

# **Loch Liath Wind Farm**

2<sup>nd</sup> Exhibition

**STATKRAFT** 



#### Statkraft in the UK

#### **Facts and Figures**



3 Operational windfarms



89GWh generated annually at Rheidol Hydro Power Plant



11 Greener Grid Parks in operation or development



2000+MW Generated from projects installed and in construction



2500MW of wind and solar power in development



£1.5 million delivered in community benefit



280 employees across the UK



12.5TWh annual generation managed through Power Purchase Agreements

Operational
Operational (sold)
Construction
Development
Offices
Wind
Greener Grid Park™

Hydro

☆ Solar

Energy Isles Lerwick Ackron Slickly BerryBurn BerryBurn 2 Craig Watch Loch Liath Scotland HQ An Càrr Dubh West Andershaw Coylton Knockcronal Artfield Forest Hartmoor Spennymoor Soay/Thornton Lister Drive Feckenham Lluest y . Gwynt Stargoose Greybarn Statkraft UK **Head Office** Swansea North Cardiff Office Sheepwash Ninfield White Cross Treviscoe

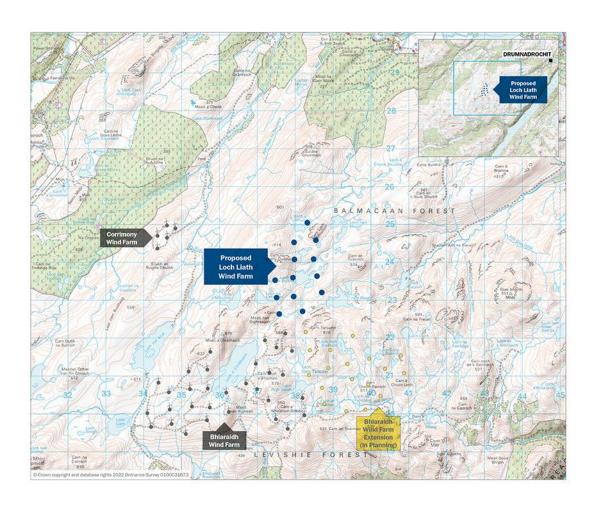


#### **About Loch Liath Wind Farm**

- Scoping submitted in late 2020
- 13 Turbines
  - Maximum tip height of 200m
  - Delivering up to 86MW installed capacity
  - Sufficient to power 78,000 homes every year
- £429,000 per year in Community Benefit (index linked to inflation)
- More than 11km from Drumnadrochit
- Located in an area of good wind speeds and within Group 2 and 3 areas for onshore wind development



## **Project Evolution**



#### Since our first exhibition, we:

- Worked closely with stakeholders to develop a balanced design for Loch Liath
- Reduced the proposal to 13 turbines (from 26)
- Worked hard to minimise impacts on peat, ecology and local waterways
- Designed our final layout to complement neighbouring schemes
- Hope to share critical infrastructure paths where possible, reducing environmental impacts including habitat loss



#### Showing how the project has changed

- Covid created a difficult environment for consultation and our first exhibition. We wanted to make sure the community could engage fully with our final designs and provide feedback and suggestions.
- To ensure we consulted as widely as possible:
  - Invitations were sent to elected officials, community councils and other local stakeholders
  - Adverts printed in the Press & Journal
  - Invitation leaflets and surveys were sent to more than 2000 homes and businesses in the local area
  - A virtual exhibition made project documents available for download, with two live chat sessions
  - In-person exhibitions were held in Cannich, Drumnadrochit and Glenmoriston
  - Feedback could also be left online or via an 0800 phone number



### **Exhibition Engagement**

- 41 people attended the in-person exhibitions across three days
- Key topics discussed included:
  - Visual impact
  - Wildlife and biodiversity
  - Energy costs, the National Grid and the range of renewable power sources
  - Impact on tourism
  - Use and allocation of the Community Benefit Fund
  - How Statkraft with work with local businesses
  - What the next stages would likely be







