Garvagh Community Building
Thursday 20th September
12-2pm and 5pm - 7pm
Main Street, Garvagh, BT51 5AB

Rigged Hill Windfarm
Operational Access Track

Public Information Day

What is the information day for?

ScottishPower Renewables is proposing to construct a new permanent stone track to access the existing Rigged Hill Windfarm. The new track will be used to facilitate ongoing operations and maintenance allowing the site to continue to produce, clean green renewable energy.

The new track will require planning permission before it can be constructed, and as part of the planning process, ScottishPower Renewables is hosting a Public Information Day to give you the opportunity to view our proposal for the new track and to enable us to take on board any feedback you may have on the proposal and to answer any questions that you may have about the project.

ScottishPower Renewables has owned and operated Rigged Hill Windfarm since 1994 and it continues to perform reliably with strong energy production and has made a valuable contribution to Northern Ireland’s Renewable Energy targets and low carbon objectives.

About the new access

The project to build a new access for the windfarm will involve creating a new junction from Terrydoo Road, and then laying a stone track across the grazing pasture and hillside following the natural contours to join the existing windfarm on the hilltop, as shown on the inset map of the hill.

What effect will the new track have?

The works to create the access track are predominately off the public highway, on private land. To minimise effects upon the local community during the short construction period access along Terrydoo Road will be maintained.

Once the new track has been completed, this will be the sole access point to and from the windfarm for our operational traffic. The existing access at Craigmore Road will no longer be used for windfarm access.
ScottishPower Renewables

Is part of the Iberdrola Group, a world leader in clean energy with an installed capacity of over 29,000 MW, and the leading wind energy producer worldwide.

ScottishPower Renewables is helping to drive the Iberdrola Group’s ambition of being the Utility of the Future and is at the forefront of the development of the renewables industry through pioneering ideas, forward thinking and outstanding innovation. Our ambitious growth plans include offshore windfarms in East Anglia with our team leading the Group’s international offshore development.

With over 40 operational windfarms, we manage all of our sites through our innovative and world leading Control Centre at Whitelee Windfarm.

ScottishPower Renewables and Northern Ireland

ScottishPower Renewables has a long standing foundation in Northern Ireland, operating five onshore windfarms in Northern Ireland, with key projects in Belfast Harbour and with Harland and Wolff.

The development of our West of Duddon Sands Offshore Windfarm, in the Irish Sea (operational since 2014), enabled the construction of £50 million bespoke facility at Belfast Harbour which began in early 2012, creating the first purpose built offshore wind installation and pre-assembly harbour in the UK and Ireland, supporting up to 300 jobs in the process.

Through the construction of our East Anglia ONE Offshore Windfarm in the North Sea, Lamprell (in partnership with Harland and Wolff), earlier this year, have been awarded a significant foundation contract. The value of this contract is circa £30 million, with an average labour force of 200 people across the duration of the project.

About the Development Process

ScottishPower Renewables is preparing to submit a planning application to construct a new permanent track to access the existing Rigged Hill Windfarm.

To get to this point we have engaged the services of a range of engineering and environmental experts to help us choose the best option for the route of the track, and to create a concept design that complies with all regulatory requirements.

We are currently undertaking an environmental assessment of the track design to minimise any effect upon the surrounding environment, this includes studies of the following areas:

- Ecology and Biodiversity
- Ornithology
- Hydrology
- Geology and soils
- Cultural heritage
- Landscape and visual

These studies are being undertaken by independent technical specialists and to date the findings suggest that the track can be constructed using best practice methods with minimal resulting environmental impact.

Did you know?

At ScottishPower Renewables we have employed and continue to employ the services of numerous local companies in Northern Ireland. They help us at each step of our projects to develop, construct and maintain our windfarm sites across Northern Ireland and the UK.

Next steps

Once the track design and environmental assessments are completed, taking into account, if possible, feedback from the Public Information Day, a planning application will be submitted to the Planning Department at Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council for their consideration.

The Council will make the application available for public comment through their website and you will be able to respond to the Council to offer support or make any other observations about the proposal.

We are planning to submit our application before the end of 2018. If the planning decision is favourable, it is anticipated that the track will be constructed early in 2019.

Contact Us

Write to us: Rigged Windfarm Access Project Team, ScottishPower Renewables, ScottishPower House, 9th Floor, 320 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5AB

Email us: riggedwindfarmaccess@scottishpower.com

Visit our website: www.scottishpowerrenewables.com