

Tangy IV Wind Farm Section 36C Variation

Technical Appendix 3.2: Scoping Opinion



Scottish Government
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**The Scottish Government
Energy Consents Unit**

**Scoping Opinion on behalf of Scottish Ministers under the
Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland)
Regulations 2017**

**Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development
SSE Renewables Limited**

23rd September 2025

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1. Introduction

1.1 This scoping opinion is issued by the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit on behalf of the Scottish Ministers to SSE Renewables a company incorporated under the Companies Acts with company number SC435847 and having its registered office at Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 3AQ (“the Company”) in response to a request dated 18th July 2025 for a scoping opinion under the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 in relation to the proposed Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development (“the proposed development”). The request was accompanied by a scoping report.

1.2 The proposed development would be located near Bellochantuy, Campbeltown in Argyll and Bute, Scotland.

1.3 The proposed Varied Development will comprise of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 200 Meters. The current expected total capacity is approximately 96MW.

1.4 In addition to the windfarm there will be ancillary infrastructure including:

- 11.97km of onsite access track with the inclusion of three turning heads
- Minor track alignments
- Wind turbine foundations and hardstandings
- Crane pads
- Onsite underground cabling and grid connections
- One site substation
- Up to four borrow pits
- One operations control building with parking and welfare facilities
- Three permanent meteorological masts
- Temporary meteorological masts
- Temporary construction compound and laydown areas
- Temporary telecoms infrastructure

1.5 The Company indicates the proposed development would be decommissioned after 50 years and the site restored in accordance with the decommissioning and restoration plan.

1.6 The proposed development is solely within the planning authority of Argyll and Bute Council.

1.7 Tangy IV Wind Farm received consent by Scottish Ministers in December 2019. The Consented Development, comprised of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9 Meters (M). The consented capacity of the project was up to 80 megawatts (MW). However, the project will not be constructed, and the Applicant is seeking to vary the consent.

The Scoping Opinion is for a Varied Development. The Applicant is proposing to apply for a variation of the 2019 scheme by increasing the tip height of the turbines and other associated changes to infrastructure. The proposed Varied Development will comprise of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 200 Meters.

There are no environmental designations within the proposed development but four have been identified within 10km of the site:

- Bellocchantuy and Tangy Gorges Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)
- Glenacardoch Point SSSI
- Machrihanish Sand Dunes SSSI
- Tangy and Lussa Lochs SSSIs / Special Landscape Areas (SPA) / Ramsar sites (wetlands)

There are no areas of ancient woodland within the site, however, one is located 1.5km of the site boundary.

Approximately 500m from the site boundary is a Landscape Area (LLA), West Kintyre Coast.

There are two Special Protection Area (SPAs) with 20km of the site boundary:

- The Kintyre Goose Roosts SPA
- The Arran Moors SPA

2. Consultation

2.1 Following the scoping opinion request a list of consultees was agreed between SSE Renewables (acting as the Company's agent) and the Energy Consents Unit. A consultation on the scoping report was undertaken by the Scottish Ministers and this commenced on 25th July 2025. The consultation closed on 16th September 2025. Extensions to this deadline were granted to Historic Environment Scotland, NatureScot and Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks (SSE). The Scottish Ministers also requested responses from their internal advisors Transport Scotland and Scottish Forestry. Standing advice from Marine Directorate – Science Evidence Data and Digital (MD-SEDD) has been provided with requirements to complete a checklist prior to the submission of the application for consent under section 36C of the Electricity Act 1989. All consultation responses received, and the standing advice from MD-SEDD, are attached in **ANNEX A Consultation responses** and **ANNEX B MD-SEDD Standing Advice**.

2.2 The purpose of the consultation was to obtain scoping advice from each consultee on environmental matters within their remit. Responses from consultees and advisors, including the standing advice from MD-SEDD, should be read in full for detailed requirements and for comprehensive guidance, advice and, where appropriate, templates for preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report.

2.3 Unless stated to the contrary in this scoping opinion, Scottish Ministers expect the EIA report to include all matters raised in responses from the consultees and advisors.

2.4 The following organisations were consulted but did not provide a response:

- Campbeltown Community Council
- Civil Aviation Authority – Airspace
- Crown Estate Scotland
- District Salmon Fisheries Board – Argyll
- East Kintyre Community Council
- Fisheries Management Scotland
- John Muir Trust
- MacHrihanish Airbase Community Company
- Mountaineering Scotland
- RSPB Scotland
- ScotWays

- Scottish Water
- Scottish Wildlife Trust
- South Kintyre Development Trust
- Southend Community Council
- The Laggan Community Council
- Visit Scotland
- West Kintyre Community Council

2.5 With regard to those consultees who did not respond, it is assumed that they have no comment to make on the scoping report, however each would be consulted again in the event that an application for section 36C consent is submitted subsequent to this EIA scoping opinion.

2.6 The Scottish Ministers are satisfied that the requirements for consultation set out in Regulation 12(4) of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 have been met.

3. The Scoping Opinion

3.1 This scoping opinion has been adopted following consultation with Argyll and Bute Council, within whose area the proposed development would be situated, NatureScot, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Historic Environment Scotland, all as statutory consultation bodies, and with other bodies which Scottish Ministers consider likely to have an interest in the proposed development by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities or local and regional competencies.

3.2 Scottish Ministers adopt this scoping opinion having taken into account the information provided by the applicant in its request dated 18th July 2025 in respect of the specific characteristics of the proposed development and responses received to the consultation undertaken. In providing this scoping opinion, the Scottish Ministers have had regard to current knowledge and methods of assessment; have taken into account the specific characteristics of the proposed development, the specific characteristics of that type of development and the environmental features likely to be affected.

3.3 A copy of this scoping opinion has been sent to Argyll and Bute Council for publication on their website. It has also been published on the Scottish Government energy consents website at www.energyconsents.scot.

3.4 Scottish Ministers expect the EIA report which will accompany the application for the proposed development to consider in full all consultation responses attached in **Annex A and Annex B**.

3.5 Scottish Ministers are satisfied with the scope of the EIA set out at Section 3 of the scoping report.

3.6 In addition to the consultation responses, Ministers wish to provide comments with regards to the scope of the EIA report. The Company should note and address each matter.

3.7 Scottish Water did not provide any information on whether there are any drinking water protected areas or Scottish Water assets on which the development could have any significant effect. It did not respond to the consultation. However Scottish Ministers request that the company contacts Scottish Water (via EIA@scottishwater.co.uk) and makes further enquires to confirm whether there any Scottish Water assets which may be affected by the development, and includes details in the EIA report of any relevant mitigation measures to be provided.

3.8 Scottish Ministers request that the Company investigates the presence of any private water supplies which may be impacted by the development. The EIA report should include details of any supplies identified by this investigation, and if any supplies are identified, the Company should provide an assessment of the potential impacts, risks, and any mitigation which would be provided.

3.9 Marine Directorate – Science Evidence Data and Digital (MD-SEDD) provide generic scoping guidelines for onshore wind farm and overhead line development (<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse/Freshwater/Research/onshoreren>) which outline how fish populations can be impacted during the construction, operation and decommissioning of a wind farm or overhead line development and informs developers as to what should be considered, in relation to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries, during the EIA process.

3.10 In addition to identifying the main watercourses and waterbodies within and downstream of the proposed development area, developers should identify and consider, at this early stage, any areas of Special Areas of Conservation where fish are a qualifying feature and proposed felling operations particularly in acid sensitive areas.

3.11 MD-SEDD also provide standing advice for onshore wind farm or overhead line development (which has been appended at Annex B) which outlines what information, relating to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries, is expected in the EIA report. Use of the checklist, provided in Annex 1 of the standing advice, should ensure that the EIA report contains the required information; the absence of such information may necessitate requesting additional information which may delay the process. Developers are required to submit the completed checklist in advance of their application submission.

3.12 Scottish Ministers consider that where there is a demonstrable requirement for peat landslide hazard and risk assessment (PLHRA), the assessment should be undertaken as part of the EIA process to provide Ministers with a clear understanding of whether the risks are acceptable and capable of being controlled by mitigation measures. The Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessments: Best Practice Guide for Proposed Electricity Generation Developments (Second Edition), published at <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/04/8868>, should be followed in the preparation of the EIA report, which should contain such an assessment and details of mitigation measures. Where a PLHRA is not required clear justification for not carrying out such a risk assessment is required.

3.13 The scoping report identified viewpoints at Table 5.4 to be assessed within the landscape and visual impact assessment. The Argyll and Bute Council are satisfied with the Scoping Report's approach to visual amenity and suggested viewpoints (VP) for the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

Historic Environment Scotland (HES) have three scheduled monuments that could potentially suffer from adverse effects from the proposed development. HES has requested photomontage visualisation for these assets and instructions on how they should be carried out. The assets identified are as follows:

- Tangy Loch, Fortified Dwelling (SM3180).

Visualisations should be produced from the shore of Tangy Loch, with the monument in the foreground. Further visualisation should be produced from the monument itself.

- Killocraw Cairn, 450m ESE of (SM3664)
- Killocraw, Cairn 640m E of (SM3647)

HES requests photomontage visualisations from both cairns, aimed towards the proposed development. A third visualisation should face the development with the two cairns in the foreground.

NatureScot (NS) has requested additional viewpoints from the northwest of Arran at a lower elevation, such as Dougarie Point. NS also requested that VP23 Beinn Bharrain is included as a night-time viewpoint. They also requested wirelines for VP4 Islay Ferry Route, VP16 Kilbrannan Sound and VP24 Sea near Machrihanish.

Scottish Ministers advise that finalised Viewpoints (VP) and wireframes for the EIAR must be agreed in advance of preparation of any visuals with Argyll and Bute Council, Historic Environment Scotland and NatureScot.

3.14 The noise assessment should be carried out in line with relevant legislation and standards as detailed in section 11 of the scoping report. The noise assessment report should be formatted as per Table 6.1 of the IOA “A Good Practice Guide to the Application of ETSU-R-97 for the Assessment and Rating of Wind Turbine Noise”.

3.15 As the maximum blade tip height of turbines exceeds 150m the LVIA as detailed in section 5 of the scoping report must include a robust Night Time Assessment with agreed viewpoints to consider the effects of aviation lighting and how the chosen lighting mitigates the effects.

3.16 It is recommended by the Scottish Ministers that decisions on bird surveys – species, methodology, vantage points, viewsheds & duration - site specific & cumulative – should be made following discussion between the Company and NatureScot.

NatureScot has requested one full season of non-breeding survey work for the Greenland white-fronted goose. They also request an updated collision risk model for the EIAR.

3.17 Where borrow pits are proposed as a source of on-site aggregate they should be considered as part of the EIA process and included in the EIA report detailing information regarding their location, size and nature. Ultimately, it would be necessary to provide details of the proposed depth of the excavation compared to the actual topography and water table, proposed drainage and settlement traps, turf and overburden removal and storage for reinstatement, and details of the proposed restoration profile. The impact of such facilities (including dust, blasting and impact on water) should be appraised as part of the overall impact of the working. Information should cover the requirements set out in ‘**PAN 50: Controlling the Environmental Effects of Surface Mineral Workings**’.

3.18 The Scottish Ministers request that the company assess the impact of the proposed development on existing and/or planned infrastructure. In particular, the company should carry out the necessary assessments to confirm if any part of the proposed development is within the consultation zone of any of the following:-

- a licenced explosives site;
- gas (or any other) pipeline;
- existing overhead electric lines;

- underground cables;
- water pipes;
- telecommunications links.

3.19 Scottish Ministers request the company to assess if any flammable, toxic or explosive chemicals detailed in The Town and Country Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Regulations 2015 would be stored on site in quantities such that a Hazardous Substances Consent would be required under section 2 of the Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Act 1997.

3.20 Ministers are aware that further engagement is required between parties regarding the refinement of the design of the proposed development regarding, among other things, surveys, management plans, peat, radio links, finalisation of viewpoints, cultural heritage, cumulative assessments and request that they are kept informed of relevant discussions.

3.21 Further issues for consideration include but are not limited to, NatureScot potentially having an objection if the developer decides to submit an application. This relates to the cumulative night-time effects of aviation lighting on the North Arran National Scenic Area.

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) have concerns that the proposed development may cause a physical obstruction to air traffic. The developer's site, falls within Low Flying Area 14 (LFA 14). This LFA is used for low level flight training for fixed wing aircraft that may operate as low as 250 feet.

Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd (HIAL) have cautioned that the height of the development may impact the safeguarding criteria and operation of Campbeltown Airport. Due to this HIAL will likely have a holding objection if the developer decides to submit an application.

Scottish Ministers advise that an Aviation Impact Feasibility Study (AIFS) is carried out with reference to Campbeltown Airport. Furthermore, it is also advised that Instrument Flight Procedures (IFPs) and Lighting Requirement are required to be assessed.

Scottish Forestry (SF) advised that the EIAR include a full woodland survey covering all affected areas from the proposed development. Scottish Ministers advise that the EIAR includes an assessment of the cumulative impacts of woodland removal from the Kintyre Peninsula.

British Telecommunications (BT) are not concerned that the current iteration of the proposed development will interfere with their radio network. However, if the proposed site includes any new structures at height this may cross one of BT's radio links.

4. Mitigation Measures

4.1 The Scottish Ministers are required to make a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the proposed development on the environment as identified in the environmental impact assessment. The mitigation measures suggested for any significant environmental impacts identified should be presented as a conclusion to each chapter. Applicants are also asked to provide a consolidated schedule of all mitigation measures proposed in the environmental assessment, provided in tabular form, where that mitigation is relied upon in relation to reported conclusions of likelihood or significance of impacts.

5. Conclusion

5.1 This scoping opinion is based on information contained in the applicant's written request for a scoping opinion and information available at the date of this scoping opinion. The adoption of this scoping opinion by the Scottish Ministers does not preclude the Scottish Ministers from requiring of the applicant information in connection with an EIA report submitted in connection with any application for section 36C consent for the proposed development.

5.2 This scoping opinion will not prevent the Scottish Ministers from seeking additional information at application stage, for example to include cumulative impacts of additional developments which enter the planning process after the date of this opinion.

5.3 Without prejudice to that generality, it is recommended that advice regarding the requirement for an additional scoping opinion be sought from Scottish Ministers in the event that no application has been submitted within 12 months of the date of this opinion.

5.4 It is acknowledged that the environmental impact assessment process is iterative and should inform the final layout and design of proposed developments. Scottish Ministers note that further engagement between relevant parties in relation to the refinement of the design of this proposed development will be required, and would request that they are kept informed of on-going discussions in relation to this.

5.5 Applicants are encouraged to engage with officials at the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit at the pre-application stage and before proposals reach design freeze.

5.6 When finalising the EIA report, applicants are asked to provide a summary in tabular form of where within the EIA report each of the specific matters raised in this scoping opinion has been addressed.

5.7 It should be noted that to facilitate uploading to the Energy Consents portal, the EIA report and its associated documentation should be divided into appropriately named separate files of sizes no more than 10 megabytes (MB).

Niall MacQuarrie
Energy Consents Unit
23rd September 2025

ANNEX A

Consultation

List of consultees who provided a response.

• Argyll and Bute Council	A1-A10
• Historic Environment Scotland	A11-A14
• NatureScot	A15-A22
• Scottish Environmental Protection Agency	A23-A39
• British Telecommunications plc	A40-A46
• Defence Infrastructure Organisation	A47-A49
• Glasgow Airport	A50-A52
• Glasgow Prestwick Airport	A53-A56
• Health and Safety Executive	A57-A61
• Highlands and Islands Airports Limited	A62-A66
• Joint Radio Company Limited	A67-A70
• NATS Safeguarding	A71-A74
• Office for Nuclear Regulation	A75-A77
• Scottish Forestry	A78-A79
• Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks (SSE)	A80-A85
• Scottish Gas Networks (SGN)	A86-A87
• The Met Office	A88-A90
• Transport Scotland	A91-A93

Internal advice from areas of the Scottish Government was provided by officials from Transport Scotland, Scottish Forestry and Marine Directorate (in the form of standing advice from Marine Directorate – Science Evidence Data and Digital (MD-SEDD or bespoke advice from Marine Directorate – Science Evidence Data and Digital (MD-SEDD).

See Section 2.4 above for a list of organisations that were consulted but did not provide a response.



Argyll and Bute Council
Comhairle Earra Gháidheal agus Bhóid

Development and Economic Growth

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Niall MacQuarrie
Energy Consents Unit
The Scottish Government
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18 August 2025

Dear Niall

THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017 AS AMENDED (THE EIA REGULATIONS)

REQUEST FOR A 'SCOPING OPINION' FOR PROPOSED SECTION S36C APPLICATION

**PROPOSAL: Scoping opinion for proposed Section S36C application for Tangy IV
Wind Farm – Varied Development**

**SITE ADDRESS: Land approximately 9km northwest of Campbeltown, Kintyre, Argyll
and Bute**

LPA REFERENCE: 25/01223/SCOPE

ECU REFERENCE: ECU00006203

I write in reference to your scoping consultation regarding the above proposal. Please see the Council's consultation response below. The issuing of this scoping consultation advice should not be taken to indicate support for the proposal on the part of Argyll & Bute Council. The Council's conclusions on any future consultation would rely upon the consideration of the content of any accompanying environmental information, the responses of consultees, the views of third parties and any other material planning considerations.

Please note that in terms of National Planning Framework 4 and the Argyll & Bute Local Development Plan 2 and associated Supplementary Guidance, renewable energy developments, including changes and variations to existing approved schemes, will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Net economic impact, including local and community socio-economic benefits such as employment, associated business and supply chain opportunities;
- Impacts on communities and individual dwellings, including, residential amenity, visual impact, noise and shadow flicker;
- Landscape and visual impacts;
- Public access, including impact on long distance walking and cycling routes and scenic routes;
- Impacts on aviation and defence interests including seismological recording;
- Impacts on telecommunications and broadcasting installations, particularly ensuring that transmission links are not compromised;
- Impacts on road traffic and on adjacent trunk roads, including during construction;
- Impacts on historic environment;
- Effects on hydrology, the water environment and flood risk;
- Biodiversity including impacts on birds;
- Impacts on trees, woods and forests;
- Proposals for the decommissioning of development, including ancillary infrastructure, and site restoration;
- The quality of site restoration plans including the measures in place to safeguard or guarantee availability of finances to effectively implement those plans;
- The scale of contribution to renewable energy generation targets.
- Effect on greenhouse gas emissions.
- Impacts on carbon rich soils.
- Impacts on tourism and recreation.
- Opportunities for energy storage.
- Cumulative impacts.

