



Lewis Wind Power
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Welcome

Stornoway Wind Farm

Pre-Application Consultation

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*Photograph of EDF-R
Fallago Rig wind farm
EDF-R 2013

Welcome to the Stornoway Wind Farm Pre-Application Consultation

This event is designed to set out the details on Lewis Wind Power's proposals for an additional consent for the Stornoway Wind Farm.

The exhibition sets out the background to the plans and how these compare to our existing consent. It also details the changes we have made to our plans in light of feedback from our exhibition on 11th and 12th October last year here in Stornoway and from statutory consultees, such as Scottish Natural Heritage.

The exhibition is part of our work to develop a comprehensive understanding of the potential impacts of our proposals and to get as much local feedback as possible ahead of applying to the Scottish Government for consent.

Please take as much time as you need to read the exhibition material and to speak with the LWP staff who are here to answer any queries you may have. We would very much value any feedback you may wish to leave on the forms that are provided.



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Lewis Wind Power

Lewis Wind Power has been working to develop the Stornoway Wind Farm since 2010, working closely with the community landlord and development partner, The Stornoway Trust.

Registered in Scotland, Lewis Wind Power is a 50:50 joint venture between EDF Renewables and Wood.



edf
renewables

EDF Renewables owns and operates 34 wind farms across the UK, as well as a battery storage unit. The company is part of EDF Energy, which produces 40% of Scotland's electricity, employs more than 1,300 people in Scotland and supplies power to the country's local authorities, schools, public buildings and hospitals through a single contract awarded by the Scottish Government.

wood.

Wood is a global leader in the delivery of project, engineering and technical services to energy and industrial markets. Headquartered in Aberdeen, the company operates in more than 60 countries across oil and gas, chemicals, environment and infrastructure, power & process, clean energy, mining, nuclear and general industrial sectors. It has 4,900 employees based in Scotland.



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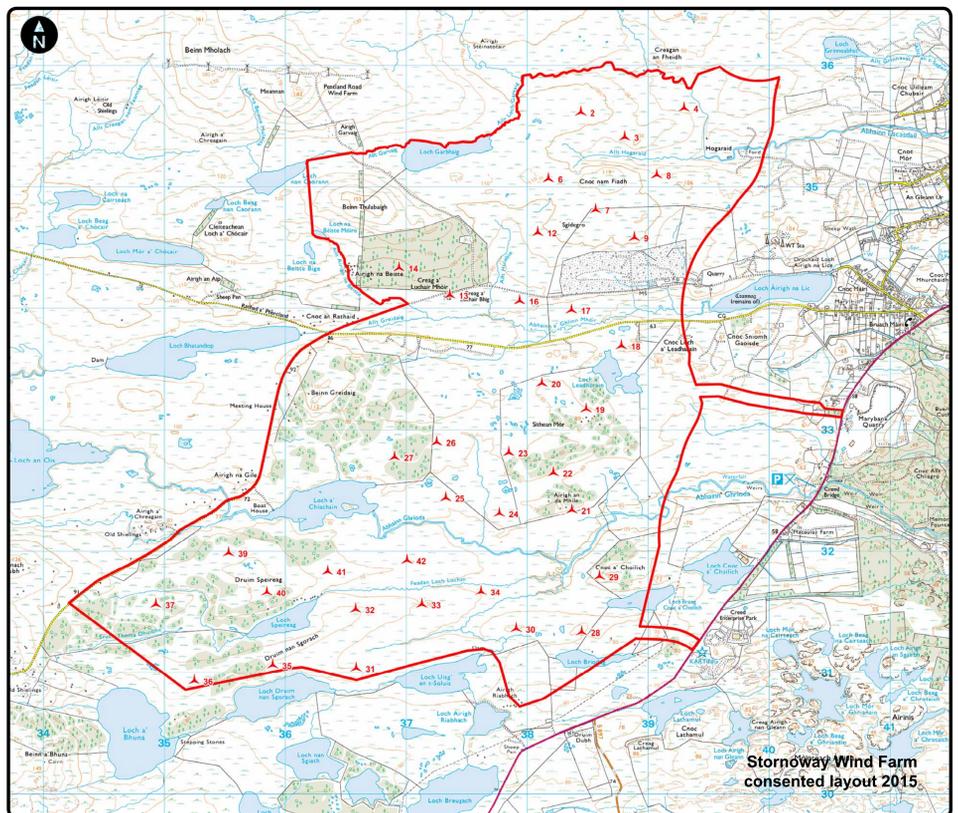
Our Existing Consent

Stornoway Wind Farm was originally consented by the Scottish Government in September 2012. The consent was for up to 36 wind turbines with a tip height of up to 143.5m and for associated infrastructure including; access tracks, borrow pits, watercourse crossings, substation and control building.

