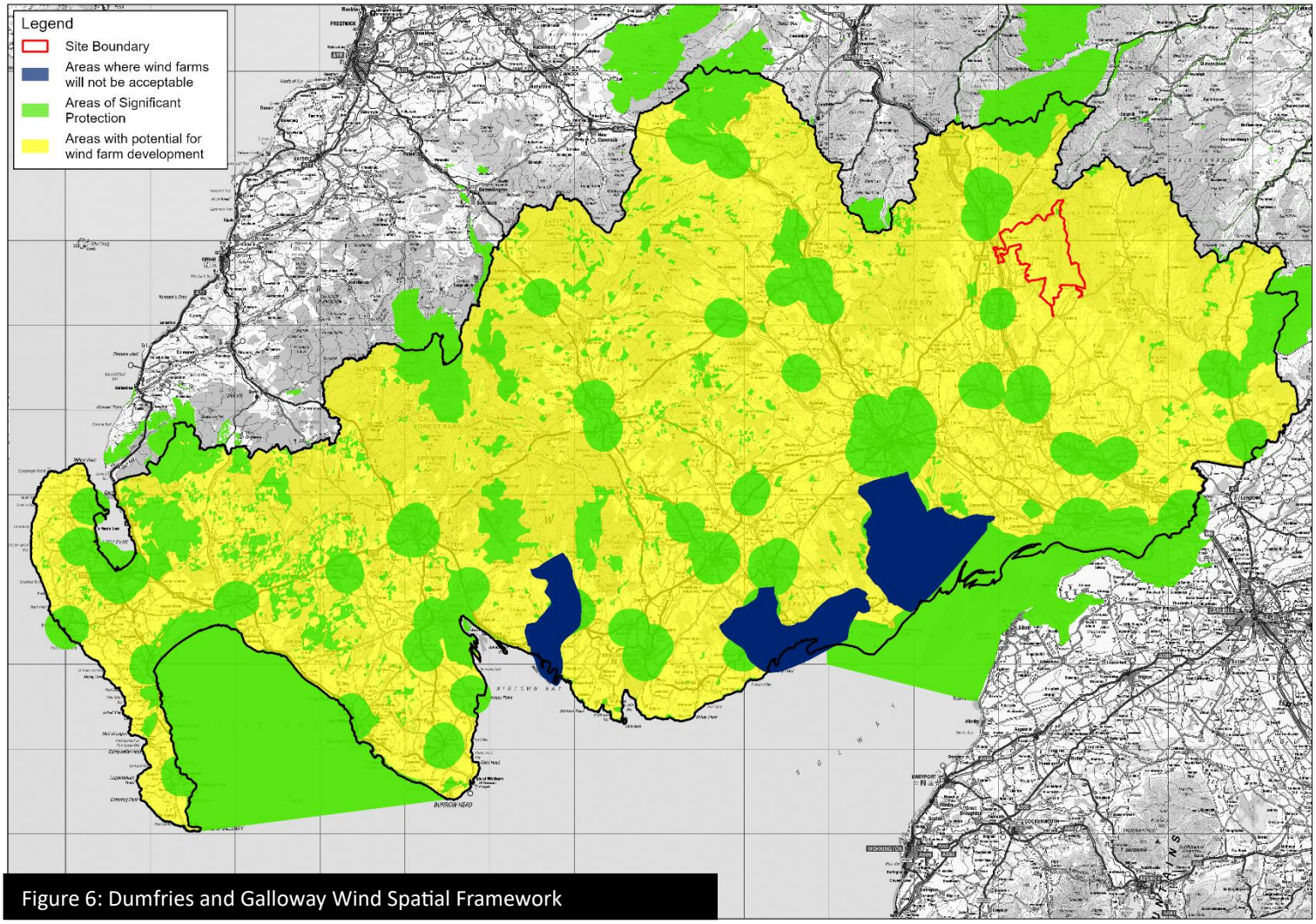
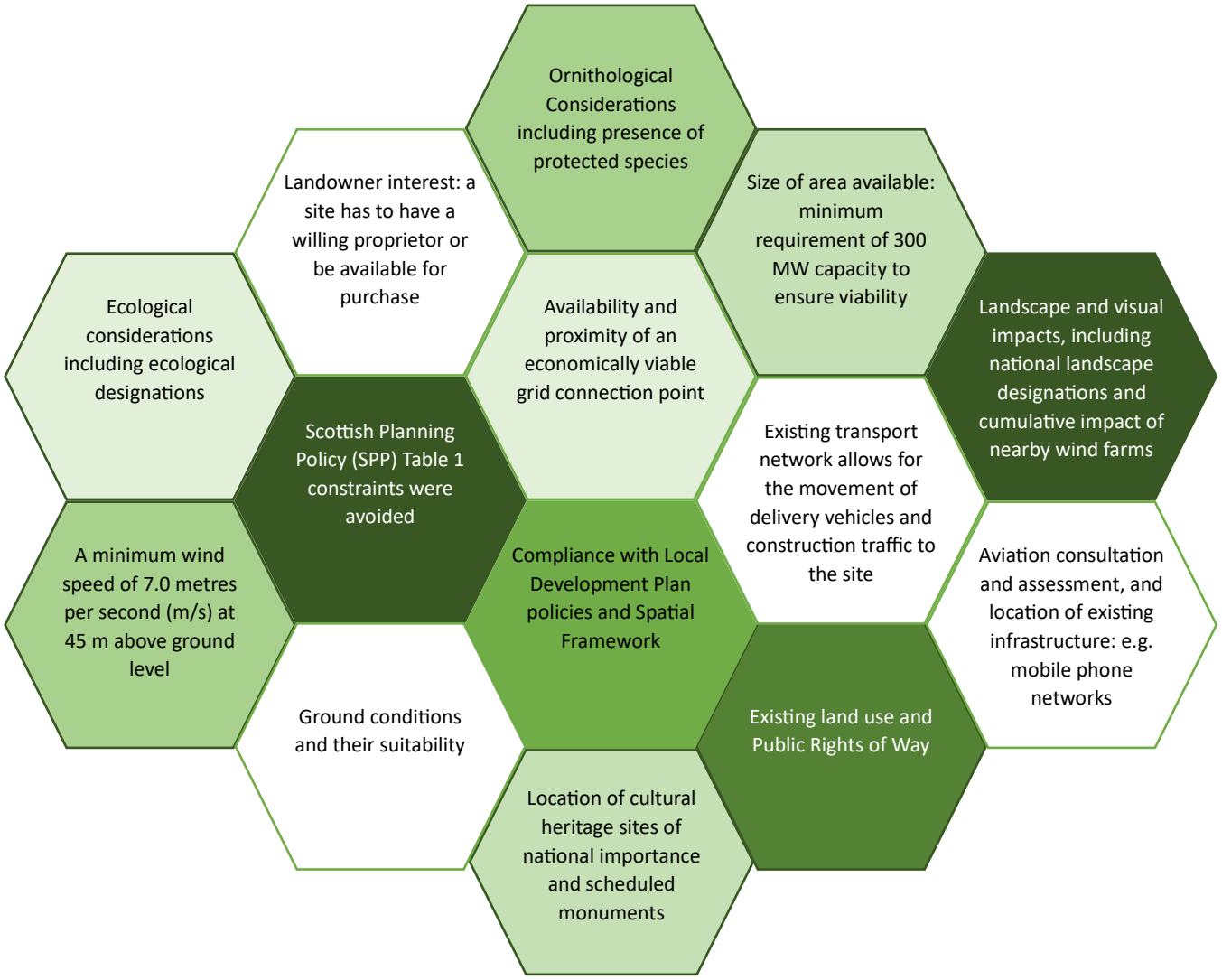


Figure 6: Dumfries and Galloway Wind Spatial Framework

For a site to be suitable it has to fulfil the following selection criteria:



Scoping is a vital early step in the preparation of the EIA and EIAR. A Scoping Report was compiled by CWL and submitted to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit in May 2019 and a subsequent Scoping Opinion was issued by the Energy Consents Unit in August 2019 which provided all scoping responses from the various consultees.