The '*Argyll & Bute Landscape Wind Energy Capacity Study*' (2017) also remains a material consideration in the Council's consideration of wind farm applications.

Should you require anything further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Stuart W Ramsay MRTPI
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Major Applications Team
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ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017, REGULATION 12

SCOPING CONSULTATION RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL

THE SITE & PROPOSAL

The Proposed Development would be located on land approximately 7km northwest of Campbeltown, on the Kintyre Peninsula. Areas of commercial forestry, and recently felled forestry, are located to the north and east of the site. Tangy Loch is set approximately 200 metres to the south east of the site, whilst Lussa Loch is set approximately a kilometre to the east. The nearest part of the site is located approximately a kilometre to the east of the Atlantic Ocean. Terms of the nearest public roads, the A83 Trunk Road passes to the west of the site, running north to south along the coast of the Atlantic, approximately 600 metres from the site at its closest point. An unclassified public road runs within approximately 500 metres of the site, to the south west. Campbeltown Airport is located approximately 8 km to the south. The closest settlements to the site are located at the villages of Bellochantuy, 2 km to the north west, and Kilchenzie, approximately 3 km to the south.

The proposed development site is located on undulating upland, on the western side of the Kintyre peninsula, and is presently utilised for forestry, agricultural and renewable energy electricity generation (existing Tangy I and Tangy II wind farms). Terms of watercourses, the site straddles the catchments of the Allt nan Creamh, Allt na Ceardaich, Allt a' Ghoirtein and the Tangy Burn. Further, the original hydrological regime is deemed to have been altered because of historic and current land uses, with the flow within forestry drainage channels likely to be seasonally dependent. Previous EIARs prepared for the same area found that the site was not at risk of flooding, due to its elevation and its distance from significant surface watercourses.

The highest point within the application boundary is Cnocan Gean, north-east of the existing wind farm at a height of 200 m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). In general, the elevation of the site ranges from approximately 90 m to 200 m AOD.

There are no environmental designations on the site itself, however within 10km of the site the following designated sites are located:

- Machrihanish Dunes SSSI, designated for its sand dunes, lies to the south west.
- Bellochantuy and Tangy Gorges SSSIs, designated for their geology are located to the west and the north west of the site.
- Tangy and Lussa Lochs SSSIs / SPAs / RAMSAR sites, designated for their non-breeding Greenland white-fronted goose (*Anser albifrons*) population, slender naiad (*Najas flexilis*), and ogliotrophic loch.
- Glenacardoch Point SSSI, designated for its geology.

There are no areas of ancient woodland within the proposed site, however, there is a small area of ancient woodland located approximately 1.5 km to the south east of the site boundary. The site is also located approximately 500m to the east of the West Kintyre (coast) Local Landscape Area (LLA).

The original Tangy IV Wind Farm (a repowering of the existing, operational 22 turbine Tangy 1 and II Wind Farms) received consent from Scottish Ministers in December 2019, under ref: ECU00000673. The consented development comprised of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9 metres and associated infrastructure, with a consented capacity of up to 80 megawatts (MW), and comprised of the following;

- Erection of 16 wind turbines of up to, but not exceeding, 149.9 m tip height with external transformers;
- Formation of hardstanding area at each turbine base with a maximum area of 1,800m²;
- Erection of 3 permanent meteorological masts and associated hardstand areas;
- Up to 2 site substations (1 new substation and possible retention of the existing Tangy 1 and Tangy 2 wind farm substation);
- Erection of operations control building with parking and welfare facilities;
- A total 11 km of onsite access tracks with associated watercourse crossings (of which approximately 7.4 km are new access tracks and 3.6 km are upgrades to existing tracks); and
- Onsite underground cabling.
- Dismantling of existing Tangy 1 and 2 wind farms (totalling 22 turbines) and associated reinstatement
- 4 Borrow Pits

The applicant has advised that this consented development will not be constructed and is now seeking to vary the original ECU consent.

The proposed repowering development will have a total generating capacity of 96 megawatts ("MW") and will comprise:

- Erection of 16 wind turbines, up to 200 m in height to tip of blade, with a number of turbines repositioned due to the increased tip height, changes to wake zones and safety buffers for topple distances;
- Wind turbine foundations and hardstandings, increased in size from the original approved design. Some hardstandings have been repositioned/reorientated, in response to the proposed turbine repositioning;
- Three permanent meteorological masts and associated hardstand areas, all relocated from their original approved locations;
- Crane pads;
- Access tracks a mixture of new and upgraded track is proposed, increased from 11km to 11.97km, with 3 no. turning heads;
- Underground electricity cables;
- Temporary borrow pits, up to 4 no.;
- Temporary construction and storage compounds and ancillary infrastructure;
- Onsite substation and a separate control building, with the substation relocated from the original approved location;
- Office and welfare facilities;
- Forest removal and subsequent replanting; and
- Waste water and drainage attenuation measures (as required).

Access to the site is proposed to be from an upgraded, existing junction with the A83 Trunk Road, also utilising a minor public road. Existing tracks on site are proposed to be upgraded, and new additional tracks (as required) are to be added to reach the relocated turbines proposed.

For a variation application relating to an EIA development, the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations December 2017 require further assessment to consider the impacts of the variation rather than requiring the whole development to be assessed again. The applicant has advised that in considering the

impacts of the variation, in accordance with Regulation 5(4), the EIA Report will consider the results identified in the 2018 EIAR.

In response to Section 1.3.1 - Key Questions for Consultees on pages 10 and 11 of the submitted Scoping Report, the Council considers that the proposed baseline is acceptable, and that the proposed approach to the evaluation and impact assessment methods are acceptable. The Council are also content with the stated effects that are proposed to be scoped out of the assessment. In summary, the contents of the Scoping Report submitted are broadly acceptable, and that the proposed scope of the environmental assessments detailed therein will form a generally appropriate structure for the EIA Report (EIAR) preparation. In accordance with the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, Argyll and Bute Council would comment as follows on the information to be provided in the EIAR.

With regard to the question from the applicant “Can Consultees provide details of any recent records or projects within or in the vicinity of the site, which may not yet be in the public domain, and which may be pertinent to the assessment of impacts relating to the Proposed Varied Development?”, the Council is unaware of any additional projects not in the public domain that may be pertinent to the Proposed Varied Development.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT

The description of development for the EIAR must include:

- A description of the physical characteristics of the whole development and the full land use requirements during the operational, construction and decommissioning phases;
- A description of the main characteristics of the production processes, for instance, nature and quantity of the materials used;
- The risk of accidents, having regard in particular to substances or technologies used;
- An estimate, by type and quantity, of expected residues and emissions (water, air and soil pollution, noise, vibration, light/flicker, heat, radiation, etc.) resulting from the operation of the development; and
- The estimated cumulative impact of the project with other consented or operation development.

It should also be noted that the Council would expect the full vehicular access to/from the site to the junction with the nearest public road to be included within the site edged red.

ALTERNATIVES

The EIAR should include a statement which outlines the main development alternatives studied by the applicant and an indication of the main reasons for the final project choice. This is expected to highlight the following: the range of technologies that may have been considered; locational criteria and economic parameters used in the initial site selection; options for access; design and locational options for all elements of the proposed development (including grid connection); and the environmental effects of the different options examined. Such assessment should also highlight sustainable development attributes including for example assessment of carbon emissions / carbon savings.

CUMULATIVE IMPACT

There is currently a high level of interest in commercial scale wind energy development within Argyll and Bute. The proposed development will be seen in combination with other wind energy developments, and transmission infrastructure, and will further extend the number of

proposals of this type in the surrounding area, necessitating appropriate assessments of cumulative impacts. Cumulative impact will be a significant material consideration in the final determination of any future application and should be fully addressed in the submitted EIAR. Up to date records of wind energy planning applications and scoping records for the area will be required to ensure all potential wind energy developments are taken into account and common viewpoints and sensitive receptors identified and assessed. It is recommended that consultation is undertaken with the Energy Consents Unit to identify any other S36 schemes which may advance at the same pace as this proposal, including: Breakerie, High Dalrioch, Cnoc Buidhe, Allt Domhain and Meall Mor projects.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

It is noted from the Scoping Report that the EIAR will consider the updated planning and renewable energy policy context relevant to the proposed development e.g. Argyll and Bute Local Development Plan 2 and National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4). It should be noted that the Argyll and Bute Landscape Wind Energy Capacity Study (2017) remains part of the development plan and is both a material and relevant consideration in the determination of planning applications of this nature. The methodology used to prepare this document is consistent with current GLVIA, 3rd Edition and NatureScot advice/guidance.

LANDSCAPE & VISUAL

A landscape and visual impact assessment (LVIA) was previously undertaken for the Consented Development by ASH design + Assessment Ltd (ASH). It is noted that the LVIA for the Varied Development proposed will consider the potential for material changes to the effects identified for the Consented Development, assessing a layout consisting of 16 turbines with a maximum tip height of 200m.

Cumulative Landscape and Visual Effects

A CLVIA was included in the 2018 EIAR assessment for the Consented Development, following best practice guidance at the time. It considered the addition of 2018 EIAR Layout to a baseline scenario which included all operational and consented wind development projects within 60 km of the Consented Development and those either at application or appeal stage within the planning process at the time of submission. This assessment concluded that there would be no significant cumulative effects to designated landscapes. Potential significant cumulative effects were identified for two LCTs: Rocky Mosaic and Upland Forest-Moor Mosaic, at 5 of the 11 viewpoints and on 1 of the 11 routes included in the original cumulative assessment. The Council concluded at the time that the proposal would not result in significant landscape effects in the Upland forest Moor Mosaic or the Bay Farmland LCTs, although they considered there to be some potential to “worsen the already accepted impact in the Rocky Mosaic LCT”.

It is noted that a wider study area of 40km was used for the 2018 EIAR, and a smaller, detailed study area of 11km was defined, following initial review and site appraisal. The Council agrees that for the Varied Development, it is anticipated that any significant effects would still occur within the 40km study area, and that this should be used for comparison purposes. The Council also notes that it is proposed that the detailed study area is expanded to 20km, to account for any potential increased influence of the larger scale turbines. This is considered to be acceptable.

Visual Amenity

A number of key settlements are located within 20 km of the proposed site, include Campbeltown, Bellochantuy, Glenbarr, Tayinloan, Muasdale, Machrihanish, Drumlemble and Blackwaterfoot on Arran. Key transport routes include the A83 which runs along the western coast of Kintyre before turning east towards Campbeltown. Campbeltown Airport is located

approximately 6km to the south of the proposed site. There are also a number of ferry crossings in the LVIA Study Area; the key route being the Campbeltown to Ardrossan ferry. Key long distance walking routes in the LVIA Study Area include the Kintyre Way which passes close to the east of the site, and the Arran Coastal Way which closely follows the west and south coastline of Arran. In addition, National Cycle Route 78 follows the B842 from Campbeltown along the east coast of Kintyre.

It is noted that the Scoping Report states that “The visual assessment will consider the potential for effects on visual amenity within the study area. The visual assessment for the 2018 EIAR included a series of 27 VPs which were selected in consultation with NatureScot and A&BC. It is proposed to include 14 out of these 27 VPs within the visual assessment for the Varied Development. This includes VPs where initial ZTVs and wirelines indicate potential for effects to significantly increase in comparison with the Consented Development.” Further, “The assessment of the potential effects of the Varied Development on settlement and route receptors will focus on those where impacts of Minor-Moderate or higher were identified for the Consented Development, as this is considered to capture any potential visual receptors which may experience an increased significant effect on visual amenity as a result of the Varied Development.” The Council generally agrees with this proposed approach.

It is also noted and agreed that in terms of Cumulative Assessment, “In line with NatureScot’s guidance the assessment of cumulative effects of the Varied Development will consider other wind farms within a 60km radius including those which are operational, consented and those for which an application has been submitted but which are yet to be determined. The LVIA for the Varied Development will include an update to the cumulative baseline assessed in 2018, including any changes in the status of the other wind farm developments within the study area.”

ORNITHOLOGY

It has not been possible to obtain advice at this time from the Council’s Local Biodiversity Officer on Ornithology, or on Ecology and Nature Conservation. Any comments subsequently received will be forwarded on to the applicant for consideration.

Notwithstanding this, it is noted that there are no statutory nature conservation designations with an ornithological interest within the Site. There are however two Special Protection Area (SPAs) with 20 km:

- The Kintyre Goose Roosts SPA, which is underpinned by Kintyre Goose Roosts Ramsar, Tangy Loch SSSI, Kintyre Goose Lochs SSSI and Rhunahaorine Point SSSI. It is designated for Greenland white-fronted goose and comprises a series of hill lochs (Loch Garasdale, Loch an Fhraoich, Loch Lussa, Tangy Loch & Black Loch) and an area of grassland and heath at Rhunahaorine Point on the Kintyre peninsula.
- The Arran Moors SPA which is underpinned by Arran Moors SSSI. This is designated for its hen harrier and breeding bird assemblage.

The Scoping Report advises that “Due to changes proposed to turbine geometry (height and associated rotor diameter changes), the Proposed Varied Development may alter collision risk modelling and therefore the predicted impacts on key IOFs will be reviewed. An evaluation of lighting effects will also be completed.” The Council agrees with this general approach.

ECOLOGY

It is noted that there are no statutory ecological designations present within the site, however, as stated above, there are a number of designated sites within 10km of the site.

The Scoping Report states that “Without mitigation, the Consented Development EIAR found potential for significant adverse effects on Tangy Loch SSSI during both construction and operation. However, with targeted mitigation implemented, residual effects on the SSSI were assessed as not significant.

The proposed variation includes taller turbines, larger rotor diameters and minor changes to land take due to access track realignments and enlarged turbine hardstands. These changes have the potential to affect habitats, and an updated assessment of habitat loss will therefore be scoped in to the Proposed Varied Development’s EIA, informed by 2024 NVC, peat depth, and peat condition surveys, with further data collected where necessary.

Updated walkover surveys will also be undertaken to inform the baseline for bats and badgers. The EIA will assess potential increased collision risk and barotrauma to bats, with turbine setbacks reviewed in line with current NatureScot guidance. The layout has been designed to avoid a known badger sett identified in 2023, but potential impacts on badgers during construction and operation will be assessed, and mitigation proposed as required.” The Council agrees with this general approach for the Proposed Varied Development’s EIA.

GEOLOGY, SOILS AND PEAT

The Scoping Report states that “There are no recorded geological designations within the Site or within 100 m of the boundary of the Consented Development. Although located outside of the boundary, the Tangy Burn watercourse, which is partially sourced within the development, flows through the Bellochautuy and Tangy Gorges Geological Conservation Review Site. This is a tripartite site SSSI for quaternary geology and geomorphology, and the closest components are situated approximately 700 m south-west and 2.3 km north-west of the site boundary.” Further “A combined peat and ground condition survey was carried out between September 2013 and June 2014 to support the Tangy III ES (2014). In March 2018, additional peat probing was undertaken to finalise the location of the temporary construction compound and access to turbines T8 and T10 to support the Tangy IV application (Consented Development).”

The applicant states that in summary “With the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures, all residual effects on peat, peat stability, soil and underlying geology would be negligible, i.e. not significant in terms of the EIA Regulations. This is expected to remain the same for the Varied Development, and therefore these effects will be scoped out. In addition, changes to peat volume calculations as a result of the increase in hardstand and turbine foundations and re-positioned infrastructure will be assessed via an updated PMP.” The Council agrees with this general approach.

SURFACE WATER

In terms of Surface Water matters, it is noted from the Scoping Report that “Following the implementation of mitigation measures no significant impacts were identified for surface water for the Consented Development. This is expected to remain unchanged for the Varied Development and therefore the assessment of effects will be scoped out. The Varied Development EIAR will contain a chapter reflecting this and provide evidence in the form of updated figures, as required, to support this.” This general approach is considered acceptable.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

At time of writing advice from the West of Scotland Archaeology Service has not been obtained. It is therefore not possible to provide comment on the scope of these assessments. Notwithstanding this, it is noted that visualisations utilised previously for the current Consented

Development will be updated to reflect the increased tip height now proposed. In addition, the requirement for any additional visualisations will be determined in consultation with HES.

NOISE

It has not been possible to obtain advice at this time from the Council's Environmental Services on noise. Notwithstanding this, it is noted that it is proposed to limit the scope of noise assessment within the EIA to an updated assessment of operational noise effects.

The Scoping Report further states that "It is proposed that the assessment of operational noise will include a reanalysis of baseline noise levels to account for the proposed increase in turbine hub height. This will result in updated noise limits, based on the reanalysed baseline noise levels. There is also potential for the range of turbine models that would be suitable for installation to have changed since the original consent, due to changes in both market availability and proposed turbine dimensions. Therefore, an updated, worst-case turbine model will be identified from the available options and considered as the candidate turbine within the assessment.

Any relevant changes to the cumulative scenario will also be accounted for in the updated assessment by making allowance in the site-specific noise limits for the effects of any application, consented or operational wind farms with the potential to result in significant cumulative operational noise effects together with the Proposed Varied Development." This appears to be a generally appropriate approach to the Council.

ACCESS, TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT

It has not been possible to obtain advice from the Council's Area Roads Engineer. Any comments will be forwarded on to the applicant, and it is advised to engage directly with the Roads department as the Traffic and Transport chapter for the updated EIAR is being produced. Notwithstanding this, the Council notes that a revised TMP will be submitted with the application, to reflect the updated turbine specification and delivery programme.

LAND USE, SOCIO-ECONOMICS AND RECREATION

The Scoping Report states, "The Applicant does not expect that the Proposed Varied Development will introduce significant changes to the Land Use, Socio-economics, and Recreation baseline established for the Consented Development." In addition, "While further assessment of socio-economic effects are proposed to be scoped out of the EIAR, the Applicant will submit a dedicated Socio-Economic Report as part of the Section 36C application. This report will set out how the Proposed Varied Development is expected to maximise net socio-economic benefit, in accordance with Policy 11(c) of National Planning Framework 4. It will summarise the evidence base, rationale, and proposed approach to delivering economic, social, and community benefits associated with the project." The Council is generally in agreement with this approach.

