

Tangy IV Wind Farm Section 36C Variation

Technical Appendix 3.4: Post Scoping Pre-application Consultation

Technical Appendix 3.4 - Post scoping engagement with Argyll & Bute Council

From: [Moore, David](#)
To: [Niall Macquarrie](#)
Subject: FW: Gatecheck 1 Report - Proposed Development - Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation (ECU00006203)
Date: 08 April 2026 11:46:31
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[Appendix A - Tangy S36C - Scoping Opinion - 23-9-2025.pdf](#)
[Figure 1.1 - Site Location.pdf](#)
[Figure 1.2 - Site Layout.pdf](#)
[Figure 1.3 - Consented And Proposed Varied Layouts.pdf](#)
[Tangy S36C Variation - Gatecheck 1 Report - March 2026.pdf](#)

Classification: NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Niall,

Gatecheck 1 Report - Proposed Development - Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation
Your REF : ECU00006203
Our Ref: 25/01223/SCOPE

I refer to your consultation dated 02.04.26 and the attached documentation. The Planning Authority is generally content with the submissions subject to the following comments.

CUMULATIVE IMPACT

The Planning Authority provided its scoping consultation response dated 18.09.25 stated that:

*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** (Officer Emphasis), 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.*

The Gatecheck Report at Table 3.2 in respect of the Proposed EIA Scope states

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.

The Planning Authority would comment that this does not seem to reference a need to also evaluate existing , consented and proposed **transmission infrastructure** as part of this exercise. This may just be an omission of specific wording, however the Planning Authority would wish to see this matter addressed in any EIAR as set

out in its Scoping Response.

The Planning Authority also notes recent case law in respect of the relationship between S36 windfarm Proposal and associated and related necessary S37 grid connection proposals as part of EIA submissions, and would expect the Scottish Ministers and ECU as the determining Authority to ensure that the submitted EIA in support of this S36 is in compliance with the correct EIA procedural approach at time of submission. A link to the referenced recent case law is set out below

[2026csih10-raeshaw-farms-limited-against-scottish-ministers-and-another.pdf](#)

I am aware that this decision, and its consequences for S36 EIA content is subject to consideration by the Scottish Ministers and other parties at time of writing.

NOISE

The Planning Authority asks that matters relating to Operational Noise and Amplitude Modulation considered in accordance with best practice advice within EIA submissions at time of application.

The Planning Authority is otherwise content with the Gatecheck Report and defers to other expert consultees in respect of other specialist matters contained in the Gatecheck 1 Report.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Regards David

David Moore BA(hons) MRTPI
Senior Planning Officer
Argyll and Bute Council
Tel: 01436 658 916

David.Moore@argyll-bute.gov.uk
www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
www.abplace2b.scot

Further detail on Planning Service Status is available on the Council website.

British Sign Language (BSL) users can contact me direct by using contactSCOTLAND-BSL



From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot>

Sent: 02 April 2026 11:14

Subject: Gatecheck 1 Report - Proposed Development - Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation (ECU00006203)

Dear key consultee,

PROPOSED TANGY IV WIND FARM VARIATION IN THE PLANNING AUTHORITY AREA OF ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

Your organisation previously provided a response to the scoping consultation for the above proposal, and Scottish Ministers issued a scoping opinion dated 23rd September 2025 ([Scottish Government - Energy Consents Unit - Application Details](#))

The Company has indicated that their intention is to submit their application to Scottish Ministers by Q2 2026.

The Company has submitted the attached Gatecheck Report setting out their activities since scoping, and how they have been taking forward the advice received. The report provides a summary on how they intend to approach the EIA in response to any site specific advice provided in the scoping opinion.

I would be grateful if you could respond with any final comments or advice on; the Company's approach and intended methodology to the EIA, in particular giving consideration to whether the approach will provide the most robust environment assessment of your particular areas of consultation. Can you please advise if you agree with what is being proposed.

The aim of Gatecheck 1 process is to help to reduce any requirement to modify a development post application. It should (hopefully) be the case that the Company have been fully informed and advised of any remaining pre-application concerns and be in a position to submit the best layout, design and environmental assessment possible.

I would be grateful if you could respond with any final comments or advice by **4th May 2025**.

If you have any queries regarding this email please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | niall.macquarrie@gov.scot

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



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Technical Appendix 3.4 - Post scoping engagement with NatureScot

VP23 (Beinn Bharrain) for Tangy Wind Farm's S36C application

From [REDACTED]@sse.com>
Date Thu 11/6/2025 10:28 AM
To [REDACTED]@nature.scot [REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Cc [REDACTED]

 2 attachments (6 MB)

Z20024 P All Energy ASH Presentation 1.0.0.pptx; VP21 NIGHT COMPARISON 0.0.3.jpg;

Dear [REDACTED]

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to follow-up on your request for a night-time visualisation from VP23 (Beinn Bharrain) for Tangy Wind Farm's S36C application.

We fully appreciate the importance of this visualisation in assessing the potential night-time impact of the development. However, after discussing the practicalities of obtaining a nighttime photograph from this VP with my internal Health and Safety team, I would like to propose an alternative approach.

Our H&S team has advised SSER cannot support night-time hillwalking for the purpose of capturing night-time photography due to the significant safety risks associated with navigating challenging terrain in darkness, particularly in the unpredictable weather conditions that are likely to be experienced on the hilltop. While administrative controls (e.g. safety buddy, mountain guide, GPS tracker, emergency contacts/plans) and PPE may help mitigate these risks, they do not eliminate them. As such, we would likely be unable to accept RAMS that propose to intentionally place individuals in a hazardous situation.

Their advice is based on the principles of the “hierarchy of controls” and “prevention through design” in risk management, as outlined by the [National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health \(NIOSH\)](#) and aligned with the 9 Key Principles of Prevention in Health and Safety. These principles are also embedded in UK legislation, including the [Construction \(Design and Management\) Regulations 2015](#), which require duty holders to eliminate or reduce foreseeable risks through design and planning.

Instead of a live night-time photograph, we propose to use digitally altered images to accurately represent the night-time conditions from VP23. This method involves taking a high-quality, high-resolution photograph during daylight hours and then digitally manipulating it to simulate the required night-time lighting and conditions, including the proposed lighting of the wind farm infrastructure. We are confident this digitally manipulated image will provide the required baseline for assessing the visual impact that NatureScot requires. I've attached an image - one half is a manipulated daytime photo and the other an actual night-time photo - for comparison. As you'll see, there is minimal difference in the visual representation, and we consider the manipulated image sufficient to illustrate the impact of aviation lighting at night.

This approach is supported by our consultants and an experienced mountain photographer, who has provided a detailed account of the technical and physical challenges involved in capturing night-time visuals in similar conditions. I've attached a presentation from our LVIA consultant, ASH, which

outlines LVIA practices and associated challenges. Please refer to slides 10 and 11 in particular. Slide 10 includes a letter from a freelance photographer that clearly sets out the risks of night-time photography. His concluding question—"what does it achieve?"—is especially relevant given current technological capabilities.