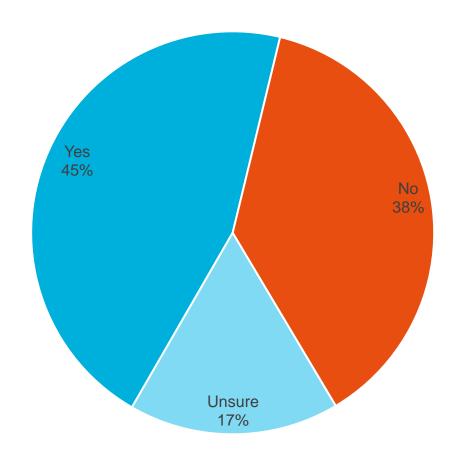




### **Online and Postal Engagement**

- We received 78 responses to our feedback forms across all channels
- A majority of respondents favoured the project
- Web traffic showed 125 direct visitors over 22 days with 61% of visitors viewing more than one page
- Postal feedback forms were the most popular way to provide feedback, demonstrating the importance of engagement by mail
- Most feedback on community benefit came at inperson exhibitions

Do you agree that this site is an acceptable location for a wind farm?



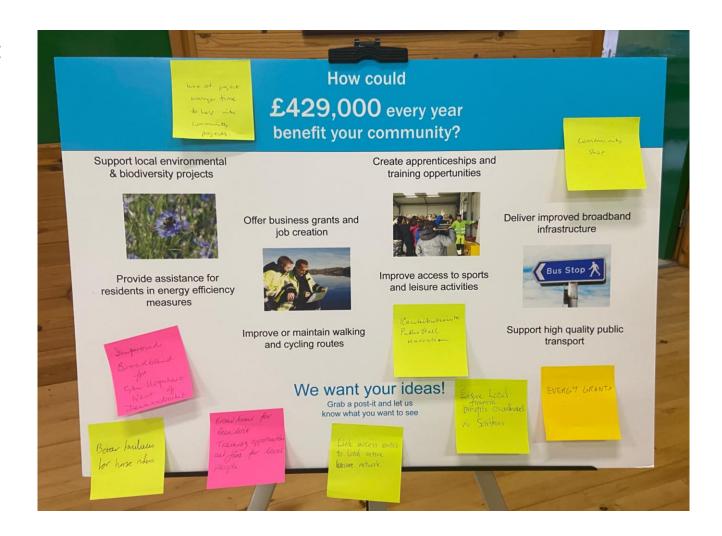
## Community Benefit Feedback

Interactive engagement methods were used at the exhibition days to gather feedback on how community benefit could be used.

Members of the community were invited to participate in our interactive board.

#### Ideas included:

- Improved broadband
- Public hall renovation
- Community shop
- Project Manager for community projects
- Energy grants
- Horse riding gates
- Training opportunities and jobs for local people
- And more



#### **Exhibition Feedback**

- Engagement sessions could have been later in the day
  - Sessions were proposed to cover all times of day, and to accommodate all working schedules, where possible
  - Times at some locations were limited by long standing bookings
  - Online chat sessions were provided as an alternative
  - We will ensure that more or longer opportunities are provided in the future
- The spread of exhibitions across nearby communities was welcomed by many
- People were positive about the return to face to face exhibitions



#### **Overall Feedback**

- Broad support for the principle of renewable energy (including hydroelectric, solar and wind)
- Positive reception for reduction in turbines and consideration of environmental elements
- Recognition that the energy sector and Government need to do more to ensure heating and power is affordable
  - Statkraft will continue to engage with communities and energy industry bodies on this issue
- More detail requested on environmental impact and habitat management
  - This will be published as part of our final application



## **Next Steps**

#### We will:

- Share our Broadband Feasibility Study and potentially commission an update
- Continue working to complete our final planning submission
- Lodge our planning application with the Scottish Government in late 2022/early 2023
- Begin planning for distribution and allocation of the community benefit fund if the project is consented



## Thank you



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