



Bloch Wind Farm

Pre-Application Consultation Report

Author	Carey Green
Date	12/10/2022
Ref	04097-4736094

This document (the "Report") has been prepared by Renewable Energy Systems Ltd ("RES"). RES shall not be deemed to make any representation regarding the accuracy, completeness, methodology, reliability or current status of any material contained in this Report, nor does RES assume any liability with respect to any matter or information referred to or contained in the Report, except to the extent specified in (and subject to the terms and conditions of) any contract to which RES is party that relates to the Report (a "Contract"). Any person relying on the Report (a "Recipient") does so at their own risk, and neither the Recipient nor any person to whom the Recipient provides the Report or any matter or information derived from it shall have any right or claim against RES or any of its affiliated companies in respect thereof, but without prejudice to the terms of any Contract to which the Recipient is party.

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Consultation	2
3	Consultation feedback	7
4	Outcomes and responses	13
5	Summary	18

1 Introduction

1.1.1 This Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report outlines how RES ('the applicant') has engaged and communicated with the local community to inform them about the proposed Bloch Wind Farm¹, hereinafter referred to as the 'proposed development', located on land adjacent to the existing Solwaybank Wind Farm, Langholm, Dumfries and Galloway. It explains how and when the community was consulted before the application for consent and deemed planning permission was submitted and how this consultation has shaped the proposed development.

1.2 Project description

1.2.1 The applicant seeks consent under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 from Scottish Ministers to construct a wind farm with an installed capacity of up to 126MW (subject to final wind turbine procurement) comprising 21 wind turbines and associated infrastructure at the site adjacent to the existing Solwaybank Wind Farm, Langholm, Dumfries and Galloway. It is also proposed to construct a battery energy storage system of up to 45 MW storage capacity within the proposed development. The application has been prepared in accordance with the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (as amended) (EIA regulations).

1.2.2 The proposed wind turbines will have a maximum height of up to 230m to the highest point of the blade tip. The proposed development includes a number of ancillary elements, including:

- at each wind turbine, associated low to medium voltage transformers and related switchgear;
- wind turbine foundations;
- hardstand areas for erection cranes at each wind turbine location;
- new and upgraded internal access tracks, including watercourse crossings where necessary;
- search area for up to three borrow pits;
- a substation compound containing electrical infrastructure, control building, welfare facilities and a communications mast;
- a battery energy storage system (BESS) compound;

¹ At the start of pre-application consultation, the proposed development was referred to as Solwaybank Extension Wind Farm. The name of the proposed development was changed in advance of the second public exhibition. For further information see 2.6.6

- a network of buried electrical cables;
- temporary construction compounds, working areas and laydown areas; and
- habitat management and biodiversity enhancement.

1.3 Our approach to community consultation

- 1.3.1 Whilst there are no statutory pre-application consultation procedures for section 36 applications under the Electricity Act, the applicant has followed the guidance for pre-application public consultation and engagement for such application as set out in the Scottish Government's (2022) *Good Practice Guidance for Applications under Section 36 and Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989*.
- 1.3.2 As set out in this good practice guidance, the minimum consultation activity states that an applicant must consult with community councils and hold a public event. The applicant believes that meaningful and constructive consultation requires a more detailed approach and in undertaking the consultation for the proposed development the applicant has gone above and beyond the minimum statutory requirement.
- 1.3.3 The proposed development sits within the Langholm, Ewes & Westerkirk, Middlebie & Waterbeck and Canonbie & District Community Council areas and consequently these three community council areas have been the main focus for consultation.
- 1.3.4 At all stages of the pre-application consultation process the applicant has clearly set out the purpose of consultation and emphasised that comments made are not representations to the determining authority (and that there would be an opportunity for representations to be made to the determining authority once the section 36 application was submitted).

2 Consultation

2.1 Preparation

- 2.1.1 Prior to undertaking formal public consultation, the applicant undertook desk-based research to identify key stakeholders located within the vicinity of the proposed development. Those identified included:
- Elected members in Dumfries and Galloway local authority areas;
 - Elected member for the Scottish Parliament constituency;
 - Elected member for the UK Parliament constituency;

- Community council areas within the site of the proposed development; and
- Local residents.

2.2 Introducing the proposed development - Scoping (8 April 2022)

- 2.2.1 On 8 April 2022, letters were sent to key stakeholders to inform them of the applicant's plans to explore a wind farm on land adjacent to the existing Solwaybank Wind Farm.
- 2.2.2 The letter provided a summary of the proposal and an update detailing that a scoping request (including a Scoping Report) had been submitted to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit on behalf of Scottish Ministers. It also outlined that early engagement would take place to facilitate constructive consultation and offered an opportunity to discuss the proposal. Please see a copy of the letter at Appendix A.
- 2.2.3 The scoping request was submitted to the Energy Consents Unit on 6 April 2022. The scoping opinion was received from the Energy Consents Unit on 13 June 2022.

2.3 Planning and advertising the public exhibition (10 June 2022)

- 2.3.1 Three public exhibitions were held in the local area on 21, 22 and 23 June 2022, in relation to the proposed development. The exhibitions were advertised in the Annandale Observer on 10 June 2022 and the Eskdale and Liddesdale Advertiser on 16 June 2022 (please see advert at Appendix B).
- 2.3.2 A newsletter was also distributed to 2,168 properties within an approximate 7km radius of the site, as shown on Figure 1, and to all key stakeholders on 13 June 2022. A copy of the newsletter can be found at Appendix C.

2.4 Public exhibition events (21, 22 and 23 June 2022)

- 2.4.1 Three public exhibitions were held in relation to the proposed development taking place at:
- The Buccleuch Centre, Langholm (21 June 2022, 3pm to 8pm);
 - Waterbeck Public Hall, Waterbeck (22 June 2022, 2pm to 7pm); and
 - Gilnockie Hall, Claygate (23 June 2022, 2pm to 7pm).

- 2.4.2 The public exhibitions provided information on:
- the site location (including indicative locations of the proposed 22 wind turbines);
 - an overview of the proposed development (generation capacity, output potential etc.);
 - indication of ancillary infrastructure;
 - update on EIA work (including survey work);
 - wind turbine component delivery route;
 - prospective traffic management consultation;
 - supply chain opportunities; and
 - how to comment on the proposal.
- 2.4.3 Photomontages of the proposed development were also shown alongside the existing view and the wire frame.
- 2.4.4 A comment form was also available for people to leave feedback on the updated design of the proposed development. Forty-three completed comments forms were received, see section 3 for analysis of question responses.
- 2.4.5 Copies of the exhibition material can be found at Appendix D.
- 2.4.6 A total of 26 individuals attended the Langholm event, 39 individuals attended the Waterbeck event and 12 individuals attended the Claygate event.
- 2.4.7 Copies of all material presented at the public exhibitions was also made available on the proposed development website at <http://www.solwaybankextension-windfarm.co.uk/> from 21 June 2022.
- 2.4.8 Hard copies of all exhibition material were made available on request. The applicant received one request and provided the exhibition pack by post. The applicant also received one request for an electronic copy of exhibition materials which were provided via email.

2.5 Other consultation

- 2.5.1 On 9 June 2022 the Development Project Manager met with representatives from the district ward and Canonbie & District Community Council, to introduce the proposed development and answer any questions.
- 2.5.2 On 5 September 2022 the Development Project Manager met with representatives from Langholm, Ewes & Westerkirk Community Council, to

provide an update on the proposed development and also information on the feedback received from the community at the exhibitions in June 2022.

2.5.3 On 7 September 2022 the Development Project Manager met with representatives from Middlebie & Waterbeck Community Council, along with the MSP for Dumfriesshire. An update on the proposed development was provided as well as information on the feedback received from the community at the exhibitions in June 2022.

2.5.4 In addition to the activities outlined above, the applicant has been receiving and responding to enquiries and comments from the local community, via telephone and video calls and email.

2.5.5 To date, correspondence has been received, and responded to, from six local residents and two local businesses. The applicant will continue to respond to any queries received in relation to the project from the local community, stakeholders and statutory consultees throughout the determination process.

2.6 Further Online Exhibition and Drop-In Sessions (4 and 5 October 2022)

2.6.1 An online exhibition was launched on 4 October on the proposed development website. Drop-in sessions were also held in the local area on 4 and 5 October 2022. This followed design refinement of the proposed development as a result of technical and environmental surveys and assessments and feedback from stakeholders and the local community from the first consultation in June 2022.

2.6.2 The online exhibition was hosted on the proposed development website at: <http://www.bloch-windfarm.co.uk/>

2.6.3 The drop-in sessions took place at:

- Canonbie Public Hall (4 October 2022, 9.30am to 1.30pm);
- Eskdale Hotel, Langholm (4 October 2022, 3pm to 7pm); and
- Waterbeck Public Hall, Patna (5 October 2022, 2pm to 6pm).

2.6.4 The online exhibition and drop-in sessions were advertised via publication in the Annandale Observer on 23 September 2022 and the Eskdale and Liddesdale Advertiser on 22 September 2022. A copy of the advertisement can be found at Appendix E.

- 2.6.5 A newsletter was also distributed to 2,168 properties within approximately 7km radius of the proposed development, as shown in Figure 1, and to all key stakeholders on 23 September 2022. A copy of the newsletter can be found at Appendix F.
- 2.6.6 In addition to advertising the online exhibition and drop-in sessions, the applicant advised that they had changed the name of the proposed development to Bloch Wind Farm, to better reflect its location close to Bloch Hill.
- 2.6.7 The online exhibition and drop-in sessions allowed for the more detailed design work, as informed by the completed technical surveys and community and stakeholder feedback, to be presented for further comment. This included:
- a revised infrastructure layout, including a reduction in the number of wind turbines (from 22 to 21) and reducing the tip height of 6 wind turbines to 200m and 5 wind turbines to 180m;
 - updated visualisations;
 - an updated tip height ZTV (showing theoretical visibility of the proposed development). In response to feedback from the first public exhibition, the area presented in the ZTV was reduced to 15km from 35km, to improve readability. The ZTV also included adjacent wind farms in operation, in planning or in scoping for context.
- 2.6.8 A comments form was also available for people to leave feedback on the updated design of the proposed development. Fifteen completed comments forms were received, see section 3 for analysis of question responses.
- 2.6.9 Copies of the exhibition material can be found at Appendix G.
- 2.6.10 A total of 12 individuals attended the Canonbie drop-in session, 19 individuals attended the Langholm drop-in session and 1 individual attended the Waterbeck drop in-session.

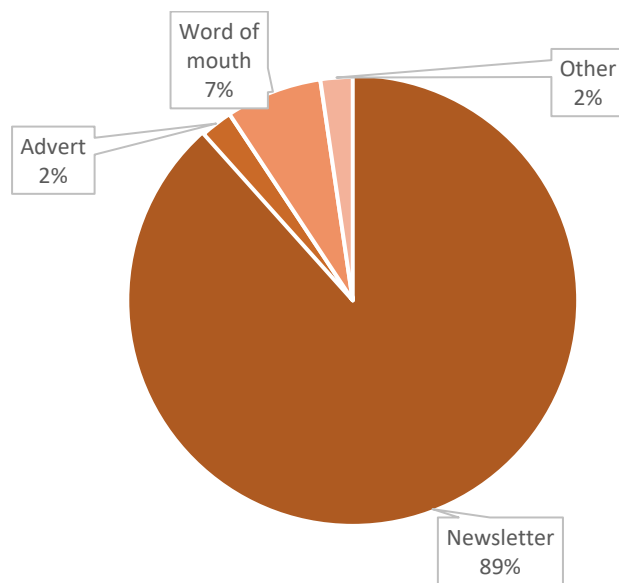
3 Consultation feedback

3.1 Comments forms and analysis of answers

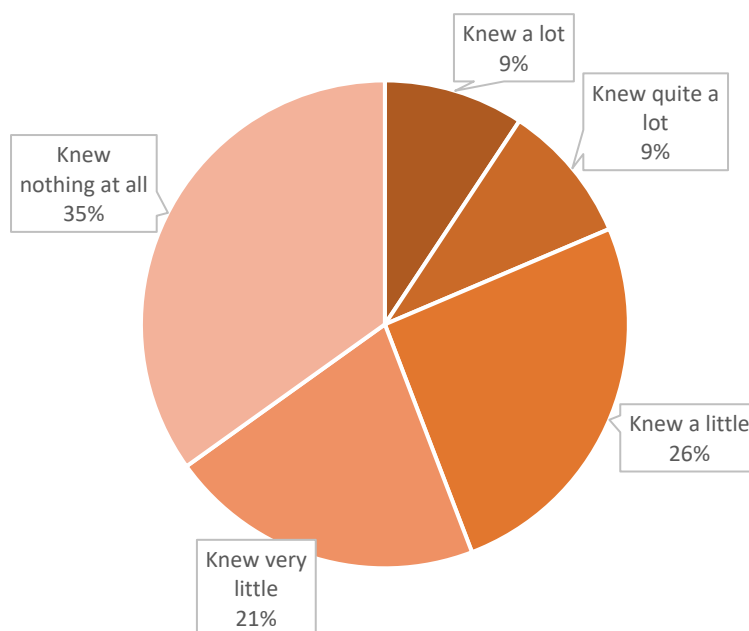
First exhibition results

3.1.1 A comment form was used at the first public exhibitions and this had a series of questions to which the responses have been analysed as follows:

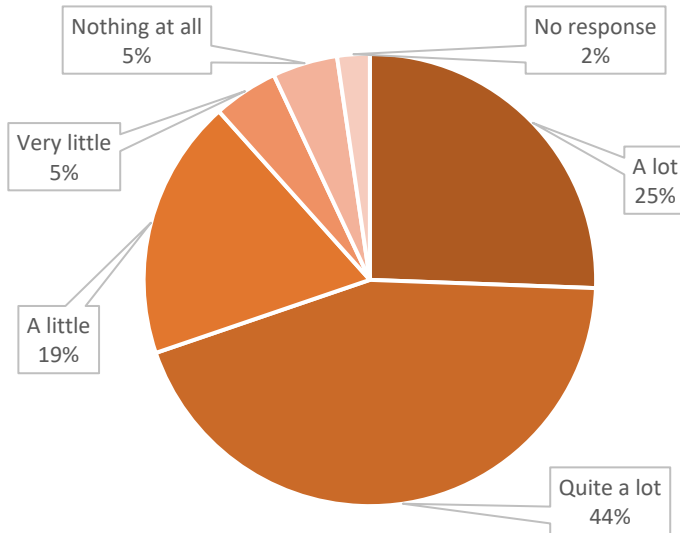
How did you find out about our public exhibition?



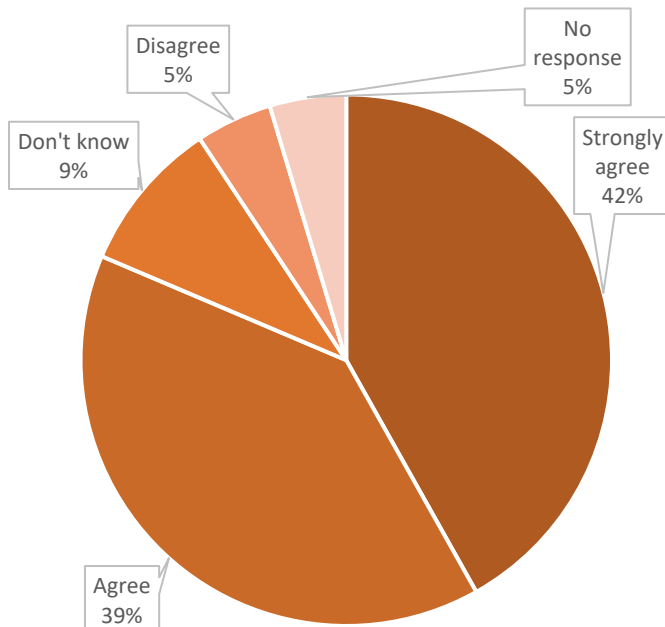
Before visiting the exhibition how would you describe your knowledge of the proposed Solwaybank Extension Wind Farm?



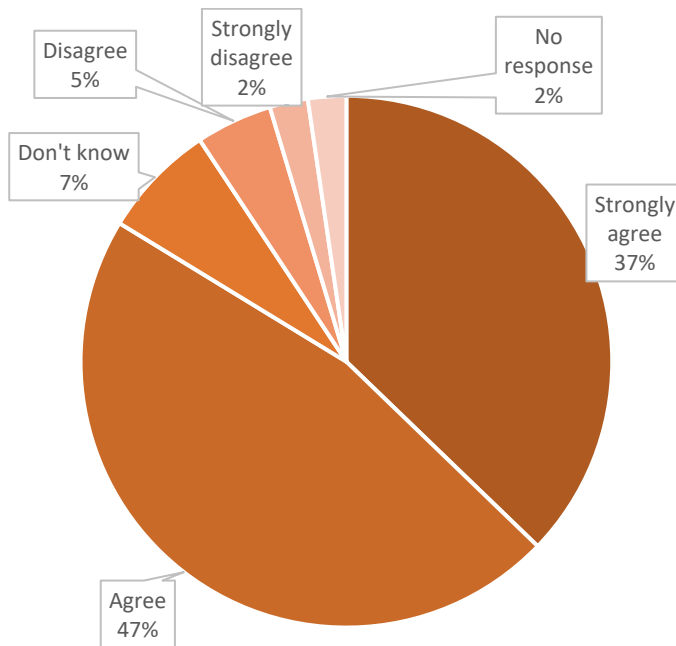
Having visited the exhibition, to what extent do you feel you have increased your understanding about the Solwaybank Extension Wind Farm?



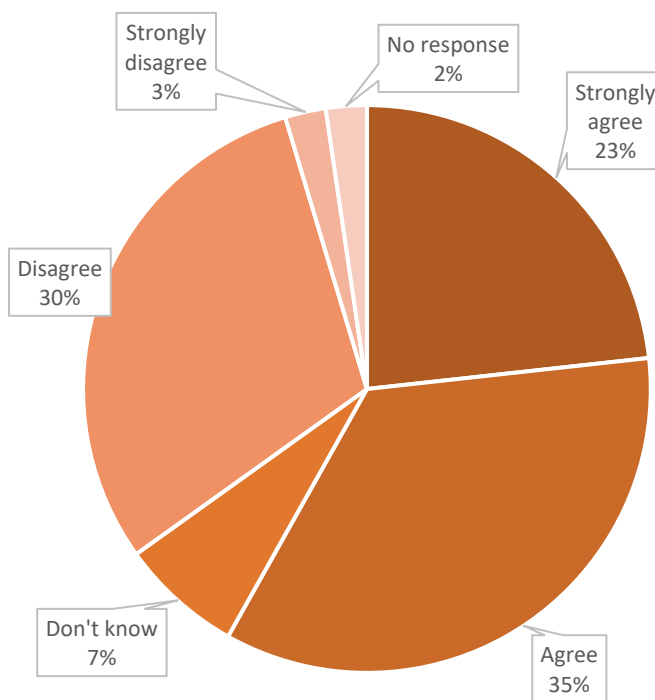
Do you agree that we are facing a global climate change emergency?



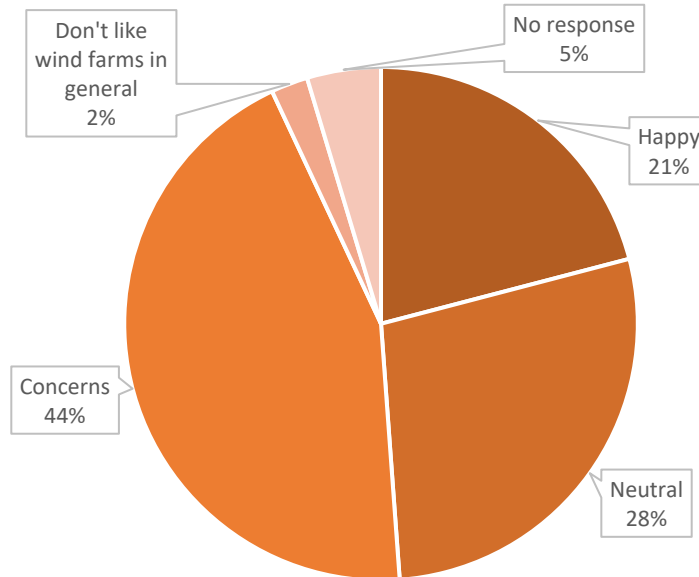
Do you agree that generating electricity from renewable sources and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, can help towards tackling the issue of climate change?



Do you agree that we need to develop onshore wind farms to help reduce our carbon emissions?



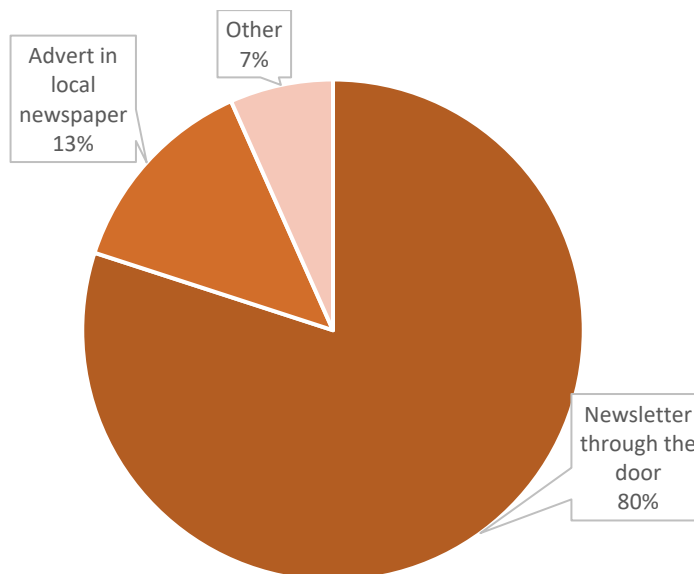
What do you think about the proposed design layout of Solwaybank Extension Wind Farm?



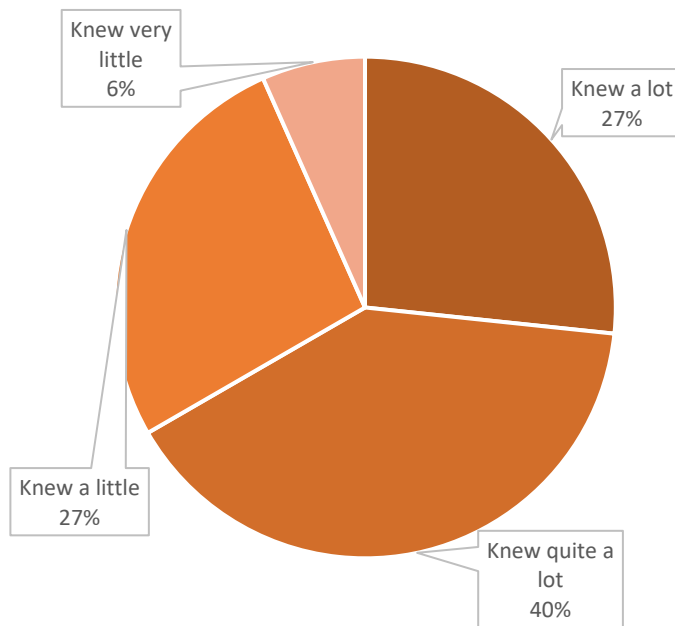
Second exhibition results

3.1.2 A comment form was used at the online exhibitions and drop-in sessions which had a series of questions to which the responses have been analysed as follows:

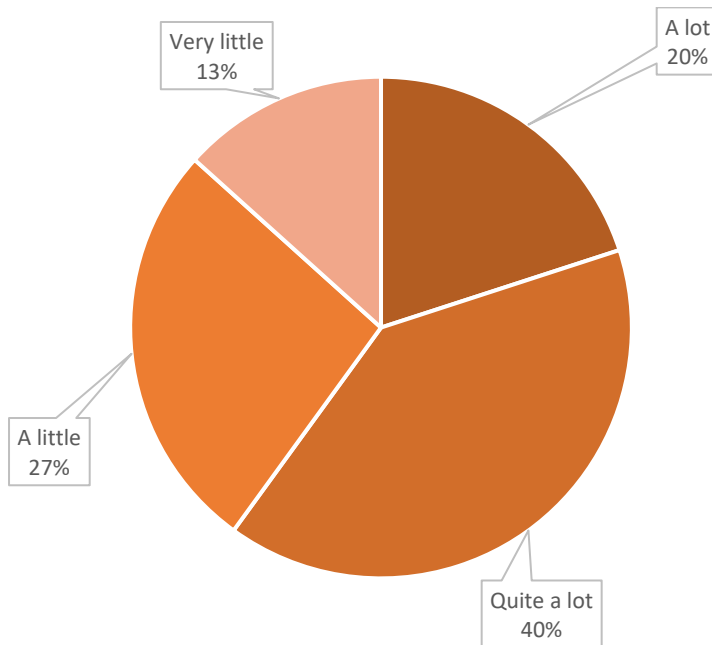
How did you find out about our drop-in sessions/online exhibition?