The scoping assessment informs the EIA by identifying environmental constraints in the vicinity of a potential wind farm development site that are likely to be important during the EIA and eliminating those that are not.

During the iterative site design process, the Applicant has actively liaised with consultants and consultees to ensure a site design that provides minimum environmental impact, whilst ensuring viability and providing maximum site efficiency. This includes reducing the number of turbines within the development area and utilising the most up to date turbine technology to maximise efficiency and yield.

Following the EIAR submission, a total of 15 turbines were removed from the scheme to reduce the landscape and visual concerns as well as other factors. With this reduction in turbines, further benefits are gained with the overall lengths of access tracks being reduced as they are no longer required and reduction in the number of borrow pits required.

In addition, 3 borrow pits have been relocated due to concerns with GWDTE and 2 have been completely removed. There will only be one main battery storage site of 200MW at the main

substation and control room construction compound whilst all others have been completely removed.

The site selection process has identified the Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm site as an excellent location for a wind farm. It offers excellent average wind speeds; is close to a good road network with access tracks suitable once upgraded, has a grid connection point within close proximity; and is not located within any nationally designated landscapes. Finally, the site is located within an area classified as having 'potential for wind farm development' (Map 8: 'Wind Energy Spatial Framework' Dumfries & Galloway LDP2, adopted October 2019).

Construction

The construction period for the proposed wind farm is anticipated to last for around 18 months.

Operation

Once the construction is complete and the wind turbines have completed commissioning, the wind farm will be operational for 40 years. Maintenance regimes begin shortly after commissioning with 'post-construction' checks performed, usually at 10 days and 3 months after commissioning. After this, minor and major service regimes continue on a 6-monthly basis with both services being performed annually throughout the lifetime of each turbine.

These service regimes will be programmed so a minimum number of turbines are being serviced at any one time. This will ensure the electrical generated output from the wind farm is kept to a maximum.

In the case of major component maintenance being required, such as generator or blade replacement, large vehicles, similar to those used during the turbine installation phase, may be required to return to the site. All maintenance of any equipment is performed according to the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) stated schedules and procedures.

Timeframes

Construction
18 months
Operation
40 years
Decommission
18 months

Decommissioning

Wind turbines can be decommissioned, and sites cleared and restored easily and rapidly. This is in contrast to traditional fossil fuel fired power stations, and particularly nuclear power stations. The proposed wind farm should therefore be viewed as a sustainable development.

At the end of the wind farm's operational life, it is proposed that the turbines and associated infrastructure would be removed. The upper sections of the turbine foundations will be removed and backfilled with approximately 1m of appropriate material, subsoil or topsoil replaced, and the area reseeded where appropriate.

Tracks that are to be utilised for land management/forestry operations or by the landowners would be left in-situ.

Decommissioning of the wind farm is expected to typically last for around 18 months with a 'Decommissioning Method Statement' produced, and agreed with the local authority, landowners, and other statutory stakeholders such as SEPA at least 12 months prior to decommissioning commencing.

Need for the Development

Scottish Renewable Energy Policy

The Scottish Government remains committed to and promotes the development of onshore wind as the lowest-cost new build electricity generation in Scotland and the UK.

Since the original submission in November 2020, there have been several new climate change and energy policy documents released which set down targets regarding renewable energy and carbon emissions. The AI submission has utilised these documents to inform the assessment of the new layout of Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm. A common theme that still prevails in these recently released documents is the strengthened and increased support for onshore wind. The new relevant Scottish legislation and policy includes the following:

- National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), adopted in February 2023;
- Onshore Wind Policy Statement, published in December 2022;
- Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan, draft released in January 2023;
- British Energy Security Strategy, released 7th April 2022;
- Scotland's Biodiversity Strategy to 2045, released December 2022;

It should be noted that Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) has been wholly replaced with NPF4. For more information about the individual policies please see AI Section 4: Planning Policy, and the Planning Statement which accompanies the AI.

Role of Renewables

The benefits of using wind energy for the generation of electricity are:

- It is a renewable source and is therefore unlimited;
- It is safe and does not produce any harmful by-products;
- It does not release greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere during the operation of the wind farm;
- Construction and decommissioning of wind farms are quick and cost effective;

Following decommissioning, wind farm sites are either returned to their original state or can be redeveloped.

Wind energy also provides a diverse and secure supply of energy which is a major part of the Government's energy policy, as electricity generated from renewable sources within the UK provides a power source protected from disruption by the actions of foreign governments. The rapid deployment of renewable energy is crucial at this time when the current generation of electricity from older plants are being decommissioned.

In December 2020, the Scottish Government published their Update to the Climate Change Plan [2018-2032] (CCPu), titled 'Securing a Green Recovery on a Path to Net Zero'. The CCPu presents that over 90% of Scotland's electricity comes from renewables, however this achievement must be scaled up to further prioritise renewables as the country makes a wider move towards decarbonisation of other sectors.

The Scottish Onshore Wind Policy Statement released in December 2022, assesses Scotland's 2022/23 Programme for Government and, in terms of climate policy, presents the fact that there is an aim of 12 GW of onshore wind by 2030 in Scotland.

Guided also by the UK Energy Security Strategy, which prioritises onshore wind as a key driver towards energy autonomy, the Climate Change Committee (CCC) recommend increased cooperation between the two governments to reach this ambitious 2030 target and the additional targets beyond.

Why Scoop Hill?

Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm is expected to operate at a capacity factor of 50%. Although this is a realistic assumption, a more conservative capacity factor of 45% has been used for energy and emission calculations.

The proposed wind farm is expected to produce around **1.7TWh of electricity per annum** which will be enough energy to power over **450,000 homes**. The proposed development will therefore make direct and strategic contribution to achieving renewable energy generation targets, contributing to Scotland's ambitious Net Zero target by 2045.

Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm would annually displace approximately **735,672 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO2)**, which equates to over **29 million tonnes of CO2** over its 40-year operational life. This can be found in more detail in the AI Appendix 2.1 in Section 2 of the AI Submission.

Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm will contribute **£5,000 per MW** of energy generated to community benefit funding in line with the Scottish Government Guidance on community benefits. This will equate to **£2.16 million per annum** for the 40-year operational life of the wind farm, this is additional to the **£5.4 million per annum** that will be contributed to the local economy through business rates.

The proposed wind farm will also utilise the limitless quantities of renewable energy from wind power which can be used to generate electricity surpluses to export to the rest of the UK.

Enough electricity to power **450,000** homes per year

Furthermore, the site is located in an excellent area for wind farm development as

classified in the Dumfries and Galloway LDP2, adopted in 2019 under 'potential for wind farm development' (Map 8: 'Wind Energy Spatial Framework' Dumfries & Galloway LDP2, adopted October 2019).

In addition to significant financial investment the proposed Scoop Hill scheme will generate over **250 temporary jobs** across the construction and supply industry and could support **52 jobs** in Dumfries and Galloway as part of the operation of maintenance of the wind farm, these jobs could include wind turbine Engineers, maintenance workers and a supervisor.

CWL are committed to creating long-standing relationships with Scottish companies to deliver the Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm. Preference will be given to companies located in Dumfries and Galloway for these contracts, and associated employment opportunities will be made available for local people through our 'Buy Scottish' policy. Scottish companies will be invited to bid for civil contracting for the construction of access tracks, turbine foundations, crane hardstands and borrow pits.

