



Ridge Clean Energy have played a pivotal role in bringing the Inveraray Pier back into community ownership.

LADYFIELD
RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK
Pre-application Consultation Report
October 2023

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1 Executive Summary

- 1.1.1 This Pre-application Consultation Report (PAC Report) has been prepared for the proposed Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park (the Proposed Development), a wind farm and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project, approximately 4.7km north of Inveraray in Argyll and Bute. The Proposed Development is on a site covering approximately 790ha, comprising of up to 13 turbines, up to a maximum tip height of 180m, with a generating capacity of up to 58.5MW. The Proposed Development also comprises a BESS with a capacity of up to 41.4MW, onsite substation, temporary construction compounds and other associated infrastructure. The Proposed Development will be operational for up to 40 years.
- 1.1.2 As the Proposed Development will be over 50MW in generating capacity, the Application will be made under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 and will be submitted to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU).
- 1.1.3 This document describes the methods of Pre-application Consultation which have taken place, including public exhibitions and meetings, and reports on the level of community interest and the feedback received from the public and other key stakeholders during the consultation process. This report will describe how points made during the Pre-application Consultation have been addressed and, where necessary and appropriate, informed the site design.
- 1.1.4 This document also details all the Community Partnership work that Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park Ltd (the Applicant) has carried out to date. The Applicant has played a key role in helping the local community of Inveraray raise significant grant funding to purchase and restore the once adored Inveraray Pier on Loch Fyne. The Applicant has also introduced and supported many other community-focused initiatives, to help address the community's needs, all of which have occurred in advance of (and will continue after) the submission of this application.

2 Introduction

2.1 The Proposed Development and the Site

- 2.1.1 This PAC Report accompanies the Section 36 application for planning consent for the Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park.
- 2.1.2 The Proposed Development would consist of up to 13 turbines with a maximum tip height of up to 180m, with a generating capacity of up to 58.5MW, BESS with a capacity of up to 41.4MW and associated infrastructure, including:
- Foundations and crane hardstandings for each wind turbine;
 - Access tracks, of which 4km are existing tracks to be upgraded and 9.7km will be new;
 - An onsite substation compound containing switchgear and associated infrastructure;
 - Underground cabling, following the tracks between the turbines and connecting them to the BESS and onsite substation compound;
 - Two temporary construction compounds; and
 - An extension to an existing onsite quarry, for materials to be used during construction.
- 2.1.3 The Proposed Development would generate domestically-sourced clean renewable energy, as well as having the ability to store excess electricity from either the Proposed Development or from the electricity network during times of excess generation.
- 2.1.4 The Proposed Development would have a temporary operational period of up to 40 years.
- 2.1.5 The Proposed Development is sited on approximately 790ha of land approximately 4.7km north of Inveraray in Argyll and Bute, centred on National Grid Reference 210197, 715498 (the Site).
- 2.1.6 The Site lies within the administrative boundary of Argyll and Bute Council.
- 2.1.7 The elevation of the Site ranges from 470 metres Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) in the east of the Site and falls to around 100 metres AOD in the west of the Site.
- 2.1.8 There are a number of watercourses within the Site, as well a number of small lochans within and surrounding the Site.
- 2.1.9 The predominant land use within the Site consists of private forestry plantation used for commercial purposes with areas of upland moorland also present in the south and east of the Site.
- 2.1.10 There are no residential properties located on Site, with eight properties located within 1 km of the Site. Each of these properties are located to the west of the Site and include Ladyfield Farm, North Tullich, South Tullich, Drimfern, West Drimfern, Druim Breac, Stronmagachan, and Linnieghluttain. The nearest settlement to the Site is Inveraray, located approximately 4.7 km to the south.
- 2.1.11 No public roads are located within the Site. Nearby major roads include the A819 directly to the West of the Site and the A83 to the south. The B840 also joins the A819 approximately 4.9 km to the north of the Site.

2.1.12 The path C201 – Dùn Na Cuaiche is the nearest Core Path to the Site and is located approximately 2.7km to the south.

