

## Loch na Cathrach Update – Summer 2025

The team are continuing to progress towards construction of the project, and we expect to have the necessary information to make a 'Financial Investment Decision' next year. Despite being fairly quiet externally, we are continuing to work hard on a number of fronts to make the Loch na Cathrach project a reality.

A good working relationship with the community remains a high priority for us and we look forward to providing further updates.

***Scott Gilbert, Project Director***



### Expanding the Team

I am pleased to say we are growing our team and recently advertised for a dedicated Construction Project Director, who will play a key role going forward. Next, we will focus on getting the best structure for our project team, which will help us identify roles required for the future. Statkraft remain committed to working with local organisations such as UHI to help create opportunities for a Highlands and Islands workforce, and engaging with local suppliers.

### Site Surveys

We are presently continuing with a number of surveys to refine our construction plans, including transport and ecology. Several ornithological surveys have been carried out, with further land and aquatic surveys taking place later this summer. On-site investigations, such as some additional borehole drilling, are helping us to inform the detailed design of the project, and we expect to continue this vital work over summer and into autumn.

Recent traffic surveys have enabled us to use the most up to date information on local traffic movements. We know how important construction transport is to the local community and we will be happy to share more on that when our surveys are completed. Currently, we are working on our Construction Traffic Management Plan and hope to have this completed later this year.

This is part of our wider work to discharge conditions attached to the planning permission, which will continue into 2026.

### Presenting Loch na Cathrach at All Energy Conference 2025

This is the largest annual low-carbon energy and renewables event in the UK, taking place in Glasgow in May. Project Director Scott Gilbert was invited to present Loch na Cathrach to industry colleagues about how the project is progressing and of its strategic importance as our power network continues to electrify.

### Supporting Highlands & Islands Green Energy Conference 2025

In May, Statkraft were a proud sponsor of this event held in Inverness. The conference prompted insightful discussion and debate while exploring key aspects including how to unlock the economic potential of renewable energy and building a local workforce for the energy transition.

Scott Gilbert was joined by key organisations such as Skills Development Scotland, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and UHI to share ideas and perspectives. Here are some thoughts from Scott on the event, as featured in The Scotsman newspaper: [Encouraged by a must-attend event](#)

### UHI Skills Report

We funded an independently-produced report in partnership with UHI and found that Loch na Cathrach offers 'significant employment opportunities', with up to 500 workers needed during the peak of its construction period. You can read the report on the [project website](#).

**Shona Clyne, UHI's Head of Economic Development**, said: "We greatly appreciate Statkraft, one of UHI's key industry partners, funding this independent research, the findings of which provide invaluable insights into the scale of opportunities expected to arise from the Loch na Cathrach project, its workforce requirements, education and skills development needs. With a student population of over 30,000, and as one of Scotland's largest providers of apprenticeships, the study findings will be extremely beneficial to UHI, providing key information to enable us to develop our curriculum, and offer options to create and match graduates with industry appropriate skills."

### UHI Scholarships

We continue our commitment to providing scholarships at UHI in STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). The Statkraft STEM Scholarship Fund offers two scholarships annually, providing £3,000 per year for the duration of a student's STEM course, which can be up to four years, totalling £12,000 each. The fund is open to full-time students studying STEM courses at UHI who are residents of Scotland and starting a multi-year programme. The two latest recipients are Egan and Nina, who are in their first year at UHI studying aircraft engineering and marine science.

### Statkraft Cyclists raise over £5,000 for Mikeysline at the ETAPE



Congratulations to six of our cycling colleagues in completing the Loch Ness Etape recently, and for their incredible effort of raising £2,718 for Mikeysline, which was match funded by Statkraft to double the donation to £5,436.

Email: [lochnacathrach@statkraft.com](mailto:lochnacathrach@statkraft.com)

Freephone: 0800 772 3458

Visit our website: [www.loch-na-cathrach.co.uk](http://www.loch-na-cathrach.co.uk)