

# Loch na Cathrach Pumped Storage Hydro

December 2024

## Project Update - one year since acquisition

Statkraft acquired this project from Intelligent Land Investments (ILI) in December 2023. Over the past year, our team has focused on engaging with people and organisations to progress the consented pumped storage hydro project towards construction. We'd like to take this opportunity to update you on our activities and we look forward to continuing this important work in 2025.

It has been a busy year, getting familiar with the detail of the consented project and working closely with the Highland Council on meeting complex planning conditions. Many of these requirements involve multiple stakeholders, needing careful collaboration.

### Key activities include:

**Investigative Drilling** and other essential surveys to understand the geology and other characteristics of the site, to assist the next phase of design and preparation of construction drawings.

**Ongoing Engagement** following our Community Drop-In Sessions in March. We have had many valuable conversations with groups ranging from Community Councils to organisations like Highlands & Islands Enterprise and Inverness Chamber of Commerce. Discussions with key community and statutory bodies remain a priority before our plans for construction are finalised.

**Park and Ride** options are still being considered as we identify suitable transport solutions that minimise traffic impact on neighbouring communities.

**The Caledonian Canal** is another transport option we continue to explore, that could help reduce traffic on local roads.

**Local Suppliers** are encouraged to register on our website to be kept informed of opportunities.

## Introducing Scott, Project Director



We are pleased to have Scott Gilbert join us as our new Project Director. Scott is a Chartered Civil Engineer with over 25 years' experience in leading teams delivering energy, infrastructure and transportation projects. This project is close to home for Scott, who lives with his family in Inverness.

"I am looking forward to working closely with the multi-national team on this project of national importance. As a local resident, I am especially committed to ensuring the project delivers benefits for the community. This is a fantastic opportunity to create a lasting legacy for local communities, the Highlands and beyond."

Loch na Cathrach is pronounced *“loch nuh KA-ruch”*

## Skills Report - coming soon!

In collaboration with the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) we have commissioned a comprehensive Skills Report to support local workforce development.

This report, which will be released early next year, will set out the skills needed during the five-year construction period and aims to ensure the project provides opportunities for local workers and businesses in the region.

## Looking Ahead

While much remains to be finalised, we have made great progress in 2024. We will continue to report details on upcoming milestones, community events and opportunities to get involved throughout 2025.

If you have any questions that you can't find the answer to on our website, please get in touch.



Seumas and Iain collecting the award for Statkraft earlier this month.

## Winning a Scottish Green Energy Award

We are honoured to have received the Scottish Green Energy Award (SGEA) for Best Engagement.

This recognition has been made all the more possible because of the openness and efforts of the local Community Councils and other stakeholders, such as the Highland Council and UHI.

## Meet some members of the team:



### SCOTT GILBERT

Scott is the Project Director, responsible for all aspects of the project.



### IAIN ROBERTSON

Iain heads our Scottish activities and will provide support on all aspects of this project.



### ALISON HOOD

Alison will drive our community engagement and help maximise benefits to the community and region.



### SEUMAS SKINNER

Seumas has recently returned to the Highlands and will work with our local partners to facilitate our community engagement.



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