In conclusion, we propose to proceed using digitally manipulated daytime imagery and will describe the approach in detail in the EIAR.

We would be grateful if you could review this proposal and confirm your agreement to accept the digitally manipulated image from VP23.

Please let us know if you require any further technical details on the proposed digital alteration methodology.

Thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] || Consent Strategy Manager

SSE Renewables

One Waterloo Street
Glasgow
G2 6AY

M: [Redacted]

[sserenewables.com](https://www.sserenewables.com)



Re: VP23 (Beinn Bharrain) for Tangy Wind Farm's S36C application

From: [REDACTED]@sse.com>
Date: Wed 12/17/2025 10:20 AM
To: [REDACTED]@nature.scot
Cc: [REDACTED]

Morning [REDACTED]

Hope all is well and you're looking forward to a bit of a break over Christmas.

Just a quick follow-up on the email below as we have not heard back yet. If we don't hear back by COB 23 December we will assume you are happy for us to proceed on the basis set out below.

Thanks very much and speak soon

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] || Consent Strategy Manager

SSE Renewables

One Waterloo Street
Glasgow
G2 6AY

M: [REDACTED]

[sserenewables.com](https://www.sserenewables.com)



From: [REDACTED]@sse.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2025 10:28 AM
To: [REDACTED]@nature.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]>

Subject: VP23 (Beinn Bharrain) for Tangy Wind Farm's S36C application

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Please let us know if you require any further technical details on the proposed digital alteration methodology.

Thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] || [Consent Strategy Manager](#)

SSE Renewables

One Waterloo Street
Glasgow
G2 6AY

M: [REDACTED]

saserenewables.com



From: [Matthew Topsfield](#)
To: [Niall Macquarrie](#)
Subject: ECU00006203 - Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation - Gatecheck Report
Date: 28 April 2026 10:25:38

Dear Niall,

**Tangy IV Wind Farm (ECU00006203)
S36C Variation Application
EIA Gatecheck Report**

Thank you for consulting NatureScot on the submitted Gatecheck Report for the proposed Tangy IV Wind Farm S36C variation application. We have provided advice to the Applicant and Energy Consents Unit at each stage of the development so far and our previous advice and all published guidance remains relevant.

THE PROPOSAL

We note that as a S36C variation application, the matters to be considered in relation to this proposal are limited to affects arising from:

- The increased height (up to 200m to tip) and location of the 16 consented turbines;
- the size and orientation of the associated hardstandings;
- meteorological mast locations;
- associated track and turning head configurations;
- reorientation of the laydown area; and
- relocation of the (now single) substation compound.

It is our understanding that all other matters, i.e. the number of turbines that shall be erected and the number and location of borrow pits etc., are part of the existing consent and not subject to variation by this application. We welcome clarification if this understanding is incorrect.

SCOPE OF THE EIA

Having reviewed the Gatecheck report, and notwithstanding our comments below, we are generally content that the Applicant appears to have taken on board the advice we have provided to date with regards to the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). However, at this stage there is no opportunity to comment on the quality of the work undertaken, particularly in respect of:

- additional survey effort and environmental data;
- consideration of lighting effects on Greenland white-fronted geese; and
- updating the:
 - the Collision Risk Model;
 - Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment; and
 - cumulative assessments.

Therefore, please note that 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 process.

AVIATION LIGHTING IMPACT ASSESSMENT

In respect of a night-time visualisation from VP23 (Beinn Bharrain), we consider that the method proposed on page 13 of the Gatecheck Report (digitally manipulating day-time

photography rather than using baseline night-time photography) would be insufficient in capturing baseline night-time lighting. Given the emerging pattern of wind farm development, with aviation lights likely to affect the special landscape qualities of the North Arran NSA, it would be important for the applicant to provide both baseline night-time photography and night-time photomontage from Beinn Bharrain to consider both individual and cumulative night-time visual effects resulting from the presence of visible aviation lighting.

Appendix 4 of our [Guidance on Aviation Lighting Impact Assessment](#), published November 2024:

*“...strongly recommends that obtaining such photography should be undertaken by competent and experienced individuals, who should anticipate potentially spending considerable time at night-time viewpoint locations and should therefore be suitably prepared to do so safely”; that
“This should not preclude hilltop viewpoints from being chosen, where they may provide an essential insight to the lighting effects...”; and
“Manipulated day-time photography ... does not represent the realistic baseline at this time.”*

We do not consider VP23 (Beinn Bharrain) to be especially remote or inaccessible and believe that night-time baseline photography could be obtained without undue risk. Indeed, by way of an example, night-time photography was provided from Beinn Bharrain / Mullach Buidhe for the recent application Allt Domhain Wind Farm (ECU00003231).

OTHER RELEVANT GUIDANCE

We would recommend that the applicant refers to the guidance available on our [website](#) and the Scottish Government's [Biodiversity: planning guidance](#) (published December 2025) when developing the detailed Habitat Management Plan.

Prior to publishing the EIA Report, we wish to draw the Applicant's attention to our guidance '[general pre-application / scoping advice to developers of onshore wind farms](#)', in particular to the preferred formatting of the report and associated figures and appendices. This document is regularly updated over to time to reflect any changes to available information and our guidance, so users should ensure they refer to the most up to date version before use.

We look forward to giving detailed consideration to the proposal when we are consulted on the submitted application and EIA.

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

Kind regards,

Matthew Topsfield | Operations Officer – West (Outer Hebrides & Argyll)
Màta Topsfield | Ofigear-obrachaidhean – Iar (Na h-Eileanan Siar & Earra-Ghàidheal)

NatureScot | Stilligarry | South Uist | Western Isles | HS8 5RS | t: 0131 314 4161
NàdarAlba | Stadhlaigearraidh | Uibhist a Deas | Na h-Eileanan Siar | HS8 5RS

[nature.scot](#) | Scotland's Nature Agency | Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba

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Thoiribh an aire airson adhbharan gnothaich, 's dòcha gun tèid sùil a chumail air puist-dealain a' tighinn a-steach agus a' dol a-mach bho NàdarAlba.

Technical Appendix 3.4 - Post scoping engagement with SEPA

Re: PCS-20008867 SEPA Response to ECU00006203

From [REDACTED]@sse.com>
Date Wed 6/3/2026 10:21 AM
To planning.north <planning.north@sepa.org.uk>
Cc [REDACTED]

Morning [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for your feedback on the design rationale figures we shared. Your comments regarding the slight encroachment into the watercourse buffers adjacent to T9 in order to minimise peat disturbance are particularly helpful and will be taken into consideration as part of any further design refinement, and we are grateful for the pragmatic approach to using conditions that you have proposed.

The current design is the outcome of significant iteration through the EIA process, balancing a range of constraints including other environmental constraints like badger sets, turbine topple distance, rotor spacing with adjacent turbines, hardstand sizing for the proposed turbine model and the consented site envelope. The design evolution narrative and the constraints that have shaped it will be set out in full in the EIA Report, which is due to be submitted within the next couple of weeks.

