



Welcome

We would like to share our early stage plans for the Ackron Wind Farm. We want to hear your views as we shape the development during this phase.

About Statkraft

At Statkraft, we all share a common goal of maximising the positive benefits we can bring from our projects, which stretches beyond the generation of renewable energy, to habitat enhancement and investing in our communities to leave a lasting legacy for the area.

- The largest generator of renewable energy in Europe
- A state owned utility with origins in Norwegian hydropower over 125 years ago
- 5,700 employees in 21 countries



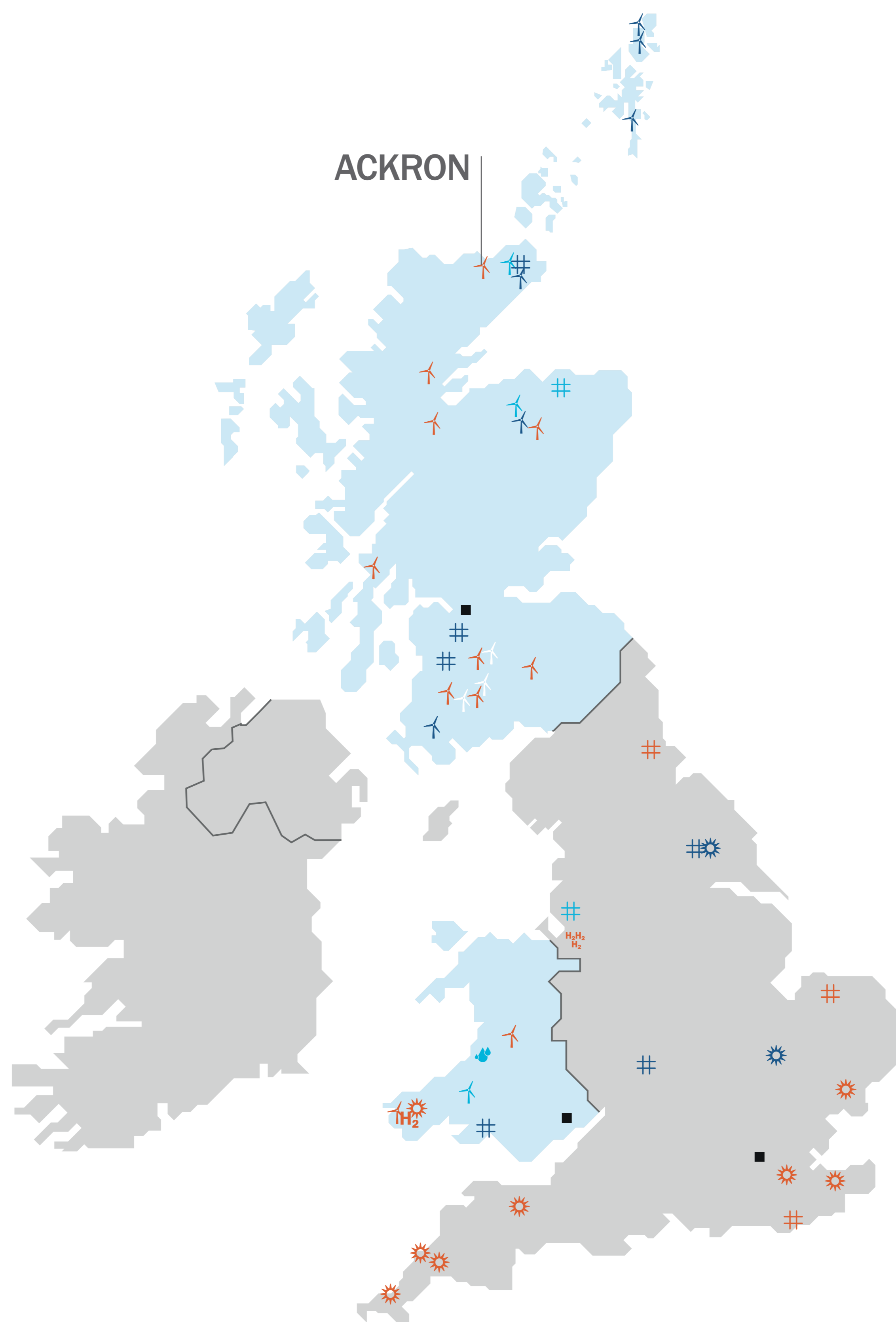
Baillie Wind Farm, Thurso, 21 turbines, 110m tip height



