



Carrick Windfarm

Public Consultation Leaflet

Why are we contacting you?

ScottishPower Renewables (SPR) is investigating the potential to develop a windfarm within an area of the Carrick Forest, South Ayrshire as shown on the plan. Design work is in the early stages, however the Proposed Development could comprise of up to 17 wind turbines, with a maximum height to blade tip of up to 200 metres, along with an energy storage facility.

Early consultation is key to the way we develop our projects. We believe in open consultation with communities and stakeholders to inform the design process, however current COVID-19 legislation¹ prevents face-to-face consultation and this may not be permitted for the foreseeable future. SPR remains committed to undertaking meaningful and wide-reaching consultation during this difficult and challenging time. We are therefore contacting you to provide you with information on our proposal and to let you know how you can provide feedback.

Who are we?

SPR 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 now only produces 100% green electricity – focusing on wind energy, smart grids and driving the change to a cleaner, electric future. The company is investing over £4 million every working day² to make this happen and is 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.

SPR is at the forefront of the development of the renewables industry through pioneering ideas, forward thinking and outstanding innovation. Its ambitious growth plans include expansion of its existing onshore wind portfolio, investment in



new large scale solar deployment and innovative grid storage systems including batteries. The company is also delivering the Iberdrola Group's offshore windfarms in the Southern North Sea off East Anglia. With over 40 operational windfarms, SPR manages all its sites through its world leading Control Centre at Whitelee Windfarm, near Glasgow.

ScottishPower Renewables in south-west Scotland.

SPR has been working alongside communities across the UK for nearly two decades and has to date contributed more than £36 million in benefit funds to support initiatives and projects for those communities local to our windfarm sites, with more than £6.3 million going directly to South Ayrshire. With established sites nearby, SPR has a history of working positively with local communities within the region. We are keen to create employment opportunities during the construction and operation of our windfarms that can be delivered locally to benefit those who live near our sites.

¹ Scottish Government (2020). The Town and Country Planning (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2020/124/contents/made>

² Between 2018 and 2022

Drivers for renewable energy

The UK Government and the Scottish Government have both declared a 'climate emergency' and are committed to ensuring that an increased proportion of electricity is generated from renewable energy sources in order to meet carbon emission targets. The Scottish Climate Change Bill (2018) introduced a target of net zero gas emissions by 2045 at the latest, with Scotland becoming carbon neutral by 2040. Scotland will also have to reduce emissions by 70% by 2030 and 90% by 2040. These are currently the most ambitious statutory targets in the world.

Powering your community

SPR is committed to being a responsible developer of renewable energy and strive to be good neighbours in all areas of our work. We encourage as many people as possible to get involved in, and to learn more about our projects, particularly in understanding the local economic and social benefits our developments can create. As the development of Carrick Windfarm progresses, we will engage with communities, stakeholders and the local councils to understand how benefits could be delivered to best meet the needs of the local area, should the Proposed Development be consented.

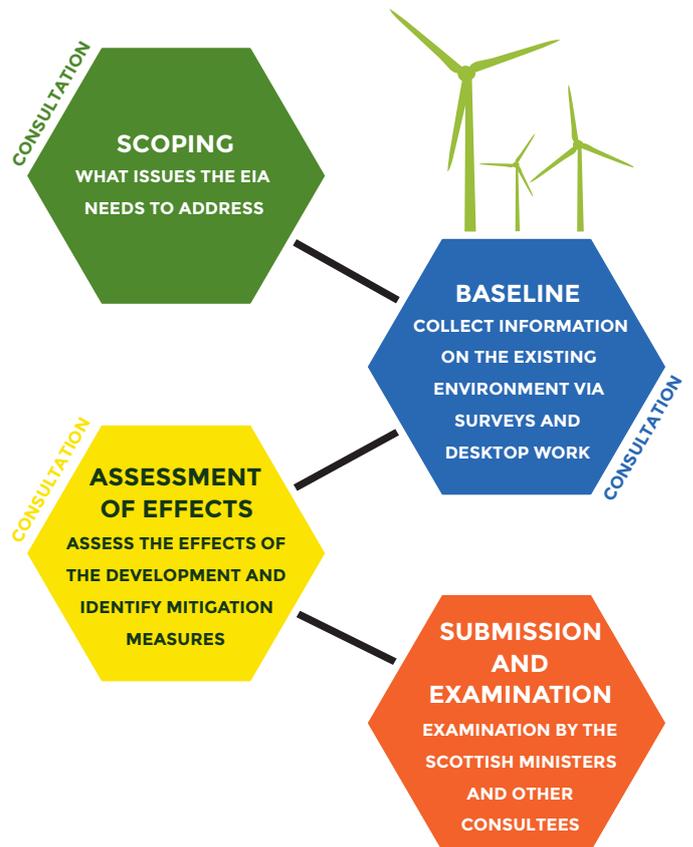
Environmental Impact Assessment and Design

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for the Proposed Development and will be informed by the EIA Scoping Opinion which SPR has requested via the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit. This Scoping Opinion will confirm the environmental aspects that are to be assessed and a summary of the key stages of the EIA process are provided in the diagram on the right.

We have been undertaking bird surveys in the vicinity of the Site since September 2018 and collecting bat activity and wind data since 2019. We will also be undertaking a range of further environmental surveys throughout the course of this year (when possible in line with government guidance) to ensure that the potential environmental effects are fully understood and avoided or mitigated. We will also give careful consideration to how this Proposed Development fits within the existing landscape considering its visibility from other key viewpoints in the surrounding area and how it 'fits' with surrounding windfarms in the area.

Next steps

We will use findings from environmental surveys, technical studies and consultation feedback to continue to shape the design of the Proposed Development ahead of submitting an application to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit, which we anticipate to be by the end of 2020.



CONTACT

If you require more information on the Proposed Development, have a query or wish to provide feedback, please contact us directly:

PROJECT E-MAIL:

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POST:

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Whitelee Windfarm, turbine height 110 metres; the turbines proposed for this development are up to 200 metres.