Approval of this development would be a positive and progressive step in the fight to tackle climate change, aiding Scotland with meeting its renewable energy and carbon emissions targets. The development will also provide essential economic stimulus to Dumfries and Galloway, supporting Scotland's Net Zero Energy Targets.

Consultation and Community Benefits

CWL are committed to working with the host communities in the area surrounding the proposed Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm to create a project which is mutually beneficial. It is believed that the best projects arise from discussion with the communities who can give insight into the local area.

Community Consultation

CWL believe in an open and consultative approach with local communities from the outset and engage with Local Authorities, Community Councils, communities, residents, consultees, and key stakeholders in the surrounding area of the wind farm proposal. Therefore, we work to develop long standing relationships with local communities and ensuring the wind farm becomes a long-term asset to the area.

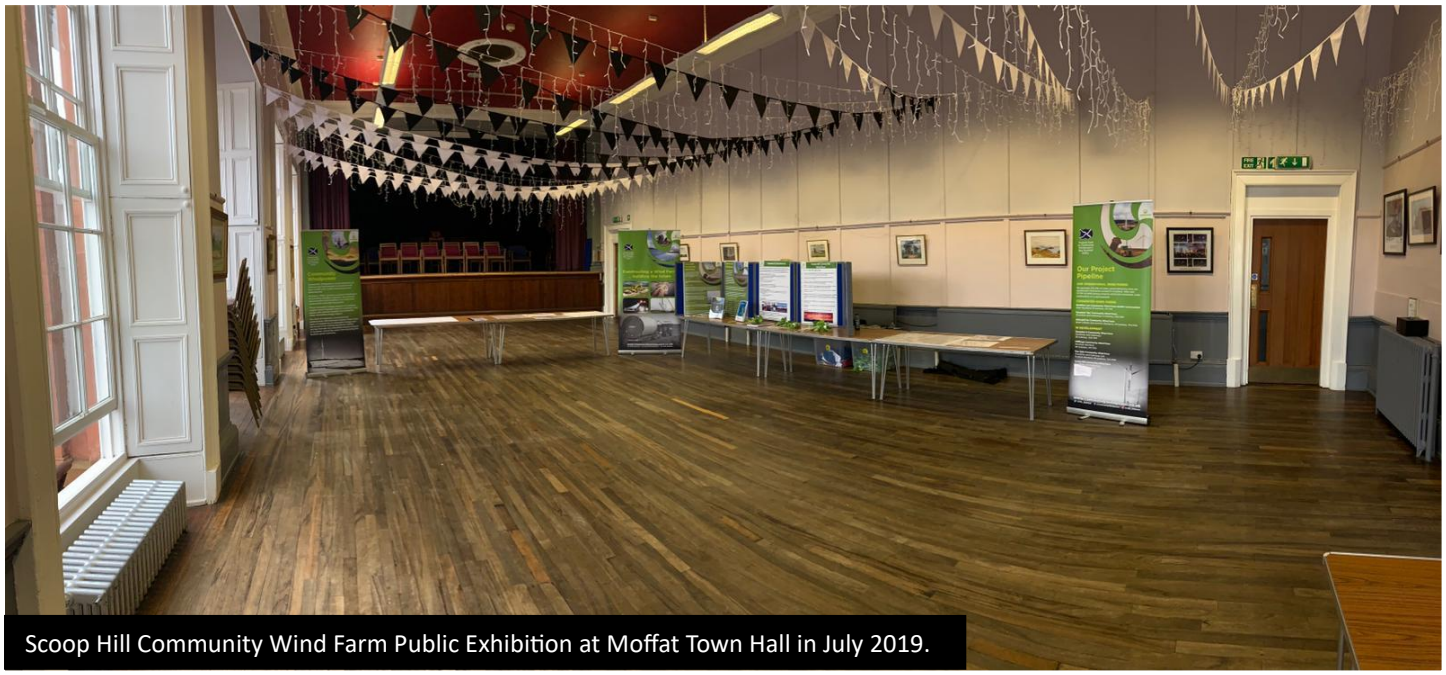
Following the submission of the original EIAR in November 2020, there was a consultation period with all stakeholders, both statutory and non-statutory consultees and local communities. After a year of consultation, it was agreed with the ECU and DGC to prepare an AI submission. The consultation period also yielded responses that helped inform changes to the scheme, reducing the scheme's size from 75 turbines to 60, as well as other associated beneficial changes.

Community consultation for the scheme initially began in 2018 and has so far involved meetings with Community Councils, local residents, and public exhibitions in the area surrounding the wind farm proposal. This includes the scoping period and following the November 2020 submission.

CWL has consulted with the following community councils:

- Eskdalemuir;
- Johnstonebridge (although they are currently dissolved);
- Kirkpatrick Juxta;
- Moffat and District;
- North Milk and;
- Wamphray.

CWL also holds public exhibitions where local communities are informed of what the proposal entails and allows residents to ask questions. Following the submission of the EIAR in November



Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm Public Exhibition at Moffat Town Hall in July 2019.

2020, CWL intended to host a round of public exhibitions. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, CWL was unable to hold any in person meetings or exhibition events. CWL therefore produced an informative video for communities to view on YouTube and social media, as well as making sure as much information as possible was available on the Scoop Hill website alongside the video. Copies of the Non-Technical Summary were also printed and sent to the Community Councils so that they could be provided to local residents who requested information about the scheme.

Once restrictions had eased in the summer of 2021, the Applicant held four Public Exhibition events, where hard copies of the EIAR, supporting documents and visualisations were available for viewing at the following public locations:

- Moffat Town Hall - 8th July 2021 at 11:00 - 19:30
- Beattock Village Hall - 14th July 2021 at 11:00 - 19:30
- Wamphray Village Hall - 15th July 2021 at 10:00 - 16:00
- Johnstonebridge Community Centre - 21st July 2021 at 11:00 - 19:30

Leaflet drops took place in the local area prior to the exhibitions, to inform the community of these events. The leaflets were hand delivered on the 25th and 26th May and then again on 30th June and 1st July 2021, to ensure that all areas would receive the information about the proposed development.

Following further consultation with statutory consultees and the local community during the rest of 2021 and into 2022, there was a number of design changes made to the proposed development.

Members of CWL's Projects Team organised and attended a joint Community Council meeting on the 19th January 2023 to provide a detailed update to representatives from the relevant Community Councils. A presentation was provided which explained the work which had been taking place over the last 12 months with details announced about the changes to the scheme and the revised 60-turbine layout. This was followed by an extensive Question and Answer session, which was appreciated by the Community Council representatives who attended.

Following the submission of the AI, CWL will continue to engage with Community Councils, local groups, and residents in relation to the proposed changes to the wind farm development and associated community benefits and assets. Public exhibitions will be held for local residents to attend following the submission, to again inform and answer questions the public may have regarding the proposal.

Community Benefits

Since 2006 CWL has donated over £8 million of community benefit funding to local host communities across Scotland where our eight operational wind farms are located.

During the operation of the proposed Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm, CWL will focus on the provision of community benefits and funding for community projects. These will be used to fund economic, environmental, and social requirements of local residents, businesses, and community groups throughout the lifetime of the project.

CWL has committed to provide £5,000 of community benefit funding per MW, which is in line with the Scottish Government guidance and has been committed to in response to community

consultation comments received following the submission of the original EIAR in November 2020. This will equate to £2.16 million per annum; and over the lifetime of the wind farm this will total £86.4 million.