SHADOW FLICKER

It has not been possible to obtain advice at this time from the Council's Environmental Services on noise.

Notwithstanding this, it is noted that the previous assessment of Shadow Flicker recommended that, to protect the amenity of local residents, the turbines be programmed to shut down during periods when shadow flicker could occur. Accordingly, the impact from shadow flicker was predicted to be not significant. The Council recommended that a planning

condition be attached to the Previous Consented Development and is of the opinion that a similar planning condition would likely be required for the Proposed Varied Development.

The Scoping Report further recognises that “Given the Proposed Varied Development will seek to increase the tip height and rotor diameter of turbines, there is a potential for an increase in the number of shadow flicker hours and the number of properties affected by shadow flicker. To ensure a thorough evaluation of these potential impacts, an assessment of shadow flicker is proposed to be scoped in to the Proposed Varied Development’s EIA. An updated assessment will be carried out to identify any additionally affect receptors within an increased study area of 1,500m, and to update the predicted impacts to account for these and the amended characteristics of the Proposed Varied Development. Appropriate mitigation will be outlined, which is likely to comprise the future submission of an update to the previously submitted control scheme.” The Council is generally in agreement with this approach.

AVIATION AND RADAR

The Council understands that advice from relevant consultees with expertise in this field will be sought in this regard. It is also noted that the applicant has stated that they will consult with all relevant stakeholders in order to identify any effects and, if required, the mitigation options required to alleviate any impact.

Stuart W Ramsay
Senior Planning Officer MRTPI
Major Applications Team
Development and Infrastructure

18 August 2025

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Stuart.Ramsay@argyll-bute.gov.uk

By email to: Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Niall MacQuarrie
Case Officer
Energy Consents Unit
The Scottish Government

Longmore House
Salisbury Place
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EH9 1SH

Enquiry Line: 0131 668 8716
HMConsultations@hes.scot

Our case ID: 300081547
Your ref: ECU00006203
04 September 2025

Dear Niall MacQuarrie

The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017

Tangy IV Wind Farm – Varied Development – Scoping Opinion Comments on scope of proposed Environmental Impact Assessment

Thank you for consulting us on this Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping report, which we received on 22 July 2025. We have reviewed the details in terms of our historic environment interests. This covers World Heritage Sites, scheduled monuments and their settings, category A-listed buildings and their settings, inventory gardens and designed landscapes, inventory battlefields and Historic Marine Protected Areas.

Argyll and Bute Council's archaeological and cultural heritage advisors will also be able to offer advice on the scope of the cultural heritage assessment. This may include topics covered by [our advice-giving role](#), and also other topics such as unscheduled archaeology, category B and C listed buildings, and conservation areas.

Proposed Development

We understand that the proposed development would comprise a maximum of 16 turbines standing up to 200m to blade tip, plus associated infrastructure. The proposed development would be located towards the southern end of the Kintyre peninsula, approximately 9km north-west of Campbelltown.

Scope of Assessment

We have identified potential for significant effects on our historic environment interests. Our advice on the nature of these impacts, and any potential mitigation measures, is included in an annex to this covering letter. This also includes our requirements for information to be included in the EIA Report.

Further information

We recommend that the applicant refers to the [EIA Handbook](#) for best practice advice on assessing cultural heritage impacts.

Decisions that affect the historic environment should take the [Historic Environment Policy for Scotland](#) (HEPS) into account as a material consideration. HEPS is supported by our [Managing Change guidance series](#). In this case the advice provided in the [Setting](#) guidance note appears to be particularly relevant.

We hope this is helpful. If you would like to submit more information about this or any other proposed development to us for comment, please send it to our consultations mailbox, hmconsultations@hes.scot. If you have questions about this response, please contact Deirdre Cameron at Deirdre.Cameron@hes.scot

Yours sincerely

Historic Environment Scotland

ANNEX: Our Detailed Comments

Background

We understand that the proposed development would comprise 16 turbines standing up to 200m to blade tip, plus associated infrastructure. The development area is located in Kintyre, Argyll and Bute approximately 9km NW of Campbelltown.

The current application is a revision to a consented scheme on the same site. Although we noted that consented scheme would have adverse impacts on a number of designated cultural heritage assets in the vicinity, we did not consider those impacts raised issues of national interest.

Scoping Report

We welcome the consideration of cultural heritage interests in Chapter 10 of the scoping report. The information provided builds on previous assessments for earlier wind farm proposals on this site.

We can confirm we are content with the proposed methodology for the assessment of significance of effect (section 10.4). We are also generally content with the proposals for scoping assets in and out of further assessment. While we do not consider the use of distance-limited study areas for assessments of impacts on setting is appropriate for our interests, we note that assets beyond the 10km study area proposed will be scoped in to assessment if they are considered to have sensitive settings (10.6.5). We expect designated cultural heritage assets to be considered sensitive. We also expect external views towards designated assets to be included in their setting assessments where these views could form an element of the asset's cultural significance.

Our interest

Having considered the information provided in the scoping report, we consider the proposals have potential to result in significant adverse impacts on at least three scheduled monuments arising from the scale and proximity of the proposed turbines. Further monuments may subsequently be identified when additional information is provided.

The monuments identified as being at risk of significant impacts on their settings are –

[Tangy Loch, Fortified Dwelling \(SM3180\)](#)

The monument comprises the remains of a fortified dwelling on a small island situated towards the east end of Tangy Loch. The islet, which may be partially or wholly artificial in origin, is roughly D-shaped on plan, and rises less than 2m above the surface of the loch. A now-submerged causeway connects the island to the southwest shore of the loch. The structure is composed of two sub-rectangular stone buildings, now represented by ruined turf-covered walls, which occupy the central raised area of the island. The monument is presumed to be the *insula et fortalitium de Ellanlochnacanage* which formed the subject of a charter grant by John, Bishop of the Isles, to the Earl and Countess of Argyll in 1576. The site is indicated as a dwelling-place on the Pont-Gordon Map of the second quarter of the 17th century, when Tangy was held by the MacEachan family.

The monuments is the focal point in a discrete landscape, formed by rolling moorland descending to Tangy Loch, with the crannog at its centre. This is a key element of the monument's setting. The proposed turbines have the potential to have a significant adversely impact on the setting of the scheduled monument by visually dominant over the surrounding area, overwhelming the monument as focal point in the area.

The applicant should produce a photomontage visualisation demonstrating the impact of the proposals on setting of the monument. This should be produced from the shore of Tangy Loch, with the monument in the foreground. Another visualisation should be produced from the monument itself. Although we accepted a wireline illustration for this view during the previous consultation, due to the increase in scale of the revised proposals we would prefer a photomontage for the current consultation.

[Killocrew Cairn, 450m ESE of \(SM3664\) and Killocrew, Cairn 640m E of \(SM3647\)](#)

The monuments comprise two prehistoric burial cairns, which appear as low grassy mounds approximately 13.5m in diameter and 1m in height and approximately 15m in diameter and 1.5m in height respectively. The cairns are situated on a west-facing slope looking out over fertile ground toward the sea with long-distance views toward Islay, Rathlin and Ireland. These views form a key part of their setting which is also enhanced by their situation as part of a complex of prehistoric monuments in the cairns more immediate surroundings. The include a scheduled cup marked stone (SM38493) located close to the northwest of the two cairns, and a number of other unscheduled cup-marked stones in the vicinity of the cairns. Long-distance views to the west, and more intimate relationships between monuments in their immediate surroundings, therefore, are key to their setting.

The closest elements of the proposals include a substation and turbine within approximately one kilometre of the two scheduled cairns. The proposed changes have the potential to adversely impact on the setting of the monument by visually dominating the surroundings and overwhelming the subtle relationships between the cairns and the associated prehistoric remains in their vicinity.

The potential for significant adverse impacts on the setting of the monuments should be assessed through the production of photomontage visualisations looking toward the proposals from each of the scheduled cairns, as well as a third photomontage looking toward the proposals with the two cairns in the foreground. The positions of the cairns should be annotated on this third visualisation.

Our position

The proposed development has the potential to result in significant adverse effects on several designated cultural heritage assets. These impacts should be assessed and mitigated appropriately in the EIAR. We would be happy to provide further information and advice to ECU and the applicants if this would help the assessment process.



Niall MacQuarrie
Case Officer
Energy Consents Unit
Scottish Government

08 September 2025

Our ref: CDM181070/102413

Your ref: ECU00006203

By email:

niall.macquarrie@gov.scot

econsents_admin@gov.scot

Dear Niall

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989

THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017

REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED S36C VARIATION APPLICATION FOR TANGY IV WIND FARM

Thank you for consulting us on the above proposal on 22 July 2025 and for allowing us additional time to respond.

The proposed variation seeks to amend the Tangy IV Wind Farm to increase the maximum blade tip height from 149.9m to 200m.

Background

Tangy IV Wind Farm was granted consent in December 2019 and was for 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9m. Tangy IV Wind Farm was intended to replace Tangy III Wind Farm and repower the original Tangy I and Tangy II Wind Farms. We provided advice for the Tangy IV Wind Farm on 22 November 2018.

Our advice dated 22 November 2018 included an objection subject to conditions in relation to Tangy Loch Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). This advice should be fully taken on board in any schedule of mitigation presented for the new proposal.

Inverdee House, Baxter Street, Torry, Aberdeen AB11 9QA
Taigh Inbhir Dhè, Sràid Baxter, Torraidh, Obar Dheathain AB11 9QA

01224 266500 nature.scot

NatureScot is the operating name of Scottish Natural Heritage

We have provided advice on the scope of the ornithology and ecology surveys on 16 June 2025. This letter also provides our response to the follow up email dated 3 July 2025 in relation to this.

Summary

The proposal may result in significant adverse individual and cumulative night-time effects resulting from visible aviation lighting on some of the special landscape qualities (SLQs) of the North Arran National Scenic Area (NSA). **We consider the proposal in its current form may raise issues of national interest which may result in a NatureScot objection.**

We provide more detailed comments on this and other site-specific issues in **Annex 1** to this letter, to assist with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

Biodiversity enhancement

NPF4 sets out a requirement for developments to deliver positive effects for biodiversity, primarily under Policy 3. For national and major developments, or those subject to EIA, Policy 3b notes that proposals will only be supported where it can be demonstrated that they will conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity, including nature networks, so they are in a demonstrably better state than without intervention. The Policy requires that significant biodiversity enhancements are provided, in addition to any proposed mitigation. We recommend these requirements are adopted as part of any future application. For further advice see:

<https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/planning-and-development/planning-and-development-advice/planning-and-development-enhancing-biodiversity>.

Conclusion

The scoping report includes a number of questions and we hope those within our remit are answered within this letter.

Please note that while we are supportive of the principle of renewable energy, our advice is given without prejudice to a full and detailed consideration of the impacts of the proposal if submitted for formal consultation as part of the EIA or planning process.

Please let me know if you or the applicants require any further information or advice from us in relation to this proposal.

The advice in this letter is provided by NatureScot, the operating name of Scottish Natural Heritage.

Yours sincerely,

[by email]

Sophia Irvine
Renewable Energy Casework Adviser
sophia.irvine@nature.scot

Annex 1 – details to assist the EIA for the proposed Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation

1. Landscape and visual impacts

(a) The Proposal

The proposal is for a Section 36 consents (S36C) variation to consented Tangy IV¹ comprising 16, wind turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 149.9 m, associated infrastructure, a capacity of up to 80 MW and the decommissioning of the existing Tangy Wind Farm ('Tangy I and II') (22 turbines up to 75 m to blade tip height). The S36C variation is to increase the height of the turbines to a maximum blade tip height of up to 200 m, and some increase in the approximate area required for hardstanding's and access tracks. As the turbines would be over 150 m in height visible aviation lighting would be required²

Operational Tangy wind farm is located on the outer edge of the central 'spine' of hills on the Kintyre peninsula, overlooking Machrihanish Bay. The high sensitivity of nearby landscapes within 10 km is reflected by the locally designated West Kintyre (Coast) Local Landscape Area (LLA) and the East Kintyre (Coast) LLA, west and east of the site respectively. The North Arran NSA is located within 20 km northeast of the proposed development.

The proposed development would be located within the northern part of Landscape Character Type (LCT) - 39 Plateau Moor and Forest - Argyll.

Taking account of operational Tangy and consented Tangy IV, the other closest operational wind farms within approximately 10 km of the site include:

- Beinn An Tuirc Phase 3 (14 turbines, 125 m blade tip height) east;
- Auchadaduie (3 turbines, 100 m blade tip height) north;
- Beinn An Tuirc Phase 2 (19 turbines, 100 m blade tip height) east; and
- Blary Hill (14 turbines, 110 m blade tip height) north.

Consented wind farms closest to the site include:

- Clachaig Glen (seven turbines 185 m blade tip height and five turbines 200 m blade tip height including aviation lighting) – this is a revised application to the previously consented Clachaig Glen scheme to the north.

Application wind farms closest to the site include:

¹ Consented December 2019 [ECU00000673](#)

² Civil Aviation Authority Air Navigation Order 2016

- Cnoc Buidhe (15 turbines at 200 m to blade tip height and 14 at 180 m to blade tip height) east;
- West Torrisdale (nine turbines 149.9 blade tip height) east; and
- Killean (10 turbines 180 m blade tip height) north.

(b) Planning History

NatureScot's consultation response 22 November 2018 for consented Tangy IV stated that: *"Tangy wind farm is located on the outer edge of the central 'spine' of hills on the Kintyre peninsula, overlooking Machrihanish Bay. This edge area is more sensitive to wind farm development due to the close visual relationship with the coast and smaller scale landscapes and greater visibility from settled areas. The wind farm is more closely associated with the coast than the interior hills. We advise that the proposed turbines are too close to the coast and too large for this sensitive landscape context. As a result, the scale of turbine proposed would tend to be perceived as overbearing on the landscape."*

In summary, the proposals would result in:

- *"Significant adverse landscape effects on the character and experience of this landscape including part of Rocky Mosaic (RM), Upland Forest Moor Mosaic (UFMM), Bay Farmland, and possibly Sand Dunes and Machair Landscape Character Types.*
- *Significant adverse visual effects in relation to a wide range of highly sensitive receptors including (scattered) settlement, areas visited and enjoyed for recreation, key routes including the A83 and Kintyre Way, coastal waters popular for recreation*
- *Significant adverse cumulative effect in relation to the strategic pattern of large / very large typology wind energy development on the Kintyre peninsula. Significant adverse cumulative effect on Rocky Mosaic (RM) and Upland Forest Moor Mosaic (UFMM) Landscape Character Types.*
- *Significant adverse effect on the views, setting and experience of the West coast of Kintyre Area of Panoramic Quality (APQ).*
- *Significant adverse cumulative visual effect in relation to specific views/routes."*

(c) Landscape and Visual Effects

While our advice for the proposed development focuses on potential for effects on the North Arran NSA we refer to our previous response 22nd November 2018 for consented Tangy IV. We consider that the increase in turbine height by approximately 50 m to up to 200 m blade tip height would increase the scale and extent of significant adverse landscape and visual effects previously identified, where the proposed turbines would either further extend the presence and influence of wind farm development or introduce new visibility of development of this nature. We consider that significant adverse landscape and visual effects on receptors previously identified in our response to Tangy IV could extend into significant night-time effects resulting from visible aviation lighting on the proposed turbines.

(d) North Arran NSA

We note that potential effects on the SLQs of the North Arran NSA will be considered in the assessment and refer to our [Special Landscape Qualities - Guidance on assessing effects](#).

Accounting for the emerging pattern of wind farm development (particularly nearby applications Cnoc Buidhe and West Torrisdale) that are likely to have some effect on the special landscape qualities (SLQs) of the North Arran NSA we request an additional viewpoint representative of a worst-case scenario from the northwest of Arran at lower elevation such as near Dougarie Point.

(e) Aviation Lighting

Paragraph 5.5.15 outlines the approach to the Night-Time Assessment of visible aviation lighting. However, it is unclear from the scoping report what the lighting strategy is in terms of mitigating potential landscape and visual effects, particularly potential for adverse night-time effects on the North Arran NSA. Outside of settlements associated with coastal fringes and Campbeltown, landscapes within the study area have relatively low baseline lighting levels with coastal qualities and scattered settlement. We consider that lighting affects both landscape character and visual receptors. The lighting assessment should be carried out with reference to our coauthored [Guidance on Aviation Lighting Impact Assessment](#).

It should be noted that NatureScot considers dark skies to be an integral part of the character and experience of the west coast and hills of the North Arran NSA³. Effects of visible aviation lighting on the SLQs of the North Arran NSA would be a key consideration of the assessment of effects on the North Arran NSA particularly potential for combined and successive cumulative night-time effects with consented Clachaig Glen, and applications Killeen and Cnoc Buidhe. **We consider that dependant on the type of mitigation implemented to reduce the potential for effects of visible aviation lighting that the proposed development may result in significant adverse individual and cumulative night-time effects on the SLQs of the North Arran NSA which may result in a NatureScot objection.**

We therefore request that VP23 Beinn Bharrain is included as a night-time viewpoint. To consider effects on dark skies it would be helpful for the supporting night-time photomontages for VP23 to indicate the potential for wider night-time lighting effects that could result from consented Clachaig Glen, and applications Killeen and Cnoc Buidhe.

(f) Cumulative Effects

³ NatureScot response to Narachan Wind Farm Additional information July 24th 2022 (ECU [ECU00001884](#))

We consider that cumulative day time interactions with applications Cnoc Buidhe and West Torrisdale would be a key consideration of the cumulative impact assessment (CLVIA). When considering which other wind farm developments to include within the cumulative assessment, we consider that Argyll and Bute Council are best placed to advise.

