

Welcome to the community consultation for a wind energy project adjoining the existing Clashindarroch Wind Farm

- Thank you for visiting us today. Here you will find a selection of information boards outlining the proposal for Clashindarroch Wind Farm Extension. Please do not hesitate to speak with any of the project team members who are here to discuss the proposals and answer your questions.
- You will find all the information boards available to download from the project website following this consultation event.
- We would be grateful if you could complete a feedback form to let us know what you think. You can fill it in today and leave it with the reception desk or alternatively, take it home and post it to our Freepost address as set out below. No further address details or stamps are required.
- For those who cannot attend today, we will be hosting an online consultation event on **Monday 24th October 2022, 5.30-6.30pm**. Please register for this event on the home page of the project website and you will be emailed a link to the webinar. A recording of the event will be posted on the website.
- There are several ways to obtain further information and to contact us:
 - › Our website www.clashindarrochwindfarmextension.co.uk will be updated with all the latest information
 - › Email us at info@clashindarrochwindfarmextension.co.uk
 - › Ring the Freephone number **0800 980 4299**
 - › Write to us using **Freepost Infinergy Ltd**

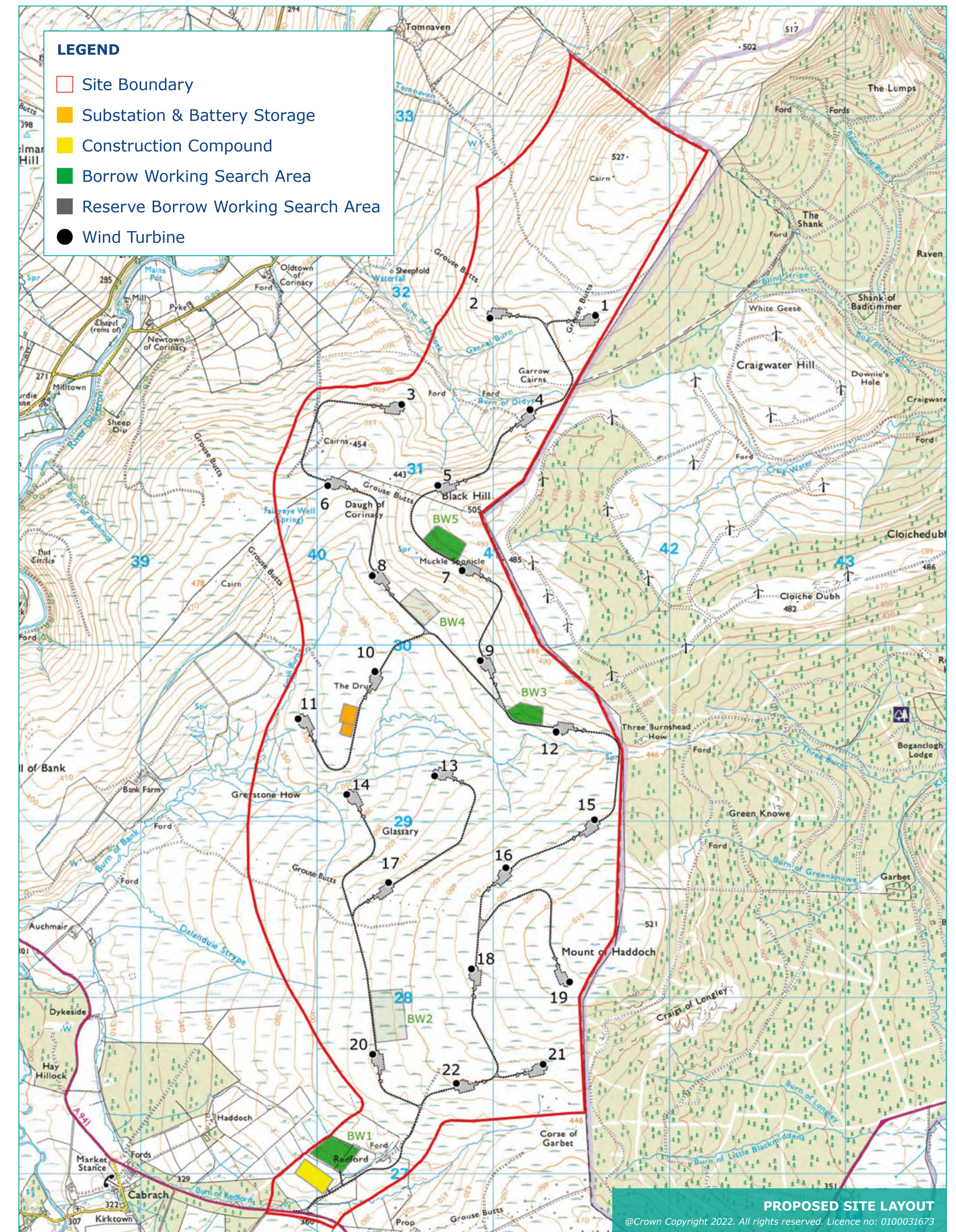


Overview of the draft plans

- The proposal is for up to 22 wind turbines, a battery energy storage facility and associated infrastructure on land immediately to the west and south west of the existing Clashindarroch Wind Farm.
- Based on an installed capacity of up to 6.6 megawatts (MW) per wind turbine, the total installed capacity of the wind energy project would be up to 145.2MW. In combination with the 50MW battery array, the entire project would total up to 195.2MW.
- The project would generate enough green electricity to meet the demands of up to **108,055 average UK households** for each year of its operational life (expected to be up to 40 years).*