We would highlight that across the Proposed Varied Development as a whole, the design iteration process has delivered an approximate 11% reduction in peat excavation volumes compared to the Consented Development, despite the increased infrastructure sizing associated with the proposed turbine model. This reflects a clear commitment to the application of the mitigation hierarchy at site level and we consider it a positive outcome of the design process undertaken to date.

In the event that consent is granted, more detailed ground investigation will be undertaken at detailed design, and the consented micro-siting allowance will be used to refine infrastructure positioning away from deeper peat where possible, in consultation with SEPA and the Planning Authority.

We look forward to continuing to engage with you following submission of the application and would be happy to arrange a meeting to discuss any matters in further detail once you have had sight of our S36C application and its accompanying EIA Report.

Thanks and speak soon

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Consent Strategy Manager

SSE Renewables
One Waterloo Street
Glasgow
G2 6AY

M: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



From: Planning.North <Planning.North@sepa.org.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2026 4:17 PM

To: [REDACTED]@sse.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] PCS-20008867 SEPA Response to ECU00006203

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Report Suspicious

OFFICIAL

Dear [REDACTED] (cc Niall MacQuarrie),

For clarity, I have included comments (in red) directly within your infrastructure table in the email below.

Regarding the borrow pit working areas (below T2 and adjacent to T5), we request that 50m buffers are applied to the water environment. This will be secured by condition on the varied consent, to be progressed once the further information outlined below has been addressed.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Senior Planning Officer

Scottish Environment Protection Agency

M: 07766 401865

Aden.McCorkell@sepa.org.uk

Graesser House, Fodderty Way, Dingwall, IV15 9XB
Postal address: Angus Smith Building, Unit 6, 4 Parklands Avenue, Holytown, Motherwell, ML1 4WQ
Visit the [SEPA website](#) or follow us:
[LinkedIn](#) | [X: @ScottishEPA](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)



OFFICIAL

From: Leach, Andrew <Andrew.Leach@sse.com>
Sent: 18 May 2026 16:38
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: MS Teams Meeting - Gatecheck 1 - Tangy S36C

You don't often get email from andrew.leach@sse.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi [REDACTED]

Hope you had a good weekend and thank you for the helpful comments and feedback at last Monday's pre-application call.

We committed to providing you with more information on the design iteration process and peat depths, particularly in relation to the key turbines you highlighted during our discussion. Please find attached the relevant figures which are in draft, together with a summary below of how the design has evolved and how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied throughout the process. Final figures will be presented in the EIA report that accompanies the S36C application

Please let me know if you would like to have a call to discuss this information or if there's anything else we can send across.

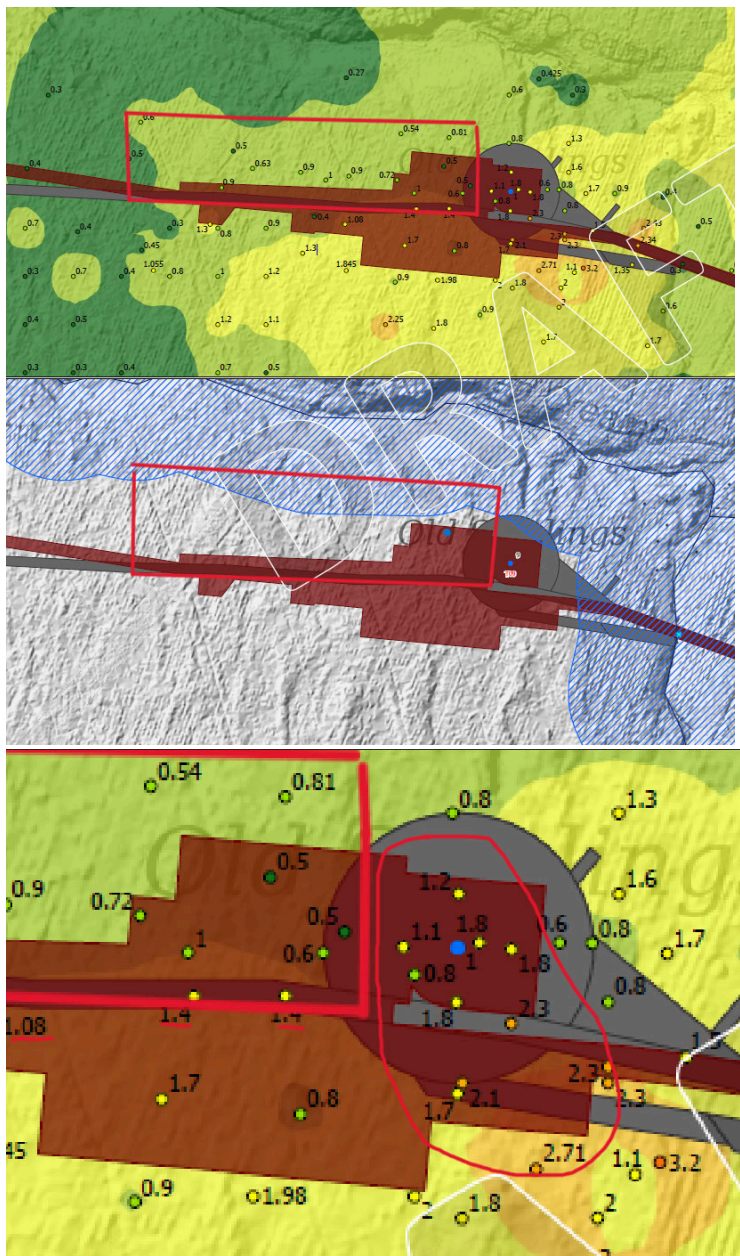
Thanks and speak soon
Andrew

Overall

- Protecting peatland has been a key consideration throughout. As part of the design review process, SSE identified that the consented central spine track would cut across extensive areas of deeper peat, resulting in disruption to hydrological connectivity across the peat.
- The access track layout was therefore redesigned to route around this area of deeper peat while maintaining suitable turbine access. Elsewhere, turning heads have been incorporated to enable vehicle manoeuvring without the need for additional looped tracks or supplementary passing places, thereby reducing the extent of new infrastructure required. In addition, hardstands were rotated and repositioned where practicable to minimise effects on peat. Where complete avoidance was not achievable due to engineering or infrastructure constraints, layouts were refined to locate infrastructure within areas of shallower peat in order to reduce the depth and extent of disturbance.
- Collectively, these design changes reduce peat disturbance, maintain the integrity of the central peat body as a functioning hydrological unit, and are predicted to reduce overall peat excavation volumes, with provisional analysis indicating a material reduction in peat excavation volumes. Final figures will be presented in the EIAR

Layout Specific

Infrastructure	Design rationale for change from consented position
T9	The turbine hardstanding has been rotated by approximately 180 degrees relative to the consented layout to reduce infrastructure encroaching pockets of deeper peat. The infrastructure has been repositioned as far as practicable from these peat deposits while also maintaining the required watercourse buffer to the north. In addition, the turbine infrastructure has been relocated out with a 50 m watercourse buffer to the north and east. Any micro-siting during construction would be restricted in these directions to ensure that the watercourse stand-off distance is maintained throughout construction.