(g) Scoping Report Questions

- **Are Consultees content with the proposed baseline?**
We are generally content with the proposed baseline.
- **Are Consultees content with the proposed approach to the evaluation and impact assessment methods?**
Please see above sections with regards to the North Arran NSA and Aviation Lighting and requests for additional viewpoints near Dougarie Point and VP23 Beinn Bharrair included as a night-time viewpoint.
- **Can Consultees provide details of any recent records or projects within or in the vicinity of the site, which may not yet be in the public domain and which may be pertinent to the assessment of impacts relating to the Proposed Varied Development?**
No comment.
- **Are Consultees content with the effects that are proposed to be scoped out of the assessment?**
We disagree that open water viewpoints are scoped out of the assessment given the emerging pattern of wind farm development and proposed aviation lighting. We therefore request that as a minimum wirelines are prepared for VP4 Islay Ferry Route, VP16 Kilbrannan Sound and VP24 Sea near Machrihanish to understand potential for individual and cumulative seascape effects.

1. Protected areas

Kintyre Goose Roosts Special Protection Area (SPA)

The proposal lies close to the Kintyre Goose Roosts SPA protected for non-breeding Greenland white-fronted goose.

The Greenland white-fronted goose flyway population has declined significantly since the baseline survey data was collected. Given the importance of the geese, their declining local and global population, and as their usage of lochs varies year to year, we recommend one full season of winter/non-breeding season survey work is required, including roost surveys, to inform any application to increase tip height. The decline in the population means that the assessment and Habitats Regulation Appraisal must be based on most recent data available.

This data will also validate the revised collision risk modelling (CRM) that is required for the height change. CRM needs to be reworked due to the change in height as only the 2017 breeding survey data used the current five-band classification. The new calculation should be done once other survey work has been carried out.

The potential changes to the previously agreed lighting regime and its effect on Greenland white-fronted goose is unknown. We agree that an evaluation of lighting effects on Greenland white-fronted goose is scoped in as it could affect the goose use of Tangy Loch. Current knowledge and data of goose use is therefore important for this assessment.

2. Ornithology

- **Are Consultees content with the proposed baseline?**

See comments above. Reworking of CRM is not sufficient and further survey work/desk study is required. There has been a material change to the baseline habitat of the area with significant felling of the area to the north between 2020 and 2023. The area has been opened up but also forms a funnel toward the north end of the wind farm. The felling means the baseline data will not be in line with the current use of the site and there is likely increased use of this area by a number of birds of prey. The adjacent to the north, Cnoc Buidhe Wind Farm EIA Report noted both raptor and Greenland white-fronted goose flight activity over their site.

- **Are Consultees content with the proposed approach to the evaluation and impact assessment methods?**

The approach to assessing cumulative impacts in the SNH Commissioned Report 632 is valid however, the input data parameters for the modelling are dated and cannot be used

to make assumptions about level of impact in terms of revised CRM both for revised Tangy IV Wind Farm and cumulatively.

- **Can Consultees provide details of any recent records or projects within or in the vicinity of the site, which may not yet be in the public domain and which may be pertinent to the assessment of impacts relating to the Proposed Varied Development?**

A new pair of golden eagle has established a territory in the area within the last five years. We are aware of limited information on this pair in relation to Beinn an Tuirc Wind Farm as Natural Research Projects Ltd (NRP) has been monitoring the pair as part of post-construction monitoring. As this pair is known to utilise open habitats, we recommend the applicant contacts NRP to access existing tag data. This would allow an assessment of how the eagles are using the newly opened up ground to the north, including the Tangy IV Wind Farm area and enable us to advise on the likely effects of range loss impacts on this pair.

- **Are Consultees content with the effects that are proposed to be scoped out of the assessment?**

See comments above.

3. Priority peatland habitats

We recommend that any updated survey and assessment for peatland habitats follows our peatland guidance: <https://www.nature.scot/doc/advising-peatland-carbon-rich-soils-and-priority-peatland-habitats-development-management>. This guidance contains advice on the mitigation hierarchy, survey and assessment, mitigation and enhancement, including peatland restoration techniques, Habitat Management Plans and the level of information we would expect in an application.

Carolanne Brown

From: Planning.North <Planning.North@sepa.org.uk>
Sent: 08 August 2025 15:55
To: Econsents Admin
Cc: Niall Macquarrie
Subject: PCS-20006274 SEPA Response to ECU00006203
Attachments: PCS-20006274 SEPA Response to ECU00006203.docx

To Whom It May Concern,

**Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017
ECU00006203
Request for Scoping Opinion for Proposed Section S36C for Tangy IV Wind Farm
Argyll and Bute**

Please find attached our response letter.

I trust these comments are of assistance - please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Kind regards,
Aden McCorkell
Senior Planning Officer



Disclaimer

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Dh'fhaodadh gum bi am fiosrachadh sa phost-d seo agus ceanglachan sam bith a tha na chois dìomhair, agus cha bu chòir am fiosrachadh a bhith air a chleachdadh le neach sam bith ach an luchd-faighinn a bha còir am fiosrachadh fhaighinn. Chan fhaod neach sam bith eile cothrom fhaighinn air an fhiosrachadh a tha sa phost-d no a tha an cois a' phuist-d, chan fhaod iad lethbhreac a dhèanamh dheth no a chleachdadh arithist. Mura h-ann dhuibhse a tha am post-d seo, feuch gun inns sibh dhuinn sa bhad le bhith cur post-d gu postmaster@sepa.org.uk. Togalach Aonghais Mhic a' Ghobhainn, 6 Craobhraid Parklands, Eurocentral, Baile a' Chuilinn, Siorrachd Lannraig a Tuath, ML1 4WQ. Faodar conaltradh còmhla ri SEPA a sgrùdadh no a chlàradh no a sgaoileadh gus obrachadh èifeachdach an t-siostaim a ghlèidheadh agus airson adhbharan laghail eile.

Niall Macquarrie
Energy Consents Unit
Scottish Government

Our Ref: PCS-20006274
Your Ref: ECU00006203

By email only to: Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

SEPA Email Contact:
planning.north@sepa.org.uk

8 August 2025

To whom it may concern

**Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017
ECU00006203
Request for Scoping Opinion for Proposed Section S36C for Tangy IV Wind Farm
Argyll and Bute**

Thank you for consulting SEPA for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping opinion in relation to the above development. We welcome engagement with the applicant at an early stage to discuss any of the issues raised in this letter and would especially welcome further pre-application engagement once further peat probing, peat condition assessment and habitat survey work has been completed and the layout developed further as a result.

Our position and advice, given below, is based on the Scottish Ministers ultimately determining that the proposal is classed as development that could be supported for the purposes of assessment under Policies 5 Soils and 22 Flood risk and water management, as defined in National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4). If this is not the case, please advise

so we can re-consider our position and advice. We consider that this also covers the requirements in NPF4 Policies 2 Climate mitigation and adaption, 3 Biodiversity and 11 Energy.

Advice for the determining authority

To **avoid delay and potential objection** the EIA submission must contain a series of scale drawings of sensitivities, for example peat depth, peat condition, Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE), proximity to waterbodies, overlain with proposed permanent and temporary development. This is necessary to ensure the EIA process has informed the layout of the development to firstly avoid, then reduce and then mitigate significant impacts on the environment. We request that the issues covered in [Appendix 1](#) below, which provides details of our standard information requirements for EIA development and the form in which they must be submitted, and [Appendix 2](#), which provides additional development type specific advice, be addressed to our satisfaction in the EIA process.

We have also provided site specific comments in the following section which provides pre-application advice and can help the developer focus the scope of the assessment.

1. Site specific comments

- 1.1 We note that there has been “updated NVC survey data collected in 2024 to inform the revised HMP; and updated peat depth and peatland condition surveys, also completed in 2024 to inform the HMP and Peat Management Plan (PMP)”. The Scoping Report also states that “where the proposed design variations extend beyond the areas recently surveyed, further data will be collected and included within the updated ecological assessment”. We would highlight to the applicant that the results of these surveys may alter the location of proposed infrastructure, and we therefore strongly encourage them to submit the peat depth survey, NVC survey and peatland condition survey to us in draft form as early as possible to avoid a formal objection from SEPA. The layout must demonstrate that it has avoided impacts on peat and near natural condition peatlands in the first instance.

If you have queries relating to this letter, please contact us at planning.north@sepa.org.uk including our reference number in the email subject.

Sincerely,

Aden McCorkell

Senior Planning Officer

Planning Service

Ecology to: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot

Disclaimer: This advice is given without prejudice to any decision made on elements of the proposal regulated by us, as such a decision may take into account factors not considered at this time. We prefer all the technical information required for any SEPA consents to be submitted at the same time as the planning or similar application. However, we consider it to be at the applicant's commercial risk if any significant changes required during the regulatory stage necessitate a further planning application or similar application and/or neighbour notification or advertising. We have relied on the accuracy and completeness of the information supplied to us in providing the above advice and can take no responsibility for incorrect data or interpretation, or omissions, in such information. If we have not referred to a particular issue in our response, it should not be assumed that there is no impact associated with that issue. For planning applications, if you did not specifically request advice on flood risk, then advice will not have been provided on this issue. Further information on our consultation arrangements generally can be found at sepa.org.uk/environment/land/planning/.

Appendix 1: SEPA Energy generation and transmission EIA scoping requirements

Please note that some of our planning guidance referenced in this response has been reviewed and updated to reflect the [National Planning Framework 4](#) (NPF4) policies. For example, our [Flood Risk Standing Advice](#), [Guidance on Assessing the Impacts of Developments on Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems](#) and the [Guidance on Assessing the Impacts of Developments on Groundwater Abstractions](#).

This appendix sets out our minimum information requirements and we would welcome discussion around these prior to formal submission to avoid delays. There may be opportunities to scope out some of the issues below and in [Appendix 2](#) depending on the site. Evidence must be provided in the submission to support why an issue is not relevant for this site. If there is a significant length of time between scoping and application submission, the developer should check whether our advice has changed.

1. Site layout

- 1.1 Each of the drawings requested below must detail all proposed upgraded, temporary and permanent infrastructure. This includes all tracks, excavations, landraising and other groundworks, buildings, borrow pits, pipelines, cabling, site compounds, laydown areas, storage areas and any other construction and built elements. All drawings must be based on an adequate scale with which to assess the information.
- 1.2 The layout should be designed to minimise the extent of new works on previously undisturbed ground. For example, a layout which makes use of lots of spurs or loops is unlikely to be acceptable, cabling must be laid in ground already disturbed such as verges, and existing built infrastructure must be re-used or upgraded where possible.
- 1.3 A comparison of the environmental effects of alternative locations of infrastructure elements may be required. We seek absolute avoidance of development on the sensitive habitats detailed below. Where elements of a development haven't avoided for example near-natural peatland, adequate justification should be

provided for the proposed layout. The justification should include how any impacts are considered in relation to example the mitigation hierarchy as demonstrated through the Peat Management Plan (PMP) submission. This should be supported by maps with overlays of the peat maps and any other constraints, such as visual impact, to clearly demonstrate how these constraints have influenced any necessary need for development on peatland and other sensitive habitats within our remit.

2. Peatland and other carbon rich soils (CRS)

- 2.1 Peatland in near natural condition generally experiences low greenhouse gas emissions, is accumulating and may be sequestering carbon, has high value for supporting biodiversity, helps to protect water quality and contributes to natural flood management, irrespective of whether that peatland is designated for nature conservation purposes or not. Where proposals are on peatland or other CRS, the following should be submitted to address our requirements in relation to NPF4 Policy 5 to protect CRS and the ecosystem services they provide (including water and carbon storage).
- 2.2 It should be clearly demonstrated that the assessment has informed careful project design and ensured, in accordance with relevant guidance and the mitigation hierarchy in NPF4, that adverse impacts are first avoided and then minimised through best practice.
- 2.3 The submission should include a series of layout drawings, at a usable scale, showing all permanent and temporary infrastructure, along with the ancillary construction work areas, with the extent of excavation required. These plans should be overlaid on the following:
 - a) Peat depth survey showing peat probe locations, colour coded using distinct colours for each depth category. This must include adequate peat probing information to inform the site layout in accordance with the mitigation hierarchy

in NPF4, which may be more than that outlined in the [Peatland Survey – Guidance on Developments on Peatland \(2017\)](#).

- b) Peat depth survey showing interpolated peat depths.
- c) Peatland condition mapping – the [Peatland Condition Assessment](#) photographic guide lists the criteria for each condition category and illustrates how to identify each condition category.

2.4 The detailed series of layout drawings above should clearly demonstrate that peat excavation has been avoided where possible. Where complete avoidance of peat and other CRS is not possible, justification should be provided to adequately demonstrate why this is the case, and it should be clearly demonstrated on the drawings that:

- a) Development proposals avoid any near natural peatland and the deepest areas of peat.
- b) All proposed excavation is on peat less than 1m deep, where feasible.
- c) The volumes of peat excavated have been reduced as much as possible, first through layout and then by design, making use of techniques such as floating tracks.

2.5 The Outline Peat Management Plan (PMP) must include:

- a) A table setting out the volumes of acrotelmic, catotelmic and amorphous peat to be excavated. These should include a contingency factor to consider variables such as bulking and uncertainties in the estimation of peat volumes.
- b) A table clearly setting out the volumes of acrotelmic, catotelmic and amorphous excavated peat: (1) used in making good site specific areas disturbed by development, including borrow pits (quantities used in making good areas

disturbed by development must be the minimum required to achieve the intended environmental benefit and materials must be suitable for the proposed use), (2) used in on and off site peatland restoration, and (3) disposed of, and the proposed means of disposal (if deemed unavoidable after all other uses of excavated peat have been explored and reviewed).

- c) Details of proposals for temporary storage and handling of peat – [Good Practice during Wind Farm Construction](#) outlines the approach to good practice when addressing issues of peat management on site and minimising carbon loss.
- d) Suitable evidence that the use of peat in making good areas disturbed by development, including borrow pits, is genuine and not a waste disposal operation, including evidence on the suitability of the peat and evidence that the quantity used matches and does not exceed the requirement of the proposed use.
- e) If peat is to be used in the reinstatement of borrow pits on site, cross sections and plans should be provided showing the proposed maximum peat depth profiles for each category of peat, phasing and final restoration profiles in relation to surrounding land with a clear hydrological justification for the use of catotelmic peat also being given. The target restoration habitat for each borrow pit should be specified, along with how this will be maintained and managed in perpetuity.
- f) Use of excavated peat in areas not disturbed by the development itself is no longer a matter we provide planning advice on. Please refer to [Advising on peatland, carbon-rich soils and priority peatland habitats in development management | NatureScot](#) 2023, and the [Peatland ACTION – Technical Compendium](#), which provides more detailed advice on peatland restoration techniques. Unless the excavated peat is certain to be used for construction purposes in its natural state on the site from where it is excavated, it will be subject to regulatory control. The use of excavated peat off-site, including for peatland restoration, will require the appropriate level of environmental

authorisation. Excavated peat will be waste if it is discarded, or the holder intends to or is required to discard it. These proposals should be clearly outlined so that we can identify any regulatory implications of the proposed activities. This will allow the developer and their contractors to tailor their planning and designs to accommodate any regulatory requirements. Further guidance on this can be found in the document [Is it waste - Understanding the definition of waste.](#)

3. Water environment

- 3.1 Policy 11 of NPF4 requires that the project design and mitigation demonstrate how impacts on hydrology, the water environment and flood risk are addressed. The proposals should demonstrate how impacts on local hydrology have been minimised and the site layout designed to minimise watercourse crossings and avoid other direct impacts on water features. Measures should be put in place to protect any downstream sensitive receptors.
- 3.2 The submission must include a set of drawings showing:
- a) The footprint of all proposed temporary and permanent infrastructure (including all the ancillary construction work areas, for example excavations, landraising and other groundworks, storage, laydown and working areas) overlain with all waterbodies.
 - b) The minimum buffer around each waterbody, as detailed in Table 1 of [Recommended Riparian Corridor Layer for use in Land Use Planning](#), from all construction activities including working and storage areas, or 50m where subsurface activities are more than 1m in depth. If these minimum buffers cannot be achieved each breach must be numbered on a plan with an associated photograph of the location, dimensions of the waterbody, drawings of what is proposed in terms of any engineering works, and details of why the minimum buffer cannot be achieved and mitigation measures to protect the feature.

- c) A map showing the location, size, depths and dimensions of all borrow pits overlain with all waterbodies within 250m and showing a site-specific buffer around each waterbody proportionate to the depth of excavations. The information provided needs to demonstrate that a site-specific proportionate buffer can be achieved.

3.3 Further advice and our best practice guidance are available on our sepa.org.uk/regulations/water/engineering/ webpage. Guidance on the design of water crossings can be found in the [Construction of River Crossings Good Practice Guide](#).

4. Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems and existing groundwater abstractions

- 4.1 The construction and operation of developments can disrupt groundwater flow and impact on Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE), which are protected under the Water Framework Directive, and existing groundwater abstractions. The layout and design of the development must avoid adverse impacts on such areas, ensuring the water environment, including GWDTE and existing groundwater abstractions, are protected.
- 4.2 As detailed in our [Guidance on Assessing the Impacts of Developments on Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems](#) and the [Guidance on Assessing the Impacts of Developments on Groundwater Abstractions](#), a phased approach to the assessment of risks to GWDTE and groundwater abstractions is recommended, with greater detail being required for higher risk sites or activities.
- 4.3 Where monitoring is required, please note that baseline monitoring is expected to commence at least 12 months ahead of the development works starting on site and this should be factored into the timescales for submitting the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and commencement of development.

Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE)

4.4 A Phase 1 habitat survey should be provided unless the developer is already aware that GWDTE are likely to be present. Where initial assessment results indicate relevant habitats may be present, a National Vegetation Classification (NVC) survey should be submitted, along with the following information:

- a) A set of drawings demonstrating all GWDTE are outwith a 10m radius of all activities, 100m radius of all excavations shallower than 1m and outwith 250m of all excavations deeper than 1m. The survey needs to extend beyond the site boundary where the distances require it.
- b) If the minimum buffers cannot be achieved, a conceptual site model (CSM) should be provided that includes interpretation of the hydrogeological setting, including the groundwater flow regime, and the ecological features present. This may be supported, as appropriate, by intrusive ground investigation, groundwater monitoring, or groundwater modelling in addition to topography, properties of the emergent water and the soil, and underlying geology. Please refer to [Guidance on Assessing the Impacts of Developments on Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems](#) for further advice on undertaking detailed site specific qualitative and/or quantitative risk assessments and the minimum information we require to be submitted.
- c) Please note that while we will accept The UK Habitat Classification System (UKHab) as an alternative to a Phase 1 habitat survey, due to discrepancies in habitat definition and ambiguity in correspondence with NVC types, we do not accept the use of the UKHab as an alternative to NVC.

