

Giant's Burn Wind Farm

Public Consultation

15 April – 5 May 2024



Berry Burn Wind Farm, Forres in Moray. 29 turbines, 100m tip height

Thank you for attending the public consultation for Giant's Burn Wind Farm.

We are keen to share our early-stage plans and hear your views as we continue to shape our project.

The Proposal

The proposed development is located approximately 2.1km to the north-west of Dunoon and 1.5km south-west of Sandbank within the Argyll and Bute Council area.

Our plans comprise of up to 9 turbines with a maximum tip height of up to 200m and a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). Including BESS provides the opportunity to maximise the potential of future green energy produced on site.

The Design Approach

We are aiming to deliver a proposal which strikes a good balance between maximising the electricity output of the site while carefully considering the local environmental context and landscape.

Our initial studies show potential for the proposal we are presenting today. In February 2024 we requested the view of the Scottish Government, Argyll and Bute and Inverclyde Councils, other statutory consultees and stakeholders on the level of study required (known as 'Scoping') to assess our Giant's Burn proposals.

We look forward to receiving feedback from residents and other interested parties during the consultation to help inform and shape our proposals.

Why here?

Our studies to date indicate that this is a good wind farm location:

- **excellent wind resource**
- **suitable grid connection available**
- **no nationally or internationally designated sites within the site boundary**
- **compatible with existing farming and forestry use**



Giant's Burn Wind Farm

No. of Turbines	Up to 9
Max Blade Tip Heights	Up to 200m
Expected Wind Installed Capacity (MW)	64.8MW
Estimated Generation (homes equivalent)	Just over 71,000 Homes per year (1)
Community Fund (per year)	£324,000 per year (2)
Battery Energy Storage System Installed Capacity	20MW
Operational Life	Up to 50 Years

(1) Based on 64.8MW Installed Wind Capacity, site wind speed data and average Scottish domestic consumption 3,078KWh pa (DESNZ January 2024)

(2) Community Benefit Fund based on 64.8MW x £5k per MW or Installed Wind Capacity. If consented, value of fund determined by actual Installed Wind Capacity.

Project website: www.giants-burn.co.uk

Giant's Burn Wind Farm Proposal

What will it look like?

As part of our studies we have created a number of images to help statutory consultees and residents understand what the proposal may look like.

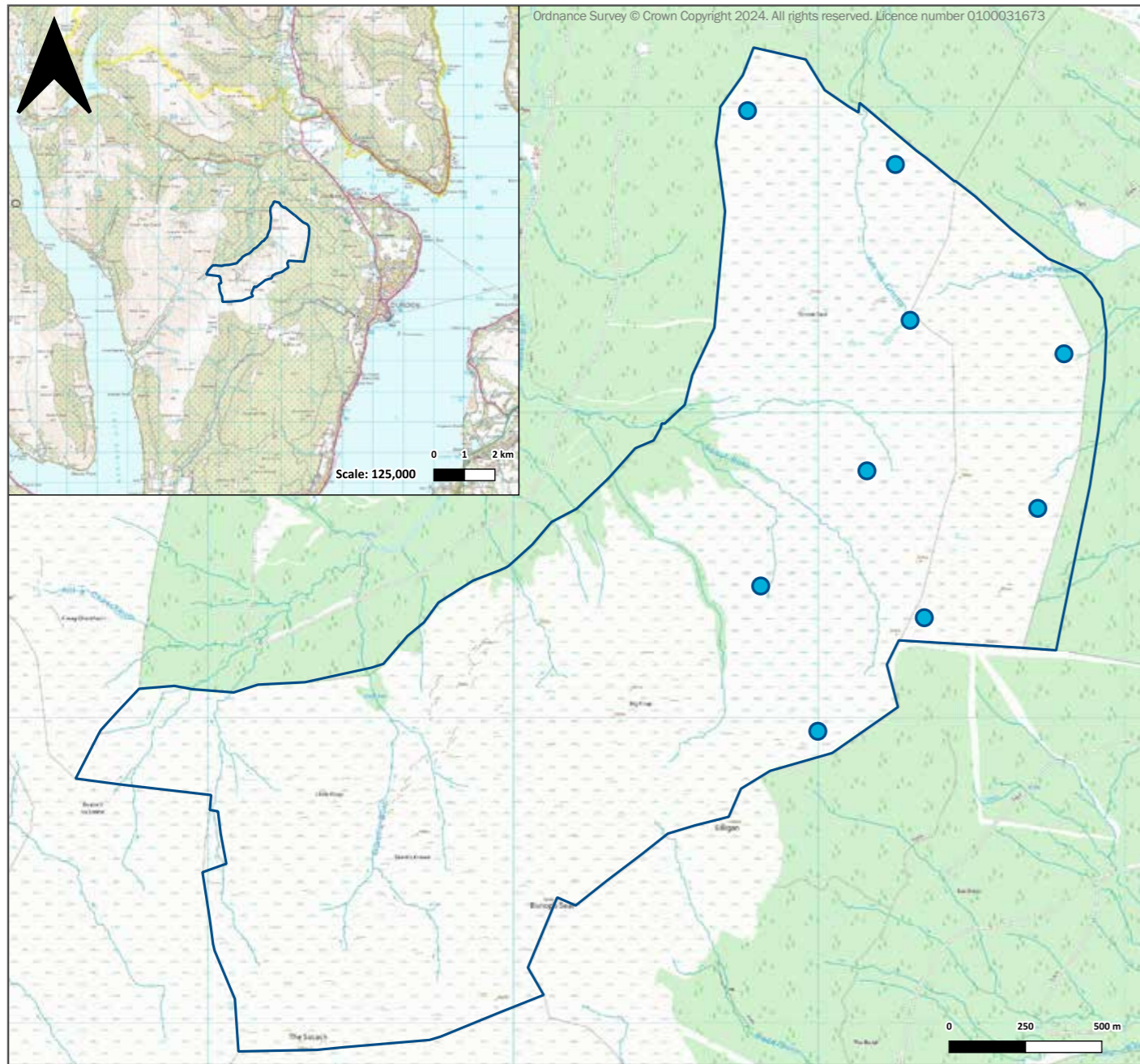
We are working with Argyll and Bute Council, Inverclyde Council and NatureScot to finalise both daytime and night time (as the turbines are over 150m) view point locations for assessment. This means the viewpoint locations may change slightly between now and when we submit a planning application. For this exhibition we have created six visualisations from local viewpoints, marked on the plan below, to demonstrate how the proposed wind farm could look.