Statkraft in UK

- Scottish Head Office in Glasgow
- Operating in the UK since 2006
- Six projects operating or in development in the Highlands
- Distributed over £4 million to communities near operating wind farms
- Employ almost 500 staff across our UK businesses

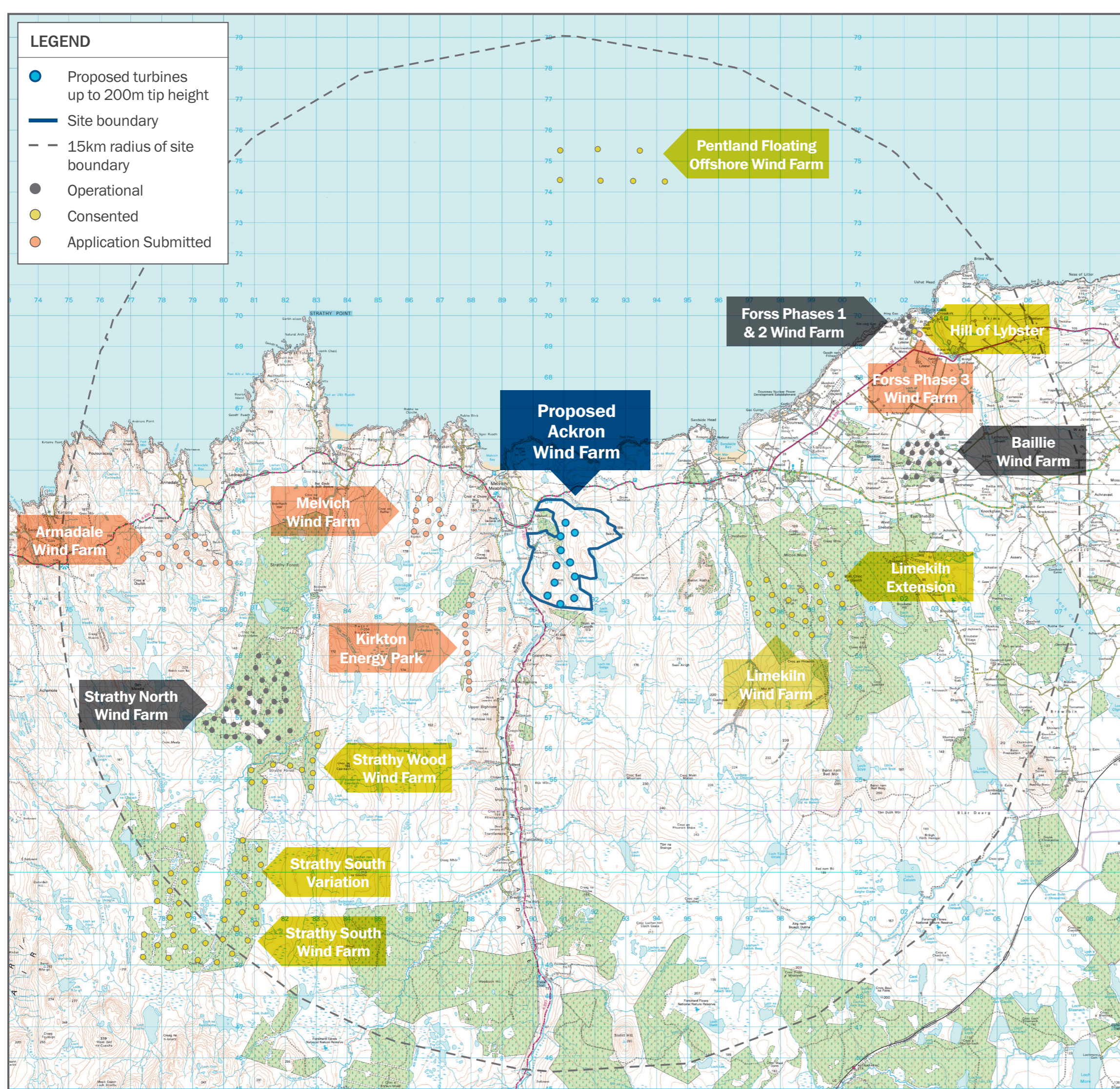
- Operational
- Operational (sold)
- Consented
- Development
- Offices
- ⚡ Wind
- ⌘ Greener Grid Park™
- 💧 Hydro
- ☀ Solar
- H₂ Hydrogen





Ackron Wind Farm

The Site is located approximately 2km south-east of Melvich. We are currently proposing up to **11** turbines with maximum blade tip heights of **200m** and battery energy storage.



Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright 2023. All rights reserved. Licence number 0100031673

Ackron Wind Farm	
No. of Turbines	Up to 11
Max Blade Tip Heights	Up to 200m
Expected Installed Capacity (MW)	Up to 79.2MW <small>(Section 36 consent application)</small>
Estimated Generation (homes equivalent)	Just over 100,000 <small>Homes per year (1)</small>
Community Fund (per year)	Estimated £396,000 <small>per year (2)</small>

(1) Based on 79.2MW installed capacity, site wind speed data and average Scottish domestic consumption of 3,295kWh pa (DESNZ 2022).

(2) Community Benefit Fund based on 79.2MW x £5k per MW of installed capacity. If consented, value of fund determined by actual installed capacity.

The Site is predominantly open moorland used for grazing with a small section of forestry plantation in the north. There is an excellent wind resource and the Site is not subject to any statutory or nationally protected landscape-based planning designations.

Project website: www.ackron-windfarm.co.uk



Design Evolution

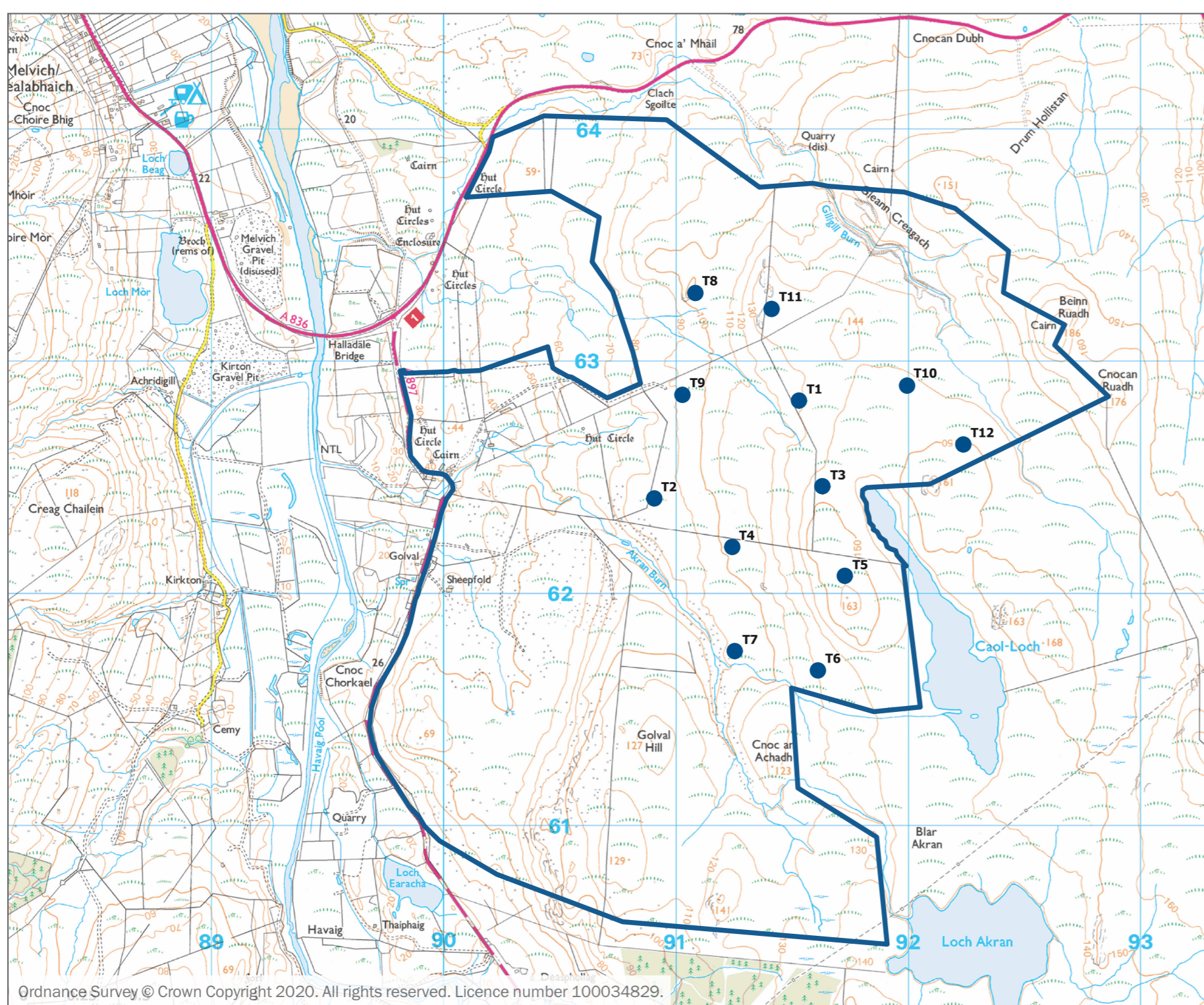
In 2020 Statkraft submitted an application to the Highland Council for a 12 turbine wind farm. Ongoing extensive surveys revealed presence of a rare bird, the common scoter. As a responsible developer, we made the decision to withdraw the application and take a fresh look at the Site. We have fully assessed this new information and redesigned the project on the same Site to take this into account.

