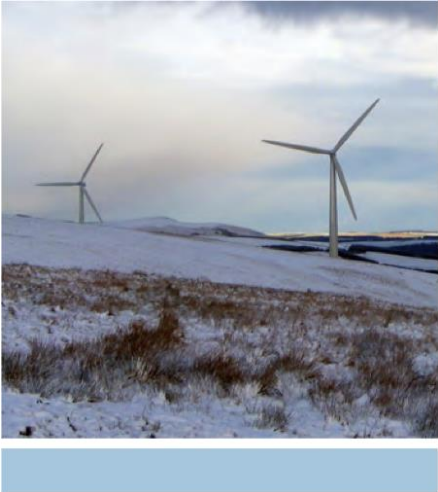


KILLEAN WIND FARM

Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report

July 2024



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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The project

- 1.1.1 Renewable Energy Systems (RES), herein referred to as ‘the Applicant’, has submitted an application to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit (ECU) for consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for the construction of a wind farm in Killean, Argyll and Bute. Killean Wind Farm, herein referred to as the ‘Proposed Development’, is located on a private estate approximately 2km east of Tayinloan, on the Kintyre peninsula (see figure 3.1-killean-scoping-site-location-plan (killean-windfarm.co.uk)). The site is currently utilised as a commercial forestry plantation and open rough grazing for livestock. The site has good wind resource and lies outside any nationally designated landscape areas.
- 1.1.2 The earliest designs for the proposed scheme comprised 12 turbines at a turbine tip height of around 180m, resulting in an overall installed site generating capacity (based on the scoping layout) of around 72MW of clean, green renewable energy which would help Scotland meet its climate change target of ‘net zero’ emissions by 2045.
- 1.1.3 A Scoping Report was submitted to the ECU in August 2023 detailing the proposed level of assessment to be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report which will accompany the application. The formal Scoping Opinion was received on 7 December 2023, and established the scope of work required. Further environmental and technical surveys have since enabled the Applicant to produce an updated design.
- 1.1.4 Following the scoping process, two rounds of public consultation and further technical studies; the Applicant is now proposing nine turbines with a slightly longer blade length (although there is no change to the proposed 180m tip height).

1.2 This report

- 1.2.1 Whilst there is no statutory requirement for Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) in relation to Section 36 applications, the Applicant has undertaken pre-application consultation for the Proposed Development and gone over and above the minimum best practice activity expected as set out in the [Electricity Act 1989 - Section 36: applications guidance \(Section 3. Pre-Application\)](#).
- 1.2.2 This PAC Report details and reports on the pre-application consultation undertaken by the Applicant with the local community, general public, and locally elected representatives - herein referred to collectively as ‘Key Stakeholders’. This Report does not capture the Scoping Report and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) consultation with EIA consultees - this is captured separately in the EIA Report which accompanies the Section 36 application. The project website (<https://www.killean-windfarm.co.uk/>) will be updated with a copy of the Section

36 planning documents, including this PAC Report, once the planning application has been validated - as well as a link to the Scottish Government's planning portal where the planning documents can be viewed and formal consultation comments submitted.

1.3 Approach to pre-application consultation

- 1.3.1 As explained in section 1.2, pre-application consultation in relation to Section 36 applications is voluntary. The Applicant has considerable experience in onshore wind farms and believes in the importance of early, meaningful, and proportionate pre-application consultation in order to identify issues and concerns as well as benefits and opportunities, which can be considered when developing and designing a project.
- 1.3.2 Pre-application consultation can ultimately help to improve the development and design of the Proposed Development from the perspective of both the Applicant and the community.
- 1.3.3 In undertaking pre-application consultation for the Proposed Development, the Applicant has gone above and beyond the minimum best practice activity expected as set out in the [Electricity Act 1989 - Section 36: applications guidance \(Section 3. Pre-Application\)](#)¹.
- 1.3.4 The Applicant has also referred to, and sought to achieve, the best practice pre-application principles outlined in the National Standards for Community Engagement as set out in the [Scottish Government's Planning Advice Note 3/2010: Community Engagement PAN 3/2010](#)².
- 1.3.5 At all stages of the consultation process the Applicant set out clearly the purpose of consultation and emphasised that comments made were not representations to the determining authority (The Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit) and that there would be an opportunity for representations to be made to the determining authority once the application had been submitted.

¹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/good-practice-guidance-applications-under-sections-36-37-electricity-act-1989/pages/3/>

² <https://www.gov.scot/publications/pan-3-2010-community-engagement/>

2 ENGAGEMENT - SCOPING (August - November 2023)

2.1 Preparation - key stakeholder mapping

2.1.1 Prior to undertaking formal consultation, the Applicant carried out desk-based research to identify key stakeholders to inform about the Proposed Development and engage with.

2.1.2 'Host' Community Council

In line with best practice the Applicant identified the following Community Council whose area was within the land on which the Proposed Development was situated:

- West Kintyre Community Council

2.1.3 Nearby Community Councils

In addition to the 'host' Community Council, the Applicant identified the following Community Councils as being the next closest to the Proposed Development and ones to prioritise when communicating developments:

- East Kintyre Community Council (whose boundary lies 3km to the east of the site)
- Gigha Community Council (whose boundary is situated 6km to the west)
- Campbeltown Community Council (whose boundary lies 28.6km to the south of the site)
- Tarbert and Skipness Community Council (whose boundary lies 33km to the north of the site)
- South Knapdale Community Council (whose boundary is situated 54km to the north of site)

2.1.4 Ward Councillors

The Applicant also identified the following council wards (and their representatives, Cllr Dougie McFadzean and Cllr Alastair Redman) as being likely to have an interest in the Proposed Development:

- Argyll & Bute Council (Ward 2 - Kintyre and the Islands)

2.1.5 Constituency MSP and MP

Furthermore, the Applicant identified the MSP (Jenni Minto) and MP (Brendan O'Hara) for the constituency as being likely to have an interest in the Proposed Development.

2.2 Introductory letter to Key Stakeholders

2.2.1 The Applicant wrote to Key Stakeholders [Appendix 1] in September 2023 to inform them that the Applicant was in the early stages of exploring the potential for a wind farm on the Killean estate and that a Scoping Report had been submitted to the ECU.

- 2.2.2 The letter confirmed that the early design comprised 12 turbines with a maximum tip height of approximately 180m. The letter also provided some information about onshore wind, community benefit, and next steps - including the fact that the Applicant was planning a public exhibition event.
- 2.2.3 In the letter to the ‘host’ and nearby Community Councils, the Applicant advised it would be happy to organise an introductory phone-call or video-call to discuss the project and answer any initial questions that the Community Councils may have had at that stage, with the view to attending a formal Community Council meeting around (or after) the public exhibition when more information would be available on the Proposed Development.

2.3 Follow-up with local Community Councils

- 2.3.1 Following the letter to the ‘host’ and nearby Community Councils, a meeting was arranged with Margaret Pratt, Chair of West Kintyre (the ‘host’) Community Council. The meeting took place on 20 September 2023 and the following issues were discussed:
- the differences between this application and the previous Killean Wind Farm application in 2016;
 - concern over the cumulative impact of several proposed wind farm developments on the Kintyre peninsula; and
 - the associated Community Benefit offer and potential shared ownership opportunities with East Kintyre Renewable Energy Group.
- 2.3.2 Ms Pratt also confirmed that Tayinloan Village Hall would be the most suitable venue for the public exhibitions but highlighted that due to “consultation fatigue” in the local community she was unsure how well attended they would be.

2.4 General enquiries

- 2.4.1 A letter was received from East Kintyre Renewable Energy Group (EKREG) expressing an interest in shared community ownership of the Proposed Development. A video call was held on 25 October 2023, where the Applicant committed to investigating a suitable shared ownership model and maintaining contact with EKREG following submission of the application.
- 2.4.2 Feedback was also received from statutory stakeholders, political consultees and local interest groups, whom the project team engaged with directly.

3 PUBLIC EXHIBITION AND CONSULTATION - (NOVEMBER 2023)

3.1 Advertising the event

- 3.1.1 The Applicant placed an advert [Appendix 2] in two local newspapers, the Campbeltown Courier and the Argyll Advertiser, for two consecutive weeks to publicise the public exhibition that had been arranged for 15 November 2023.
- 3.1.2 The Applicant decided to go over and above best practice guidance (of placing just one notice in a public newspaper) to help raise greater awareness of the Proposed Development and upcoming public exhibition event.
- 3.1.3 The Applicant sent an information flyer on 6 November 2023 to 1,179 properties (1,117 residential and 62 business) within 5km of the turbine development area providing details of the project and upcoming consultation [Appendix 3].
- 3.1.4 An email was sent on 6 November 2023 [Appendix 4] to Key Stakeholders providing details of the project and upcoming consultation. A digital copy of the information flyer was also included.
- 3.1.5 The Applicant also updated the [project website](#) with details of the public exhibition event.
- 3.1.6 In addition to providing details of the public exhibition event, the advert, stakeholder communications, information flyer and website update all described the Proposed Development and its location; and explained that further information could be found on the project website or by contacting the Applicant (phone and email contact details were provided). These communications also included information about how people could provide feedback to the Applicant on the proposal and confirmed the closing date for comments; they also all included a statement that any representations submitted to the Applicant were not representations to the determining authority and that there would be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.
- 3.1.7 The above communications far exceeded the minimum expectations for best practice and help demonstrate the Applicant's commitment to the consultation process.

3.2 Follow-up with local Community Councils

- 3.2.1 The Applicant also contacted the Community Councils listed at 2.1.3 to confirm details of the event.

3.3 Public exhibition event - format

3.3.1 The Applicant held a public exhibition event on 15 November 2023. The event was carefully organised around hall availability and an inclusive range of times for people to attend (daytime and evenings were both covered) to make the event as accessible as practicable. Details of the venue where the event was held are as follows:

- 15 November 2023: Tayinloan Village Hall from 1pm until 7pm (Tayinloan Village Hall, Tayinloan, Tarbert, PA29 6XG)



Consultation boards assembled at Tayinloan Village Hall (left). A member of the public and the RES project team discuss the project's ecological mitigation measures (right).

3.3.2 The event was supported by a team of five representatives from the Project team including two Development Project Managers, a member of the Communications Team, a Project Engineer, and a Technical Analyst.

3.3.3 A range of information boards [Appendix 5] were provided at the exhibition which included a description of the Proposed Development and associated maps and plans, as well as visualisations (wirelines and photomontages) to help give an indication of what the Proposed Development may look like from a selection of viewpoints that were considered the most relevant to people in the local area. Also available was information on a tailored community benefits package and supply chain opportunities; and next steps including how to comment on the proposal.

3.3.4 The exhibition team endeavoured to speak to as many people as possible and encourage them to complete a comments form [Appendix 6] to help gather comments and views on the Proposed Development early in the design process. The comments form included a mix of multiple-choice questions and space for free text to leave further feedback and provide thoughts on potential uses of the community benefits package such as RES' Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS). It was made clear that the comments forms could either be handed in at the public

exhibition event, posted to the Applicant (address details were provided on the form), or filled in online on the [project website](#).

- 3.3.5 The exhibition information boards and visualisations, as well as an online version of the comments form, were made available by the Applicant on the project website from the morning of the event on 15 November 2023 so that people who may not have been able to attend, or who wished to take more time to review the information, could view it online during the consultation period and submit comments. The information remained on the project website throughout the consultation period.
- 3.3.6 The process for submitting comments to the Applicant - including the closing dates for comments on 15 December 2023 - was confirmed at the event on the exhibition boards welcoming people to the public exhibition, as well as on the comments forms available at the event and as part of the online exhibition information on the project website. In addition, a statement was included on these communications that any representations submitted to the Applicant at that stage of the Proposed Development were not representations to the determining authority and that there'd be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

3.4 Consultation feedback - overview (November 2023 public exhibition)

- 3.4.1 The exhibition event was attended by a total of 40 people. A total of 7 feedback forms were received following the November 2023 event and focused around the following themes:
- Concerns over how 'Green' the project is;
 - Scepticism over the urgency for action on climate change - one respondent stated that they believed using the word "emergency" was an overstatement;
 - Role of wind farms in meeting Scotland's energy demand - including scepticism over whether widespread development of wind farms is actually needed in Scotland;
 - Visualisations of the project - further visualisations would have been helpful to demonstrate the project's impact on the landscape;
 - Maps of the project - many of the highly coloured maps tended to present an unclear picture of the local geography; and
 - Feedback questions - concerns that questions around climate change were leading.
- 3.4.2 The Applicant included a multiple-choice question on the comments form that asked people about their attitude toward the preliminary plans for the Proposed Development.
- 3.4.3 The Applicant included a multiple-choice question on the comments form asking for views on climate change, which drives the project need. Two multiple choice questions were also included regarding the role of renewable electricity in tackling

climate change: firstly if generating electricity from renewable sources would help tackle climate change and secondly if we need to develop onshore wind farms to support greater energy independence and security for Scotland.

3.4.4 The Applicant also wished to find out whether respondents agreed that increasing the development of onshore wind would cut energy bills.

3.4.5 Further detail on the responses provided to these questions can be found in Section 5 of this report.

3.5 Further engagement

3.5.1 The Applicant had a video call with Jenni Minto, MSP for Argyll & Bute, on 15 January 2024. During the meeting, Ms. Minto's questions centred around the following areas:

- Whether there would be any design change as a result of feedback;
- The volume and nature of comments on the noise generated by turbines;
- Community concerns re the cumulative effect of several developments in the area;
- Community benefits crucial to the local area, particularly due to poor bus and ferry connections in the area;
- Highlighted that constituents often raise questions about how construction materials would be delivered to the site.

4 PUBLIC EXHIBITION AND CONSULTATION - UPDATED DESIGN (MARCH 2024)

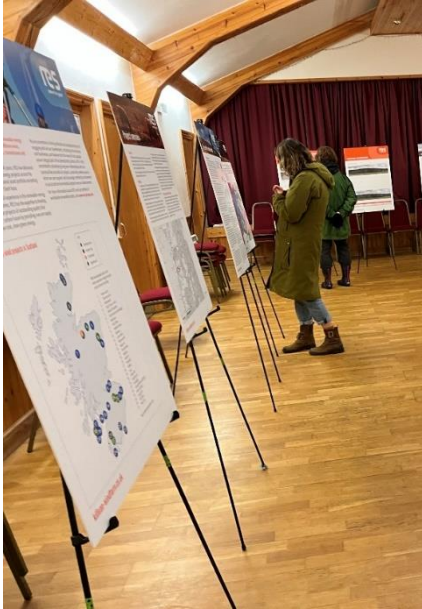
4.1 Advertising the event

- 4.1.1 Following the first public exhibition event in November 2023, the Applicant held a follow-up event on 27 March 2024; once again in the ‘host’ West Kintyre Community Council area at Tayinloan Village Hall.
- 4.1.2 The Applicant placed an advert [Appendix 7] in two local newspapers, the Campbeltown Courier and the Argyll Advertiser, for two consecutive weeks ahead of the March 2024 event to confirm details.
- 4.1.3 The Applicant decided to go over and above best practice guidance (of placing just one notice in a public newspaper) to help raise greater awareness of the Proposed Development and upcoming public exhibition event.
- 4.1.4 An email was sent on 15 March 2024 [Appendix 8] to Key Stakeholders providing details of the project. A digital copy of the information flyer sent to 1,179 properties (1,117 residential and 62 business) within 5km of the turbine development area [Appendix 9] was also included.
- 4.1.5 The Applicant also updated the [project website](#) with details of the public exhibition event.
- 4.1.6 In addition to providing details of the public exhibition event, the advert, stakeholder communications, information flyer and website update all described the revised Proposed Development and its location; and explained that further information could be found on the project website or by contacting the Applicant (contact details were provided). These communications also included information about how people could provide feedback to the Applicant on the proposal and confirmed the closing date for comments; they also all included a statement that any representations submitted to the Applicant were not representations to the determining authority and that there would be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.
- 4.1.7 The above communications far exceeded the minimum expectations for best practice and help demonstrate the Applicant’s commitment to the consultation process.

4.2 Public exhibition event - format

- 4.2.1 The public exhibition event was, once again, carefully organised around hall availability to provide adequate time for people to attend, making the event as accessible as possible. Details of the event held is as follows:

- Wednesday 27 March 2024: Tayinloan Village Hall from 2pm until 7pm (Tayinloan Village Hall, Tayinloan, Tarbert, PA29 6XG).



Members of the public examine the consultation boards (left). A member of the public and the RES project team discuss the wind farm's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 4.2.2 The event was supported by a team of five representatives on from a core team including two Development Project Managers, the Project Engineer and two external communications consultants to assist with the running of the event. A range of exhibition information boards [Appendix 10] were presented including wireline visualisations to help give an indication of what the updated design - including a reduction in turbines from 12 to 10 - may look like from different viewpoints in the local area.
- 4.2.3 Also on display were copies of a Report on Feedback [Appendix 11] which summarises the written feedback received from the community during the previous public consultation period, which ran from 6 November 2023 to 15 December 2023, and highlights any changes that had been made to the proposal since. A digital copy was also made available online on the project website.
- 4.2.4 The exhibition team endeavoured to speak to as many people as possible and encourage them to complete a comments form [Appendix 12] with their views on the updated design. The comments forms could be handed in at the event, posted to the Applicant (address details were provided on the form), or filled in online on the project website.
- 4.2.5 The exhibition information boards and an online version of the comments form were also available on the project website so that people who may not have been able to attend in person, or who wished to take more time to review the information, could

view the information online and submit comments during the consultation period. The exhibition information remained on the project website throughout the consultation period (and will continue to remain there until the Section 36 application is submitted).

- 4.2.6 The process for contacting and submitting comments to the Applicant was also confirmed on the exhibition materials and project website. It was also made clear that any representations submitted to the Applicant at that stage of the Proposed Development were not representations to the determining authority and that there would be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

4.3 Consultation feedback - overview (March 2024 public exhibitions)

- 4.3.1 The second exhibition event was attended by only nine people. There were no feedback forms submitted either during or after the event.