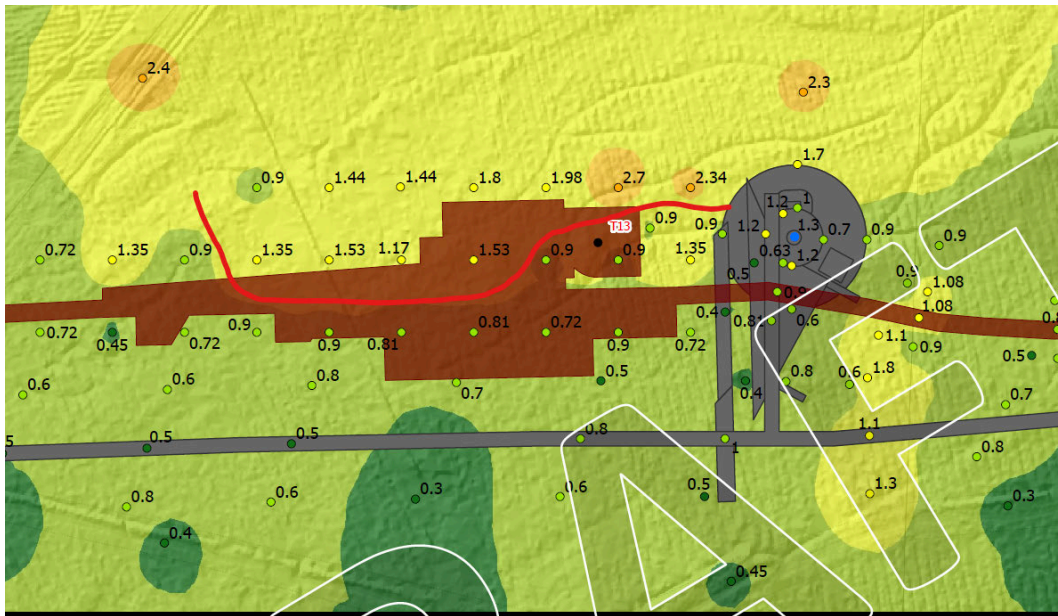
By shifting the infrastructure slightly west, you would completely avoid all impacts on peat over 2m (and reduce impacts on a greater area of contiguous peat over 1m). The close-up of the turbine location on the right shows the deepest areas of peat being impacted by the turbine excavations. This appears avoidable by a small shift of infrastructure to the west (likely less than the standard 50m microsite distances).

While we appreciate that the 50m buffers to the watercourse have been completely avoided, if there is a slight infringement to the buffer in order to avoid impacts on peat over 2m, then we would accept this breach of the buffer provided site specific mitigation is included in the CEMP/Schedule of mitigation to ensure there would be no increased risk to the water environment.

We would also then ask that the access track leading away from the turbine to the east, utilise a floating design to further mitigate impacts on the peat depths over 1m.

T13

The revised T13 arrangement has been designed to avoid deeper peat where feasible, with the turning head positioned within an area of shallower peat to further reduce peatland effects. The proposed hardstanding is larger than that previously consented to accommodate the requirements of the proposed turbine model, and its location is constrained by turbine top-to-top distance and rotor spacing. These constraints meant the consented infrastructure arrangement could not be retained; the hardstanding has therefore been rotated by approximately 90 degrees with the access track realigned accordingly. The layout was iteratively refined to keep peat disturbance broadly in line with the consented position while improving the distribution of disturbance across shallower peat areas.



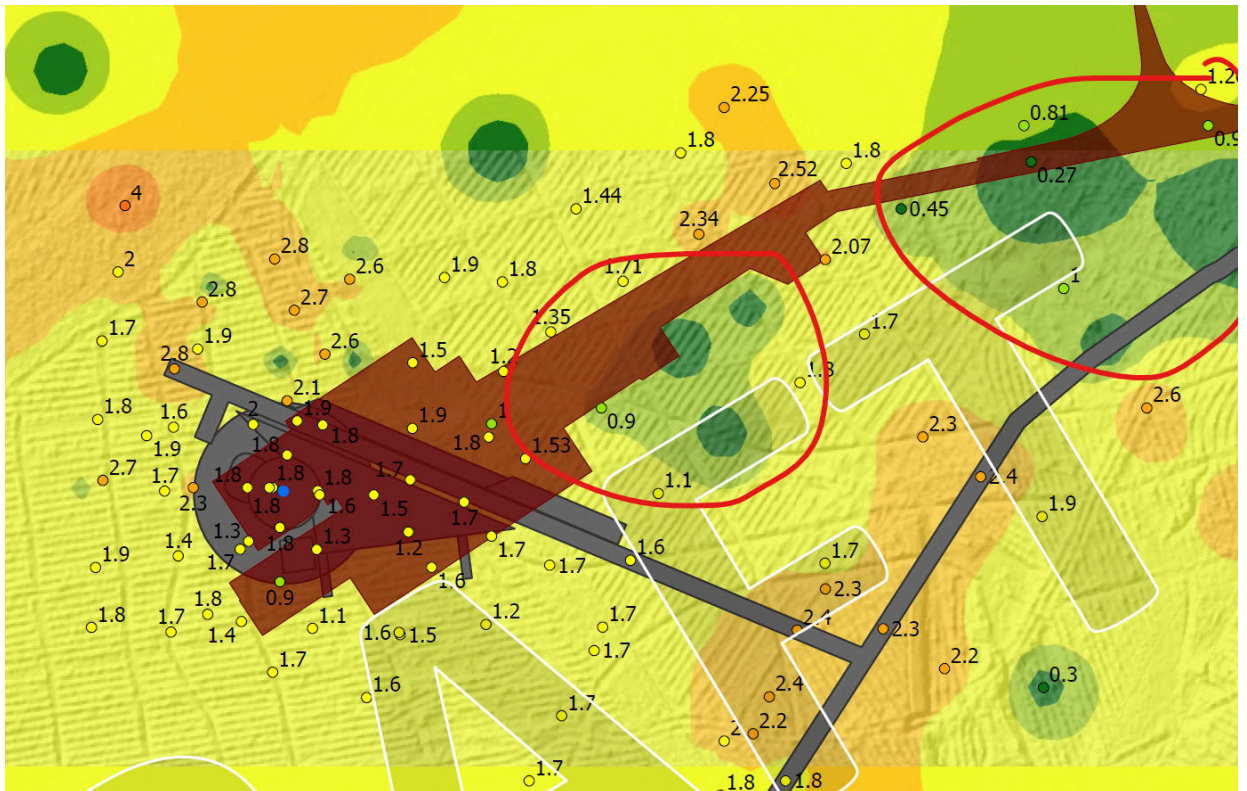
It appears that peat depths over 1m could be easily avoided in this location by slightly shifting the turbine location south by less than 50m. If more detailed peat probing were to be conducted, you could likely find the “edge” of where the peat depths are greater than and the shift may be even less. However, in this position, it appears that it is unnecessary to impact on peat depths over 1m when a large area of peat under 1m is directly adjacent and less than micro-siting distances away. Any shift than north appears to be a better alternative to achieve avoidance in line with NPF4 Policy 5.

