

**RWE**

**Daer Wind Farm**  
**PAC Report**



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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. The Development

This Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report was prepared by Liberty One Communications (Liberty One) to explain, in detail, the consultation activity undertaken by RWE Renewables UK Developments Ltd, (the Applicant) in relation to the proposed Daer Wind Farm (the 'Development') which includes up to 17 turbines and is located adjacent to the southeast of the Daer Reservoir in both Dumfries & Galloway and South Lanarkshire Council areas.

Comments and feedback received from the Public Exhibition as well as those received through a wider community engagement programme have been collated and reported within this PAC Report, which accompanies the formal application under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU). The PAC Report also illustrates how the Applicant has responded to comments from members of the public and community groups, and where relevant, has helped shape and inform the design of the Proposed Development.

During the consultation process, the Applicant's business operation was involved in a merger to a different company. This move was in name only and the business activities, including that associated with the Proposed Development continued as normal. This move and change in business name was well communicated to stakeholders and interested parties to ensure there was no confusion.

## 1.2. Section 36 Context (Consultation)

Albeit not a statutory requirement for Section 36 applications, the Applicant has applied the principles of the consultation process recommended for 'major' planning applications as set out in The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 and circular 3:2013- Development Management Procedures. This enables the local community and all those with an interest in the proposals a clear opportunity to view the proposals, and importantly provide comment and feedback.

## 1.3. Best Practice

The Applicant is aware of the value of engaging with and seeking to involve local people in development proposals, both prior to and following the submission of any application and through to the construction and operation should the Applicant's proposals obtain planning permission.

Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010 Community Engagement is an update of PAN 81 which advises that in order for the community engagement to be successful, it is important that everyone interested in the future development of the community, village, town or city they live in, should understand the planning process. Developers are advised to involve residents at the earliest opportunity so that they can feel confident that engagement in the process has been meaningful:

PAN 3/2010 highlights that the term "consultation" is used to mean the:

*"Dynamic process of dialogue between individuals or groups based on a genuine exchange of views and, normally, with the objective of influencing decisions, policies or programmes of action. The terms 'engagement' and 'involvement' are generally interchangeable and are taken to mean the establishment of effective relationships with individuals or groups. Participation is everything that enables people to influence the decisions and get involved in the actions that affect their lives. In the context of this document engagement is, in effect, giving people a genuine opportunity to have a say on a development plan or proposal which affects them; listening to what they say and reaching a decision in an open and transparent way to ensure they are taking account of all views expressed (page 3, paragraph 1)."*

Paragraph 6 of Scottish Planning Policy (2020) also highlights the important role of effective engagement, stating:

*"Effective engagement with the public can lead to better plans, better decisions and more satisfactory outcomes and can help to avoid delays in the planning process."*

The Applicant is committed to undertaking effective and early consultation methods in this way including tailoring its strategies to suit individual communities. Residents' values and issues of importance vary and the consultation programmes are designed to reflect that.

## 2. Overview of Consultation Activity

The Applicant began consultation for the Proposed Development in February 2018. A letter (appendix C) was distributed that introduced the Applicant informing that a planning application for a Met Mast had been submitted to South Lanarkshire Council as they explored the opportunity of developing a wind farm on the site. This letter was sent to all residential and business addresses within a four-mile radius of the site (see Appendix D), along with the community councils and community groups of Kirkpatrick & Juxta, Crawford & Elvanfoot, Moffat & District, Duneaton, Leadhills, Tweedsmuir, Closeburn, Thornhill, Sanquhar, Wanlockhead, Wamphray, Etrick and Yarrow, Upper Tweed, Johnstone and Kirkmichael.

Following this communication, initial meetings were held with local community representatives, the local MSP and local residents to explain the proposals. Initial feedback was provided by the community representatives, including advice on suitable locations to host consultation events and the best timings of those events.

Correspondence through letter/email has continued throughout this period, with an update letter (appendix C) sent to the local community and stakeholders informing of any significant milestones relating to the Proposed Development.

Due to the outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in 2020 and in accordance with Scottish Government Guidance, Public Consultation on the Proposed Development was hosted online to replace physical exhibitions. The project website went live on 02 September 2020, and feedback was sought until 23 September 2020 – this period was extended following a request from the local community. The Applicant also held a question and answer session via interactive text from the project website. This took place on 15 September 2020 and provided an opportunity for residents and other stakeholders to directly engage with members of the project team.

Dialogue has been maintained with Community Councils and other Community Groups up to the point of submission and will continue through determination of the application. Chapter 2.3 provides a full schedule of the consultation meetings and events where there was a representative from the Applicant in attendance to date (at the time of writing).

All comments and feedback received from the consultation period, as well as those received through the additional community engagement programme have been collated and analysed as part of this PAC Report (Chapter 4), which also illustrates how feedback has, where possible, help shape and inform the Proposed Development.

### 2.1. Programme of Activity

Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3 / 2010 Community Engagement	Consultation Activity	Date
Consult Community Council and local residents	<p><b>Letters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter to elected members/community councils/local residents</li> <li>Letter to elected members/community councils/local residents</li> </ul>	<p>February 2018</p> <p>July 2018</p>

<b>Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3 / 2010 Community Engagement</b>	<b>Consultation Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letter to elected members/community councils/local residents</li> <li>• Letter to elected members/community councils/local residents</li> <li>• Letter to elected members/community councils/local residents</li> <li>• Letter to elected members/community councils/local resident</li> <li>• Letter to elected members/community councils/local residents</li> <li>• Letter to elected members/community councils/local residents</li> </ul> <p><b>Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with Chair of Kirkpatrick &amp; Juxta Community Council</li> <li>• Meeting with local resident (Daerbank)</li> <li>• Meeting with Aileen Campbell MSP</li> <li>• Meeting with Southern Upland Partnership</li> <li>• Meeting with Tweedsmuir Community Council (via Zoom)</li> <li>• Meeting with Kirkpatrick &amp; Juxta Community Council (via Zoom)</li> </ul>	<p>December 2018</p> <p>May 2019</p> <p>August 2019</p> <p>February 2020</p> <p>July 2020</p> <p>September 2020</p> <p>11 June 2018</p> <p>20 August 2018</p> <p>21 August 2018</p> <p>17 March 2020</p> <p>29 September 2020</p> <p>13 October 2020</p>
<p>Hold Public Event (local event to be advertised and that advert to indicate that representations can be made to the prospective applicant) advertised in the local press</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online Public Consultation held via <a href="http://www.rwe.com/daer">www.rwe.com/daer</a></li> <li>• Online Public Consultation advertised in Carluke Gazette</li> </ul>	<p>15 September 2020</p> <p>02 September 2020</p>

## 2.2. Online Consultation

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the Applicant was unable to deliver exhibitions in the traditional manner. Instead, the Applicant followed Scottish Government guidance closely on delivering an online consultation.

The hub for this online consultation was a dedicated Virtual Consultation Room (see figure 1) accessed through the bespoke project website ([www.rwe.com/daer](http://www.rwe.com/daer)).

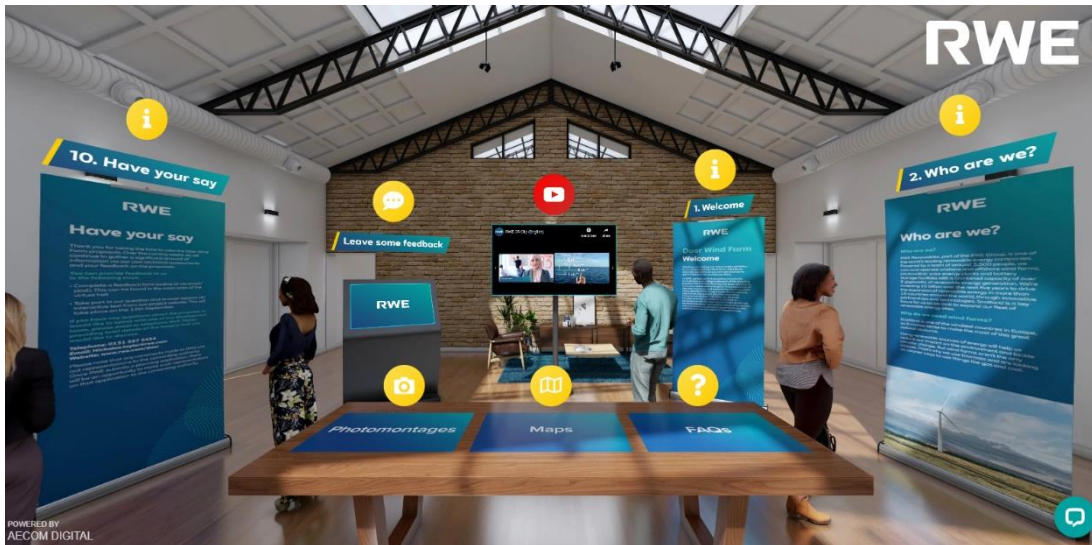


Figure 1

The project website went live on 02 September 2020 in conjunction with an advertisement (appendix A) being placed in the Carlisle Gazette which outlined the proposals, how information could be viewed, and alerting members of the public to the online interactive Live Chat session taking place on Tuesday 15 September 2020 between 3pm and 7pm.

The overall aim of the online consultation was to provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to view and review the proposals, to explain how the design had evolved and gain valuable feedback on the Proposed Development.

On display with the Virtual Consultation Room were exhibition boards providing an overview of the site design at the point in time the online consultation was held. Copies of the exhibition boards were hosted in the Virtual Consultation Room continuously throughout the lifetime of the website.