In 2015 the Scottish Government approved a variation of the 2012 consent to allow for the installation of larger turbines up to 145m high with a rotor diameter of up to 128m, and a revised internal track layout.

Since the variation to the original consent was approved, LWP has been working to discharge some of the important planning conditions, including plans for the relocation of an existing meteorological radar and ensuring revised approach procedures for Stornoway Airport can be implemented.

Despite holding a planning consent, an agreement for connection to the grid, and a lease with the Stornoway Trust, LWP has yet to begin the construction of the wind farm for two important reasons:



The wind farm is dependent on the delivery of a new grid connection with the mainland as the electricity grid on Lewis is at full capacity. Scottish and Southern Energy Networks (SSEN) submitted a proposal for a new 600MW cable to the energy regulator Ofgem in July 2018, but even if approved by the regulator later this year, the connection will not be in place until late 2023.

The high capital cost of building a wind farm and the high charges the projects will pay to use the new grid connection means that they cannot proceed without a 'Contract for Difference' (CfD), the new financial support scheme for renewable electricity generated by eligible schemes. Contracts for Difference are awarded through a competitive auction process run by National Grid on behalf of the UK Government, and the first auction that the project will be able to take part in is expected to get underway in May of this year.

LWP has invested £12m into the Stornoway Wind Farm to date and will continue to invest significantly in order to prepare the project for the CfD auction later this year.

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Additional Consent Application

Lewis Wind Power is now intending to seek an additional consent for a different design to ensure that the company has all the options it believes may be required to secure a Contract for Difference and to deliver the project.

At our exhibition in October last year we set out our initial plans for a new and additional consent. This detailed proposals for:

- 33 turbines;
- 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;
- An increase in rotor diameter from 128m up to a maximum of 150m;
- A revised site layout to accommodate the longer blades;
- The potential for the co-location of a battery storage system.

Having undertaken further technical analysis and reviewed the feedback received at the exhibition and from 'statutory consultees' we have updated our plans, and our latest intentions are to seek consent for:

- 35 turbines in total;
- Tip heights of up to 156m and a maximum rotor diameter of 136m on the ten turbines closest to the eastern perimeter of the wind farm which is closest to the town of Stornoway;
- Maximum tip height of 180m and rotor diameter of up to 150m on the 25 other turbines which would be located further from the town;
- A revised site layout to take into account visual, ecological and ornithological constraints;
- The potential for the co-location of a battery storage system;
- Additional onsite substations (north and south).

