

SCOTTISHPOWER RENEWABLES (UK) LIMITED

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)

REGULATIONS 2017

Notice is hereby given that ScottishPower Renewables (UK) Limited, company registration number NI028425, with its Registered Office at The Soloist, 1 Lanyon Place, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 3LP, has submitted additional information requested by the reporter for the purposes of an inquiry held under the Electricity Act 1989 in relation to its application to the Scottish Ministers for consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 to construct and operate a renewable energy development, known as Hollandmey Renewable Energy Development, at Hollandmey (central grid reference NGR ND 29621 69892, approximately 8 km south west of John o' Groats and 16 km east of Thurso in Caithness, within the Highland Council administrative area. The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be over 50 MW, comprising 10 wind turbines with a ground to blade tip height of 149.9 m with a generating capacity of around 50 MW, and around 15 MW of ground mounted solar arrays. The proposed Development also includes approximately 15 MW of battery energy storage.

The proposed Development is subject to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and an EIA Report was submitted to the Scottish Government in November 2021. The Company has also applied for a direction under Section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 that planning permission for the proposed Development be deemed to be granted. Additional information, in the form of an Updated Cumulative Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment including updated visualisations was requested by the reporter for the purposes of the inquiry to take account of other relevant wind farm proposals that are at the application stage, which were not known about when the original environmental information was submitted. There are no changes to the proposed Development.

The Updated Cumulative Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment was submitted to the inquiry on 22 August 2023 and is viewable at the following locations:

- A hard copy is available for public inspection in person, free of charge, Mondays to Fridays at 9:30am - 12:30pm and 1:30pm – 4:00pm at: Wick Service Point, The Highland Council Planning Office, Caithness House, Market Place, Wick, KW1 4AB;
- A hard copy may also be obtained from the Company (email: HollandmeyRED@scottishpower.com) at a charge of £350 per hard copy and free on DVD/CD or USB memory stick (except for those consultation bodies and public bodies who received copies of the EIA Report under Regulation 16(1) and 16(4) of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, who may receive printed copies of the additional information free of charge upon request);
- A digital copy of the EIA Report Addendum is also available for public inspection, free of charge on the project website:

https://www.scottishpowerrenewables.com/pages/hollandmey_renewable_energy_development.aspx; or

- A digital copy is available on the Scottish Government Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals (DPEA) website at <https://www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk> under application reference - WIN-270-19.

Representations should be made directly to the DPEA by email to dpea@gov.scot, or by post to: Planning and Environmental Appeals Division, Ground Floor, Hadrian House, Callendar Business Park, Callendar Road, Falkirk, FK1 1XR, identifying the proposal and specifying the grounds for representation. Written or emailed representations should be dated, clearly stating the name (in block capitals), full return email and postal address of those making representations. Only representations sent by email to dpea@gov.scot will receive acknowledgement. All representations should be received not later than 7 October 2023, although Ministers may consider representations received after this date. Any subsequent additional information which is submitted by the Company will be subject to further notice, and representations to such information will be accepted as per this notice.

As a result of a statutory objection from the relevant planning authority, the Highland Council, Scottish Ministers have caused a Public Local Inquiry (PLI) to be held. Following examination of the environmental information, Scottish Ministers will determine the application for consent in one of two ways:

- Consent the proposal, with or without conditions attached; or
- Reject the proposal.

All previous representations received in relation to the proposed Development remain valid.

General Data Protection Regulations

The Scottish Government Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals (DPEA) processes appeals for consent applications and consultation representations under The Electricity Act 1989. During the process, to support transparency in decision making, the Scottish Government publishes online at www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk. A privacy notice and a fair processing notice are published on the home page at www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk. These explain how the DPEA processes your personal data. If you have any concerns about how your personal data is handled, please email: dpea@gov.scot, or write to Data protection and Information Assets Team, Information and Technology Services, V Spur, Saughton House, Broomhouse Drive, Edinburgh, EH11 3XD.