

Welcome to the second newsletter from RES, designed to keep the local community informed about our Kintradwell Wind Farm proposal.

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

RES has been exploring the potential for a wind farm proposal on Kintradwell Estate, approximately 8km<sup>1</sup> north of Brora. The site was chosen because it has good wind speeds, straightforward access off the A9 public road, and is close to a grid connection point.

A Scoping Report was submitted to the Scottish Government in August 2019, setting out the proposed site survey work for the 22-turbine ‘Scoping’ layout. Detailed environmental and technical surveys have since been undertaken to help inform the design - including:

- Ornithology;
- Ecology;
- Archaeology & Cultural Heritage;
- Landscape & Visual;
- Hydrology, Hydrogeology & Geology;
- Traffic & Transport; and
- Noise.

RES is now reviewing the survey work and undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), to investigate and mitigate any potential effects of the proposal. The findings from the EIA will be written up in a comprehensive Environmental Statement which will accompany any planning application.

In addition to being capable of generating low-cost<sup>2</sup> clean renewable electricity for around 76,000 homes<sup>3</sup> and helping tackle climate change, Kintradwell also has the potential to deliver approximately £4.7 million of economic benefit to the area in the form of jobs, employment, and use of local services. RES has a strong track-record of working with the local supply chain to maximise inward investment around its projects.



Hill of Towie Wind Farm, Moray ©KeithArkins

### DESIGN CHANGES

In September 2019 RES held a local public exhibition in Brora to engage with the community on the proposal. Comments received covered a range of topics including site location, turbine layout, cultural heritage, environmental considerations, transport, local benefits, jobs and employment.

Over the last few months we have been developing an improved layout. Key design changes have been made in direct response to community feedback from the public exhibition (and subsequent ‘comments’ period) as well as findings from on-site survey work and consultee feedback.

A summary of the main design changes is as follows:

- Turbine numbers reduced from 22 to 17;
- Turbines moved off Col-Bheinn;
- Turbines to the south of the site either removed or moved further back (northwards); and
- WWII plane crash sites (including associated debris) buffered up to 100m.

These changes have resulted in reducing overall visibility, particularly from Brora and the Doll area, and helping protect more sensitive areas of the site in relation to ecology, ornithology and cultural heritage. RES is grateful to everyone who took the time to provide feedback to RES on the proposal.

<sup>1</sup> It is approximately 8km (7.7km) in distance between Brora Clock Tower and the nearest turbine on the June 2020 updated indicative turbine layout.

<sup>2</sup> Electricity Generation Costs - Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, November 2016.