In addition to the exhibition boards, visualisations from key viewpoints were available, along with an FAQ document.

During the consultation period, there were 226 unique visitors to the website and consultation room. The materials that were on display can be found in Appendix B.

The online consultation also provided an opportunity for members of the public to provide feedback to help shape and inform both the consultation programme and proposals going forward. A feedback form facility was made available, with the option for interested parties to send feedback either online through the website or a dedicated postal address.

In addition to the Virtual Consultation room, and in accordance with Scottish Government guidance relating to public consultation and Covid-19, the Applicant hosted a question and answer session via an interactive Live Chat forum from the project website. This took place on 15 September 2020 (3pm-7pm) and allowed those with enquiries about the Proposed Development to ask members of the development team who were on hand throughout to respond in real time were any questions raised.

During the four-hour session, no questions were raised.

## 2.3. Meetings and Presentations

Throughout the pre-application consultation period, the Applicant sought to meet and engage with the local community and stakeholders. These meetings initially took place in person, before going online in light of the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. These meetings are diarised below.

### Meeting

Kirkpatrick & Juxta Community Council (11 June 2018) **Beattock, Dumfries & Galloway**

Local resident, Daerbank (20 August 2018) **Daerbank, South Lanarkshire**

Aileen Campbell MSP (21 August 2018) **Carluke, South Lanarkshire**

Southern Upland Partnership (17 March 2020) **via telephone**

Tweedsmuir Community Council (29 September 2020) **via Zoom video call**

Kirkpatrick Community Council, Wamphray Community Council, local residents (13 October 2020)  
**via Zoom video call**

## 3. Feedback

### Feedback received

Feedback from Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council representative, 22 September 2020 (appendix E)

Letter received from Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council, 23 September 2020 (appendix E)

Letter received from Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council, 23 October 2020 (appendix E)

## 4. Key Issues Arising from the Consultation

The following section sets out the key issues raised during the pre-application consultation period and those raised in the various meetings and discussions the Applicant had with stakeholders. Where appropriate, a response has been made to address these issues or indeed, highlight where changes have been made to the consent application as a direct result of the feedback received.

Although the Proposed Development is a Section 36 application and therefore outwith the requirement for statutory public consultation, the Applicant has sought to follow this process and ensure that extensive public engagement has taken place. The submission of the application will be advertised in the Carluke and Lanark Gazette (12/05/2021, 19/05/2021), the Annandale Observer (14/05/2021, 19/05/2021), Annandale Herald (13/05/2021, 20/05/2021), The Herald (14/05/2021) and the Edinburgh Gazette (14/05/2021).

The Section 36 consent application, along with supporting materials will also be made available for viewing on the Energy Consent Unit website and [www.rwe.com/daer](http://www.rwe.com/daer). Public will be able to view the application via these means and submit formal comment directly to the Energy Consents Unit.

### Comment

Issues affecting local economy

### Applicant Response (if applicable)

As summarised within the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (Chapter 14: Socioeconomics) that accompanies the planning application, the Proposed Development has the potential to create job opportunities throughout the construction and operational phases and contribute to

Comment	Applicant Response (if applicable)
Impact of proposed wind farms on local property prices	meeting the goals of both South Lanarkshire and Dumfries and Galloway's Regional Economic Strategies.  Studies <sup>1</sup> indicate that once constructed and operational, wind farms do not adversely impact the local property market and, therefore, the impact on property prices has not been considered further.
Previous wind farm developments have not brought sustainable work opportunities for the local community	As summarised within the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (Chapter 14: Socioeconomics) that accompanies the planning application, the Proposed Development has the potential to create job opportunities throughout the construction and operational phases and contribute to meeting the goals of both South Lanarkshire and Dumfries and Galloway's Regional Economic Strategies.  If the Proposed Development is consented, one of the first steps the Applicant will undertake is to arrange a 'Meet the Buyer' event. This will be an organised and advertised event that will invite local businesses and Trades people to come and speak to the Applicant so the Applicant can understand the services offered and advise on its procurement process. The Applicant will then form a register of interest and this will be transferred to the key Contractor to enable them to utilise local services. The Applicant will also use it within its project team for ascertaining things like availability of local accommodation such as B&Bs.
Previous Community Benefit funds have not benefited the local population	Whilst not a factor in the determination of the planning application, the Applicant would, were the planning application to be approved, seek to work closely with the local communities regarding a community benefit fund that would be created for the project.
Conducting the public consultation during the COVID-19 pandemic gave an unfair advantage and the method was unsuitable	It was always the Applicant's intention to host a series of public consultation events within the local community in advance of the submission of the consent application. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Applicant closely followed the guidance set out by the Scottish Government regarding public engagement. The project website was created containing all the relevant information regarding the Proposed Development. As well as this, a number of virtual meetings were hosted with the strategic uplands partnership and with local community councils, with the Applicant keen to engage as much as possible throughout this challenging period.
Photo montages produced as part of the LVIA study not a representation of the proposed wind farm's impact on local residents and visitors to the reservoir	Following feedback from the local community, further wireframes and photo montages were produced and distributed.

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<sup>1</sup> Dr Stephan Hebllich, Dan Olnier, Prof Gwilym Pryce, Prof Chris Timmins (2016) 'Impact of wind turbines on house prices in Scotland.'  
[https://www.climatexchange.org.uk/media/1359/cxc\\_wind\\_farms\\_impact\\_on\\_house\\_prices\\_final\\_17\\_oct\\_2016.pdf](https://www.climatexchange.org.uk/media/1359/cxc_wind_farms_impact_on_house_prices_final_17_oct_2016.pdf)



Comment	Applicant Response (if applicable)
Amount of wind farm development in the area surrounding the Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council area	The site of the Proposed Development was chosen following an extensive period of study. Other existing and proposed wind farm proposals within the surrounding area have and will be taken into account as part of the assessments associated with the Proposed Development.

## 5. Summary

From the outset, the Applicant sought to engage and consult fully with the local community and stakeholders regarding the Proposed Development.

Although this level of public consultation is not a statutory requirement for a Section 36 planning application, as demonstrated within this report, the Applicant closely followed best practice regarding Community Engagement and public consultation.

Whilst the Applicant was disappointed that there was no participation as part of the live interactive chat session, the Applicant is hopeful that the engagement undertaken as part of the wider consultation process served to answer and address the issues and questions that were raised, without the requirement for this event.

The Applicant was pleased to meet and present to local residents and will seek to continue to do so following the submission of the Section 36 consent application.

## 6. Appendices

### Appendix A – Public Exhibition Advert

# Classified

## PUBLIC NOTICES

## PUBLIC NOTICES

# RWE

## Daer Wind Farm Virtual Public Exhibition is open to view

RWE Renewables is exploring the potential to develop a wind farm of up to 17 turbines and other ancillary development on land south of Daer Reservoir, in South Lanarkshire and Dumfries & Galloway. We invite you to take part in our forthcoming online public exhibition where you can view and comment on the proposals.

Due to ongoing Covid 19 restrictions, we are unable to carry out face to face public consultation events. The Virtual Consultation Room contains detailed information relating to the proposals and importantly, both an electronic and printable comment form so that feedback can be provided to the project team on the proposals.

The Virtual Consultation Room can be accessed via our project webpage [www.rwe.com/daer](http://www.rwe.com/daer)

If you are unable to access the website to view the information please contact [Nicholas.taylor@rwe.com](mailto:Nicholas.taylor@rwe.com) who will be happy to arrange a suitable alternative.

The Virtual Consultation Room is now open to view and will remain open for 3 weeks. An opportunity for a live chat session will be held where members of the project team will be available for a question and answer session via interactive text. This will take place on 15th September (3pm to 7pm) via the project website.

Please note that any comments made to RWE are not representations to the consenting authority. If an application is submitted, there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the consenting authority. Please note all comments should be received no later than Wednesday 23 September 2020.

[www.rwe.com/daer](http://www.rwe.com/daer)

### South Lanarkshire Council A72 Lanark Road, Crossford Temporary Road Closure Order 2020

South Lanarkshire Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended by the Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991, and of all other enabling powers, has made the following Order:-

This Order may be cited as "South Lanarkshire Council, A72 Lanark Road, Crossford, Temporary Road Closure Order 2020" and shall come into operation on Thursday 10 September 2020 at 1900 hours and will remain in operation each night between 1900 hours and 0700 hours for up to 10 days. The restrictions will be applied on site by the display of traffic signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016.

### Public & Legal Notice COVID-19 UPDATE FROM JPI MEDIA:

If you require a Public & Legal notice, our team is still on hand to assist you with this. Our business hours and deadlines will remain the same. For any enquiries in the first place please email [publicnotices@jpimedia.co.uk](mailto:publicnotices@jpimedia.co.uk) with your requirements,

- ◆ Including your full name,
- ◆ Full business address including post code,
- ◆ A contact telephone number
- ◆ Full wording for the notice you require
- ◆ Newspaper title and date required

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 Notice of application to be published in a local newspaper under regulation 20(1)

Due to COVID-19, applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them can only be inspected online at [www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk). Due to the closure of Council offices, they cannot currently be inspected at the usual Q and A locations.

If you wish to comment on any application, we would encourage you to make them by emailing [planning@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:planning@southlanarkshire.gov.uk) or to submit them electronically using the comment button on Planning Portal facility at [www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk). Only if you cannot submit comments electronically, should you make written comments to the Head of Planning and Economic Development, 1st Floor Montrose House, 154 Montrose Crescent, Hamilton, ML3 6LB.