T15

The proposed layout removes approximately 500 m of access track previously consented between T14 and the turbines to the south, a significant reduction in linear infrastructure. A turning head at T15 is required to replace the through-route and enable safe vehicle exit.

Retention of the consented turbine location, combined with the increased hardstanding requirements associated with the proposed turbine modification, created potential for additional peat disturbance to the west of the turbine location.

The infrastructure layout was therefore refined through reorientation of the hardstanding and adoption of a non-standard hardstanding arrangement in order to minimise effects on deeper peat deposits as far as practicable. While this solution introduces additional construction and lifting complexity, it substantially reduces the extent of infrastructure requiring construction within deeper peat areas.

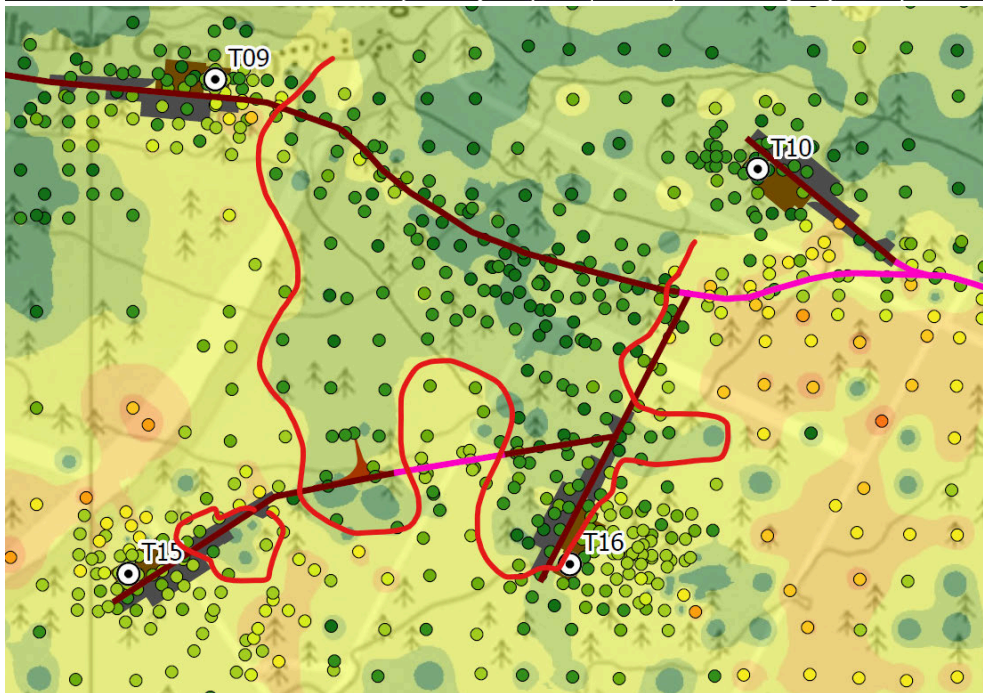


There is a poor amount of peat probing to suggest alternatives. In a situation such as this, where the whole of the area consists of peat depths over 1m, we would expect the peat survey to be used to investigate alternatives. While the interpolated map above shows areas of green in places, these do not appear representative of any or many peat probe locations (especially the small green splotches to north of the turbine location). If the green areas circled above are accurately reflecting peat depths (more data is likely), then the turbine could be shifted east.

T16

The proposed hardstanding associated with T16 is larger than that previously consented and, as a result, it was not possible to retain the consented track tie-in arrangement.

The hardstanding has therefore been rotated and the access track realigned accordingly. The revised track alignment has been designed to follow existing landform more closely, rather than traversing directly up gradient, which is anticipated to reduce cut-and-fill requirements, ground disturbance and consequent peat excavation during construction.



There are large areas below 1m depths that have not been utilised. While we appreciate that there is proximity to T15 that needs to be taken into account, there could be further adjustments to the north. Some minor adjustments could reduce impacts on peat further, we would expect to be further explored.

Access track to T13 and T12	T12 and T13 were required to be repositioned to accommodate turbine tople distance and rotor spacing requirements associated with the proposed turbine model. The access tracks serving these turbines were subsequently realigned through an iterative design process to follow existing contour lines more closely and reduce changes in elevation along the route. This approach was adopted to minimise cut-and-fill requirements, reducing peat excavation associated with steeper track gradients. Fine
------------------------------------	--

Andrew Leach || Consent Strategy Manager
SSE Renewables
 One Waterloo Street
 Glasgow
 G2 6AY

M: [REDACTED]

saserenewables.com

From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot

Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 3:10 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: MS Teams Meeting - Gatecheck 1 - Tangy S36C

When: Monday, May 11, 2026 1:30 PM-2:30 PM.

Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Re: MS Teams Meeting - Gatecheck 1 - Tangy S36C

From Leach, Andrew <Andrew.Leach@sse.com>

Date Fri 5/8/2026 12:08 PM

To [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

 4 attachments (9 MB)

Figure 9.6 SEPA Response Comparison Peat 1.pdf; Figure 9.5 SEPA Response Peat 1.pdf; Figure 9.4 SEPA Response Drainage 1.pdf; Figure 9.7 SEPA Response Peatland Restoration.pdf;

H [REDACTED]

Hope you're doing well.

Please find attached the maps you requested ahead of our call on Monday. Figure 9.4 demonstrates the layout with the 50m buffer to watercourses; Figure 9.7 shows it in relation to near natural peatland habitats (of which there is almost none due to historic conifer tree planting, artificial drainage, fertiliser, and grazing pressures); and Figures 9.5 and 9.6 demonstrate all peat probing results

Hope you have a great weekend and catch-up Monday

[REDACTED]
Andrew Leach || Consent Strategy Manager

SSE Renewables

One Waterloo Street

Glasgow

G2 6AY

M: [REDACTED]

[sserenewables.com](https://www.sserenewables.com)



From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot

Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 3:10 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: MS Teams Meeting - Gatecheck 1 - Tangy S36C
When: Monday, May 11, 2026 1:30 PM-2:30 PM.
Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

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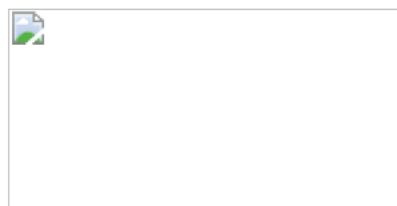
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Re: MS Teams Meeting - Gatecheck 1 - Tangy S36C

From Leach, Andrew <Andrew.Leach@sse.com>

Date Mon 5/18/2026 4:37 PM

To

Cc

 7 attachments (29 MB)

Figure T13 Additional SEPA Response.pdf; Figure T12 to T13 Additional SEPA Response.pdf; Figure T09 Additional SEPA Response.pdf; Figure 9.6 - SEPA Response Comparison Peat 2.pdf; Figure 9.5 - SEPA Response Peat 2.pdf; Figure T16 Additional SEPA Response.pdf; Figure T15 Additional SEPA Response.pdf;

H 

Hope you had a good weekend and thank you for the helpful comments and feedback at last Monday's pre-application call.