Existing groundwater abstractions

4.5 The source (rather than the property it supplies) of both public and private water supply groundwater abstractions, both within and outwith the site boundary, should be identified. Scottish Water holds information regarding public water supplies and the Local Authority holds records of private water supplies. Note that the information held by the Local Authority will sometimes relate to the property served by the

private water supply, rather than the location of the source itself (e.g. the house rather than the borehole or spring). Therefore, the details of each private water supply source require confirmation, including a site walkover survey.

4.6 The following information should be submitted where the assessment results indicate groundwater supplies may be present:

- a) A set of drawings demonstrating all groundwater abstractions are outwith a 10m radius of all activities, 100m radius of all excavations shallower than 1m and outwith 250m of all excavations deeper than 1m. The survey needs to extend beyond the site boundary where the distances require it.
- b) If the minimum buffers cannot be achieved a conceptual site model should be provided that includes interpretation of the hydrogeological setting, including the groundwater flow regime. This may be supported, as appropriate, by intrusive ground investigation, groundwater monitoring, or groundwater modelling. Please refer to [Guidance on Assessing the Impacts of Developments on Groundwater Abstractions](#) for further advice on undertaking detailed site specific qualitative and/or quantitative risk assessments and the minimum information we require to be submitted.

5. Flood risk

- 5.1 We reiterate that, as detailed above, our position and advice is based on the determining authority determining that the proposal is supported under Policy 22, as defined in NPF4, unless we are advised otherwise.
- 5.2 Advice on flood risk is available at [Flood Risk Standing Advice](#) and reference should also be made to [Controlled Activities Regulations \(CAR\) Flood Risk Standing Advice for Engineering, Discharge and Impoundment Activities](#).
- 5.3 Crossings must be designed to accommodate the 0.5% annual exceedance probability flows with an appropriate allowance for climate change, or information

provided to justify smaller structures. Our [Climate change allowances for flood risk assessment in land use planning](#) guidance sets out required allowances for climate change.

- 5.4 In order to establish that the five bullet points within NPF4 Policy 22a have been satisfied and where it is considered the development could result in an increased risk of flooding to a nearby receptor, then a flood risk assessment (FRA) must be submitted. Our [Technical Flood Risk Guidance for Stakeholders](#) provides generic requirements for undertaking Flood Risk Assessments as well as our [Climate change allowances for flood risk assessment in land use planning](#) guidance.
- 5.5 The FRA should specifically address the following issues:
- a) All existing watercourses and drains on the site are fully identified and flow pathways understood in relation to the 1 in 200 year plus climate change flood levels for the catchment.
 - b) The modelling should extend far enough upstream to capture any flow pathways which may impact the development site.
 - c) Demonstration there is no increased flood risk to existing properties in the vicinity of the proposed development and, if possible, demonstrate an improvement.
 - d) Any intended realignment or alteration of channels should also be outlined and accounted for within the FRA, with analysis showing pre and post development flood risk.
 - e) Where applicable, flows should be shown to be accommodated within any altered channel to avoid flooding of existing structures, access roads or increased risk for others.

5.6 Generally, we are unable to support landraising within a flood risk area unless it is required for development outlined under the exceptions in Policy 22a of NPF4. Which, as indicated above, we understand this proposal is unless notified otherwise, and as such we may be able to accept. However, where landraising is proposed within the flood risk area identified within the FRA, it should be linked to compensatory storage and demonstrated that there is no reduction in floodplain capacity, or increased risk for others. Notwithstanding this, any landraising must be shown to be minimised as far as possible.

5.7 Culverting for land gain would not be supported by us. If any works to alter watercourse channels are proposed, we would expect betterment to the channel and utilisation of this opportunity to help reduce flood risk to the wider site and any other nearby receptors.

6. Environmental enhancements

6.1 Policy 3 of NPF4 requires all EIA development to demonstrate that the proposal will conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity, including nature networks, so they are in a demonstrably better state than without intervention. EIA development should fully mitigate potential negative effects prior to identifying biodiversity enhancements, with the enhancements provided in addition to mitigation. We have published a data set which identifies where riparian planting would be most beneficial. This is available via the data publication page at sepa.org.uk/environment/environmental-data/. We highlight there may be opportunities for riparian planting along watercourses within landownership boundaries and would welcome the exploration of such planting as part of any biodiversity net gain proposals.

7. Forest removal and forest waste

7.1 If forestry is present on the site, the site layout should be designed to avoid large scale felling, as this can result in substantial amounts of waste material and a peak in release of nutrients which can affect local water quality.

- 7.2 The submission must include drawings with the boundaries of where felling will take place and a description of what is proposed for this timber in accordance with [Use of Trees Cleared to Facilitate Development on Afforested Land – Joint Guidance from SEPA, SNH and FCS](#) and our guidance [Management of Forestry Waste](#).

8. Pollution prevention and environmental management

- 8.1 The submission must include a schedule of mitigation, which includes reference to best practice pollution prevention and construction techniques (for example, limiting the maximum area to be stripped of soils and peat at any one time) and regulatory requirements. Please refer to the [Guidance for Pollution Prevention](#) (GPPs), along with our [sepa.org.uk/regulations/water/construction/](#) and [sepa.org.uk/regulations/water/pollution-control/water-run-off-from-construction-sites/](#) webpages, for more information and advice.
- 8.2 A commitment must also be included in the schedule of mitigation that micro-siting will not encroach into sensitive areas, to avoid adversely affecting mitigation measures identified in the EIAR that seek to avoid and/or minimise adverse effects on sensitive receptors (eg peat, watercourse and GWDTE buffers).

9. Life extension, repowering and decommissioning

- 9.1 The discarding of materials as waste should be avoided and the [waste hierarchy](#) applied to waste produced during construction, operation and decommissioning of the development. If there is an intention to discard materials then further guidance on this can be found in [Is it waste - Understanding the definition of waste](#), and our [sepa.org.uk/regulations/waste/](#) and [sepa.org.uk/regulations/waste/guidance/](#) webpages.

10. Other planning matters

- 10.1 For all other planning matters, we refer you and the developer to the relevant standing advice in our [Triage guidance and standing advice](#), which is also applicable to Electricity Act applications.

11. SEPA authorisation

- 11.1 We authorise several matters relating to water, waste management, radioactive substances, and pollution prevention and control. In 2018, the Scottish Government brought in the Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR 2018). The aim of these Regulations is to provide a standardised, simplified, common framework for environmental authorisations in Scotland, known as an Integrated Authorisation Framework (IAF). A copy of the draft Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025 can be found at legislation.gov.uk/sdsi/2025/9780111062319/introduction.
- 11.2 The IAF is being developed in a phased manner during 2025, with the regulations applying initially to radioactive substances activities in early 2025. For further information on the amendment of the regulations please refer to our sepa.org.uk/regulations/how-we-regulate/environmental-authorisations-scotland-regulations-2018/ webpage.
- 11.3 It is an applicant's responsibility to ensure their proposals will meet all relevant regulatory requirements and they are working within regulatory guidelines. We prefer all the technical information required for any SEPA authorisations to be submitted at the same time as the planning or similar application. We consider it to be at the applicant's commercial risk if planning permission is granted for a development/process which cannot gain authorisation from us, or if any significant changes required during the regulatory stage necessitate a further planning application or similar application and/or neighbour notification or advertising.
- 11.4 Our sepa.org.uk/regulations/ webpage provides good practice advice and guidance and defines those activities which may require authorisation by SEPA, along with details of how to contact us for more help, advice and how to apply for any necessary authorisations.

Appendix 2: SEPA's additional EIA scoping requirements by type of development

The below advice should be read in conjunction with the scoping advice in [Appendix 1](#) above.

1. Windfarms

- 1.1 Proposals for life extension, repowering and/or decommissioning of windfarms must demonstrate accordance with our guidance on the [Life extension and decommissioning of onshore wind farms](#). Table 1 of the guidance provides a hierarchical framework of environmental impact based upon the principles of sustainable resource use, effective mitigation of environmental risk (including climate change) and optimisation of long term ecological restoration. The submission must demonstrate how the hierarchy of environmental impact has been applied, within the context of latest knowledge and best practice, including justification for not selecting lower impact options when life extension is not proposed.

Katie Butchart

From: radionetworkprotection@bt.com
Sent: 24 July 2025 07:52
To: Econsents Admin
Cc: radionetworkprotection@bt.com
Subject: RE: WID13951 Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development
Attachments: Figure 1.2 2018 EIAR Site Location Plan.pdf

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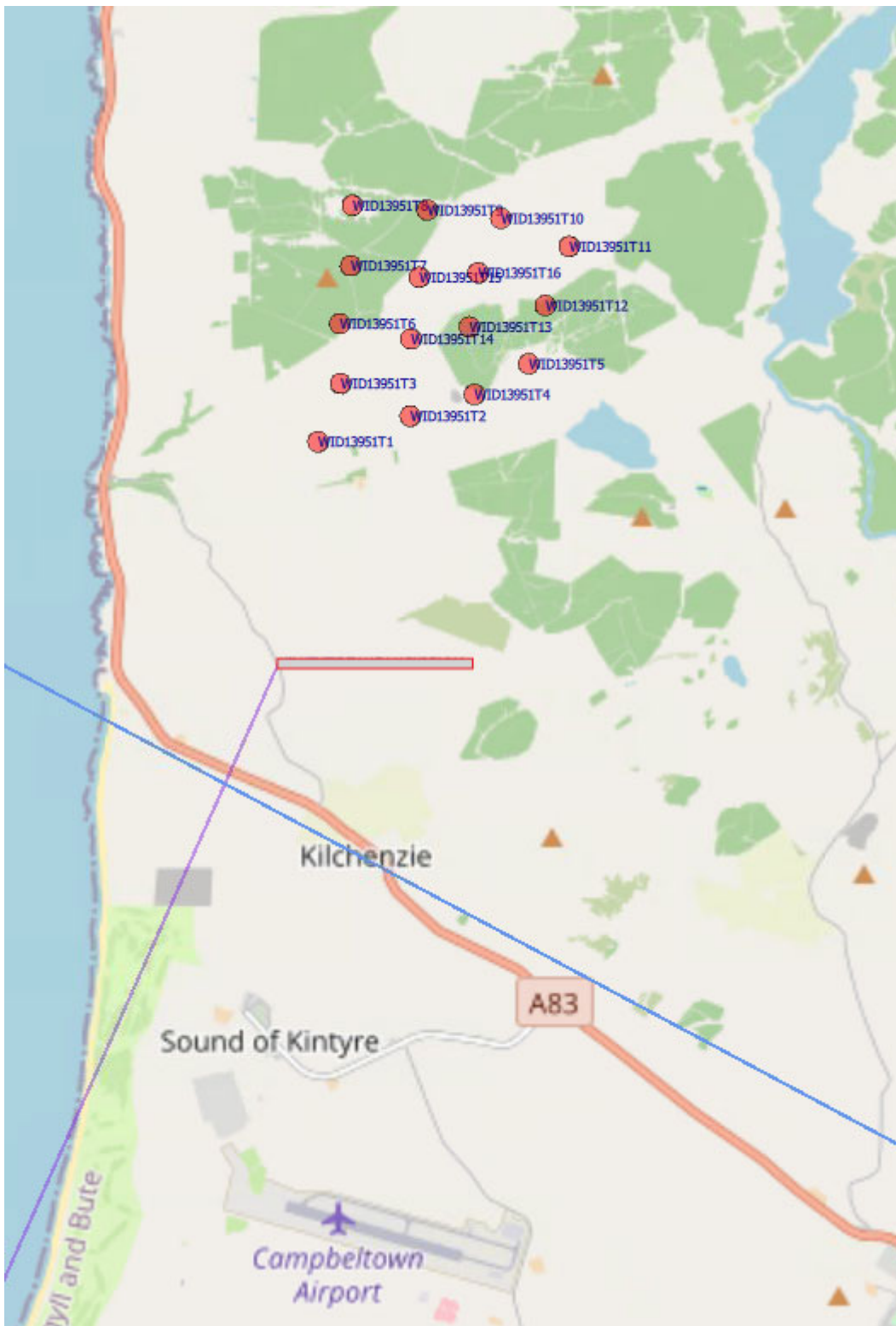
**OUR REF; WID13951**

We have studied this proposal using the coordinates within the coordinates below with respect to EMC and related problems to BT point-to-point microwave radio links.

The conclusion is that this proposal should not cause interference to BT's current and presently planned radio network. Please note the site boundary on the attached shown below this may cross one of radio links demonstrated by a blue line. If there are any new structures at height that will cross our link path, please confirm its co-ordinates and dimensions and we will assess for you. If this does not, then there is no need to reply this is approved.

BT requires 100m minimum clearance from any structure at height to the radio link path. It should be noted that this decision is for the date of its issue as the use of the spectrum is dynamic and can change on an ongoing basis. Therefore, please reconsult us if there are any further changes during the planning process with heights and locations of any structures, and its finalisation, as we may have new links assigned by Ofcom over its duration.

Please note this refers to BT Radio Links only, you will need to contact other providers separately for information relating to other supplier links / equipment.



Lisa Smith
National Radio Planner
Radio & Satellite Platforms

BT Group

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General

From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Econsents_Admin@gov.scot
Sent: 22 July 2025 12:00
Subject: WID13951 Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

Dear Consultee,

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2017**

**REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED SECTION S36C
APPLICATION FOR Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development**

On 2nd July, SSE Renewables (the Applicant) submitted a request for a scoping opinion from the Scottish Ministers for the proposed section S36C application for the Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development.

Tangy IV Wind Farm received consent by Scottish Ministers in December 2019. The Consented Development, comprised of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9 Meters (M). The consented capacity of the project was up to 80 megawatts (MW). However, the project will not be constructed, and the Applicant is seeking to vary the consent.

This request for a Scoping Opinion is for a Varied Development. The Applicant is proposing to apply for a variation of the 2019 scheme by increasing the tip height of the turbines and other associated changes to infrastructure. The proposed Varied Development will comprise of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 200 Meters. The consented capacity of the project is up to 96MW and is located in the planning authority area of Argyll and Bute Council, in line with regulation 12 of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

Under regulation 12, Scottish Ministers are required to provide a scoping opinion outlining the information they consider should be included in the EIA report. Ministers are also required to consult the relevant consultation bodies and any other interested party which is likely to have an interest in the proposed development by reason of its specific environmental responsibilities or local and regional competencies.

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- clicking on **Search** tab; then,
- clicking on **Simple Search** tab; then,
- typing **Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development** into **Search by Project Name** box then clicking on **Go**;

- then clicking on **ECU00006203** and then click on **Documents** tab.

The rotor diameter is 150m and the hub height is 125m.

The indicative wind turbine OS grid co-ordinates, are as follows:

Turbine ID	Northing	Easting
T01	628084	167193
T02	628243	167915
T03	628522	167391
T04	628384	168418
T05	628597	168850
T06	628982	167409
T07	629424	167517
T08	629887	167555
T09	629820	168130
T10	629726	168694
T11	629483	169209
T12	629038	169002
T13	628905	168407
T14	628835	167951
T15	629307	168040
T16	629317	168497

To allow Scottish Ministers to provide a comprehensive scoping opinion, we ask that you review the scoping report and advise on the scope of the environmental impact assessment for this proposal. Please advise if there are any further matters you would like Ministers to highlight for consideration and inclusion in the assessment, particularly site-specific information.

I would be grateful for your comments by **12th August 2025**. Please note that reminders will not be issued, therefore if we have not received any comments from you, nor a request for an extension to this date, we will assume that you have no comments to make.