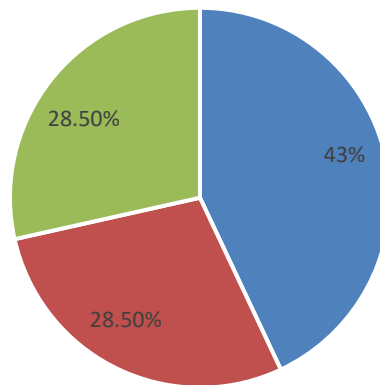
5 CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

5.1 Comments forms and analysis of answers (November 2023)

5.1.1 The responses to the project and industry-specific multiple-choice questions on the comments form have been analysed as follows:

Question 1.2 - *Before visiting the exhibition how would you describe your knowledge of the Killean Wind Farm proposal?*

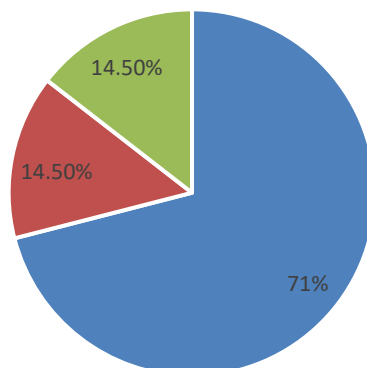
Question 1.2



■ Knew nothing at all ■ Knew very little ■ Knew a little

Question 1.3 - *Having visited the exhibition, to what extent do you feel you have increased your knowledge of the Killean Wind Farm proposal?*

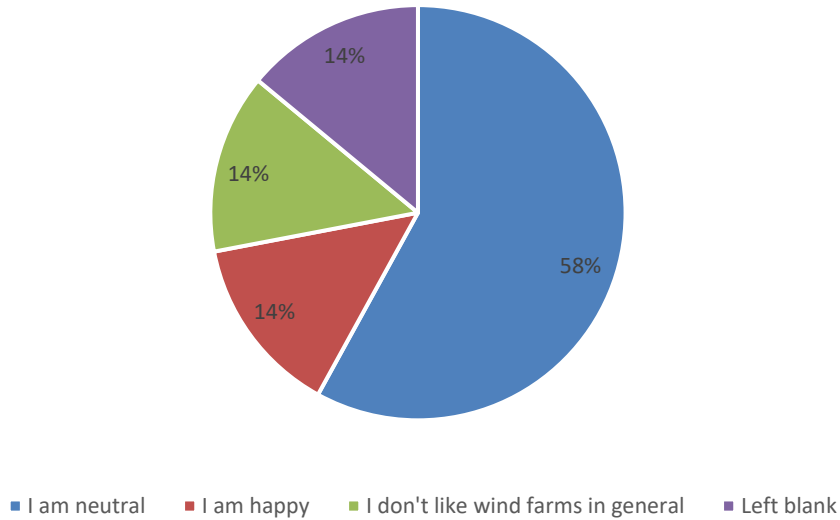
Question 1.3



■ Quite a lot ■ A little ■ Left blank

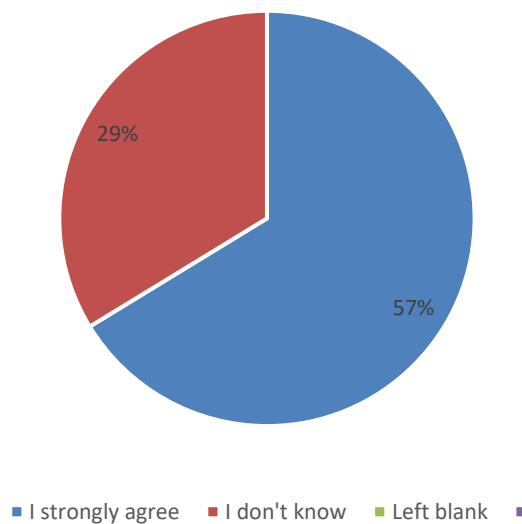
Question 2.2 - *What do you think about the proposed preliminary design layout of Killean Wind Farm?*

Question 2.2



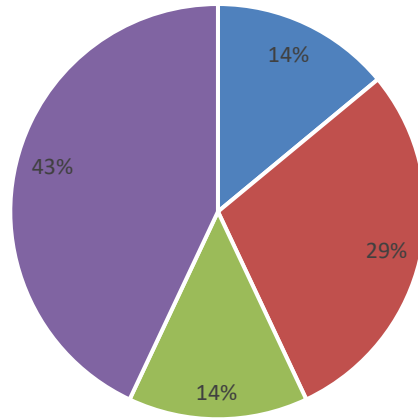
Question 4.2 - *Do you agree that generating electricity from renewable sources, and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, can help towards tackling the issue of climate change?*

Question 4.2



Question 4.4 Do you agree that we need to develop onshore wind farms to cut energy bills?

Question 4.4



■ I strongly agree ■ I agree ■ I strongly disagree ■ I don't know

6 OUTCOMES and RESPONSES

6.1 Summary of topical comments received and Applicant response

6.1.1 The topical comments received from the public exhibition events have been categorised into key topics and summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of topics, key themes, and Applicant response

Summary of comments received	The Applicant's response
Topic	
<p>Environmental / landscape</p> <p>The valuable landscape and biodiversity of Kintyre is being destroyed by these industrial developments.</p> <p>North Kintyre has too many of these developments.</p> <p>The application should be scrapped.</p> <p>The tiny percentage which is allocated to the local community does not offset the damage done to the landscape and biodiversity.</p> <p>The news of the reduction in turbines, from 12-10 (thereafter reduced to 9) was welcomed verbally at the March event.</p>	<p>Following our consultation events and further environmental and technical studies, we have reduced the number of proposed turbines from 12 to 9, with an overall installed site generating capacity of 59.4MW.</p> <p>Two of the proposed turbines were removed from the site's layout due to a further ornithology constraint identified to the north (geese flight paths). The removal of these two turbines also allowed us to adjust the proposed layout, resulting in a more compact site in landscape and visual terms.</p> <p>The cumulative impact of the proposed development along with existing and planned onshore wind farms in Kintyre will be fully assessed within the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment and Ecology EIA Chapter at application stage. The application will also include an Outline Biodiversity Enhancement & Management Plan with measures to enhance habitat and biodiversity value on the site.</p>
Topic	
<p>Neutral</p> <p>I require more information before I make a judgement on the project's viability.</p>	<p>The full findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment work will be presented in the EIA Report which will accompany the Section 36 application. It is not possible to present all of this information during the early design stages while much of the assessment work is ongoing. The purpose of the consultation events is to introduce the community to the proposals and inform them as to how they can make representations to the final application.</p>

Topic

Lack of information

More visualisations would have been helpful

I found many of the highly coloured maps tended to present an unclear picture of the local geography
Representatives having clear answers to questions would have been beneficial

The visualisations shown at the consultation events were selected to represent the closest and most localised views of the Proposed Development. A total of 17 viewpoints will be assessed in the EIAR, up to 35km from the site.

The intention of the coloured maps was to show the site constraints which have informed the layout design. The project team were on hand to explain these in further detail, and attendees responded positively to hearing that ornithology in particular relating to geese and golden eagles had been a key consideration.

6.2 Evaluation of consultation process

6.2.1 Best practice encourages Applicants to evaluate the pre-application consultation process. As such, Table 2 evaluates the Applicant's consultation process using the 10 National Standards for Community Engagement as set out in PAN 3/2010³. Examples have been included within the table below to demonstrate how the Applicant has achieved the standard.

Table 2: National Standards for Community Engagement Evaluation

THE STANDARD	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES
INVOLVEMENT	Identify and involve the people and organisations who have an interest in the focus of engagement.	The Applicant identified, early in the process, the people and organisations who may have an interest in the Proposed Development and with whom to engage and keep up to date. In the early scoping stage of the Proposed Development this included 'host' Community Councils, nearby Community Councils, local ward Councillors, constituency MSP and MP, and properties within 5km of the Proposed Development. As the project developed this list naturally evolved to include, for example, over 1,100 local properties (within approximately 5km of the turbine development area as well as anyone else who asked to be kept up to date with the proposal).
SUPPORT	Identify and overcome any barriers to involvement.	Throughout the consultation process the Applicant understood the need to help all individuals and groups engage, for example, the Applicant ensured that public exhibitions took place in a prominent location which was accessible as far as practicable. The events took place during the afternoon - evening to help encourage footfall and dates were arranged to deliberately avoid the school holidays. Hard copies of the exhibition information boards were also available upon request.

³ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/pan-3-2010-community-engagement/>

THE STANDARD	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES
PLANNING	Gather evidence of need and resources to agree purpose, scope and actions.	Engagement and consultation took place over many months as the Proposed Development progressed. The Applicant clearly set out in communications the purpose and scope of consultation. Consultation events were carefully planned and held at times in the project programme when the most value could be provided, for example, the November 2023 public exhibition was held early in the design development process when people’s feedback could potentially have greatest influence on the Proposed Development - and the March 2024 public exhibitions were held at final design stage when the Applicant could demonstrate the changes made (reduction of number of turbines from 12 to 10 - one further turbine was removed after the last round of consultation) and be clear about the final proposal which would be submitted into planning. Also, the scope of the information presented at each of the sets of public exhibitions was carefully considered and reflected the areas of interest raised by stakeholders. The Applicant also ensured that the public exhibitions were widely advertised, through a variety of methods, to reach as many people as possible.
METHODS	Agree and use methods of engagement that are fit for purpose.	The Applicant used a variety of methods to engage. These methods included, for example, letters, phone-calls, emails, face-to-face meetings, public exhibitions (exhibition information was also made available online via the project website, including an online version of the comments form) and adverts. Within the public exhibition consultation events the Applicant used a variety of materials and communication methods including information boards, visualisations, interactive wireline software and verbal discussion.
WORKING TOGETHER	Agree and use clear procedures that enable participants to work together effectively and efficiently.	Contact details for the Applicant were made publicly available and provided on all project communications for people to get in touch if they needed to. The Applicant has responded to all public enquiries and organised meetings with residents and Key Stakeholders to discuss concerns face-to-face, as required. Timescales and procedures were clearly set out in relation to the Applicant’s consultation process; for example, how to comment to the Applicant on the Proposed Development and the closing date for comments, the expected timings for the next set of public exhibitions and how to find further information. The

THE STANDARD	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES
		Applicant also clearly set out more information regarding the Section 36 decision-making process within its exhibition information at the March 2024 public exhibition.
SHARING INFORMATION	Ensure necessary information is communicated between the participants.	The Applicant endeavoured to use language appropriate for the demographic, social and economic landscape of the community, and literacy levels. A variety of communication methods were used too, as outlined in Chapters 2-4 above, to communicate information about the Proposed Development and consultation process. Regular updates were sent at key milestones to Key Stakeholders, local households, and all those who asked to be kept up to date with the Proposed Development to keep them informed and appraised of progress.
WORKING WITH OTHERS	Work effectively with others with an interest.	The Applicant engaged early in the design process with local Community Councils to discuss the Proposed Development and proposed consultation. The Applicant also engaged with local residents, local Councillors, and kept the local MP and MSP informed of activity.
IMPROVEMENT	Develop the skills, knowledge and confidence of the participants.	The Applicant's representatives, who undertook the consultation and engagement activity, have extensive experience in community engagement and consultation.
FEEDBACK	Feed results back to the wider community and agencies affected.	Using feedback and the PAC Report, the Applicant has ensured that the consultation comments and findings of the consultation process have been summarised and fed back.
MONITORING AND EVALUATION	Monitor and evaluate whether engagement achieves its purpose and meets the national standards for community engagement.	The Applicant has continued to review and monitor the consultation process. The Applicant has also evaluated the consultation process using the 10 National Standards for Community Engagement as set out in PAN 3/2010.

7 SUMMARY

7.1 Key points

- 7.1.1 In accordance with best practice, the Applicant has fulfilled and exceeded the minimum pre-application consultation activity expected for this Proposed Development, including documenting and reporting on the consultation activities undertaken.
- 7.1.2 Furthermore, the Applicant has also endeavoured to undertake consultation in line with the best practice 'National Standards for Community Engagement' as set out in PAN 3/2010 and has evaluated the consultation undertaken against these best practice standards.
- 7.1.3 The Applicant identified and engaged early with Key Stakeholders and the local community, to facilitate a constructive consultation process; this has helped us understand and address concerns, where possible, as the project has developed.
- 7.1.4 The Applicant responded directly to any enquiries received throughout the project's development and offered to meet with local residents or Key Stakeholders who had questions or concerns about the Proposed Development.
- 7.1.5 The Applicant continued to keep Key Stakeholders, the local community, and anyone else who asked to be kept informed about the Proposed Development up to date.
- 7.1.6 Both the November 2023 and March 2024 public exhibition events were prominently publicised and the Applicant is grateful to everyone who took the time to attend and provide feedback on the Proposed Development during the first consultative period (no feedback was received following the March 2024 event). The feedback received has been carefully logged, analysed, and summarised within this PAC Report.
- 7.1.7 The Applicant included a multiple-choice question on the comments form that asked people about their level of knowledge about the project both before and after the November 2023 consultation. All respondents had a limited knowledge of the project prior to the consultation; specifically 42% said they 'knew nothing at all', 29% 'knew very little' and 29% 'knew a little'. By contrast, 71% stated that they 'knew quite a lot' following the consultation and only 15% said 'a little'.
- 7.1.8 The Applicant also wanted to know how attendees at the public exhibition had found out about the event. A majority, 71.42%, found out through the RES information flyer through the door whilst the remainder learnt about the exhibition from an advert in the local newspaper.

- 7.1.9 As an experienced wind farm developer, the Applicant has listened to the feedback from the local community and considered this in relation to the design of the Proposed Development.
- 7.1.10 The Applicant made key changes to the design of the Proposed Development with consideration of consultation feedback as outlined, primarily, in Section 6 of this PAC Report.
- 7.1.11 Throughout the consultation process, the Applicant has helped the community understand the benefits and impacts of the proposed wind farm and added value and improved the quality of the proposal through meaningful and productive consultation.
- 7.1.12 RES is committed to being a good neighbour and will build on this pre-application consultation. The company has an ‘open door’ policy which means that anyone can contact the company about the Proposed Development at any stage and RES will respond in a timely manner. The Development Project Manager’s and Community Relations Team’s contact details have been made available for this purpose via exchange of information at the public exhibitions and the project website.
- 7.1.13 The project website will be updated regularly to enable people to keep up-to-date with the latest news about the Proposed Development as it progresses.
- 7.1.14 Once the planning application and Environmental Impact Assessment report have been validated by the ECU, the Applicant will write to political representatives, community organisations and members of the public who have requested to be kept informed, to provide them with the planning reference number and how they can submit a formal representation, should they wish to do so.

7.2 Appendices

- 7.2.1 The following is a list of Appendices contained within this PAC Report:

Appendix 1: Introductory letter to Key Stakeholders - sent 11 September 2023

Appendix 2: Newspaper advert - November 2023 public exhibition

Appendix 3: Information flyer - November 2023 public exhibition

Appendix 4: Update email to Key Stakeholders with exhibition details
- sent 6 November 2023

Appendix 5: Exhibition information boards - November 2023 public exhibition

Appendix 6: Comments form for consultation feedback - November 2023 public exhibition

Appendix 7: Newspaper advert - March 2024 public exhibition

Appendix 8: Update email to Key Stakeholders with exhibition details
- sent 15 March 2024

Appendix 9: Information flyer - March 2024 public exhibition

Appendix 10: Exhibition information boards - March 2024 public exhibition

Appendix 11: Report on feedback (from November 2023 consultation)

Appendix 12: Comments form for consultation feedback - March 2024 public
exhibition

Appendix 1: Introductory letter to Key Stakeholders - sent 11 September 2023



Renewable Energy Systems Limited
Third Floor, STV, Pacific Quay
Glasgow G51 1PQ, United Kingdom
+44 (0)1414 045 500 | info@res-group.com

Margaret Pratt
West Kintyre Community Council
Sent by email to:

11 September 2023

Dear Margaret,

RE: Killean Wind Farm proposal

I am writing to inform West Kintyre Community Council that RES is in the early stages of exploring a potential wind farm and energy storage proposal on the Killean estate, approximately 2km east of Tayinloan.

We have also written to Campbeltown Community Council (whose boundary lies to the south of the site), East Kintyre Community Council (whose boundary lies to the east of the site), Gigha Community Council (whose boundary is situated to the west), South Knapdale Community Council (whose boundary is situated to the north of site) and Tarbert and Skipness Community Council (whose boundary lies to the north of the site) to help raise awareness of the proposal at this early stage.

About RES

RES is the world's largest independent renewable energy company with operations across Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific. We grew out of Sir Robert McAlpine, a British family-owned firm with over 140 years of experience in construction and engineering with a proud history in Scotland stretching from the Glenfinnan Viaduct in the Highlands to the Emirates Arena and Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome in Glasgow.

We have been at the forefront of wind energy development for over 40 years and developed and/or built more than 23GW of renewable energy capacity worldwide. In the UK alone we are responsible for approximately 10% of the current wind energy capacity. We have developed and/or built 21 wind farms in Scotland with a total generation capacity of 597MW and have recently finished constructing Blary Hill Wind Farm in Argyll and Bute. From our Glasgow office we have been developing, constructing and operating wind farms in Scotland since 1993.

Scoping Report submission

Having undertaken some initial site feasibility work we are now preparing for more detailed environmental and technical site survey work which will be carried out carefully over the next few months to help inform the design. In line with this we submitted a Scoping Report to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU), which sets out and seeks feedback on the proposed scope of environmental assessment work. An electronic copy of the Scoping Report can be viewed on the Killean project website at www.killean-windfarm.co.uk. I can also organise for a hard copy to be posted out to you if this would be helpful (please let me know if this is the case).

Project overview

The Scoping Report includes an early design for the proposed scheme comprising 12 turbines at a tip height of up to 180m, resulting in an overall site generating capacity of around 72MW. Turbine technology has advanced considerably in recent years, meaning that turbines are now taller and more efficient which enables them to generate a significantly greater amount of renewable electricity per

turbine. If consented, Killean Wind Farm would be capable of generating clean, low-cost renewable electricity for around 57,000 homes¹ each year (based on the scoping layout).

Onshore wind alongside other renewable technologies can generate the cheapest form of electricity generation. It also increases energy security by reducing reliance on imports and builds our resilience to sudden fossil fuel price fluctuations and the uncertainties of global markets. With the ever-growing threat of climate change and the catastrophic impacts that it could have, as well as the current cost of living crisis and energy security considerations, it is imperative to deliver clean, low-cost, home-grown electricity. This makes developments like Killean Wind Farm not just good for the environment but also the consumer.

We also believe that onshore wind should provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities. RES takes a tailored approach and works directly with the community to understand the local priorities, needs and community projects which the community would like the wind farm to support in the local area. RES is proposing that the package of community benefits from Killean Wind Farm will be up to £5,000 per MW (or equivalent) of installed capacity per annum, and this support from the wind farm could create positive social and economic impacts which provide a lasting legacy in the local area.

Next steps

RES believes in meaningful and effective consultation, and we aim to engage early with the local community and key stakeholders in order to facilitate constructive consultation. This helps to identify issues and concerns, as well as benefits and opportunities, which we can then consider when developing the design.

We will be looking to hold a public exhibition in the next couple of months in order to engage early with the local community and listen to people's feedback and will be in touch shortly with further information.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like further information please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely



Danny McLean
Development Project Manager
E danny.mclean@res-group.com
M +447769 388725

¹ The 57,000 homes equivalent figure has been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation of the site (using the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy's average load factor for [onshore and offshore] wind of 31.54% and RES' predicted site generation capacity of 72MW) and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy showing that the annual UK average domestic household consumption is 3,505 kWh (December 2022). Final wind farm capacity will vary depending on the outcome of planning permission and the turbine type selected.

Appendix 2: Newspaper advert - November 2023 public exhibition



RES is in the early stages of developing proposals for a new wind farm on the Killean estate, around 2km east of Tayinloan, Kintyre.

Our early plans are for 12 wind turbines with a tip height of 180m, generating 72MW of clean, green renewable energy and helping Scotland meet its climate change target of 'net zero' emissions by 2045.

We are now carrying out environmental and technical surveys and seeking feedback from local people and consultees to help us develop detailed proposals, before applying to the Scottish Government for planning consent next year.

Please come along to our public exhibition at **Tayinloan Village Hall PA29 6XG on Wednesday 15 November 2023 (1-7pm)** to find out more, meet the project team and ask any questions you may have.

You can provide feedback in writing by filling out a 'comments form' at the exhibition, or online from 15 November, when copies of the exhibition information will be available on the project website www.killean-windfarm.co.uk. You can also email your comments form to Killean@communityrelations.co.uk or post to **FREEPOST KILLEAN WIND FARM**. The closing date for comments is **15 December 2023**.

If you have any questions, please email us, or call us at **Freephone 08000 129 885**.

A community benefits package worth up to £5,000 per MW (or equivalent) of installed capacity per year will become available once Killean Wind Farm is operational. RES will work with the community to see how the funding could best support local priorities and needs, to provide a lasting legacy in the local area.

Please note that any comments made during the consultation are not representations to The Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit, who will determine any subsequent application for consent. Following the submission of the Section 36 Application, interested parties will have the opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Government on these proposals.

Appendix 3: Information flyer - November 2023 public exhibition



RES is in the early stages of developing proposals for a new wind farm on the Killean estate, around 2km east of Tayinloan, Kintyre.

Please come along to our public exhibition at **Tayinloan Village Hall on Wednesday 15 November 2023 (1-7pm)** to find out more, meet the project team and ask any questions you may have.

Killean Wind Farm

Our early plans are for 12 wind turbines with a tip height of 180m, generating 72MW of clean, green renewable energy – enough to power around 57,000 homes¹ each year and helping Scotland meet its climate change target of ‘net zero’ emissions by 2045.

We are now carrying out environmental and technical surveys and seeking feedback from local people and consultees to help us develop detailed proposals, before applying to the Scottish Government for planning consent next year. We have submitted a Scoping Report to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit, which we have published on our website.

A community benefits package worth up to £5,000 per MW (or equivalent) of installed capacity per year will become available once Killean Wind Farm is operational. Throughout the development of the project, RES will work with the community to see how the funding could best support local priorities and needs to provide a lasting legacy in the local area.

About us

RES has developed 21 wind farms in Scotland with a total generation capacity of 597MW, including the Freasdail and Blary Hill Wind Farms in Argyll and Bute. From our Glasgow office we have been developing, constructing and operating wind farms in Scotland since 1993. RES is the world’s largest independent renewable energy company, operating across Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific.