We value the conversations we have had with the community over the past four years.

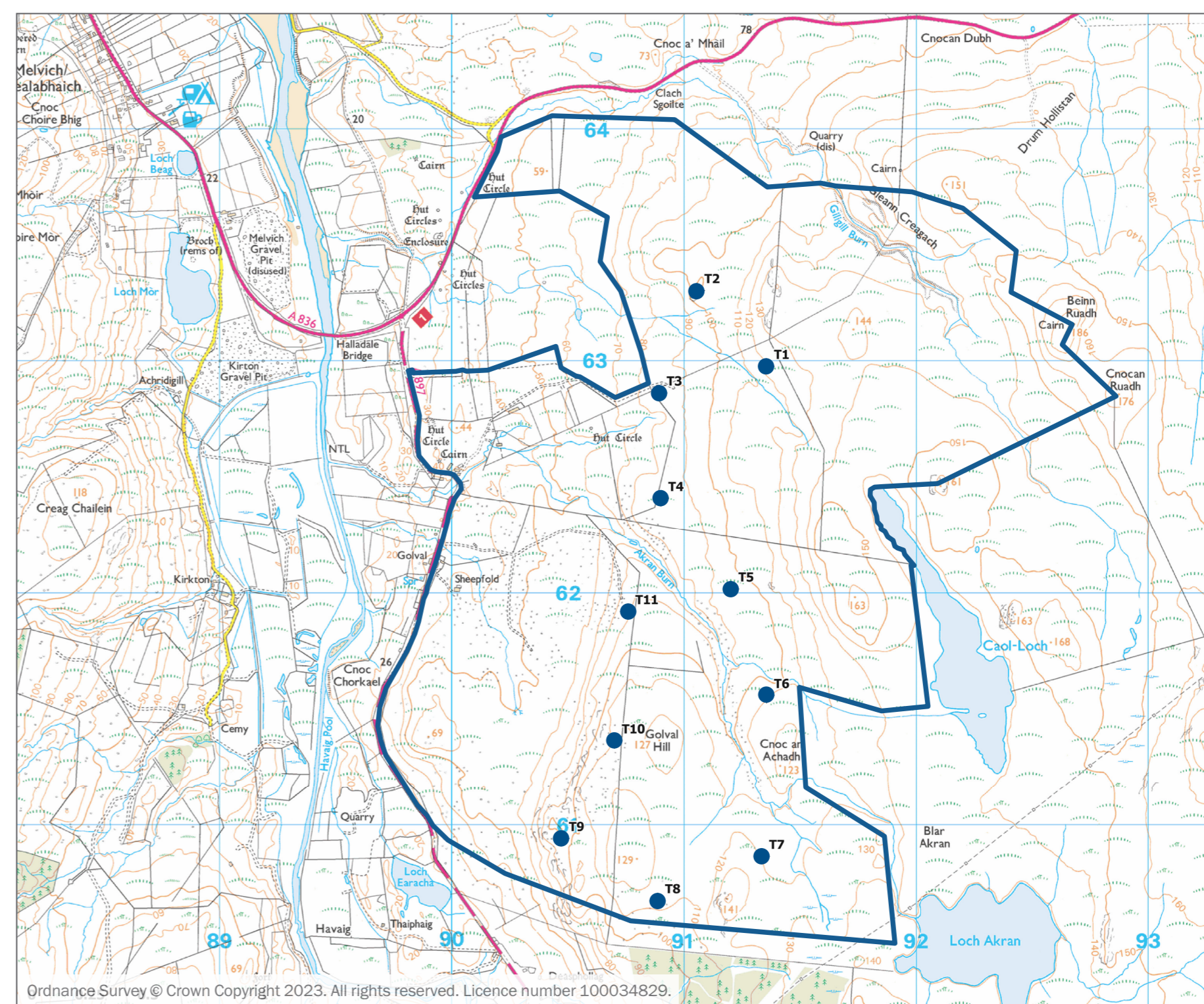
This is the first presentation of our new proposed layout. We would like our engagement to be a continuation of our previous conversations with the community, and have incorporated that feedback into the layout below.