Please send your response (in PDF format if possible) to Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | email address

To view our current casework please visit www.energyconsents.scot



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Key

Site Boundary

Scale 1:20,000 @ A3

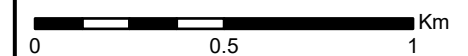
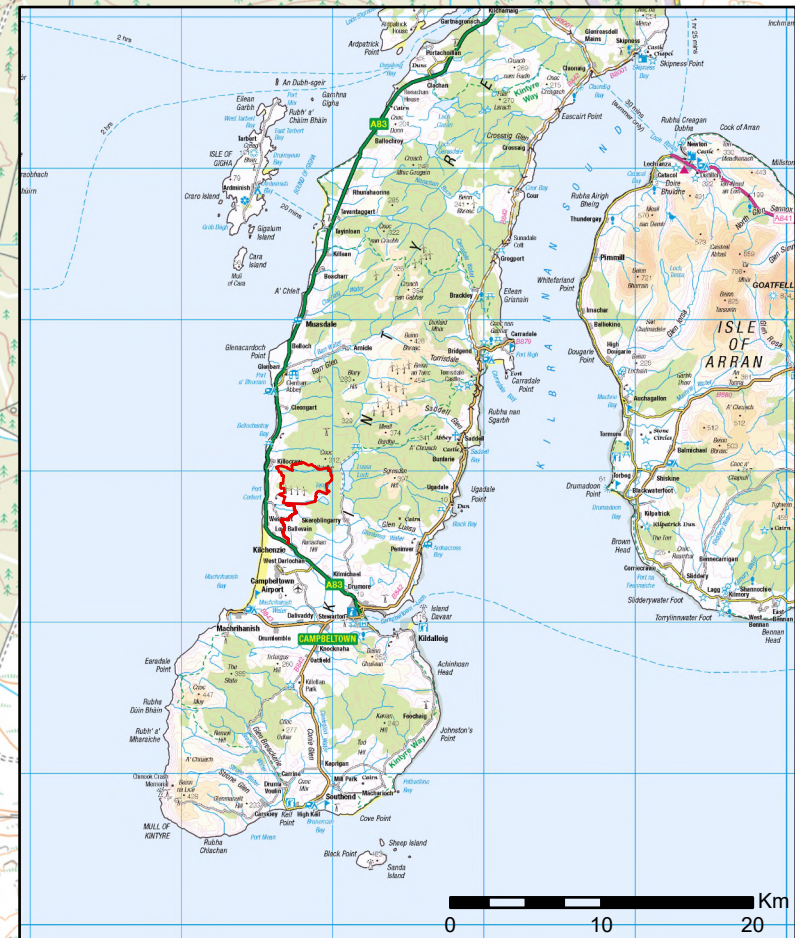
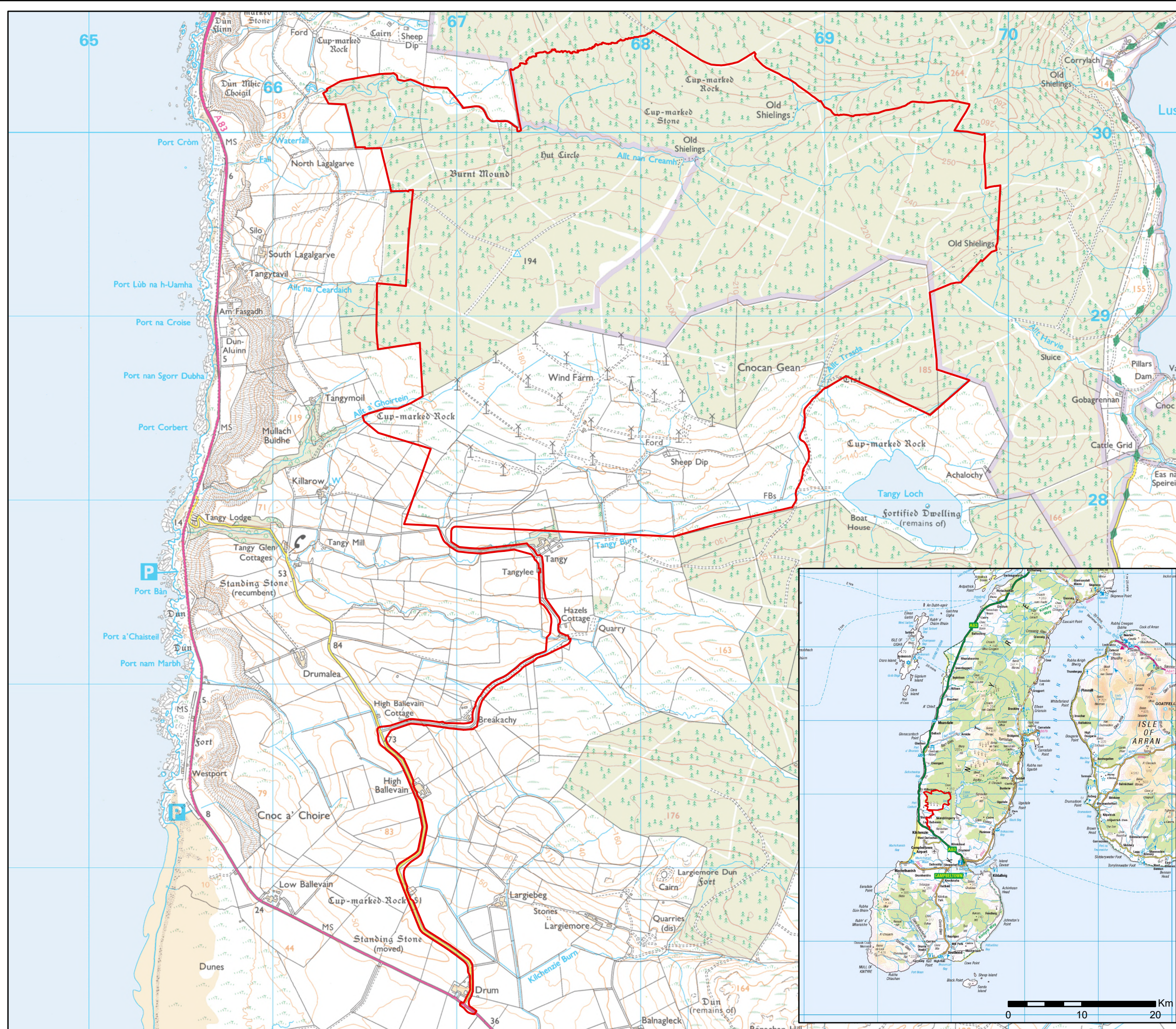


Figure 1.1

2018 EIAR Site Location Plan

Tangy Wind Farm Repowering





Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Andy White
Ministry of Defence
Safeguarding Department
DIO Head Office
St George's House
DMS Whittington
Lichfield
Staffordshire WS14 9PY

Your reference: ECU00006203

E-mail: DIO-safeguarding-wind@mod.gov.uk

Our reference: DIO21836

www.mod.uk/DIO

Niall MacQuarrie
Scottish Government
5 Atlantic Quay
150 Broomielaw
Glasgow
G2 8LU

25 July 2025

By email only

Dear Niall,

Electricity Act 1989

**The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017
Request for Scoping Opinion for Proposed Section 36C Application for Tangy IV Wind
Farm. Varied Development.**

The Scoping Opinion is for a proposed varied development. The Applicant is proposing to apply for a variation of the 2019 scheme by increasing the tip height of the turbines and other associated changes to infrastructure. The proposed Varied Development will comprise of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 200 Meters. The consented capacity of the project is up to 96MW and is located in the planning authority area of Argyll and Bute Council.

Thank you for consulting the Ministry of Defence (MOD) in relation to the scoping opinion through your communication dated 22 July 2025.

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) Safeguarding Team represents the MOD as a consultee in UK planning and energy consenting systems to ensure that development does not compromise or degrade the operation of defence sites such as aerodromes, explosives storage sites, air weapon ranges, and technical sites or training resources such as the Military Low Flying System.

I am writing to advise you that the MOD has concerns with the proposal.

The proposal concerns a development of 16 turbines with maximum blade tip heights of up to 200 metres above ground level and other associated changes to infrastructure. The proposed

development has been assessed using the location data (Grid References) below provided in the 'Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm – Varied Development' consultation email from ECU, dated 22 July 2025.

Turbine no.	Easting	Northing
1	167193	628084
2	167915	628243
3	167391	628522
4	168418	628384
5	168850	628597
6	167409	628982
7	167517	629424
8	167555	629887

Turbine no.	Easting	Northing
9	168130	629820
10	168694	629726
11	169209	629483
12	169002	629038
13	168407	628905
14	167951	628835
15	168040	629307
16	168497	629317

The principal safeguarding concerns of the MOD with respect to this development of wind turbines relates to the development being their potential to create a physical obstruction to air traffic movements.

Physical Obstruction

In this case the development falls within Low Flying Area 14 (LFA 14), an area within which fixed wing aircraft may operate as low as 250 feet or 76.2 metres above terrain features to conduct low level flight training. The addition of turbines in this location has the potential to introduce a physical obstruction to low flying aircraft operating in the area.

To address this impact, and given the location and scale of the development, the MOD would require that conditions are added to any consent issued requiring that the development is fitted with aviation safety lighting and that sufficient data is submitted to ensure that structures can be accurately charted to allow deconfliction.

The development proposed includes wind turbine generators that exceed a height of 150m agl and are therefore subject to the lighting requirements set out in the Air Navigation Order 2016. In addition to any Civil Aviation Authority requirements, the MOD would require the submission, approval, and implementation of an aviation safety lighting specification that details the installation of MOD accredited aviation safety lighting. As a minimum the MOD would require that perimeter turbines are fitted with infra-red (IR) lighting.

Also note that any met masts that fall outside of the perimeter boundaries should also be lit and charted.

Summary

The MOD has concerns with this proposal due to the potential impact to low flying aircraft operating in the development area.

The MOD must emphasise that the advice provided within this letter is in response to the data and/or information detailed above/in the developer's document titled 'Tangy IV Wind Farm S36C Variation Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report', dated July 2025 and Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm – Varied Development' consultation email from ECU, dated 22 July 2025. Any variation of the parameters (which include the location, dimensions, form, and finishing materials) detailed may significantly alter how the development relates to MOD safeguarding requirements and cause adverse impacts to safeguarded defence assets or capabilities. In the event that any amendment, whether considered material or not by the

determining authority, is submitted for approval, the MOD should be consulted and provided with adequate time to carry out assessments and provide a formal response.

I hope this adequately explains our position on the matter. If you require further information or would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Further information about the effects of wind turbines on MOD interests can be obtained from the following websites:

MOD: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wind-farms-ministry-of-defence-safeguarding>

Yours faithfully,

REDACT

Andy White
Assistant Safeguarding Manager

Katie Butchart

From: #GLA Safeguarding <GLASafeguard@glasgowairport.com>
Sent: 23 July 2025 15:15
To: Econsents Admin
Subject: RE: Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

This proposal is located outwith the consultation area for Glasgow Airport. We therefore have no comment to make and need not be consulted further.

Kind regards
 Kirsteen



#GLA Safeguarding
#GLA Safeguarding

☎ 07808 115 881
 ✉ glasafeguard@glasgowairport.com
 🌐 www.glasgowairport.com

📍 Glasgow Airport, Erskine Court, St Andrews Drive, Paisley, PA3 2TJ

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From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Econsents_Admin@gov.scot
Sent: 22 July 2025 12:00
Subject: Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

CAUTION: External email. Unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe, do not click links or open attachments. Please report anything suspicious or abusive by using the 'Report Phishing Email' button.

Dear Consultee,

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2017

REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED SECTION S36C
APPLICATION FOR Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

On 2nd July, SSE Renewables (the Applicant) submitted a request for a scoping opinion from the Scottish Ministers for the proposed section S36C application for the Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development.

Tangy IV Wind Farm received consent by Scottish Ministers in December 2019. The Consented Development, comprised of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9 Meters (M). The consented capacity of the project was up to 80 megawatts (MW). However, the project will not be constructed, and the Applicant is seeking to vary the consent.

This request for a Scoping Opinion is for a Varied Development. The Applicant is proposing to apply for a variation of the 2019 scheme by increasing the tip height of the turbines and other associated changes to infrastructure. The proposed Varied Development will comprise of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 200 Meters. The consented capacity of the project is up to 96MW and is located in the planning authority area of Argyll and Bute Council, in line with regulation 12 of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

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- clicking on **Simple Search** tab; then,
- typing **Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development** into **Search by Project Name** box then clicking on **Go**;
- then clicking on **ECU00006203** and then click on **Documents** tab.

The rotor diameter is 150m and the hub height is 125m.

The indicative wind turbine OS grid co-ordinates, are as follows:

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To allow Scottish Ministers to provide a comprehensive scoping opinion, we ask that you review the scoping report and advise on the scope of the environmental impact assessment for this proposal. Please advise if there are any further matters you would like Ministers to highlight for consideration and inclusion in the assessment, particularly site-specific information.

I would be grateful for your comments by **12th August 2025**. Please note that reminders will not be issued, therefore if we have not received any comments from you, nor a request for an extension to this date, we will assume that you have no comments to make.

Please send your response (in PDF format if possible) to Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | email address

To view our current casework please visit www.energyconsents.scot



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From: [Ian Hutchinson](#)
To: [Econsents Admin](#)
Cc: [Safeguarding](#)
Subject: RE: External - Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development
Date: 22 July 2025 15:52:18
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Niall,

On behalf of Glasgow Prestwick Airport, I have reviewed the updated site details related to the Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation (ECU00006203).

The proposed development remains substantially terrain shielded from the primary surveillance radar at GPA and is well clear of all Instrument Flight Procedures and associated protected surfaces. Consequently, we would have no further comment or valid objection to make to the proposal.

Kind regards,

Ian

Logo



Glasgow Prestwick Airport Ltd.
Aviation House
Prestwick
KA9 2PL
Scotland
United Kingdom

Ian Hutchinson
Aerodrome Safeguarding Manager
T: (+44) 01292 511038
M: 07561 685249

ihutchinson@glasgowprestwick.com

www.glasgowprestwick.com

From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of**
Econsents_Admin@gov.scot
Sent: 22 July 2025 12:00
Subject: External - Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

Dear Consultee,

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)
(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017**

**REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED SECTION S36C
APPLICATION FOR Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development**

On 2nd July, SSE Renewables (the Applicant) submitted a request for a scoping opinion from the Scottish Ministers for the proposed section S36C application for

the Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development.

Tangy IV Wind Farm received consent by Scottish Ministers in December 2019. The Consented Development, comprised of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9 Meters (M). The consented capacity of the project was up to 80 megawatts (MW). However, the project will not be constructed, and the Applicant is seeking to vary the consent.

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- clicking on **Simple Search** tab; then,
- typing **Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development** into **Search by Project Name** box then clicking on **Go**;
- then clicking on **ECU00006203** and then click on **Documents** tab.

The rotor diameter is 150m and the hub height is 125m.

The indicative wind turbine OS grid co-ordinates, are as follows:

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T01	628084	167193
T02	628243	167915
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To allow Scottish Ministers to provide a comprehensive scoping opinion, we ask that you review the scoping report and advise on the scope of the environmental impact assessment for this proposal. Please advise if there are any further matters you would like Ministers to highlight for consideration and inclusion in the assessment, particularly site-specific information.

I would be grateful for your comments by **12th August 2025**. Please note that reminders will not be issued, therefore if we have not received any comments from you, nor a request for an extension to this date, we will assume that you have no comments to make.

Please send your response (in PDF format if possible) to Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | email address

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From: [LUP enquiries](#)
To: [Econsents Admin](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development
Date: 25 July 2025 10:26:11
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Dear Mr Macquarrie,

Thank you for your email dated 22/07/25 regarding a scoping opinion under The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 for the Tangy IV Wind Farm development.

-
Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017

- HSE's response is limited to our role in the land use planning system for the control of major industrial hazards involving hazardous substances.
- HSE is not responding in our regulatory role in the health and safety system

1. The proposed development is not a development type that would store or process hazardous substances in quantities relevant to the potential for industrial major accidents with respect to The Planning (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2015.

2. The development is not located within a safeguarding zone of an Explosives site licensed under the Explosives regulations 2014 or the Dangerous goods in harbour area regulations 2016.

3. The development is not located within HSE's land-use-planning consultation zones for major-accident-hazard pipelines and hazardous substances consented sites (licensed explosives sites are covered in the previous paragraph).

Due to the above 3 points, there appears to be no need to consult HSE.

4. If there is a major accident hazard establishment with no HSE consultation zones, in the vicinity of the proposed development, and you are concerned that the proposed development might increase the risk or consequences of a major accident at the existing establishment then please directly consult the operator of the establishment, as appropriate.

5. General health and safety at work

HSE realises that Environmental Risk Assessments are not expected to include general health and safety at work however we take this opportunity to point out that it may be beneficial for employer(s) to undertake a risk assessment as early as possible to satisfy themselves that their design and operation will meet requirements of relevant health and safety legislation as the project progresses.

Kind Regards,
Tim

lupenquiries@hse.gov.uk



For HSE's Land Use Planning Advice Terms and Conditions, please click on the following link [HSE's Planning Advice Web App - Login \(hsl.gov.uk\)](#) and then click on 'terms and conditions'.

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is conducting a programme of research to understand the needs of people using their services for Land Use Planning Advice (including HSE's planning advice web app), Hazardous Substances Consent and their related guidance. This helps us create services that work better for the public and for government. Participation is voluntary. If you would like to be informed about opportunities to participate, please read and complete this consent form: <https://forms.office.com/e/twNqWPkE9x>. If you need a different format or have questions about this research, please contact the user research team on LUPuserresearch@hse.gov.uk and we will do our best to help. Thank you.

From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of**
Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Sent: 22 July 2025 12:00

Subject: Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

Dear Consultee,

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)
(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017**

**REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED SECTION S36C
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I would be grateful for your comments by **12th August 2025**. Please note that

reminders will not be issued, therefore if we have not received any comments from you, nor a request for an extension to this date, we will assume that you have no comments to make.

Please send your response (in PDF format if possible) to
Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | email address

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<https://www.hse.gov.uk/help/privacy.htm>

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Welsh version: Gweler ein hysbysiad preifatrwydd am fanylion ynghylch sut rydym yn defnyddio eich gwybodaeth: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/help/privacy.htm>

Os nad chi yw'r derbynnydd bwriadedig, mae unrhyw ddatgeliad, copïo, dosbarthu neu unrhyw gamau eraill a gymerir gan ddefnyddio'r wybodaeth sydd yn yr e-bost hwn wedi'u gwahardd yn llym. Rhwch wybod i'r anfonwr am y gwall fel y gellir dilyn gweithdrefnau mewnol, a dileu'r cyfathrebiad o'ch system ar unwaith wedi hynny.

Katie Butchart

From: Safeguarding <Safeguarding@hial.co.uk>
Sent: 06 August 2025 12:19
To: Econsents Admin
Cc: Safeguarding
Subject: Re: Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development: HIAL Response

OFFICIAL

Your Ref: ECU00006203

Our Ref: 2025/168/CAL

Dear Sir/Madam,

Proposal: Variation of the 2019 scheme by increasing the tip height of the turbines and other associated changes to infrastructure. The proposed Varied Development will comprise of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 200 Meters.

Location: Tangy IV

The development has been assessed using the supplied location criteria below with a turbine tip height of 200m AGL.

Turbine ID	Northing	Easting
T01	628084	167193
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T03	628522	167391
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T12	629038	169002
T13	628905	168407
T14	628835	167951
T15	629307	168040
T16	629317	168497

HIAL has been consulted on the above proposed development, received by this office on: 22/07/2025

With reference to the above, our preliminary assessment shows that, at the given position and height, this development may impact the safeguarding criteria and operation of Campbeltown Airport.

HIAL request that an Aviation Impact Feasibility Study (AIFS), of the proposed development, is undertaken to understand any impact on the infrastructure and operation of Campbeltown Airport.

