

Climate Change



The Scottish Government has set a legally-binding target to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045. Developments such as Craig Watch 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.

To quantify the emissions savings of Craig Watch Wind Farm, a 'carbon balance' assessment will be undertaken for the wind farm using Scottish Government guidance.

“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. Earlier this year, 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.

[You can watch the full webinar here.](#)



RICHARD MARDON,
Head of Business & Project
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.

We would like our wind farms to be considered a local asset and want to talk with you about how we can bring new investment to your community.



Broadleaf planting areas at Andershaw Wind Farm. Photo credit: Jason Mackay at MacArthur Green.

“Since 2016, MacArthur Green’s experienced team of specialists have been carrying out ecological, ornithological and hydrological monitoring works for Andershaw Wind Farm’s Forestry and Habitat Management Plan (FHMP). The FHMP aims to reinstate and enhance blanket bog habitat, and provide a diverse woodland mix including broadleaved woodland to enhance floral and faunal species diversity. Through ongoing monitoring, we have found that these habitats are now developing well, and are helping to increase biodiversity of the site.”

Nicola Goodship PhD MCIEEM, Senior Ornithologist, MacArthur Green

Community Benefit Fund

Based on the current proposal the wind farm would generate £363,000 per year, each year of operations.

Community Ownership

Progress the opportunity for local groups to have a financial interest in our project, with the support of organisations such as [Local Energy Scotland](#).

Local Suppliers

Work with local business groups to increase awareness of the work opportunities for local suppliers in construction and operations. If you are a local business, sign up to our [Local Suppliers Register](#).

Education & Enterprise

We welcome ideas on how our project can support local education and employment opportunities, and boost local businesses.

Broadband

Investing in feasibility studies to identify potential for improved connection, and supporting communities developing their own broadband initiatives.

Feedback from our first exhibition revealed that 67% of respondents were interested in exploring this opportunity further. This could be partially or fully funded by the community benefit fund associated with our project, if the community wished to progress this.

The Broadband Feasibility Study explores the potential for using the infrastructure of our project to deliver **super fast broadband**.



THE OPPORTUNITY

We require a **reliable broadband service** to operate our wind turbines and commissioned a feasibility study to explore the **potential for improving local infrastructure** as the wind farm is connected.

FIBRE CONNECTIVITY

Fibre is the optimal connection, and improvements concentrated on Dufftown are estimated to **cost just over £1,000 per household**.

FIXED WIRELESS OPTION

Fixed wireless broadband offers an opportunity to **connect some properties that can be difficult or costly for fibre to reach** - the feasibility study shows there is **potential to unlock broadband for nearly 1,000 homes** using this method.

NEXT STEPS

We would like to continue a conversation with you on the findings of the feasibility study. **Please contact us, and register on the website for updates.**

Your Views are Important to Us

We hope to submit an application in early 2022, when all application documents will be publicly available.

We welcome your comments and feedback -

Please register your comments by completing a feedback form. In order for us to take your view into account, **please comment by 3 December 2021.**

Comments made to Statkraft are not representations to the consenting authority. If an application is submitted, there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the consenting authority.

Thank you for attending the Craig Watch Wind Farm Exhibition.

We would like to keep you updated as our plans progress:



[Click here to complete the online feedback](#)



Register for updates:
www.craigwatch.co.uk



0800 772 0668
(local call rate applies)



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(no stamp or further address details required)



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For more information
about Craig Watch

www.craigwatch.co.uk



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

**APPENDIX 11
SUMMARY OF MARCH AND NOVEMBER 2021 PUBLIC EXHIBITION
QUESTIONS AND STATKRAFT'S RESPONSES**

Craig Watch Wind Farm

During the March 2021 consultation, some questions and comments were frequently raised. Below is our response to these.

(June 2021)

There are too many wind farms in this area

Moray Council's Onshore Wind Energy Supplementary Guidance (2020) indicates that the location of the proposed Craig Watch Wind Farm may be appropriate, with some scope to accommodate large scale turbine developments. As part of our work towards the planning application for the project, we have undertaken substantial analysis into the landscape and visual considerations in the vicinity of the development. We continue to develop the project with the aim to find the right balance between maximising the electricity output and carefully siting and designing the proposal to relate to the existing landscape, including other wind developments.

Our analysis shows that less than 10% of land in Scotland is suitable for onshore wind farms. To find out more about what makes a site suitable for onshore wind, you are invited to join a webinar hosted by [Future Net Zero](#) on 29 June where our Head of Development will go through the steps in new site searching. Check [our website](#) for details.

