## **Appendix 5** S.36 Public Exhibition

## **5.1** Public Exhibition Councillor Invitation Email

From: <u>UK Projects</u>

Cc: UK Projects

To:

Subject: Coylton Greener Grid Park - Construction Update and Upcoming Public Exhibition

Date: 06 September 2024 15:40:05
Attachments: Covlton S.36 GGP Resident invite.pdf

Coylton Construction postcard.pdf

## Dear Councillor Hogg

I am writing to provide an update on our plans for Coylton Greener Grid Park, and invite you to our upcoming public exhibition taking place on Thursday 19 September 2024 (3.30pm - 7.30pm) at the Ochiltree Community Hub. We have also written to the local community with an invitation to the exhibition and an update from our construction team. I have attached a copy of the letter and postcard.

Statkraft received consent for the Coylton Greener Grid Park in February 2024. The initial construction phase has begun with site setup. We would like to put on record our thanks to the community for working with us so far.

We are proposing an increase to the electricity capacity of the project and plan to submit a Section 36 planning application to the Energy Consents Unit, likely to be later this year. The proposed Section 36 application is to increase the capacity of the site - we expect the visual appearance to remain the same as the consented development.

### **Construction Update**

## **Community Liaison Group**

Statkraft is seeking to establish a Community Liaison Group (CLG), which will operate throughout the construction phase. The purpose is for Statkraft and its contractors to provide regular updates on construction, minimise disruption and enable community representatives to ask questions and raise any issues.

This will help guide our approach to providing construction updates to local residents, and is a separate discussion to that surrounding administration of the Community Benefit Fund.

### **Community Benefit Fund**

We place high importance on being a good neighbour, and Statkraft are pleased that this project will generate an annual fund of £20,000 for community projects that help accelerate the transition to a low carbon society. We have appointed GrantScape to administer our community funds from our Greener Grid Parks. You can find out more about them at <a href="https://www.grantscape.org.uk">www.grantscape.org.uk</a>.

### **Public Exhibition**

Following our last Information Day in February 2024, we would like to reconnect with the local community to discuss the ongoing construction works as well as our plans for the proposed Section 36 application to increase the capacity of the project. This is a drop-in event at any time:

## Public Exhibition Ochiltree Community Hub, KA18 2PE Thursday 19 September 2024, 3.30pm - 7.30pm

### **About Greener Grid Parks**

Greener Grid Parks are a collection of buildings and zero carbon technology which stabilise the grid, allowing more renewable energy to be transmitted through the network. They are not a wind or solar farm, the buildings resemble agricultural barns, storage units or shipping containers. Greener Grid Parks enable the UK's energy system to handle

increasing amounts of renewable energy without relying on coal and gas-fired turbines. To watch our animation, visit <a href="https://www.statkraft.co.uk/greenergridparks">www.statkraft.co.uk/greenergridparks</a>.

#### Why do we need Greener Grid Parks?

Batteries capture and store energy for future use. They increase the amount of renewable energy consumers can use by storing and releasing it when demand is high. The Coylton Greener Grid Park will provide battery storage services and help us move towards zero carbon emissions targets by increasing the stability of the electricity grid.

### **Next Steps**

We look forward to meeting members of the local community and community representatives at our Public Exhibition on 19 September 2024 at the Ochiltree Community Hub. For those unable to attend our event in person. all information on display at the exhibition will be available to view on our project website from 19 September 2024, <a href="https://www.statkraft.co.uk/coylton">www.statkraft.co.uk/coylton</a> or contact us to request a copy by post.

Phone: 0800 772 0668

Email: <u>UKProjects@statkraft.com</u>

Online form: <a href="https://projects.statkraft.co.uk/covlton/Contact/">https://projects.statkraft.co.uk/covlton/Contact/</a>

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this update on the Coylton Greener Grid Park.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Tullie

Project Manager

#### Statkraft UK Ltd.

22 Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 4BQ
The Garment Factory 10 Montrose Street , G1 1RE Glasgow
www.statkraft.com

## **5.2** Public Exhibition Councillor Invitation Letter



POSTAL ADDRESS: Statkraft UK Ltd 10 Montrose Street Glasgow G1 1RE

-- INTERNET: www.statkraft.co.uk

-- E-MAIL: ukprojects@statkraft.com

-- PHONE: 0800 772 0668

Dear Councillor

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Greener Grid Parks enable the UK's energy system to handle increasing amounts of renewable energy without relying on coal and gas-fired turbines.