P/20/0782 Non-notification of neighbours  
Representations within 14 days

Eastend Park Farm, Mouse Valley Drive  
Cleghorn, Lanark  
Erection of commercial storage building and alterations and extension to existing building to form additional commercial storage space for existing plant hire business

P/20/1029 Non-notification of neighbours  
Representations within 14 days

Craigie Brae, Lesmahagow, Lanark  
Erection of two dwellings labelled plots 1 and 4 and erection of single garage on plot 4 (Amendment to CL/06/0045)

P/20/1094 Non-notification of neighbours  
Representations within 14 days

Tinto Hill, A73 from Symington A72 to  
Hyndford Bridge, Thankerton, Bliggear  
Extension to car park to increase capacity from 54 spaces to 110, erection of fencing, installation of 4 cycle stands, removal of landscape bunds and provision of new landscaping

Please note that any comments which you make to an application cannot generally be treated as confidential. All emails or letters of objection or support for an application, including your name and address require to be open to public inspection and will be published on the Council's website. Sensitive personal information such as signatures, email address and phone numbers will usually be removed.

Cleland Sneddon  
Chief Executive

[www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk)



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0131 370 0846**

### South Lanarkshire Council A73 Thankerton Moor Temporary Speed Restriction Order 2020

South Lanarkshire Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by Section 88 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended by the Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991, and of all other enabling powers, has made the following Order:-

This Order may be cited as "South Lanarkshire Council, A73 Thankerton Moor (Temporary Speed Restriction) Order 2020" and shall come into operation at 0800 hours on Monday 27/07/2020 and will remain in operation until Thursday 31/12/2020. The restrictions will be applied on site by the display of traffic signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016.

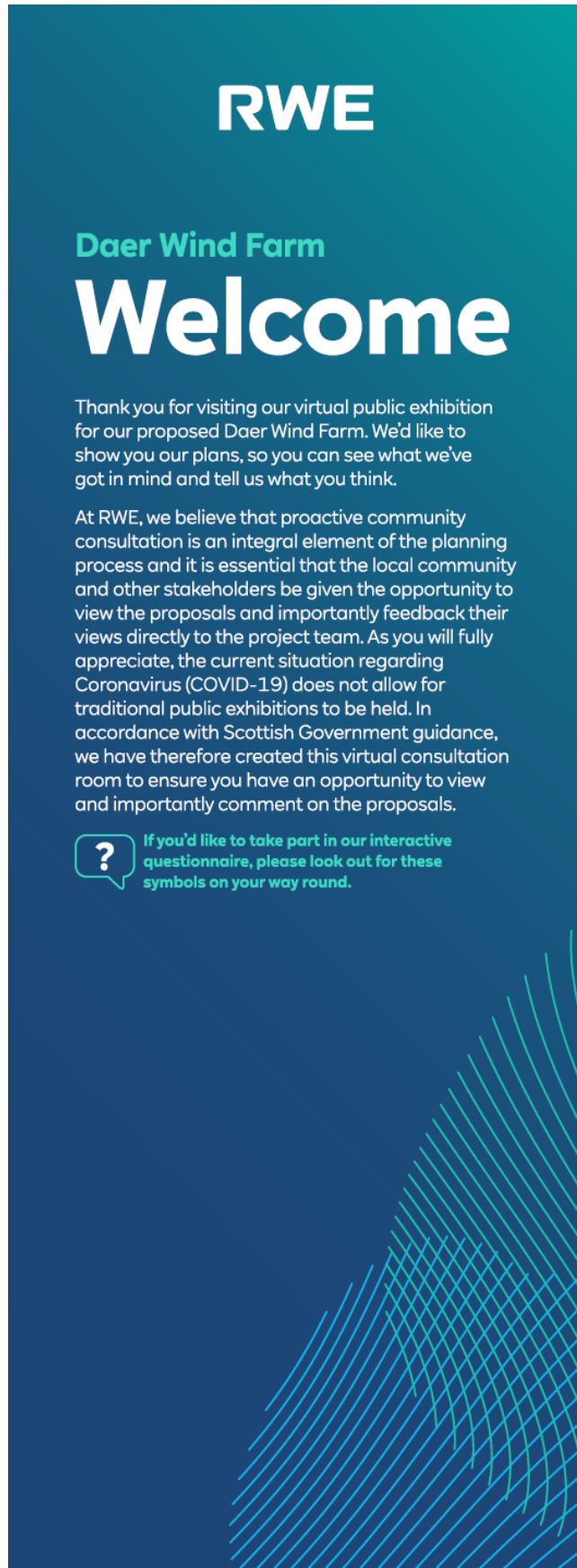
Whilst this Order remains in force no person shall drive or cause or permit to be driven any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 30mph on the sections of roads specified in Schedule 1 by reason of road safety.

Schedule 1 - Temporary Speed Restriction  
- 30mph through Thankerton Moor and on

## Appendix B – Public Exhibition Materials

### Exhibition Banners

#### 1. Welcome

The banner features a teal-to-blue gradient background. At the top, the RWE logo is displayed in white. Below it, the text 'Daer Wind Farm' is in a light teal color, followed by the word 'Welcome' in a large, bold, white font. A paragraph of white text follows, explaining the virtual public exhibition. Another paragraph of white text describes the company's commitment to community consultation. A callout box with a white question mark icon contains text about an interactive questionnaire. The bottom right corner features a decorative pattern of light blue lines.

**RWE**

Daer Wind Farm

# Welcome

Thank you for visiting our virtual public exhibition for our proposed Daer Wind Farm. We'd like to show you our plans, so you can see what we've got in mind and tell us what you think.

At RWE, we believe that proactive community consultation is an integral element of the planning process and it is essential that the local community and other stakeholders be given the opportunity to view the proposals and importantly feedback their views directly to the project team. As you will fully appreciate, the current situation regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19) does not allow for traditional public exhibitions to be held. In accordance with Scottish Government guidance, we have therefore created this virtual consultation room to ensure you have an opportunity to view and importantly comment on the proposals.

**?** If you'd like to take part in our interactive questionnaire, please look out for these symbols on your way round.

# RWE

## Who are we?

### Who are we?

RWE Renewables, part of the RWE Group, is one of the world's leading renewable energy companies. Powered by a team of around 3,500 people, we own and operate onshore and offshore wind farms, photovoltaic solar energy plants and battery storage facilities with a combined capacity of over 9 gigawatts of renewable energy generation. We're investing £5 billion over the next five years to drive the expansion of renewable energy in more than 15 countries around the world, through innovative partnerships and technologies. Scotland is a key focus for us as we look to expand our fleet of renewable energy sites.

### Why do we need wind farms?

Scotland is one of the windiest countries in Europe, so it makes sense to make the most of this great natural resource.

Using renewable sources of energy will help us reduce our impact on the environment and tackle climate change. But wind farms aren't the only answer. That's why we use biomass and are looking at cleaner ways to use things like gas and coal.

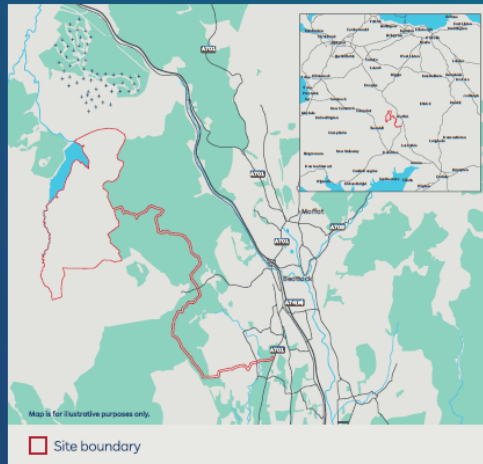


For illustrative purposes only.

# RWE

## Why Daer?

We chose the Daer Wind Farm site after our early studies showed the area's excellent wind resources and connections to the national electricity network make it a good place for a wind farm. We've put a lot of thought and care into developing our plans over the last few years, and now they're at a stage where we'd like to show you how our ideas will interact with local people, landscapes, birds, animals and plant life.



**RWE**

## Our studies

We've worked closely with relevant national and local organisations including Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) to make sure our environmental studies include everything they need to.

We asked independent environmental experts to carry out a range of studies to see what impact the wind farm could potentially have on the environment. These studies have shown there are several things we need to think about when it comes to working out where the turbines should go, including the terrain, landscape and birds.

We'll include the results of all our studies in the official Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), as part of our application for consent, which will be available to view at various places within the local community.

Back in August 2018, we installed two meteorological (met) masts on the site, which we've been using to collect information about the wind and weather. These valuable insights have helped us find the best place to put the turbines, so they'll produce as much renewable energy as possible.

We've also installed noise monitoring equipment to see if noise from the wind farm could potentially affect people living close to the site. From this, we've been able to design the wind farm to stay within noise limits set by the local planning authority.



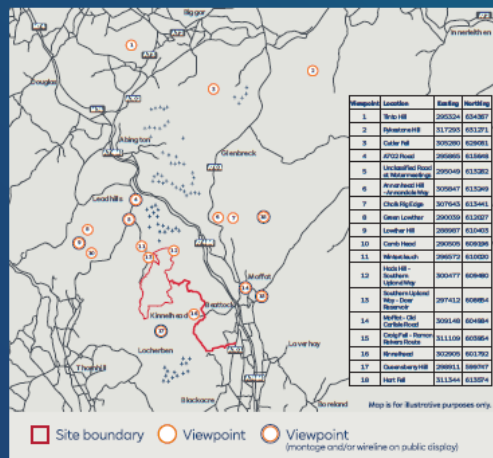
RWE

# How the wind farm could look

Assessment of the site has suggested it could accommodate up to 17 wind turbines with tip heights of up to 180m, capable of generating around 96MW of electricity depending on the turbine model we choose. That's enough electricity to power nearly 100,000 homes and businesses\*.

We've also produced visuals so you can see what this layout would look like from key viewpoints. These are only a few locations and many more will be included in our planning application. We're keen to hear what you think of our plans, along with any questions, concerns or suggestions you may have.

\*calculated using average household electricity consumption (source: Ofgem 3,100kWh)



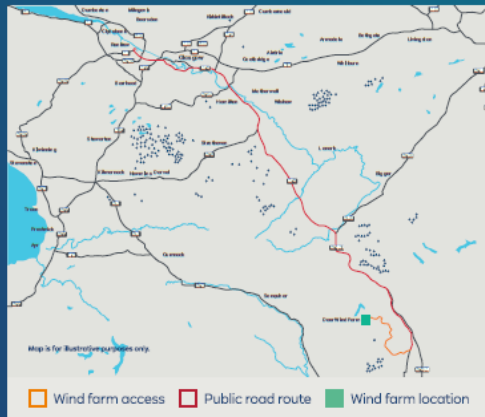
**?** Have you got any concerns about specific turbines?



RWE

## Bringing the turbines to site

We've identified a potential access route for bringing the wind turbines to the site, which can be difficult to transport because of their size. We've shown the route on the map below.



Our plan is to ship the wind turbines into King George dock, Glasgow and then transport them by road along the M74 leaving at junction 15. Where we can, we'll use local companies with experience of transporting turbine components.

We realise that any deliveries could have an effect on the surrounding community, so we'd like to hear your views on the route we've got in mind. We'd also like your feedback on things like the timing of turbine deliveries and speed restrictions on heavy goods vehicles near the wind farm site.

This way we can put together a traffic management plan that addresses concerns and minimises the potential impact on the local community.



Have you got any comment on the proposed access route and points for consideration when delivering the turbines to site?





**RWE**

# Project timetable

## **December 2018**

We submitted a scoping report to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU).

## **August 2020**

The formal pre-application consultation process began.

## **September 2020**

We share our refined plans with the local community through our virtual public exhibition/s, including our proposed layout for the wind farm to show where the turbines could go.

## **September 2020**

We collate feedback from the public exhibition/s and prepare the Environmental Statement (ES) and Pre-application Consultation Report (PAC).

## **October 2020**

Our planning application is submitted to the Energy Consents and Deployment Unit (ECDU).

## **October 2020 to December 2020**

The formal consultation period on our planning application begins, with responses made to the ECU.

## **2021**

The ECDU, in consultation with South Lanarkshire Council / Dumfries & Galloway Council, will make a decision to either approve or reject our proposals.

## **2026**

If consent is granted, construction gets underway.



**RWE**

## What happens next?

In the coming weeks we'll be finishing off our independent bird surveys and peat studies, as well as our wind and other environmental assessments. The results, along with your feedback, will help us finalise the best layout for the wind farm.

The next step will then be to submit our application for consent to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU). Importantly, South Lanarkshire Council and Dumfries & Galloway Council, along with other consultees, including community councils, who will have the opportunity to provide comment and feedback.



# RWE

## Working with your community

We want to be a good neighbour and believe that involving local people from the word go is the best way to make sure the wind farm is sensitively designed and brings real benefits to the area, while generating clean, green renewable energy.

We'll also set up a **Community Benefit Fund** to support local community projects, throughout the wind farm's lifetime, in line with the Scottish Government Community Benefit Good Practice Guidelines. We'll partner with a local community organisation to make sure local people are at the heart of how the fund works, and that it makes a lasting difference to the local area.

We'd love to know how you think a Community Benefit Fund could help your area and how it should work.

Getting involved with our Community Benefit Fund won't affect your right to have your say on our planning application at any time, whether you support the wind farm or not.



# RWE

## Have your say

Thank you for taking the time to view the Daer Wind Farm proposals. Over the coming weeks we will continue to gather a significant amount of information via our own technical assessments and your feedback on the proposals.

**You can provide feedback to us in the following ways:**

- Complete a feedback form (online or via email/post). This can be found in the main area of the virtual hall.
- Take part in our question and answer session via interactive text from our project website. This will take place on the 15th September.

**If you have any questions about the proposal or would like to speak with one of our development team, please email or telephone Nick Taylor, providing brief details of the issue(s) that you would like to discuss.**

**Telephone: 0131 357 2454**  
**Email: [Nicholas.taylor@rwe.com](mailto:Nicholas.taylor@rwe.com)**  
**Website: [www.rwe.com/daer](http://www.rwe.com/daer)**

Please note that any comments made to RWE are not representations to the consenting authority. Once RWE submits a planning application, there will be an opportunity to make such representations on that application to the consenting authority.

# RWE

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **How many turbines will there be?**

*Up to 17 turbines*

### **How will the wind farm's megawatt output be?**

*Approximately 96MW. This is enough to power 100,000\* homes and businesses.*

### **Will there be a Community Benefit Fund?**

*Using the Scottish Government's Good Practice Principles for Community Benefit we will provide a value equivalent of £5,000 per installed megawatt per annum of the project. This equates to approximately £480,000 per annum over the lifetime of the project.*

### **Where is the wind farm located?**

*The wind farm is located in the Lowther Hills of South Lanarkshire and Dumfries and Galloway, directly adjacent to the south/east of the Daer Reservoir.*

### **Why Daer?**

*We chose the Daer Wind Farm site after our early studies showed the areas excellent wind resources and connections to the national electricity network making it a good place for a wind farm. We've put a lot of thought and care into developing our plans over the last few years.*

### **Where will construction traffic take their access from?**

*Our plan is to ship the wind turbines into the King George V Dock in Glasgow and then transport them by road along the M8 and then onto the M74 south to Junction 15 and then onto site.*

### **How many jobs will the construction, operation and maintenance of the wind farm create?**

These figures are yet to be confirmed but will be stated within the planning application documents

### **When will construction work begin?**

*If we are successful receiving planning consent, then we anticipate that construction will get underway in 2026.*

### **Why can't all wind turbines be offshore?**

*Onshore wind turbines are currently more economical than offshore wind turbines. Offshore wind farms also take considerably longer to develop and require a significant maintenance regime once operational. Given these factors, it would be impractical at the present time to place all wind farms offshore. As the technology develops, offshore wind farms are likely to become more competitive, but onshore wind will always be cheaper, quicker to deploy and easier to maintain.*

### **What impact will the wind farm have on health of all neighbours (including animals)?**

*A detailed and systematic assessment of the potential impacts on Population and Human Health as a result of the proposal will be undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed development at Daer. The findings of this assessment and details of related measures proposed in order to protect the surrounding environment from any potentially negative effects on Human Health will be available for review within the EIA which will be submitted as part of the Planning Application.*

### **What is shadow flicker?**

*Shadow flicker is the name given to a phenomenon caused when the sun is behind the turbine blades as it rises or sets, casting a moving shadow over a small opening in a building such as a window, creating a flickering effect within the building. The design of Daer has taken into account shadow flicker to ensure that it is fully in accordance with current planning guidance.*

### **What will be the impact on local infrastructure and use of local roads?**

*The nature of the proposed development is that it would result in increased traffic movements during its construction phase, but negligible increases in traffic during its operational phases. A traffic impact assessment has been/will be completed and a proposed traffic management plan (TMP) has been prepared and will form part of the EIAR. Should this project attain planning permission, further consultation with local authorities and roads engineers will be completed.*

### **Aviation impact**

If the project is granted consent, we will work closely with Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and the Ministry of Defence (MoD) to establish which turbines will require aviation warning lights. As these turbines are taller than 150m, it is highly likely that the turbines will require permeant red canella lighting. The impact assessment of this will be covered in the landscape and visual assessment of the planning application

RWE

### **What will the impacts on tourism be?**

*There is no evidence that wind farms negatively affect tourism. With regard to recreation and tourism assets in the area, no direct or indirect negative effects are expected during the construction or operation of the proposed development.*

*BiGGAR Economics undertook an independent study in Scotland in 2016, entitled 'Wind Farms and Tourism Trends in Scotland'. Overall, the study stated that there is no negative relationship between the development of onshore wind farms and tourism employment within the Scottish economy, at local authority level, or areas immediately surrounding wind farm development.*

### **What are the impacts on climate and air quality?**

*Onshore wind farms by their very nature tackle the issue of climate change and improve air quality by reducing the use of fossil fuels. The calculations of total carbon dioxide (CO2) emission savings and payback time for the proposed development will be outlined in the EIAR and is dependent on the final turbine choice.*

RWE

### **Will there be any impact on the reservoir?**

*As part of the EIA process, a hydrological, and Hydrogeological survey is carried out to comprehensively investigate and evaluate the surface and ground water systems of the site and the surrounding catchments. As this is a reservoir that supplies drinking water, we have worked very closely with stakeholders to ensure due process is carried out.*