Wind turbines should be offshore

We need a mix of all types of renewable energy generation. New-build onshore wind is presently the most cost-effective way to generate new electricity, out of all forms of electricity.

I don't like the look of onshore wind farms

We appreciate not all people like the look of wind turbines, but they are very much part of the answer to increasing our carbon-free electricity generation and decreasing the need for fossil fuels. The UK Government has surveyed attitudes towards different types of electricity generation since 2012 and the results consistently show around 75% support for onshore wind ([BEIS Attitudes Tracker](#)).

If there is concern about a specific view please let us know and we'll try to provide suitable illustrations at our next consultation event later this year.

Wind turbines are bad for the environment [construction, peat disturbance, use more carbon than they save]

All wind farm applications are required to report their "carbon payback period" in the Environmental Impact Assessment. This is determined using a Scottish Government calculator which takes into account all emissions from the manufacture of the turbines, including any peat disturbance, as well as the construction and decommissioning phases. This figure is usually in the range of 1-2 years, and part of the work we do during the development phase is to get that number as low as possible.

We were finalists in two prestigious industry awards for our efforts at Berry Burn Extension in Moray in maximising habitat improvements to deliver a biodiversity gain. For example, rewetting peat and reducing the impact of future wild fires.

What is the benefit to locals?

There are several ways our projects can bring local benefits, and we are always open to discussing how this can be tailored to each area. The construction phase provides a significant opportunity for local businesses to get involved - we had over 80 businesses complete our local suppliers register for the construction of our Keith Greener Grid project.

The operation of a wind farm brings significant local investment. Statkraft commit to delivering a community benefit fund with all new wind farms at £5,000 per MW installed per year, as per Scottish Government guidance. The exact amount will depend on the number and type of turbines installed, but as a guide, this is around £25,000 per turbine per year over the operating period of the wind farm.

What is the transport route for the turbines? Are the roads suitable for this construction and ongoing access?

We are confident a suitable access route can be proposed and this is part of our detailed planning work. A Traffic Management Plan will be agreed with Moray and Aberdeenshire councils prior to construction commencing.

For more FAQs go to www.craigwatch.co.uk

APPENDIX 12 PREDICTED PROJECT VIEWS



CRAIG WATCH WIND FARM

PREDICTED VIEWS

4 - 26 November 2021



Predicted Views

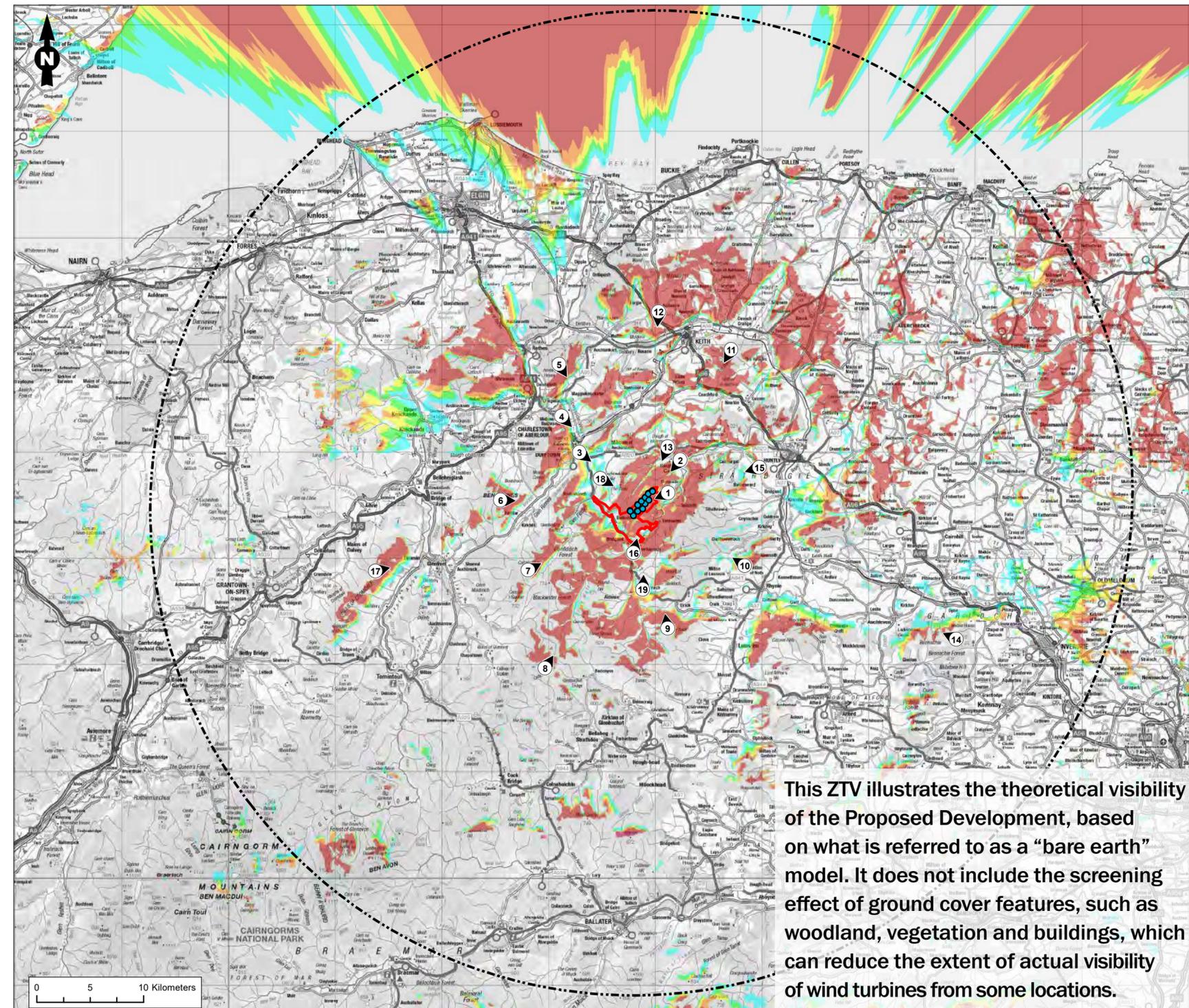
The viewpoint locations for Craig Watch Wind Farm have been agreed following consultation with Moray Council, Aberdeenshire Council and NatureScot.