Please provide your comments to a member of the project team or on our feedback form.

2020 Layout



Current Layout



Key project facts

No. of Turbines	12
Max Blade Tip Heights	149.9m
Generating Capacity (MW)	4MW
Total Wind Farm Generating Capacity (MW)	48MW
Homes equivalent	Approximately 45,000
Community Fund	£250,000

Key project facts

No. of Turbines	Up to 11
Max Blade Tip Heights	Up to 200m
Generating Capacity (MW)	7.2MW
Total Wind Farm Generating Capacity (MW)	79.2MW
Homes equivalent	100,000
Community Fund	£396,000



Project Timeline

Statkraft will continue to engage with the local community and stakeholders throughout the lifetime of the Development.





Environmental Impact Assessment

The process of gathering robust environmental baseline data on a site is vital to designing a wind farm.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA Report) will be submitted as part of the application. Applications over 50MW are subject to final approval by Scottish Government, informed by consultees such as Highland Council, NatureScot, SEPA and Historic Environment Scotland.

The EIA Report assesses any likely significant effects the Proposed Development may have and how these impacts can be avoided or mitigated. Over five years of site surveys provide us with a comprehensive understanding of the local environment, and additional confidence that the design and mitigation measures proposed are right for this location.

The application would include:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| → Landscape and Visual Amenity | → Peat |
| → Ecology | → Noise |
| → Cultural Heritage | → Traffic and Transport |
| → Hydrology | → Climate Change |
| → Ornithology | → Socioeconomics |





Environmental Impact Assessment

Ecology & Ornithology



A suite of ecological surveys have been undertaken since 2017 in accordance with NatureScot guidance, giving us extensive knowledge of the site and surrounding habitat.

This has included detailed peat surveys which has informed the layout of the wind farm. A key design objective is to minimise developing on deep peat and where this is not possible, to mitigate impacts.

We have been working closely with NatureScot and following their guidance regarding the identified presence of the Common Scoter in the redesign of the project.

As part of our fresh look at the project layout, we have been focussing on the biodiversity benefits which could be delivered alongside the wind farm, if consented. This is at an early stage of design and we would be happy to discuss it with you. Please let one of the team know if you are interested in attending an Ecology Workshop to get involved.

Details of our proposed habitat management will be outlined in the Section 36 Application.

Socioeconomics



An assessment of the potential economic impacts of the wind farm will be undertaken as part of the application. It will set out the expected job creation, economic value and wealth building benefit to the local and wider economy through the different stages of the development life cycle.

The socio-economic assessment would assess the economic impacts of the Proposed Development. This would include employment, business and supply chain opportunities. We welcome your ideas on how we can maximise the economic benefits our project could bring.



Common Scoter



Twentyshilling Hill Wind Farm, Dumfries & Galloway, 9 turbines, 140m tip height



The Value of Renewables

Climate Change

The Scottish Government has set a legally binding target to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045. Developments such as Ackron Wind Farm are key to meeting this target. Whilst Scotland has continued to make good progress in reducing its greenhouse gas emissions, the need for low carbon energy supplies is paramount if Scotland is to achieve this net zero target.

By 2030, The Scottish Energy Strategy calls for 50% of 'all energy' to come from renewables. It emphasises that onshore wind is now one of the cheapest forms of electricity and will therefore continue to play an important role in this.

A carbon balance assessment will quantify the anticipated emissions savings of Ackron Wind Farm using Scottish Government guidance. A "carbon payback period" will be calculated, demonstrating how long it will take for the carbon emissions saved by Ackron Wind Farm's renewable electricity generation to offset the carbon generated for its development.

"We need more renewable energy, but why here?"