Give us your views!

Please tell us what you would like us to consider when developing our plans, and how you think a tailored package of community benefits could best support the local area.

You can send feedback in writing by filling out a ‘comments form’ at the exhibition or online via the website at www.killean-windfarm.co.uk (from 15 November 2023), where all exhibition material will also be available. You can also email your comments to Killean@communityrelations.co.uk or send by mail to **FREEPOST KILLEAN WIND FARM**

The closing date for comments is **15 December 2023**.

If you have any questions, please email or call us at **Freephone: 08000 129 885**



Please note that any comments made during the Consultation Stage are not representations to The Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit, who will determine any subsequent application for consent. Following the submission of the Section 36 Application, interested parties will have the opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Government on these proposals.

¹The 57,000 homes equivalent figure has been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation of the site (using the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy’s (BEIS) average load factor for [onshore and offshore] wind of 31.84% and RES’ predicted site generation capacity of 72MW) and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from BEIS showing that the annual UK average domestic household consumption is 3,209 kWh (December 2022). Final wind farm capacity will vary depending on the outcome of planning permission and the turbine type selected.

This flyer has been designed to keep you up to date with the Killean Wind Farm proposal. If you no longer wish to receive similar communications at key project milestones, please contact us to let us know.

If you require information in Braille, large text or audio, please get in touch with us.

Appendix 4: Update email to Key Stakeholders with exhibition details - sent 6 November 2023

From: killean@communityrelations.co.uk <killean@communityrelations.co.uk>
Sent: 06 November 2023 17:10
To:
Subject: RES Killean Wind Farm

Dear [Councillor]

I am writing to let you know that RES is holding a public consultation on our proposals for a new wind farm on the Killean estate, around 2km east of Tayinloan, Kintyre.

Our early plans are for 12 wind turbines with a tip height of 180m, generating 72MW of clean, green renewable energy and helping Scotland meet its climate change target of 'net zero' emissions by 2045.

We are now carrying out environmental and technical surveys and seeking feedback from local people and consultees to help us develop detailed proposals, before applying to the Scottish Government for planning consent next year.

Public exhibition

We are holding a public exhibition about our proposals at Tayinloan Village Hall PA29 6XG on Wednesday 15 November 2023 (1pm to 7pm) where people can find out more, meet the project team and ask any questions they may have.

We are advertising the event and the consultation in local newspapers, and we have sent an information leaflet (copy attached) to local homes and businesses. We are also contacting local organisations and stakeholders by email.

We would be delighted to see you if you are able to attend the event. We would also be pleased to talk to you separately if you have any questions.

Providing feedback on the proposal

Feedback can be submitted in writing by filling out a 'comments form' at the exhibition, or online from 15 November, when copies of the exhibition information will be available on the project website www.killean-windfarm.co.uk. Feedback can also be emailed to us at Killean@communityrelations.co.uk or via post to FREEPOST KILLEAN WIND FARM. **The closing date for comments is 15 December 2023.**

Please note that any comments made during the consultation are not representations to The Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit, who will determine any subsequent application for consent. Following the submission of the Section 36 Application, interested parties will have the opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Government on these proposals.

Next steps

The written feedback received from the exhibition and consultation period, together with key consultee feedback and the findings of the environmental assessment work being undertaken, will be considered as part of the design development over the coming months. We will also hold a second public exhibition closer to submission of the planning application to update people on the proposal and present the final design.

If you have any questions, please email us, or call us at Freephone 08000 129 885.

A community benefits package worth up to £5,000 per MW (or equivalent) of installed capacity per year will become available once Killean Wind Farm is operational. RES will work with the community to see how the funding could best support local priorities and needs, to provide a lasting legacy in the local area.

Kind regards



Danny McLean
Development Project Manager



RES in Scotland

RES has developed 21 wind farms in Scotland with a total generation capacity of 597MW, including Freasdail and Blary Hill Wind Farm in Argyll and Bute. From our Glasgow office we have been developing, constructing and operating wind farms in Scotland since 1993. RES is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, operating across Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific.

[Committed to a future where everyone has access to affordable zero carbon energy](#)

Appendix 5: Exhibition information boards - November 2023 public exhibition



Thank you for taking the time to attend this exhibition. The event focuses on the wind farm proposal that we are exploring on the Killean Estate, approximately 2 km east of Tayinloan in Argyll and Bute.

RES believes in meaningful and effective consultation, and we aim to engage early with the local community and key stakeholders in order to facilitate constructive consultation. This helps to identify issues and concerns, as well as benefits and opportunities, which we will consider when developing and refining the design and delivery of the proposal.

We consider pre-application consultation a crucial part of the wind farm development process. This early-stage exhibition is designed to help maximise the potential for consultation feedback to help shape the design.

A range of information is shared, including details of the site location, design layout, site constraints, likely turbine delivery route and environmental considerations.

In addition, we have provided visualisations comprising wirelines and photomontages to help give an impression of how the current site design and layout may appear from different viewpoints in the area.

This exhibition forms part of our pre-application consultation and is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- learn more about the proposal
- discuss any questions or views with our project team
- provide written feedback to RES on the proposal.

Please take time to read the exhibition information provided and talk to our project team about any questions that you may have. All consultation feedback submitted to RES will be reviewed by the project team over the coming months as we continue the design process.





National development

We are in a climate emergency, cost of living crisis and also seeking to enhance the security of our energy supply. Onshore wind can address all of these. This is recognised by the Scottish Government's National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4)¹ which was published in February 2023. NPF4 is Scotland's long term spatial planning strategy and categorises onshore wind projects with a generating capacity in excess of 50MW as National Development. In principle it supports all forms of renewable energy generation including onshore wind.

Net zero carbon targets

A 'climate emergency' was declared by the UK Government and the Scottish Government in 2019. The UK Government has set a legally binding target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 'net zero' by 2050 and the Scottish Government has a net zero target of 2045.² Renewables, and specifically onshore wind, will play an important role in helping achieve these targets.

Scotland currently has almost 9GW of operational onshore wind capacity. The Scottish Government has a target of achieving 20GW of installed onshore wind capacity across Scotland by 2030³ in order to help meet their legally binding 2045 net zero target. This is a substantial increase and will require the significant deployment of new onshore wind projects in order to meet this demand for green, low-carbon electricity.

Energy security

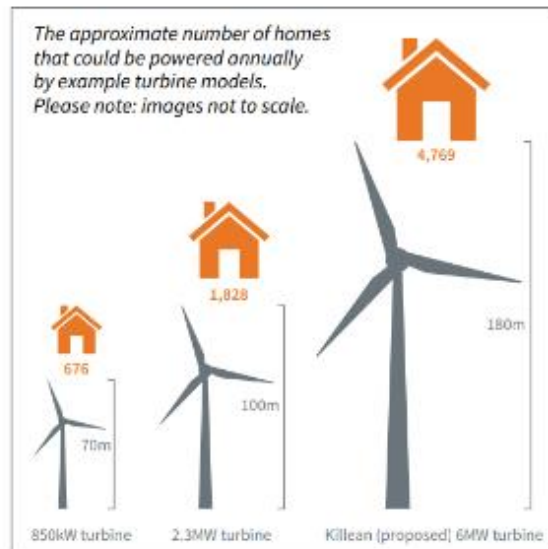
Wind energy is a free and inexhaustible resource that has an important role to play as part of a balanced energy mix. It increases energy security by reducing our reliance on imports and builds our resilience to sudden price fluctuations and the uncertainty of global markets.

Improved performance and output

Turbine technology has advanced considerably in recent years, meaning that turbines are now more efficient, which enables them to generate a significantly greater amount of renewable electricity per turbine. Modern taller turbines provide more electricity, which helps address the climate emergency, cost of living crisis, and security of energy supply. The 180m turbines proposed at Killean would allow for far greater benefits in terms of renewable electricity generation per turbine than smaller turbines would.

Low-cost electricity

Onshore wind alongside other renewable energy technologies, can generate the cheapest form of new electricity generation. It can be deployed quickly and delivered at lower costs than some other renewable technologies (such as offshore wind, hydro and nuclear). If consented, Killean Wind Farm would be capable of generating enough clean, low-cost renewable



electricity to power approximately 57,000 homes each year³ based on the current design presented at this exhibition. With the rising cost of living and climate change emergency, it is imperative that we deliver electricity efficiently and at lowest cost to the consumer.

Tackling climate change

Whilst temperature and weather patterns have naturally fluctuated throughout history, scientists now agree that there is 'unequivocal evidence that Earth is warming at an unprecedented rate' not seen in the past 10,000 years and that 'human activity is the principal cause'.⁴

Rapidly melting ice sheets, accelerated rises in sea levels and ocean warming, longer droughts, more frequent floods, wildfires and tropical storms are just some of the devastating effects of climate change seen across the globe that are impacting humans and other species.

With the ever-growing threat of climate change and the catastrophic impacts that it could have, it is critical that we transition to a zero-carbon future.

¹ Scottish Government (www.gov.scot/publications/national-planning-framework-4)

² Onshore Wind – policy statement refresh 2021, Scottish Government, October 2021

³ The indicative homes equivalent figures for the site (a conservative estimate of 57,000 homes) and for the three different turbine models shown have been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation based on the site's installed capacity of 72MW (or each turbine's capacity) together with the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy's (BEIS) average load factor for (onshore and offshore) wind of 31.84% and dividing this by the BEIS annual average electricity figure (an annual UK average domestic household consumption of 3,509 kWh [December 2022]). The final wind farm capacity and the turbine models used for Killean will vary depending on the outcome of any planning permission and the turbine procurement process.

⁴ NASA (climate.nasa.gov/evidence)



The site

The Killean Wind Farm is proposed for a site on a private estate approximately 2km east of Tayinloan, in Argyll and Bute. The site is currently utilised as commercial forestry plantation and open rough grazing for livestock.

The site has good wind resource and lies outside any nationally designated landscape areas.

Scoping

In September 2023, following initial feasibility work on site, we submitted a Scoping Report to the Scottish Government. The Report sought feedback from the Scottish Government and other consultees (including local Community Councils) on the scope of the proposed environmental survey work.

The Report included an early design layout for the proposed scheme comprising 12 turbines at a turbine tip height of around 180m, resulting in an overall installed site generating capacity (based on the scoping layout) of around 72MW.

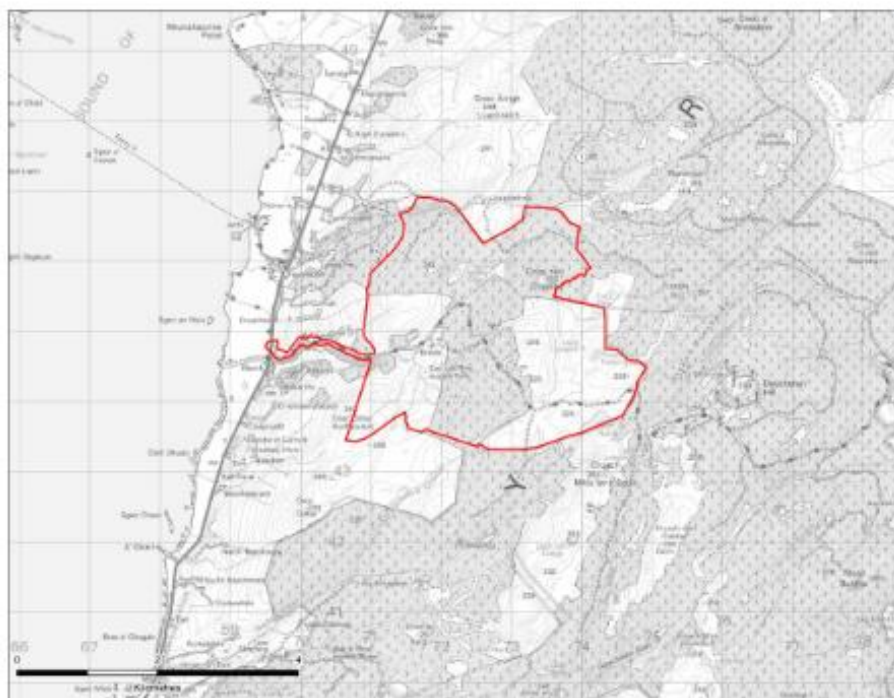
Turbine technology has advanced considerably in recent years, meaning that turbines are now taller and more efficient, which

enables them to generate a significantly greater amount of renewable electricity per turbine. If consented, Killean would be capable of generating clean, low-cost renewable electricity for around 57,000 homes each year.

Consultee feedback to the Scoping Report is currently being reviewed and any necessary changes made to the proposed scope of environmental work. Technical and environmental surveys will continue to be undertaken over the coming years to feed into a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The findings from this EIA work, together with consultation feedback from both this exhibition and key consultees, will be considered as part of the design development.

Planning submission timescales

The Killean Wind Farm proposal will have an installed generating capacity greater than 50MW. This means that the application for planning consent will be submitted by RES to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 (the Electricity Act) and determined by Scottish Ministers. We currently expect to submit the Section 36 application in early 2024.



Site location plan



Early design

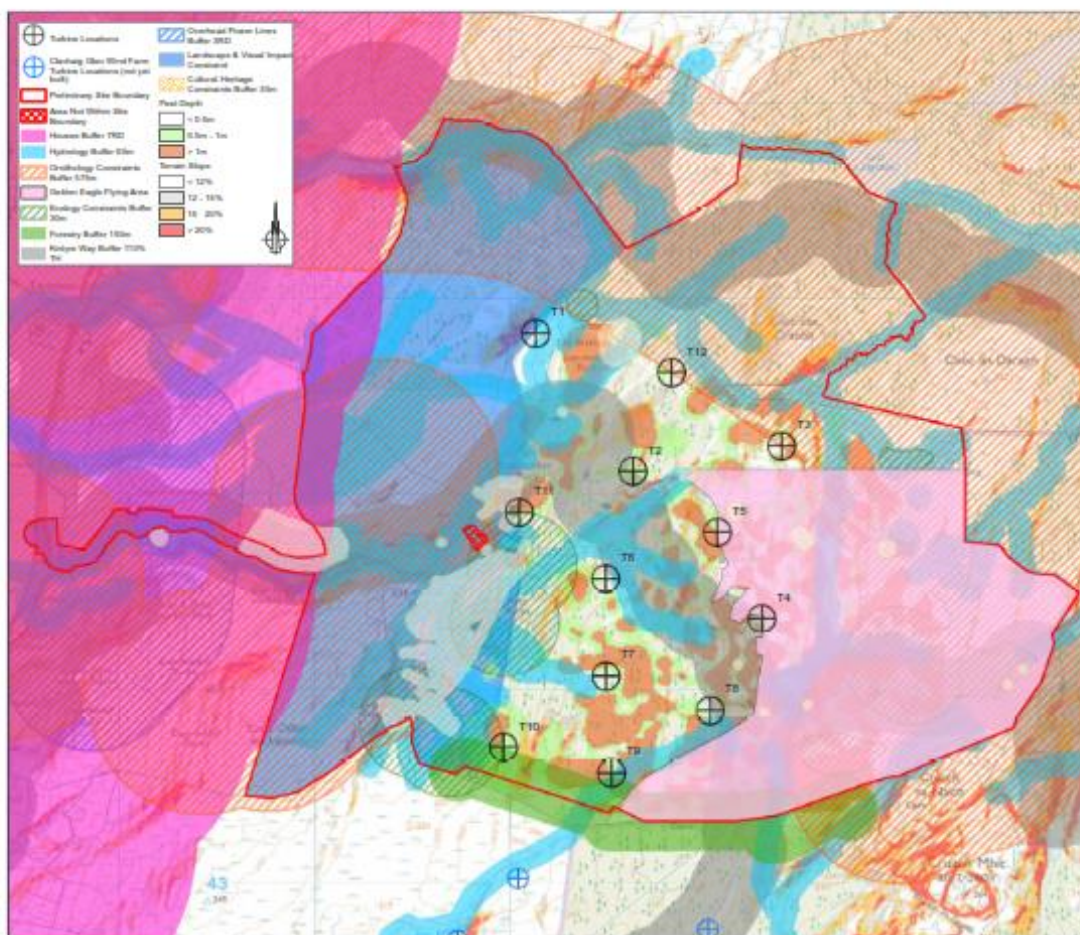
While still at an early stage of the project, the currently proposed site layout is shown below.

This design is based on the constraints that have been mapped so far and shown on the plan. Please note that the location for the on-site substation has not yet been established.

There is a lot of work still to do over the coming months, and the design will be developed and refined during this time in response to both the findings from the technical and environmental survey work as well as consideration of written feedback from key consultees and the local community.

As the design is still at an early stage, any comments that you may have on the layout has the potential to change and influence the design and improve the overall quality of the planning application from a community perspective. Please talk to our project team if you have questions about the design or ideas for ways in which it could be improved in your opinion.

Constraints map (scoping)





As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, we are conducting wide-ranging surveys and studies.

Cultural heritage

The 'cultural heritage' of an area comprises archaeological sites, historic buildings, inventoried gardens and designed landscapes, inventoried battlefields and other historic environment features. The 'setting' of an asset within the wider landscape may contribute to its cultural heritage significance. There are no designated heritage assets within the site boundary area but there are 56 heritage assets, seven of these historic environmental recorded (HER) sites are non-statutory register (NSR) sites, potentially of national importance and of schedulable quality.

The Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment will identify cultural heritage assets that may be subject to significant impacts, both on the site and within 5km of the proposed turbines.

Other heritage assets identified within the Inner Study Area include a group of 17 shieling huts, standing on artificial mounds within a forest clearing south-east of Loch Dirigadale. A farmstead, shown on First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping (1860), as well as a stone-built sheepfold and byre, both of which survive, are recorded in Braids. Collectively, these assets attest to medieval to post-medieval settlement and pastoral agriculture on the westfacing hillside.

Several quarries identified at Cruach Na Naich and Cruach A'bhodaidh, along with the two limekilns and 11 dykes in Braids, further attest to the establishment of post-medieval

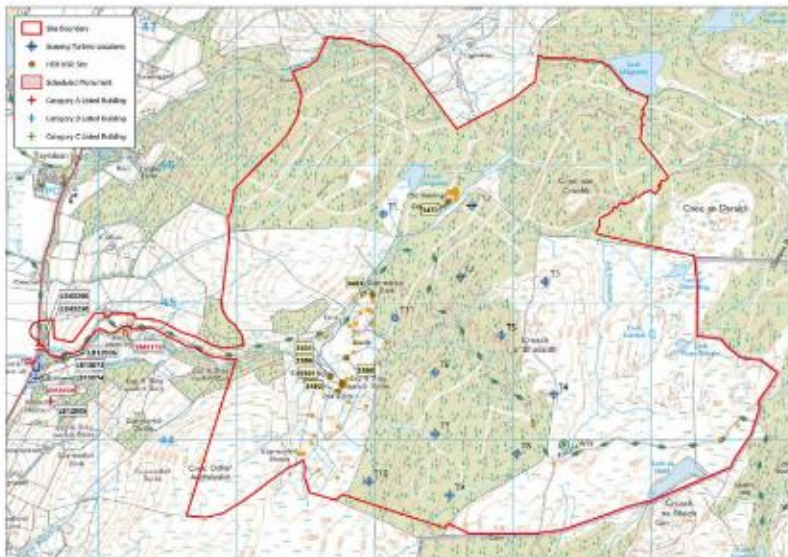
farming settlement and exploitation of natural resources. Potential impacts will be assessed and a programme of mitigation proposed where appropriate.

Ecology

We take the protection of the site and surrounding area's ecology seriously. The non-avian Ecology Impact Assessment will involve a range of studies including habitats, protected species, notable species (e.g. national and European Protected Species) and locally protected species. To date we have undertaken botanical survey work to identify habitats that are of conservation importance or have groundwater dependence, and protected species survey work to investigate for protected mammals, such as badger, bats, otter, water vole, red squirrel and pine marten. Further habitat and species assessment work will take place over the coming months as the design develops and infrastructure siting is refined.

Ornithology

Avoiding impacts on bird species, wherever possible, is an important factor in the design of the site. Already, we have commissioned over 200 hours of baseline ornithological survey work over two years during breeding and non-breeding seasons to build our understanding of the species on site. Surveys have included flight path activity, breeding behaviour and winter walkover surveys, as well as specific black grouse and wader surveys. Some of the key species we are monitoring in the area are Greenland white-fronted goose, whooper swan, barnacle goose, goldeneye, hen harrier and golden eagle.