The viewpoints ensure the most suitable locations are selected to illustrate the effects of the wind farm.

In this brochure we have 6 photomontages available from viewpoints that will be assessed in the planning application.

Illustrations for all locations will be submitted as part of our application and will be available to view.

Zone of Theoretical Visibility



Key

- Site Boundary
- Turbine Location
- 45km Buffer

No. of Turbines Theoretically Visible

- 1 - 3
- 4 - 5
- 6 - 7
- 8 - 9
- 10 - 11

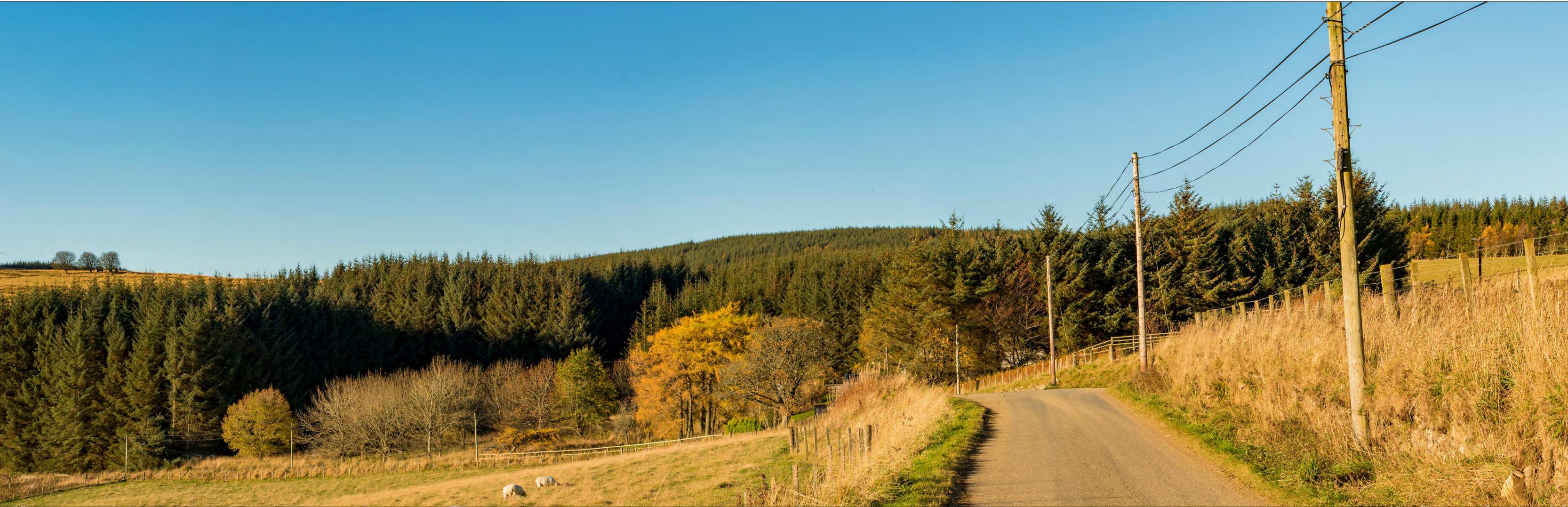
Predicted Viewpoint Locations Shown in this Booklet