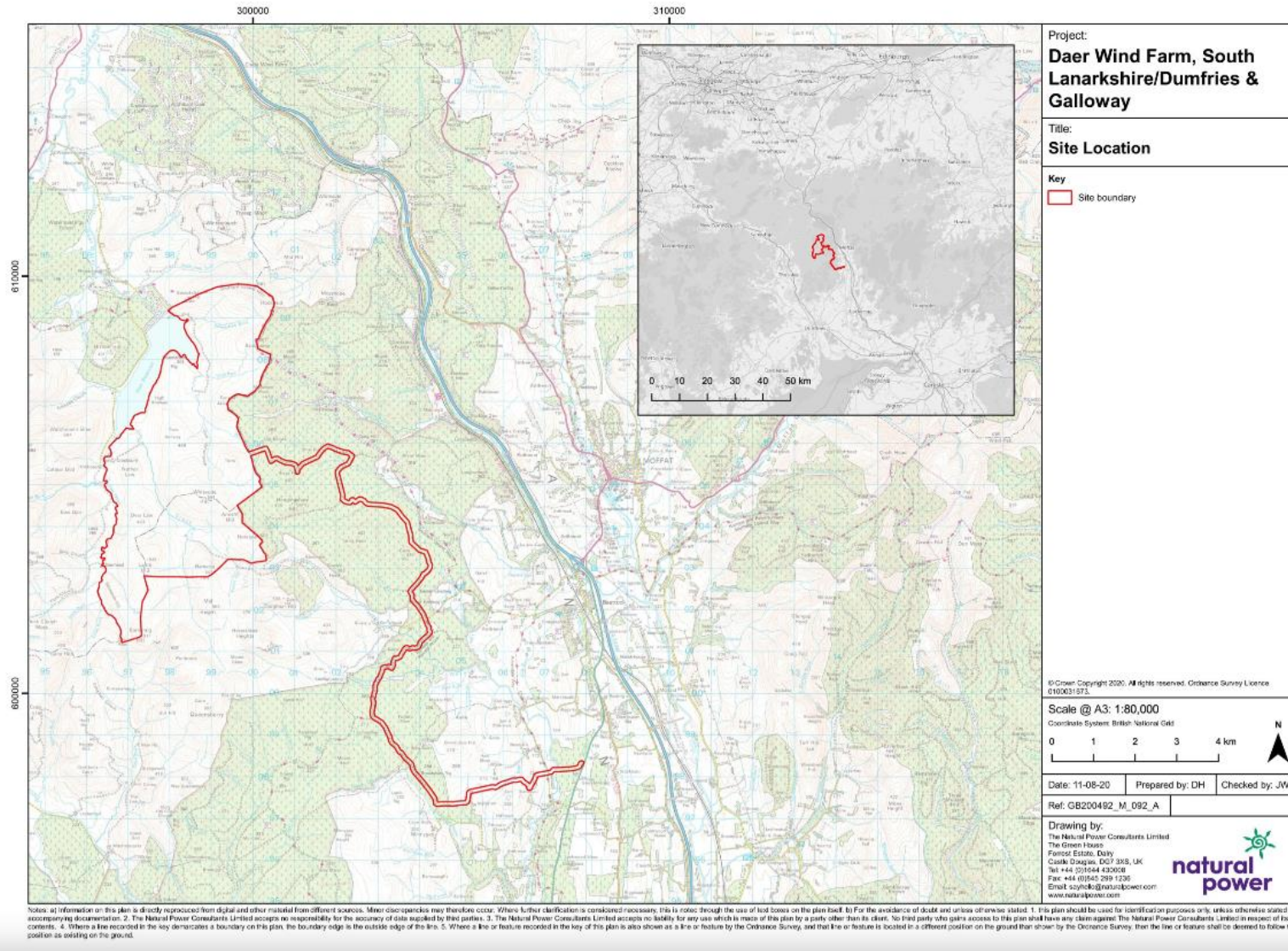
*During construction, a water management plan will be implemented so the water catchments are properly monitored to ensure no unacceptable impact occurs.*

### **What are the impacts on climate and air quality?**

*Onshore wind farms by their very nature tackle the issue of climate change and improve air quality by reducing the use of fossil fuels. The calculations of total carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission savings and payback time for the proposed development will be outlined in the EIAR and is dependent on the final turbine choice.*



# Maps



Project:  
**Daer Wind Farm, South Lanarkshire/Dumfries & Galloway**

Title:  
**Site Location**

Key  
 Site boundary

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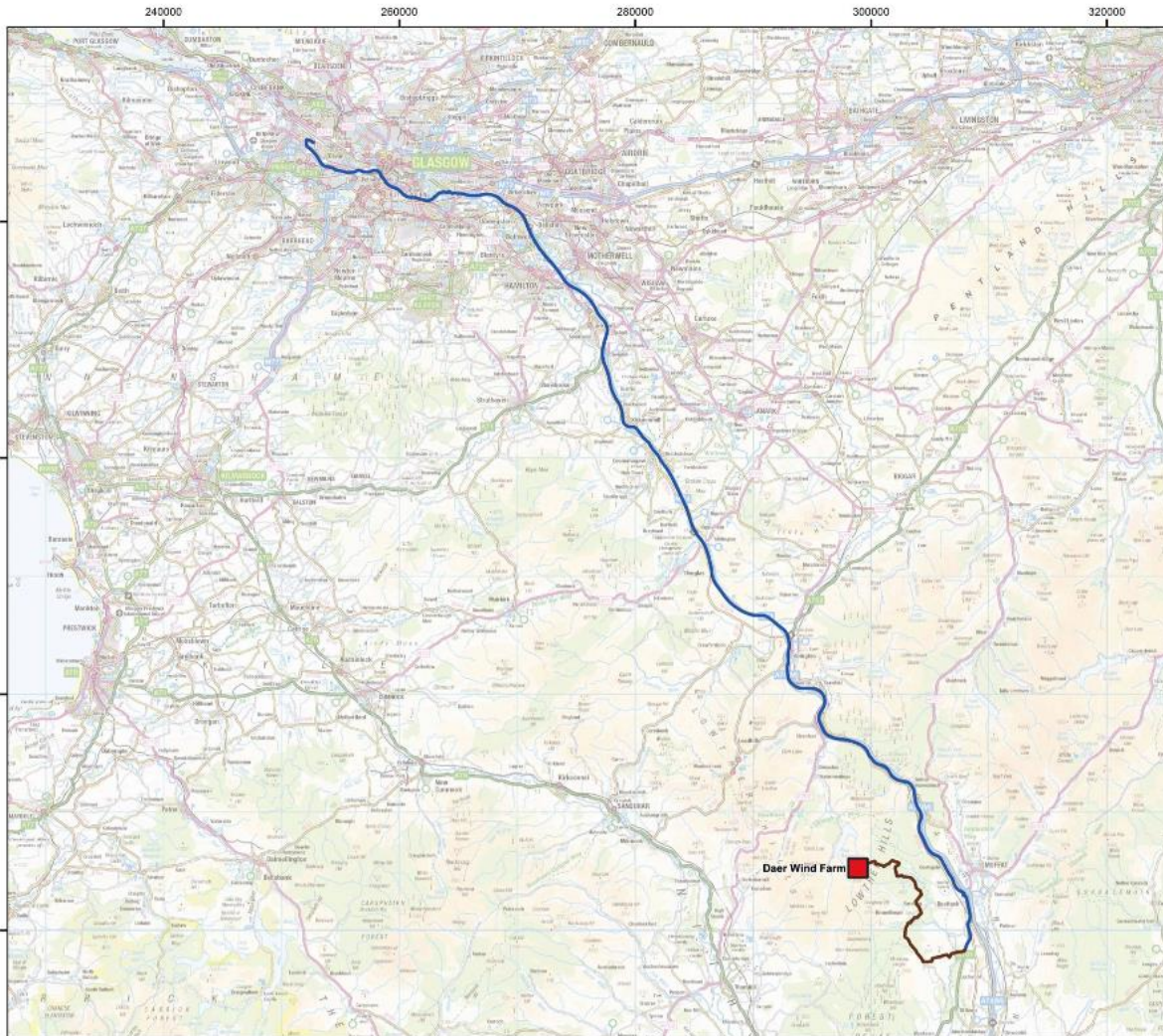
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 Coordinate System: British National Grid  
 0 1 2 3 4 km N

Date: 11-08-20    Prepared by: DH    Checked by: JW  
 Ref: GB200492\_M\_092\_A

Drawing by:  
 The Natural Power Consultants Limited  
 The Green House  
 Forest Estate, Dalry  
 Castle Glasgow, G52 7 9XS, UK  
 Tel: +44 (0)1694 432058  
 Fax: +44 (0)1694 299 1336  
 Email: [enquiries@naturalpower.com](mailto:enquiries@naturalpower.com)  
[www.naturalpower.com](http://www.naturalpower.com)



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Project:  
**Daer Wind Farm, South Lanarkshire/Dumfries & Galloway**