CWL is committed to investing in Scotland, bolstering the Scottish Economy, as we operate a 'Buy Scottish' policy during the development, construction, operation and decommissioning of all our wind farms. Through this scheme, CWL aims to invest in the local areas surrounding the wind farm, providing economic benefits, employment and educational resources for the lifetime of the wind farm. CWL's 'Buy Scottish' policy has been applied and implemented already for the Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm proposal in relation to the work undertaken to date during the development stages of the scheme.

CWL are liaising with Community Councils, Local Development Groups, local residents, and other local organisations for suggestions on how community benefits and long-term community assets can not only benefit the local communities, but enhance the local area, potentially bringing jobs and money into the local communities. With the development, construction, and operation of Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm, there is significant opportunity to benefit and enhance its host communities.

Some of the benefit schemes that CWL could introduce to the local area from the Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm scheme include:

- Shared Ownership Feasibility Studies;
- Energy Support Fund for host communities around the proposed Scoop Hill development;
- Outdoor sports and learning opportunities;
- Creating employment and apprenticeship opportunities within local job markets;
- Home Energy Efficiency Improvements;
- Training and Business support.

CWL will continue to liaise with local people and communities throughout the development process of the wind farm and will look to move forward with material benefits to the local host communities which would be tied to the consent of the wind farm. Further information is detailed in the AI Commitment to Communities Report which accompanies the Additional Information Submission.

CWL also value their working relationships with local schools surrounding their operational wind farms. CWL has already engaged with several of the local primary schools in Moffat, Lockerbie, Beattock, Johnstonebridge and Boreland providing educational workshops and presentations, trips to a wind farm, funding for IT equipment and the delivery of PE sessions by Let's Get Sporty. With Lets Get Sporty, CWL funded 10 weeks of free physical education sessions for 360 pupils from primary schools in Beattock, Moffat, Applegarth and Johnstonebridge. Looking to the future, the Applicant and CWL wish to engage even further with the local schools surrounding Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm, to create strong working partnerships and bring their educational benefits to a wider region.

CWL have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with many primary schools in host communities surrounding operational wind farms across Scotland. The MoU confirms our commitment to working with these schools for the lifetime of the wind farm by providing educational support for environmental topics and energy awareness together with financial support for educational trips for the school to attend and participate in.

CWL are committed to working in partnership with higher education institutions and are currently working with local colleges in the area surrounding our operational wind farms. CWL is proud to have a successful partnership with West College Scotland, delivering a student placement scheme each year, and is also assisting 'Developing the Young Workforce' (DYW) in Dumfries and Galloway to provide schools and colleges with careers presentations and educational support as

required. It is CWL's ambition to continue to grow these working partnerships and to develop further relationships in the future in association with the Scoop Hill scheme, as mentioned above.

In addition to the community benefits noted above, Scoop Hill will also contribute approximately £5.4million per annum in business rates to Dumfries and Galloway Council. This money can be utilised by the Council to support the provision of vital local services and facilities, in turn helping to improve education, employment and socioeconomics of the local authority area.

Further information of CWL's commitment to Scotland, our 'Buy Scottish' Policy and the local host communities can be found in Section 5 of the EIAR and AI submission and the updated Commitment to Communities Report which accompanies the AI submission.

CWL operates a "Buy Scottish" policy at all of our wind farms

CWL Donating £500,000 to East Lothian Energy Fund

Environmental Impact Assessment

The Applicant has undertaken a revised EIA based on the changes to the layout of Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm which includes the removal of 17 turbines (with the addition of 2 new turbines in the forestry), reduced tip heights for 4 turbines and other changes in the infrastructure on the site as detailed in AI Section 2. The updated assessment ensures the potential impacts associated with the design changes and changes in the site selection, design, construction, operation and decommissioning during normal and abnormal conditions are identified and assessed with the appropriate mitigation measures undertaken to minimise any potential impacts.

The updated EIA information will be submitted as part of the Additional Information submission to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) at the Scottish Government.

Each of the key matters are addressed in the relevant sections of the AI which identify the scope of the surveys and assessments undertaken since the EIAR submission in November 2020. These Key EIA matters are:

These key EIA matters are:

- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment;
- Ornithology;
- Ecology;
- Cultural Heritage;
- Hydrology, Geology and Hydrogeology;
- Noise;
- Transport;
- Forestry;
- Other Considerations (Socio-economic, Aviation, Telecommunications, Tourism and Recreation);
- Cumulative Impacts.

For each consideration, the assessment undertaken considered the existing environmental condition; those receptors that might be affected; the scale and nature of the changes predicted as a result of the development; and the effect of these changes on the identified environmental receptors. Where appropriate, measures to mitigate significant adverse effects have been incorporated into the updated scheme's design.

A summary of the EIA assessments for Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm which are included in the AI Submission are presented below. For further information please refer to the relevant sections of the AI submission, which should be read in conjunction to the original EIAR submission.

Wind Turbines at Aikengall Community Wind Farm

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

The AI Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) updates the findings of significance reported in the EIAR LVIA section, submitted in November 2020. This is as a result of the layout changes which will consequently change the visual aspects of the site, and therefore any impacts posed by the wind farm.

The revised changes include the removal of 17 turbines and the addition of 2 which will change the visual impacts initially identified in the 2020 EIAR. Additionally, the changes in tip heights in some locations will also reduce negative visual impacts.

The purpose of an LVIA when undertaken in the context of an EIA is to consider the effect on the landscape resource, both direct effects and indirect effects on how the landscape is perceived and the effect on visual amenity (views) within the study area.

In addition, the opportunity has been taken to update the cumulative assessment, in order to reflect any changes in the wind farm context that have arisen since submission of the application in 2020, and which may affect the assessment of the Proposed Development.

The updated assessment also considers how the change to the Proposed Development affects the assessment of visual effects arising on residential property, through a new Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) which replaces the previous 2020 RVAA.

The findings of the AI LVIA are presented in Section 6 of the AI submission and Volumes II, III, IVa and IVb respectively.

Wind farms give rise to a wide spectrum of opinions, ranging from strongly adverse to strongly positive, with a wide range of opinions lying somewhere between these two positions. Some people view wind turbines as incongruous or industrial structures whilst others view them as aesthetically pleasing, elegant structures and a positive response to climate change. The LVIA makes an objective assessment of the effects of the proposed development on the landscape and visual resource, utilising a methodology that accords with best-practice guidance.

LVIA Update Summary

The study area for the LVIA covers a radius of 45km from the outer turbines in the proposed development. The assessment has shown that the effect of the proposed development on the landscape and visual resource of the great majority of this study area will be not significant, which means that in these areas the effect of the proposed development is not defining, and the existing characteristics of the landscape and views will continue to prevail. The areas where the effect of the proposed development itself will be not significant include World Heritage Sites, National Scenic Areas, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and all regional and local scenic designations with the exception of the Moffat Hills Regional Scenic Area (RSA).

While the effect on the majority of the study area will be not significant, as described above, the LVIA has

Visualisations for Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm Viewpoint 7

indicated that there is potential for the proposed development to result in significant effects on the localised 20km study area that has been defined for the detailed assessment.