The following are required to be assessed by the applicant:

Instrument Flight Procedures (IFPs)	Please see CAP 785 requirement. The IFP Assessment MUST be produced by an Approved Procedure Design Organisation (APDO). A list of APDO can be found on the CAA website: Approved procedure design organisations Civil Aviation Authority (caa.co.uk) *The IFP impact assessment should include the currently published procedures, as available in the UK AIP, and the Discrete IFPs (applicable to Barra, Campbeltown, Tiree & Islay). The Discrete IFPs are available from this office.
Lighting Requirement	For further information please refer to Advice Note 2 'Lighting' (available at http://www.aoa.org.uk/policy-campaigns/operations-safety). Please also consider the lighting requirements as documented in The Air Navigation Order 2016, Article 222

It should be noted that HIAL would work with the developer towards a resolution.

However, HIAL currently submit a holding objection until the AIFS has been submitted to and reviewed by HIAL.

Once the AIFS has been reviewed by HIAL, and any impact is understood, the applicant may then expect to be contacted by HIAL to enter formal discussions.

Kind Regards

Michael Balmain
(Safeguarding Officer)

From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot> on behalf of Econsents_Admin@gov.scot <Econsents_Admin@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 11:59 AM

Subject: Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Consultee,

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2017

REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED SECTION S36C
APPLICATION FOR Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

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Under regulation 12, Scottish Ministers are required to provide a scoping opinion outlining the information they consider should be included in the EIA report. Ministers are also required to consult the relevant consultation bodies and any other interested party which is likely to have an interest in the proposed development by reason of its specific environmental responsibilities or local and regional competencies.

The scoping report and supporting information can be viewed at the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit website www.energyconsents.scot by:

- clicking on **Search** tab; then,
- clicking on **Simple Search** tab; then,
- typing **Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development** into **Search by Project Name** box then clicking on **Go**;
- then clicking on **ECU00006203** and then click on **Documents** tab.

The rotor diameter is 150m and the hub height is 125m.

The indicative wind turbine OS grid co-ordinates, are as follows:

Turbine ID	Northing	Easting
T01	628084	167193
T02	628243	167915
T03	628522	167391

T04	628384	168418
T05	628597	168850
T06	628982	167409
T07	629424	167517
T08	629887	167555
T09	629820	168130
T10	629726	168694
T11	629483	169209
T12	629038	169002
T13	628905	168407
T14	628835	167951
T15	629307	168040
T16	629317	168497

To allow Scottish Ministers to provide a comprehensive scoping opinion, we ask that you review the scoping report and advise on the scope of the environmental impact assessment for this proposal. Please advise if there are any further matters you would like Ministers to highlight for consideration and inclusion in the assessment, particularly site-specific information.

I would be grateful for your comments by **12th August 2025**. Please note that reminders will not be issued, therefore if we have not received any comments from you, nor a request for an extension to this date, we will assume that you have no comments to make.

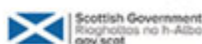
Please send your response (in PDF format if possible) to Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | email address

To view our current casework please visit www.energyconsents.scot



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**Safeguarding**

Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd
Inverness Airport Dalcross IV2 7JB
www.hial.co.uk

Our Values

Katie Butchart

From: Joint Radio Company <wftracker@jrc.co.uk>
Sent: 29 July 2025 11:07
To: Econsents Admin
Subject: Re: Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development - Request for Scoping Opinion

If any details of this proposal change, particularly the disposition or scale of any turbine(s), this clearance will be void and re-evaluation of the proposal will be necessary.

Dear Niall

Planning Ref: ECU00006203

Name/Location: Tangy IV Wind Farm (Variation Scoping Request)

Turbine(s) at NGR:

Turbine	Easting	Northing
T01	167193	628084
T02	167915	628243
T03	167391	628522
T04	168418	628384
T05	168850	628597
T06	167409	628982
T07	167517	629424
T08	167555	629887
T09	168130	629820
T10	168694	629726
T11	169209	629483
T12	169002	629038
T13	168407	628905
T14	167951	628835
T15	168040	629307
T16	168497	629317

Hub Height: 125m

Rotor Radius: 75m

This proposal is **cleared - subject to *50m* Micrositing** - with respect to radio link infrastructure operated by the local energy networks.

JRC analyses proposals for wind farms on behalf of the UK Fuel & Power Industry. This is to assess their potential to interfere with radio systems operated by utility companies in support of their regulatory operational requirements.

In the case of this proposed wind energy development, JRC does not foresee any potential problems based on known interference scenarios and the data you have provided. However, if any details of the wind farm

change, particularly the disposition or scale of any turbine(s), it will be necessary to re-evaluate the proposal.

In making this judgement, JRC has used its best endeavours with the available data, although we recognise that there may be effects which are as yet unknown or inadequately predicted. JRC cannot therefore be held liable if subsequently problems arise that we have not predicted.

It should be noted that this clearance pertains only to the date of its issue. As the use of the spectrum is dynamic, the use of the band is changing on an ongoing basis and consequently, developers are advised to seek re-coordination prior to considering any design changes.

Regards

Wind Farm Team

Friars House
Manor House Drive
Coventry CV1 2TE
United Kingdom

Office: 02476 932 185

JRC Ltd. is a Joint Venture between the Energy Networks Association (on behalf of the UK Energy Industries) and National Grid.

Registered in England & Wales: 2990041

[About The JRC](#) | [Joint Radio Company](#) | [JRC](#)

We maintain your personal contact details and are compliant with the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018) for the purpose of 'Legitimate Interest' for communication with you. If you would like to be removed, please contact anita.lad@jrc.co.uk.

On Tue, 22 Jul at 7:00 AM , econsents_admin <econsents_admin@gov.scot> wrote:
Dear Consultee,

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2017**

**REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED SECTION S36C
APPLICATION FOR Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development**

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Tangy IV Wind Farm received consent by Scottish Ministers in December 2019. The Consented Development, comprised of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9 Meters (M). The consented capacity of the project was up to 80 megawatts (MW). However, the project will not be constructed, and the Applicant is seeking to vary the consent.

This request for a Scoping Opinion is for a Varied Development. The Applicant is proposing to apply for a variation of the 2019 scheme by increasing the tip height of the turbines and other associated changes to infrastructure. The proposed Varied Development will comprise of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 200 Meters. The consented capacity of the project is up to 96MW and is located in the planning authority area of Argyll and Bute Council, in line with regulation 12 of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

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- clicking on **Simple Search** tab; then,
- typing **Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development** into **Search by Project Name** box then clicking on **Go**;
- then clicking on **ECU00006203** and then click on **Documents** tab.

The rotor diameter is 150m and the hub height is 125m.

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I would be grateful for your comments by **12th August 2025**. Please note that reminders will not be issued, therefore if we have not received any comments from you, nor a request for an extension to this date, we will assume that you have no comments to make.

Please send your response (in PDF format if possible) to Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | email address

To view our current casework please visit www.energyconsents.scot



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From: [NATS Safeguarding](#)
To: [Econsents Admin](#)
Cc: [NATS Safeguarding](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development
Date: 05 August 2025 15:28:28
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)

We refer to the application above. The proposed development has been examined by our technical safeguarding teams. In the timeframe given to us we have been unable to thoroughly investigate the effects of the proposed development on our Operations, however, the relevant teams are being consulted.

Based on our preliminary technical findings, the proposed development does conflict with our safeguarding criteria. Accordingly, NATS (En Route) plc objects to the proposal. We will notify you within 4-6 weeks of the results of our operational assessment. Only if this assessment shows the impact to be acceptable will we be able to withdraw our objection.

We would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to the legal obligation of local authorities to consult NATS before granting planning permission for a wind farm

The obligation to consult arises in respect of certain applications that would affect a technical site operated by or on behalf of NATS (such sites being identified by safeguarding plans that are issued to local planning authorities).

In the event that any recommendations made by NATS are not accepted, local authorities are further obliged to notify both NATS and the Civil Aviation Authority (?CAA?) of that fact (which may lead to the decision made being subject to review whether by the CAA referring the matter for further scrutiny or by appropriate action being taken in the courts).

As this further notification is intended to allow the CAA sufficient time to consider whether further scrutiny is required, we understand that the notification should be provided prior to any granting of permission. You should be aware that a failure to consult NATS, or to take into account NATS's comments when deciding whether to approve a planning application, could cause serious safety risks for air traffic.

If you have any queries regarding this matter you can contact us using the details as below.

Yours faithfully

NATS

NATS Safeguarding

D: 01489 444687

E: NATSSafeguarding@nats.co.uk

4000 Parkway, Whiteley,
Fareham, Hants PO15 7FL
www.nats.co.uk



NATS Internal

From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of**
Econsents_Admin@gov.scot
Sent: 22 July 2025 12:00
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

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Dear Consultee,

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)
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Please send your response (in PDF format if possible) to

Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | email address

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Katie Butchart

From: ONR Land Use Planning <ONR-Land.Use-Planning@onr.gov.uk>
Sent: 23 July 2025 10:13
To: Econsents Admin
Subject: ONR Land Use Planning - Application
Attachments: image001.png

Dear Sir/Madam,

With regard to planning application, ONR makes no comment on this proposed development as it does not lie within a consultation zone around a GB nuclear site.

You can find information concerning our Land Use Planning consultation process here: (<http://www.onr.org.uk/land-use-planning.htm>).

Kind regards,
Land Use Planning
Office for Nuclear Regulation
ONR-Land.Use-planning@onr.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----

From: Econsents - Scottish Government <econsents_admin@gov.scot>
To:
Cc:
Sent: 22/07/2025 11:59
Subject: Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

Dear Consultee,

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2017**

**REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED SECTION S36C
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Please send your response (in PDF format if possible) to Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | email address

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Scottish
Forestry
Coilltearachd
na h-Alba

A78
Perth & Argyll Conservancy
Upper Battleby
Redgorton
Perth
PH1 3EN

Email: panda.cons@forestry.gov.scot

Tel: 0300 067 6005

www.forestry.gov.scot

Conservator: Matt Young

Monday, 11 August 2025

Energy Consents Unit
Scottish Government
5 Atlantic Quay
150 Broomielaw
Glasgow, G2 8LU

Dear Naill Macquarrie,

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2017**

**REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED SECTION S36C APPLICATION FOR
Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Scoping Report for the proposed **Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development**. We have reviewed the Report and provide the following advice from Scottish Forestry. This includes ensuring alignment with the *Forestry and Land Management (Scotland) Act 2018*, the *Control of Woodland Removal Policy (CoWRP)*, the *UK Forestry Standard (UKFS)*, *Scotland's Forestry Strategy 2019 – 2029* and *National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4)*.

Woodland Baseline

The EIAR should include a full woodland survey covering all affected areas. This includes mapping of woodland types, ownership, species composition, age class, designations, and any long-term forest plans or grant schemes in place, particularly those with existing EIA determinations. Mapping should meet National Forest Inventory (NFI) standards and be provided in recognised GIS formats.

Woodland Removal and Compensatory Planting

We welcome the applicant's stated intention to submit updated replanting plans and compensatory planting proposals in the Proposed Varied EIAR. *Woodland Removal Impact Assessment (WRIA)* and *Compensatory Planting Plan (CPP)*, in line with **CoWRP** must be considered. We advise that early engagement with Scottish Forestry is essential to agree survey scope, assess policy compliance, and identify appropriate compensatory planting proposals.

The presumption against woodland removal applies, particularly where removal would result in fragmentation of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) or sensitive habitats. The CPP must aim to deliver meaningful, UKFS-compliant planting that reflects the **Scottish Government's woodland expansion targets** and local biodiversity priorities outlined in the Argyll and Bute Local Development Plan 2.

Scottish Forestry is the Scottish Government agency responsible for forestry policy, support and regulation

S e Coilltearachd na h-Alba a' bhuidheann-ghnìomha aig Riaghaltas
na h-Alba a tha an urra ri poileasaidh, taic agus riaghladh do choilltearachd



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

The proposed development must also consider **Policy G – Forestry, Woodland and Trees** and **Policy 78 (Woodland Removal)** of the *Argyll and Bute Local Development Plan 2 (2024)* to avoid impairing connectivity between important woodland habitats. With regards to Compensatory Planting, the proposed development may provide opportunities to create new woodland or planting of native trees to create biodiversity corridors of Forest Habitat Networks.

UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) Compliance

The EIAR must demonstrate compliance with UKFS for any forestry related operations, covering forest design, biodiversity, soils, water, and operational standards.

Peatland, Hydrology and Infrastructure Siting

Where forestry overlaps with deep peat or sensitive soils, the applicant should clearly justify land use change and consider infrastructure re-siting or co-location to minimise disturbance. We recommend early engagement with SEPA and NatureScot on these interfaces.

Access and Infrastructure Impacts

Assess the impact of roads, cabling, and borrow pits on woodland, including tree loss, fragmentation, and operational disruption. Mitigation measures should be proposed. Mitigation measures should follow the established hierarchy set out in *National Planning Framework 4*—prioritising the avoidance of adverse impacts, then minimising and mitigating where impacts are unavoidable, and considering compensation only as a last resort.

Cumulative Impacts

The EIAR should assess the cumulative impacts of woodland removal across the Kintyre Peninsula, particularly in the context of other consented or proposed developments. Fragmentation and long-term resilience of forest blocks are key concerns.

Post-Construction Woodland Management

Post-construction management, restocking, and habitat enhancement measures should be clearly set out. Where felling occurs, the intended land use (forestry, open ground, peatland restoration) should be confirmed and supported by mapping.

Conclusion

Early pre-application discussions with Scottish Forestry (Perth and Argyll Conservancy), Argyll and Bute Council, and other key stakeholders are essential to ensure a shared understanding of the proposal, information requirements, and timelines. This collaborative approach helps identify and address forestry-related issues early, and applicants should factor adequate time for this engagement into their project planning.

Please contact us using the details provided for further discussion or clarification.

Yours sincerely,

Freya Williamson
Technical Officer

Scottish Forestry

Katie Butchart

From: Leadbeater, Jamie <Jamie.Leadbeater@sse.com>
Sent: 22 August 2025 10:12
To: Niall Macquarrie
Subject: ECU00006203 - Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development (SSEN Transmission response)

Morning Niall,

Further to our previous communication below, I can confirm that we have reviewed the proposed varied site layout submission by SSE Renewables.

SSEN Transmission has **no objection** to the scope of the proposed EIA for a future S36C application.

Kind regards,

Jamie

Jamie Leadbeater BA (Hons) DipTP MSc MRTPI
Senior Town & Country Planner

SSEN Transmission - Land Team

Prime View (Unit 11)
Prime Four Business Park,
Kingswells,
Aberdeen,
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M: +44 (0)7467 652484
www.ssen-transmission.co.uk



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From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot>
Sent: 14 August 2025 08:18
To: Leadbeater, Jamie <Jamie.Leadbeater@sse.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: EXTENSION REQUEST (SSEN Transmission) - Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

Good Morning Jamie,

The ECU is happy to grant the extension for Friday 22nd August. I'll let the developer know.

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | email address

To view our current casework please visit www.energyconsents.scot



From: Leadbeater, Jamie <Jamie.Leadbeater@sse.com>

Sent: 13 August 2025 15:09

To: Niall Macquarrie <niall.macquarrie@gov.scot>

Subject: EXTENSION REQUEST (SSEN Transmission) - Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

Afternoon Niall,

Further to your email below, I'm writing to you to formally ask for an **extension** to the period of time for us to provide you a response **until Friday 22nd August**.

This is because a key member of our staff, who I require input from, is currently on leave.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Jamie

Jamie Leadbeater BA (Hons) DipTP MSc MRTPI
Senior Town & Country Planner

SSEN Transmission - Land Team

Prime View (Unit 11)
Prime Four Business Park,
Kingswells,
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From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot> on behalf of Econsents_Admin@gov.scot <Econsents_Admin@gov.scot>

Sent: 22 July 2025 11:59

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

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Dear Consultee,

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2017**

**REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED SECTION S36C
APPLICATION FOR Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development**

On 2nd July, SSE Renewables (the Applicant) submitted a request for a scoping opinion from the Scottish Ministers for the proposed section S36C application for the Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development.

Tangy IV Wind Farm received consent by Scottish Ministers in December 2019. The Consented Development, comprised of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9 Meters (M). The consented capacity of the project was up to 80 megawatts (MW). However, the project will not be constructed, and the Applicant is seeking to vary the consent.

This request for a Scoping Opinion is for a Varied Development. The Applicant is proposing to apply for a variation of the 2019 scheme by increasing the tip height of the turbines and other associated changes to infrastructure. The proposed Varied Development will comprise of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 200 Meters. The consented capacity of the project is up to 96MW and is located in the planning authority area of Argyll and Bute Council, in line with regulation 12 of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

Under regulation 12, Scottish Ministers are required to provide a scoping opinion outlining the information they consider should be included in the EIA report. Ministers are also required to consult the relevant consultation bodies and any other interested party which is likely to have an interest in the proposed development by reason of its specific environmental responsibilities or local and regional competencies.

The scoping report and supporting information can be viewed at the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit website www.energyconsents.scot by:

- clicking on **Search** tab; then,
- clicking on **Simple Search** tab; then,
- typing **Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development** into **Search by Project Name** box then clicking on **Go**;
- then clicking on **ECU00006203** and then click on **Documents** tab.

The rotor diameter is 150m and the hub height is 125m.
The indicative wind turbine OS grid co-ordinates, are as follows:

Turbine ID	Northing	Easting
T01	628084	167193
T02	628243	167915
T03	628522	167391
T04	628384	168418
T05	628597	168850
T06	628982	167409
T07	629424	167517
T08	629887	167555
T09	629820	168130
T10	629726	168694
T11	629483	169209
T12	629038	169002
T13	628905	168407
T14	628835	167951
T15	629307	168040
T16	629317	168497

To allow Scottish Ministers to provide a comprehensive scoping opinion, we ask that you review the scoping report and advise on the scope of the environmental impact assessment for this proposal. Please advise if there are any further matters you would like Ministers to highlight for consideration and inclusion in the assessment, particularly site-specific information.

I would be grateful for your comments by **12th August 2025**. Please note that reminders will not be issued, therefore if we have not received any comments from you, nor a request for an extension to this date, we will assume that you have no comments to make.

