

27 October 2023

A fresh start – Ackron Wind Farm

We are writing to introduce ourselves and Statkraft's proposals for Ackron Wind Farm, located approximately 2km south-east of Melvich. Statkraft are the largest generator of renewable energy in Europe, and in the Highlands you may recognise our name associated with the Baillie Wind Farm operating in Caithness, and the consented Slickly Wind Farm, which is progressing towards construction.

You may be aware that in 2020 Statkraft submitted an application to the Highland Council for a 12 turbine wind farm. However, our ongoing extensive surveys revealed an ecological constraint that, as a responsible developer, we could not progress with and withdrew our application.

We would like to discuss our new plans for the same site with you – this new layout takes into account our survey findings and comments from the previous application. Even if you engaged in our previous consultation, we encourage you to join our upcoming activities.

The revised layout currently consists of 11 turbines with maximum tip heights of 200m and a battery energy storage system. As this project will exceed 50MW, the application will take the form of a Section 36 application to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU). A Scoping Report which sets out how we will assess the development in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), is due to be submitted in the coming weeks to the ECU.

We welcome you to discuss the plans with us:

Tuesday, 14th November: 3pm to 7pm

Halladale Community Hall, Halladale KW13 6WT
what3words:///logs.goats.scooters

Wednesday, 15th November: 3pm to 7pm

Halladale Inn, Melvich KW14 7YJ
what3words:///learns.orange.footpath

Online Exhibition: 14 November – 5 December

via www.ackron-windfarm.co.uk

At the public consultation events you will have the opportunity to view our proposals, speak with the Project Team and provide your feedback on the design or other project matters.

We are pleased to confirm that our commitment remains to deliver a Community Benefit Fund of £5,000 per megawatt of installed capacity. We are also open to discussing opportunities for community shared ownership, as well as our commitment to funding a superfast broadband feasibility study in the area.

We have been working closely with Melvich Community Council and Melvich SCIO during their drive to create a Community Action Plan (CAP). We very much want to explore how Statkraft can support the CAP aspirations of the community and we're participating in that consultation.

Throughout all stages of development we would like to involve the community as much as possible, and so further to the public consultation events, we would be happy to arrange meetings with individuals or community groups to discuss our plans.

We intend to hold a second round of public consultation events at a later stage when the plans have progressed, and will demonstrate how feedback has shaped our proposal.

In the meantime, we look forward to meeting you at our consultation events. If you are unable to attend and would like to register for project updates please let us know when returning the reply card, or using the contact details below.



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Site Location:

