

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

PLANNING APPLICATION SUBMITTED

In February 2021, RES submitted a Section 36 application to the Scottish Government for Kintradwell Wind Farm proposal which lies approximately 8 km north of Brora¹.

The application has been validated by the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) and associated planning documents have been uploaded onto the ECU's planning website at www.energyconsents.scot. The planning reference number is: ECU00002217.

An electronic copy of the full planning application and associated documents can be viewed on the project website at www.kintradwell-windfarm.co.uk, and RES is providing copies of the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) and other planning documents (including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report) to people upon request.

A statutory consultation period is underway to enable the public, as well as statutory consultees, to submit their comments on the proposal. **The closing date for representations is Wednesday 7th April 2021**, although Ministers may consider representations received after this date. Further information is provided on the Kintradwell project website (on THE PROJECT tab within the Planning process sub-section).



PARTNERSHIP WITH EDWARD MACKAY CONTRACTORS

The project has been through a number of design changes in response to local feedback and environmental assessment work, resulting in the site being scaled back from the original 22-turbine proposal to a 15-turbine scheme with reduced visibility - particularly from the Brora and Doll area.

We have also listened to feedback from the local community about the importance of local jobs from the project. In response to this we have partnered with Brora-based civil construction firm Edward Mackay Contractors, which employs around 100 staff from areas such as Brora, Golspie and Helmsdale, and signed an agreement.

The agreement gives Edward Mackay Contractors right of first refusal on the civil construction work for the proposed scheme, helping to support valuable local jobs and employment opportunities for local people (should the project receive consent).

RES will also be supporting a local apprentice at Edward Mackay Contractors, with a view to the apprenticeship being completed in time for site construction work starting at Kintradwell.



¹ It is approximately 8km (7.7km) in distance between Brora Clock Tower and the nearest turbine.

OTHER PROJECT BENEFITS

Socio-economic benefits

RES has a strong track record of working with the local supply chain to maximise inward investment around its projects.

Kintradwell is predicted to deliver around £4 million of economic benefit to the local area in the form of jobs, employment and use of local services. The agreement with Edward Mackay Contractors means that this estimate could be significantly exceeded.

The project will also deliver around £18.5 million² in business rates to The Highland Council during operations.

Climate change

With the ever-growing threat of climate change and the catastrophic impacts that it could have, it is imperative that we deliver clean, low cost electricity as efficiently as possible.

New onshore wind and large scale solar are now the cheapest sources of electricity generation³. Kintradwell could be capable of generating enough clean, low-cost renewable electricity to power 70,000 homes⁴, making a valuable contribution to Scotland's renewable energy targets and helping tackle climate change.



Hill of Towie Wind Farm, Moray ©KeithArkins
(turbines 100m to blade tip)

RES IN SCOTLAND

About RES

RES, a British company with a proud history in the Highlands, is the world's largest independent renewable energy company with operations across Europe, the Americas and Asia-pacific.

At the forefront of the industry for nearly 40 years, RES has delivered over 19,000MW of renewable energy projects worldwide. Employing over 100 staff in Scotland, RES has the expertise to develop, construct and operate projects of outstanding quality, including Forss Wind Farm in Caithness.

Contact us



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For more information on the proposal please visit our website at www.kintradwell-windfarm.co.uk. If you require information in Braille, large text or audio, please get in touch with us.

² The business rates figure of £18.5 million has been calculated from the most recent Scottish business rates (2017 valuation) and predicted performance of the wind farm.

³ Electricity Generation Costs - Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) - August 2020.

⁴ The 70,000 homes equivalent 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 45.4% - based on a 4.2MW candidate turbine) and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) showing that the annual UK average domestic household consumption is 3,578 kWh (December 2020). Final wind farm capacity will vary depending on the outcome of planning permission and the turbine type selected.