Title:  
**Turbine Delivery Route**

**Key**

- Wind farm location
- Public road route
- Private access route

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2020

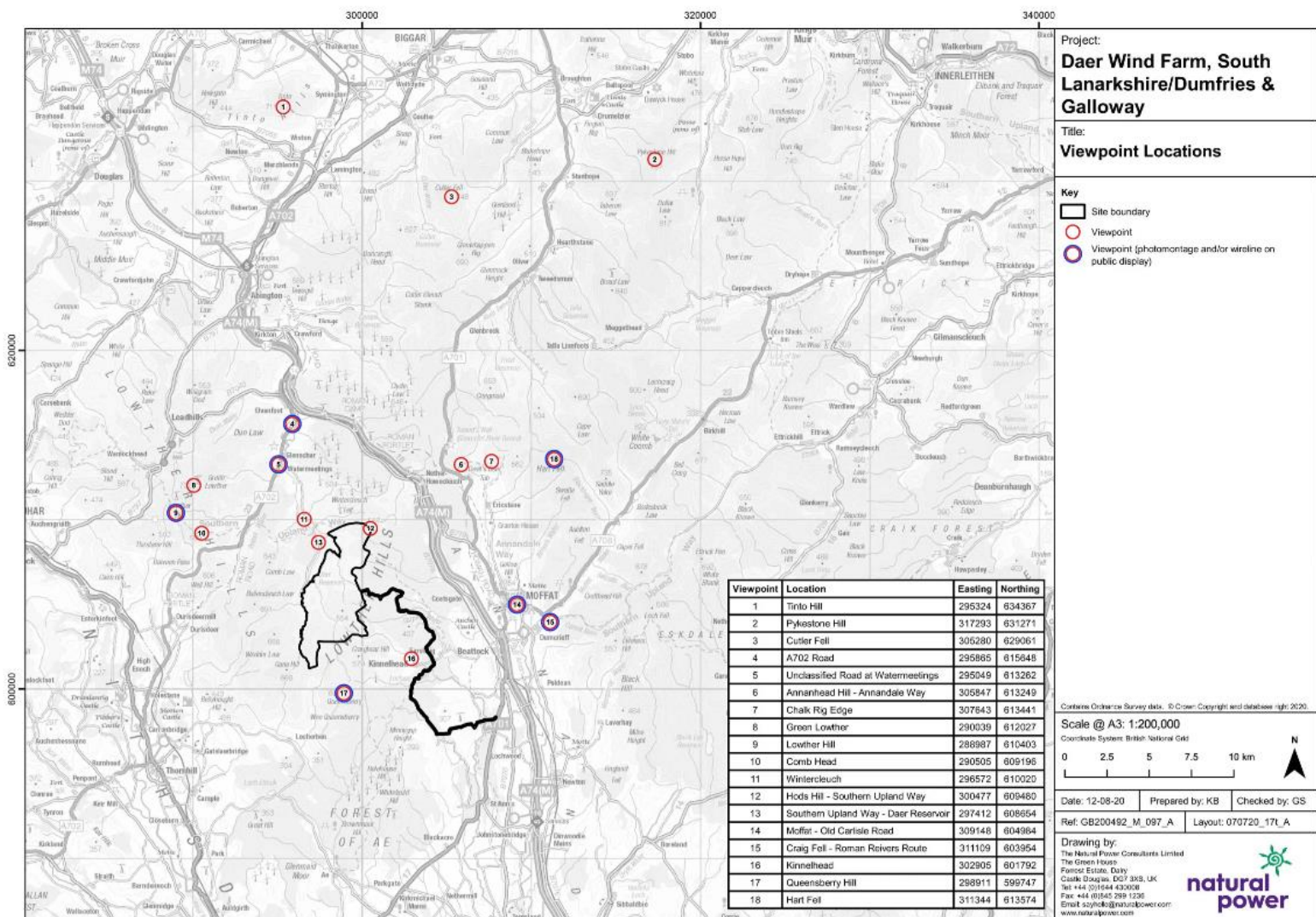
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 Coordinate System: British National Grid

Date: 20-08-20    Prepared by: DH    Checked by: JW

Ref: GB200492\_M\_099\_A

Drawing by:  
 The Natural Power Consultants Limited  
 The Green House  
 Forster Estate, Dalry  
 Castle Douglas, DG7 9XS, UK  
 Tel: +44 (0)1544 430008  
 Fax: +44 (0)1545 293 1236  
 Email: [sayne@naturalpower.com](mailto:sayne@naturalpower.com)  
[www.naturalpower.com](http://www.naturalpower.com)

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**Project:**  
**Daer Wind Farm, South Lanarkshire/Dumfries & Galloway**

**Title:**  
**Viewpoint Locations**

**Key**

- Site boundary
- Viewpoint
- Viewpoint (photomontage and/or wireline on public display)

Viewpoint	Location	Easting	Northing
1	Tinto Hill	295324	634367
2	Pykstone Hill	317293	631271
3	Cutler Fell	305280	629061
4	A702 Road	295865	615848
5	Unclassified Road at Watermeetings	295049	613262
6	Annanhead Hill - Annandale Way	305847	613249
7	Chalk Rig Edge	307643	613441
8	Green Lowther	290039	612027
9	Loather Hill	288987	610403
10	Comb Head	290505	609196
11	Wintercleuch	296572	610020
12	Hods Hill - Southern Upland Way	300477	609460
13	Southern Upland Way - Daer Reservoir	297412	608654
14	Moffat - Old Carlisle Road	309148	604964
15	Craig Fell - Roman Rivers Route	311109	603954
16	Kinnelhead	302905	601792
17	Queensberry Hill	298911	599747
18	Hart Fell	311344	613574

Confirm Ordnance Survey data. © Crown Copyright and database right 2020.  
**Scale @ A3: 1:200,000**  
 Coordinate System: British National Grid  
 0 2.5 5 7.5 10 km N

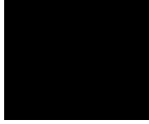
Date: 12-08-20    Prepared by: KB    Checked by: GS  
 Ref: GB200492\_M\_097\_A    Layout: 070720\_17L\_A

**Drawing by:**  
 The Natural Power Consultants Limited  
 The Green House  
 Farnley Estate, Duff  
 Craik Street, Duff, AB57 8XB, UK  
 Tel: +44 (0)1644 430036  
 Fax: +44 (0)1644 299 1236  
 Email: [scott@naturalpower.com](mailto:scott@naturalpower.com)  
[www.naturalpower.com](http://www.naturalpower.com)

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# Appendix C - Stakeholder Letters

February 2018



E.ON  
Westwood Way  
Westwood Business Park  
Coventry CV4 8LG  
[www.eon-energy.com](http://www.eon-energy.com)  
Tel: 0800 0961199

19th February 2018

Dear [Redacted]

**Met Mast Application – Land Adjacent to Daer Reservoir, South Lanarkshire**

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that E.ON are currently exploring the potential of developing a wind farm on land adjacent to Daer Reservoir. As part of this process we have this week submitted a planning application to South Lanarkshire Council for the installation of two meteorological (met) masts. As you may be aware, the met masts will allow E.ON to monitor wind speeds within the area.

Whilst this project is at an early stage, we think it is important to keep you updated from the outset. Along with the met mast data and findings from the environmental studies, it is important to us that community feedback helps inform and shape the basis for any future wind farm application that we may wish to take forward.

Following on from the application for the met mast, we are planning to hold initial Public Information sessions. We will keep you updated on the details and dates of the Public Information sessions. We would then look to establish a Community Liaison Group (CLG), which is designed to provide meaningful two-way communication between the local community and E.ON on the proposals. This forum will also provide local stakeholders an opportunity to raise issues and question directly with E.ON on an on-going basis, whilst importantly providing the local community with a real and tangible opportunity to inform and input into the design process.

Should you wish to discuss further, or have any initial questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with Euan Glen from the project team on 07955295567 or via email at [euang@libertyonecomms.co.uk](mailto:euang@libertyonecomms.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,



Hayley Meadley  
Development Manager  
E.ON



E.ON  
Westwood Way  
Westwood Business Park  
Coventry CV4 8LG  
[www.eon-energy.com](http://www.eon-energy.com)  
Tel: 0800 0961199

16 July 2018

**Daer Council Offices**

**Met Mast Application – Land Adjacent to Daer Reservoir, South Lanarkshire**

Following on from my previous letter dated 19 February 2018, I would like to take this opportunity to update you on proposals to install two meteorological (met) masts at Daer, and to also outline the next steps as E.ON continue to explore the potential of developing a wind farm on land adjacent to Daer Reservoir.

The planning application to install the two met masts at Daer was approved by South Lanarkshire Council on 18 June 2018. These masts allow us to monitor to wind speeds and collect data that will help inform the design of any future wind farm at Daer and following this approval, it is our intention to install them on the site towards the end of August/early September.

Whilst this project remains at an early stage, we are committed to ongoing engagement and we are still planning to host a number of Public Information Sessions regarding the proposals, likely towards the beginning of next year. Following these, we would look to establish a Community Liaison Group (CLG), which is designed to provide meaningful two-way communication between the local community and E.ON on the proposals. This forum will also provide local stakeholders an opportunity to raise issues and question directly with E.ON on an on-going basis, whilst importantly providing the local community with a real and tangible opportunity to inform and input into the design process.

Should you wish to discuss further, or have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with Euan Glen from the project team on 07955295567 or via email at [euang@libertyonecomms.co.uk](mailto:euang@libertyonecomms.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,



Hayley Meadley  
Development Manager  
E.ON



**E.ON**  
Westwood Way  
Westwood Business Park  
Coventry CV4 8LG  
[www.eon-energy.com](http://www.eon-energy.com)  
Tel: 0800 0961199

14 December 2018



**SCOPING REPORT SUBMITTED FOR PROPOSED DAER WIND FARM, DAER RESERVOIR**

Following on from my previous correspondence, I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the current developments at Daer, as E.ON continue to explore the potential of developing a wind farm on land adjacent to Daer Reservoir.

The assessment of the Daer site has suggested that it could accommodate a wind farm with an installed capacity of over 50MW. We have therefore submitted a request for a Scoping Opinion to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit for the proposed wind farm. The Scoping Request, and the response, will help E.ON to understand the environmental information that consultees would like to see accompany a potential subsequent application for the windfarm; this will include the methodologies proposed to undertake these assessments and will also seek feedback on the development proposals.