- Electricity generated by the project would replace the emissions of up to **171,714 tonnes of carbon dioxide** per year, had the power otherwise been supplied by fossil fuel-powered generators.**
- Blade tip heights of up to 200m for 13 of the wind turbines and up to 180m for the remaining 9 are currently being considered. Higher capacity wind turbines are taller in order to catch a greater wind resource and produce significantly more electricity.
- If approved, the project is expected to generate economic benefits for Moray and the wider Scottish economy. Its development and construction could deliver £38.2m of Gross Value Added (GVA) and 587 years of employment. The operational stage would see a contribution of up to £1.8m GVA and 27 jobs.

* Source: Renewable UK

** Source: Carbon Calculator, Scottish Government



Why this site?



- **Policy** – More sites are required in order to help achieve Scotland’s net zero targets by 2045 and this site can make a considerable contribution towards these aims.
- **Residential amenity** - the site is situated away from residential dwellings, avoiding unacceptable visual, noise and/or shadow flicker impacts.
- **Wind speeds** - the site is elevated whilst its gradients are not too steep. It has a very favourable wind resource.
- **Scale** - the site is large enough to accommodate sufficient and viable generating capacity.
- **Environmental factors** - the site is outside any landscape or environmental designations such as a Wild Land Area. The results of environmental studies, surveys and assessments indicate no insurmountable barriers to the proposed development’s successful construction and operation.
- **Proximity to the existing wind farm** – Clashindarroch Wind Farm Extension would form an integrated wind cluster with the existing Clashindarroch Wind Farm and the proposed Clashindarroch Wind Farm II. It would help to maximise power output whilst minimising additional impact by avoiding the creation of a new separate location for wind development.