The AI LVIA present an updated assessment of potential changes to the landscape and visual effects originally assessed for the Proposed Development in the EIAR, as a consequence of the revised Proposed Development and the changed cumulative baseline. Significant effects have been identified in the AI LVIA and are as follows:

- Intermittent or very intermittent significant effects on landscape character areas of the site and some of its surroundings up to a maximum of approximately 11.5km away from the nearest turbine. Significant material change to the views of Foothills – Annandale (unit A) (areas 18(i) and 18(ii)) has resulted in impacts having a not-significant effect as a result of the removal of 10 turbines in the LCT.
- Moffat Hills RSA has very intermittent/intermittent significant effects on parts of the RSA. Areas of the south and eastern parts of the RSA have reduced the magnitude of change due to the removal of 13 turbines.
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant effects on views from settlements, including:
    - Bankshill;
    - Beattock;
    - Boreland (represented by viewpoint 6);
    - Corrie Common (represented by viewpoint 16);
    - Johnstonebridge;
    - Lochmaben;
    - Lockerbie;
    - As a result of the revised layout, the views from Moffat will no longer have significant adverse effects due to the removal of 13 turbines from the area.
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant effects on views from road routes, including the A74 (M), A701, A709, B709, B7020, B7076. The views are no longer significant from the A708 and B723.
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant visual effects on core paths and long distance footpaths (Annandale Way, Romans and Reivers Route, Southern Upland Way) where there is clear and open visibility of a moderate to high level within approx. 18km of the proposed development.
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant visual effects on views on approximately 20km of the West Coast Mainline Railway.
- Views from the hilltops of Rangecastle Hill, Ettrick Pen, Burnswark Hill Fort, Queensberry and Hart Fell.
- The view from Castle O'er Forest Hill Fort.

The assessment has indicated that significant visual effects of the proposed development are restricted to an area within 18km of the proposed development.

Visualisations For Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm Viewpoint 1

As well as assessing the effect of the Proposed Development, the assessment also includes a cumulative update to assess the effects that cumulative wind farms may have on an area for operational, under construction , consented and application stage wind farms. This assessment covers a 30km study area but no relevant changes to the scenarios have arisen since the original EIAR.

Significant effects have been identified in the AI LVIA cumulative assessment are as follows:

- Intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects on the landscape character of the site and some parts of its surroundings;
- Moffat Hills RSA - very intermittent significant cumulative effect on parts of the RSA;
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects on views from the settlements of Bankshill and Corrie Common;
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects on views from road routes, including parts of the A74(M), A701, B709, B7076;
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects on views from some core paths and long-distance footpaths;
- Intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects on views from part of the West Coast mainline railway;
- Views from hilltops at Rangecastle Hill, Ettrick Pen, Burnswark Hill Fort, Queensberry, and Hart Fell; and
- The view from Castle O'er Hill Fort.

When the application stage of Faw Side is also considered, additional intermittent or very intermittent significant cumulative effects may arise on the landscape character of the site and some parts of the surrounding area, and on some points of the northbound B723.

An updated AI Residential Amenity Assessment (RVAA) has been undertaken due to the changes to the design of the proposed development. The RVAA indicates that of the 10 non-financially involved properties within the new 2km study area (and located within the ZTV shading), 4 are likely to experience a significant visual effect as a result of the proposed development. Of the 10 non-financially involved properties, 1 is assessed as being likely to experience a medium-high magnitude of change, which under the terms of the Methodology necessitates a Step 4 Assessment. This further stage of assessment did not indicate the property reaching the Residential Visual Amenity Threshold, for the reasons provided.

This summary indicates that the proposed development will result in some significant effects, including cumulative effects, on aspects of the landscape and visual resource. It is important to note, however, that assessments of this type tend to focus on those locations and receptors where significant effects may arise, and in this assessment the viewpoints have been selected to represent areas of high visibility of the proposed development, where significant effects are most likely to arise. There are large parts of the 45km study area where ZTVs show that there will be no visibility of the wind farm at all or

Visualisations for Aviation Lighting for Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm Viewpoint 7

very limited visibility, and this should be taken into consideration in the review of significant effects of the proposed development.

Overall, it is considered that the significant effects of the proposed development are relatively localised and well-contained given the extent and scale of the development.

Aviation Lighting Assessment

The aviation lighting scheme from the original EIAR has since gone through further mitigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and Ministry of Defence (MoD). Changes to the scheme include the reduction of visible medium intensity nacelle lights from 75 in the original Proposed Development to 17, with an additional 17 turbines having only infra-red lighting for aircraft. This is combined with the removal of all 225 low intensity tower lights included in the original EIAR.

Of the 4 viewpoints used for the Night-time Aviation Lighting Assessment, only two viewpoints at Boreland Church (VP6) and Hart-Fell (VP21) were deemed to have significant effects from the 2000cd lights, however the effects for the 200cd lights were deemed not significant. The other viewpoints were not significant for either sets of lights. In the EIAR, all of the viewpoints had significant effects from aviation lighting.

Further details can be found in Section 6 of the AI Submission.

Ornithology

Starling Learning were commissioned to undertake ornithological surveys at the proposed Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm to establish the ornithological baseline of the site and its surroundings. Starling Learning was commissioned to undertake a series of bird surveys at the site dating from August 2017 to November 2019 with additional field work in 2020 and 2023. The AI ornithological impact assessment is updated to assess the possible impacts based on the revised layout design presented in the AI.

The revised changes to the layout of the wind farm are expected to lead to very minimal habitat loss and a reduced adverse impact. There will be a small loss in nesting habitat for a number of species which is considered to be a long-term change of low magnitude and minor significance.

The significance of potential effects is determined by the value of the receptor and the magnitude of the effect and using professional judgement as to whether the integrity of the receptor has been affected.

On the basis of the field survey work undertaken to date, the professional judgement of the ornithology team, experience from other projects and considering policy and guidance, a number of species have been scoped out of the AI assessment. These species include whooper swan, pink-footed goose, hobby, snipe, oystercatcher, woodcock, mallard, red grouse, whinchat, reed bunting and cuckoo. The effects on these species as a result of construction or operation of the wind farm are considered negligible.

Potential effects are evaluated in respect of species of high or moderate Nature Conservation Importance whose regional populations could be potentially affected by the Proposed Development. The following species that potentially could be affected by the development are:

- Hen harrier;
- Merlin;
- Goshawk;
- Peregrine;
- Golden eagle;
- Red kite;
- Black grouse;
- Osprey;
- Barn owl,
- Golden Plover;
- Curlew;
- Various passerines including skylark and common crossbill.

A Habitat Management and Enhancement Plan will address species protection and habitat enhancement

The potential effects of construction for most of these species is considered negligible, or low magnitude, short term and minor significance. Where the adverse effects were considered to be of higher magnitude mitigation has, in some instances, been proposed, for example not undertaking certain work onsite during breeding season.

Operational turbines have the potential to displace both nesting and foraging birds. The potential impacts on most species were considered to be negligible or of low magnitude and minor significance. Through the removal of turbines and putting in place a strong mitigation plan the impacts to bird species using this site have been reduced and are no higher for any species than medium magnitude, long term and of moderate significance.

A revised Outline Habitat Management and Enhancement Plan (OHMEP) has been produced for the AI submission in response to the responses from NatureScot and other consultees since the original EIAR submission. Following the submission this will form the basis for the HMEP which will prioritise the following key areas:

- Examine ways to minimise disturbance and potential problems/impacts for key species;
- Ensure all work is carried out in compliance with all the requirements of relevant wildlife legislation;
- Examine how the value of the area might be improved by changes in land management; and
- Increase overall biodiversity through management targeted at specific species.

The mitigation measures outlined in Section 7: Ornithology and in the OHMEP take place during pre-construction, during construction, operation and the eventual decommissioning of the wind farm. The majority of mitigation works will take place during pre-construction and construction as these phases pose the highest risk to bird populations. Continuous monitoring of bird nests, buffer zones around habitats and working outside of breeding seasons will help mitigate pre-construction and construction effects.

Additionally, the implementation of appropriate species protection and mitigation measures will greatly reduce any potential for significant negative impacts to occur on the ornithological value of the site and the surrounding area.

Further details can be found in Section 7 of the AI Submission.

Ecology

Ecological surveys have been undertaken by Staling Learning to establish habitats and species present on the site. A new ecological report has been provided as a part of the AI submission due to the alteration of the wind farm layout. The impact assessment and the significance of any effects has been updated as a result of the revised layout which is presented in Section 8: Ecology of the AI.