A link to the Scoping Report will shortly be available on our website ([www.eonenergy.com](http://www.eonenergy.com)). If you would rather receive a hard copy of the Scoping Report, please get in contact with us via the details below.

As previously mentioned, E.ON is committed to ongoing engagement with the local community. The submission of the Scoping Report is the first stage in the process and we want to ensure that there will be plenty of opportunities in the New Year for residents to have their say. We will therefore be hosting a number of Public Information Sessions regarding the proposal. At these events local residents will have opportunity to speak with members of the project team, view the proposal and importantly provide feedback. The feedback will be used by E.ON, in conjunction with the various technical and environmental studies undertaken as part of the planning application process, to importantly help shape and inform the proposal going forward. Further information on the Public Information Sessions will be circulated shortly.

If you have any comments or questions, or wish further information on the proposals, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Euan Glen on 0131 357 2454 or via email at [ewan@libertyonecomms.co.uk](mailto:ewan@libertyonecomms.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,



Hayley Meadley  
Development Manager  
E.ON

May 2019



**E.ON**  
Westwood Way  
Westwood Business Park  
Coventry CV4 8LG  
[www.eon-energy.com](http://www.eon-energy.com)  
Tel: 0800 0961199

1 May 2019



**SCOPING OPINION RECEIVED FOR PROPOSED DAER WIND FARM, DAER RESERVOIR**

I am writing to update you on the current developments at Daer, as E.ON continue to explore the potential of developing a wind farm adjacent to Daer Reservoir.

In my last update (December 2018), I wrote to inform you that a request for a Scoping Opinion had been submitted to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit for a proposed wind farm at Daer. A response to this has now been received and our consultants are using this to inform further investigations and considerations, as we continue to develop the proposals in advance of submitting any potential planning application in the future. This response can be found on the Energy Consents Unit website ([www.energyconsents.scot](http://www.energyconsents.scot)) by searching 'Daer' or the reference number ECU00000740.

As part of our ongoing commitment to engage with the local community, we are proposing to host a 'Meet the Developer' event to allow you the opportunity to meet myself and the development team, to learn more about what is being proposed at Daer and ask questions and provide initial feedback and comment. We are currently in the process of finalising the details of this event and further details will be circulated to you shortly.

If you have any comments or questions, or wish further information on the proposals, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Euan Glen on 0131 357 2454 or via email at [ewan@libertyonecomms.co.uk](mailto:ewan@libertyonecomms.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,



Hayley Meadley  
Development Manager  
E.ON



E.ON  
Westwood Way  
Westwood Business Park  
Coventry CV4 8LG  
[www.eon-energy.com](http://www.eon-energy.com)  
Tel: 0800 0961199

20th August 2019



**PROPOSED DAER WIND FARM, DAER RESERVOIR**

I am writing to update you as E.ON continue to explore the potential of developing a wind farm adjacent to Daer Reservoir.

In my last update (May 2019), we had received a Scoping Opinion from the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit for the proposed Daer Wind Farm. This opinion, that includes consultation with a number of key stakeholders, continues to help inform our proposals at Daer and we have now appointed Natural Power who will be undertaking our Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), an important document that would be submitted as part of any future planning application.

I am also writing to make you aware of some changes to E.ON Climate and Renewables. In the coming months, E.ON's renewables portfolio will be transferred to a company called RWE. This move will be in name only and our business activities will continue as normal. We will keep you updated on this change which is likely to be completed by October 2019.

As part of our ongoing commitment to engage with the local community, we are proposing to host a 'Meet the Developer' event to allow you the opportunity to meet myself and the development team, to learn more about what is being proposed at Daer and ask questions and provide initial feedback and comment. We are currently in the process of finalising the details of this event which is likely to be held later this year and further details will be circulated to in due course.

In the meantime, should you have any comments or questions, or wish further information on the proposals, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Euan Glen on 0131 357 2454 or via email at [ewan@libertycomms.co.uk](mailto:ewan@libertycomms.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,



Hayley Meadley  
Development Manager  
E.ON





RWE Renewables UK Ltd  
Greenwood House  
Westwood Way  
Westwood Business Park  
Coventry  
CV4 8TT

21 February 2020



**PROPOSED DAER WIND FARM**

I am writing to you as RWE\* continue to explore the potential of developing a wind farm adjacent to Daer Reservoir.

We recently provided an updated Scoping Response to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents and Deployment Unit (ECDU) outlining amendments to the current proposal, primarily regarding changes to the site boundary, number and height of the proposed turbines.

These documents can be viewed on the Energy Consents and Deployment Unit website ([www.energyconsents.scot](http://www.energyconsents.scot)) by searching 'Daer' or the ECDU reference number ECU00000740.

As part of our commitment to engage with the local community, we will be arranging a 'Meet the Developer' event that gives yourself and interested parties the opportunity to meet the development team and learn more about what is being proposed for the wind farm. This will also give you the opportunity to ask questions and importantly provide initial feedback and comment. Following these events, we would seek to host formal Public Exhibitions during the summer.

We would also like to establish a Community Liaison Group (CLG) for the Daer project, that would act as an important platform to bring the local community and stakeholders together to discuss the proposals and wider issues associated with the proposed development. If you would like to be involved in this process, please do get in contact.

Once we have confirmed the details for the Meet the Developer event, I will once again be in contact. In the meantime, should you have any questions, or require further information about the proposals, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Euan Glen on 0131 376 0893 or via email at [euang@libertyonecomms.co.uk](mailto:euang@libertyonecomms.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,



Hayley Meadley  
Origination & Development UK  
RWE Renewables UK Ltd

\*In October 2019, RWE purchased the renewables portfolio of E.ON Climate and Renewables. All business activities have continued as normal.



RWE Renewables UK Ltd  
Onshore Wind Development  
Ground Floor  
Earn House  
Broxden Business Park  
Perth  
PH1 1RA

31 July 2020

[Hayley.meadley@rwe.com](mailto:Hayley.meadley@rwe.com)

**PROPOSED DAER WIND FARM – PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Firstly, I hope that you and your family are safe and well during these unprecedented times.

As you will be aware, we wrote in February to update you as RWE\* continue to explore the potential of developing a wind farm adjacent to Daer Reservoir. In that update, we mentioned a forthcoming 'Meet the Developer' event we wished to host as part of our public consultation period, allowing yourself and interested parties the opportunity to meet the development team.

As you will appreciate, we have been closely monitoring the current situation regarding Coronavirus (Covid-19) and will fully adhere to the current government advice which may impact on the ability to hold such an event at this time. As a result, we have taken the decision to cancel this event and focus instead on the public exhibition as part of our public consultation period.

To allow this public exhibition to take place, and in line with Scottish Government guidance around pre-application consultation, we will carry it out online via a bespoke project website. The project website will contain detailed information relating to the proposals, as well as information around the community benefit fund that will be established. Contact details will be available to ask questions and we will also be hosting a live Q & A session allowing you the opportunity to speak directly to the development team and importantly provide us with your comment and feedback.

We anticipate that the public consultation period will begin in mid-August, with a view to submitting the application in the final quarter of 2020. We will write to you again once we have confirmation of dates and information on how to access the online consultation.

In the meantime should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the development team via Euan Glen on 0131 357 2454 or via email at [ewan@libertycomms.co.uk](mailto:ewan@libertycomms.co.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Hayley Meadley  
Origination & Development UK

\*In October 2019, RWE purchased the renewables portfolio of E.ON Climate and Renewables. All business activities have continued as normal.

RWE Renewables UK Limited: Registered in England and Wales no. 03758404  
Registered Office: Greenwood House - Westwood Way - Westwood Business Park - Coventry - United Kingdom - CV4 8PB  
RWE Renewables Management UK Limited: Registered in England and Wales no. 1208708  
Registered Office: Windmill Hill Business Park, Whitehill Way, Swindon, SN96PB.  
Innogy Renewables UK Limited: Registered in England and Wales no. 2550622  
Registered Office: Windmill Hill Business Park - Whitehill Way - Swindon - Wiltshire - SN9 6PB



RWE Renewables UK Ltd  
Onshore Wind Development  
Ground Floor  
Earn House  
Browden Business Park  
Parth  
PH1 1RA  
[Hayley.meadley@rwe.com](mailto:Hayley.meadley@rwe.com)



1 September 2020



**PROPOSED DAER WIND FARM – PUBLIC CONSULTATION (CONFIRMATION)**

Following my previous letter dated (31<sup>st</sup> July), I am writing once again to confirm the details for the upcoming online public consultation for the proposed Daer Wind Farm.

At RWE, we believe that proactive public consultation is an integral element of the planning process and it is essential that the local community and other stakeholders be given the opportunity to view the proposals and importantly feed back their views directly to the project team. As you will appreciate, the current situation regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19) does not allow for traditional public exhibitions to be held, therefore in accordance with Scottish Government guidance, we will be holding an online public consultation for the proposals.

The online public consultation will be via a dedicated Virtual Consultation Room which can be accessed via our new project website from 2<sup>nd</sup> September – [www.rwe.com/daer](http://www.rwe.com/daer)

The Virtual Consultation Room contains detailed information relating to the proposals, with a comment form available so that feedback can be provided to the project team. This feedback will be used by RWE, in conjunction with the various technical and environmental studies undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, to help shape and inform the proposals.