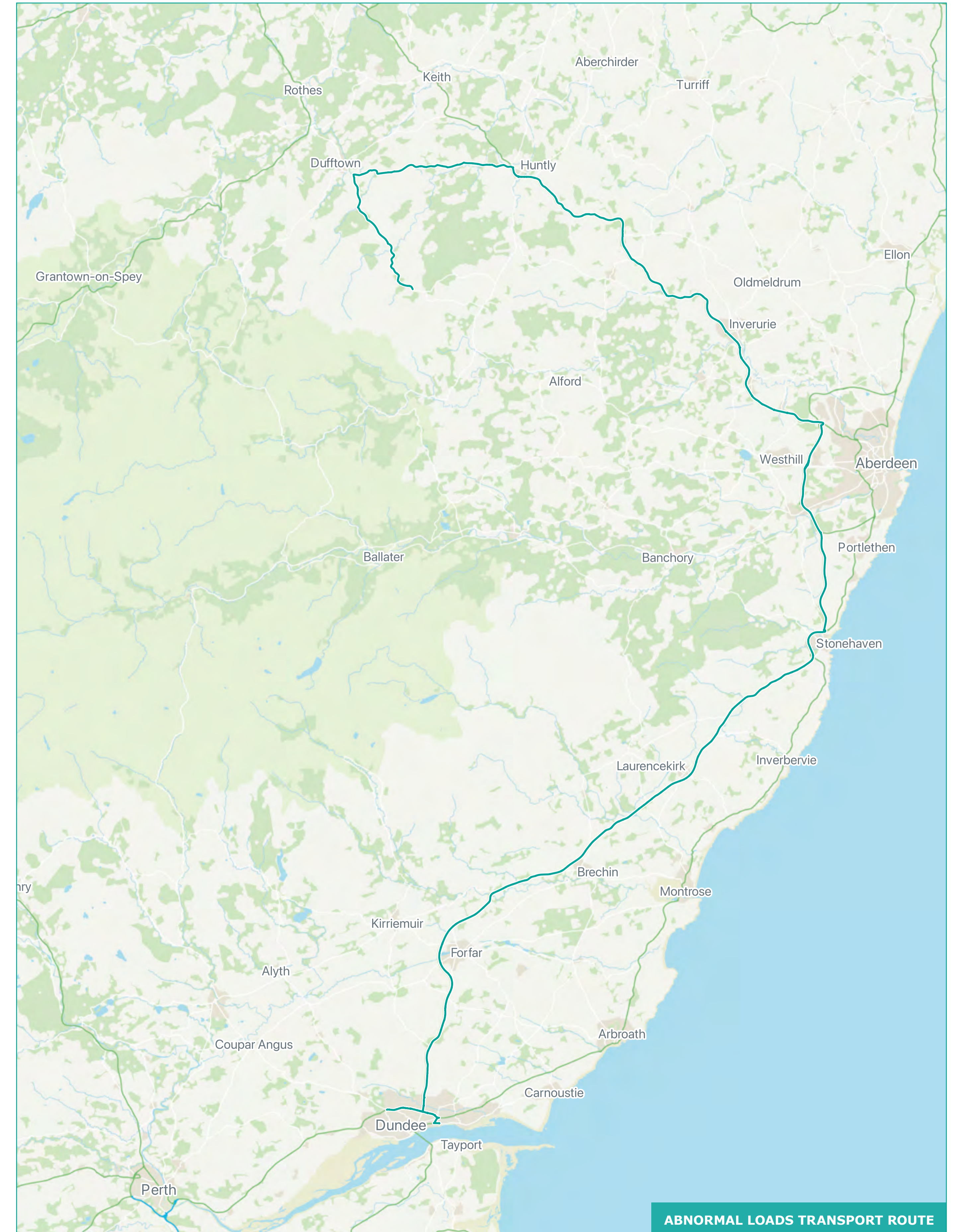
Environmental Impact Assessment and Scheme Evolution

- The Clashindarroch Wind Farm Extension proposal exceeds 50 megawatts. Therefore, the decision on whether or not the project will obtain consent lies with the Scottish Government. Moray Council will be a key consultee. Other statutory and non-statutory consultees include Aberdeenshire Council, NatureScot, SEPA, Historic Environment Scotland, RSPB, Visit Scotland and local community councils.
- An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required, to influence the scheme design and to inform the decision on whether to grant consent. The EIA process is in place in order to study potential environmental impacts of a proposed development with the aim to avoid or mitigate these impacts when they exceed specified acceptable limits. It covers a wide range of topics, including:
 - › Landscape and visual issues
 - › Noise
 - › Ecology and ornithology
 - › Hydrology, ground conditions and peat
 - › Archaeology and cultural heritage
 - › Transport and access
 - › Telecommunications, shadow flicker and aviation
 - › Socio-economic, tourism and recreation issues
 - › Climate change and carbon balance
- The project has undergone various design iterations. Initially 34 wind turbines were considered for the site. A scoping layout was formulated in August 2020 and this consisted of 28 wind turbines, each measuring 200m to the tip of the blade when in a vertical position. Currently the proposals are for 22 turbines, with 13 of these being 200m to tip, and 9 being 180m to tip.