These can be accessed on our website at www.giants-burn.co.uk

Viewpoints and Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

Our studies include a landscape and visual assessment of the proposed development within an agreed study area. The assessments are wide ranging; the effects of the development on the landscape character, views and designated landscapes of the site's immediate context, as well as the wider area will be assessed. In addition the amenity of residential properties near to the proposed development and in the surrounding area (up to 2.5km) of the proposed development will be assessed.

The image below is known as a screened Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV). The image shows theoretically how many turbines you may be able to see, whether that is a full turbine or just a tip, from each location on the plan. The image takes into account topography, woodlands and buildings. As not all localised features are taken into account i.e. hedgerows or individual trees, the actual extent of visibility on the ground will be less than that suggested on the plan. The study is carried out to 20km, the plan here only shows to a distance of c. 15km. The full plan is available to view online.



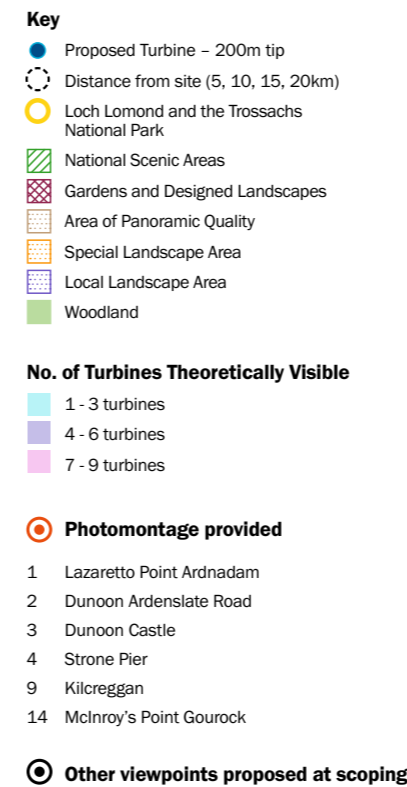
The plan shows the proposed layout of Giant's Burn Wind Farm

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report Studies

Gathering robust environmental baseline data for a site is vital to designing a wind farm. Specialist environmental and technical consultants are currently carrying out a range of studies for Giant's Burn.

The findings and outcomes of the studies will be included in an EIA Report covering a range of topics including:

- **Landscape and visual**
- **Ecology**
- **Ornithology**
- **Forestry**
- **Geology, Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Peat**
- **Cultural Heritage**
- **Noise**
- **Traffic and Transport**
- **Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation**
- **Aviation**



Ornithology

There are no statutory nature conservation designations within the site. In addition, the site is not within the vicinity of any other statutory nature conservation designations which could be adversely affected as a result of the construction or operation of the wind farm, should the proposal be consented.