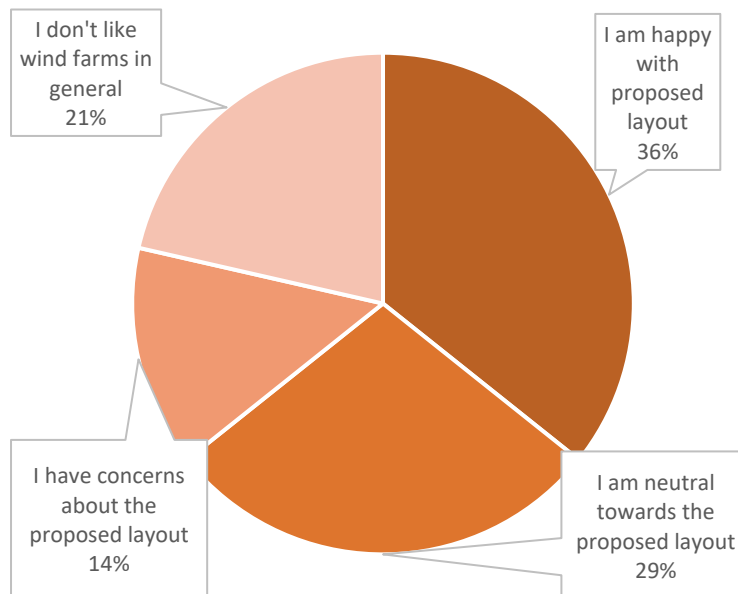
Before visiting the exhibition how would you describe your knowledge of the proposed Bloch Wind Farm?



Having visited the exhibition, to what extent do you feel you have increased your understanding about the updated design for the Bloch Wind Farm?



What do you think about the updated design layout of Bloch Wind Farm?



3.2 Summary of answers

First public exhibition

- 3.2.1 69% of visitors who completed a comment form at the first exhibition stated that they felt their understanding of the proposed development had increased a lot or quite a lot. 5% felt their understanding had not increased at all.
- 3.2.2 84% of visitors who completed a comment form at the first exhibition strongly agreed or agreed that generating electricity from renewable sources, and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, can help towards tackling the issue of climate change.
- 3.2.3 49% of visitors who completed a comment form at the first exhibition were happy or neutral towards the layout of the proposed development. 44% had concerns regarding the layout.

Second on-line exhibition/drop in sessions

- 3.2.4 65% of visitors who completed a comment form at the second consultation event were happy or neutral towards the updated layout of the proposed development. 14% had concerns regarding the layout.

4 Outcomes and responses

4.1 Summary of topics raised

4.1.1 All feedback received during the consultation has been considered by the applicant throughout the design iteration and pre-application stages of the proposed development. A summary of feedback, issues and concerns raised, together with the applicant's response to each can be found in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 Comments and Responses

Summary of comments received	The applicant's response
Cumulative Impact	
<p>"Enough is enough!! 130 200m high turbines due to be built on A7 north of Langholm."</p> <p>"We have enough already. You are desecrating Scotland"</p> <p>"Too many already in this area"</p> <p>"Serious concerns about the number of wind farms in the area"</p> <p>"There are already a load of turbines up on the hill, why not have some more"</p>	<p>The Scottish Government is committed to achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045 at the latest and have also set two interim targets to reduce emissions by 75% by 2030 and by 90% by 2040.</p> <p>The transition to net zero means that our demand for green electricity will increase substantially over the course of the next decade. This means that a consistently higher rate of onshore wind, and other renewables capacity, will be required year on year.</p> <p>We appreciate not everyone is in favour of wind farms, however, we are seeing strong support for onshore wind in Scotland, including reforming the planning system to enable more wind farms to be built, particularly in the face of the climate change and energy security challenges that we face today.</p> <p>Cumulative impact with other wind farms in the area has been assessed and the proposed development designed in a way that minimises adverse cumulative effects as a far as possible. Further information can be found in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, Volume 1 Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.</p>
Landscape and Visual Impact	
<p>"I would prefer less visible solutions. The occasional wind farm is acceptable but almost continuous wind farms are not attractive!"</p> <p>"Serious concerns about the size of proposed turbines"</p>	<p>Following the results of site surveys and assessments, and feedback from the community, the tip heights of 11 of the proposed 21 wind turbines have been reduced to minimise visibility.</p> <p>In response to feedback, the locations of the proposed wind turbines have also been moved to reduce visibility from the west, east and south.</p>

Summary of comments received	The applicant's response
<p>"Our view will be totally ruined from the back and side. We already have turbines in our view further away"</p> <p>"Less intrusive than other designs in the area"</p> <p>"I am definitely in favour of the proposed local wind farms as long as they are well up in the hills and well away from built-up areas"</p>	<p>A full Landscape and Visual Assessment has been undertaken to help assess the design and wind turbine layout. The final location of the wind turbines has taken account of the local topography and views of the site from the surrounding area. From the studies we have undertaken and the professional advice we have received, we believe that the wind turbine locations as proposed as proposed in this application and heights proposed are appropriate for a wind farm at this location.</p> <p>Further information can be found in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report, Volume 1 Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.</p>
<p>Noise</p>	
<p>"I have concerns with noise from the turbines given the scale, closer proximity (than the existing windfarm) and lack of a physical barrier"</p> <p>"The extra noise will be problematic on top of already noticeable turbine noise"</p>	<p>Wind farm noise in many circumstances may be inaudible or effectively 'masked' by the background noise already present in the surrounding environment. We take care to ensure noise levels from wind turbines are within recommended noise limits and comply with planning policy.</p> <p>A detailed assessment has been carried out to consider the potential effects of noise associated with the construction and operation of the proposed development. The noise assessment also takes into account potential cumulative noise effects from the other operational and consented wind farms.</p> <p>Further information can be found in the EIA Report, Volume 1 Chapter 11: Noise and Vibration.</p>
<p>Need for Renewables</p>	
<p>"The seasons and climate has changed over the whole time the earth has evolved"</p> <p>"What about other forms of energy which work more than 35-40% of the time and don't require heavy subsidy by tax payers"</p> <p>"Reduce reliance on fossil fuels"</p> <p>"But nuclear must not be ignored as reliable provider"</p> <p>"We need to increase our energy security in this country"</p>	<p>The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stated that many of the impacts of climate change are now simply irreversible. However, the report also says that there remains a small window of opportunity to act to avoid some of the worst impacts predicted.</p> <p>The rapid deployment of onshore wind and other renewables will be central to achieving the Scottish Government's net zero commitments. The consultative draft of the Scottish Government's Onshore Wind Policy Statement Refresh 2021 proposes the setting of a target of between 8 to 12GW of additional onshore wind generation by 2030. This additional target is in line with the Climate Change Committee's 6th Carbon Budget on achieving net zero a least cost.</p>

Summary of comments received	The applicant's response
	<p>Wind is a free and inexhaustible resource which has an important role to play as part of a balanced energy mix. Wind energy enables us to generate our own electricity reducing reliance on imports and is not subject to sudden price fluctuations or the uncertainty of global markets.</p> <p>New onshore wind, alongside offshore wind and large scale solar, is now the cheapest source of electricity generation² which means that onshore wind developments are not only beneficial for the environment but also for the consumer.</p> <p>Our analysis of comments received from our public exhibitions in June 2022, showed 84% of visitors strongly agreed or agreed that generating electricity from renewable sources and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, can help towards tackling the issue of climate change.</p> <p>Onshore wind is Scotland's biggest renewables employer and Renewable UK's recently published Onshore Wind Prospectus³ suggests that approximately 17,000 jobs and the equivalent of £27.8bn in gross value added (GVA) could be achieved in Scotland if we are able to deploy an additional 12GW by 2030.</p> <p>For the first two quarters of 2022, the average capacity factor of ALL onshore wind in Scotland was 31.4%⁴ and we estimate the capacity factor of the proposed development will be 33%. The capacity factor of a wind farm is a measure of the actual electricity generation as a percentage of the theoretical maximum electricity generation and should not be confused with the percentage of time that the wind turbine would be working.</p> <p>In September 2021, the UK Government announced that onshore wind was eligible to bid for the Contracts for Difference⁵ support mechanism, for the first time since 2015. The applicant's onshore wind developments since 2015, including the proposed development, are designed to be able to operate subsidy-free.</p>

²

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/911817/electricitygeneration-cost-report-2020.pdf

³ https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.renewableuk.com/resource/resmgr/media/onshore_wind_prospectus_fina.pdf

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/energy-trends-section-6-renewables>

⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/contracts-for-difference/contract-for-difference>

Summary of comments received	The applicant's response
Ecology and Ornithology	
<p>"What about soil disturbance loss of peat water"</p> <p>"There will be future implications of wholesale development and destruction of habitats, waste, drying of soil from disrupted air flow"</p> <p>"Concerned about the area losing woodland for the animals is a large issue. We have nowhere for the deer to go and they are moving outside the area. Where would you plant new trees and pastureland for the animals to return to the area?"</p> <p>"I also have concerns about the Solway migratory routes for wild fowl and other birdlife in the area"</p>	<p>The applicant has undertaken a number of detailed site environmental surveys including ecology, hydrology, hydrogeology, geology, and gathered extensive information on the site including two years of ornithological data (vantage points, flight lines, nesting and breeding bird surveys).</p> <p>A full EIA has been undertaken to determine the likelihood of any potential impacts on the environment and the results of this are described in the EIA Report which accompanies this application.</p>
Hydrology	
<p>"It is sited in the catchment area of one of the 3 rivers meeting in Langholm which is at severe flood risk at a time when funding for flood defences has evaporated"</p> <p>"Strong need for mitigation measures to deal with the risk of increased runoff from the replacement of soil with concrete, leading to flooding in Langholm"</p>	<p>The updated design for the proposed development included re-siting of wind turbines to avoid encroaching on watercourse buffers and areas of deep peat.</p> <p>A hydrology assessment has been carried out as part of the EIA and the results presented in the EIA Report Volume 1 Chapter 9: Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology. Subject to the adoption of best practice guidance and mitigation, no significant adverse effects on the water environment are predicted.</p>
Grid	
<p>"I have concerns with the route and design for the power lines servicing the wind farm, specifically the lack of information regarding them."</p> <p>"The national grid does not have capacity to transmit the power you intend to generate"</p>	<p>The applicant has made an application to Scottish Power Transmission, the Transmission Operator, for an offer of grid connection. The exact arrangement of this grid connection is subject to detailed design by Scottish Power Transmission however the proposed development would most likely be connected at Gretna Substation, a substation located approximately 11km south of the proposed development.</p>
Access	
<p>"I have concerns re access route"</p> <p>"I am concerned about the route that aggregate lorries will take repeatedly past my property, causing dust, noise"</p>	<p>The wind turbine components for the proposed development are likely to arrive at King George V Dock in Glasgow. Components will be delivered south along the M74, A6071, A7, Auchenrivock Road, U251A and then via an existing track to the C70A and on to the site.</p>