We committed to providing you with more information on the design iteration process and peat depths, particularly in relation to the key turbines you highlighted during our discussion. Please find attached the relevant figures which are in draft, together with a summary below of how the design has evolved and how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied throughout the process. Final figures will be presented in the EIA report that accompanies the S36C application

Please let me know if you would like to have a call to discuss this information or if there's anything else we can send across.

Thanks and speak soon
Andrew

Overall

- Protecting peatland has been a key consideration throughout. As part of the design review process, SSE identified that the consented central spine track would cut across extensive areas of deeper peat, resulting in disruption to hydrological connectivity across the peat.
- The access track layout was therefore redesigned to route around this area of deeper peat while maintaining suitable turbine access. Elsewhere, turning heads have been incorporated to enable vehicle manoeuvring without the need for additional looped tracks or supplementary passing places, thereby reducing the extent of new infrastructure required. In addition, hardstands were rotated and repositioned where practicable to minimise effects on peat. Where complete avoidance was not achievable due to engineering or infrastructure constraints, layouts were refined to locate infrastructure within areas of shallower peat in order to reduce the depth and extent of disturbance.
- Collectively, these design changes reduce peat disturbance, maintain the integrity of the central peat body as a functioning hydrological unit, and are predicted to reduce overall peat excavation volumes, with provisional analysis indicating a material reduction in peat excavation volumes. Final figures will be presented in the EIAR

Layout Specific

Infrastructure	Design rationale for change from consented position
----------------	---

T9	The turbine hardstanding has been rotated by approximately 180 degrees relative to the consented layout to reduce infrastructure encroaching into pockets of deeper peat. The infrastructure has been repositioned as far as practicable from these peat deposits while also maintaining the required watercourse buffer to the north. In addition, the turbine infrastructure has been relocated out with a 50 m watercourse buffer to the north and east. Any micro-siting during construction would be restricted in these directions to ensure that the watercourse stand-off distance is maintained throughout construction.
T13	The revised T13 arrangement has been designed to avoid deeper peat where feasible, with the turning head positioned within an area of shallow peat to further reduce peatland effects. The proposed hardstanding is larger than that previously consented to accommodate the requirements of the proposed turbine model, and its location is constrained by turbine topple distance and rotor spacing. These constraints meant the consented infrastructure arrangement could not be retained; the hardstanding has therefore been rotated by approximately 90 degrees with the access track realigned accordingly. The layout was iteratively refined to keep peat disturbance broadly in line with the consented position while improving the distribution of disturbance across shallower peat areas.
T15	The proposed layout removes approximately 500 m of access track previously consented between T14 and the turbines to the south, a significant reduction in linear infrastructure. A turning head at T15 is required to replace the through-route and enable safe vehicle exit Retention of the consented turbine location, combined with the increased hardstanding requirements associated with the proposed turbine model, created potential for additional peat disturbance to the west of the turbine location. The infrastructure layout was therefore refined through reorientation of the hardstanding and adoption of a non-standard hardstanding arrangement in order to minimise effects on deeper peat deposits as far as practicable. While this solution introduces additional construction and lifting complexity, it substantially reduces the extent of infrastructure requiring construction within deeper peat areas.
T16	The proposed hardstanding associated with T16 is larger than that previously consented and, as a result, it was not possible to retain the consented track tie-in arrangement. The hardstanding has therefore been rotated and the access track realigned accordingly. The revised track alignment has been designed to follow the existing landform more closely, rather than traversing directly up gradient, which is anticipated to reduce cut-and-fill requirements, ground disturbance and consequent peat excavation during construction.
Access track to T13 and T12	T12 and T13 were required to be repositioned to accommodate turbine topple distance and rotor spacing requirements associated with the proposed turbine model. The access tracks serving these turbines were subsequently realigned through an iterative design process to follow existing contour lines more closely and reduce changes in elevation along the route. This approach was adopted to

minimise cut-and-fill requirements, reducing peat excavation associated with steeper track gradients.

Andrew Leach || Consent Strategy Manager

SSE Renewables

One Waterloo Street
Glasgow
G2 6AY

M: [REDACTED]

saserenewables.com



From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 3:10 PM
To: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot>; Leach, Andrew <Andrew.Leach@sse.com>; aden.mccorkell@sepa.org.uk <aden.mccorkell@sepa.org.uk>
Cc: Anderson, Karen <karen.anderson@sse.com>
Subject: MS Teams Meeting - Gatecheck 1 - Tangy S36C
When: Monday, May 11, 2026 1:30 PM-2:30 PM.
Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

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Technical Appendix 3.4 - Post scoping engagement with HES



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ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD
EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA

By email to [REDACTED] cfa-arch.co.uk

[REDACTED]
CFA Archaeology Ltd
Old Engine House
Eskmills Park
Station Road
Musselburgh
EH21 7PQ

Longmore House
Salisbury Place
Edinburgh
EH9 1SH

HMConsultations@hes.scot
0131-668-8716

Our case ID: 300081547
Your ref: ECU0006203
20 January 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Tangy IV Wind Farm - Varied Development - Proposed Photomontage visualisations

Statutory Designation: Tangy Loch, fortified dwelling, Killocraw, cairn 640m E of, Killocraw, cairn 450m ESE of
Designation Reference: SM3180, SM3647, SM3664

Thank you for your consultation about the visualisations for the proposed Tangy IV Wind Farm. We have reviewed the proposed viewpoint locations, and we accept that the changed location for the photomontage for Tangy Loch, fortified dwelling SM3180 should provide the necessary information, and we are content with the change. The other proposed photomontage locations are as we requested.

Please note that, as stated in our scoping response, it is possible that the process of EIA will reveal that the impacts of the revised development on other designated historic environment assets are higher than previously expected. If this is the case, please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss whether additional visualisations might be required in order to assess and illustrate the impacts.

Please contact us if you have any questions about this letter. The officer managing this case is Mary MacLeod Rivett who can be contacted by email at mary.macleod@hes.scot.

Yours sincerely

Historic Environment Scotland



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EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA

By email to: Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

Niall MacQuarrie
Case Officer
Energy Consents Unit
The Scottish Government

Longmore House
Salisbury Place
Edinburgh
EH9 1SH

HMConsultations@hes.scot
0131-668-8716

Our case ID: 300081547
Your ref: ECU00006203
20 April 2026

Dear Niall MacQuarrie

The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations
2017
Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation
Gatecheck Report

Thank you for your consultation which we received on 2 April 2026 about the above Gatecheck Report. We have reviewed the details in terms of our historic environment interests. This covers cultural 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.