This is one of the most common questions we are asked when we propose a wind farm. This is a very understandable question, and the answer goes beyond the fact that Scotland has one of the strongest wind speeds in Europe. We were pleased to be able to answer this question with the detail it deserves during a webinar hosted by the news website FutureNetZero. You may be surprised to know that our analysis shows less than 10% of land in Scotland is suitable for development of onshore wind.



Scan here to watch the webinar.



RICHARD MARDON,
VP Development, Statkraft UK

Richard takes us behind the scenes of the development process, with a step by step guide on the challenges faced in finding the best sites to maximise Scotland's excellent natural wind resource.

Since 2002 Richard has worked exclusively in onshore wind in the UK, and has had oversight of the development, construction and operation of several completed Scottish wind projects.



Twentysilling Hill Wind Farm, Dumfries & Galloway, 9 turbines, 140m tip height



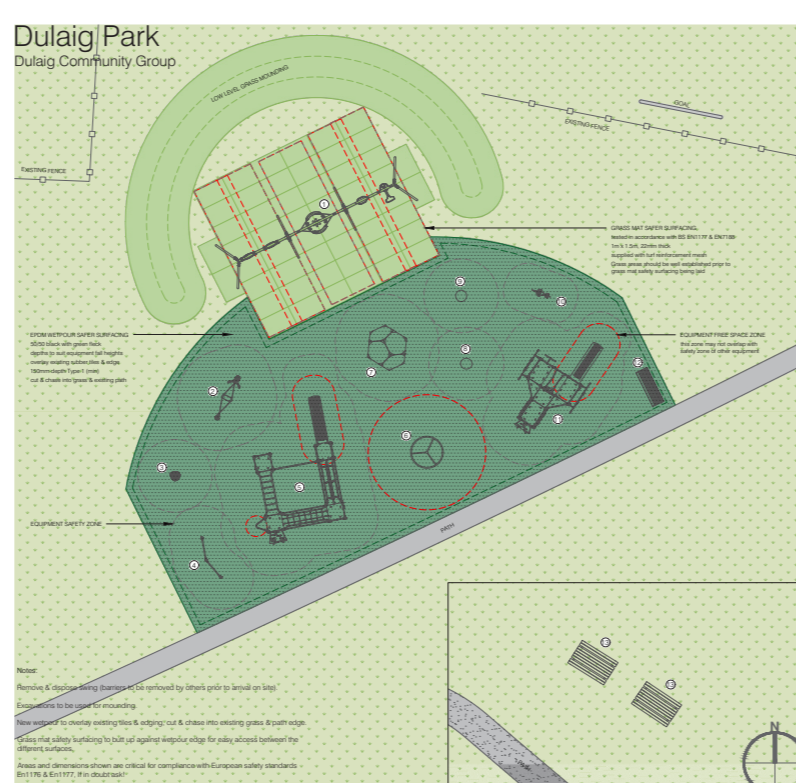
Community Benefits

We like our wind farms to be considered a local asset. We look forward to engaging with communities to find out different ways we can bring positive benefits to the local area.

Some examples of projects that have received funding through Community Benefit Funds



New business grants – North Coast Watersports



New and upgraded playgrounds



Funding for School Uniform Banks



Maintaining and Upgrading Recreational Paths

Community Benefit Fund

We are committed to setting up a Community Benefit Fund that delivers £5,000 per MW installed per year in line with Scottish Government recommendations.

Shared Ownership

We are open to offering shared ownership on our projects, if there is local interest. We are keen to hear your views on enabling the community to have a financial share in the project.

Local Supply Chain

We want to work with local business groups to increase awareness of the opportunities during construction and operation of our projects. Visit our project website to find out how local businesses can register their interest to help deliver our project.

We want to hear your views

Do you have thoughts and ideas about how our project could bring positive benefits to the local area?

Please share these by speaking to a member of the Team, write to us at Freepost Statkraft, or get in touch through the project website.



Thank you for visiting

Your comments and feedback are important to us.



Andershaw Wind Farm, South Lanarkshire, 11 turbines, 140m tip height

We are continuing work on refining our proposal and studies for our comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment Report to be submitted with a future application.

Before we submit our application, we'll return to the community to share and discuss our final proposal.

Members of our team are often in the area and are available to discuss the project with members of the community – please contact us.



Please return the freepost reply card provided.



www.ackron-windfarm.co.uk



UKProjects@statkraft.com



Phone the project hotline:
0800 772 0668