Summary of comments received	The applicant's response
<p>and making it impossible for me to walk up the road safely with the increased traffic on the B7068"</p> <p>"Very concerned with the route of all construction traffic. In particular if it passes my property on B7068"</p> <p>"Very quiet roads will receive a big increase in traffic - and speeding vehicles"</p> <p>"Am slightly concerned by the proposed road connection at Old Irvine and the effect on the tracks across the moor"</p>	<p>The applicant has undertaken a detailed swept path analysis of the wind turbine delivery route to ensure wind turbine components can be delivered safely to site.</p> <p>With any project of this nature there will be a temporary increase in traffic in order to facilitate the construction process; this increase will be minimised where possible during peak commuting periods, and any impacts kept to a minimum, through appropriate traffic management measures such as careful timing of deliveries.</p> <p>Wherever reasonably practicable we will use materials available on site and source construction materials locally, to minimise traffic movements.</p> <p>Further information can be found in the EIA, Volume 1 Chapter 10: Traffic and Transport.</p>
<p>Local Benefits</p>	
<p>"If any help could be offered or pressure put on local council to repair craters (not potholes) would be appreciated"</p> <p>"People in area should get heavily subsidised electricity not just community funds. Also, broadband improvements. Currently we do not get LEDS."</p> <p>"Road calming measures and speed restrictions put in place for construction traffic to ease the impact to local residents. And ensure all roads are maintained and kept clean"</p> <p>"Any financial benefits gratefully received (electric discount)"</p> <p>"There could be a fund for road improvements in the area (mainly filling in potholes, etc!)"</p> <p>"Improved broadband"</p> <p>"A reduction in our fuel costs for living so near to the wind farm"</p> <p>"Benefits will be many"</p>	<p>As we transition to a net-zero future, reducing the impacts of climate change both locally and globally, the applicant's priority is to deliver clean, green electricity at the lowest cost for consumers.</p> <p>The proposed development, if consented is expected to deliver approximately £5.8 million of inward investment into the local area in the form of jobs, employment, and use of local services. This will provide a vital economic boost, creating skilled, sustainable jobs and helping to drive a cleaner and more resilient economy.</p> <p>Furthermore, if consented, the applicant estimates the proposed development would deliver around £1 million every year in business rates supporting vital local services for local residents.</p> <p>The applicant proposes to create additional benefit from the scheme through a community benefit package. The applicant is working with the local community to gain feedback on their priorities and deliver projects that will help to secure long-term economic, social and environmental benefits.</p> <p>This approach will deliver a tailored package of benefits that are aligned with the local communities' priorities. The applicant is proposing that the package of additional benefits will be £5,000 per MW (or equivalent) of installed capacity per annum.</p> <p>It is important to note that voluntary community benefits are not a material planning consideration and</p>

Summary of comments received	The applicant's response
<p>"Broadband fibre would be a project much appreciated by local people who live in rural areas"</p> <p>"Roads! The roads in the area surrounding Solwaybank are in a poor state and council repairs fall well short of correcting this"</p>	<p>are unable to be used to support any activity that is the statutory obligation of Government, local authorities and agencies thereof.</p>
<p>Aviation Lighting</p>	
<p>"During the exhibition it was mentioned that due to the scale of the turbines aviation warning lights would be required, given the extremely rural area and absence of any other such lights is there any way in which this could be avoided? I understand that the lights will be designed to cast the majority of light upwards but this isn't exactly a cure for the problem"</p> <p>"I have concerns with light emissions from the aviation warning lights"</p>	<p>As the wind turbines are over 150m, aviation lighting will be required. There are various technologies being deployed for consented wind farms across Scotland that have wind turbines above 150m to reduce their impact.</p> <p>These include the ability to turn on the aviation lights only when aircraft are approaching the wind farm. In addition, the direction of the lights reduces residential impacts as it is directed towards aircraft and not towards the ground to properties.</p> <p>A reduced aviation lighting scheme has been agreed between the applicant and the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). The reduced lighting scheme means that not every permitter wind turbine will need to be lit with aviation lighting on the nacelle and that no lights will be required on the turbine towers subject to an infrared scheme being agreed with the Ministry of Defence.</p>

5 Summary

5.1 Key points

- 5.1.1 The applicant has fulfilled and exceeded the minimum statutory consultation activity, including documenting and reporting on the pre-application consultation and engagement activities undertaken.
- 5.1.2 The applicant engaged early with the local community, and over an extended period of time, to facilitate a constructive consultation process; this has helped the applicant to understand and address concerns, where possible, as the proposed development has been developed.
- 5.1.3 The applicant responded directly to any enquiries received throughout the pre-application phase and offered to meet with local residents or key stakeholders who had questions or concerns about the proposed development.

- 5.1.4 All consultation events were held in three locations to enable a wide cross section of the local community to engage and influence the layout and design of the proposed development.
- 5.1.5 Following completion of detailed design and survey work, and taking feedback from the community into account, a number of changes were made to the design of the proposed development. These changes included removing one turbine, reducing the tip height of eleven wind turbines to reduce visibility, and moving wind turbines to avoid areas of identified deep peat and watercourses.
- 5.1.6 Further engagement events were held via drop-in sessions and an online exhibition to present the updated design of the proposed development to the community and stakeholders. This gave a further opportunity for comment.
- 5.1.7 The feedback received following the second consultation event (drop-in sessions) demonstrated that 65% of visitors who completed a comment form were happy or neutral towards the updated layout of the proposed development.
- 5.1.8 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.
- 5.1.9 The applicant is committed to being a good neighbour and will build on this pre-application consultation. The applicant has an 'open door' policy which means that anyone can contact them about the proposed development at any stage and they 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 exhibitions, the proposed development newsletters and the proposed development website.
- 5.1.10 The proposed development website will be updated regularly to enable people to keep up to date with the latest news as it progresses.
- 5.1.11 Once the application for consents has been validated by the Energy Consents Unit, the applicant will write to political representatives, community organisations and local residents, to provide them with the case number and information on how they can submit a formal representation, should they wish to do so.

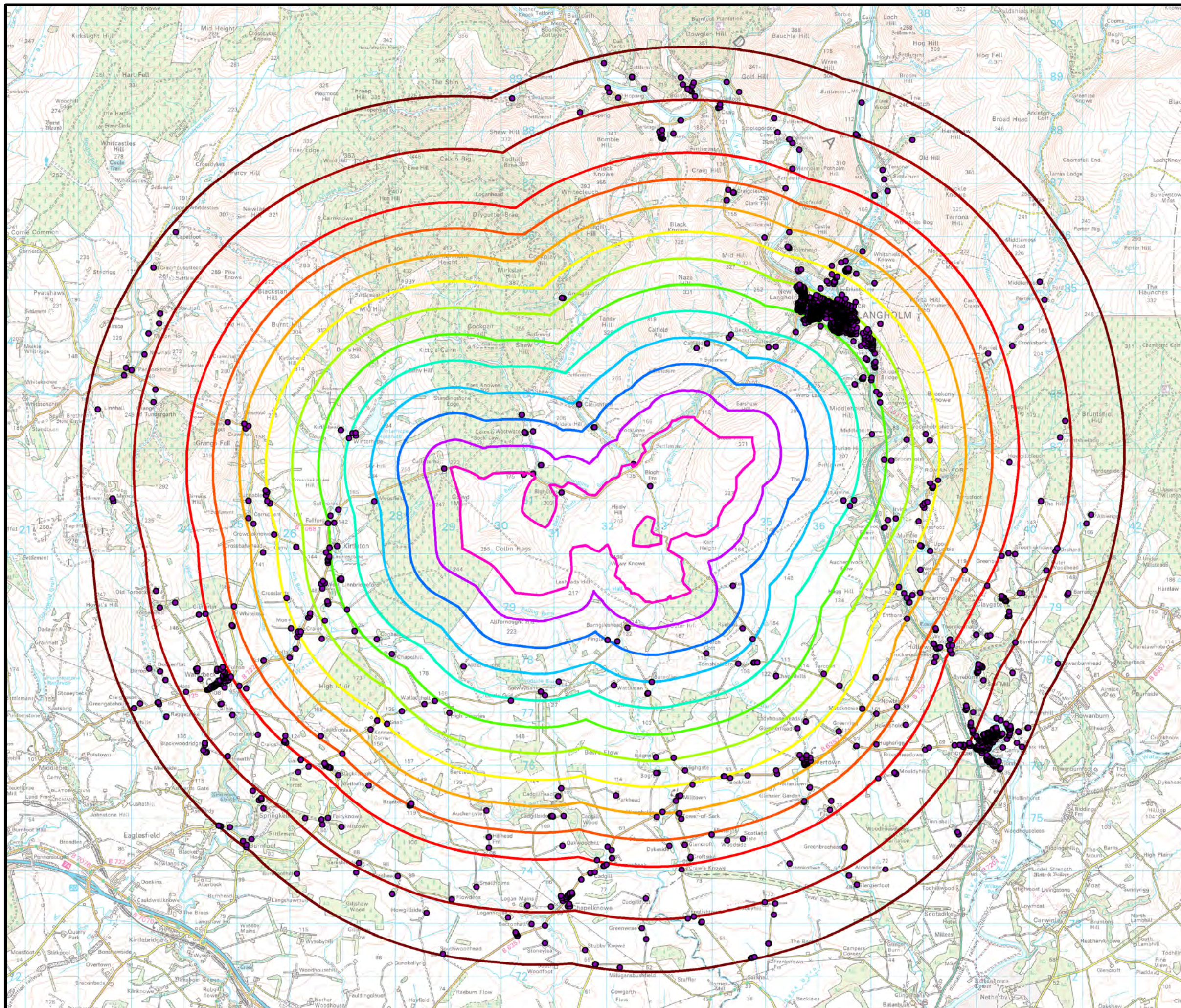
















BLOCH WIND FARM

FIGURE 1

PROPERTIES ADJACENT TO THE SITE

© CROWN COPYRIGHT, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
2022 LICENCE NUMBER 0100031673.



-  Site Boundary
-  Properties
-  Site Boundary 500m Buffer
-  Site Boundary 1000m Buffer
-  Site Boundary 1500m Buffer
-  Site Boundary 2000m Buffer
-  Site Boundary 2500m Buffer
-  Site Boundary 3000m Buffer
-  Site Boundary 3500m Buffer
-  Site Boundary 4000m Buffer
-  Site Boundary 4500m Buffer
-  Site Boundary 5000m Buffer
-  Site Boundary 6000m Buffer
-  Site Boundary 7000m Buffer



LAYOUT DWG: N/A LAYOUT NO: N/A

DRAWING NUMBER

SCALE - 1:70,000 @ A3

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT REPORT 2022

THIS DRAWING IS THE PROPERTY OF RENEWABLE ENERGY
SYSTEMS LTD. AND NO REPRODUCTION MAY BE MADE IN
WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION

Appendix A - Stakeholder scoping letter



Renewable Energy Systems Ltd
Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Kings Langley
Hertfordshire, WD4 8LR, England, UK
+44 (0)1923 299 200 | info@res-group.com



8 April 2022

Dear ,

RE: Solwaybank Extension Wind Farm Proposal, near Langholm, Dumfries and Galloway

I am writing to advise you that RES is exploring the potential for a wind farm on land adjacent to the existing Solwaybank Wind Farm, near Langholm in Dumfries and Galloway.

From its Glasgow office RES has been developing, constructing and operating wind farms in Scotland since 1993 and has developed and/or constructed twenty-one wind farms in Scotland with a total generation capacity of 597MW. This includes the 30MW Solwaybank Wind Farm which became operational in 2020.

The transition to net zero means that the need for clean, low cost electricity will increase substantially over the course of the next decade. The proposed wind farm, if consented, would make an important contribution to Scotland's target for 50% of all energy consumption to come from renewables by 2030. Onshore wind, alongside large-scale solar, is now the cheapest form of electricity generation making developments like Solwaybank Extension Wind Farm not just good for the environment but also the consumer.

At this early stage we have submitted a Scoping Report to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) and other key consultees, whilst our site-specific surveys continue to inform the layout for the wind farm. A copy of the Scoping Report is enclosed with this letter.

RES is committed to engaging early with the local community and key stakeholders to facilitate constructive consultation. We will begin a number of consultation activities in the coming months including newsletter distribution, a dedicated project website and public exhibitions.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss the project with you and listen to any feedback that you may have regarding our proposal. Please contact me if you would like to arrange a time for a discussion.

Yours sincerely,



James Cameron

Project Development Manager

E: james.cameron@res-group.com

T: 0141 4045 554

Appendix B - Public exhibition advert

Court Files . . .



■ A DUMFRIES man alleged to have intended theft will face trial.
 Stuart Harris, of Church Street, denied he was found in the curtilage of a property in Brooms Road, Dumfries on May 8 this year.
 The 46-year-old is alleged to have stolen a rabbit hutch from Brooms Road.
 He is also alleged to have tried the door handle of three cars at Welldale Place, Dumfries, later that day.
 After his not guilty plea, the accused was told to appear for trial on September 23.

Repeatedly punched man on head

GRETNA man Mark Moscrop has been ordered to pay his victim £750 after he admitted he repeatedly punched him on the head.
 The court heard how Moscrop, of Woodside Road, admitted to the assault which

left a man injured and permanently impaired at Woodside Road on December 19 2019.
 The 36-year-old was told he would have to pay the man £750 compensation, at £100 per month. He was also told he would be placed on a community payback order for 225 hours of unpaid work.