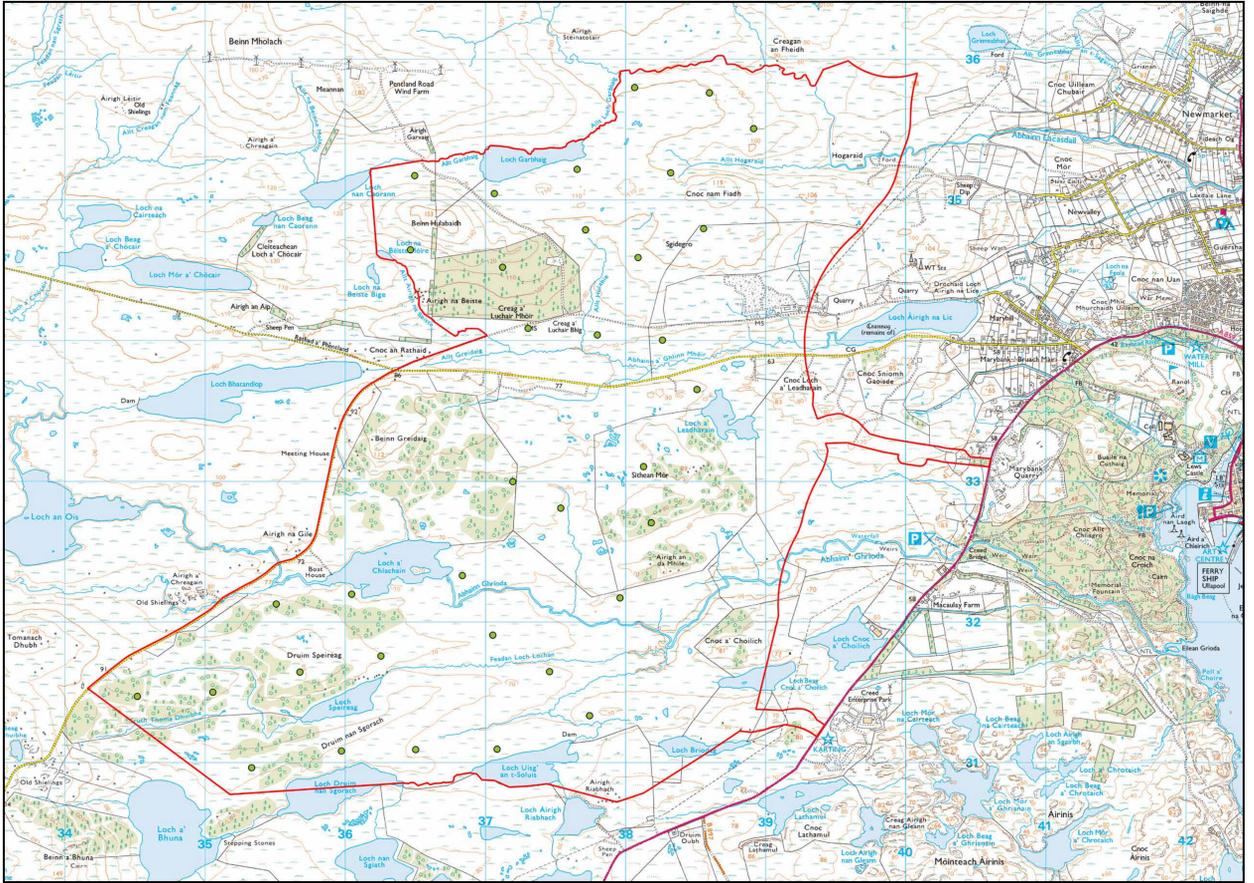
The tip heights proposed are very much in line with a number of developments in the planning process on the Scottish mainland as the industry seeks to deploy larger turbines to reduce costs, and battery storage facilities are increasingly being included in new renewable energy developments.



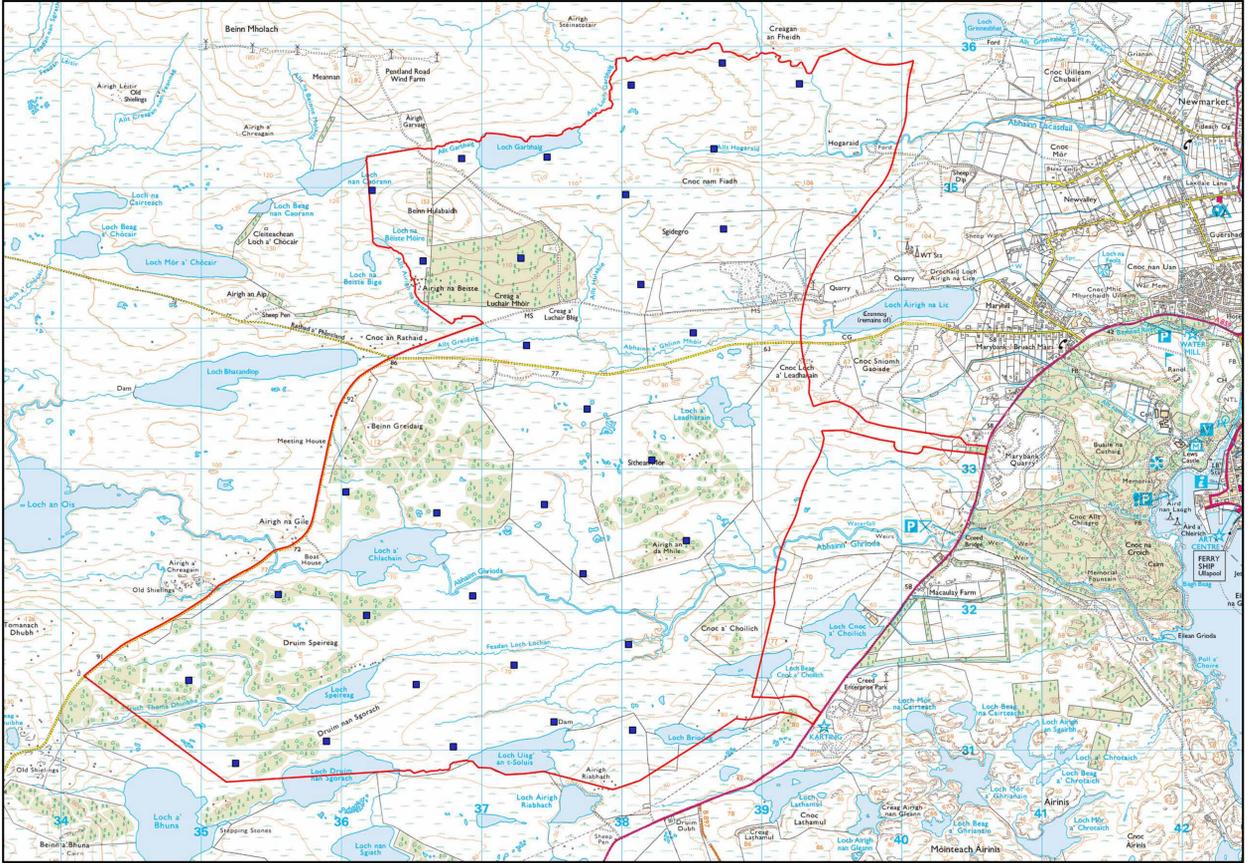
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Layouts