Heritage designations



EIA considerations

Hydrology and hydrogeology

The proposal has the potential to cause changes to the baseline hydrological and hydrogeological conditions on the site and to the receiving water environment so the EIA process will seek to identify sensitive water environment features; assessing potential impacts and proposing mitigation where required.

A number of initial studies and assessments have been carried out to map the groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems (GWDTE), groundwater, water supplies and surface water features, and other potential water environment receptors.

The mapping of private water supplies forms a key part of the hydro and hydrogeological work; further consultation will be undertaken to identify the complete water supply infrastructure in the vicinity of the proposed development. A Private Water Supply Risk Assessment will also be developed to accompany the planning application. Any construction work close to water supplies is strictly regulated but please talk to our team if you have any concerns or questions regarding your private water supply.

Should any significant impacts be identified as part of the EIA process, appropriate mitigation will be proposed. Mitigation seeks, first, to avoid adverse impacts and, where impacts are unavoidable, to reduce the significance of residual effect to an acceptable level. It also seeks enhancement and compensation, where possible, to provide the best practicable outcome.

Peat

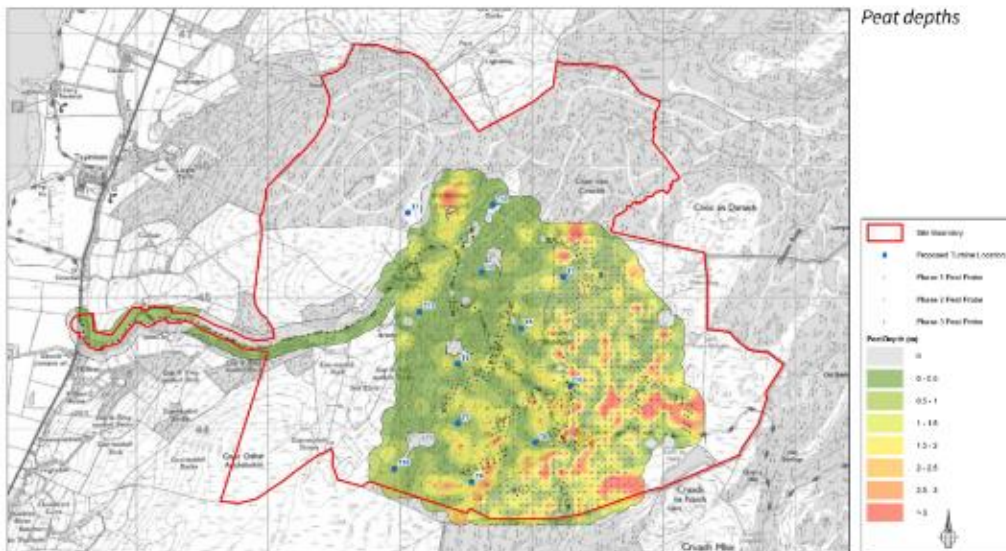
Initial peat depth surveys and assessments have been undertaken across the site to inform the early site layout. This work has been carried out in accordance with current Scottish Government and NatureScot good practice guidance on wind farm construction.

A further phase of more detailed peat surveys is proposed following further refinement of the infrastructure layout and a Peat Management Plan will be developed over the coming months.

The approach to peat will aim to avoid impacts and, where this is not possible, will seek appropriate re-use options to minimise any impacts, and facilitate habitat restoration or enhancement where possible.

Shadow flicker

Shadow flicker is a phenomenon where, under certain circumstances of geographical position and time of day, the sun may pass behind the rotors of a wind turbine and cast a shadow over neighbouring properties. When the blades rotate, the shadow flicks on and off. It only occurs inside buildings, such as where the flicker appears through a narrow window opening. Shadow flicker can be easily modelled and the Killean Wind Farm proposal is being designed in a way that will minimise any potential for shadow flicker. Shadow flicker can be mitigated in a number of ways, including shadow detection technology on relevant turbines to create a shutdown timetable, if necessary.





Traffic and transport

An initial Access Study and Swept Paths Analysis (SPA) have been carried out by RES to assess route options and help minimise potential impacts during the delivery of wind turbine components.

The Access Study established a preferred route for deliveries, which is shown on the map below. The route involves entry at the Campbeltown dock before transportation to the site via the A83 to the site entrance.

We will also be assessing traffic volumes in the local area over the coming months. This work will help us to understand the impact of other project-related traffic (HGVs, site plant, 4x4s), required during the construction phase, and identify ways to minimise disruption on road users. The site access point will also need to be carefully designed with appropriate visibility splays to meet strict safety requirements.

Noise

Noise is an important consideration and, should the project be consented, the wind farm will be designed to comply with strict noise limits set by Argyll and Bute Council.

Initial design work has taken account of residential properties in the surrounding area with buffers applied, which has resulted in the scoping layout presented. Survey work is being undertaken to understand the background noise and assess noise in greater detail, and this will inform the iterative design process and EIA.

We will shortly be commissioning a range of background noise studies at selected properties in the local area; these will be agreed with Argyll and Bute Council's Environmental Health Officer. The surveys will measure the noise at different times of the day and night in order to establish a baseline. These studies will inform the EIA, which will assess the impact of operational (and construction) noise in accordance with relevant guidance (including ETSU-R-97) and ensure that the proposal is within mandatory noise limits.

Aviation lighting

The turbines proposed for Killean are above 150m in height and will therefore require aviation lighting so that the turbines are visible to aircraft. We will be consulting with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), Campbeltown Airport, the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and any other relevant consultees over the coming months to agree a lighting strategy with them.

It is worth noting that not all turbines are likely to be required to be lit (for example, lighting may just be required on outermost turbines). Furthermore, the (red) aviation lighting is designed to focus the light across and upwards for the attention of aircraft rather than downwards to ground level.

There are also variations in the intensity of the lighting with lower levels required in good visibility and higher levels required in cloudy or foggy weather. In some instances, infra-red lighting may be possible (which is invisible to the naked eye).

The proposed lighting strategy will be presented in the planning application.

Aviation and radar

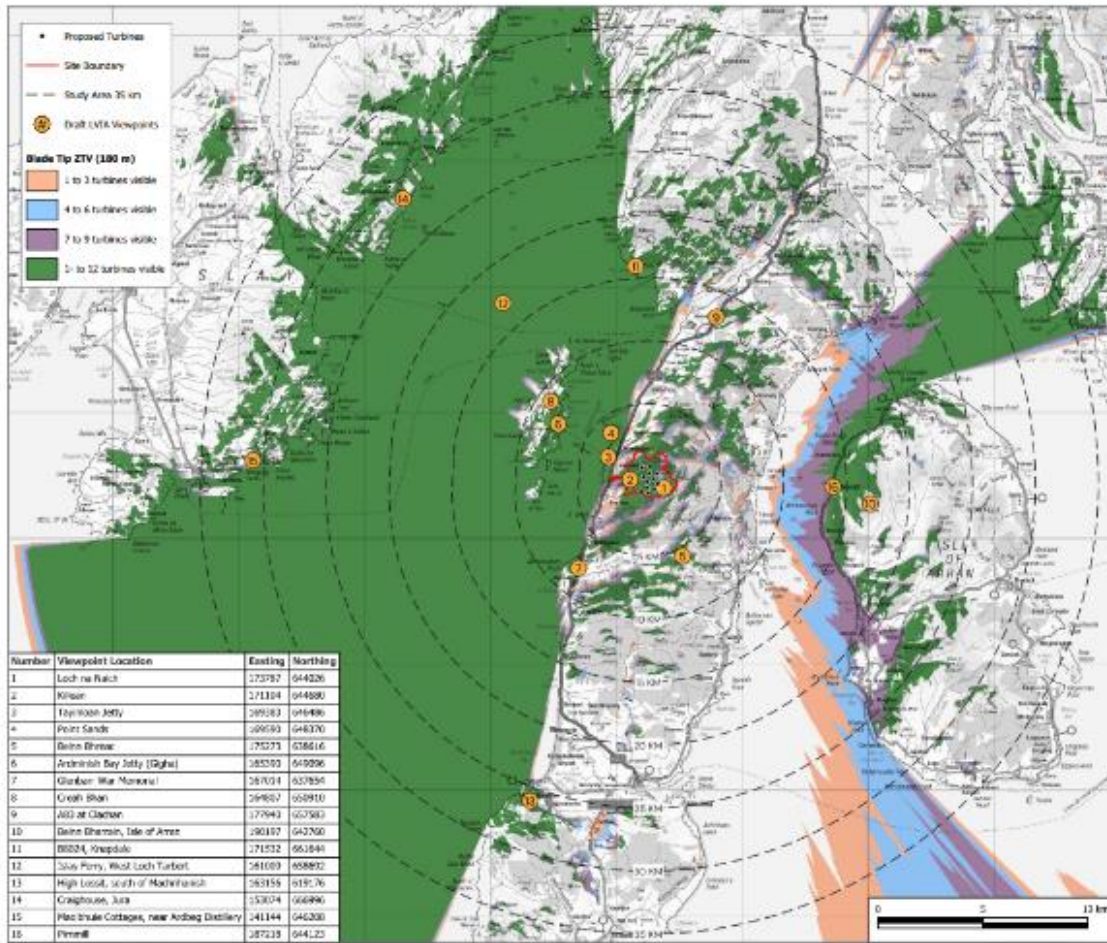
Radar systems can be susceptible to interference from wind turbines as the blade movement can cause intermittent detection by radars within their operating range. This is particularly relevant where there is a line of sight between the radar and the wind turbine development.

RES has undertaken an initial Aviation Assessment to identify any radar infrastructure which may be impacted by the proposed turbines. The closest infrastructure to the site is located at Campbeltown Airport and Lowther Hill, where there is potentially line of sight to the proposed turbines from both. Further assessment is being carried out to establish the level of impact and potential mitigation solutions.

Full consultation will be undertaken with all relevant consultees including the MoD, Civil Aviation Authority and Campbeltown Airport.



Turbine component delivery route



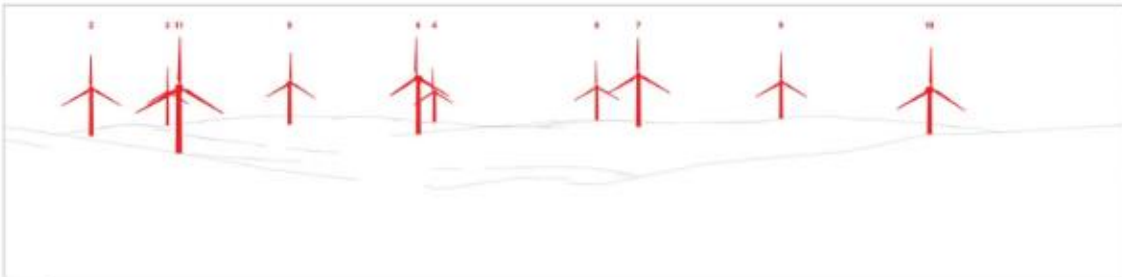
Scoping blade tip ztv with viewpoints

Landscape visualisations

Viewpoint 2: Killean



Existing view



Wireline



Photomontage

Viewpoint information

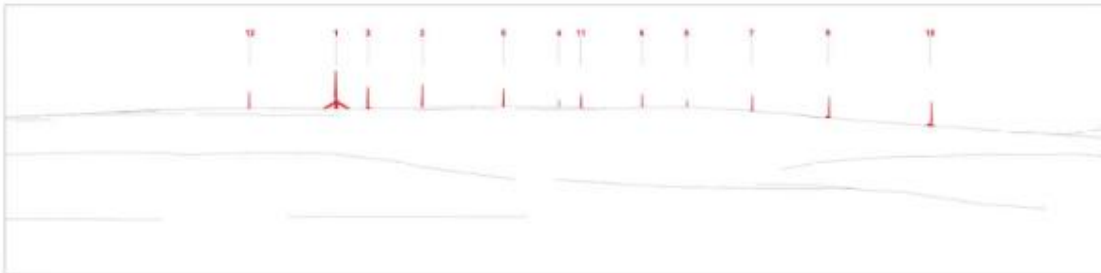
Location	Altitude	Nearest turbine	Bearing to centre of photo
171106, 644671	159m AOD	T11 @ 1.70km	Left: 48°, Right: 143°

Landscape visualisations

Viewpoint 3: Tayinloan Jetty



Existing view



Wireline



Photomontage

Viewpoint information

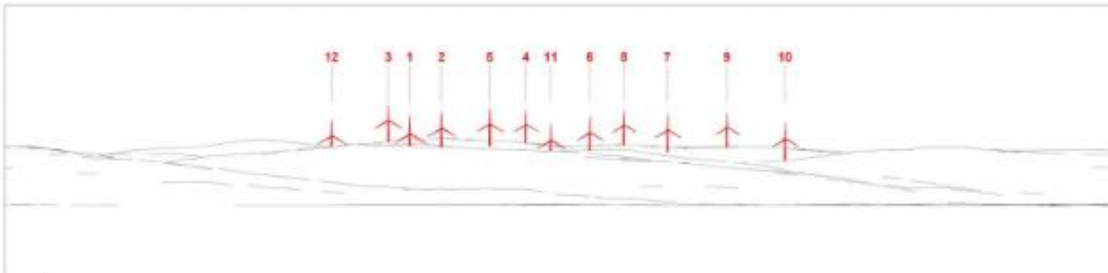
Location	Altitude	Nearest turbine	Bearing to centre of photo
169389, 646484	1m AOD	T1 @ 2.80km	18°

Landscape visualisations

Viewpoint 6: Ardminish Bay Jetty (Gigha)



Existing view



Wireline



Photomontage

Viewpoint information

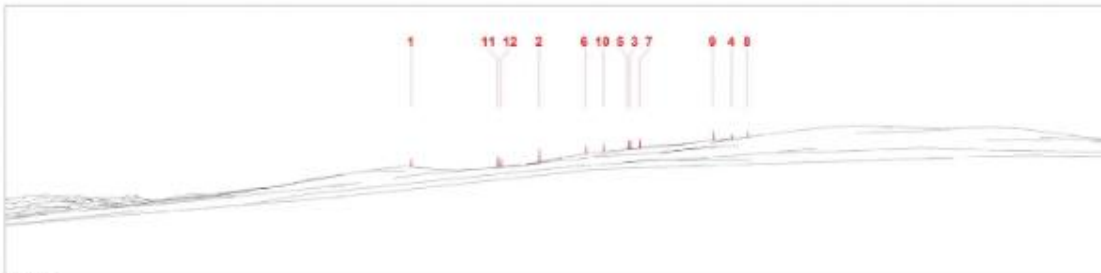
Location	Altitude	Nearest turbine	Bearing to centre of photo
165385, 649093	1m AOD	T1 @ 7.52km	124°

Landscape visualisations

Viewpoint 7: Glenbarr War Memorial



Existing view



Wireline



Photomontage

Viewpoint information

Location	Altitude	Nearest turbine	Bearing to centre of photo
167023, 637060	69m AOD	T10 @ 8.27km	37°



A power for good

RES seeks to be a power for good in communities that neighbour our projects by working openly and constructively to ensure tangible local benefits. We believe that onshore wind should provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved.

We take a tailored approach and work directly with the community to understand how the wind farm could support the local area and help to secure long-term economic, social and environmental benefits. This approach will help to deliver a tailored community benefits package that is aligned with the priorities of the local community and could, for instance, provide funding for projects that sit outside the parameters of a traditional application-based fund.

Working with the community

As part of this exhibition and consultation period we are seeking feedback on your ideas for local benefits and priority projects that you would like to see supported or delivered in your community from the Killean Wind Farm project, should it receive consent. Some examples from other communities that we've worked with include:

- Skills development opportunities
- Improvements to local footpaths and/or signage
- Funding for local groups and organisations
- Improved parking facilities at site entrance
- Apprenticeship schemes with local businesses
- Business start-up initiatives
- Improvements to village halls
- Community defibrillators
- Charging points for electric car charging
- Discounted electricity bills for residents and businesses within a set distance from the wind farm.

Any feedback which may tie into the design is particularly important for us to capture at this early stage so that it can be considered in relation to the development and refinement of the scheme over the coming months.

It is important to note that voluntary community benefits are not a material planning consideration.

Shared ownership - Is this of interest to the community?

RES is also interested to understand whether there is any appetite from the community in exploring the potential opportunity of shared ownership in the wind farm. If shared ownership is something that interests you, please put this on your comments form and speak to our project team. Local Energy Scotland is the independent body that manages the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES). To find out more visit:

www.localenergy.scot/hub/shared-ownership

Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS)

Our unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) seeks to deliver direct and tangible benefits to people living and working closest to RES' operational wind farms.

Developed in response to research and feedback from local communities around RES' operational wind farms, LEDS offers an annual discount to the electricity bills of those properties closest to a participating RES wind farm. If this is something that you are interested in as a potential part of a tailored community benefits package at Killean, please note this in your formal written feedback to RES and also let our project team know if you would like more information.





Working with the local supply chain

Some of the most direct and meaningful benefits that can be delivered from a project like this are jobs and employment for local businesses and contractors, in addition to the use of local services and amenities, all of which can generate a significant amount of inward investment within the area.

RES has a strong track record for working with the local supply chain around its projects and, in order to maximise the opportunities from the Killean Wind Farm proposal, we are looking to build our knowledge of the local skills and capabilities within the area.

Inward investment

Expenditure in the local economy during the development, construction and operation of wind farms varies from project to project due to various factors, including project size and duration, location and the availability of local suppliers. In recent years, RES has seen a typical spend of around £279,000 per turbine with local stakeholders, suppliers and service providers during the development, construction and first year of project operation. In some cases, it has been possible to significantly exceed this local investment.

The Killean Wind Farm proposal is predicted to deliver approx. £3.3 million of inward investment to the area in the form of direct jobs, wider employment opportunities and use of local services during the development, construction and first year of operation. In addition, approximately £700,000 in business rates¹ will be payable each year to Argyll and Bute Council during operation (based on the 72MW scoping layout).

Some of the services and materials likely to be required are:

- Civil engineering
- Electrical works and cabling
- Plant hire and crane hire
- Environmental surveyors
- Concrete and aggregate
- Groundworks
- Steel fixing
- Labourers
- Fencers
- Accommodation.

If you're a local business (or know a local business) interested in getting involved in onshore wind, please speak to our project team.

¹The business rates figure has been calculated from the most recent Scottish business rates (2017 valuation) and predicted performance of the wind farm.



killean-windfarm.co.uk



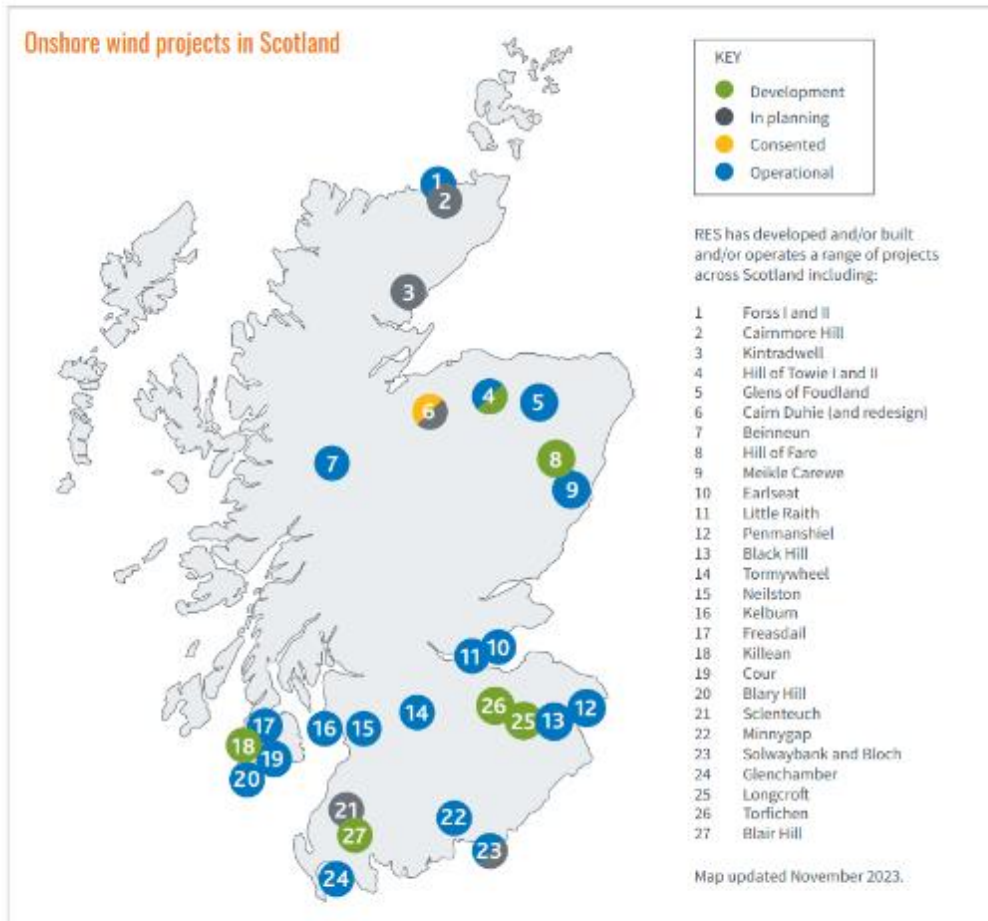
RES is the world's largest independent renewable energy company and is active in onshore and offshore wind, solar, energy storage, green hydrogen, transmission and distribution.