Assault charge denied

A TRIAL will be held after Springfield man Lewis Graham denied he assaulted a woman.
 Graham is alleged to have spat on a woman's face, grabbed her by the throat on multiple occasions, pushed her and then threw household items at her at Westgill Road, Springfield, on May 21.
 The accused, of Westgill Road, is also charged with behaving in a threatening and abusive manner where he is alleged to have shouted and removed her mobile telephone from her and refuse to return it.
 After the 19-year-old pleaded not guilty he was told he would face trial on August 8.

■ ANNAN man John Kerr will face trial after he denied he placed a woman under fear and alarm.
 The 34-year-old is alleged to have behaved in a threatening and abusive manner whereby he repeatedly shouted at the woman and then acted in an aggressive demeanour towards her at Newbridge Drive, Dumfries, on May 7 this year.
 Kerr, of Turnberry Crescent, pleaded not guilty and will appear for trial at Dumfries Sheriff Court on August 4.

■ AN ANNAN man alleged of sexually assaulting a child has made no plea.
 David Patterson, of Rose Street, is alleged to have repeatedly placed his hand on the child's breast and bottom on a number of occasions between August 1 and September 7 2020.
 The 50-year-old is also accused of directing a sexual verbal communication at the child and made reference to their genital area.
 The case was continued without plea until June 29.

Annan woman kicked police officer

REPORTS were called for after Annan woman Ellie Wright admitted she assaulted a police officer.
 The court heard how Wright, of Springbells Road, kicked a police constable, who was in the execution of his duty, on the head at a property in Station Road, Annan on January 20 this year.
 The 24-year-old also confessed she pulled her arms

■ AN ANNAN man who confessed to assaulting a woman has had his sentencing deferred for a second time.
 The court previously heard how Brogen Johnston repeatedly struck his victim on the head and struggled with her at Craignair Park, Annan, on February 4 this year.
 Johnston, of Drummond Road, also admitted he shouted, swore and made threats of violence during the incident.
 The 22-year-old was told his case would be deferred again this time until July 1 for the court to obtain a criminal justice social work report and a restriction of liberty order assessment.

Drink driving not guilty plea

A GRETNA man will face trial after he denied he was behind the wheel whilst over the drink drive limit.
 Neal Johnstone, of Border Crescent, is alleged to have taken and driven away a car without having either the consent of the owner or other lawful authority at Halcrow Crescent, Greta, on April 22 this year.
 The 31-year-old is also charged with having no car insurance for the vehicle.
 Johnstone also denies that he was driving whilst having 44 microgrammes of alcohol in 100ml of breath, when the legal limit is 22 microgrammes.
 The accused will face trial on September 15.

Man admits fraud charges

REPORTS were called for after Ringford man Adam Bronakowski admitted three accounts of fraud.
 The court heard how the 51-year-old pretended to the Bank of Scotland that he was a woman and applied for a personal loan of £4000 in her name on August 30, 2019.
 Bronakowski, of The Tack Room, also pretended to gambling sites - Bet Victor, Bravo Victor, Bet365, 888.com - that he was another man and repeatedly used his bank card to place bets totalling £1700 on January 1, 2020.
 Bronakowski then admitted how he transferred £220 from a woman's bank account into an account he had access to and used it on July 7, 2020.
 After his guilty plea, Bronakowski was told his sentencing would be deferred until July 6.

Fatal crash case continued

A MAN alleged to have caused the death of a Lockerbie biker has made no plea for the second time.
 Joseph McGregor is accused of causing the death of Steven Armstrong, from Lockerbie, on September 4 last year.

The 32-year-old is alleged to have been driving a car without due care and attention on the Annan to Jedburgh Road at the junction of the A875.
 McGregor is alleged to have driven the vehicle and failed to carry out a proper observation on the road and failed to observe an approaching motorcycle. It is claimed that McGregor's car then collided with the motorbike and caused Mr Armstrong a severe injury that he died from.
 After McGregor made no plea, sheriff Colm Dempsey this week adjourned the case until July 6.

■ GRETNA man Allan Nixon narrowly escaped a prison sentence after he confessed to assaulting two youths.
 The court heard how the 37-year-old repeatedly seized one minor by the body and repeatedly brandished a belt at them between October 5 2015 and October 31 2020.
 Nixon, of Croft Road, also admitted that he repeatedly pushed and pulled another child during the same time period.
 Nixon was told that he would be placed on a community payback order for 140 hours of unpaid work.
 The punishment was an alternative to imprisonment.

Solwaybank Extension Wind Farm Public Exhibitions



RES is exploring the potential for a wind farm on land adjacent to the existing Solwaybank Wind Farm, near Langholm in Dumfries and Galloway.

We are keen to engage with the local community and as part of our pre-application consultation we are holding public exhibitions in the local area to enable people to find out more about the proposal and provide us with their views. RES staff will be on hand to answer any questions or queries, and questionnaires will be available to gather feedback.

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
21 st June 2022 3pm to 8pm The Buccleuch Centre, Langholm	22 nd June 2022 2pm to 7pm Waterbeck Public Hall, Waterbeck	23 rd June 2022 2pm to 7pm Gilnockie Hall, Claygate

All information provided at the public exhibitions will also be available at www.solwaybankextension-windfarm.co.uk from 21st June 2022.

The public exhibitions initiate a consultation period being run by RES to gather comments on the proposal. The closing date for comments is 15th July 2022. Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development.

Comments on the proposal should be provided in writing by either filling out a comment form at one of the exhibitions or online, or by writing to RES, Third Floor STV, Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1PQ.

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

Special needs teachers 'shocked' to face axe

Four from Langholm Cluster will not have contracts renewed

It's being claimed four specialist teachers, who help local children with their assisted learning needs, are being laid off in the Langholm Schools Cluster.

The temporary staff – shocked and upset by the move – are on 12-month contracts and it's understood their year-long funding package from the Scottish government has come to an end.

The E&L has learned the additional support for learning (ASL) teachers received letters from the council notifying them that their contracts in the Langholm and Canonbie Cluster would not be renewed.

When asked to confirm the losses, the council told us: "No ASL teachers have been laid off in the Langholm Cluster or anywhere else in the region."

But local councillor Denis Male, who sits on the regions education and learning committee has spoken to one of the teachers, and the family of another who is affected.

"There are definitely four posts

going in Langholm" he said, "and there are some redeployments away from Langholm. Three of the children involved are going to other schools because of their needs. The same thing is happening at Eastriggs and elsewhere in the region."

The E&L has found two temporary ASL posts currently being advertised in the region, one in Langholm, the other in Sanquhar.

Cllr Male is greatly concerned by the failure of the local authority to provide continued funding for the specialist staff.

He said: "It's a terrible time to be out of a job with the cost of living crisis and travelling to find work outside Langholm with the cost of fuel as it is – it's a trap. Because these teachers are only on one-year contracts, no redundancies are offered."

"The education department needs to find a way to fund these posts for longer, so we don't have this problem year after year. The children get to know the staff and losing that



AXE: Special needs teachers' jobs in the Langholm and Canonbie Cluster are under threat

connection with them can actually be a regression for them.

"They go through school needing continued support and we need to talk to the Scottish government about finding a way to put more permanent funding in place."

Dumfriesshire MSP and shadow cabinet secretary for education Oliver Mundell is also con-

cerned: "Continuity can be vital in such situations," he said.

"I am seeking clarification from Dumfries and Galloway Council about what is proposed and what specific Scottish Government funding will not be available going forward and whether an alternative source can be found."

"Moving children can be even

more unsettling in rural areas where distances between schools are greater," he added.

Cllr Male has called for a meeting with the chair and vice chair of the education committee and with the director of education and hopes to convene with them next week in search of a solution.

IN BRIEF

Hospital headaches

Local Labour MSP Colin Smyth has called on the Scottish Government to tackle delayed hospital discharge as new figures show an increase in the number bed days lost across the south of Scotland.

Figures released by Public Health Scotland show the number of bed days occupied by delayed discharge have increased by 183 per cent in Dumfries and Galloway in a year, from 966 in April 2021 to 2,735 in April 2022.

NHS Borders showed a 70 per cent increase, from 1,067 in April 2021 to 1,819 in April 2022.

Delayed discharge is when a patient is medically cleared to go home but cannot leave hospital, often because a social care package is not in place.

SNP MSP, Emma Harper, said: "We need to see new solutions to addressing these problems and it is positive that the Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board are aiming to do this."

A spokesman for NHS Dumfries and Galloway said: "The data quoted here illustrates a system under very significant and growing pressures."

Cellist Will hits the right notes

By Penny Johnstone

A young Langholm cellist wowed an audience of hundreds at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow.

In his biggest competition to date, 14-year-old Will Archibald was among 22 of the best young Scottish musicians who gathered last month for the Scottish Young Solo Musician of the Year competition.

And although Will – who had the incredible opportunity to play a rare Gagliano cello – narrowly missed out on glory, the lad from Langholm Academy gained plenty in the experience.

"I was slightly disappointed not to win," he said, "but I was just so pleased to be there playing to such a big audience."

Will, who started playing when he was six, was loaned the Gagliano for the competition after he and his father were invited to London by Florian Leonhard Fine Violins and allowed to choose one of four precious instruments they tried out.

"The sound was so much bigger with the Gagliano, it had a much bigger range of colours, I felt quite sad giving it back," Will said.

And proud dad Cameron added:



STAR PERFORMER: Will playing the Gagliano cello in the final of the Scottish Young Solo Musician of the Year. Picture: Ian Georgeson

"Will actually played as well as he's ever played."

Will has already scooped this year's Beatrice Huntington Award, fighting off stiff competition from cellists all over Scotland and winning titles at the Perform in Dumfries Music Festival and the Carlisle Music Festival.

His teacher Alex McQuiston, from Annan, has been a great influence over the past three years and trained as a cellist at Chetham's School of Music, the RNCM and the Conservatorio

della Svizzera Italiana.

"I would say Will is the most talented youngster that I've ever taught, and he is playing way beyond his years, not only in a technical capacity but in terms of his music intelligence," said Mr McQuiston.

"It doesn't matter so much that he didn't win the final of the Scottish Young Musician of the Year – it's more about it being a great platform for him to share his ideas and his ability, he is preparing his music to such a high level."

Solwaybank Extension Wind Farm Public Exhibitions



RES is exploring the potential for a wind farm on land adjacent to the existing Solwaybank Wind Farm, near Langholm in Dumfries and Galloway.

We are keen to engage with the local community and as part of our pre-application consultation we are holding public exhibitions in the local area to enable people to find out more about the proposal and provide us with their views. RES staff will be on hand to answer any questions or queries, and questionnaires will be available to gather feedback.

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
21 st June 2022 3pm to 8pm The Buccleuch Centre, Langholm	22 nd June 2022 2pm to 7pm Waterbeck Public Hall, Waterbeck	23 rd June 2022 2pm to 7pm Gilnockie Hall, Claygate

All information provided at the public exhibitions will also be available at www.solwaybankextension-windfarm.co.uk from 21st June 2022.

The public exhibitions initiate a consultation period being run by RES to gather comments on the proposal. The closing date for comments is 15th July 2022. Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development.

Comments on the proposal should be provided in writing by either filling out a comment form at one of the exhibitions or online, or by writing to RES, Third Floor STV, Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1PQ.

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

Appendix C - Public exhibition newsletter

SOLWAYBANK EXTENSION WIND FARM

JUNE 2022



RES is exploring the potential for a wind farm on land adjacent to the existing Solwaybank Wind Farm, near Langholm in Dumfries and Galloway.

Environmental and technical surveys have been ongoing in recent months to ensure that the site is suitable for a wind farm development and to inform a preliminary layout and design.

RES is now at the stage of consulting with the local community to get feedback, on our early stage proposal, which will be taken into account, along with the results of site surveys and assessments, as we refine the design.

Public exhibitions

We are keen to engage with the local community and as part of our pre-application consultation we are holding public exhibitions in the local area to share more information about the proposal and to enable you to provide us with your feedback. RES staff will be on hand to answer any questions or queries, and questionnaires will be available to gather feedback.