Additional Consent



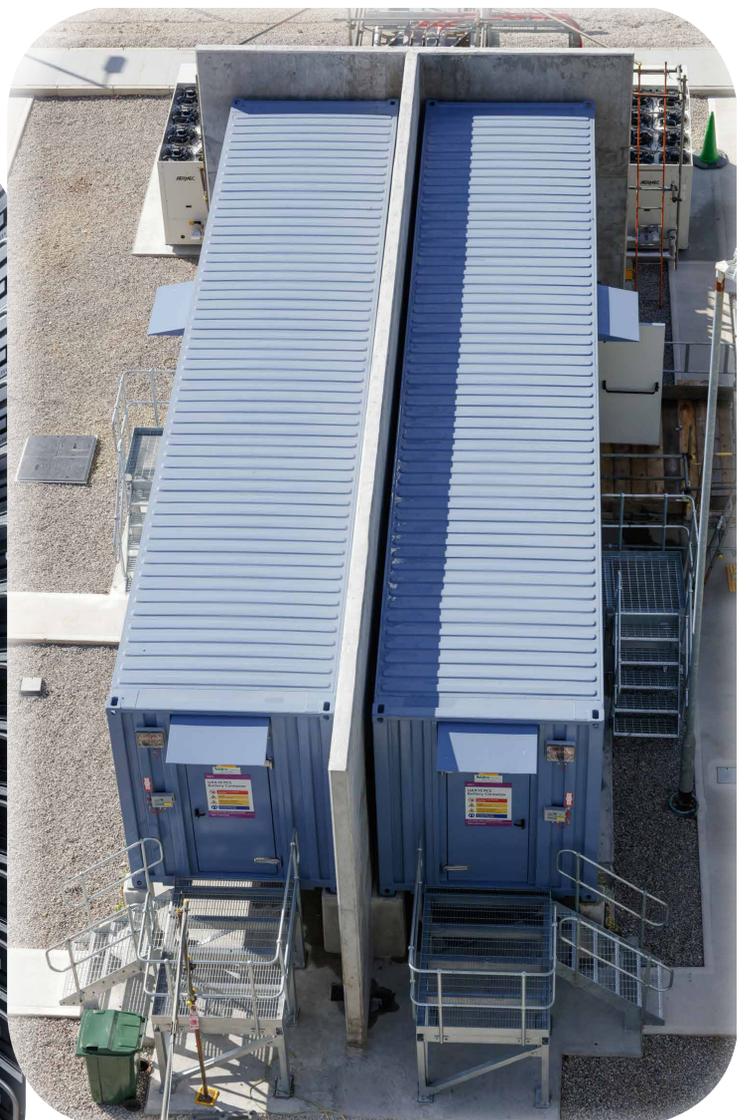
Scoping



Battery Storage

There has been significant growth in battery storage across Great Britain in recent years, with large-scale batteries being used to store energy for use at times of peak demand or to provide services to help manage the flows of power on the local electricity grid. These are often co-located with solar or wind energy projects

The proposed battery storage facility would allow the storing of excess energy to be used in periods of no or lower wind speeds. We will be doing further analysis on this possible facility over coming months, as well as speaking with the local power grid operator, Scottish and Southern Energy Networks.