As an industry innovator for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 23GW of renewable energy projects across the globe and supports an operational asset portfolio exceeding 12GW worldwide for a large client base.

Drawing on our decades of experience in the renewable energy and construction industries, RES has the expertise to develop, construct and operate projects of outstanding quality that contribute to a low carbon future by providing a secure supply of sustainable, low cost, clean green energy.

We are committed to finding effective and appropriate ways of engaging with all our stakeholders, including local residents and businesses, and believe that the views of local people are an integral part of the development process. RES is also committed to developing long-term relationships with the communities around our projects, proactively seeking ways in which we can support and encourage community involvement in social and environmental projects near our developments.

For more information about RES and our portfolio of worldwide renewable assets, visit www.res-group.com.





This exhibition initiates a consultation period being run by RES to gather comments and feedback on the proposal.

We are keen to discuss the project with you and answer any questions that you may have but, please note, that formal feedback to RES at this stage needs to be submitted in writing.

If you would like to provide feedback to RES on the project, you can do so by filling out a 'comments form' at this exhibition or online (or downloaded) via the project website at www.killean-windfarm.co.uk where the exhibition information is also available for people to view.

In addition to gathering feedback on the proposal itself and current design, we would also like to understand how the wind farm could support local priorities through the delivery of a tailored community benefits package.

Closing date for written feedback to RES is 15 December 2023.

Please note that comments to RES at this time are not representations to the determining authority (The Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be submitted.

Your feedback matters

Feedback at this early stage has the potential to change and influence the design and improve the overall quality of the planning application from a community perspective.

In addition to confirming any current support, opposition, or neutrality to the proposal at this stage, please consider submitting any constructive feedback that you may have regarding the design and delivery of the project as this information has the potential to change and influence the design in a way that is beneficial to the community, should it go ahead.

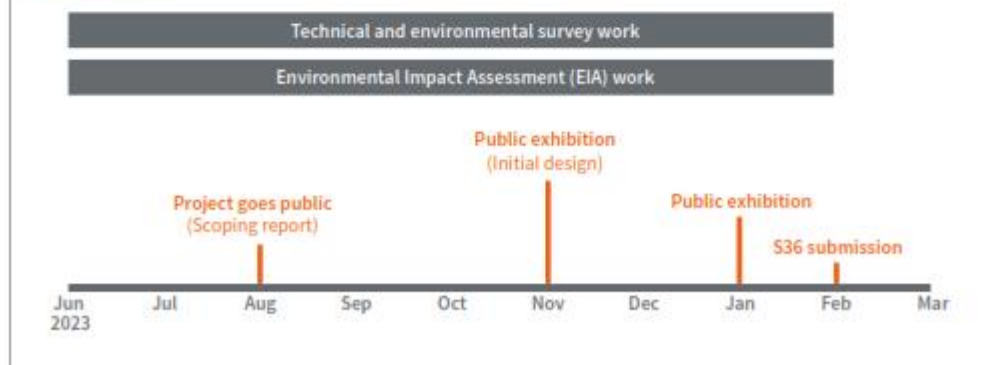
Keeping you updated

We will hold a second public exhibition closer to submission of the planning application (which is currently scheduled for early 2024) to update people on the proposal and present the final design.

People will have the opportunity to speak to the project team again about the project and provide written feedback to RES. This event will also refer to the written feedback received from the November 2023 exhibition and consultation period and explain any changes made to the design in response to the feedback.

If you would like to be kept up to date with the proposal and informed about the next exhibition, please fill in a comments form with your details or speak to one of the project team. A copy of the key information presented at this exhibition, including an electronic copy of the comments form (which can be filled in online or downloaded), can be found on the Killean project website at www.killean-windfarm.co.uk together with contact details for our project team.

Indicative timeline



killean-windfarm.co.uk

Appendix 6: Comments form for consultation feedback - November 2023 public exhibition



RES believes in meaningful and productive consultation, and we aim to engage early with the local community and key stakeholders in order to facilitate constructive consultation. This helps to identify issues and concerns, as well as benefits and opportunities, which we can then consider when developing the design of the proposal.

At the Public Exhibition we have presented preliminary design drawings. Feedback from the local community is important at this stage of our pre-application consultation when it can have a direct influence on the final design of the project.

We would be grateful if you could take the time to fill out this comments form with your feedback. Please provide feedback by 15th December 2023. Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development.

Please note that comments submitted to RES at this time are not representations to the determining authority (Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

1. Killean Wind Farm public exhibition

1.1. How did you find out about our public exhibition?

- Newsletter through the door Advert in local newspaper
 Project website (www.killean-windfarm.co.uk) Word of mouth
 Other (please specify)

1.2. Before visiting the exhibition how would you describe your knowledge of the proposed Killean Wind Farm?

- Knew a lot Knew quite a lot Knew a little Knew very little Knew nothing at all

1.3. Having visited the exhibition, to what extent do you feel you have increased your understanding about the proposed Killean Wind Farm?

- A lot Quite a lot A little Very little Nothing at all

1.4. Do you have any suggestions for ways in which we could have improved our exhibition?

2. Killean Wind Farm proposal

Your views on the Killean Wind Farm proposal - specifically the preliminary layout of the project where people's comments can have a direct influence - will be considered in relation to the design development of the project.

2.1. How do you feel about the preliminary plans for Killean Wind Farm?

I am supportive I am neutral I am opposed I don't like onshore wind farms in general

Further comments:

2.2. What do you think about the proposed preliminary design layout of Killean Wind Farm?

I am happy with the proposed layout I am neutral towards the proposed layout
 I have concerns about the proposed layout (please provide further details in the box below)
 I don't like onshore wind farms in general

Further comments:

2.3. Please provide us with any further suggestions or comments regarding the proposed Killean Wind Farm.

3. Local benefits

RES is proposing to deliver a tailored community benefits package aligned with the priorities of the local community. This package would be worth £5,000 per megawatt (or equivalent) of installed capacity per annum and could include RES' unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS), which offers an annual discount to the electricity bills of those properties closest to a participating wind farm. The community benefit package will be informed by feedback from the community so we are keen to understand what initiatives the community would like to see supported by the benefits package.

3.1. Within which Community Council do you reside?

3.2. Do you have any suggestions or comments regarding ideas, local priorities, or community projects that you would like to see benefitting from Killean Wind Farm, should it go ahead?

Examples could include biodiversity initiatives, apprenticeships/educational schemes, funding for schools and local community groups, improved broadband provision, etc.

3.3. Do you have any other comments or feedback with regard to the community benefits package?

4. Climate change, energy security and renewables

The below section is optional and designed to help us understand people's thoughts on how renewables can help to tackle climate change and improve energy security.

4.1. Do you agree that we are facing a global climate change emergency?

I strongly agree I agree I don't know I disagree I strongly disagree

Further comments:

4.2. Do you agree that generating electricity from renewable sources, and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, can help towards tackling the issue of climate change?

I strongly agree I agree I don't know I disagree I strongly disagree

Further comments:

4.3. Do you agree that we need to develop onshore wind farms to support greater energy independence and security for Scotland?

I strongly agree I agree I don't know I disagree I strongly disagree

Further comments:

4.4. Do you agree that we need to develop onshore wind farms to cut energy bills?

I strongly agree I agree I don't know I disagree I strongly disagree

Further comments:

5. Your details

Please provide your name and contact details below.

Your contact details will be treated by RES with the strictest of confidence, in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018. We may at times share your contact details, in confidence, with third parties who we employ to help process your comments or update you on the project and by providing your details below you consent to this. You may write to RES at any time to ask that your contact details be removed from our records and from any third parties we work with.

Name

Email

Address

If you would like to be kept up to date with the project, please tick this box.

When you have completed the comments form, please send by email to killean@communityrelations.co.uk or by post (no stamp required) to: **FREEPOST KILLEAN WIND FARM**

If you have any questions, you can call us on **Freephone 08000 129 885**

Thank you for taking the time to complete this comments form, your feedback is important to us.



www.killean-windfarm.co.uk

Appendix 7: Newspaper advert - March 2024 public exhibition



RES is in the final stages of developing proposals for a new wind farm on the Killean estate, around 2km east of Tayinloan, Kintyre.

Our revised plans are for 10 wind turbines with a tip height of 180m, generating 66MW of clean, green renewable energy and helping Scotland meet its climate change target of 'net zero' emissions by 2045.

We have reduced the number of proposed turbines from 12 to 10 following our previous consultation in November 2023 and the outcome of further environmental and technical studies. We are now consulting on our revised proposals before applying to the Scottish Government for planning consent later this year.

A community benefits package worth up to £5,000 per MW (or equivalent) of installed capacity per year will become available once Killean Wind Farm is operational, which could include RES' innovative Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS). We continue to work with the wider community to see how the funding could best support local priorities and needs and provide a lasting legacy in the local area.

Please attend our public exhibition at **Tayinloan Village Hall PA29 6XG** on **Wednesday 27 March 2024 (2pm-7pm)** to review the updated design, and ask the project team any questions.

You can provide feedback in writing by filling out a 'comments form' at the exhibition, or online from 27 March, when copies of the exhibition information will be available on the project website www.killean-windfarm.co.uk.

You can also email your comments to Killean@communityrelations.co.uk or post to **FREEPOST KILLEAN WIND FARM**. The closing date for comments is **26 April 2024**.

If you have any questions please email us, or call us at
Freephone: 08000 129 885

Please note that any comments made during the consultation are not representations to The Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit, who will determine any subsequent application for consent. Following the submission of the Section 36 Application, interested parties will have the opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Government on these proposals.



Appendix 8: Update email to Key Stakeholders with exhibition details - sent 15 March 2024

From: Killean@communityrelations.co.uk <killean@communityrelations.co.uk>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2024 10:15 AM
To:
Subject: RES Killean Wind Farm - Second Public Consultation

Good afternoon,

I am writing to let you know that RES is holding a second round of public consultation on our proposals for a new wind farm on the Killean estate, around 2km east of Tayinloan, Kintyre.

Our revised plans are for 10 wind turbines with a tip height of 180m, generating 66MW of clean, green renewable energy and helping Scotland meet its climate change target of 'net zero' emissions by 2045.

We have reduced the number of proposed turbines from 12 to 10 following our previous consultation in November 2023 and the outcome of further environmental and technical studies.

We are now consulting on our revised proposals before applying to the Scottish Government for planning consent.

Public exhibition

We are holding a public exhibition about our proposals at Tayinloan Village Hall PA29 6XG on Wednesday 27 March 2024 (2pm to 7pm) where people can find out more, meet the project team and ask any questions they may have.

We are advertising the event and the consultation in local newspapers, and we have sent an information leaflet (copy attached) to local homes and businesses. We are also contacting local organisations and stakeholders by email.

We would be delighted to see you if you are able to attend the event. We would also be pleased to talk to you separately if you have any questions.

Providing feedback on the proposal

Feedback can be submitted in writing by filling out a 'comments form' at the exhibition, or online from 27 March, when copies of the exhibition information will be available on the project website www.killean-windfarm.co.uk. Feedback can also be emailed to us at Killean@communityrelations.co.uk or via post to FREEPOST KILLEAN WIND FARM. **The closing date for comments is Friday 26 April 2024.**

Please note that any comments made during the consultation are not representations to The Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit, who will determine any subsequent application for consent. Following the submission of the Section 36 Application, interested parties will have the opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Government on these proposals.

Next steps

The written feedback received from the exhibition and consultation period will be considered as we finalise our planning application, which we expect to submit to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit in May this year.

If you have any questions, please email us, or call us at Freephone 08000 129 885.

A community benefits package worth up to £5,000 per MW (or equivalent) of installed capacity per year will become available once Killean Wind Farm is operational. RES will work with the community to see how the funding could best support local priorities and needs, to provide a lasting legacy in the local area.

Kind regards



Danny McLean
Development Project Manager



Appendix 9: Information flyer - March 2024 public exhibition



RES is in the final stages of developing proposals for a new wind farm on the Killean estate, around 2km east of Tayinloan, Kintyre.

Please come along to our public exhibition at **Tayinloan Village Hall** on **Wednesday 27 March 2024 (2pm-7pm)** to review the updated design, and ask the project team any questions.

Killean Wind Farm – updated proposals

Our revised proposal is for 10 wind turbines with a tip height of 180m, generating 66MW of clean, green renewable energy – enough to power around 57,000 homes¹ each year and helping Scotland meet its climate change target of 'net zero' emissions by 2045.

We have reduced the number of proposed turbines from 12 to 10 following our previous consultation in November 2023 and the outcome of further environmental and technical studies. Information presented at the upcoming public exhibition will refer to the written feedback received during the previous consultation period and explain any changes made to the design in response to this feedback.

A community benefits package worth up to £5,000 per MW (or equivalent) of installed capacity per year will become available once Killean Wind Farm is operational, which could include RES' innovative Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS). We have held positive discussions with East Kintyre Renewable Energy Group and continue to work with the community to see how the funding could best support local priorities and needs in order to provide a lasting legacy in the local area.

About us

RES has developed 21 wind farms in Scotland with a total generation capacity of 597MW, including the Freasdaill and Biary Hill Wind Farms in Argyll and Bute. From our Glasgow office we have been developing, constructing and operating wind farms in Scotland since 1993. RES is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, operating across Europe, the Americas and Asia-Pacific.

Give us your views!

Anyone wishing to provide feedback and ideas for local benefits to RES can do this by filling out a 'comments form' at the exhibition or online via the website at www.killean-windfarm.co.uk (from 27 March 2024), where all exhibition material will also be available.

You can also email your comments to Killean@communityrelations.co.uk or send by mail to **FREEPOST KILLEAN WIND FARM**. The closing date for comments is 26 April 2024.

If you have any questions please email us, or call us at **Freephone: 08000 129 885**



Please note that any comments made during the Consultation Stage are not representations to The Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit, who will determine any subsequent application for consent. Following the submission of the Section 30 Application, interested parties will have the opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Government on these proposals.

¹The 57,000 homes equivalent figure has been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation of the site (using the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) long-term average load factor for (onshore and offshore) wind of 32.08% and RES' predicted site generation capacity of 66MW) and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from DESNZ showing that the annual GB average domestic household consumption is 3,239 kWh (January 2024). Final wind farm capacity will vary depending on the outcome of planning permission and the turbine type selected.

This flyer has been designed to keep you up to date with the Killean Wind Farm proposal. If you no longer wish to receive similar communications at key project milestones, please contact us to let us know.

If you require information in Braille, large-text or audio, please get in touch with us.

Appendix 10: Exhibition information boards - March 2024 public exhibition



Thank you for taking the time to attend this exhibition for the proposed Killean Wind Farm. The event initiates the second round of pre-application consultation on this wind farm proposal that we are developing on the Killean Estate, approximately 2 km east of Tayinloan in Argyll and Bute.

RES believes in meaningful and effective consultation, and we aim to engage early with the local community and key stakeholders in order to facilitate constructive consultation. At our previous exhibition in November 2023 we presented our early stage plans to the community to seek feedback and identify any issues and concerns, as well as benefits and opportunities, to consider when developing and refining the design and delivery of the proposal.

We consider pre-application consultation a crucial part of the wind farm development process. This exhibition is designed to help maximise the potential for consultation feedback to help shape the design.

A range of information is shared, including details of the site location, design layout, site constraints, likely turbine delivery route and environmental considerations.

In addition, we have provided visualisations comprising wirelines to help give an impression of how the site design and layout has evolved since the first exhibition in November 2023.

This exhibition forms part of our pre-application consultation and is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- **learn more about the proposal**
- **discuss any questions or views with our project team**
- **provide written feedback to RES on the proposal.**

Please take time to read the exhibition information provided and talk to our project team about any questions that you may have. All consultation feedback submitted to RES will be reviewed by the project team as we continue the design process.



National development

We are in a climate emergency, cost of living crisis and also seeking to enhance the security of our energy supply. Onshore wind can address all of these. This is recognised by the Scottish Government's National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4)¹ which was published in February 2023. NPF4 is Scotland's long term spatial planning strategy and categorises onshore wind projects with a generating capacity in excess of 50MW as National Development. In principle it supports all forms of renewable energy generation including onshore wind.

Net zero carbon targets

A 'climate emergency' was declared by the UK Government and the Scottish Government in 2019. The UK Government has set a legally binding target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 'net zero' by 2050 and the Scottish Government has a net zero target of 2045.² Renewables, and specifically onshore wind, will play an important role in helping achieve these targets.

Scotland currently has almost 9GW of operational onshore wind capacity. The Scottish Government has a target of achieving 20GW of installed onshore wind capacity across Scotland by 2030² in order to help meet their legally binding 2045 net zero target. This is a substantial increase and will require the significant deployment of new onshore wind projects in order to meet this demand for green, low-carbon electricity.

Energy security

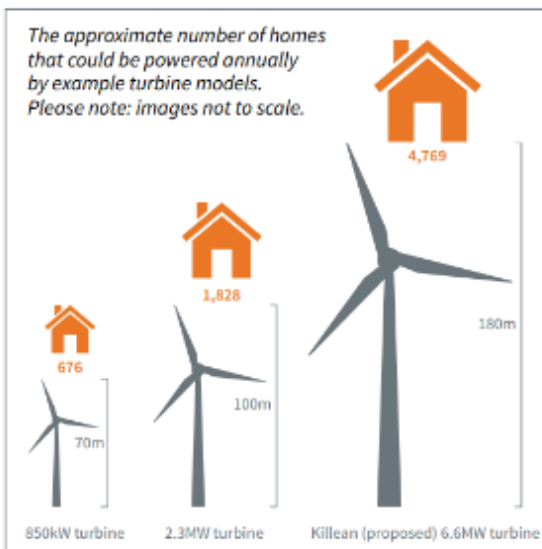
Wind energy is a free and inexhaustible resource that has an important role to play as part of a balanced energy mix. It increases energy security by reducing our reliance on imports and builds our resilience to sudden price fluctuations and the uncertainty of global markets.

Improved performance and output

Turbine technology has advanced considerably in recent years, meaning that turbines are now more efficient, which enables them to generate a significantly greater amount of renewable electricity per turbine. Modern taller turbines provide more electricity, which helps address the climate emergency, cost of living crisis, and security of energy supply. The 180m turbines proposed at Killean would allow for far greater benefits in terms of renewable electricity generation per turbine than smaller turbines would.

Low-cost electricity

Onshore wind alongside other renewable energy technologies, can generate the cheapest form of new electricity generation. It can be deployed quickly and delivered at lower costs than some other renewable technologies (such as offshore wind, hydro and nuclear). If consented, Killean Wind Farm would be capable of generating enough clean, low-cost renewable



electricity to power approximately 57,000 homes each year³ based on the current design presented at this exhibition. With the rising cost of living and climate change emergency, it is imperative that we deliver electricity efficiently and at lowest cost to the consumer.

Tackling climate change

Whilst temperature and weather patterns have naturally fluctuated throughout history, scientists now agree that there is 'unequivocal evidence that Earth is warming at an unprecedented rate' not seen in the past 10,000 years and that 'human activity is the principal cause'.⁴

Rapidly melting ice sheets, accelerated rises in sea levels and ocean warming, longer droughts, more frequent floods, wildfires and tropical storms are just some of the devastating effects of climate change seen across the globe that are impacting humans and other species.