The vast majority of impacts relating to the development of wind turbines are associated with the construction phase. Loss of habitat can have long term-impacts on species through potential loss of breeding or foraging habitat, or important wintering habitat.

There is also potential to disturb and displace various protected species such as bats, otters, badgers and reptiles, either from construction or as a result of operation of the turbines.

The AI submission removes 17 turbines which were located on open ground habitats and the addition of 2 new turbines in an area of forestry to act as a mitigation effort to preserve habitats and alleviate concerns raised by NatureScot and RSPB. Additionally with the reduction in the lengths of access tracks, the revised scheme reduces the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction and operational works of the proposal on the ecology (flora and fauna) of the development site.

The effect on groundwater dependant terrestrial ecosystems is deemed likely to be insignificant due to mitigation measures such as floating tracks, pipes and appropriate micro-siting.

Prior to construction a protected species survey will be undertaken in additional areas of the wind farm. However, in areas already surveyed pre-construction checks will be carried out to ensure habitat enhancement and protected species are undisturbed and not displaced. The risks of disturbance and displacement are therefore assessed as negligible or low magnitude.

The impact on reptiles and amphibians is considered to negligible with some positive effects.

The effects of construction on fish are considered to be not significant, however mitigation measures will be put in place through the implementation of a Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to counteract any negative effects that will arise during the construction period.

The outline OHMEP includes protection measures for habitat and species which includes the additional areas covered in the new layout. It also includes proposals for restoration of habitats and the overall improvement of the site's biodiversity.

Further details can be found in Section 8 of the AI Submission.

Cultural Heritage Assessment

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd were commissioned to carry out a cultural heritage impact assessment for the proposed wind farm and their updated assessment based on the revised layout can be found in Section 9 of the AI.

The main objectives of the assessment were to:

- Describe the location, nature and extent of any known heritage assets or areas of archaeological potential which may be affected by the proposed development;
- Provide an assessment of the importance of these assets;
- Assess the likely scale of any impacts on the historic environment posed by the development;
- Outline suitable mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset significant adverse effects; and
- Provide an assessment of any residual effects remaining after mitigation.

The archaeological analysis consisted of a desk-based study to collate baseline data, a site walk over study, setting visits, consultation with Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and the Dumfries and Galloway Council (DGC) Archaeology Officer and the impact assessment. In the inner study area there 1 scheduled monument, one Listed Building, 100 known non-designated heritage assets in the DGC Historical Environment Register, 15 heritage assets (added through desk-top assessment), 62 LiDAR anomalies and 6 linear features.

Of these 185 assets, 171 are outside of the proposed construction footprint and will not be subject to direct or indirect construction impacts.

One scheduled monument and five undesignated assets within the ISA potentially subject to setting impacts and therefore included in the detailed assessment, are presented in Table 9.6 of Section 9 of the AI submission.

There are a further 15 assets which would be subject to potential construction impacts. Since the previous submission, potential impacts on the possible prehistoric cemetery of MDG7267 has been avoided in the new layout design. For those which still may be impacted, appropriate mitigation measures will be applied following an agreement with consultees in order to minimise the impacts.

Within the Outer Study Area (OSA), there are 122 scheduled monuments (SM) within 10km of the turbines. 30 of these are outside or only slightly within the ZTV and there are no views from them where the turbines can be viewed. A further 50 scheduled monuments comprise a variety of features relating to cultivation and livestock management, farmsteads, settlements and industry. The wider landscape setting makes a limited contribution to understanding or appreciating the cultural significance of these assets, and no operational impacts are anticipated upon them. 80 scheduled monuments are therefore excluded from further assessment.

No operational effects of greater than **minor significance** on cultural heritage assets

42 scheduled monuments are included for further assessment, these include the sites requested by the consultees during scoping and comprise numerous prehistoric settlement sites, enclosures and forts.

There are eight assets which will be subject to operational effects of minor significance from the proposed development. These assets were also assessed for potential cumulative effects. These assets included five scheduled monuments: Carthur Hill Fort

(SM649), Rangecastle Hill, Fort (SM8364), Castle Hill, fort (SM8366), Peat Hill, fort and scooped settlement (SM10476) and Laverhay Cottage enclosure (SM12721), one Conservation Area (Moffat), one Category A Listed Building, Craigielands (LB9842) and one undesignated HER asset: The Dod (MDG407).

However, it is considered that none of the wind farm developments included in this cumulative assessment will introduce turbines into the culturally important views from or to any of these assets, to such an extent that they will increase the impact on the setting of these assets above that already identified.

The revised scheme has a beneficial operational effects to cultural assets when compared to the 2020 EIAR. The low magnitude impacts on one scheduled monument and one non-designated heritage asset, resulting in adverse operational effects of minor significance, have been designed out and avoided with the revised proposed development layout. In addition there is no impacts now identified upon MDG8943 Dundoran Hill, fort (through the removal of T1-T7 leaving important views of this asset unaltered) and upon SM714 Wamphray Motte (through the removal of T1-T7, T35, T37 and T38 leaving important views of this asset unaltered).

Further details can be found in Section 9 of the AI Submission.

Hydrology, Geology and Hydrogeology

As a part of the AI submission, Natural Power Consultants Ltd (Natural Power) have undertaken a revised assessment of the potential impacts on geological, hydrological and hydrogeological receptors as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm. This information can be read in Section 10 of the AI.

The existing baseline conditions of the proposed development have been established. The following potential issues have been identified and will be addressed during all phases of development:

- Changes to existing drainage patterns;
- Effects on baseflow;
- Effects on run-off rates;
- Effects on erosion and sedimentation;
- Effects on groundwater levels;
- Effects on water resources;
- Effects on impediments to flow;
- Flood risk;
- Pollution risk;
- Effects on local geology;
- Effects on hydrological integrity of peat bodies; and
- Effects on groundwater and surface water quality (including GWDTE's).

Additional peat surveys were undertaken in November 2022, in order to survey the locations of the 2 new turbines, and also to capture any gaps which were previously not surveyed due to access restrictions. Turbines 61 and 62 have been removed, which were located in areas of peat greater than 0.5m. The new proposed turbines (76 and 77) are positioned in areas with a recorded peat depth of less than 0.5m.

No infrastructure has been relocated into an area of greater depth of peat/organic soil compared to what was submitted as part of the EIAR. As such, and also considering the design assumptions included within the existing PMP, there is no change to the PMP included within the AI submission. The risk of peat slide from the proposed wind farm and infrastructure is assessed to be negligible.

The Proposed Development lies on the watershed of the River Annan catchment and therefore falls within the Solway-Tweed River Basin District which is jointly managed by SEPA and the Environment Agency.

Effects on the Proposed Development's hydrological, hydrogeological and geological conditions are not significant

The western side of the Proposed Development lies within the catchment of the Wamphray Water and the eastern side of the Proposed Development lies within the catchment of the Dryfe Water. There is a small area (4.83 km^2) to the northwest of the Proposed Development which falls into the catchment of the

Newbigging Burn which also drains directly into the River Annan.

The water quality section presented in Section 10, remains the same as the original EIAR. All turbines are located over 50m from any of the mapped watercourses. This includes the 2 new turbines (T76 and T77) which are 213 and 285 metres from watercourses respectively. T63 was micro-sited and is now 270m from the nearest watercourse. The location of the remaining 57 turbines has not changed.

The removal of borrow pit N1 reduces the risk of a pollution incident in the Caldwell Burn and wider Dryfe Water catchment while the removal of N4 reduces the risk of a pollution incident in Leithenhall Burn and wider Wamphray Water catchment.