- 1 Minor Road, Deveron Valley
- 2 Haugh of Glass
- 3 Corsemaul Drive, Dufftown
- 6 Ben Rinnes
- 16 A941 near The Grouse Inn Public House
- 18 Auchindoun Castle

This ZTV illustrates the theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development, based on what is referred to as a “bare earth” model. It does not include the screening effect of ground cover features, such as woodland, vegetation and buildings, which can reduce the extent of actual visibility of wind turbines from some locations.

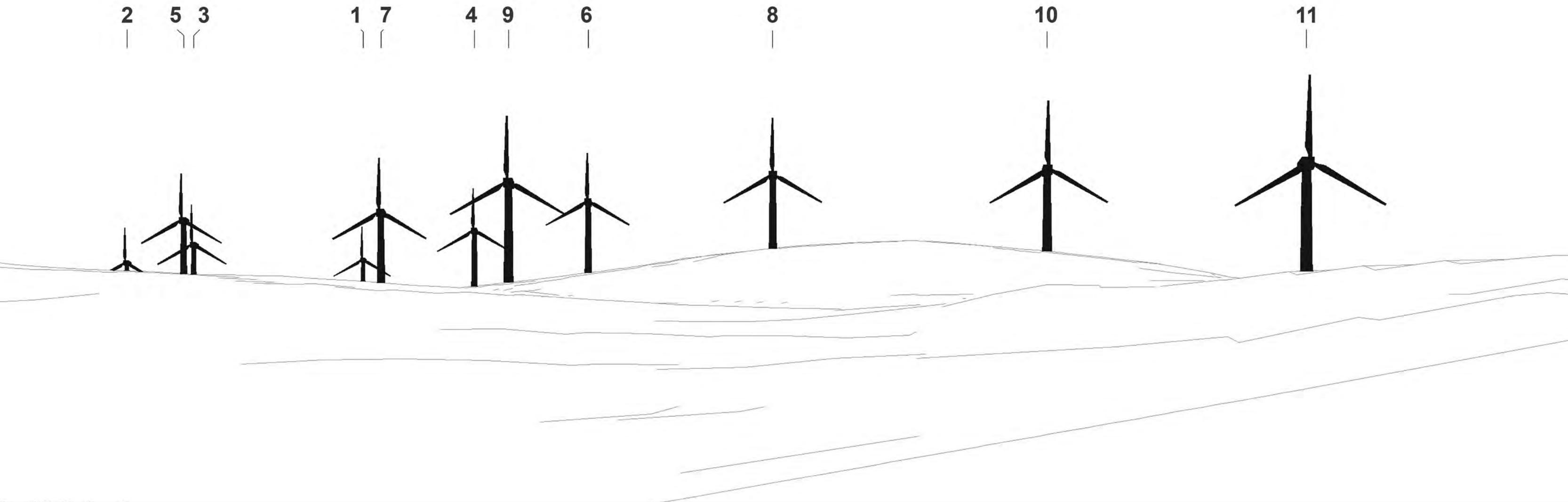
Viewpoint 1: Minor Road, Deveron Valley

EXISTING VIEW



Viewpoint 1: Minor Road, Deveron Valley

WIREFRAME



Wireframe showing proposed layout
11 turbines @ 200m to blade tip height.
All turbines shown with a 155m rotor diameter.

Viewpoint 1: Minor Road, Deveron Valley

PREDICTED VIEW



Photomontage showing proposed layout
11 turbines @ 200m to blade tip height.
All turbines shown with a 155m rotor diameter.