With the ever-growing threat of climate change and the catastrophic impacts that it could have, it is critical that we transition to a zero-carbon future.

¹ Scottish Government (www.gov.scot/publications/national-planning-framework-4)

² Onshore Wind - policy statement refresh 2021, Scottish Government, October 2021

³ The indicative homes equivalent figures for the site (a conservative estimate of 57,000 homes) and for the three different turbine models shown have been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation based on the site's installed capacity of 72MW (or each turbine's capacity) together with the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) long-term average load factor for [onshore and offshore] wind of 32.08%, and then dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from DESNZ showing that the annual GB average domestic household consumption is 3,239 kWh (January 2024). The final wind farm capacity and the turbine models used for Killean will vary depending on the outcome of any planning permission and the turbine procurement process.

⁴ NASA (climate.nasa.gov/evidence)



The site

The Killean Wind Farm is proposed for a site on a private estate approximately 2km east of Tayinloan, in Argyll and Bute. The site is currently utilised as commercial forestry plantation and open rough grazing for livestock.

The site has good wind resource and lies outside any nationally designated landscape areas.

Scoping

In September 2023, following initial feasibility work on site, we submitted a Scoping Report to the Scottish Government. The Report sought feedback from the Scottish Government and other consultees (including local Community Councils) on the scope of the proposed environmental survey work.

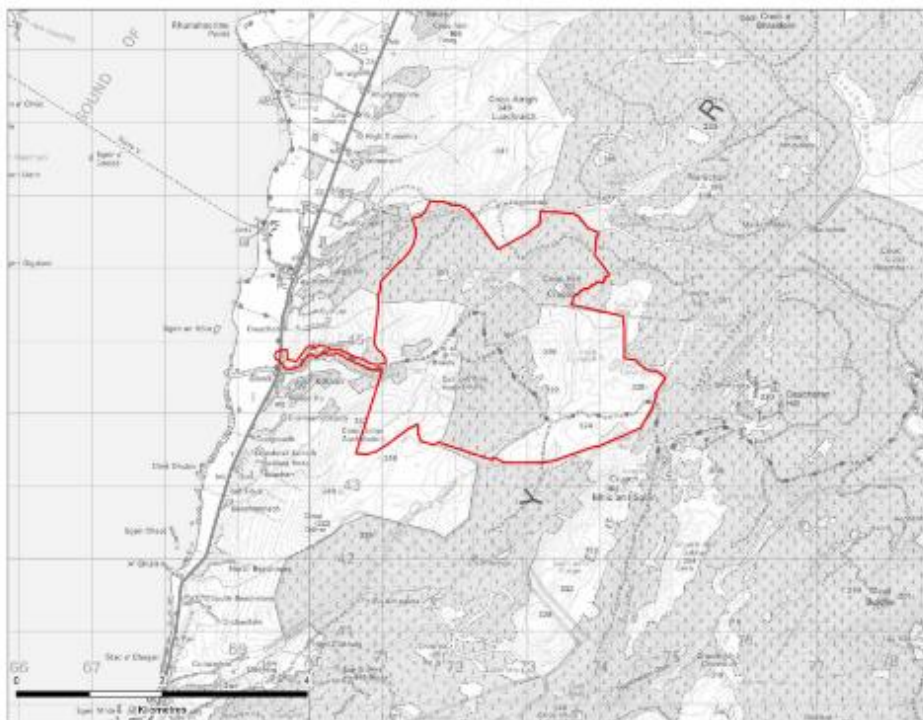
The Report included an early design layout for the proposed scheme comprising 12 turbines at a turbine tip height of around 180m, resulting in an overall installed site generating capacity (based on the scoping layout) of around 72MW.

Following our previous consultation in November 2023 and the outcome of further environmental and technical studies, we have reduced the number of proposed turbines from 12 to 10, with an overall installed site generating capacity of 66MW.

We are now consulting on our revised proposals before applying to the Scottish Government for planning consent.

Planning submission timescales

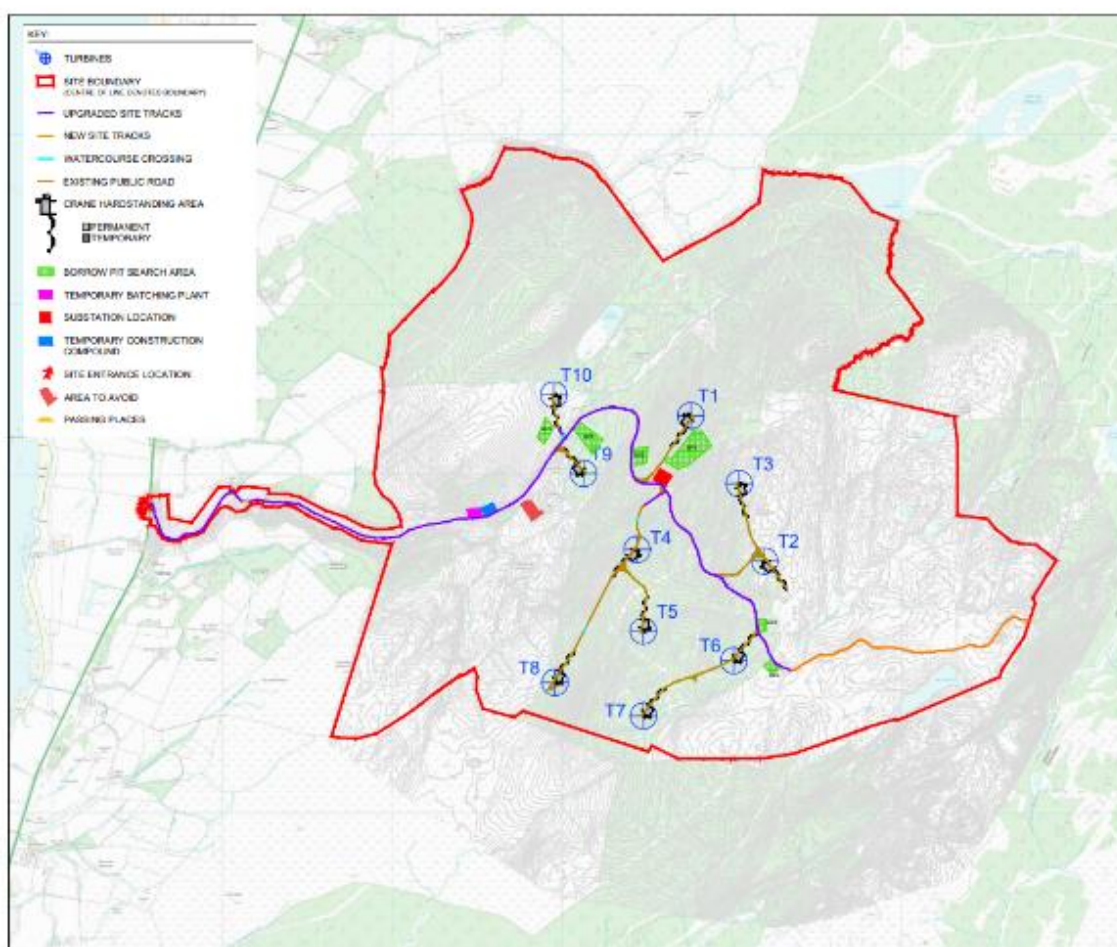
The Killean Wind Farm proposal will have an installed generating capacity greater than 50MW. This means that the application for planning consent will be submitted by RES to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 (the Electricity Act) and determined by Scottish Ministers. We currently expect to submit the Section 36 application in mid 2024.





Following our previous consultation in November 2023 and the outcome of further environmental and technical studies, we have reduced the number of proposed turbines from 12 to 10, with an overall installed site generating capacity of 66MW.

Further surveys have also enabled us to add infrastructure including new and upgraded site tracks, the project substation, construction compounds and potential borrow pit locations. We are now consulting on our revised proposals before applying to the Scottish Government for planning consent.





As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, we are conducting wide-ranging surveys and studies.

Cultural heritage

The 'cultural heritage' of an area comprises archaeological sites, historic buildings, inventoried gardens and designed landscapes, inventoried battlefields and other historic environment features. The 'setting' of an asset within the wider landscape may contribute to its cultural heritage significance. There are no designated heritage assets within the site boundary area but there are 56 heritage assets, seven of these historic environmental recorded (HER) sites are non-statutory register (NSR) sites, potentially of national importance and of schedulable quality.

The Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment has identified cultural heritage assets that may be subject to significant impacts, both on the site and within 5km of the proposed turbines.

Other heritage assets identified within the Inner Study Area include a group of 17 shieling huts, standing on artificial mounds within a forest clearing south-east of Loch Dirigadale. A farmstead, shown on First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping (1860), as well as a stone-built sheepfold and byre, both of which survive, are recorded in Braids. Collectively, these assets attest to medieval to post-medieval settlement and pastoral agriculture on the westfacing hillside.

Several quarries identified at Cruach Na Naich and Cruach A'bhodaigh, along with the two limekilns and 11 dykes in Braids, further attest to the establishment of post-medieval farming settlement and exploitation of natural resources. We

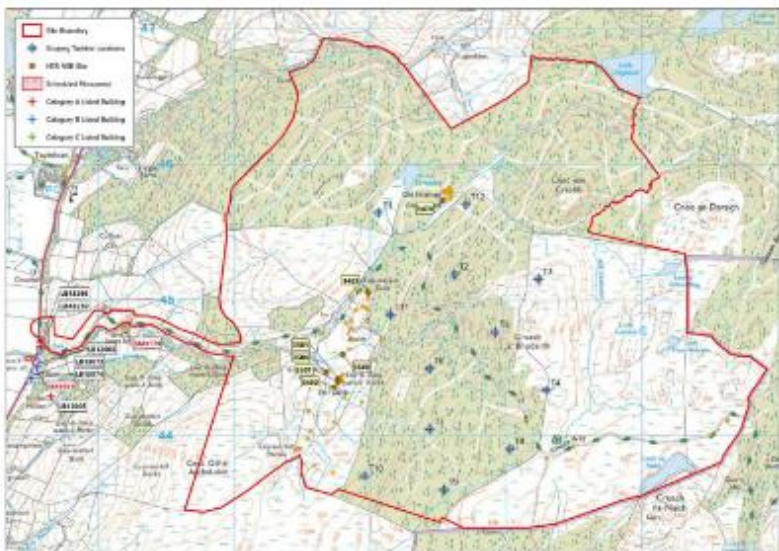
will be meeting with Historic Environment Scotland (HES) to agree final assessment viewpoints prior to submission of our planning application.

Ecology

We take the protection of the site and surrounding area's ecology seriously. The non-avian Ecology Impact Assessment has involved a range of studies including habitats, protected species, notable species (e.g. national and European Protected Species) and locally protected species. To date we have undertaken botanical survey work to identify habitats that are of conservation importance or have groundwater dependence, and protected species survey work to investigate for protected mammals, such as badger, bats, otter, water vole, red squirrel and pine marten.

Ornithology

Avoiding impacts on bird species, wherever possible, is an important factor in the design of the site. Already, we have commissioned over 200 hours of baseline ornithological survey work over two years during breeding and non-breeding seasons to build our understanding of the species on site. Surveys have included flight path activity, breeding behaviour and winter walkover surveys, as well as specific black grouse and wader surveys. Some of the key species we have monitored in the area are Greenland white-fronted goose, whooper swan, barnacle goose, goldeneye, hen harrier and golden eagle. We have altered the site layout and reduced the number of proposed turbines from 12 to 10 to reduce the risk of conflict with geese flight paths.



Heritage designations



Hydrology and hydrogeology

The proposal has the potential to cause changes to the baseline hydrological and hydrogeological conditions on the site and to the receiving water environment so the EIA process has sought to identify sensitive water environment features; assessing potential impacts and proposing mitigation where required.

A number of studies and assessments have been carried out to map the groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems (GWDTE), groundwater, water supplies and surface water features, and other potential water environment receptors.

The mapping of private water supplies forms a key part of the hydro and hydrogeological work; further consultation has been undertaken to identify the complete water supply infrastructure in the vicinity of the proposed development. A Private Water Supply Risk Assessment will also be developed to accompany the planning application. Any construction work close to water supplies is strictly regulated but please talk to our team if you have any concerns or questions regarding your private water supply.

Should any significant impacts be identified as part of the EIA process, appropriate mitigation will be proposed. Mitigation seeks, first, to avoid adverse impacts and, where impacts are unavoidable, to reduce the significance of residual effect to an acceptable level. It also seeks enhancement and compensation, where possible, to provide the best practicable outcome.

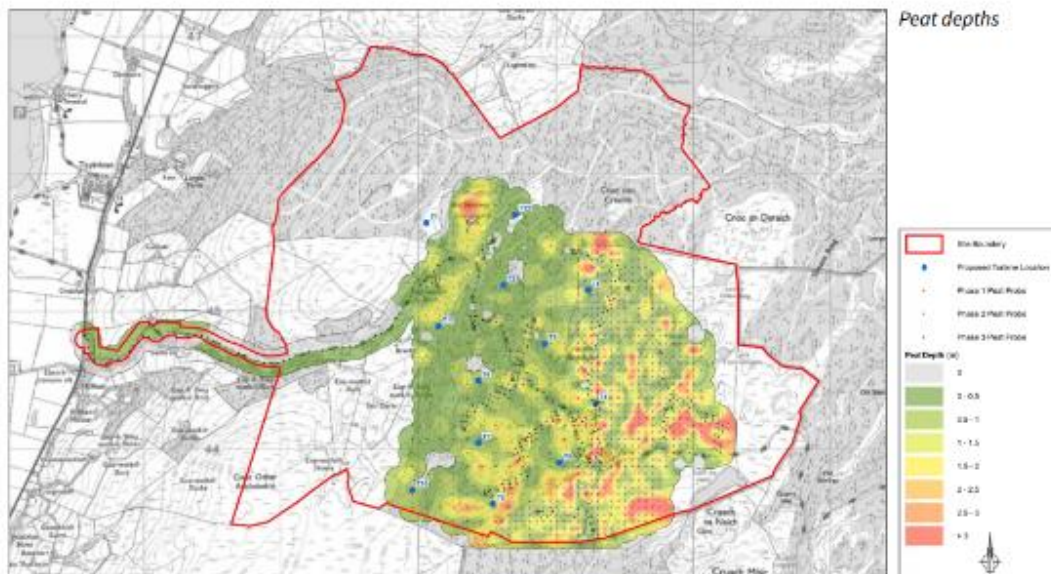
Peat

Initial peat depth surveys and assessments were undertaken across the site to inform the early site layout. This work has been carried out in accordance with current Scottish Government and NatureScot good practice guidance on wind farm construction.

Phase 2 peat depth surveys have been completed, allowing us to create our infrastructure layout including the site tracks, hardstandings and substation, avoiding as far as possible peat deeper than 1m.

Shadow flicker

Shadow flicker is a phenomenon where, under certain circumstances of geographical position and time of day, the sun may pass behind the rotors of a wind turbine and cast a shadow over neighbouring properties. When the blades rotate, the shadow flicks on and off. It only occurs inside buildings, such as where the flicker appears through a narrow window opening. Shadow flicker can be easily modelled and the Killean Wind Farm proposal is being designed in a way that will minimise any potential for shadow flicker. Shadow flicker can be mitigated in a number of ways, including shadow detection technology on relevant turbines to create a shutdown timetable, if necessary.





Traffic and transport

An initial Access Study and Swept Paths Analysis (SPA) were carried out by RES to assess route options and help minimise potential impacts during the delivery of wind turbine components.

The Access Study established a preferred route for deliveries, which is shown on the map below. The route involves entry at the Campbeltown dock before transportation to the site via the A83 to the site entrance.

We are now considering a turbine with a slightly longer blade length (although there is no change to the proposed 180m tip height), so we re-ran our transport and access assessments which concluded that no change to the proposed access route is required. The site access point will also need to be carefully designed with appropriate visibility splays to meet strict safety requirements.

Noise

Noise is an important consideration and, should the project be consented, the wind farm will be designed to comply with strict noise limits set by Argyll and Bute Council.

Design work has taken account of residential properties in the surrounding area with buffers applied. Further survey work has assessed background noise levels at selected properties in the local area, in agreement with Argyll and Bute Council's Environmental Health Officer. These studies have informed the EIA, which includes an assessment of the impact of operational (and construction) noise in accordance with the relevant guidance (including ETSU R 97) and ensures the proposal is within mandatory noise limits.

Aviation lighting

The turbines proposed for Killean are above 150m in height and will therefore require aviation lighting so that the turbines are visible to aircraft. We are consulting with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) to agree a lighting strategy with them.

It is worth noting that not all turbines are likely to be required to be lit (for example, lighting may just be required on outermost turbines). Furthermore, the (red) aviation lighting is designed to focus the light across and upwards for the attention of aircraft rather than downwards to ground level.

There are also variations in the intensity of the lighting with lower levels required in good visibility and higher levels required in cloudy or foggy weather. In some instances, infra-red lighting may be possible (which is invisible to the naked eye).

The proposed lighting strategy will be presented in the planning application.

Aviation and radar

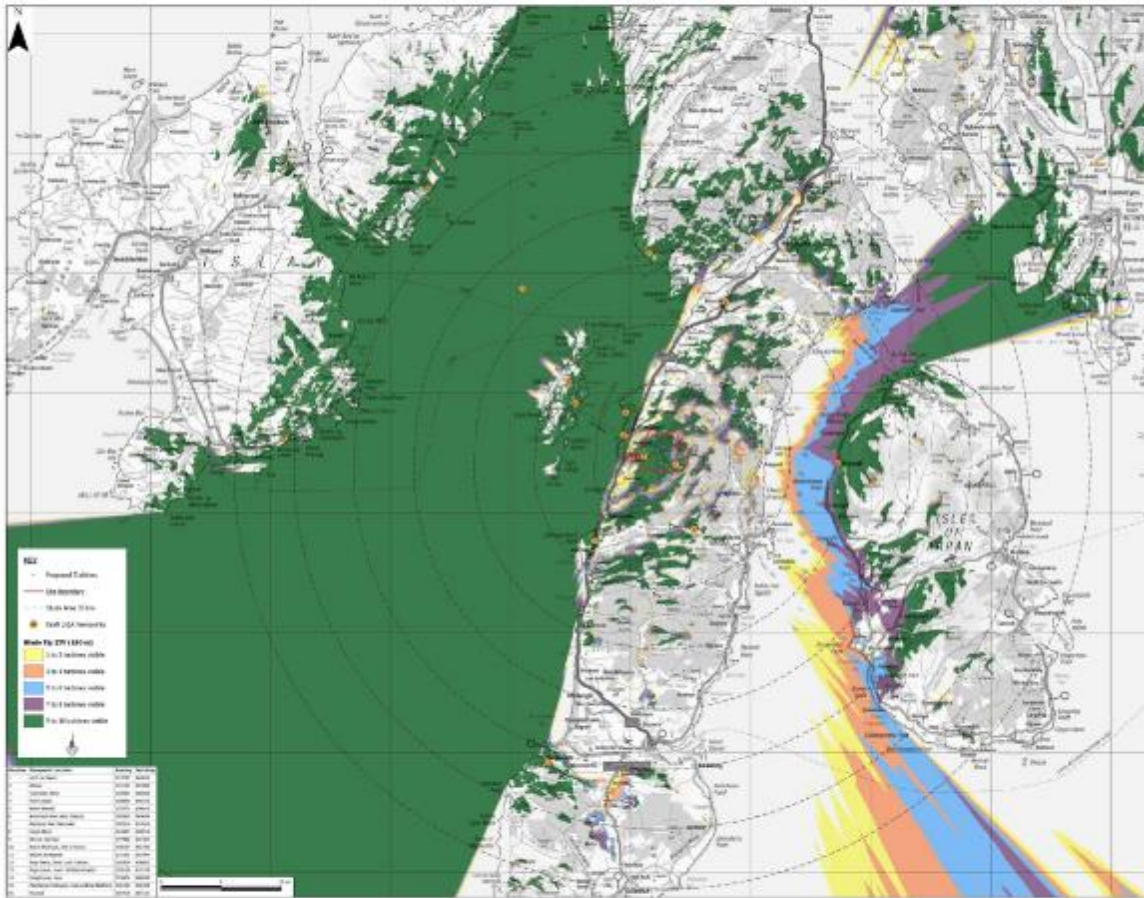
Radar systems can be susceptible to interference from wind turbines as the blade movement can cause intermittent detection by radars within their operating range. This is particularly relevant where there is a line of sight between the radar and the wind turbine development.