TUESDAY

21st June 2022

3pm to 8pm

The Buccleuch
Centre, Langholm

WEDNESDAY

22nd June 2022

2pm to 7pm

Waterbeck Public Hall,
Waterbeck

THURSDAY

23rd June 2022

2pm to 7pm

Gilnockie Hall,
Claygate

All information provided at the public exhibitions will also be available at www.solwaybankextension-windfarm.co.uk from 21st June 2022.

The public exhibitions initiate a consultation period being run by RES to gather comments on the proposal. The closing date for comments is **15th July 2022**. Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development.

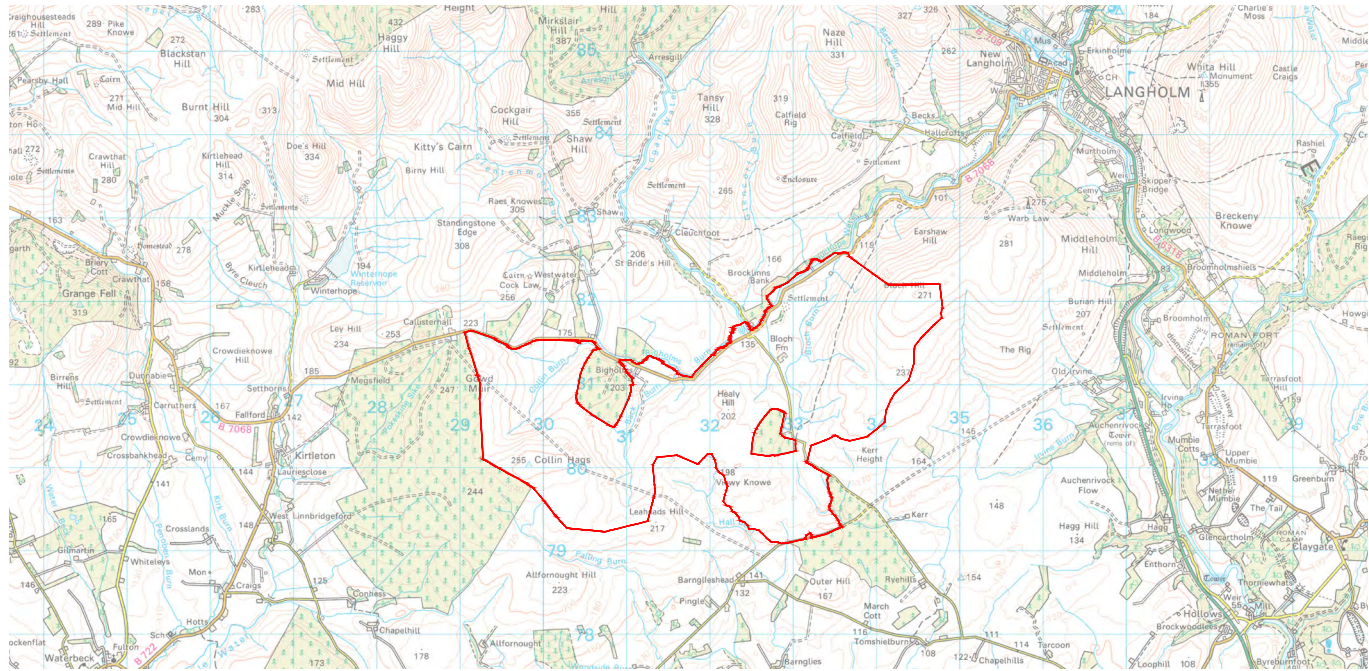
Comments on the proposal should be provided in writing by either filling out a comment form at one of the exhibitions or online, or by writing to RES, Third Floor STV, Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1PQ.

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

Solwaybank extension wind farm at a glance

The proposed Solwaybank Extension Wind Farm is located adjacent to the existing Solwaybank Wind Farm, near Langholm in Dumfries and Galloway.

Based on initial studies, the wind farm proposal is for 22 turbines. It is anticipated that the site would be capable of generating up to 132 megawatts (MW) of clean, green, renewable electricity.



RES in Scotland

RES is the world's largest independent renewable energy company with operations across Europe, the Americas and Asia-Pacific. At the forefront of renewable energy development for over 40 years, RES has developed and/or built more than 23GW of renewable energy capacity worldwide.

We have developed and/or built twenty-one wind farms in Scotland with a total generation capacity of 597MW. This includes the Solwaybank Wind Farm which is now asset-managed by RES and we have recently completed the construction of Blary Hill Wind Farm in Argyll and Bute.

We have a track record of using local companies to develop, construct and operate our renewable energy projects. For example, during the construction of Solwaybank Wind Farm £4.1 million was invested into the local economy through working closely with the local supply chain. Several local companies were involved in the build, including Grange Quarry, Pro-Tect and Oakbank.



James Cameron
Development project Manager
✉ james.cameron@res-group.com
☎ 0141 404 5554



Carey Green
Community Liaison Officer
✉ carey.green@res-group.com
☎ 01872 226 931

RES, Third Floor, STV, Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1PQ

If you require information in Braille, large text or audio, please let us know.

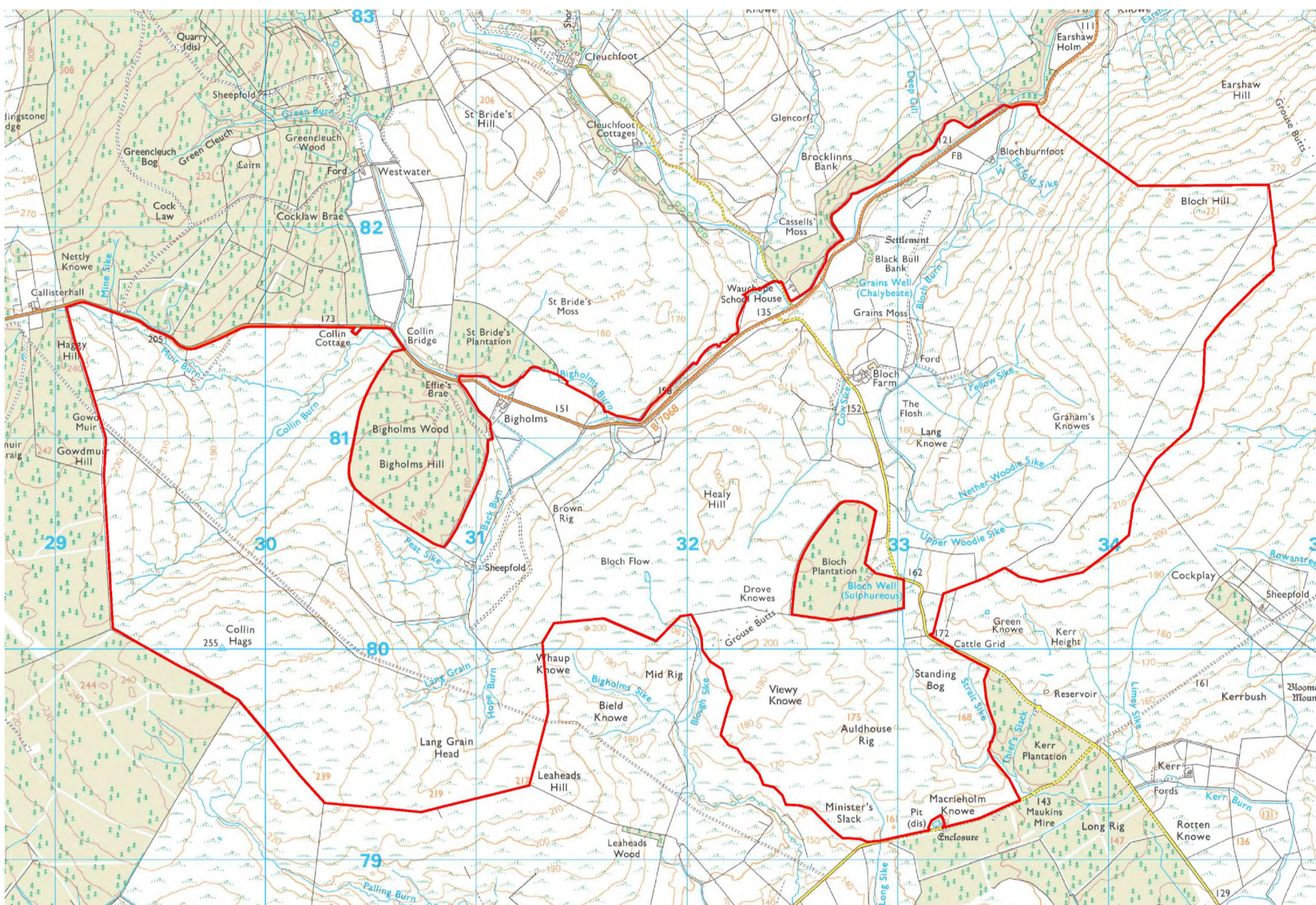
Appendix D - Public exhibition materials

About the Project

Site Location

RES is exploring the potential for a wind farm on land adjacent to the existing Solwaybank Wind Farm, near Langholm in Dumfries and Galloway.

The map below shows the site location.



Project Overview

The wind farm is likely to have an installed capacity of up to 132 megawatts (MW) and will be capable of providing renewable electricity for around 100,000 homes¹. The renewable electricity will also support the Scottish Government target of generating 50% of Scotland's overall energy consumption from renewable sources by 2030.

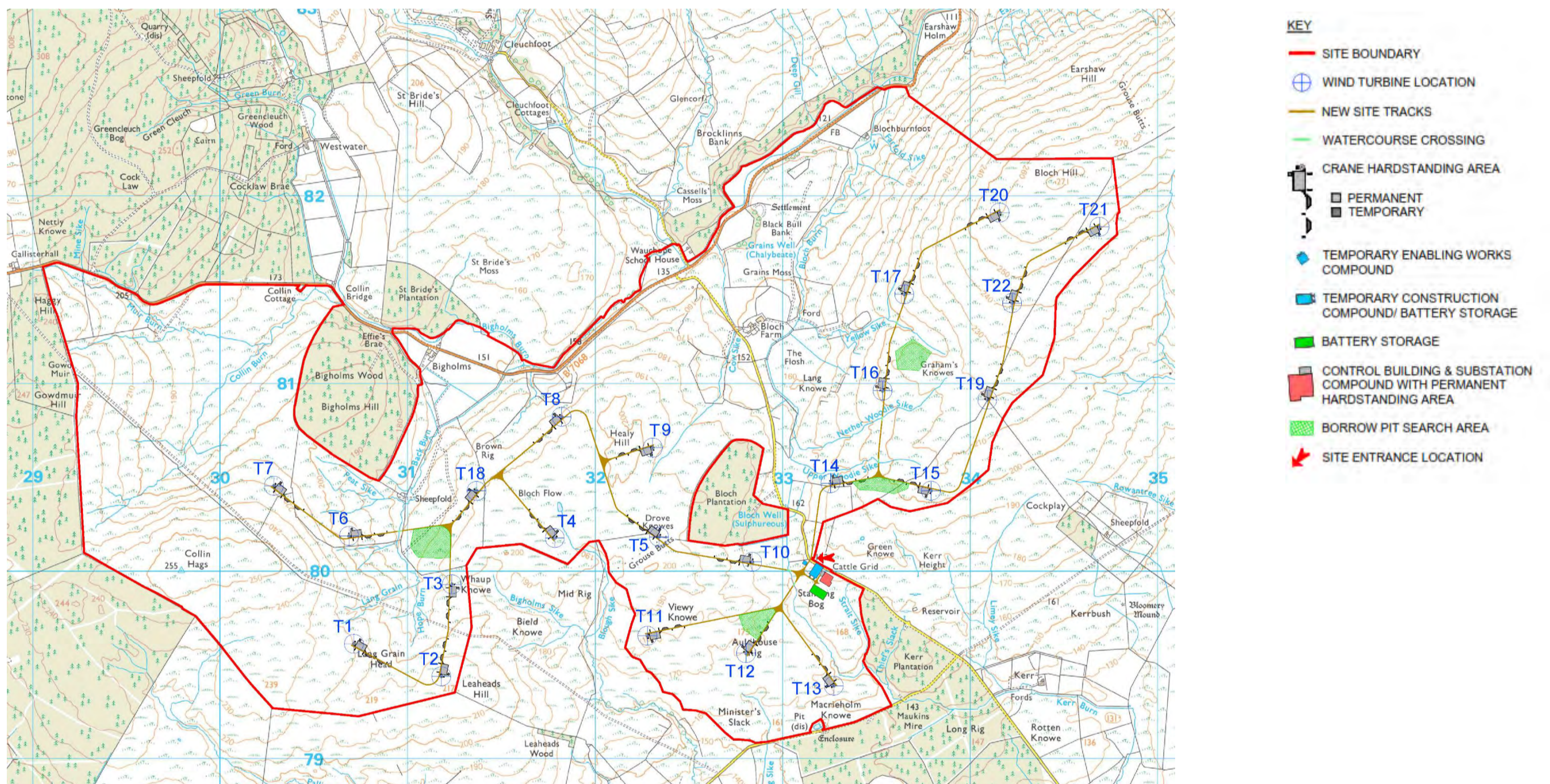
¹ The homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation of the site, based on a preliminary design (based on RES assessments Solwaybank Extension has a predicted capacity factor of 33%) and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) showing that the annual UK average domestic household consumption is 3,748 kWh (Dec 2021).