2.2 The Applicant

2.2.1 This PAC Report has been prepared by Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park Ltd (the Applicant), a subsidiary of Ridge Clean Energy Ltd (RCE).

2.2.2 RCE is a clean energy company, and its team has an established and successful history of working with landowners and local communities to research, develop, finance, construct and operate renewable energy projects across the UK.

2.2.3 RCE's ethos is centred around Community Partnership. RCE engage with local community stakeholders from the very beginning of each renewable energy project and create community partnerships which last throughout the lifetime of each project.

2.2.4 The RCE Team combines expertise in developing UK renewable energy projects whilst working with local communities to create enduring local benefits, and their team has a proven track record of creating valuable community assets.

2.2.5 From the inception of the Proposed Development, and throughout the Pre-application Consultation stage, the Applicant has had community engagement at the forefront of its work. This document illustrates how the Applicant has provided a platform for everyone within the local area to have their say on the proposal, and details how these views have subsequently influenced the final site design. An overview of the Pre-application Consultation conducted by the Applicant is detailed in Section 4 of this document.

2.2.6 RCE also recognise that their team's expertise can help bring significant economic and social benefits to the local community and surrounding area. In the case of Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park, the Applicant has already learnt a great deal and continues to learn more about the challenges that the local community face, helping transform these challenges into opportunities, in partnership with the community. More information on the Applicant's Community Partnership work can be found in Section 9 of this document.

3 Planning Policy and Guidance

- 3.1.1 In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013¹ (Development Management Regulations), a PAC Report must be submitted with any planning application that is categorised as a ‘major’ development under the Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Development) (Scotland) Regulations 2009². The Hierarchy of Development Regulations states that any development for the generation of electricity with a capacity in excess of 20MW is classed as ‘major’.
- 3.1.2 As stated in Section 1 of this document, the Proposed Development would have an electricity generation capacity of greater than 50MW and therefore the Application is made under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 (Electricity Act)³, rather than the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (the Planning Act 1997)⁴. Thus, the Proposed Development is not statutorily subject to the Hierarchy of Development Regulations, nor the Development Management Regulations, and therefore submitting a PAC Report as part of the Section 36 application is not a statutory requirement. Despite this, the Applicant has decided to conduct Pre-application Consultation and subsequently produced this PAC Report. This meets the guidance for ‘major’ developments under the Development Management Regulations.
- 3.1.3 The Applicant has conducted pre-application engagement and consultation in line with the guidance within Scottish Planning Policy⁵. Scottish Planning Policy paragraph 6 states that opportunities should exist for everyone to engage in the development decisions that may affect them. Engagement should be early, meaningful, and proportionate. All expressions of support or concern should be taken into account in development proposals.
- 3.1.4 This PAC Report illustrates that the Applicant has used the best practice guidance on community engagement throughout the Pre-application Consultation stage.
- 3.1.5 The first round of public consultation occurred during a time in which the Scottish Government had mandated that public events were temporarily suspended, therefore the first event was held online via Zoom. This was in line with the Scottish Government’s Coronavirus (COVID-19):

¹ Scottish Government (2013) the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 [Online] Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2013/155/contents/made> (Accessed: 14/03/2023)

² Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Development) (Scotland) Regulations 2009 [Online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2009/51/contents/made> (Accessed: 14/03/2023)

³ HM Government, (1989), “Electricity Act 1989” [Online] Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/29/contents> (Accessed: 14/03/2023)

⁴ The Scottish Government, (1997), “The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997” [Online]. Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/8/contents> (Accessed: 14/03/2023)

⁵ Scottish Government (2014) Scottish Planning Policy [Online] Available at: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-planning-policy/> (Accessed: 14/03/2023)

Planning Guidance on Pre-application Consultations for Public Events (COVID-19 Guidance)⁶, which was in place at the time.