The relevant local authority archaeological and cultural heritage advisors will also be able to offer advice on impacts on the historic environment. 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 up to 16 wind turbine generators of up to 200m tip height, plus associated infrastructure. We note that amendments have been made to the layout including the proposed locations of the turbines and the substation compound. We have no record of consultation on the above amendments prior to receipt of this Gatecheck Report. We would value the opportunity for further pre-application consultation with the applicant, informed by an updated Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) plan, on the preliminary assessment results if possible.

Our advice

In the interests of clarity, we would take the opportunity to add the following clarifications after a review of the applicant's summary of consultation to date.

For the Cultural Heritage section under Table 3.2, the applicant has mentioned that assessment of effects on the settings of designated heritage assets beyond 10km from the proposed development site boundary would be scoped out. We note from paragraph 10.6.5 of the scoping report that the applicant had added that "... with the exception of those considered to have sensitive settings that are revealed through analysis of the ZTV and/or consultations with statutory consultees". We also expected in our scoping response that external views towards designated assets (in our remit) to be included in their setting assessments where these views could form an element of the asset's cultural significance. We would recommend these to be fully reflected in the Cultural Heritage section under Table 3.2.

We also confirmed in our scoping response that we were generally content with the proposed assets to be scoped in/out for assessment of effects. It is however possible that the process of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will reveal that the effects of the revised development on other designated historic environment assets in our remit are higher than previously expected.

Otherwise, having reviewed the contents of the Gatecheck Report, we can confirm that we are broadly content that the details given reflect Historic Environment Scotland's involvement with and advice regarding the EIA process for this development so far.

Further information

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](#).

We hope this is helpful. Please contact us if you have any questions about this letter. The officer managing this case is Adrian Lee who can be contacted by phone on 0131 668 8600 or by email at adrian.lee@hes.scot.

Yours sincerely

Historic Environment Scotland

Technical Appendix 3.4 - Post scoping engagement with Scottish Forestry

[EXTERNAL] RE: Tangy S36C variation pre-app discussion

From [REDACTED]
Date Wed 5/27/2026 8:32 AM
To Leach, Andrew <Andrew.Leach@sse.com>
Cc [REDACTED]

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Thank you Andrew – and apologies again for the time taken to respond.

Based on the information provided in your email of 7.5.26, the compensatory planting commitment exceeds the area of woodland loss and so from a Scottish Forestry perspective this matter is resolved.

Kind regards
Elaine

Elaine Jamieson
Operations and Development Officer
Scottish Forestry

Perth & Argyll Conservancy | Upper Battleby, Redgorton | Perth | PH1 3EN
Mobile: [REDACTED]
elaine.jamieson@forestry.gov.scot

Website: forestry.gov.scot



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From: [REDACTED]@forestryandland.gov.scot>

Sent: 26 May 2026 09:59

To: 'Leach, Andrew' <Andrew.Leach@sse.com>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Tangy S36C variation pre-app discussion

Thanks for the call – I Promise to look at this tomorrow and respond apologies for taking so long

Elaine Jamieson

Operations and Development Officer

Scottish Forestry

Perth & Argyll Conservancy | Upper Battleby, Redgorton | Perth | PH1 3EN

Mobile: 07909 893792

elaine.jamieson@forestry.gov.scot

Website: forestry.gov.scot



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From: Leach, Andrew <Andrew.Leach@sse.com>

Sent: 19 May 2026 15:44

To: [REDACTED] forestryandland.gov.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Tangy S36C variation pre-app discussion

Hi Elaine

Hope you're well.

Just checking to see if you had any follow up questions or whether you're comfortable we can consider this matter resolved.

Thanks
Andrew

From: Leach, Andrew <Andrew.Leach@sse.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2026 2:35:25 pm

To: [REDACTED] forestryandland.gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Tangy S36C variation pre-app discussion

Hi Elaine

Apologies for the delay in coming back to you on this.

Please find attached a figure which highlights the differences for forestry for Tangy's consented layout vs the proposed varied layout and I've also summarised the numbers you were looking for in the table below

Any questions please let me know

Thanks and speak soon
Andrew

Question	Total (ha)
Woodland area (ha) approved for removal for wind farm infrastructure in original proposal	31.73 ha
Woodland area (ha) of compensatory planting stated in the condition for original proposal	31.73ha as per Condition 33 attached to Tangy's current consent. However, as part of preparing the documents to discharge this condition, we have committed to delivering 33.79ha of compensatory planting at Bleachfield (see second attachment). As discussed on our previous call, this commitment will remain unchanged, despite the windfarm's impacted area being reduced by approximately 5 hectares.
Area (ha) proposed to be removed for wind farm infrastructure in the new proposal separated into: • area in woodland • area in the newly restored peat bog	26.81ha • 17.99ha of woodland removal • 8.82 ha of restored peatland (previously woodland)

(previously
woodland)

Andrew Leach || Consent Strategy Manager

SSE Renewables

One Waterloo Street
Glasgow
G2 6AY

M: [REDACTED]

sserenewables.com



From: [REDACTED] <forestryandland.gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, March 20, 2026 2:01 PM

To: Leach, Andrew <Andrew.Leach@sse.com>

Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] S36C variation pre-app discussion

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your email and taking the time to discuss the variation with my on TEAMS.

At the meeting SSER confirmed that the changes were minor from a woodland perspective and related mainly to a small increased land take at the turbine bases (to cope with higher turbine height) and a change in substation location. You confirmed that all the changes in felling and in particular the new substation site were Sitka spruce and there was no native woodland affected. On that basis, I am content for forestry to scoped out of the variation EIAR as the changes are relatively minor and would not change the original assessment significantly.

However, as we discussed, I will still need to see some figures relating to woodland loss and compensatory planting. If woodland removal has increased there may need to be a commitment to an increase in the compensatory planting. I am not sure how we technically achieve this through conditions, but perhaps we can discuss the best way with ECU once I know the figures.

If you could provide a table comparing:

1. Woodland area (ha) approved for removal for wind farm infrastructure in original proposal

2. Woodland area (ha) of compensatory planting stated in the condition for original proposal
3. Area (ha) proposed to be removed for wind farm infrastructure in the new proposal separated into:
 - area in woodland
 - area in the newly restored peat bog (previously woodland)

Once I have these figures I can further advise on compensatory planting and compliance with the Scottish Government Control of Woodland Removal Policy. I am happy to do this via email exchange.

Kind regards
Elaine

Elaine Jamieson
Operations and Development Officer
Scottish Forestry

Perth & Argyll Conservancy | Upper Battleby, Redgorton | Perth | PH1 3EN
Mobile: 07909 893792
elaine.jamieson@forestry.gov.scot

Website: forestry.gov.scot



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From: Leach, Andrew <Andrew.Leach@sse.com>
Sent: 20 March 2026 11:04
To: Elaine Jamieson <Elaine.Jamieson@forestryandland.gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] >

Subject: Re: Tangy S36C variation pre-app discussion

Morning Elaine

Thank you for joining the call on Thursday to discuss Scottish Forestry's scoping response and for verbally indicating that no further detailed forestry assessment is required within the EIAR.