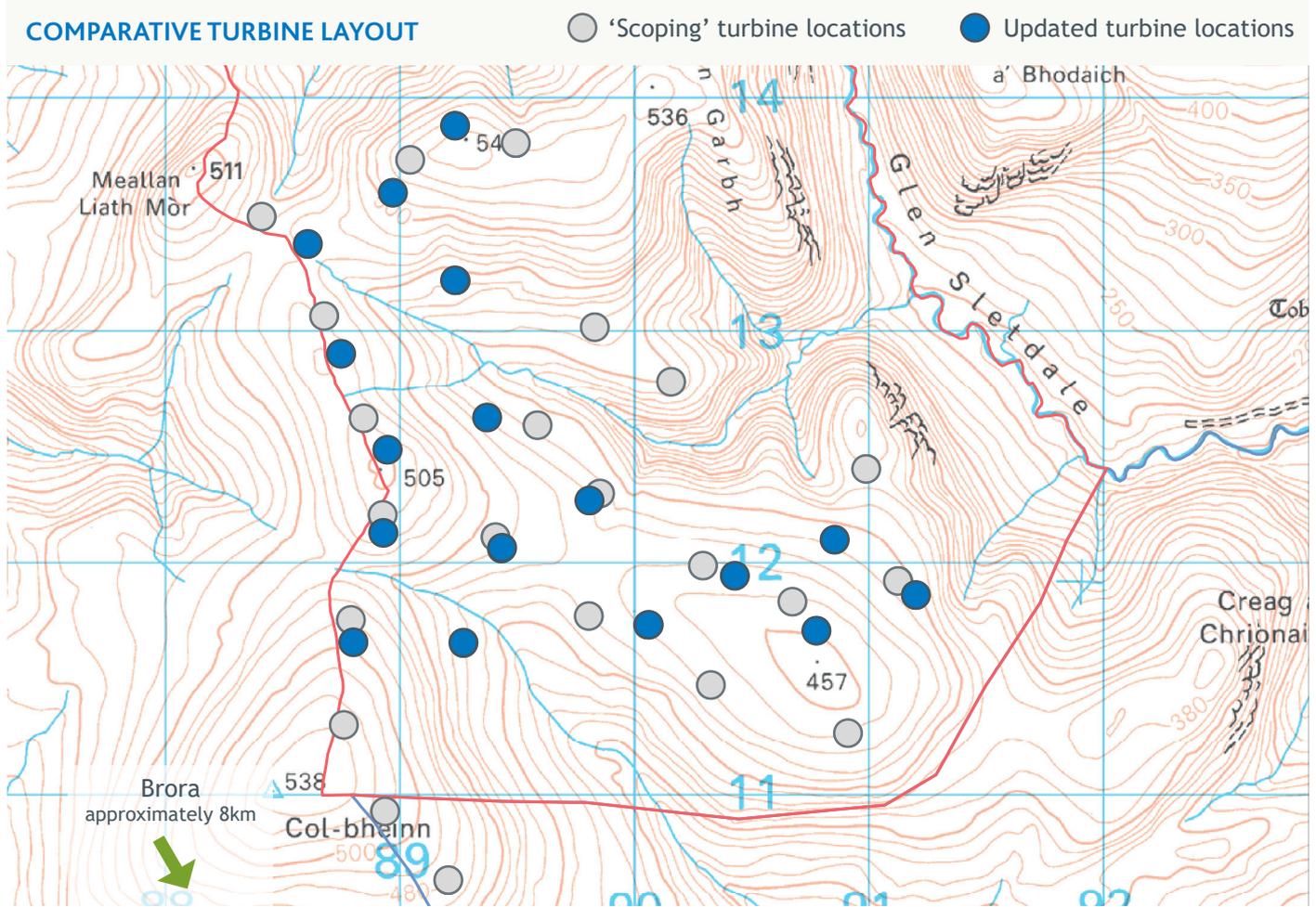
<sup>3</sup> The 76,000 homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation of the site (based on RES assessments Kintradwell has a predicted capacity factor of 44.4% - based on a 4.3 MW [megawatt] candidate turbine) and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) showing that the annual UK average domestic household consumption is 3,729 kWh (2019). Final wind farm capacity will vary depending on the outcome of planning permission and the turbine type selected.

## UPDATED TURBINE LAYOUT (INDICATIVE)

The map below shows an updated indicative turbine layout, alongside the original 'Scoping' layout (August 2019). This updated layout is also available on 'THE PROJECT' page of the project website at [www.kintradwell-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.kintradwell-windfarm.co.uk) in addition to updated indicative wirelines (helping to give an impression of what the updated layout would look like from different viewpoints in the area) and other project information. Hard copies will be made available upon request.

RES will continue to refine the design over the coming weeks with the view to submitting a Section 36 application to the Scottish Government later this year.

Once submitted, people will have the opportunity to submit comments on the application to the Scottish Government as part of their formal consultation on the proposal.



## RES IN SCOTLAND

### About RES

RES, a privately owned British company with a proud history in the Highlands, is one of the world's leading independent renewable energy project developers with operations across Europe, the Americas and Asia-pacific. RES has developed and/or built more than 18,000MW of renewable energy capacity worldwide. Employing over 100 staff in Scotland, RES has 38 years' experience of developing, constructing and operating projects of outstanding quality including Forss Wind Farm in Caithness, and Dunmaglass Wind Farm south of Inverness.

## CONTACT US



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For more information on the proposal please visit our website at [www.kintradwell-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.kintradwell-windfarm.co.uk).

If you require information in Braille, large text or audio, please get in touch with us.