Properties with Private Water Supplies (PWS) within 3km of the proposed development have been assessed. After hydrological assessments and consultation with local residents, only 8 PWS sources (used by 11 properties) were taken forward to the assessment, this was because the other properties were either uninhabited, not hydrologically connected to the development or fall out with of the catchment area. The revised layout has a revised track design, which still remains greater than 250m from abstraction sources, therefore the infrastructure remains not hydrologically connected to abstractions.

Full details of the hydrological influences on the design of the proposed Development are provided in Section 10 of the original EIAR and Section 3 of the AI. This includes:

- Reducing placement of infrastructure on peat/organic soils, with commitments to microsite where possible;
- Ensuring that turbines and other infrastructure (with the exception of watercourse crossings) remain outside of the 50 m buffers of the hydrological features; and
- Reducing the number of watercourse crossings required.

The updated watercourse crossing assessment (AI Technical Appendix 10.1) demonstrates that the flows within the channels can be maintained or improved. It also confirms that despite the additional 7 new watercourse crossings following the refinement of the access track design, overall the total number of crossings required has reduced by 4 from the original EIAR submission.

As a result of the additional survey works, information and consultation, the significance of effects of the proposed Development with revised design on the geological, hydrological and hydrogeological environment remains as not significant under the terms of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, as stated in Section 10 of the AI submission.

Noise

Hayes McKenzie Partnership Limited (HMPL) have undertaken a revised assessment of the potential noise levels resulting from the introduction of the proposed Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm. Predictions of the noise levels associated with the operation of the proposed Development have been produced, as revised due to the change in site design, and based on the installation of Vestas V172 7.2 MW wind turbines.

No Significant effects from noise both during construction and operation

The operational noise assessment has been undertaken by comparing predicted noise levels from the Proposed Development at surrounding residential properties with noise limits derived from the ETSU-R-97, as refined by the GPG. In addition to this, the BS 4142 “Methods for rating and assessing industrial and commercial sound” has been used to rate noise emission levels during operation of the BESS facility which will be now located in the main substation and control room construction compound.

The results of the operational noise assessment indicate that turbine noise levels meet the relevant noise limits and no specific mitigation is required. The operational noise impact is, therefore, determined to be not significant.

The noise from the BESS has been assessed according to BS 4142:2014+A1:2019, Methods for rating and assessing industrial and commercial sound. Low impact

was predicted from the BESS as the rating level at all properties was predicted to be below the expected background noise levels in the area.

Additionally, noise associated with the construction of the BESS development is also not expected to have any significant effects.

Further details can be found in Section 11 of the AI Submission.

Transport

The Traffic and Transport Assessment considers the potential impact of transport related effects during construction, operation and eventual decommissioning of the proposed Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm, in relation to regional and local transport networks. A new assessment has been conducted since the original EIAR submission to assess any impacts the infrastructure changes presented in the AI submission may pose, as well as updates in response to new policy guidance and consultation. This is presented in Section 12 of the AI.

Construction Traffic Management Plan will be implemented to reduce any impacts

The updated transport assessment has concluded that there will be a reduction of traffic movements relating to construction on the A74, B723 and Breckenry Road compared to the assessment conducted during the original EIAR. While these traffic movements will increase compared to the baseline measurement, the traffic movements will be temporary and related to the 18-month construction stage of the proposed wind farm. It is anticipated that due to many of the roads assessed already being used by heavy vehicles, such as timber haulage trucks, the expected impact of wind farm construction traffic will be low.

There will be two separate Traffic Management Plans which will cover the two main stages of the transport requirements for the wind farm; a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) and an Abnormal Load Traffic Management Plan (ALTMP) which will be produced and implemented in conjunction with Transport Scotland and Dumfries and Galloway Council Roads Department. This is required to reduce any impacts on the public road network.

Throughout the operational life of the wind farm, no impacts are anticipated from vehicle movements which will mostly consist of cars/pickups or vans which are required for the service and maintenance of the turbines and the site. These vehicles will use the existing site entrances to access the wind farm.

Forestry

As a result of the revised layout for the Proposed Development as presented in this AI submission, as well as completed forestry felling since the original submission, a new forestry impact assessment has been conducted. This new assessment, which is in Section 13: Forestry of the AI, details the changes to forestry plans, the updated felling requirements as well as assessing these requirements against new policy and consultation since the original EIAR in November 2020.

The Proposed Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm is mostly located within the privately owned and managed commercial forestry plantations of Silton Forest, Brownhill, Kirk Hill, Dryfehead, Ewelairs, Laverhay, Cockplay, Priestgillhead, Ruegill Hill, Ramshaw Rig and Dod Knowe.

The proposed development covers approximately 5,670ha, which comprises of forestry which is mostly in the eastern area of the wind farm site. This forestry is within the Eskdalemuir commercial forestry unit.

Forestry Baseline

The most populous forestry species is Sitka Spruce which comprises of 83% of the total forestry and covers an area of 1970ha. This is followed by populations of mixed broadleaves (4.84%) and Norwegian Spruce (3.3%).

The Long-Term Forestry Plans (LTFP) for the forestry plantations are broken down into several timeframes which lead up to 2040. If the Proposed Development is consented, it is anticipated that felling would take place within the 2023 – 2027 LTFP phase.

The majority the forestry across the development area has been planted from 2000 onwards, with 53% being planted between 2000 and 2020.

Proposed Forestry Activity

As a part of the AI submission, 39 of the 60 turbines will be located within the 12 commercial forestry areas, a reduction from 47 out of the 75 turbines proposed in the original EIAR submission.

Keyhole felling will be required prior to construction to accommodate the wind turbines and new access tracks. A required minimum felling radius of 85m will be required for crane and hardstand locations as well as felling radiuses for the newly proposed turbine layout which differs from the original EIAR. These turbine buffers are as follows:

- 180m turbine – 121.5m buffer;
- 200m turbine – 120m buffer;
- 225m turbine – 121m buffer;
- 250m turbine – 100m buffer.

175Ha of compensatory planting will take place both on and off site.

The changes to the proposed layout results in the removal of 7 turbines which impacted the original forestry assessment and the addition of two turbines (76 and 77) which will impact the new AI forestry assessment. The results of the changes to the forestry assessment, show that the total keyhole felling for wind farm activities will be 175ha, a reduction of 83ha compared to the original 258ha proposed in the original EIAR. This new requirement for keyhole felling equates to 7% of the total forestry within the development area.

In addition, of the 175ha of proposed felling, 34ha is due to be felled in relation to the LTFP which would take place regardless of the presence of the wind farm. Therefore, this reduces the amount of keyhole felling further to a final requirement of 141ha.

All of the 175ha of required for the keyhole felling will not be restocked on in the development area during the operational life of the wind farm. Therefore, compensatory planting equating to the full amount of forestry felled (175Ha) will be undertaken in consultation and approved with Scottish Forestry. Details of this will be included in a detailed restocking plan in a separate application.

Further details can be found in Section 13 of the AI Submission.

Other Considerations

Tourism and Recreation

Tourism is an important aspect of the local economy. With this in mind, a key consideration of the project for local host communities was the potential effect the presence of the wind farm may have on local tourism.

The main effects on tourism and recreation would be during construction with regard to increased traffic, increased use of local facilities and changes to the view due to the presence of cranes and other equipment. With careful planning and design, it is expected that the significance of the wind farm on tourism will be minor and have no lasting impact to tourism or recreational visitors to the area whilst the wind farm is under construction.