Design Layout and Infrastructure

Site Layout

Initial feasibility studies have been undertaken to assess the site's suitability and a 22-turbine layout, with a tip height of 230m, developed.

We are now progressing detailed technical and environmental surveys over the next few months, in order to help further develop and refine the design and engaging with the local community on the proposal.



Site infrastructure

In addition to the wind turbines and foundations, the site infrastructure is expected to include:

- hardstand areas for erection cranes at each turbine location
- a network of on-site tracks
- site entrances from the public road network
- a substation compound containing a control building and communications mast
- a battery energy storage system compound
- borrow pits (dependent on availability of stone on-site)
- temporary construction compounds

Environmental Considerations

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

As part of the planning process RES will undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The purpose of an EIA is to investigate any significant potential effects of a development on the environment and, where applicable, identify mitigation measures to eliminate or reduce potential effects.

In May 22, RES submitted a Scoping Report to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) and other key consultees (including Dumfries & Galloway Council, NatureScot, and SEPA), setting out the proposed scope of the EIA work. RES will continue to engage with key consultees as part of this process, to keep them informed and discuss findings where necessary.

Survey work

RES already has a good understanding of the site due to a wealth of data gathered over the years from previous survey work associated with the Solwaybank Wind Farm proposal. However, further environmental surveys and technical studies have been undertaken over the last few months including:

- Landscape and Visual
- Ecology
- Noise
- Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology
- Ornithology
- Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
- Traffic and transport

Over the next few months RES will assess the findings from this new data, as part of the EIA process, which will be used to help develop the design in relation to environmental considerations. The findings of the EIA will be presented in an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA-R) which will accompany any application submitted to the Scottish Government.



Solwaybank Wind Farm

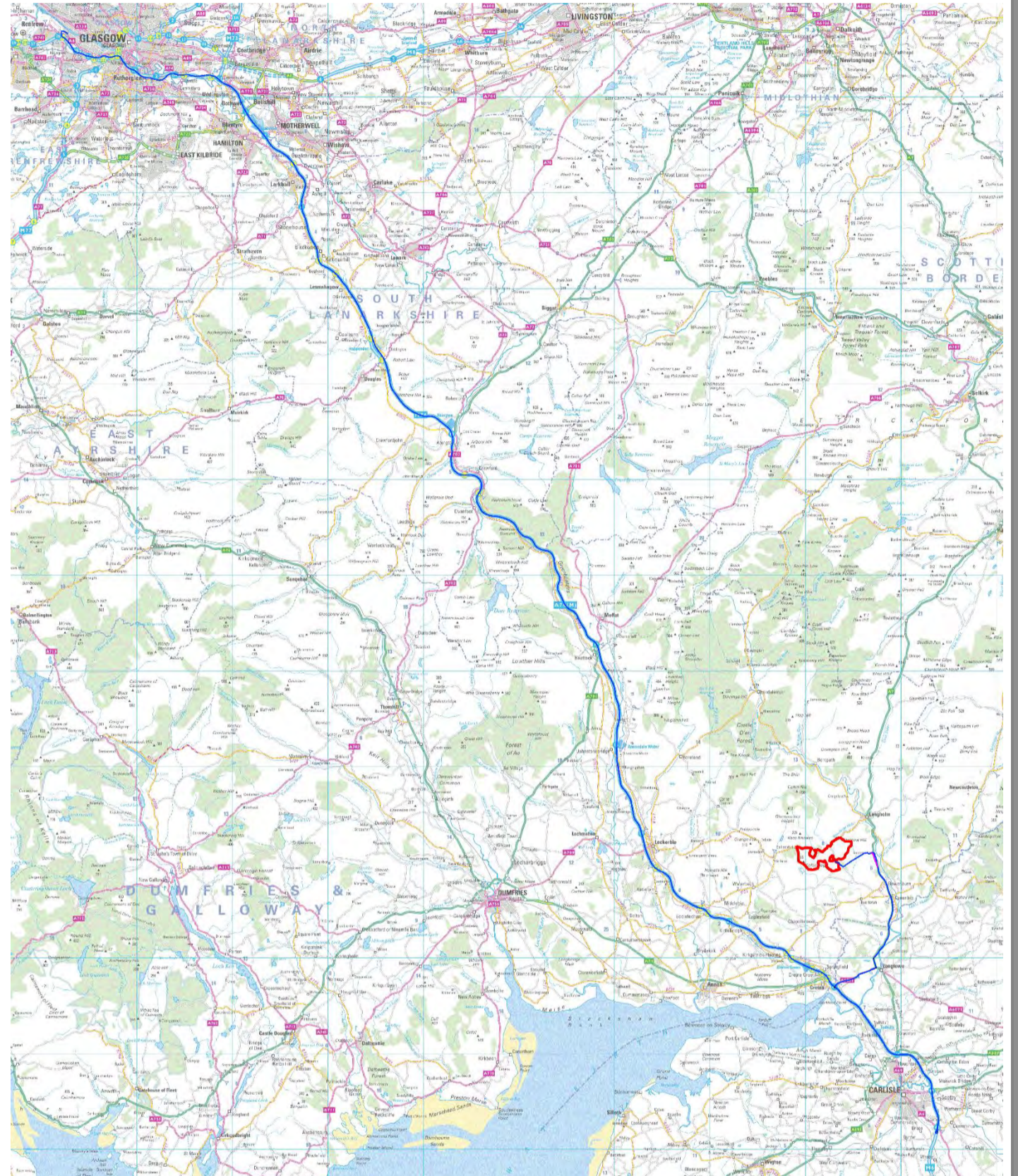
Transport and Access

Turbine Delivery Route

Access is one of the key considerations when selecting a potential wind farm site, particularly with regard to the turbine deliveries.

The turbine components for Solwaybank Extension Wind Farm are likely to arrive at King George V Dock in Glasgow. Components will be delivered south along the M74, A6071, A7 and then via an upgraded track to the C70A to the site.

Safety is the key consideration and RES will be undertaking a detailed swept path analysis of the turbine delivery route, as well as careful assessment of the main site access options. The preferred access point and turbine delivery route are shown on the map below.



Traffic Management Plan

Over the next few months, we will consult with the local authority (Transport Scotland and BEAR Scotland), the emergency services, the local community and other relevant bodies on our transport plans.

A transport assessment will be undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and, if the wind farm is given consent, a detailed Traffic Management Plan will be agreed with the roads authority and the police.

Wherever reasonably practicable we will use materials available on site and source construction materials locally in order to help reduce traffic movements.

Supply Chain Opportunities

Working with local businesses

RES has a strong track-record of working closely with the local supply chain and maximising inward investment opportunities wherever possible.

For example, during the construction of Solwaybank Wind Farm, £4.1 million was invested into the local economy through working closely with the local supply chain. Several local companies were involved in the build, including Grange Quarry, Pro-Tect and Oakbank.

Solwaybank Extension Wind Farm has the potential to deliver approximately £6 million in the form of jobs, employment, and the use of local services, and RES is keen to hear from local businesses who are interested in learning more about the opportunities associated with the construction and operation of this site.

Some of the skills, services and materials which are likely to be required are as follows:

- Civil engineering
- Steel fixing
- Cleaners
- Fencers
- Groundworks
- Plant operators
- Plant and crane hire
- Local accommodation
- Electrical works
- Labourers
- Concrete and aggregates



Solwaybank Construction Team

Your Views Count

We believe in meaningful and effective consultation

The aims of our consultation process are to:

- Engage early with the local community to facilitate a constructive consultation process to help identify and understand concerns.
- Assist the local community in understanding the benefits and impacts of the proposed wind farm.
- Add value and improve the quality of our proposal through meaningful and productive consultation.

Before we submit a planning application, we will create a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report, that documents the community engagement process and any steps we have taken to adapt our proposal

At this stage we are inviting the local community to submit comments directly to RES. Once an application is submitted there will be the opportunity to submit representations to the determining Planning Authority.

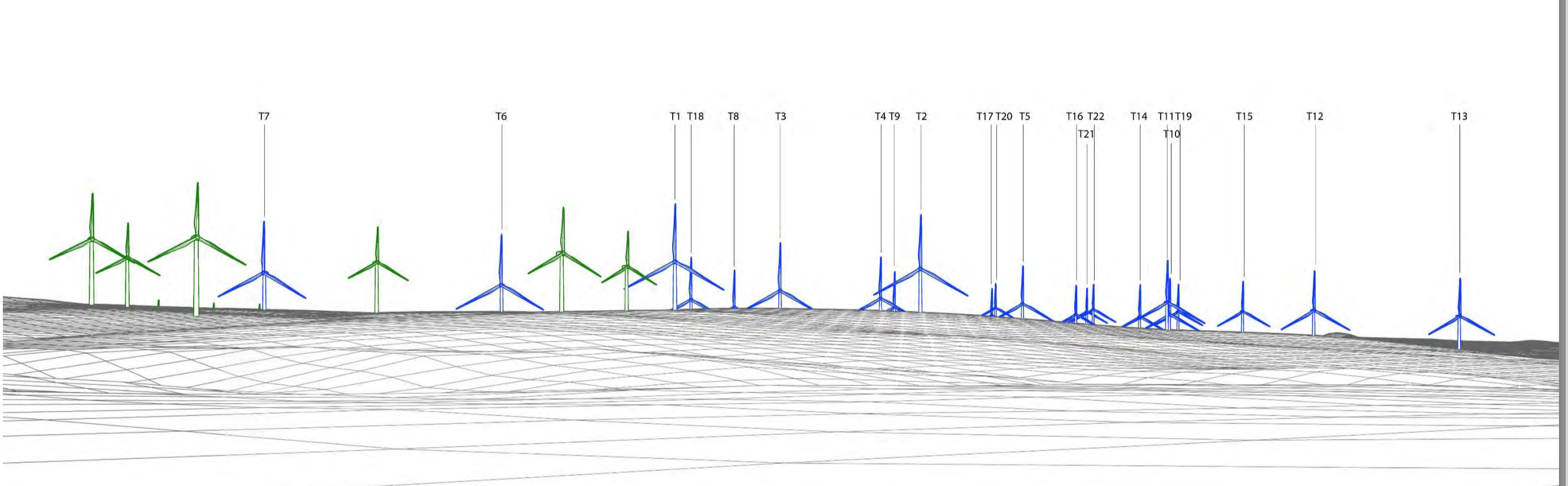
Listening to what the local and wider community have to say about our proposals is an integral part of the consultation process and we welcome your comments and suggestions. We are keen to understand your views on the proposal and the information available at this exhibition. Please take a few minutes to fill out a feedback form with your comments.