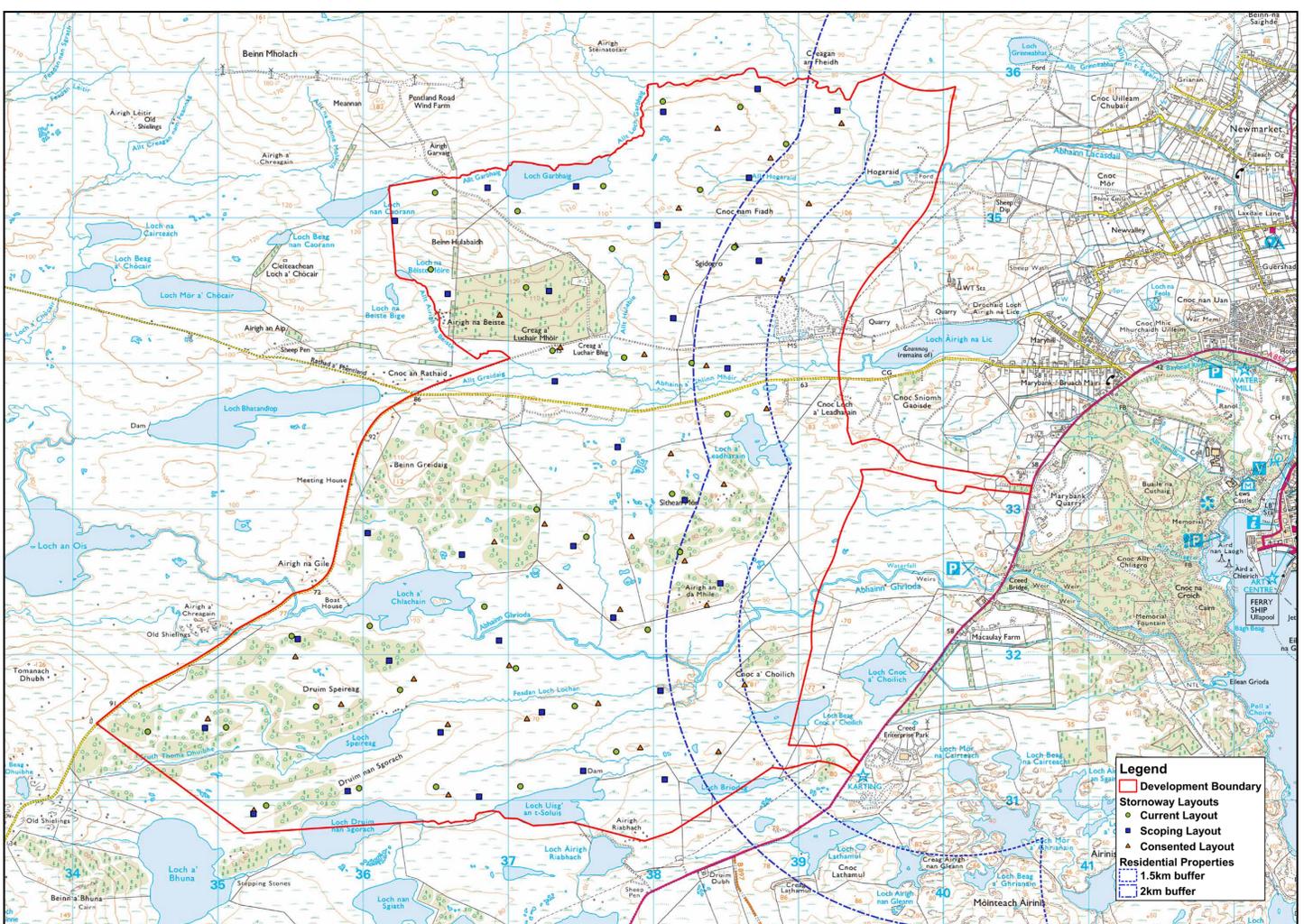


Summary of Proposals

The following table sets out the key aspects of the existing consent, the scoping layout we consulted on in October 2018, and our latest intentions.

| | Existing Consent | Additional Consent - Scoping Layout October 2018 | Additional Consent - Current Plans, February 2019 |
|---|------------------|--|---|
| Number of Turbines | 36 | 33 | 35 |
| Maximum Tip Height | 145m | 187m | 180m |
| Maximum Rotor Diameter | 128m | 150m | 150m |
| Number of turbines within 2km of nearest dwelling | 11 | 4 | 3 |
| Battery Storage Facility | No | Yes | Yes |

It can be seen that the plans for our additional consent would reduce significantly the number of dwellings within two kilometres of the nearest turbine, and there has also been a reduction in the planned height of the tallest turbines since we consulted in October.