As part of the EIA consideration is given to any potential effects on birds during the construction and operation of the wind farm. To inform this assessment, over two years of ornithology surveys will be completed for the site in accordance with NatureScot guidance.

The surveys within the proposed site's boundary have identified the presence of a number species, including raptor. Through careful design, consulting the relevant statutory bodies and in accordance with best practice, our aim is to minimise any potential effects identified for ornithology i.e. not placing site infrastructure or turbines in particular locations.

Land-Use, Socioeconomics and Tourism

An assessment of the potential economic effects of the wind farm will be undertaken and will set out the expected job creation, economic value and benefit to the local and wider economy through the different stages of the project life cycle. It will assess all potential positive and negative impacts for the development including regional and local communities, as well as tourists, tourism related businesses and other recreational groups where appropriate.

We welcome your ideas on how we can maximise the economic benefits our project could bring.

Ecology

The site primarily consists of open moorland and is currently used for grazing.

As part of designing a wind farm an industry standard set of ecology field surveys are carried out in accordance with best practice methods endorsed by Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management and NatureScot. The surveys will look to identify habitats present on site (including in watercourses within and adjoining the site) and the use of the site by mammals and fish.

The surveys, to be completed by independent, competent, professionally qualified ecologists, include:

- Phase 1 habitat, and National Vegetation Classification (NVC) surveys of habitats of conservation concern.
- Protected species walkover surveys to identify suitable habitat for, and direct evidence of otter, pine marten, red squirrel, badger, and water vole.
- Ground-based surveys of trees or structures with potential to be used by roosting bats, this will include the deployment of up to nine static bat detectors for a minimum of ten nights in each of Spring, Summer and Autumn 2024.

All data collected through field surveys will be analysed and interpreted in compliance with best practice methods by experienced ecologists. The data will be used to inform the design of Giant's Burn Wind Farm, minimising where possible identified impacts on habitats or species found on site.

As part of our design process we also look to deliver measures to improve habitats and biodiversity on site and we look forward to providing examples of the type of measures we could implement as part of our proposals at our next exhibition.

Indicative Timeline

The process of developing and, if consented, constructing a wind farm takes a long time. The timeline for Giant's Burn is set out below. Throughout the process Statkraft will continuously engage with the local community and stakeholders about the project.

FEBRUARY/ MARCH 2024	APRIL/ MAY 2024	AUTUMN/ WINTER 2024	WINTER/ SPRING 2025	WINTER/ SPRING 2026	LATEST SPRING/ SUMMER 2028*	LATEST SPRING/ SUMMER 2030*
Scoping Submitted	1 st Exhibition	2 nd Exhibition	Application Submitted	Application determined	Construction Commenced (if consented)	Operation for up to 50 Years
ONGOING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT →						
ONGOING STUDIES →						

* Dependent on consent and grid connection.



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Local Benefits & Investment

We want our wind farms to bring benefits to the local area. We welcome a conversation with you about how we can bring new investment to your communities through the Giant's Burn Wind Farm.



“Windy Rig Wind Farm is another valuable contract for GTR. We are just one of several local businesses who are directly benefiting from the many wind farm developments within this area. This can only be a good thing for both local businesses and the local economy.”

*Tanya Russell, Director,
GTR Contracts Ltd*

Community Benefit Fund

We have committed to setting up a community benefit fund for Giant's Burn Wind Farm of £5,000 per MW of Installed Wind capacity per year. We are keen to work with communities to deliver a local fund that can meet local community needs and priorities.

Shared Ownership

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

Local Investment

Work with local business groups to increase awareness of the opportunities in construction and operations.

Register your business by scanning the QR code:



Education & Enterprise

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

Broadband

Invest in a broadband feasibility study to identify potential for improved internet connection, and support communities to develop their own broadband initiatives.

Have Your Say

We welcome your thoughts on our emerging plans by:



Complete a feedback form on the webpage



CALLING:
0800 772 0668



POST:
Freepost Statkraft



EMAILING:
UKProjects@statkraft.com



Register for updates:
www.giants-burn.co.uk

We welcome your feedback by 26 May 2024.

As the project progresses, we will continue to engage with local stakeholders and communities.

Comments made to Statkraft are not representations to the consenting authority. If an application is submitted there will be an opportunity for you to submit a formal response to the Scottish Government at that time.

Thank you for attending the Giant's Burn Wind Farm Exhibition.

Meet the Project Team:



IAIN ROBERTSON



RUTH SEMPLE

For this project Iain Robertson, who heads up our Scottish activities, is Project Manager and Ruth Semple, will lead our community engagement. Supported by a team of specialists to deliver Giant's Burn Wind Farm, we are happy to answer any questions you may have on the project.