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Phone: 0800 772 0668

Email: UKProjects@statkraft.com

Online form: <a href="https://projects.statkraft.co.uk/coylton/Contact/">https://projects.statkraft.co.uk/coylton/Contact/</a>

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this update on the Coylton Greener Grid Park.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Tullie Project Manager

## 5.3 Public Exhibition Resident Invite Letter



POSTAL ADDRESS: Statkraft UK Ltd 10 Montrose Street Glasgow G1 1RE

INTERNET: www.statkraft.co.uk

E-MAIL:

ukprojects@statkraft.com

PHONE: 0800 772 0668

## Dear Neighbour

## Coylton Greener Grid Park - Construction Update and Upcoming Public Exhibition

I am writing to provide a short update on our plans for Coylton Greener Grid Park and invite you to our upcoming public exhibition, taking place on Thursday 19 September 2024 (3.30pm - 7.30pm) at the Ochiltree Community Hub.

Statkraft received consent for the Coylton Greener Grid Park in February 2024. The initial construction phase has begun with site setup – see the enclosed update from our construction team. We would like to put on record our thanks to the community for working with us so far.

We are proposing an increase to the electricity capacity of the project and plan to submit a Section 36 planning application to the Energy Consents Unit, likely to be later this year. The proposed Section 36 application is to increase the capacity of the site - we expect the visual appearance to remain the same as the consented development.

Following our last Information Day in February 2024, we would like to reconnect with the local community to discuss our plans for the section 36 application and the ongoing construction.

## Public Exhibition Ochiltree Community Hub, KA18 2PE Thursday 19 September 2024, 3.30pm - 7.30pm

#### What is a Greener Grid Park?

Greener Grid Parks are a collection of buildings and zero carbon technology which stabilise the grid, allowing more renewable energy to be transmitted through the network. They are not a wind or solar farm, the buildings resemble agricultural barns, storage units or shipping containers.

Greener Grid Parks enable the UK's energy system to handle increasing amounts of renewable energy without relying on coal and gas-fired turbines.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide this update on the Coylton Greener Grid Park.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Tullie

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**Project Manager for Section 36 application** 

## **5.4** Construction Update Postcard

## **Coylton Greener Grid Park**

## Community update



## **Hello from Statkraft**

Statkraft is building Coylton Greener Grid Park to help achieve zero carbon emissions in Scotland by increasing the stability of the electricity grid and storing electricity. Our planning application was granted planning permission by East Ayrshire Council in February 2024.

Construction of the Coylton Greener Grid Park has recently started. We anticipate construction will conclude in early 2026.

We appreciate that construction projects can cause some disruption to local residents and we are committed to minimising impacts wherever possible.

Throughout construction, we will keep you informed of progress and next steps through regular updates including updates to our website and mailings like these.



## Meet our Project Manager



Graeme Hannah joined our team in summer 2023 and manages the construction on site on a day- to-day basis. His role includes supervision of the team, inspecting work and overseeing quality control, safety & standards.



## Local suppliers

A variety of goods and services are required through the construction period, and many local companies would be suited to get involved. Register your interest or recommend a supplier at www.statkraft.co.uk/coylton

## Contact us



0800 772 0668



www.statkraft.co.uk/coylton



ukprojects@statkraft.com

## 5.5 Newspaper Advertisement 11 September 2024

# 'It's a great place to live'

## Locals have their say on area's population decline

**Stuart Reid** 

stuart.reid@newsquest.

LOCALS in Cumnock and the surrounding areas believe there are a variety of reasons holding the area back from "flourishing".

As part of our look into the area's decline in population over the past four decades, and projected decline in the future, we spoke with locals to hear what they had to say about the places they live.

Opinions ranged from the need for more leisure facilities for youngsters, to a need for improved transport links to and from the area.

Kevin, 31, from Cumnock said: "There's obviously a lost that can be improved about the place, including the need for better transport links.

"I used to go to uni in Glasgow and having to get there from here was a nightmare at some points.

"I can see why people move away from the place for convenience for stuff like that, and when you move away it must be hard to find a reason to come back.

"If I had moved away and found a job elsewhere then I probably wouldn't be living here just now, and I think a lot of people would be like that."

Tracey, 40, from Logan said: "I think it's a great place to live. Don't get me wrong, it's far from perfect, but there's a sense of to-



getherness and community in wee place like this.

"When you grow up in there areas you feel like you belong.

"I think the main improvements it could make would be to bring more stuff for the youngsters to do, like better place parks and activity groups and stuff like.

"Bringing stuff like that would keep them out of trouble and maybe keep people from moving away to places where you get these things."

Jeffrey, 55, from Cumnock said: "I grew up in Cumnock when I was younger and then I moved

away for work, but moved back again with my wife when my kids had grown up.

"I think these places have a certain charm about them, but I think that's more prevalent for people who are from these places.

"I can see why it puts people from out-with these places moving to them. From the outside looking in, it looks like there's not many job opportunities or great education or things like



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"The place is growing with the amount of big employers there now are and I don't think the place is too far away from really flourishing.