RES has undertaken an initial Aviation Assessment to identify any radar infrastructure which may be impacted by the proposed turbines. The closest infrastructure to the site is located at Campbeltown Airport and Lowther Hill, where there is potentially line of sight to the proposed turbines from both. Further assessment is being carried out to establish the level of impact and potential mitigation solutions.

Full consultation will be undertaken with all relevant consultees including the MoD, Civil Aviation Authority and Campbeltown Airport.



Turbine component delivery route



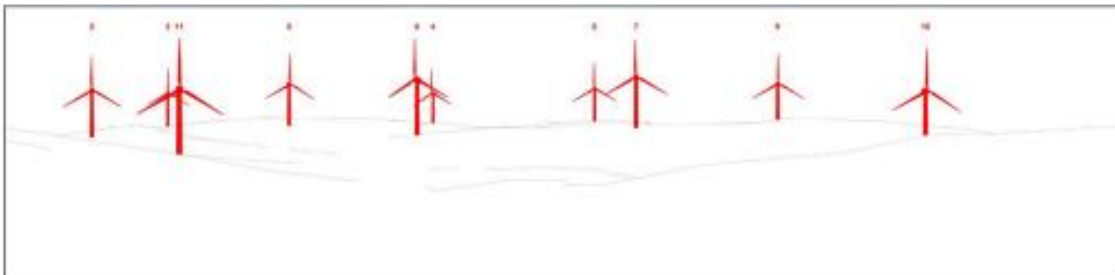
Scoping blade tip ztv with viewpoints

Landscape visualisations

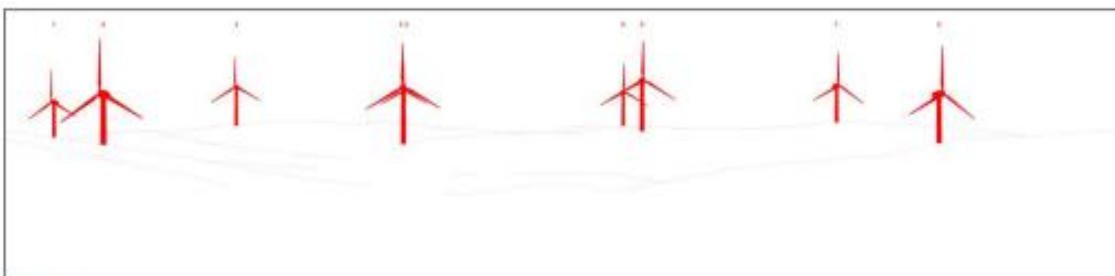
Viewpoint 2: Killean



Existing view



Wireline (scoping stage)



Wireline (updated)

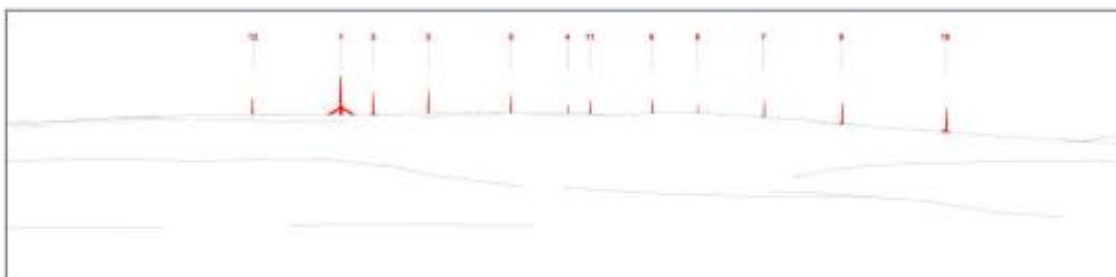
Viewpoint Information			
Location	Altitude	Nearest turbine	Bearing to centre of photo
171106, 644671	159m AOD	T9 @ 1.08km	Left: 48°, Right: 143°

Landscape visualisations

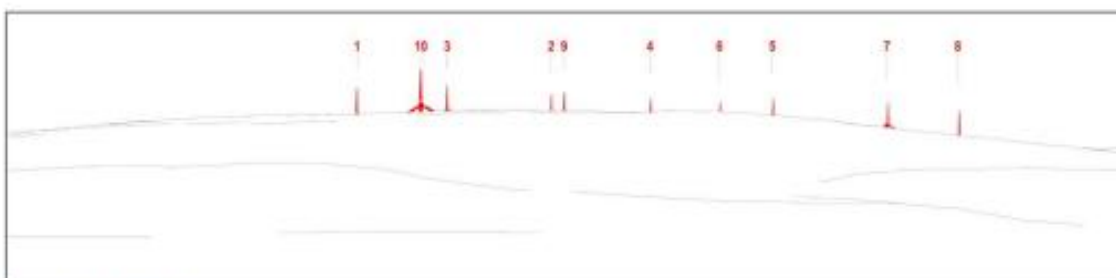
Viewpoint 3: Tayinloan Jetty



Existing view



Wireline (scoping stage)



Wireline (updated)

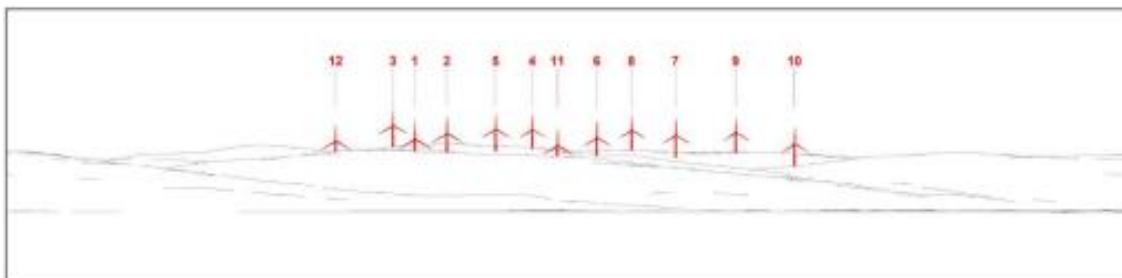
Viewpoint information			
Location	Altitude	Nearest turbine	Bearing to centre of photo
169389, 646484	1m AOD	T10 @ 2.76km	18°

Landscape visualisations

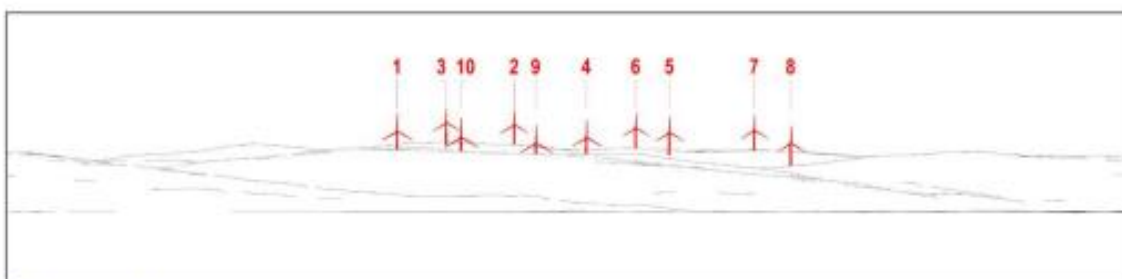
Viewpoint 6: Ardminish Bay Jetty (Gigha)



Existing view



Wireline (scoping stage)



Wireline (updated)

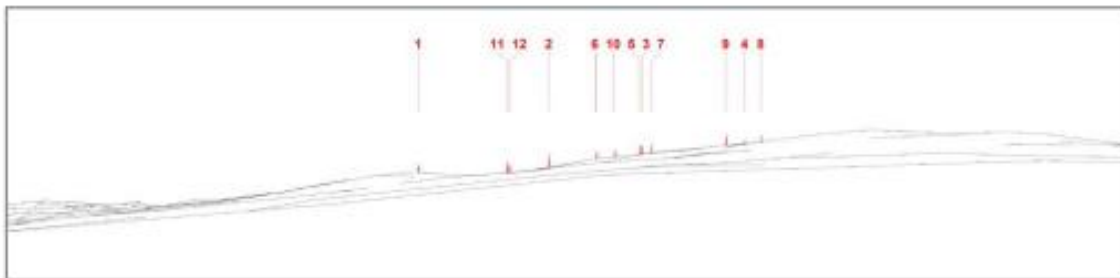
Viewpoint information			
Location	Altitude	Nearest turbine	Bearing to centre of photo
165385, 649093	1m AOD	T10 @ 7.50km	124°

Landscape visualisations

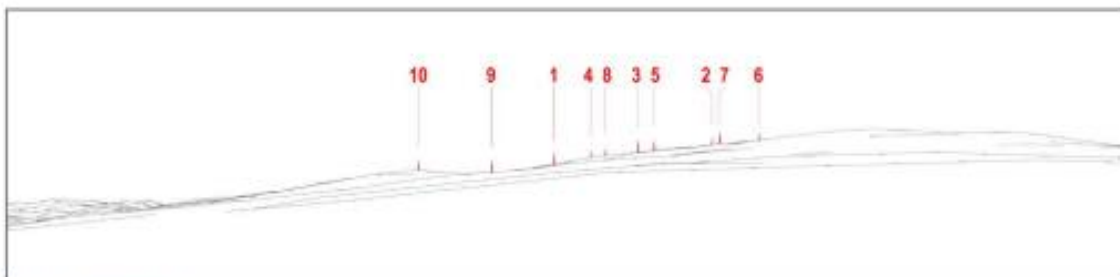
Viewpoint 7: Glenbarr War Memorial



Existing view



Wireline (scoping stage)



Wireline (updated)

Viewpoint information			
Location	Altitude	Nearest turbine	Bearing to centre of photo
167023, 637060	69m AOD	T8 @ 8.33km	37°



A power for good

RES seeks to be a power for good in communities that neighbour our projects by working openly and constructively to ensure tangible local benefits. We believe that onshore wind should provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved.

We take a tailored approach and work directly with the community to understand how the wind farm could support the local area and help to secure long-term economic, social and environmental benefits. This approach will help to deliver a tailored community benefits package that is aligned with the priorities of the local community and could, for instance, provide funding for projects that sit outside the parameters of a traditional application-based fund.

Working with the community

We have held positive discussions with the East Kintyre Renewable Energy Group, but as part of this exhibition and consultation period we are seeking feedback on your ideas for local benefits and priority projects that you would like to see supported or delivered in your community from the Killean Wind Farm project, should it receive consent. Some examples from other communities that we've worked with include:

- Skills development opportunities
- Improvements to local footpaths and/or signage
- Funding for local groups and organisations
- Improved parking facilities at site entrance
- Apprenticeship schemes with local businesses
- Business start-up initiatives
- Improvements to village halls
- Community defibrillators
- Charging points for electric car charging
- Discounted electricity bills for residents and businesses within a set distance from the wind farm.

Any feedback which may tie into the design is particularly important for us to capture at this early stage so that it can be considered in relation to the development and refinement of the scheme over the coming months.

It is important to note that voluntary community benefits are not a material planning consideration.

Shared ownership – is this of interest to the community?

RES is also interested to understand whether there is any appetite from the community in exploring the potential opportunity of shared ownership in the wind farm. We have held initial, positive discussions with the East Kintyre Renewable Energy Group which will re-commence following the submission of the application. If shared ownership is something that interests you, please put this on your comments form and speak to our project team. Local Energy Scotland is the independent body that manages the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES). To find out more visit:

www.localenergy.scot/hub/shared-ownership

Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS)

Our unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) seeks to deliver direct and tangible benefits to people living and working closest to RES' operational wind farms.

Developed in response to research and feedback from local communities around RES' operational wind farms, LEDS offers an annual discount to the electricity bills of those properties closest to a participating project. If this is something that you are interested in as a potential part of a tailored community benefits package at Killean, please note this in your formal written feedback to RES and also let our project team know if you would like more information.





Working with the local supply chain

Some of the most direct and meaningful benefits that can be delivered from a project like this are jobs and employment for local businesses and contractors, in addition to the use of local services and amenities, all of which can generate a significant amount of inward investment within the area.

RES has a strong track record for working with the local supply chain around its projects and, in order to maximise the opportunities from the Killean Wind Farm proposal, we are looking to build our knowledge of the local skills and capabilities within the area. If you're a local business (or know a local business) interested in getting involved in onshore wind, please speak to our project team.

Inward investment

Expenditure in the local economy during the development, construction and operation of wind farms varies from project to project due to various factors, including project size and duration, location and the availability of local suppliers. If consented, Killean Wind Farm is predicted to deliver approx. £3 million of inward investment to the area in the form of direct jobs, wider employment opportunities and use of local services during the development, construction and first year of operation.

Partnership with the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI)

In February 2024, RES announced its partnership with the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) to support a minimum of 60 students through their Student Development Fund. Created with the aim of helping UHI's students to further their personal development, the fund empowers them to gain new skills, raising their aspirations, whilst also helping to build their confidence. It does this by providing financial support to students to overcome barriers to participate in learning opportunities and extracurricular activities. RES has pledged a total of £60,000 to UHI's Student Development Fund over the course of the next three years, providing the students of UHI with the best possible opportunity to maximise their talents and future careers.





RES is the world's largest independent renewable energy company and is active in wind, solar, energy storage, biomass, hydro, green hydrogen, transmission and distribution.

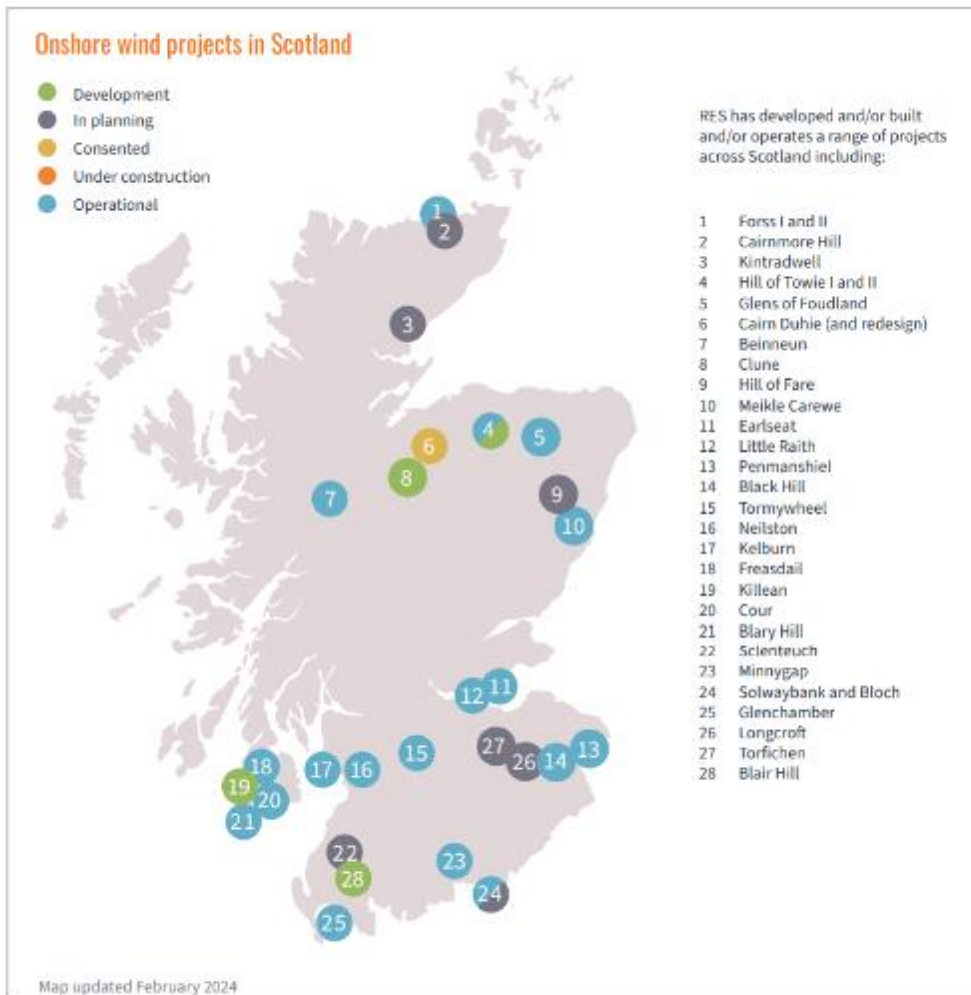
As an industry innovator for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 24GW of renewable energy projects across the globe and supports an operational asset portfolio exceeding 41GW worldwide for a large client base.

Drawing on our decades of experience in the renewable energy and construction industries, RES has the expertise to develop,

construct and operate projects of outstanding quality that contribute to a low carbon future by providing a secure supply of sustainable, low cost, clean green energy.

RES is committed to developing long-term relationships with the communities around our projects, proactively seeking ways in which we can support and encourage community involvement in social and environmental projects near our developments.

To learn more visit www.res-group.com.





This second exhibition forms part of our pre-application consultation and, whilst the design is almost finalised, this event provides you with an opportunity to submit written feedback to RES, if you wish, on the updated design.

Our team are here to discuss the project with you and do our best to answer any questions that you may have, but please note that formal feedback to RES on the updated design needs to be submitted in writing.

Your feedback has the potential to influence and improve the overall quality of the planning application from a community perspective.

The updated site layout is unlikely to change between now and submission. Nevertheless, we welcome any further feedback that you may have on the proposal, particularly with regards to ideas for local benefits which the project could deliver, should it be consented.

If you would like to provide feedback to RES on the project, you can do so by filling out a 'comments form' at this exhibition or online (or downloaded) via the project website at www.killean-windfarm.co.uk where the exhibition information is also available for people to view along with contact details for our project team.

Closing date for written feedback to RES is 26 April 2024.

Please note that comments to RES at this time are not representations to the determining authority (The Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be submitted.

Keeping you updated

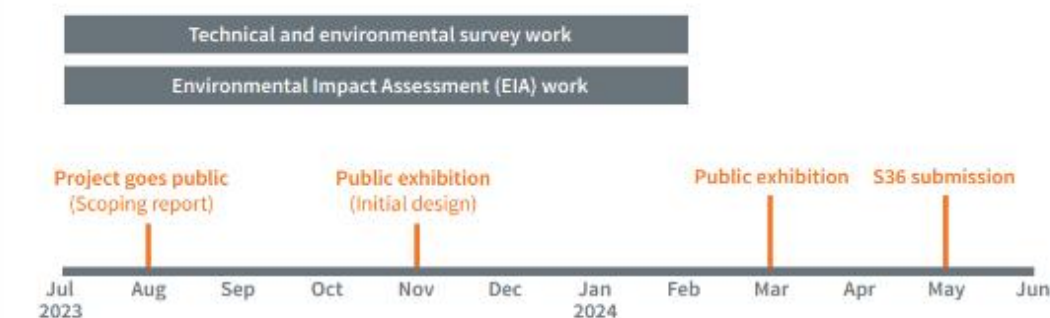
If you would like to be kept up to date with the proposal and informed about the next steps, please fill in a comments form with your details or speak to one of the project team. We currently expect to submit the Section 36 application later in Autumn 2023.

A Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report will accompany the planning application submission. The report will summarise the communications activity that has been undertaken on the project and consultation feedback received.

Once the Section 36 planning application has been submitted the determining authority will advertise the planning submission and hold a statutory consultation period whereupon members of the public, as well as statutory consultees, can submit their formal comments on the proposal.

These representations will then be assessed against the proposal and a planning decision made by the determining authority in due course.

Development timeline



Appendix 11: Report on feedback (from November 2023 consultation)



Killean Wind Farm Proposal

Report on feedback



March 2024

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1. INTRODUCTION

Purpose of this report

RES has considerable experience in developing onshore wind projects throughout the UK and believes in the importance of community consultation to identify issues and concerns, as well as benefits and opportunities, which can be considered when developing and designing a project.

The purpose of this report is to summarise the written feedback received from the community during our public consultation on the Killean Wind Farm, which ran from 6 November 2023 to 15 December 2023, regarding the design of the proposed development and highlighting any changes that have been made to the proposal since. Each section focuses on a key topic area and summarises the feedback received, followed by RES' response.