I've attached our latest felling map (please treat as confidential) which shows our proposed varied layout and highlights the areas still to be felled. The proposed variation means we will likely need to fell up to an additional 2.5 hectares within the Lagalgarve area to accommodate the new substation location.

You also asked about the area peatland restoration undertaken by FLS. FLS has completed 54ha of restoration so far and there's possibly up to 10ha extra on FLS land that may be completed post construction if the project progresses to that point. There will also be peatland restoration in Lagalgarve once felled.

I would appreciate your written confirmation that further forestry assessment can be scoped out of the EIAR, so that we can retain this on file.

Please give me a call if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further

Thanks and have a good weekend

Andrew

Andrew Leach || Consent Strategy Manager

SSE Renewables

One Waterloo Street
Glasgow
G2 6AY

M: [REDACTED]

[sserenewables.com](https://www.sserenewables.com)



From: Leach, Andrew

Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2026 9:43 AM

To: Elaine.Jamieson@forestryandland.gov.scot <Elaine.Jamieson@forestryandland.gov.scot>; MacAskill, Lewis <lewis.macaskill@sse.com>; Anderson, Karen <karen.anderson@sse.com>

Subject: Tangy S36C variation pre-app discussion

When: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 1:00 PM-2:00 PM.

Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Microsoft Teams meeting



[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Technical Appendix 3.4 - Post scoping engagement with Transport Scotland

From: [George Smith](#)
To: [Niall Macquarrie](#)
Cc: [REDACTED] [e](#)
Subject: RE: Gatecheck 1 Report - Proposed Development - Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation (ECU00006203) - 17 April 2026
Date: 17 April 2026 14:14:57
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Niall,

Thank you for the opportunity for Transport Scotland to comment on the Gatecheck Report prepared in support of the Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation application. Transport Scotland was consulted on the Scoping Report for this application and provided comment in our letter dated 12 August 2025.

Having reviewed the Gatecheck Report (GR), I note that at Table 3.2: EIA Scoping Opinion Responses Summary under the heading Access, Traffic and Transport, it is noted that an "Updated assessment of delivery route required due to size and no. of turbine component deliveries" is to be scoped IN to the forthcoming EIA Report, and that a "Further detailed assessment of traffic and transport" is to be scoped OUT.

We also note that a screening review will be undertaken with Transport Scotland to confirm that transport can be scoped out of the revised assessment. This is consistent with our Scoping Response in which we indicated the following:

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.

I can confirm therefore, that Transport Scotland will await the sight of a further screening review prior to any agreement that a detailed assessment of traffic and transport can be scoped out.

Kind regards,

George Smith
Development Management
Network Operations
Roads Delivery and Operations Directorate

transport.gov.scot

From: Niall Macquarrie <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot>

Sent: 02 April 2026 11:14

Subject: Gatecheck 1 Report - Proposed Development - Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation (ECU00006203)

Dear key consultee,

**PROPOSED TANGY IV WIND FARM VARIATION IN THE PLANNING
AUTHORITY AREA OF ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**

Your organisation previously provided a response to the scoping consultation for the above proposal, and Scottish Minsters issued a scoping opinion dated 23rd September 2025 ([Scottish Government - Energy Consents Unit - Application Details](#))

The Company has indicated that their intention is to submit their application to Scottish Ministers by Q2 2026.

The Company has submitted the attached Gatecheck Report setting out their activities since scoping, and how they have been taking forward the advice received. The report provides a summary on how they intend to approach the EIA in response to any site specific advice provided in the scoping opinion.

I would be grateful if you could respond with any final comments or advice on; the Company's approach and intended methodology to the EIA, in particular giving consideration to whether the approach will provide the most robust environment assessment of your particular areas of consultation. Can you please advise if you agree with what is being proposed.

The aim of Gatecheck 1 process is to help to reduce any requirement to modify a development post application. It should (hopefully) be the case that the Company have been fully informed and advised of any remaining pre-application concerns and be in a position to submit the best layout, design and environmental assessment possible.

I would be grateful if you could respond with any final comments or advice by **4th May 2025**.

If you have any queries regarding this email please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | niall.macquarrie@gov.scot

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



Technical Appendix 3.4 - Post scoping engagement with the MOD

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Niall Macquarrie](#)
Subject: 20260410_1116Z- Gatecheck_1_Report_Tangy_IV_Wind_Farm_Variation
Date: 10 April 2026 12:16:43
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Good afternoon Niall,

Thank you for consulting the Ministry of Defence (MOD) on the Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation Gatecheck 1 report.

The MOD was consulted on a Scoping Request reference ECU00006203 for 16 wind turbines at 200m to blade tip at Land North Thereof Kilkenzie, Campeltown, within the planning authority area of Argyll and Bute. The MOD completed an assessment and responded to ECU on 25 July 2025 stating that we had concerns due to the development occupying Low Flying Area 14 and advising that the MOD would request lighting and charting conditions.

I have reviewed the Gatecheck 1 report and can confirm that the developer has acknowledged and considered MOD comments and welcome the proposed actions to light and chart the turbines. I have no further comments to added at this stage.

The MOD looks forward to receiving the s36 application in due course.

Kindest regards,

Kathe

Kathe Kirimaa | Assistant Safeguarding Manager

Defence Infrastructure Organisation | National Armaments Director Group

Estates | Safeguarding

DIO Head Office | St George's House | DMS Whittington | Lichfield | Staffordshire | WS14 9PY

Email: kathe.kirimaa100@mod.gov.uk

 **National Armaments Director Group**

From: Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot <Niall.Macquarrie@gov.scot>

Sent: 02 April 2026 11:14

Subject: Gatecheck 1 Report - Proposed Development - Tangy IV Wind Farm Variation (ECU00006203)

Dear key consultee,

**PROPOSED TANGY IV WIND FARM VARIATION IN THE PLANNING
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the above proposal, and Scottish Ministers issued a scoping opinion dated 23 September 2025 ([Scottish Government - Energy Consents Unit - Application Details](#))

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I would be grateful if you could respond with any final comments or advice on; the Company's approach and intended methodology to the EIA, in particular giving consideration to whether the approach will provide the most robust environment assessment of your particular areas of consultation. Can you please advise if you agree with what is being proposed.

The aim of Gatecheck 1 process is to help to reduce any requirement to modify a development post application. It should (hopefully) be the case that the Company have been fully informed and advised of any remaining pre-application concerns and be in a position to submit the best layout, design and environmental assessment possible.

I would be grateful if you could respond with any final comments or advice by **4th May 2025**.

If you have any queries regarding this email please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Niall MacQuarrie | Case Officer | Energy Consents Unit

The Scottish Government | niall.macquarrie@gov.scot

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



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