



**Lewis Wind Power**  
Cumhachd Gaoithe

# Stornoway Wind Farm Scoping Consultation



**Venue:** Stornoway Town Hall,  
20 South Beach, Stornoway HS1 2BJ

**Timings** 11:00 to 19:30

**Dates:** Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th October

Lewis Wind Power is consulting on potential changes that the company may seek to make to its existing plans for the Stornoway Wind Farm project.

We hope you can take the time to join us at our exhibition to find out more about the possible changes and to give us your feedback at this early stage of our considerations.

Lewis Wind Power  
9 Harbour View  
Cromwell Street Quay  
Stornoway  
HS1 2DF

info@lwp.scot  
01851 605063  
www.lwp.scot

## The Exhibition

Lewis Wind Power (LWP) is exploring a number of potential changes it may seek to make to the company's existing plans for the Stornoway Wind Farm project. This work forms part of the company's strategy to ensure that it looks at all the options that may be required to compete successfully in future auctions for government-backed support for renewable energy projects.

We want to make sure you have the chance to find out more about these possible changes and the reasons we are looking at them, and to have the chance to put over your questions and comment.

The exhibition will set out the changes we are considering and wider information on the project, and also include the chance to view interactive 3D visual software which allows you to see modelling of the project from different angles and viewpoints.

There will be LWP staff on hand to answer any queries you may have and forms available for your comments.

The event is open to all and no need to make an appointment – please feel free to 'drop in' at any point over the two days.

## Background and Potential Changes

Stornoway Wind Farm was originally consented by the Scottish Government in September 2012, with a variation approved in 2015 allowing for the installation of larger turbines up to 145m high with a rotor diameter of up to 128m, and a revised internal track layout.

Lewis Wind Power is now exploring a number of potential changes to its plans for the site, including:

- An increase in maximum tip height from 145m to 155m on the eight turbines closest to the eastern perimeter of the wind farm, which is closest to the town of Stornoway;
- An increase in tip height up to a maximum of 187m on the other turbines which are located further from the town;
- Increase in rotor diameter 128m up to a maximum of 150m;
- Revised site layout in order to accommodate the longer blades;
- Co-location of a battery storage system.

## Reason for potential changes to existing plans

Larger wind farms built on the Western Isles will be required to pay significantly greater grid charges than projects on the mainland, as they will pay for their share of the installation and operation of a new interconnector.

As such, they can only proceed if they successfully bid for a long-term contract for power backed by the UK Government, known as a 'Contract for Difference' (CFDs) which would guarantee a price per unit of power over 15 years.

These contracts are awarded through a competitive auction process, with island projects required to bid against each other and other technologies including offshore wind meaning that only the most cost-effective projects can go ahead.

## Project benefits

The development of the Stornoway wind farm would provide significant economic benefits to the Isle of Lewis and the wider Western Isles.

### Community ownership

LWP is working closely with the Stornoway Trust, the local community landowner, and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar as they seek to develop a joint venture to acquire the Trust's option of up to 20% of the Stornoway Wind Farm and the council's option of up to 30% of the Uisenis Wind Farm. The proposed joint venture would be one of the largest community owners of renewable power anywhere in the UK.

### Community benefit

An annual payment of £5,000 (index linked) per MW over the life time of the project. As an example, a scheme of 180MW would mean an annual payment of £900,000 per annum for the local community to invest in local projects and priorities.

### Local suppliers

LWP has committed to using a contracting strategy for building the wind farm that will maximise the potential for the use of local suppliers and facilities during the construction phase of the wind farm.

### Rental payments

The Stornoway Wind Farm would be sited on the Stornoway Trust Estate and pay an annual commercial rent to the Trust for the land required by the project. LWP would also make payments to the common grazings that comprise the wind farm site with payments subject to approval by the Scottish Land Court.

### Employment and Wider Economic Development

A report commissioned by EDF Renewables and produced by respected consultancy BVG Associates found that during construction of LWP's wind farms and the interconnector to the mainland there would be more than 600 people employed at the peak of construction activity. Longer term, onshore wind projects on the Western Isles in aggregate could add up to £33m a year to the local economy and support several hundred jobs on an ongoing basis as a result of the forecast community benefits, ownership and further community wind farm development enabled by the interconnector.

### Delivery of the interconnector with the mainland

No further onshore wind development can take place on Lewis as the electricity network is at full capacity. Scottish and Southern Energy Networks has recently proposed a new 600MW interconnector with the mainland, dependent on Stornoway and Uisenis wind farms going ahead. A cable of that size would leave significant capacity for additional renewable energy development on the Western Isles.

# Crofting

Stornoway Wind Farm would be sited across a number of common grazings to the west of Stornoway and therefore approval is being sought from the Scottish Land Court for a 'scheme for development' in accordance with section 19A of the Crofters (Scotland) Act 1993. This process has been followed by other wind developments in other parts of Scotland, such as Viking Wind Farm on Shetland, and also by the Pentland Road Wind Farm here on Lewis.

The Court is currently assessing the 'scheme for development' that we have developed in close consultation with local grazings, which reflects the wind farm and its supporting infrastructure.

It is important to stress that rights to grazing would continue, though there will be restrictions on access for Health and Safety reasons during construction. The physical area ultimately taken up by the turbines and other wind farm infrastructure would represent a small percentage of the overall site area.

## What happens next?

If LWP does decide to pursue the potential revisions further then we would develop more detail on any changes and consult on these in depth before submitting any application for a consent.

A planning application would involve the development of a full Environmental Impact Assessment and the Comhairle nan Eilean Siar would be consulted, along with other key consultees such as Scottish Natural Heritage. The final decision on any proposed changes would ultimately be made by the Scottish Government, with all local people and organisations having the chance to submit their views directly as part of ministers' considerations.

We will share our intentions over coming months but LWP will continue to move forward by preparing to bid for a Contract for Difference in next year's auction on the basis of the project's current consent.

## Further Information

If you would like any further information or have any suggestions you want to share with us at any time, please contact David Morrison, Stakeholder Engagement, or Kerry McPhee, Community Liaison at Lewis Wind Power.

### Lewis Wind Power

Lewis Wind Power is the owner of both the consented Stornoway and Uisenis wind farms. The company, through its subsidiary Stornoway Wind Farm Limited, has been developing the Stornoway Wind Farm since 2010, working closely with the community landlord, The Stornoway Trust. Registered in Scotland, the company is a 50:50 joint venture between EDF Renewables and Wood.

LEWIS WIND POWER HOLDINGS LIMITED

Company number SC522238

Registered address: Edf Energy, Gso Business Park, East Kilbride, Scotland, G74 5PG