Transport and Access

- The proposed wind farm would be accessed from a new junction on the A941, located at Redford, to the east of Upper Cabrach. The junction will allow access to the site for construction traffic, turbine deliveries and maintenance vehicles.
- There will be an increase in traffic on the A941 and A920 during the construction period. A detailed Traffic Management Plan is to be provided to help reduce the disruption caused by construction traffic between Huntly, Dufftown and the site access junction.
- Where possible, construction material excavated from site will be used to help reduce the numbers of Heavy Goods Vehicles on local roads.
- A detailed review of access for abnormal loads associated with the turbine deliveries has been undertaken.
- Access to the site for abnormal loads will be from Dundee, with traffic using the A90 and A96 to Huntly. At various points along the A920 and A941 minor temporary road improvements will be required.
- We have consulted the bridge engineers from both Moray Council and Aberdeenshire Council who have advised that the structures are suitable for the proposed loads. All abnormal loads will be escorted by the Police at the developer's expense.
- The developer will enter into a legal agreement with Moray Council and Aberdeenshire Council to ensure that the public road does not deteriorate as a result of the construction traffic.



ABNORMAL LOADS TRANSPORT ROUTE

Noise

What makes the noise?

There are two main potential sources of wind turbine noise:

- The blades passing through the air as the hub rotates
- The rotation of the generator in the hub of the turbine

Wind turbine noise levels increase as the wind increases, but so does the background noise as the wind passes through trees and hedgerows. Noise reduces with increasing distance away from the source.



How is it measured?

Noise is measured in decibels – dB(A) with a sound level meter. The decibel is a measure of the sound pressure level. A change in noise level by 3 dB(A) is just perceptible and an increase of 10 dB(A) is perceived to be twice as loud.

In general, each turbine will produce a sound pressure level of 50-60 dB(A) at a distance of 50 metres from the turbine. This is about the same level of conversational speech.

How is it assessed?

- Wind farm noise is assessed using ETSU-R-97, "The Assessment and Rating of Noise from Wind Farms".
- Wind farm noise levels at nearby houses are calculated and compared to limits relating to pre-existing (no wind farm) background noise at nearby houses.
- To measure the background noise, noise monitoring equipment is set-up at a sample of houses and left for a number of weeks to gain a representative dataset. Wind speed and direction are also recorded at the proposed wind farm site.
- The appointed acoustics specialist, also referred to as noise consultant, produce noise predictions which they compare against the ETSU-R-97 noise limit.
- Their calculations assume that the wind is blowing from the turbines towards the house. This is to ensure that the results are conservative.
- For Clashindarroch Wind Farm Extension, noise monitoring was already undertaken for some properties near to the existing Clashindarroch Wind Farm and additional monitoring was undertaken in 2021 at two more locations.
- Current results based on the latest layout demonstrate that the project would operate within ETSU-R-97 limits.

Community Benefits

- The project is committed to delivering a Community Benefit Fund that, based on best practice in the industry and a total installed turbine capacity of 145.2MW, could amount to just over £29m over the anticipated 40-year life of the project.
- Discussion with the local community will guide how the fund may be allocated. If you have suggestions on what local projects, causes and initiatives could benefit from funding, please share this with us on your feedback form.

Next steps

- We hope to submit the Section 36 application for the proposals to the Scottish Government by the end of 2022.
- An Environmental Impact Assessment Report ('EIA Report') including the results from the surveys and assessments will be submitted alongside the application. The documents will be uploaded to our project website under 'Downloads'.
- If you would like to receive a USB stick containing the application documents and/or a hard copy of the Non-Technical Summary, please request this in your feedback form (free of charge as long as stocks last).
- Extensive consultation with local Councils, communities and professional bodies are an important part of the planning process to ensure that feedback can be considered and where possible, taken on board, leading to the best possible proposals coming forward.
- The timeline shown below gives an indication of possible timescales should the proposal be deemed acceptable and is subject to change depending on the consenting process.