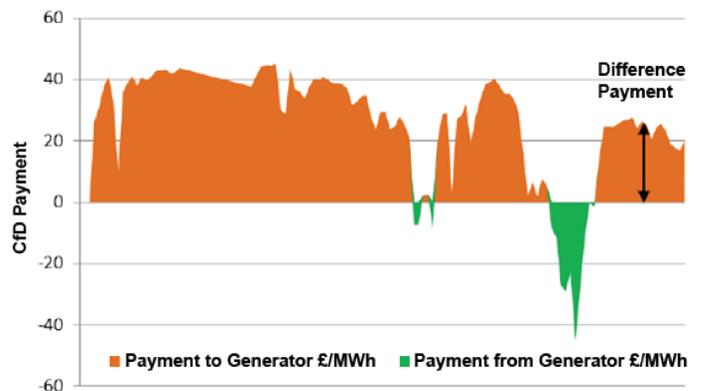
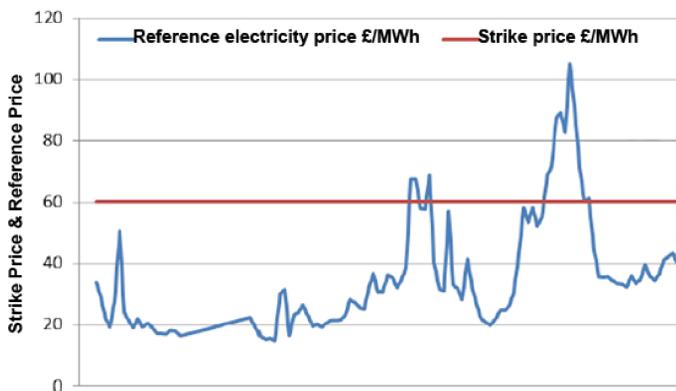


Reason for seeking additional consent

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', which guarantee a price per unit of power over 15 years.

CFDs have replaced the 'Renewables Obligation', a non-competitive and more generous subsidy system that supports the larger wind farms currently operational in the Western Isles and large-scale wind renewable electricity projects across the rest of the UK.



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

Since the project was awarded its existing consent, the wind industry has moved to significantly larger turbines - onshore and offshore – resulting in considerable reductions (over 60% for the most competitive schemes) in cost and therefore public subsidy.

In line with its competitors, and other developers throughout the world, LWP is therefore looking at all the possible options to make the project as competitive as possible, and the use of larger generators or turbines could have a significant impact on the cost of each unit of energy produced.



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Environmental Impact Assessment

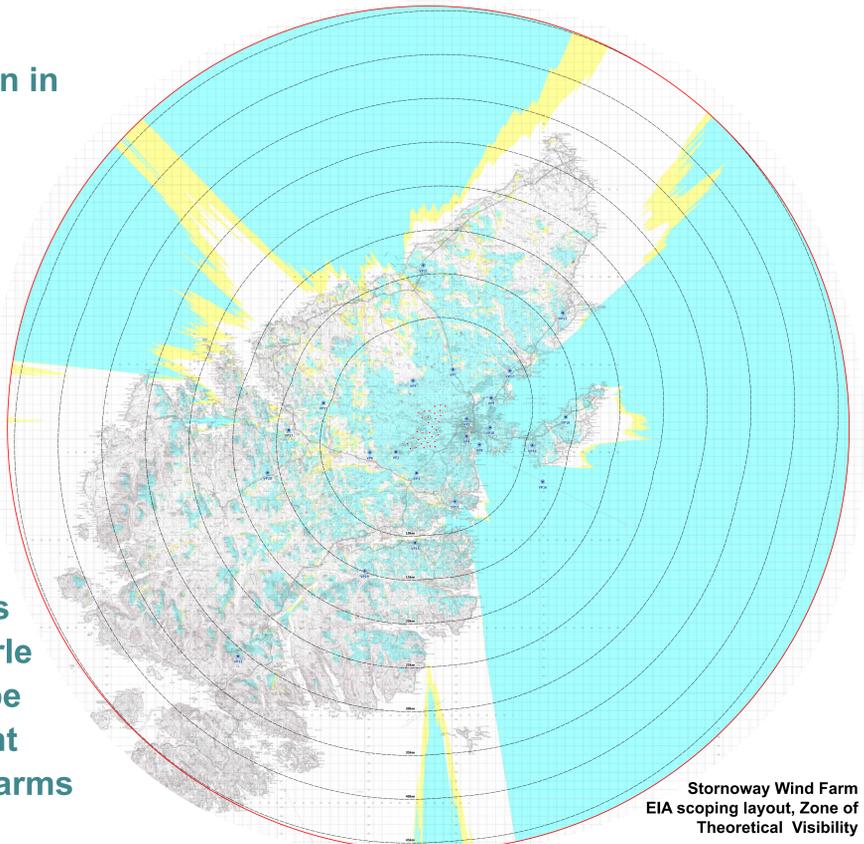
The Scottish Government issued a Scoping Opinion outlining the requirements for the Environmental Impact Assessment to support any additional consent application. The key areas of work are detailed on the following banners.