Existing View



Wireline



Photomontage of Proposal



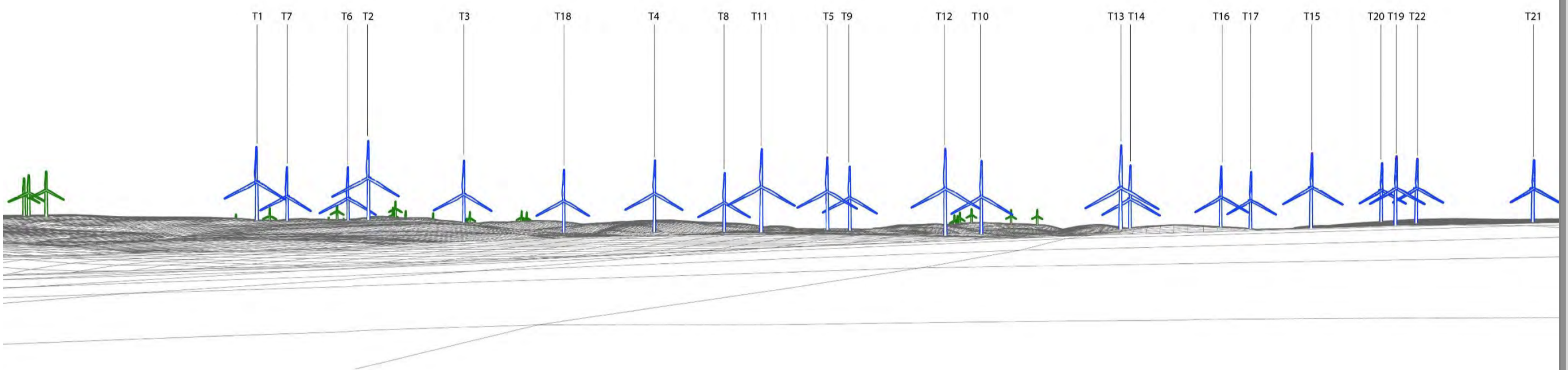
SOLWAYBANK EXTENSION
WIND FARM

VIEWPOINT 1
HIGH STENRIES

Existing View



Wireline



Photomontage of Proposal



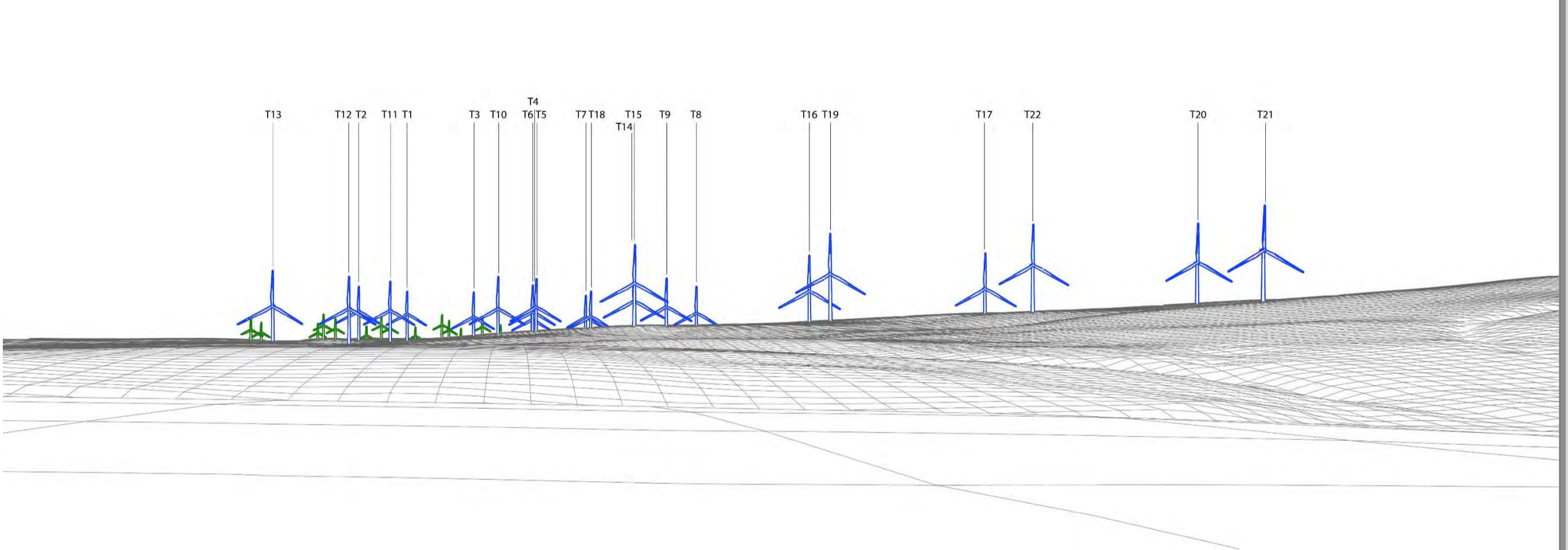
SOLWAYBANK EXTENSION
WIND FARM

VIEWPOINT 4
MILLTOWN

Existing View



Wireline



Photomontage of Proposal



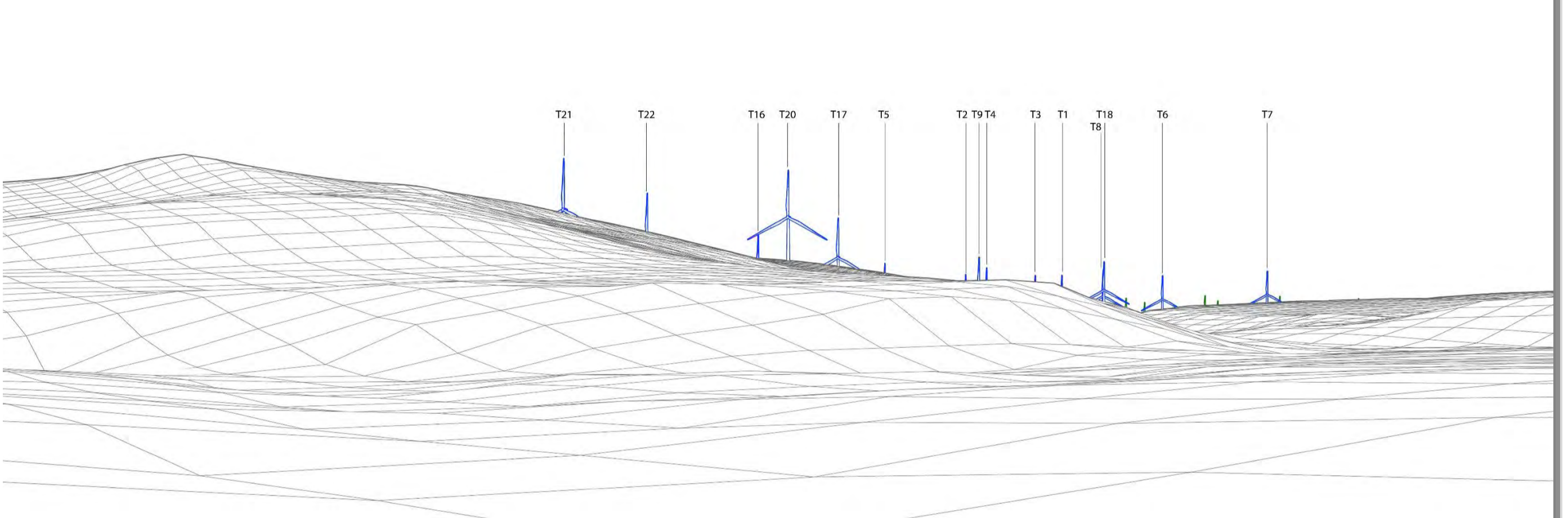
SOLWAYBANK EXTENSION
WIND FARM

VIEWPOINT 6
B6318 NORTHWEST OF
CLAYGATE

Existing View



Wireline



Photomontage of Proposal



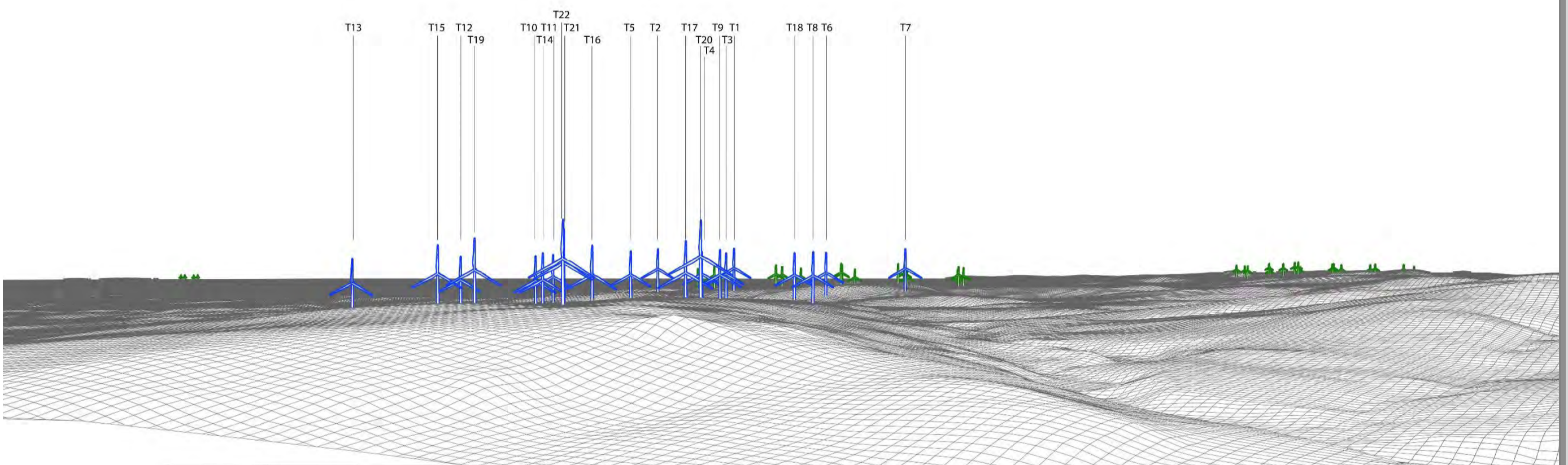
SOLWAYBANK EXTENSION
WIND FARM

VIEWPOINT 7
LANGHOLM BRIDGE

Existing View



Wireline



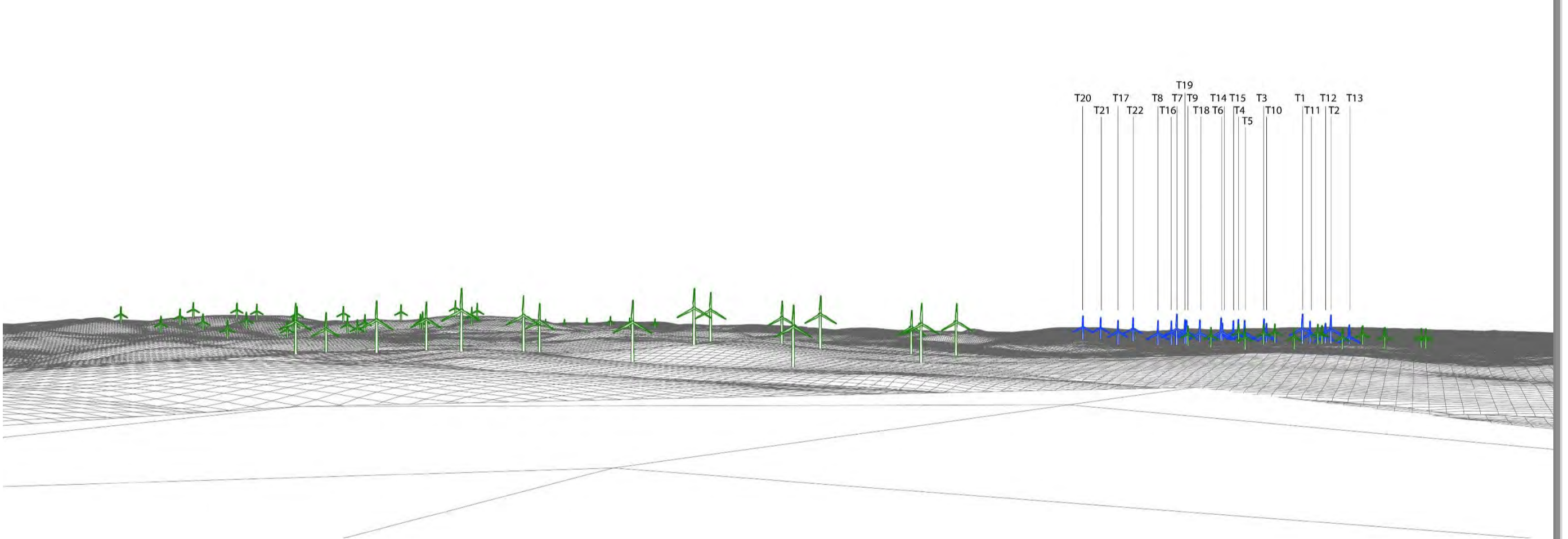
Photomontage of Proposal



Existing View



Wireline



Photomontage of Proposal

