

My Ref:
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Date: 01/10/2020

Statkraft UK Ltd

Proposal: Request for screening opinion as to the requirement for an Environmental Impact Assessment relating to the erection of an Energy Management Facility.
Location: Site 400 metres North West of Sergeantlaw, Gleniffer Road, Paisley
Application No. 20/0440/EO

Dear Sir/Madam

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT NOT REQUIRED

I refer to your request for a screening opinion received on 02/09/2020. Having examined the characteristics of the development, the location of the development and the characteristics of the potential impacts of the proposal it is considered that the proposed development is unlikely to have significant environmental effects within the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 2011. Hence, it is determined that an environmental assessment is not required to accompany a planning application in respect of the above proposal.

Yours faithfully



Fraser Carlin
Head of Planning and Development

RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

Application No: 20/0440/EO

COMMUNITIES, HOUSING AND PLANNING SERVICES
RECOMMENDATION ON PLANNING APPLICATION

Regd: 02/09/2020

Applicant

Agent

Statkraft UK Ltd

Arcus Consultancy Services Ltd
7th Floor 144 George Street
Glasgow
G2 2HG

Nature of proposals:

Request for screening opinion as to the requirement for an Environmental Impact Assessment relating to the erection of an Energy Management Facility.

Site:

Site 400 metres North West of Sergeantlaw, Gleniffer Road, Paisley

Application for:

Opinion on Need for Env. Assessment

SCREENING OPINION

In respect of

Planning Application No: 20/0440/EO

Applicant: Statkraft UK Ltd

PROPOSAL

1. The proposal relates to a forthcoming application for an Energy Management Facility located off Glenniffer Road to the south west of Paisley. The application site is bound by a rectangular area of woodland to the north east with the Glenniffer Braes Country Park beyond, Glenniffer Road to the north west with an electricity switching station beyond, and open countryside to the south west and south east.

BACKGROUND

2. The purpose of this report is to determine whether an Environmental Statement requires to be submitted with the planning application for the purposes of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment)(Scotland) Regulations 2017, due to the scale and location of the proposed development.

2.1 The site lies on the edge of the Glenniffer Braes Country Park. It extends to approx. 14.5 hectares in area, and comprises of grassland. There are several Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCS) surrounding the site, with the with the Bardrain Glen, Sergeantlaw Moss and Glenniffer Braes West SINC overlapping the south western boundary of the site. The site is designated as Green Belt within both the adopted and proposed Local Development Plans.

2.2 The facility primarily comprises of battery storage containers which would store electricity when there is a surplus and then feed it back when there is demand. Proximity to the electricity switching is important in this regard.

2.3 It is noted that the same development was screened under application 19/0735/EO. However for the purposes of the previous screening opinion the application site was smaller. The site has been enlarged, and also now incorporates part of a SINC. It was therefore considered necessary to re-fresh the screening opinion in light of these changes.

EIA ASSESSMENT

3. The request is requested prior to the submission of a planning application for the site.

Is it Schedule 1 (Sch.1) development, for which an EIA is always required?

- The proposal does not meet any of the descriptions of development for which an EIA is always required.

Is it Schedule 2 (Sch.2) development?

- The proposal does not meet any of the descriptions of development set out in Schedule 2.

Is EIA required?

4. EIA development is defined within the 2017 regulations as either schedule 1 development or schedule 2 development likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as its nature, size or location. As the proposal neither falls within schedule 1 or 2, it is considered that the particular proposed development is not EIA development.

CONCLUSION

5. An environmental assessment is not required. While it is acknowledged that the application site is larger and now incorporates a SINC area, it is considered that the impact of the development on the SINC and any compensatory measures can be adequately assessed and addressed through the forthcoming planning application.

RECOMMENDATION

Environmental Assessment Not Required

Other Action

Conditions and Reasons

Fraser Carlin
Head of Planning and Housing

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 - Background Papers
For further information or to inspect any letters of objection and other background papers, please contact Sharon Marklow on 0141 618 7835.