Landscape and Visual

The latest plans have been revised to consider comments received from consultees and at the public exhibition in October.

A comprehensive assessment of the impact of the potential wind farm on the existing character and value attached to the local landscape is currently being undertaken; in order to fully demonstrate the visibility of the potential wind farm, photomontages will be prepared from specific viewpoints, including key locations, properties and public rights of way in agreement with the Comhairle and other stakeholders. The landscape assessment will also take into account the cumulative impact of other wind farms in the local area.

The photomontages will show the turbines in their position and scale to give accurate representation of how the site would look if the scheme were to go ahead. These are based on specific standards for software modelling and on-site panoramic photography.



Stornoway Wind Farm
EIA scoping layout, Zone of
Theoretical Visibility

To help with the visualisation of the existing landscape and the potential wind farm, interactive 3D visual software modelling is available at this exhibition to enable residents to see effects of the proposal from different angles and viewpoints.



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Environmental Impact Assessment

Ornithology and Ecology

The ecology and ornithology assessments follow extensive monitoring programmes. They consider all impacts on species and habitats in and around the wind farm site. The latest plans have been developed using this data and where possible, infrastructure has been relocated to reduce impacts. The EIA will propose further mitigation to include additional monitoring and habitat enhancement.



Peat/Hydrology

The latest plans have been developed to avoid areas of deeper peat and other sensitive hydrological features; the hydrology and soils assessment consider soil/peat depths and hydrological flows to predict how the development may cause damage to habitats through removal, erosion, desiccation and degradation. The EIA will propose measures to avoid and mitigate such impacts as well as avoiding any pollution impacts on water bodies.

Traffic and Transportation

Vehicle movements to/from sites will consist of some abnormal vehicle loads, notably the turbine components. The EIA will consider the effects of these movements on the local road networks and details whether traffic flows will require management. The access points to the wind farm remain as per our current consent; all turbine components will be delivered to Arnish Point and will then be transported to the site by road.



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*Photographs of:
White Tailed Eagle
Stornoway Wind Farm site
Blade delivery at Corriemoillie Wind Farm
LWP 2018



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Environmental Impact Assessment

Archaeology/Cultural Heritage

The project design will seek to avoid any physical impact on archaeological features in and around the site.

The EIA will assess the direct and indirect impact of the wind farm on cultural heritage interests. The latest plans have sought to increase the distance between the closest turbine and the Druim Dubh stone circle, which is situated to the south-east of the wind farm.



Noise

As part of the development process, LWP would require to satisfy the planning authorities that the wind farm would comply with national noise guidelines known as ETSU-R-97 which establishes noise levels to ensure people are not subject to disturbance; the monitoring and assessment would consider daytime and night time noise levels. It will also take into account factors such as wind shear and low frequency noise, as recommended by industry best practise guidelines.

Any additional consent will be required to adhere to the noise limits set for the closest residential properties under the existing consent.

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*Photograph of:
Callanish standing stones
View of the site from war memorial
LWP 2018

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 Benefit

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

Community Ownership

The Stornoway Trust, the local community landowner, and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar are currently developing a joint venture to acquire a significant community ownership stake. We believe that the proposed joint venture would be the largest community owner of renewable power anywhere in the UK.



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. It is proposed that this rent is shared on a 50/50 basis with the common grazings that comprise the wind farm site. The level of these payments will be subject to approval by the Scottish Land Court.

It is important to stress that rights to grazing would continue, though there would 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 grazings.



