



Clachaig Glen Wind Farm

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Volume 2a

Main Report

Chapter 19: Summary of Effects and Conclusions

19. Summary of Effects and Conclusions

19.1 Introduction

- 19.1.1 This chapter of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) provides an overview of the key conclusions from each of its technical chapters (Chapters 7 to 18) through a focus on the mitigation measures identified as necessary through each assessment, as well as on the identified significant residual effects of the Proposed Development.
- 19.1.2 As detailed in Chapter 3 of this EIAR: Project Description, the Proposed Development will comprise up to 12 turbines: 7 with a maximum height of 185m and 5 with a maximum height of 200m. Alongside the wind turbines, the Proposed Development will also comprise a battery storage facility (expected up to 30 megawatts (MW)) and associated infrastructure, including crane pads, an anemometer mast (up to 110m high), a control building and substation compound, a temporary construction compound (which will later become the site of the battery storage facility), access tracks and small temporary quarries (borrow pits). The generating capacity of the Proposed Development will be in excess of 50 MW.
- 19.1.3 This EIAR is supported by a number of figures and visualisations (Volumes 2b to 2d), Technical Appendices (Volume 3) and Confidential Annexes (Volume 4), as well as a Non-Technical Summary (Volume 1). It also stands alongside a range of separate reports, namely the Planning Statement, Design Statement, Pre-Application Consultation Report and Habitats Regulation Appraisal. These all support the Section 36 Application for consent for the Proposed Development, submitted to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) under the Electricity Act 1989. The ECU is also requested to give a direction for planning permission to be deemed granted under Section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended). An operational timeframe of 35 years is sought.

19.2 Summary of Mitigation Measures

- 19.2.1 Schedule 4, Part 7 of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, as amended, requires an EIAR to include “A *description of the measures envisaged to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any identified significant adverse effects on the environment and, where appropriate, of any proposed monitoring arrangements*”.
- 19.2.2 The mitigation, monitoring and enhancement measures included in this EIAR fall into one of the following categories:
- Embedded mitigation incorporated into the design of the Proposed Development, such as the use of existing forestry tracks where possible. All embedded mitigation measures are detailed within Chapter 3 of this EIAR: Project Description, or
 - Additional mitigation, monitoring and enhancement measures identified as a result of the EIA, such as topic specific management plans.

19.2.3 Where relevant, the identified additional mitigation measures are presented within the technical chapters of this EIAR (Chapters 7 to 18). These are also summarised within Appendix 19.1: Schedule of Mitigation (EIAR Volume 3). This lists each item of mitigation relied on or identified in the EIAR and establishes how it would be delivered.

19.3 Residual Effects

19.3.1 The residual effects of the Proposed Development following the implementation of the embedded and additional mitigation referenced in Section 19.2 have been assessed within each technical chapter of this EIAR where relevant (Chapters 7 to 18). These have been identified following the general assessment methodology established through Chapter 2 of this EIAR: Approach to EIA, as well as any topic-specific methodology set out in each of the technical chapters.

19.3.2 No significant adverse effects were identified within the following areas as reported in this EIAR:

- Noise (Chapter 8),
- Ecology (Chapter 9),
- Ornithology (Chapter 10),
- Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology (Chapter 11),
- Cultural Heritage (Chapter 12),
- Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism (Chapter 13),
- Traffic, Transport and Access (Chapter 14),
- Infrastructure and Telecommunications (Chapter 15),
- Aviation Safeguarding (Chapter 16),
- Forestry (Chapter 17), and
- Shadow Flicker (Chapter 18).

19.3.3 A limited number of significant residual effects have been identified in relation to the landscape and visual assessment only (Chapter 7); these are summarised in Table 19-1.

19.3.4 The following beneficial residual effects have been identified within this EIAR:

- The implementation and financing of the restoration of 56.2 ha of forestry to blanket bog addresses the adverse effect on blanket bog from the Proposed Development and, with this mitigation in place, the residual effect for blanket bog is expected to be Moderate beneficial and Significant (Chapter 9; Ecology),
- Habitat creation and enhancement is expected to have a Minor beneficial (Not Significant) effect on Hen Harrier (Confidential Annex 10.1; EIAR Volume 4), and
- Additional expenditure in the locality associated with the Proposed Development; job creation; the related local supplier database and a Meet the Developer Event; as well as a community

investment opportunity, would have Minor beneficial (Not Significant) effects (Chapter 13, Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism).

Table 19-1 Summary of All Identified Significant Adverse Residual Effects

| EIAR Reference | Significant Residual Effect |
|---|---|
| Table 7-5 and 7-8 (Chapter 7, EIAR Volume 2a) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction / decommissioning and operational Moderate (Significant) landscape character effects on 'Upland Forest Moor Mosaic Landscape Character Type (LCT) 6' within 2km of the Proposed Development, • Overall Minor (Not Significant) effect on wider LCT 6, • Cumulative effects mirror these assessment results. |
| Table 7-6 and 7-8 (Chapter 7, EIAR Volume 2a) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction / decommissioning and operational Moderate (Significant) visual amenity effects on 'Viewpoint (VP) 13: Kintyre Way north of Development Site', • Cumulative effects at VP13 are judged to be Major (Significant) on visual amenity. <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational Moderate (Significant) visual amenity effects on 'VP8: Ardminish, Gigha', • Cumulative effects mirror these assessment results. <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational Moderate (Significant) visual amenity effects on 'VP9: South Pier, Gigha', • Cumulative effects mirror these assessment results. <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational Moderate (Significant) visual amenity effects on 'VP10: Sound of Gigha from Gigha Ferry', • Cumulative effects mirror these assessment results. <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational Moderate (Significant) visual amenity effects on 'VP15: Sound of Gigha from recreational watercraft', • Cumulative effects mirror these assessment results. <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational Moderate (Significant) visual amenity effects on 'VP16: North Muasdale', • No significant cumulative effects are established at VP16. |

19.4 Conclusion

19.4.1 The only significant adverse effects established through the EIA and reported in this EIAR relate to a small number of landscape and visual effects, generally limited to locations within relatively close proximity to the Proposed Development. The effect of the Proposed Development on the landscape and visual resource of the wider area is not considered to be significant.

19.4.2 A significant beneficial effect has also been identified on ecology due to the proposed restoration of 56.2 ha of blanket bog (peatland), which is currently plantation forestry.

19.5 References

- Electricity Act 1989, as amended.
- Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, as amended.
- Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended.

RWE Renewables UK Onshore Wind Limited,

Registered in England and Wales

no. 03758407,

Greenwood House,

Westwood Business Park,

Coventry, CV4 8PE

www.rwe.com