Feedback on the proposals should be returned to us by no later than 5pm on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020.

As part of the consultation we will also be holding a question and answer session via interactive text from the project website. This will take place on 15<sup>th</sup> September (3-7pm) and provide an opportunity for local residents and other stakeholders to directly engage with members of the project team.

In the meantime should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the development team via Euan Glen on 0131 376 0893 or via email at [ewan@libertyonecomms.co.uk](mailto:ewan@libertyonecomms.co.uk)

Yours sincerely,



Hayley Meadley  
Origination & Development UK

RWE Renewables UK Limited: Registered in England and Wales no. 03758404  
Registered Office: Greenwood House - Westwood Way - Westwood Business Park - Coventry - United Kingdom - CV4 8PB  
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Registered Office: Windmill Hill Business Park, Whitehill Way, Swindon, SN56PB.  
Inogy Renewable UK Limited: Registered in England and Wales no. 2535622  
Registered Office: Windmill Hill Business Park - Whitehill Way - Swindon - Wiltshire - SN5 6PB

Appendix D – Letter Distribution Area



## Appendix E – Feedback

### Proposed Daer windfarm



noreply@info.rwe.com

To [REDACTED]

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#) [...](#)

Tue 22/09/2020 23:43

Hello,

[REDACTED] sent you the following request:

Company/Institution: Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council

email: [REDACTED]

Request: Proposed Daer windfarm

Text: The method you have used to communicate this consultation is wholly adequate. People who live in the areas which will be most affected by your proposed windfarm are the least likely to have decent internet access and many people in the surrounding villages and settlements will be unaware of your consultation despite us placing notice of it on our Crawford village noticeboard which is at a substantial distance from where many of them live. It is your responsibility to communicate this, and not the community council's. There are inadequate viewing points looking eastward from the hills and from the road on the west side of the reservoir, and also from other points viewing from the east side of the reservoir on the Southern Upland Way looking towards the proposed wind farm. The reservoir is used as a leisure area not only by our local residents but also by visitors to the area who fish or stroll around the reservoir or walk the Southern Upland Way, the major coast-to-coast route across Scotland. In an area which already has a surfeit of turbines not to mention other required windfarm infrastructure you are proposing yet more to occupy the landscape. We are dismayed that you will be imposing yet another wind farm development on our community and in what remains of the untouched Southern Uplands. The community council will be opposing this proposed development.

---

23 September 2020

RWE Renewables UK Ltd  
Onshore Wind Development  
Ground Floor  
Earn House  
Broxden Business Park  
PERTH PH1 1RA

Dear Sirs

**PROPOSED DAER WIND FARM – PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

In response to the RWE's request for comments on the proposed Daer Windfarm the Crawford and Elvanfoot Community Council (CC) would wish the comments outlined below to be considered.

In addition to this proposal for a windfarm at Daer the local area surrounding Crawford and Elvanfoot has in recent years been inundated by windfarm activities which has resulted in some c200 turbines being built, to form the SSE Clyde Windfarm. Additionally, there is already planning permission for 7-9 turbines in the area of Elvanfoot and Daer by 2020 renewables and planning requests have recently been submitted to SLC for 7 turbines to overlook the Clyde Valley SE of Abington and to the SG for 35 turbines to form the North Lowther windfarm.

The resulting effect from the existing windfarm(s) is that the local economy has fallen dramatically and there is little interest in people wanting to visit or move to what used to be a beautiful and economically stable part of the Southern Uplands. Property prices have plummeted and yet it is still difficult for people to sell and a significant number of hotels, boarding houses and public houses have already closed down. At the same time the village has been further isolated by the closure of the doctors surgery and more recently the local shop which included the Post Office.

In terms of employment the mechanisation of farming and forestry along with the isolation caused by the completion of the M74, which creates a bypass for the area, has significantly reduced the local opportunities and the poor state of public transport prevents the ability to travel for work or education for most. These developments have proven to not bring sustainable opportunities for work to local people and they simply make it more difficult to attract opportunity to the area. All of this deterioration can be linked to the continuous windfarm development activity. People now have a feeling of being trapped as even those who want to move simply cannot afford to do so. Psychologically this has resulted in a very unhappy community that feels let down and disempowered in the decisions being made that are affecting their lives and livelihood.

With regards to the infrastructure of the development, we would welcome additional information on the proposals of the deliveries for the heavy goods vehicles prior to making comment on them. We wish to know more information about what exact routes that will be taken for deliveries; where are the main access points going to be for the access to the main compound areas; where are the borrow pits to be located and if not being used where the haulier be bringing aggregate from to form the access tracks; will there be an onsite batching plant to pour the turbine bases and if not again what are the logistics of bringing concrete onto the site.

With regard to the community benefit fund we would welcome to hear more information about the proposals for this and how it will be dealt with. We have many ideas for our community but also have experience of community benefit funds not working well for us a host village. This is an area that we as a CC must consider extremely carefully.

We feel that by conducting this consultation at this time has allowed RWE to have an unfair advantage over a rural community that has not been allowed to meet to discuss this in detail due to the CC following the rules put in place during the pandemic. The CC feel this consultation method is unsuitable for a development of this nature. In our aging population of residents many of them will not have viewed the consultation on line, or heard about the opportunity to do so; despite the CC notifying them about it under the conditions that we are working. We have residents that will be greatly affected by this proposal and would have welcomed the opportunity for a face to face meeting with the developer to discuss their concerns in detail.

The montages submitted via the one line consultation do not reflect accurately the impact of the turbines for the local residents; no images have been provided from the side of reservoir or in fact from the perspective of the residents homes that are close by the proposed development. The whole area is one of natural beauty and is used a lot by locals for leisure activities, especially during the restrictions of this pandemic, and not to show the impact of the turbines in this regard is very concerning and we would request that this is revised by yourselves.

This community has tried really hard to overcome the damaging effects of the windfarms already built or are being built in the area but every time they start to gain some headway and start to learn to live with these developments as our neighbours another comes along. Crawford and Elvanfoot have shouldered more than their fair share of the damaging effects attached to onshore renewable energy projects and we feel enough is enough.

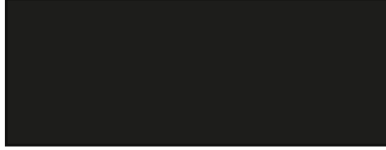
The Crawford and Elvanfoot CC have agreed therefore to **OBJECT IN THE STRONGEST TERMS TO THIS PLANNING PROPOSAL** in line with the overwhelming majority view of the community council members for the reasons outlined above.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the community council member.

Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council

Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council,



23rd October 2020

RWE Renewable UK Ltd,  
Onshore Wind Development,  
c/o Hayley Meadley,  
Ground Floor,  
Earn House,  
Boxden Business Park,  
Perth,  
PH1 1RA  
(Sent by email)  
Dear Sirs,

Comments on your letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020 to Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council & Additional Viewpoints for Proposed Daer Reservoir Wind Farm

Thank you for your letter of 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020 responding to Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council's letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020.

I wish to point out that your responses have glossed over several issues.

1. Last week I spoke with a resident of the Watermeetings/Glenochar area who has no internet available to him. He received no communication from your company concerning your consultation or the windfarm.
2. Your letter makes no acknowledgement of the repeated efforts by wind farm developers including yourselves to install yet more windfarms in our area.
3. As local residents we are already well aware that the Daer Reservoir area is not directly visible from the villages of Crawford or Elvanfoot (as you point out in your letter) so we have little interest in any viewpoints from either of these two villages. Your company seems to have misinterpreted the fact that our title of 'Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council' implies we are only serving the villages of Crawford and Elvanfoot. The boundary area of our community council encompasses the whole of the Daer Reservoir area, together with Water Meetings, Glenochar and extending along the A702 towards the Dumfries and Galloway border and the Dalveen pass. If you need to see our Community Council's area of responsibility it is available on South Lanarkshire Council's website. Our Community Council represents all of this area's residents. The residents of the villages of Crawford and Elvanfoot frequently visit the Daer Reservoir area as a leisure activity and do not wish to see yet more wind farm turbines when they get there.



4. Regarding viewpoints, your letter states:

'To aid the LVIA 18 viewpoints **have been agreed** through consultation with NatureScot and South Lanarkshire Council.'

At the date this was 'agreed' our community did not have an opportunity to express their preferences for the viewpoint locations.

The additional viewpoints (numbering six) that we would like you to show on the Environmental Impact Report are listed below with each required location being defined by a description, eastings, northings, grid reference, and with required viewing directions towards your proposed wind farm:

On SW side of Daer Reservoir at:

Kirkhope Cleuch 296763, 606920 (NS 96763 06920) view SE to wind farm;

On Southern Upland Way at:

SweetShaw Brae 299104, 609726 (NS 99104 09726) view S to wind farm;

Ferny Craig 300313, 608148 (NT 00313 08148) view SSW to wind farm;

On A702 Dumfries Rd at:

Glenochar car park 295065, 613711 (NS 95065 13711) view SSE to wind farm;

On summits of:

White Law 292412, 614220 (NS 92412 14220) view SE to wind farm;

Ballencleuch Law 293608, 605007 (NS 93608 05007) view E to wind farm;

Yours faithfully,

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of the representative of Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council.

Crawford & Elvanfoot Community Council

**RWE Renewables UK Developments Limited,**

Registered in England and Wales

no. 03758407,

Greenwood House,

Westwood Business Park,

Coventry, CV4 8PE

**[www.rwe.com](http://www.rwe.com)**