



33 Turbines

Sharing revenue
between the Stornoway
Trust and shareholders



180 MW

A generating
capacity of
up to 180MW



£5,000 MW per year

A proposed Community Benefit
Fund in excess of £1m* per annum
for the local initiatives

Dear Shareholder

A lot has happened since we last updated you. First of all we remain committed to delivering the Stornoway Wind farm (SWF) and want to ensure that you are fully informed of developments in the project. We also want to update you on progress and some important changes that affect you as a shareholder in the common grazings affected by our wind farm proposal.

Our Project

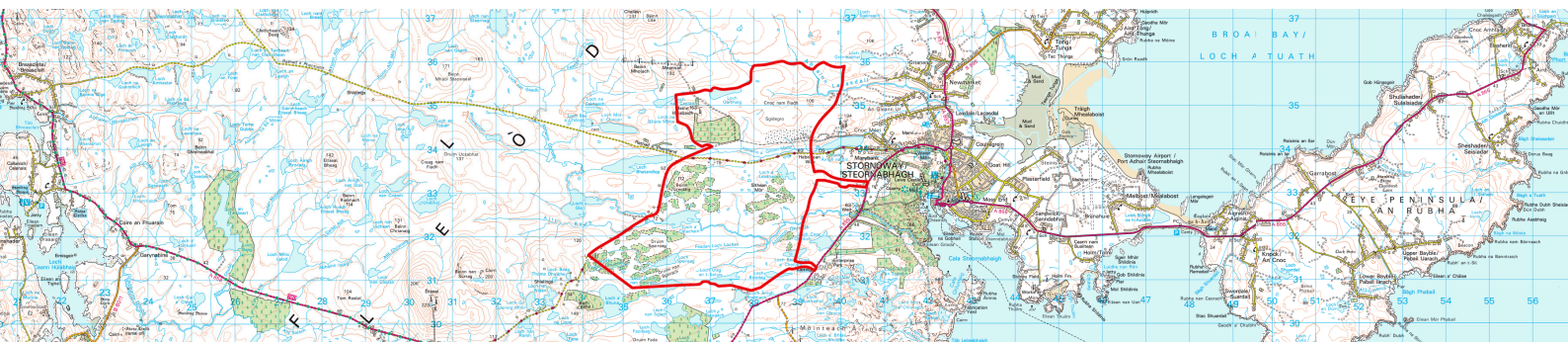
Planning consent and associated planning permissions for SWF were granted in 2012. Since then we have made improvements to the proposed scheme to ensure that our project remains competitive which resulted in an additional consent application. Our latest proposal is for a revised layout of 35 turbines across the site taking account of peat, birds and an increase in the overall tip heights of the turbines. We will shortly receive a decision from the Scottish Ministers for our new scheme and, with no statutory consultee objections, we are hopeful of a positive determination for 33 of the 35 turbines. This will mean that the overall capacity of the scheme has the potential to increase from 130MW to 180MW.

Scheme for Development

Following the decision of the Scottish Land Court in July 2021 we have a Scheme for Development which can be implemented for the consented wind farm scheme. The decision confirmed that our overall approach to dealing with shareholders was fair and reasonable. As a result of the revised layout and additional consent application we will need also need to revise the Scheme for Development which will mean a further submission to the Scottish Land Court.

Very few changes to the approved Scheme for Development are proposed to accommodate the revised consent we hope to receive for the wind farm. The main financial terms will either stay the same or, in some cases, be improved so that shareholders will have the opportunity to share in any increase in generation potential. The changes we make will ensure that no grazing will receive rental income less than that guaranteed by the previous scheme. Even though we have reduced the number of turbines the overall capacity of the wind farm as it is now planned would increase to 180MW; we therefore expect many grazings to have a greater income than agreed previously.

* Subject to indexation



Keeping you informed

We have already been in touch with your grazing clerk to advise them of the changes proposed and you are invited to attend the drop-in events in the Town Hall in Stornoway on the **9th and 10th November between 1300 and 1930**. There will be SWF and Stornoway Trust staff on hand to answer queries and explain the changes, the terms that have been agreed under the current Scheme for Development and demonstrate that the changes proposed would not result in shareholders losing out as a result of the revised planning consent.

We intend to submit our revised Scheme for Development under Section 19A of the Crofters (Scotland) Act 1993 before the end of the year and would like to hear from you, so please come along to our events on **9th and 10th November**.

Please be aware that we will ensure social distancing and other COVID mitigation measures are in place in the Town Hall.

Western Isles Interconnector

Grid connection dates can sometimes slip but we currently anticipate that the SWF will be connected in 2027 so we are working to ensure SWF is fully prepared for this date. SWF competitiveness is important in ensuring that the interconnector is justified by the needs case being prepared by Scottish and Southern Electricity Transmission. The other renewable projects that rely on the interconnector would also benefit from the long awaited grid connection to the Western Isles.

An important step in justifying the interconnector is the success of the SWF in the upcoming Contract for Difference auction as this would provide the project with a guaranteed income. We are working to make the project as competitive as possible with our proposed changes and consequently maximise our prospects of success in the auction process.

Project Benefits

SWF remains committed to delivering the benefits previously agreed.

We are proposing the establishment of a community benefit fund which we expect to provide in excess of £1m* per annum for the local initiatives.

We will also be looking at ways to deliver the 20% community ownership and have been working with the Comhairle and the Stornoway Trust to establish an appropriate body to distribute the fund throughout the life of the wind farm.

The wind farm will provide many local employment opportunities both during the construction and operational phases. The project could contribute up to £48m to the local economy during the construction phase through local contracts and employment.



Next steps

Please come along to our drop in events at the Town Hall in Stornoway on 9th and 10th November.

If you would like any further information please contact David Morrison in our Stornoway Office on **01851 605063** or email **david.morrison@stornowaytrust.org.uk**

* Subject to indexation