"A bit of common sense investment into things like transport and leisure facilities and things like that could really make a difference."

Bethany, 48, said: "I've always kind of toyed with the idea of moving away from the place for things like better job opportunities and education and things like that.



"I work in Glasgow so involves me travelling up there three times a week, so moving away from the area and closer to my work would make my life a lot easier.

"Pure remote working must surely be helping the area with people be able to have a better work/life balance.

"I don't think there's anything major that needs done to improve the place. These places have things that big cities don't have and big cities have things that these places don't have. So it really depends on what you're looking for."



## COYLTON GREENER GRID PARK PUBLIC EXHIBITION INVITATION

We invite you to attend a public exhibition for our Coylton Greener Grid Park proposal in East Ayrshire, close to the Coylton substation.

Statkraft received consent for Coylton Greener Grid Park in February 2024 and construction started in July 2024. This exhibition outlines our plans for a Section 36 application to increase the capacity of the site. We expect the visual appearance of the project to remain the same as the consented 50MW application.

Greener Grid Parks enable the UK's electricity grid to handle increasing amounts of renewable energy without relying on coal and gas-fired turbines.

## **PUBLIC EXHIBITION DETAILS**

Ochiltree Community Hub, 45 Main Street, KA18 2PE Thursday, 19 September 2024, from 3.30pm to 7.30pm

Please visit www.statkraft.co.uk/coylton for more information on the project. We will upload public exhibition material on the project website from 19 September 2024. Please get in touch with us at:

- Email: UKprojects@statkraft.com
- Phone: 0800 772 0668
- Website: www.statkraft.co.uk/coylton

Comments made to Statkraft are not representations to the consenting authority. When an application is submitted, there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the consenting authority. Please note all comments for this community consultation should be received no later than 4 October 2024.

Thank you and we hope you can take part in the consultation event.

## Devastating impact of coal mining's demise is 'still being felt in East Ayrshire today'

THE devastating economic impact of the demise of the East Ayrshire coal mining industry is still being felt today, according to the Coalfields Regeneration Trust (CRT).

Gary Porter, regeneration and development manager for the CRT in Scotland. is working to arrest a predicted population decline in places like Cumnock, Auchinleck and Dalmellington, where coal was once king, and to attract more secure long term jobs.

He says the problems these towns and villages are facing with depopulation is almost identical to that of other coalfield areas across the UK.

He added: "We are seeing second and third generation unemployment in former mining communities like Auchinleck and



Dalmellington which we want to change.

"These areas are still feeling the impact of the mine closures, which also had a knock-on effect for other local businesses such as cafes and newsagents.

"We believe there is huge untapped potential in the former coalfield communities.

"The problem was, when the pits closed, nothing was put in their place at the time.

"We are encouraging people

1984; the last pits in the area would close by the end of that decade, and the CRT says the effects are still being felt today. Image: Newsquest

Coal miners on strike

in East Ayrshire in

in these communities to take ownership of their problems and find solutions and employment opportunities using local knowledge and experience.

"We will work with these communities to provide the resources that they need to help build a positive future.

"There is a lot of self aspiration in the former coalfield communities and we are trying to support that as best we can."

## 5.6 Public Exhibition A1 Display Boards







## Welcome

Our team are here to discuss our plans, listen to your views and provide an update on the project.

## **About Statkraft**

- → The largest generator of renewable energy in Europe
- → Over 40 projects in operation or development across the UK
- → Origins in Norwegian hydropower over 125 years ago
- → Expertise in developing and operating wind, solar, hydro, and grid stability services
- → Mer, our EV charging company, is helping the shift towards net zero transportation
- → Distributed over £4.5 million to support local communities near renewable energy projects







For more information and to register for updates, visit www.statkraft.co.uk/coylton

Scan the QR code to view the project webpage





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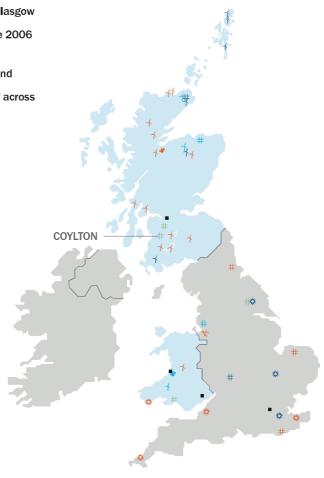
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- ightarrow Scottish Head Office in Glasgow
- ightarrow Operating in the UK since 2006
- ightarrow 24 projects operating or in development in Scotland
- ightarrow Employ almost 500 staff across our UK businesses
- Operational
- Operational (sold)
- Consented
- Construction
- DevelopmentOffices
- √ Wind
- # Greener Grid Park™
- ♣ Hydro
- ☼ Solar
- H<sub>2</sub> Hydrogen



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## **About Greener Grid Parks**

Greener Grid Parks are a collection of buildings, containing zero carbon technology which stabilise the grid, allowing more renewable energy to be transmitted through the network. They are not a wind or solar farm, the buildings resemble agricultural barns, storage units or shipping containers.

