



Euchanhead Renewable Energy Development

A proposal for a renewable energy development in the National Forest Estate of Euchanhead and Polskeoch, South West Scotland

Euchanhead Renewable Energy Development Photomontage
- VP 4 Blackcraig Hill



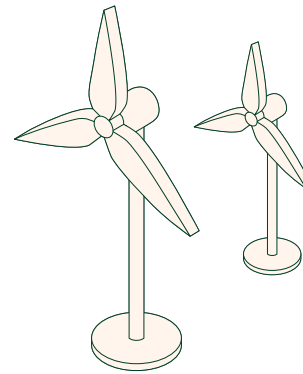
About ScottishPower Renewables

ScottishPower Renewables is part of the ScottishPower group of companies operating in the UK under the Iberdrola Group, one of the world's largest integrated utility companies and a world leader in wind energy.

ScottishPower is the first integrated energy company in the UK to generate 100% green electricity. Our focus is on wind energy, smart grids and driving the change to a cleaner, electric future and we're investing over £8m every working day to make this happen. We're committed to speeding up the transition to cleaner electric transport, improving air quality and over time, driving down bills - to deliver a better future, quicker for everyone.

Euchanhead Renewable Energy Development Photomontage - VP 5 Afton Reservoir

Site Summary - Key Facts



19 wind turbines

each around
6MW capacity

Installed capacity
of around **126MW**

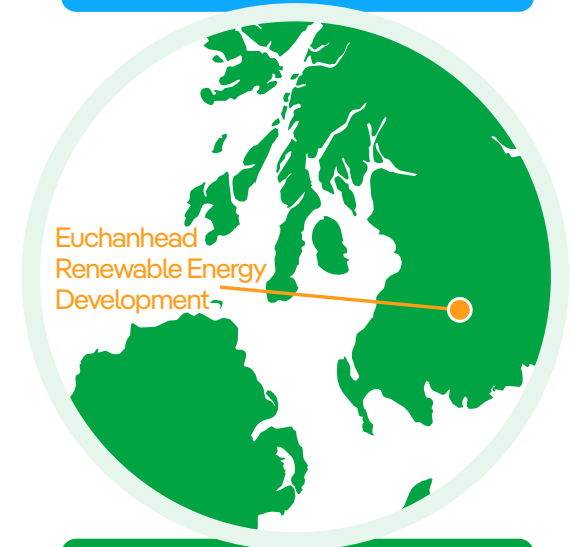
Up to **230m** tip height

Annual energy
generation is estimated
at approximately
**386.3 gigawatt-hours
(GWh)**



Generating enough power
for **100,000 homes⁽¹⁾**

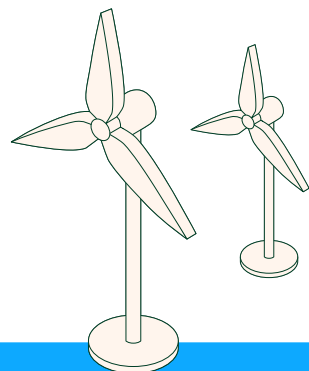
Approximately 31.5MW
energy storage capability
providing stability services
to the grid network



Access improvements to Allan's
Cairn, SUW circular route being
created and improved access
to the striding arch

Economic Benefits

Meet the Buyer events to allow local suppliers to learn about and discuss potential contract opportunities

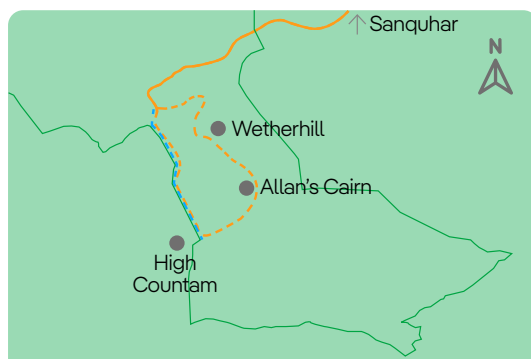


The development expenditure during the construction phase is estimated to be approximately £183 million, approximately £14.5 million of which would be spent in the local economy



During the 22 months' construction phase, the proposed Development is expected to support approximately 98 person-years of employment

During the operational phase, the proposed Development is expected to require between 3 and 5 new full time employees (engineers and technicians) locally and further posts would be created elsewhere in Scotland⁽²⁾



- Application Boundary
- Proposed temporary diversion during construction
- Southern Upland Way - Post construction will create additional circular route around Allan's Cairn
- Southern Upland Way

A package of enhancement measures is proposed to support recreational and tourism uses within the Site during the operational phase, focusing on users of and connections to the Southern Upland Way, with a new circular route being developed, and the path to the Colt Hill Striding Arch upgraded

Benefits to the Community

SPR's operational windfarms have, to date, contributed more than £34.2 million of support towards community initiatives close to our windfarms in Dumfries & Galloway and East Ayrshire. SPR's preferred approach is to empower local communities to determine how available funds are used to deliver the greatest benefit locally.