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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. We will be holding an event later this year to engage with local businesses and organisations to make them aware of the opportunities to work with us and to make sure we understand the range of skills and capabilities across the Western Isles.

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.

The report found that 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

No further onshore wind development can take place on Lewis as the electricity network is at full capacity. Scottish and Southern Energy has proposed a new 600MW interconnector with the mainland, which would leave significant capacity for additional renewable energy development on the Western Isles.

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*Photograph of:
Cable beach landing
Blyth offshore wind farm
LWP 2018



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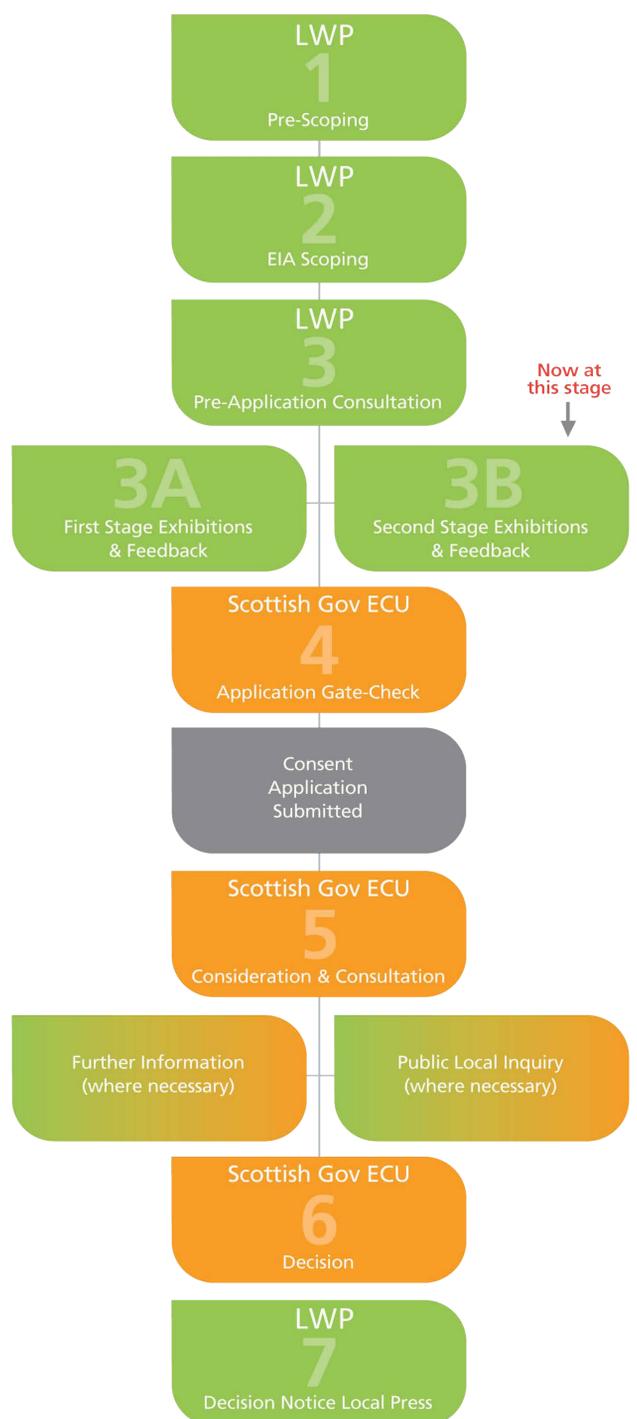
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What happens next?

In Scotland, the consenting process for onshore electricity projects over 50MW is managed by the Scottish Government. Over coming weeks we will be reviewing the questions asked and comments made, ahead of submitting our application to Scottish Ministers.

Applications are required to be accompanied by an Environmental Statement which describes the effects the development is likely to have on the environment. The application and the environmental statement will be available locally for public inspection. The local planning authority and public bodies such as Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Environmental Protection, along with local residents and businesses will be invited to submit their views.

We will make a public announcement at the point we make an application for the additional consent and the full details will be set out on our own website and the Energy Consents Unit will publish all relevant documentation and communications relating to our application.





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Thank You

We would like to thank you for taking the time to visit the exhibition to find out more about our plans. We hope you found the information useful and we would welcome any comments, questions or queries. Your feedback is important and over coming weeks we will be reviewing the questions that have been asked and comments that have been made as we finalise our plans.

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, Lewis Wind Power:

info@lwp.scot

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*Photograph of Stornoway Wind Farm Site
from Acha Mor road
LWP 2018