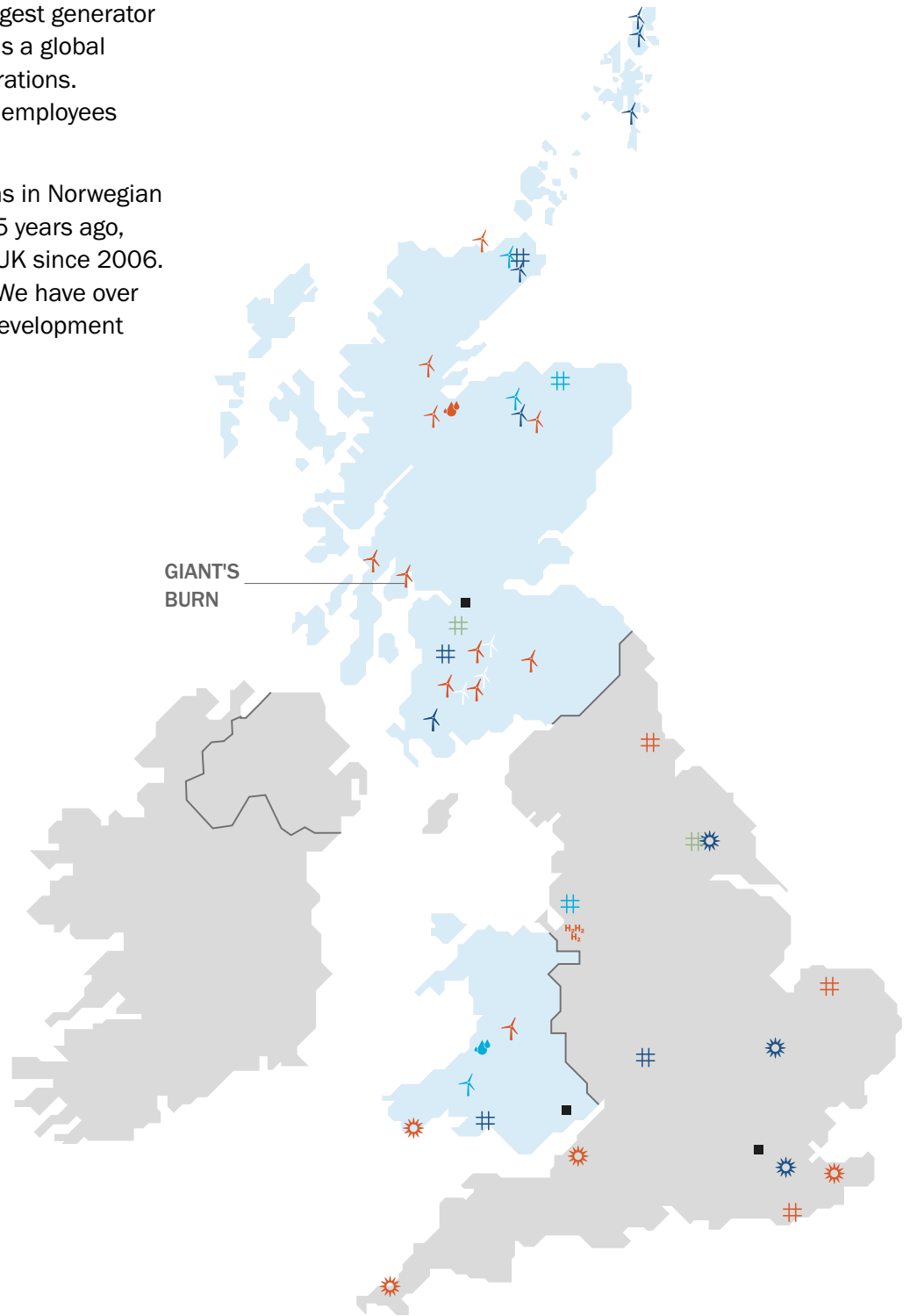
About Statkraft



Statkraft is a leading company in hydropower internationally and Europe's largest generator or renewable energy. Statkraft is a global company in energy market operations. Statkraft has more than 6,000 employees in over 20 countries.

A state owned utility, with origins in Norwegian hydropower, beginning over 125 years ago, we have been operating in the UK since 2006. Our Scottish HQ is in Glasgow. We have over 40 projects in operation or in development across the UK.

- Operational
- Operational (sold)
- Consented
- Construction
- Development
- Offices
- ⚡ Wind
- ⚡ Greener Grid Park™
- ⚡ Hydro
- ☀ Solar



Contact us:

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Glasgow G1 1RE

You can find out more about our projects and the way we work at www.statkraft.co.uk



For more information about Giant's Burn Wind Farm
www.giants-burn.co.uk