Overall, the tourism impact assessment prepared by BiGGAR Economics for this AI submission (Appendix 5.1 of the AI) does not anticipate any adverse impacts on the number of tourists visiting the local area. Potentially the wind farm could positively impact local tourism providers during the construction phase in the form of increased use of nearby accommodation, fuel purchases and other general amenities. In terms of national policy, references to tourism assessments are omitted in Policy 11 of NPF4, which is likely to be an acceptance of the lack of impact on tourism from wind farms. As such, a tourism assessment is technically no longer required for wind farm applications.

Aviation

Following the submission of the original EIAR in November 2020, the MoD objected to the scheme, only on the grounds that the proposed development is located within the Eskdalemuir Seismological Recording Station safeguarding area. The Proposed Development is also within a Tactical Training Area (TTA), used for low flying training down to 30m. However, TTAs cover large areas of Scotland and there is no ban on wind farms within low flying TTAs. The applicant is continuing to work in consultation with the MoD regarding the Eskdalemuir Seismological Recording Station to mitigate any impact the Proposal may have.

It is understood that NATS have recently installed a new advanced 3D Primary Surveillance Radar system at Lowther Hill, that is able to mitigate against the impact of wind turbines. Therefore, mitigation measures are available. CWL have reached agreements with NATS in the past regarding our other wind farms and remain in discussions with NATS regarding the Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm proposal, and are confident that this objection will ultimately be overcome.

The AI submission also presents a reduced aviation lighting scheme which reduces the number of visible medium intensity nacelle lights from 75 in the original Proposed Development to 17 with an additional 17 turbines having infra-red lighting for aircraft. This is combined with the removal of all 225 low intensity tower lights included in the original EIAR. This reduced lighting scheme was assessed and approved by the CAA in December 2022.

Telecommunications Links

Through consultation with British Telecom (BT), Joint Radio Company (JRC) and Atkins Ltd, there are no communication links identified that will be impacted by the Proposed Development. No objections or concerns were raised by any of these consultees and therefore no mitigation should be required.

Shadow Flicker

The term 'shadow flicker' refers to the flickering effect caused when rotating wind turbine blades periodically cast a shadow over neighbouring properties as they turn, through constrained openings such as windows.

Shadow flicker only occurs within buildings where:

- The shadow appears through a narrow window opening;
- They are located within 130 degrees either side of north relative to a turbine; and
- They are within 10 rotor diameters of the wind farm.

Shadow flicker analysis has been conducted using ReSoft WindFarm modelling software. By considering the position of the sun throughout the year, and the position of the residential properties relative to the wind turbine locations, calculations of the occasions when, and for how long, shadows of the turbine blades will cast over neighbouring properties can be calculated for a worst-case scenario.

From the assessment produced for this AI, Shadow flicker will have limited impact on residential properties within the vicinity of the proposed Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm, and the effect is therefore deemed insignificant.

Ice Throw

The occurrence of blade icing is relatively rare; however, it can occur when the blades are stationary, at near freezing temperatures and relatively high humidity with freezing rain or sleet. If all of these climatic conditions occur at once, then icing can happen.

The risk of ice throw arises when the turbine recommences operation, the rotational forces as the blades move can cause the ice to break off or be thrown to the ground. This causes a potential risk of damage or injury to other turbines, structures, vehicles, site personnel, members of the public or livestock.

Overall, the risk of ice throw on human health and safety and to nearby infrastructure is likely to be minimal and therefore deemed insignificant.

Public Rights of Way and Core Paths

Consultation with several consultees has taken place since the original EIAR was submitted in November 2020. There are 6 National Catalogue routes that pass through the site boundary along with core paths. Additionally, the Romans and Reivers Route and the

Southern Upland Way runs closely to the northern edge of the site boundary.

Any potential visual effects have been thoroughly assessed in the EIAR and updated AI Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment included in Section 6. This assessment also considers the cumulative impacts of other wind farm developments in the area.

Through the careful design of the final layout, the majority of Scoop Hill wind turbines will be set back from public rights of way and core paths, by a minimum separation distance which is equivalent to the blade tip height following the consultation guidance from ScotWays.

Wind Turbines at Aikengall Community Wind Farm

Summary & Conclusion

The final layout presented in this AI submission has been developed through a detailed consultation process and valuable dialogue with statutory and non-statutory consultees. In particular it addresses advice, recommendations and concerns raised by NatureScot and internal departments at Dumfries & Galloway Council alongside public representations received as part of the consultation process.

All of the likely effects of the new infrastructure and layouts of the proposed Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm have been fully identified and assessed during the Environmental Impact Assessment. Where necessary, appropriate mitigation measures have been put into place to minimise potential impacts.

Overall, the AI has determined that the changes to the wind farm design will not result in significant hydrological, geological, or archaeological impacts as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed wind farm. There will be some moderate impacts on ecology and ornithology but through habitat retention, management and creation, the site will be enhanced, and the effects of habitat loss, construction and operation are considered to be much reduced. This combined with the changes to the wind farm design, mean there will be an overall positive effect in comparison to the design of the original EIAR.

The visual impact of the scheme is considered to be relatively localised and well-contained given the extent and scale of the development. The proposed development will result in some significant effects, including cumulative effects, on aspects of the landscape and visual resource. It is important to note, however, that assessments of this type tend to focus on those locations and receptors where significant effects may arise, and in this assessment the viewpoints have been selected to represent areas of high visibility of the proposed development, where significant effects are most likely to arise.

Most importantly, the site also lies within the area DGC identified in their 2017 landscape capacity study as being the only area within DGC suitable for large turbines due to the absence of wind farm development in this area, the expansive scale of the landscape and its distance from sensitive receptors. This Spatial Framework allocation has been a driving force behind the Applicants choice of site and its subsequent development.

There will be no significant impact on telecommunication links, aviation, tourism and recreation, public safety. There will also be no significant noise effects during the construction or operation of the turbines as the relevant noise limits have been met and no mitigation is required.

The proposed **60 turbines** will have a minimum installed capacity of **432 MW**, which will generate enough electricity to power over **450,000 homes each year**. A scheme of this magnitude will play an important role in the fight against climate change and will help Scotland to meet its ambitious renewable energy and carbon emission targets and its commitment to be net-zero carbon by 2045.

The development of the Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm will generate and deliver a large volume of financial investment into the local and regional economies, throughout the lifetime of the wind farm. The financial rewards and benefits of the development will positively impact the local communities both directly and indirectly, which will help to establish the

Over **450,000** homes powered each year	Total Economic Investment of **£1.8 Bn** over the 40-year lifetime	Contributes to **20GW** of onshore wind capacity by **2030**	Contributes to government ambitions for **Net Zero**

A significant **initial investment of £809 million** would be required to facilitate the development and construction of the wind farm. Once the wind farm is operational, investment will continue for the lifetime of the wind farm which will be for a period of 40 years.

Economic investment worth over **£25 million per annum** will be required to operate the wind farm, through the payment of rents, business rates, maintenance costs, servicing, electrical connections and community benefit funding. This equates to **£1 billion over the lifetime of the project**.

Overall, Scoop Hill Community Wind Farm will provide a total economic investment of over **£1.8 billion during** its 40-year lifetime. In conclusion, the proposed development is completely sustainable and complies with both national and local planning policy. It will make a direct and strategic contribution to achieving renewable energy generation targets, contributing towards the Scottish Government's ambitious target for a minimum of 20GW of installed onshore wind capacity by 2030. In addition, it will play an important role in the fight against climate change and Scotland's target of achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045 with a 75% reduction by 2030 and DGC's target to be net-zero carbon by 2025.

Approval of this development would be a positive and progressive step in the fight to tackle climate change.

Wind Turbines at Sanquhar Community Wind Farm

£2.16 million in Community Benefits per year	**735,675** tonnes of CO_2 saved per annum	**250** construction and supply jobs	Potential **Energy Support Fund** for nearby communities