Some examples of projects supported include:

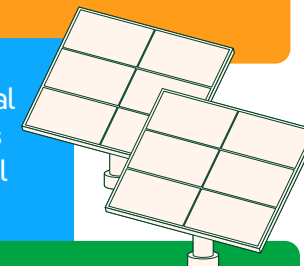
Tynron community hall flood defence systems and carpark refurbishment



Community purchase of local property to let to new residents

Supporting East Ayrshire's first fitness festival, Fitfest in New Cumnock

Funding vocational training schemes to keep traditional skillsets alive



Sponsorship of local youth groups

Supporting Moniaive Folk Festival and Carsphairn Show

Installation of solar panels at Glencairn Bowling Green

Contribution to local upgrades in Kirkconnel & Kelloholm

Implementation of a Community Benefit Fund

SPR is proposing that the Eucharhead Renewable Energy Development will offer an associated community benefit package which could fund local projects.

Euchanhead Renewable Energy Development Economic Impact

During the lifetime of the development, the development is expected to create opportunities in the area for businesses to supply services such as:

- Haulage and transport services
- Traffic management
- Materials supply, e.g. aggregates
- Plant and equipment hire
- Vehicle servicing / tyres
- Forestry services
- Fencing
- Fuel
- Security
- Waste management
- Building construction: electrical, plumbing, roofing, flooring, plastering, decorating and joinery services
- Signing and lighting
- Telecommunications
- Drainage
- Planting and seeding
- Cleaning
- Catering
- Accommodation

“For the twenty-odd years we’ve been carrying out work for SPR, our relationship has been completely positive. SPR’s business has not only benefitted us, but also those other local businesses, such as suppliers and builders merchants, who we use in order to acquire materials for the works.”

Niall Corrigan, William & Henry Alexander (Civil Engineering) Ltd.



Construction & Operation

Construction Phase:

- The construction phase will require foremen, engineers (of various disciplines), plant operators, electricians and other general site operatives
- It is estimated that this phase will employ 98 people at peak construction
- Other indirect local businesses such as builders merchants, restaurants, hotels and bars are likely to also experience an increase in business from the contractors working on the project

Operational Phase:

- The operational phase will employ between 3 and 5 people in new full-time jobs
- Various personnel will also be required for the successful and continued operation of the Renewable Energy Development for roles in maintenance, safety, security, community relations and landowner agreements
- Other locally associated roles will include material suppliers, local shops, accommodation, plant hire and environmental monitoring consultants

Dersalloch Windfarm, Turbine tip heights 125 m

Climate Change & Carbon Reduction

The potential savings in CO₂ emissions due to the proposed Development replacing other electricity sources over the lifetime of the project are approximately:

- 157,286⁽⁴⁾ tonnes of CO₂ avoided annually compared with a fossil fuel-mix of electricity generation
- The development will repay the carbon emissions related to its construction in around 1.7 years

The development at Euchanhead will make an important contribution to reducing CO₂ emissions in Scotland. The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 sets out a net zero target by 2045 and further interim targets of reductions in CO₂ emissions of:

75% by 2030 and

90% by 2040

These targets build on the Scottish Energy Strategy's (Scottish Government 2017) target of 50% of all energy (including transport, heat and electricity) being supplied from renewables by 2030.



Whitelee Windfarm, turbine tip heights 110m.

Environment

The Site is predominantly characterised by commercial forestry, with open areas dominated by acid grassland, dry and wet heath, marshy grassland, blanket bog and modified bog. The proposed Development has been designed to minimise the loss of more sensitive natural habitats where possible. A Habitat Management Plan is to be developed which would restore 23 hectares of modified and drained blanket peat bog using methods successfully used by SPR on windfarm developments resulting in a likely net gain in biodiversity.

Powering the Future

Onshore wind is by far the cheapest large-scale renewable energy source that can be deployed at significant scale⁽⁴⁾.

In Winter 2022, 85% of the public expressed support for renewable energy according to a Public Attitudes Tracker, published quarterly by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) in March 2023⁽⁵⁾.



Whitelee Windfarm, turbine tip heights 110m.



References

- (1) BEIS; Sub-National Electricity and Gas Consumption Statistics, Dec 2021 (based on average UK household consumption of 3748KWh)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1079141/subnational_electricity_and_gas_consumption_summary_report_2020.pdf
- (2) https://www.scottishpowerrenewables.com/userfiles/file/EUC_Chapter_14_-_Socio-economics,_Recreation_and_Tourism.pdf
- (3) https://www.scottishpowerrenewables.com/userfiles/file/EUC_Chapter_1_-_Introduction.pdf
- (4) [AEI Carbon Calculator](#)
- (5) BEIS Public Attitudes Tracker: Energy Infrastructure and Energy Sources Winter 2022, published 9th March 2023.
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/911817/electricity-generation-cost-report-2020.pdf

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Better future, quicker