About the project

The Killean Wind Farm is proposed for a site on a private estate approximately 2km east of Tayinloan, in Argyll and Bute. The site is currently utilised as a commercial forestry plantation and open rough grazing for livestock. The site has good wind resource and lies outside any nationally designated landscape areas.

In September 2023, following initial feasibility work on site, RES submitted a Scoping Report to the Scottish Government. The Report sought feedback from the Scottish Government and other consultees (including local Community Councils) on the scope of the proposed environmental survey work.

The Report included an early design layout for the proposed scheme comprising 12 turbines at a turbine tip height of around 180m, resulting in an overall installed site generating capacity (based on the scoping layout) of around 72MW of clean, green renewable energy which will help Scotland meet its climate change target of 'net zero' emissions by 2045.

Public exhibition and consultation

RES held a public exhibition event in Tayinloan in Argyll and Bute on 15 November 2023 as part of its consultation on the proposed Killean Wind Farm. The event provided people with the opportunity to learn more about the project, discuss the proposal with the project team, and provide written feedback to RES on the initial early stage (scoping) design.

A range of information was made available, including visualisations to give an impression of what the site could look like from different viewpoints in the area. RES staff were on hand to discuss the proposal and answer any questions. A total of 40 people attended the event.

All information presented at the event was also made available on the project website www.killean-windfarm.co.uk, along with an online feedback form and links to the scoping report and other documents. In addition to comments received verbally at the event, a total of 7 feedback forms were received by the time the consultation period closed on 15 December 2023 - providing comments across a variety of topics. Feedback was also received from statutory stakeholders, political consultees and local interest groups, whom the project team engaged with directly.

The consultation feedback submitted to RES has been considered by the project team as part of the design development, in addition to feedback from key consultees and the findings from the detailed technical and environmental studies that have been undertaken. We are grateful to everyone who took the time to engage with us on the proposal.

2. LANDSCAPE & VISUAL FEEDBACK

RES included a multiple-choice question on the comments form that asked people about their attitude toward the preliminary plans for the proposed Killean Wind Farm. The breakdown of responses is as follows: 28.6% responded as 'supportive'; 42.8% responded as 'neutral'; 14.3% responded as 'opposed'; and 14.3% responded that they 'didn't like onshore wind farms in general'.

RES also included a multiple-choice question that asked for thoughts on the proposed preliminary design layout. The breakdown of responses is as follows: 0% responded that they 'had concerns about the proposed layout'; 66% responded that they were 'neutral towards the proposed layout'; 17% responded that they were 'happy with the proposed layout'; and 17% responded that they 'didn't like onshore wind farms in general'.

Key themes

The key themes and comments raised within the feedback were:

- Biodiversity - concerns that the landscape and biodiversity of Kintyre was being damaged by continuous industrial developments.
- Landscape - too many onshore wind farms in Kintyre, stating that there are more than necessary to meet the area's electricity needs.
- More information required - a respondent felt that further information was required to provide feedback on the landscape and visual impact of the project.

RES response to land and visual feedback

Following our consultation in November 2023 and further environmental and technical studies, we have reduced the number of proposed turbines from 12 to 10, with an overall installed site generating capacity of 66MW.

Two of the proposed turbines were removed from the site's layout due to a further ornithology constraint identified to the north (geese flight paths). The removal of these two turbines also allowed us to adjust the proposed layout, resulting in a more compact site in landscape and visual terms.

The cumulative impact of the proposed development along with existing and planned onshore wind farms in Kintyre will be fully assessed within the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment and Ecology EIA Chapter at application stage. The application will also include an Outline Biodiversity Enhancement & Management Plan with measures to enhance habitat and biodiversity value on the site.

3. TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT FEEDBACK

Although RES did not ask a specific question regarding the impact of the Killean Wind Farm on traffic and transport, we included a text box under each set of questions to enable feedback on other issues that were important to respondents. Feedback on the impact of traffic and transport is valuable as RES develops its proposals, so a response has been provided to the issues raised.

Key themes

A respondent noted that the people of Campbeltown may experience disruption when turbines and blades are transported from the quay to the site, and some attendees at the public exhibition expressed concern about potential disruption on the A83 in the vicinity of the site access.

RES response to traffic and transport feedback

An initial Access Study and Swept Paths Analysis (SPA) was carried out by RES to understand traffic flows and volumes on local roads and assess route options to help minimise potential impacts during the delivery of wind turbine components. The Access Study established a preferred route for deliveries from the Campbeltown dock before transportation to the site via the A83 to the site entrance.

Following the November 2023 public exhibition and further technical studies, RES is now considering a turbine with a slightly longer blade length (although there is no change to the proposed 180m tip height). We have re-run our transport and access assessments to take this into account, and they have concluded that no change to the proposed access route is required.

Should the project be consented, a detailed Traffic Management Plan would be developed and agreed upon with Argyll and Bute Council in consultation with Police Scotland, setting out the steps that RES would take to help mitigate any potential impacts on local traffic and road users and ensure road safety.

Some examples of measures that have been taken by RES on other construction projects include: introducing a reduced speed limit for project construction traffic along certain stretches of road; avoiding turbine deliveries between school-drop off and pick-up and/or rush hours; delivering turbine components at night-time; and, agreeing certain 'routes to site' for daily construction traffic.

The abnormal load vehicles that deliver the longer turbine components (primarily blades and towers) are specialised multi-axle vehicles, some of which can raise their load height to clear walls and bridges) that are driven by experienced operators. These vehicles have a considerable ability to precisely navigate and manoeuvre along a wide range of roads. Should the project be consented, further detailed survey work and drive-throughs along the route will be undertaken by RES and the turbine hauler to assess any more challenging stretches of the delivery route and ensure that they can be safely navigated.

4. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY FEEDBACK

RES included a multiple-choice question on the comments form to ask for views on climate change, which drives the project's need. When asked if they agreed that we are facing a global climate emergency, 50% strongly agreed, 16.63% agreed, 16.63% disagreed and 16.63% did not know. One respondent did not respond to this question.

Two multiple choice questions were also included regarding the role of renewable electricity in tackling climate change. Firstly, when asked if generating electricity from renewable sources would help tackle climate change, 66.66% strongly agreed and 33.33% did not know. No respondents disagreed with the statement. Secondly, when asked if we need to develop onshore wind farms to support greater energy independence and security for Scotland, 14.29% strongly agreed, 42.9% agreed, 14.29% strongly disagreed and 28.57% did not know.

RES also wished to find out whether respondents agreed that increasing the development of onshore wind would cut energy bills. 14.29% strongly agreed with the statement, whilst 28.57% agreed, 14.29% strongly disagreed and 42.9% did not know.

Key themes

The key themes and comments raised within the feedback were:

- Concerns over how 'Green' the project is.
- Scepticism over the urgency for action on climate change - one respondent stated that they believed that using the word "emergency" was an overstatement.
- Role of wind farms in meeting Scotland's energy demand - Scepticism over whether widespread development of wind farms are needed in Scotland.

RES response to climate change and energy feedback

We are in a climate emergency, a cost of living crisis and face issues with the security of energy supply. Onshore wind can address all of these. This is recognised by the Scottish Government's National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) which was published in February 2023.

Onshore wind plays an important part in creating a balanced energy mix and is required alongside other technologies, all of which have their merits in relation to cost, efficiency, environmental or social benefits. In response to the climate emergency, the focus on developing more onshore wind within Scotland has only strengthened - with national targets now set for installing 20GW of onshore wind across Scotland by 2030 to help towards meeting Net Zero carbon emissions by 2045.

Onshore wind, alongside other renewable energy technologies, can generate the cheapest form of new electricity generation. With the rising cost of living and climate change emergency, we must deliver electricity efficiently and at the lowest cost to the consumer.

Typically, wind farms pay back the carbon within 1-3 years and operate carbon-free thereafter. A carbon balance assessment will be provided in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report which will accompany the planning application.

5. COMMUNITY BENEFITS FEEDBACK

The majority of respondents provided comments relating to the community benefit package that will become available should Killean Wind Farm be consented and become operational.

Example comments

In response to the below question on the comments form, the following comments were received:

Q: Do you have any suggestions or comments regarding ideas, local priorities, or community projects that you would like to see benefitting from Killean Wind Farm, should it go ahead?

Examples could include biodiversity initiatives, apprenticeships/educational schemes, funding for schools and local community groups, improved broadband provision, etc.

- "More electric vehicle charging points."
- "LEDS for the whole of West Kintyre."
- "All of the above mentioned examples [the ones provided beneath the question above] but especially broadband."

In response to the below question on the comments form, the following suggestions were received:

Do you have any other comments or feedback with regard to the community benefits package?

- "Campbeltown is the hub of the economy, where the shops, schools and jobs are mainly. Residents near Killean use Campbeltown services. With this in mind Campbeltown should be part of the benefit package."
- "The tiny percentage which is allocated to the local community does not offset the damage done to the landscape and biodiversity."
- "Amount donated to the community and what it is spent on should be clearly communicated to the local residents."
- "There is a 10 year wait for renewables to get connected to the grid so when EXACTLY will the community benefit?"

RES response to community benefits feedback

A community benefits package worth up to £5,000 per MW (or equivalent) of installed capacity per year will become available once Killean Wind Farm is operational, which could include RES' innovative Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS). We will continue to work with the community to see how the funding could best support local priorities and needs to provide a lasting legacy in the local area.

RES seeks to be a power for good in communities that neighbour our projects by working openly and constructively to ensure tangible local benefits. We believe that onshore wind should provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are several ways that this can be achieved.

We take a tailored approach and work directly with the community to understand how the wind farm could support the local area and help to secure long-term economic, social and

environmental benefits. This approach will help to deliver a tailored community benefits package that is aligned with the priorities of the local community and could, for instance, provide funding for projects that sit outside the parameters of a traditional application-based fund.

Should the project receive consent, the area of benefit for Killean Wind Farm will be determined in consultation with locally elected representatives from the closest communities. It is important to note that voluntary community benefits are not a material planning consideration.

RES welcomes feedback from local people on ideas for local benefits and priority projects that they would like to see supported or delivered in the community. Some examples from other communities that we've worked with include:

- Skills development opportunities
- Improvements to local footpaths and/or signage
- Funding for local groups and organisations
- Improved parking facilities at site entrance
- Apprenticeship schemes with local businesses
- Business start-up initiatives
- Improvements to village halls
- Community defibrillators
- Charging points for electric car charging
- Discounted electricity bills for residents and businesses within a set distance from the wind farm.

Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS)

Our unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) seeks to deliver direct and tangible benefits to people living and working closest to RES' operational wind farms.

Developed in response to research and feedback from local communities around RES' operational wind farms, LEDS offers an annual discount to the electricity bills of those properties closest to a participating project, as a potential part of a tailored community benefits package.

Shared ownership

RES is also interested to understand whether there is any appetite from the community in exploring the potential opportunity of shared ownership in the wind farm. We have held initial, positive discussions with the East Kintyre Renewable Energy Group which will recommence following the submission of the application.

If shared ownership is something that interests you, please get in touch with the project team. Local Energy Scotland is the independent body that manages the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES). To find out more visit: www.localenergy.scot/hub/shared-ownership.

6. EXHIBITION AND GENERAL PROJECT FEEDBACK

RES included a multiple-choice question on the comments form that asked people about their level of knowledge about the project both before and after the consultation. All respondents had a limited knowledge of the project prior to the consultation; specifically 28.57% said that they 'knew a little', 28.57% 'knew very little' and 42.86% 'knew nothing at all'. By contrast, 83.3% stated that they 'knew quite a lot' following the consultation and only 16.7% said 'a little'.

RES also wanted to know how attendees at the public exhibition had found out about the event. A majority, 71.42%, found out through a newsletter (RES Killean project flyer) through the door whilst the remainder learnt about the exhibition from an advert in the local newspaper.

Key themes

The key themes and comments raised within the feedback relating to the public exhibition and the wider consultation were:

- Visualisations of the project - further visualisations would have been helpful to demonstrate the project's impact on the landscape.
- Maps of the project - many of the highly coloured maps tended to present an unclear picture of the local geography.
- Feedback questions - concerns that questions around climate change were leading.

RES response to exhibition and general project feedback

We are grateful to everyone who provided feedback on our early scoping design at the public exhibition event we held in November 2023 and during the subsequent consultation period.

We provided a suite of maps, visualisations and information to help explain the site assessment and design process, and how the initial site layout might appear when seen from a selection of key viewpoints in the local area. The application will also include further visualisations from viewpoints in the local and wider area which have been agreed with NatureScot.

Some of the maps used different colours to highlight different local 'constraints' such as environmental designations, areas of peat, hydrology and cultural heritage assets. Our project team members were on hand at the exhibition to explain these in more detail.

We believe that asking people to comment on information regarding climate change is important in explaining the wider context of the need for renewable energy, particularly onshore wind, in helping to meet Scotland's targets for 'net zero' emissions of greenhouse gases by 2045.

We will be providing updated information on the revised site layout, including 'wirelines' showing how it has changed, in our second consultation which runs from 27 March 2024 to 26 April 2024.

Appendix 12: Comments form for consultation feedback (March 2024 public exhibition)



Thank you for taking an interest in our Killean Wind Farm proposal. The purpose of this exhibition is to update the public on the design, explain the changes that have been made since the November 2023 public exhibition and consultation period, and answer any questions.

At this Public Exhibition we have presented updated design drawings. The updated layout is unlikely to change between now and submission. Nevertheless, we welcome any further feedback that you may have on the proposal, particularly with regards to ideas for local benefits which the project could deliver, should it be consented.

Please provide feedback by 26th April 2024. Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development.

Please note that comments submitted to RES at this time are not representations to the determining authority (Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

1. Killean Wind Farm public exhibition

1.1. How did you find out about our public exhibition?

- Flyer through the door Advert in local newspaper
- Project website (www.killean-windfarm.co.uk) Word of mouth
- Other (please specify)

1.2. Before visiting the exhibition how would you describe your knowledge of the proposed Killean Wind Farm?

- Knew a lot Knew quite a lot Knew a little Knew very little Knew nothing at all

1.3. Having visited the exhibition, to what extent do you feel you have increased your understanding about the proposed Killean Wind Farm?

- A lot Quite a lot A little Very little Nothing at all

1.4. Do you have any suggestions for ways in which we could have improved our exhibition?

2. Killean Wind Farm proposal

Your views on the Killean Wind Farm proposal – specifically the updated layout of the project where people's comments can have a direct influence – will be considered in relation to the design development of the project.

2.1. How do you feel about the updated plans for Killean Wind Farm?

I am supportive I am neutral I am opposed I don't like onshore wind farms in general

Further comments:

2.2. What do you think about the proposed design layout of Killean Wind Farm?

I am happy with the updated layout I am neutral towards the updated layout
 I have concerns about the layout (please provide further details in the box below)
 I don't like onshore wind farms in general

Further comments:

2.3. Please provide us with any further suggestions or comments regarding the proposed Killean Wind Farm.

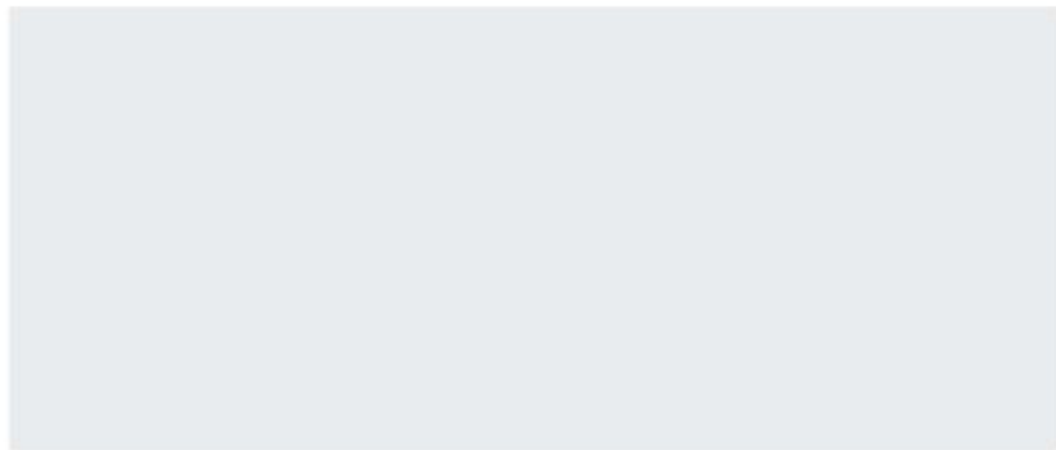
3. Local benefits

RES is proposing to deliver a tailored community benefits package aligned with the priorities of the local community. This package would be worth £5,000 per megawatt (or equivalent) of installed capacity per annum and could include RES' unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS), which would offer an annual discount to the electricity bills of those properties closest to the proposed wind farm. The community benefit package will be informed by feedback from the community so we are keen to understand what initiatives the community would like to see supported by the benefits package.

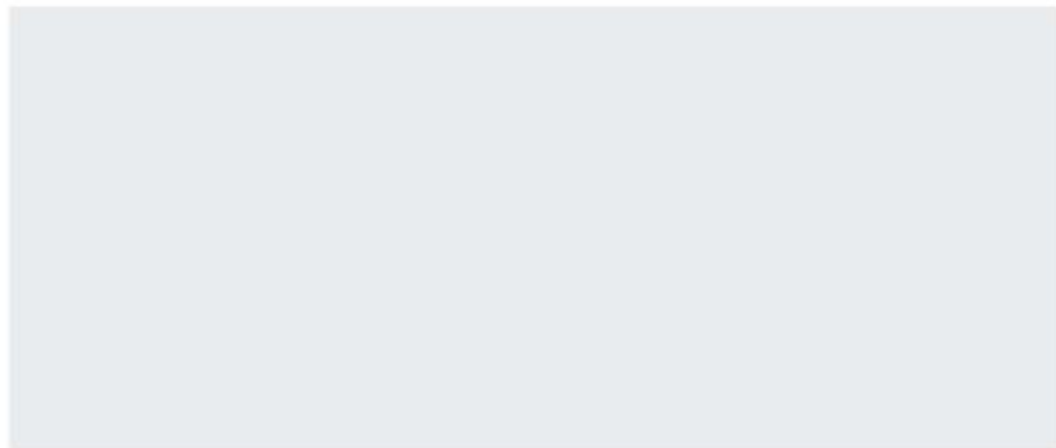
3.1. Within which Community Council do you reside?

3.2. Do you have any suggestions or comments regarding ideas, local priorities, or community projects that you would like to see benefitting from Killean Wind Farm, should it go ahead?

Examples could include biodiversity initiatives, apprenticeships/educational schemes, funding for schools and local community groups, improved broadband provision, etc.



3.3. Do you have any other comments or feedback with regard to the community benefits package?



4. Climate change, energy security and renewables

The below section is optional and designed to help us understand people's thoughts on how renewables can help to tackle climate change and improve energy security.

4.1. Do you agree that we are facing a global climate change emergency?

I strongly agree I agree I don't know I disagree I strongly disagree

Further comments:

4.2. Do you agree that generating electricity from renewable sources, and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, can help towards tackling the issue of climate change?

I strongly agree I agree I don't know I disagree I strongly disagree

Further comments:

4.3. Do you agree that we need to develop onshore wind farms to support greater energy independence and security for Scotland?

I strongly agree I agree I don't know I disagree I strongly disagree

Further comments:

4.4. Do you agree that we need to develop onshore wind farms to cut energy bills?

I strongly agree I agree I don't know I disagree I strongly disagree

Further comments:

5. Your details

Please provide your name and contact details below.

Your contact details will be treated by RES with the strictest of confidence, in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018. We may at times share your contact details, in confidence, with third parties who we employ to help process your comments or update you on the project and by providing your details below you consent to this. You may write to RES at any time to ask that your contact details be removed from our records and from any third parties we work with.

Name

Email

Address

If you would like to be kept up to date with the project, please tick this box.

When you have completed the comments form, please send by email to killean@communityrelations.co.uk or by post (no stamp required) to: **FREEPOST KILLEAN WIND FARM**

If you have any questions, you can call us on **Freephone 08000 129 885**

Thank you for taking the time to complete this comments form, your feedback is important to us.



www.killean-windfarm.co.uk