Viewpoint 2: Haugh of Glass

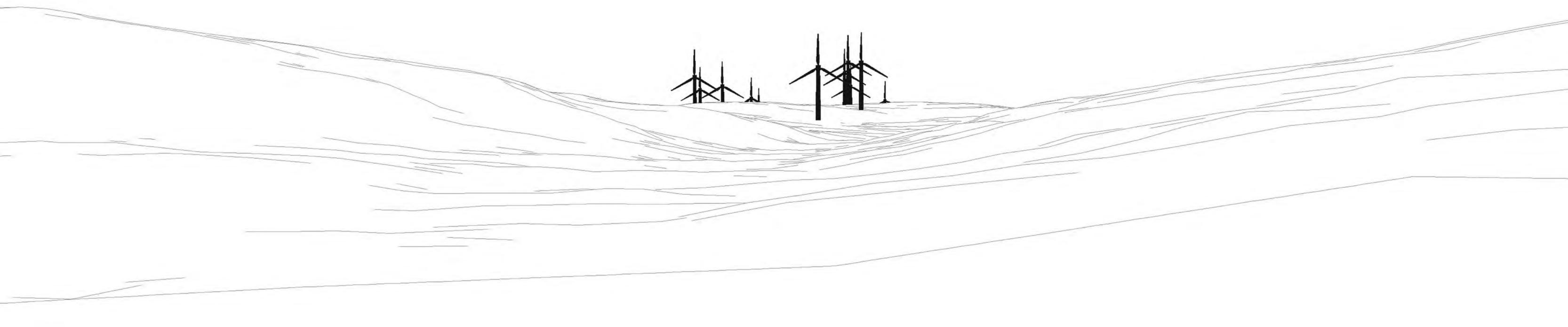
EXISTING VIEW



Viewpoint 2: Haugh of Glass

WIREFRAME

9 5 7 3 2 11 6 8 4 10 1
Y | Y \ \ Y / /



Wireframe showing proposed layout
11 turbines @ 200m to blade tip height.
All turbines shown with a 155m rotor diameter.

Viewpoint 2: Haugh of Glass

PREDICTED VIEW



Photomontage showing proposed layout
11 turbines @ 200m to blade tip height.
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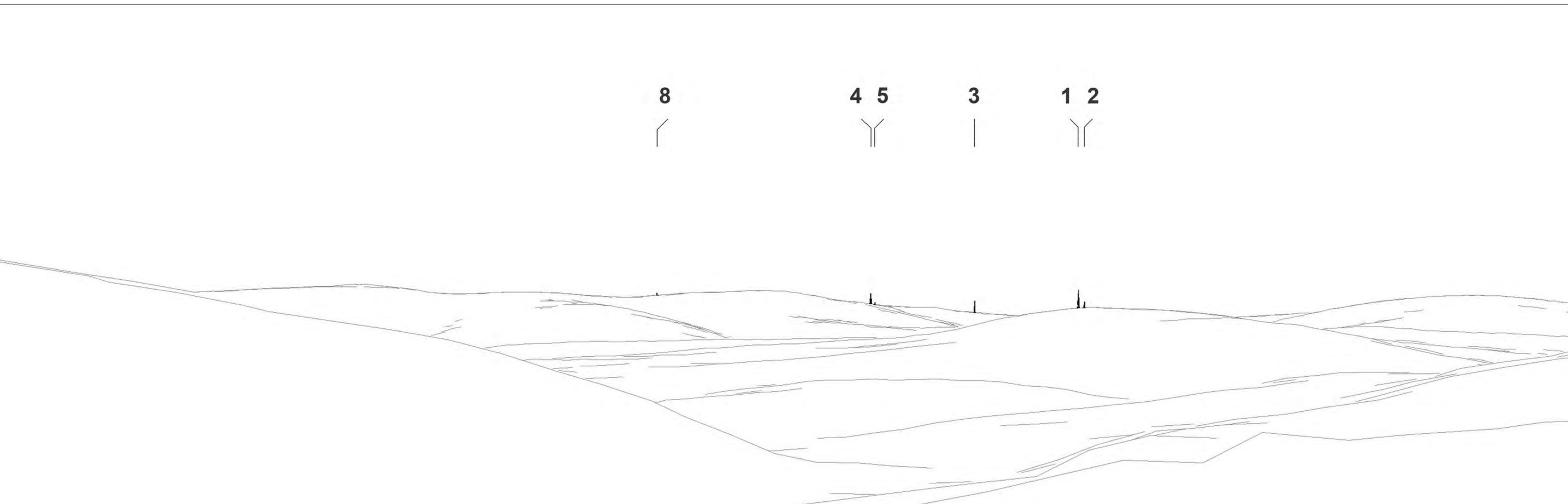
Viewpoint 3: Corsemaul Drive, Dufftown

EXISTING VIEW



Viewpoint 3: Corsemaul Drive, Dufftown

WIREFRAME



Wireframe showing proposed layout
11 turbines @ 200m to blade tip height.
All turbines shown with a 155m rotor diameter.