Please send your response (in PDF format if possible) to Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | email address

To view our current casework please visit www.energyconsents.scot



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SSE plc

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SSE plc

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Registered in Scotland No. SC117119

www.sse.com

From: [Bryan Young](#)
To: [Econsents Admin](#)
Subject: Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development
Date: 22 July 2025 12:08:00

Classified as Internal

Good afternoon,

SGN do not have any High pressure assets within the vicinity of the above consultation and as such would have no comment/objection,

Kind regards

Bryan Young
Pipeline Officer

Bryan.young@sgn.co.uk

Axis House Edinburgh

sgn.co.uk

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Scotland Gas Networks plc (company registration number SC264065) is registered in Scotland and has its registered office address at Axis House, 5 Lonehead Drive, Newbridge, Edinburgh EH28 8TG

Katie Butchart

From: Tim Allott <tim.allott@metoffice.gov.uk> on behalf of metofficesafeguarding <metofficesafeguarding@metoffice.gov.uk>
Sent: 24 July 2025 11:16
To: Econsents Admin
Subject: RE: Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

OFFICIAL

Dear Niall,

Thanks for consulting the Met Office. The proposal would be approx. 47 km from our nearest weather radar. There is potential that the wind turbines would be detected by the weather radar and have an impact on the data received. However the proposal is outside any of our standard 20 km consultation zones and we would be able to manage any impacts on products and services derived from the weather radar data.

Therefore we have no concerns and don't need to be consulted further.

Kind regards,

Tim Allott
Upper Air Observations
Met Office, FitzRoy Road, Exeter, Devon, EX1 3PB, United Kingdom
E-mail: metofficesafeguarding@metoffice.gov.uk
Web: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/business-industry/energy/safeguarding>

OFFICIAL

From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Econsents_Admin@gov.scot
Sent: 22 July 2025 12:00
Subject: Request for Scoping Opinion Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development

Dear Consultee,

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2017**

**REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED SECTION S36C
APPLICATION FOR Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development**

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Tangy IV Wind Farm received consent by Scottish Ministers in December 2019. The Consented Development, comprised of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9 Meters (M). The consented capacity of the project was up to 80 megawatts (MW). However, the project will not be constructed, and the Applicant is seeking to vary the consent.

This request for a Scoping Opinion is for a Varied Development. The Applicant is proposing to apply for a variation of the 2019 scheme by increasing the tip height of the turbines and other associated changes to infrastructure. The proposed Varied Development will comprise of 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 200 Meters. The consented capacity of the project is up to 96MW and is located in the planning authority area of Argyll and Bute Council, in line with regulation 12 of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

Under regulation 12, Scottish Ministers are required to provide a scoping opinion outlining the information they consider should be included in the EIA report. Ministers are also required to consult the relevant consultation bodies and any other interested party which is likely to have an interest in the proposed development by reason of its specific environmental responsibilities or local and regional competencies.

The scoping report and supporting information can be viewed at the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit website www.energyconsents.scot by:

- clicking on **Search** tab; then,
- clicking on **Simple Search** tab; then,
- typing **Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development** into **Search by Project Name** box then clicking on **Go**;
- then clicking on **ECU00006203** and then click on **Documents** tab.

The rotor diameter is 150m and the hub height is 125m.

The indicative wind turbine OS grid co-ordinates, are as follows:

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T07	629424	167517
T08	629887	167555
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T11	629483	169209
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T14	628835	167951
T15	629307	168040
T16	629317	168497

To allow Scottish Ministers to provide a comprehensive scoping opinion, we ask that you review the scoping report and advise on the scope of the environmental impact assessment for this proposal. Please advise if there are any further matters you would like Ministers to highlight for consideration and inclusion in the assessment, particularly site-specific information.

I would be grateful for your comments by **12th August 2025**. Please note that reminders will not be issued, therefore if we have not received any comments from you, nor a request for an extension to this date, we will assume that you have no comments to make.

Please send your response (in PDF format if possible) to Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | email address

To view our current casework please visit www.energyconsents.scot



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Niall MacQuarrie
Energy Consents Unit
The Scottish Government
5 Atlantic Quay
150 Broomielaw
Glasgow
G2 8LU

Your ref:
ECU00006203

Our ref:
GB01T19K05

Date:
12/08/2025

Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Dear Sirs,

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989

THE ELECTRICITY (APPLICATIONS FOR CONSENT) REGULATIONS 2017

REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION TANGY IV WIND FARM - VARIED DEVELOPMENT

With reference to your recent correspondence on the above development, we acknowledge receipt of the Scoping Report (SR) prepared by SSE Renewables in support of the above development.

This information has been passed to SYSTRA Limited for review in their capacity as Term Consultants to Transport Scotland – Roads Directorate. Based on the review undertaken, Transport Scotland would provide the following comments.

Proposed Development

We understand that Scottish Ministers approved Tangy IV Wind Farm (the Consented Development) on 20th December 2019 for 16 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9m, located approximately 9km northwest of Campbeltown. The nearest trunk road to the site is the A83(T), from which access to the site will be taken via an existing junction at Drum Farm, just north of Kilkenzie. Transport Scotland was consulted on the Consented Development and we provided comment in our letter dated 17th October 2018.

It is noted that due to various challenges affecting the onshore wind industry, the applicant is seeking to vary the Consented Development content by increasing the tip height of the 16 turbines from 149.9m to 200m. This has resulted in an increase in hardstands, to reflect the proposed candidate turbine model.

Assessment of Environmental Impacts

Chapter 12 of the SR presents the proposed methodology for the assessment of Access, Traffic and Transport.

This states that a screening assessment will be carried out in accordance with the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Guidelines entitled Environmental Assessment of Traffic and Movement (July 2023). These specify that road links should be taken forward for further assessment where the following two rules are breached:

- Rule 1: Include road links where traffic flows will increase by more than 30% (or the number of heavy goods vehicles will increase by more than 30%)
- Rule 2: Include road links of high sensitivity where traffic flows have increased by 10% or more.

We note that the screening assessment will be based on updated base traffic data from Traffic Scotland's National Traffic Data System. In addition, National Road Traffic Forecast (NRTF) Low Traffic Growth assumptions will be applied to provide a common future year baseline to coincide with the expected construction traffic peak. This is considered appropriate.

The SR states that while the proposed turbines and supporting infrastructure (e.g. hardstands) will be larger, efforts to optimise deliveries (such as sourcing aggregate on site) are expected to broadly offset any potential increases in construction traffic. As such, overall vehicle numbers are anticipated to remain in line with the original EIAR assumptions. Transport Scotland would have expected such on-site aggregate sourcing to have been included within the original assessment and would state that evidence will be required to support any claims that vehicle numbers will not increase. We would expect the screening assessment identified above to include revised traffic numbers which reflect the increase in loads required to deliver both the larger turbines and the increase in the size of the concrete foundations that will be required to support the larger turbines.

Abnormal Loads Assessment

The SR states that an initial swept path analysis has been carried out which has indicated that the larger turbine blades can be delivered via the consented Abnormal Load Route. It also indicates, however, that given the 50m increase in height, an updated assessment of the delivery route will be scoped into the updated Varied EIAR. Transport Scotland considers this appropriate, and we would state that Transport Scotland will require to be satisfied that the increased size of loads proposed can negotiate the selected route and that transportation will not have any detrimental effect on structures within the trunk road route path.

We would state that any proposed changes to the trunk road network must be discussed and approved (via a technical approval process) by the appropriate Area Manager prior to the movement of any abnormal load.

I trust that the above is satisfactory but should you wish to discuss any issues raised in greater detail, please do not hesitate to contact me or alternatively, Alan DeVenny at SYSTRA's Glasgow Office can assist on 0141 343 9636.

Yours faithfully

REDACT

George Smith

**Transport Scotland
Roads Directorate**

cc Alan DeVenny – SYSTRA Ltd.

Marine Directorate – Science Evidence Data and Digital (MD-SEDD) advice on freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries in relation to onshore wind farm developments.

July 2020 updated September 2023

Marine Directorate – Science Evidence Data and Digital (MD-SEDD) provides internal, non-statutory, advice in relation to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) for onshore wind farm developments in Scotland.

Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), sea trout and brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) are of high economic value and conservation interest in Scotland and for which MD-SEDD has in-house expertise. Onshore wind farms are often located in upland areas where salmon and trout spawning and rearing grounds may also be found. MD-SEDD aims, through our provision of advice to ECU, to ensure that the construction and operation of these onshore developments do not have a detrimental impact on the freshwater life stages of these fish populations.

The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (EIA) (Scotland) Regulations (2017) state that the EIA must assess the direct and indirect significant effects of the proposed development on water and biodiversity, and in particular species (such as Atlantic salmon) and habitats protected under the EU Habitats Directive. Salmon and trout are listed as priority species of high conservation interest in the Scottish Biodiversity Index and support valuable recreational fisheries.

A good working relationship has been developed over the years between ECU and MD-SEDD, which ensures that these fish species are considered by ECU during all stages of the application process of onshore wind farm developments and are similarly considered during the construction and operation of future onshore wind farms. It is important that matters relating to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries, particularly salmon and trout, continue to be considered during the construction and operation of future onshore wind farms.

In the current document, MD-SEDD sets out a revised, more efficient approach to the provision of our advice, which utilises our generic scoping and monitoring programme guidelines (<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse/Freshwater/Research/onshoreren>). This standing advice provides regulators (e.g. ECU, local planning authorities), developers and consultants with the information required at all stages of the application process for onshore wind farm developments, such that matters relating to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries are addressed in the same rigorous manner as is currently being carried out and continue to be fully in line with EIA regulations. At the request of ECU, MD-SEDD will still be able to provide further and/or bespoke advice relevant to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries e.g. site specific advice, at any stage of the application process for a proposed development, particularly where a development may be considered sensitive or contentious in nature.

MD-SEDD will continue undertaking research, identifying additional research requirements, and keep up to date with the latest published knowledge relating to the

impacts of onshore wind farms on freshwater and diadromous fish populations. This will be used to ensure that our guidelines and standing advice are based on the best available evidence and also to continue the publication of the relevant findings and knowledge to all stakeholders including regulators, developers and consultants.

MD-SEDD provision of advice to ECU

- MD-SEDD should not be asked for advice on pre application and application consultations (including screening, scoping, gate checks and EIA applications). Instead, the MD-SEDD scoping guidelines and standing advice (outlined below) should be provided to the developer as they set out what information should be included in the EIA report;
- if new issues arise which are not dealt with in our guidance or in our previous responses relating to respective developments, MD-SEDD can be asked to provide advice in relation to proposed mitigation measures and monitoring programmes which should be outlined in the EIA Report (further details below);
- if new issues arise which are not dealt with in our guidance or in our previous responses, MD-SEDD can be asked to provide advice on suitable wording, within a planning condition, to secure proposed monitoring programmes, should the development be granted consent;
- MD-SEDD cannot provide advice to developers or consultants, our advice is to ECU and/or other regulatory bodies.
- if ECU has identified specific issues during any part of the application process that the standing advice does not address, MD-SEDD should be contacted.

MD-SEDD Standing Advice for each stage of the EIA process

Scoping

MD-SEDD issued generic scoping guidelines

(<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse/Freshwater/Research/onshoreren>) which outline how fish populations can be impacted during the construction, operation and decommissioning of a wind farm development and informs developers as to what should be considered, in relation to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries, during the EIA process.

In addition to identifying the main watercourses and waterbodies within and downstream of the proposed development area, developers should identify and consider, at this early stage, any areas of Special Areas of Conservation where fish are a qualifying feature and proposed felling operations particularly in acid sensitive areas.

If a developer identifies new issues or has a technical query in respect of MD-SEDD generic scoping guidelines then ECU should be informed who will then co-ordinate a response from MD-SEDD.

Gate check

The detail within the generic scoping guidelines already provides sufficient information relating to water quality and salmon and trout populations for developers at this stage of the application.

Developers will be required to provide a gate check checklist (annex 1) in advance of their application submission which should signpost ECU to where all matters relevant to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries have been presented in the EIA report. Where matters have not been addressed or a different approach, to that specified in the advice, has been adopted the developer will be required to set out why.

EIA Report

MD-SEDD will focus on those developments which may be more sensitive and/or where there are known existing pressures on fish populations (<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse/fishreform/licence/status/Pressures>). The generic scoping guidelines should ensure that the developer has addressed all matters relevant to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries and presented them in the appropriate chapters of the EIA report. Use of the gate check checklist should ensure that the EIA report contains the required information; the absence of such information may necessitate requesting additional information which may delay the process:

Developers should specifically discuss and assess potential impacts and appropriate mitigation measures associated with the following:

- any designated area, for which fish is a qualifying feature, within and/or downstream of the proposed development area;
- the presence of a large density of watercourses;
- the presence of large areas of deep peat deposits;
- known acidification problems and/or other existing pressures on fish populations in the area; and
- proposed felling operations.

Post-Consent Monitoring

MD-SEDD recommends that a water quality and fish population monitoring programme is carried out to ensure that the proposed mitigation measures are effective. A robust, strategically designed and site specific monitoring programme conducted before, during and after construction can help to identify any changes, should they occur, and assist in implementing rapid remediation before long term ecological impacts occur.

MD-SEDD has published guidance on survey/monitoring programmes associated with onshore wind farm developments (<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse/Freshwater/Research/onshoreren>) which developers should follow when drawing up survey and/or monitoring programmes.

If a developer considers that such a monitoring programme is not required then a clear justification should be provided.

Planning Conditions

MD-SEDD advises that planning conditions are drawn up to ensure appropriate provision for mitigation measures and monitoring programmes, should the development be given consent. We recommend, where required, that a Water Quality Monitoring Programme, Fisheries Monitoring Programme and the appointment of an Ecological Clerk of Works, specifically in overseeing the above monitoring programmes, is outlined within these conditions and that MD-SEDD is consulted on these programmes.

Wording suggested by MD-SEDD in relation to water quality, fish populations and fisheries for incorporation into planning consents:

1. No development shall commence unless a Water Quality and Fish Monitoring Plan (WQFMP) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority in consultation with Marine Directorate – Science Evidence Data and Digital (MD–SEDD) and any such other advisors or organisations.
2. The WQFMP must take account of the Scottish Government’s MD-SEDD guidelines and standing advice and shall include:
 - a. water quality sampling should be carried out at least 12 months prior to construction commencing, during construction and for at least 12 months after construction is complete. The water quality monitoring plan should include key hydrochemical parameters, turbidity, and flow data, the identification of sampling locations (including control sites), frequency of sampling, sampling methodology, data analysis and reporting etc.;
 - b. the fish monitoring plan should include fully quantitative electrofishing surveys at sites potentially impacted and at control sites for at least 12 months before construction commences, during construction and for at least 12 months after construction is completed to detect any changes in fish populations; and
 - c. appropriate site specific mitigation measures detailed in the Environmental Impact Assessment and in agreement with the Planning Authority and MD-SEDD.
3. Thereafter, the WQFMP shall be implemented within the timescales set out to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority in consultation with MD- SEDD and the results of such monitoring shall be submitted to the Planning Authority on a 6 monthly basis or on request.

Reason: To ensure no deterioration of water quality and to protect fish populations within and downstream of the development area.

Sources of further information

NatureScot (previously “SNH”) guidance on wind farm developments -

<https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/planning-and-development/advice-planners-and-developers/renewable-energy-development/onshore-wind-energy/advice-wind-farm>

Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) guidance on wind farm developments –

<https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/energy/renewable/#wind>

A joint publication by Scottish Renewables, NatureScot, SEPA, Forestry Commission Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland, Marine Scotland Science (now MD-SEDD) and Association of Environmental and Ecological Clerks of Works (2019) Good Practice during Wind Farm Construction -

<https://www.nature.scot/guidance-good-practice-during-wind-farm-construction>.

Annex 1 (revised September 2023)

Marine Directorate – Science Evidence Data and Digital (MD-SEDD) – EIA Checklist

The generic scoping guidelines should ensure that all matters relevant to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries have been addressed and presented in the appropriate chapters of the EIA report. Use of the checklist below should ensure that the EIA report contains the following information; the absence of such information ***may necessitate requesting additional information*** which could delay the process:

MD-SEDD Standard EIA Report Requirements	Provided in application YES/NO	If YES – please signpost to relevant chapter of EIA Report	If not provided or provided different to MD-SEDD advice, please set out reasons.
1. A map outlining the proposed development area and the proposed location of: ○ the turbines, ○ associated crane hard standing areas, ○ borrow pits, ○ permanent meteorological masts, ○ access tracks including watercourse crossings, ○ all buildings including substation, battery storage; ○ permanent and temporary construction compounds; ○ all watercourses; and ○ contour lines;			

2. A description and results of the site characterisation surveys for fish (including fully quantitative electrofishing surveys) and water quality including the location of the electrofishing and fish habitat survey sites and water quality sampling sites on the map outlining the proposed turbines and associated infrastructure. This should be carried out where a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is present and where salmon are a qualifying feature, and in exceptional cases when required in the scoping advice for other reasons. In other cases, developers can assume that fish populations are present;			
3. An outline of the potential impacts on fish populations and water quality within and downstream of the proposed development area;			
4. Any potential cumulative impacts on the water quality and fish populations associated with adjacent (operational and consented) developments including wind farms, hydro schemes, aquaculture and mining;			

5. Any proposed site specific mitigation measures as outlined in MD-SEDD generic scoping guidelines and the joint publication “Good Practice during Wind Farm Construction” (https://www.nature.scot/guidance-good-practice-during-wind-farm-construction);			
6. Full details of proposed monitoring programmes using guidelines issued by MD-SEDD and accompanied by a map outlining the proposed sampling and control sites in addition to the location of all turbines and associated infrastructure. At least 12 months of baseline pre-construction data should be included. The monitoring programme can be secured using suitable wording in a condition.			
7. A decommissioning and restoration plan outlining proposed mitigation/monitoring for water quality and fish populations. This can be secured using suitable wording in a condition.			

Developers should specifically discuss and assess potential impacts and appropriate mitigation measures associated with the following:	Provided in application YES/NO	If YES – please signpost to relevant chapter of EIA Report	If not provided or provided different to MD-SEDD advice, please set out reasons.
1. Any designated area (e.g. SAC), for which fish is a qualifying feature, within and/or downstream of the proposed development area;			
2. The presence of a large density of watercourses;			
3. The presence of large areas of deep peat deposits;			
4. Known acidification problems and/or other existing pressures on fish populations in the area; and			
5. Proposed felling operations.			