This is provided by one or both of the following innovative technologies.





#### **Synchronous Compensator**

Large machines with built-in flywheels provide grid stability without emitting any carbon dioxide – decarbonising the grid and saving consumers money.

## **Batteries (Battery Energy Storage System or BESS)**

Batteries capture energy and store it for use later to keep supply and demand balanced. This is another innovative way we can provide stability to the grid.

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Coylton already has planning permission for a Greener Grid Park of up to 50MW, currently under construction. We are making an application to the Scottish Government under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 to increase the operating capacity of the Greener Grid Park.

- → National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) identified area with a stability need
- → Statkraft have been awarded a contract by NGESO to provide this service at Coylton
- → It is next to the existing Coylton substation meaning the cable connection is short and less intrusive
- → Low impacts on flooding, cultural heritage and ecology
- → Existing roads infrastructure for access

If Coylton Section 36 application was granted planning permission, we expect the visual appearance of the project to remain the same as the consented 50MW application.

**MEMBER:** 



Project website: www.statkraft.co.uk/coylton





## **Increased Capacity, Same Visual Appearance**

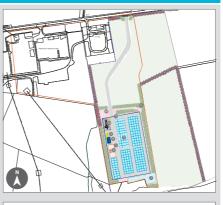
## Consented 50MW Application, Under Construction





The highlighted area in yellow (12) is currently under construction.

## Section 36 Application to Increase Capacity





Statkraft intends to submit a Section 36 application in 2024 to increase the energy capacity of the project. We expect the visual appearance of the project to remain the same as the consented 50MW application.

#### **Indicative Timeline**



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## Ongoing Construction Works for 50MW BESS

Construction commenced on the initial phase of the Coylton Greener Grid Park in July 2024. This phase is for a 50MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). We appreciate that construction projects can cause some disruption to local residents and we look to minimise impacts wherever possible.





#### **Local suppliers**

A variety of goods and services are required throughout construction and many local companies would be suited to get involved. Interested businesses can register interest on our website.



Scan the QR code for more information and to register.

## **Community Liaison Group**

To facilitate dialogue between communities and the Project Team, Statkraft is seeking to establish a Community Liaison Group (CLG), which will operate throughout the construction phase. The purpose is for Statkraft and its contractors to provide quarterly updates on construction, minimise disruption and enable community representatives to ask questions and raise any issues.

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## **Community Benefits**

We look forward to discussing with you the different ways that our projects bring positive benefits.





**Our first Greener Grid Park Community Benefit Fund** at Keith, Moray, helped fund the purchase of a new solar panel and battery storage for the local Keith and District Men's Shed, a men's health and wellbeing charity.



"Windy Rig Wind Farm is another valuable contract for GTR. We are just one of several local businesses who are directly benefiting from the many wind farm developments within this area. This can only be a good thing for both local businesses and the local economy especially during the current pandemic." Tanya Russell, Director, GTR Contracts Ltd

#### **Community Benefit Fund**

We are proud to be the first company to offer a community benefit fund from grid stability projects. The funds support community projects that reduce our impact on the environment. We would like to hear your ideas for worthwhile local projects.

#### **Local Supply Chain**

We work with local business groups to increase awareness of opportunities to get involved in the construction and operation of our projects. Over £1.6million was invested in the local supply chain at our Keith Greener Grid Park in Moray. Local businesses can register their interest on our website.

Project website: www.statkraft.co.uk/coylton







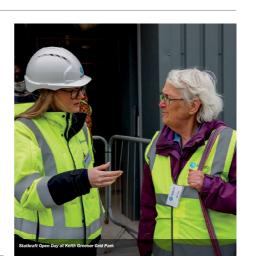
## Thank you for visiting

## Your views are important to us

We will keep you informed on our Section 36 Application through regular updates, including on our project website.

All of the information will be available to view Energy Consent Unit's website and on our project website.

Please note that any comments made to this prospective application are to the applicant and not to the Energy Consent Unit. Once the Section 36 application has been made, you will have the opportunity to make a representation to the Energy Consent Unit at that time.



#### Get in touch:

We will keep you informed of construction progress and next steps through regular updates, including on our project website.



Please return the freepost reply card provided.



Visit the project website: www.statkraft.co.uk/coylton



UKProjects@statkraft.com



Phone the project hotline: 0800 772 0668



Scan the QR code to view the project webpage