⁶ The Scottish Government (2021) Coronavirus (COVID-19): planning guidance on pre-application consultations for public events <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-planning-guidance-on-pre-application-consultations-for-public-events/> (Accessed: 14/03/2023)

4 Overview of Pre-application Consultation Events

- 4.1.1 The Pre-application Consultation was conducted in accordance with The Scottish Government's Electricity Act 1989 - Sections 36 and 37: Applications Guidance⁷.
- 4.1.2 As the Proposed Development is made under Section 36 of the Electricity Act and submitted to Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit, a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) was not deemed as appropriate and was therefore not submitted to Argyll and Bute Council.
- 4.1.3 In May 2021, the Applicant contacted the local Community Council (Inveraray Community Council), to introduce RCE, the Proposed Development, and to offer their assistance with community projects.
- 4.1.4 The Applicant also made early contact with other key stakeholders in the area, namely Argyll and Bute Councillors, the local MP, and the local MSP.
- 4.1.5 For the Pre-application Consultation process, the Applicant decided to conduct three rounds of public consultation.
- 4.1.6 The first round consisted of one event held online via Zoom in August 2021. This was an initial introduction to the Applicant and the Proposed Development, taking place soon after EIA Scoping, which was submitted to the Scottish Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in June 2021.
- 4.1.7 The second round took place in February 2022 and was more comprehensive. This round included two events in two different locations (one in Dalmally and one in Inveraray), to reach a wide local audience. At this stage, the site design had already evolved following responses received in the Scoping Opinion and during the first round of public consultation in 2021.
- 4.1.8 The third and final round took place in October 2022. The Applicant hosted two events in Inveraray on successive days. At the time of these events, there had been further changes to the site design and it was considered 'chilled'.
- 4.1.9 All of the events during each round of public consultation were advertised via different media and community outlets to reach as many local people as possible, encouraging engagement with the Applicant and feedback on the Proposed Development.
- 4.1.10 The Applicant also held numerous meetings (online and in-person) with key stakeholders to the project. More information on these meetings can be found in Section 8 of this document.
- 4.1.11 Most attendees were able to find out the information they required through attendance at the events, however those who had asked for more information at the events, or via post or email, subsequently received a response, within the limits of data protection principles.
- 4.1.12 The Applicant provided different materials for each of the rounds of consultation, including maps, visualisations, and information on the Proposed Development's timeline. A project website was launched for the first round of public consultation and was continually updated throughout the Pre-application Consultation stage. The Applicant also incorporated 'Request a Call' and 'Submit Comments' features on the website and created a dedicated project email

⁷ Scottish Government – Electricity Act 1989 Sections 36 and 37: Applications Guidance (2022) [Online] Available at: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/good-practice-guidance-applications-under-sections-36-37-electricity-act-1989/pages/3/> (Accessed: 14/03/2023)

address as a direct channel of communication with the project team.

- 4.1.13 All feedback from each round of public consultation was collated and analysed by the Applicant. During the first round of public consultation, there were no comments received that had an impact on the site design, but from the second round of public consultation onwards, comments received from members of the public did have an influence on the evolution of the site design.

Key Event	Date	Activities Undertaken
EIA Scoping Submission	June 2021	
First Round of Public Consultation	August 2021	One online event
Second Round of Public Consultation	February 2022	Two in-person events
Third Round of Public Consultation	October 2022	Two in-person events
Section 36 Application Submission	October 2023	

Table 4.1 – Summary of key pre-application events and dates

4.2 Linnieghluttain

- 4.2.1 The property 'Linnieghluttain' is located in proximity to the southern access entrance off the A819, which was introduced as part of the Proposed Development, following the above mentioned public consultation exercises. It is considered that the Applicant has used all reasonable endeavors, in advance of, and subsequent to the public consultation exercises to identify and contact the owner of the property.
- 4.2.2 In August 2021, a representative from the Applicant posted an invitation through the letterbox of the property, inviting the occupants to the first public consultation event (an online event). The Applicant has no record that the owners of the property attended this first event.
- 4.2.3 A letter was then sent in November 2021, requesting access and permission for the property to be a location for background noise monitoring, however there was no response from the owner and an alternative location was selected.
- 4.2.4 The second public consultation event was advertised through local media rather than via invitation letter drops. The Applicant has no record that the owners of the property attended either of the second round of public consultation events.
- 4.2.5 Prior to the third round of public consultation in October 2022, the Applicant sent an invitation to Linnieghluttain, as it was included in the list of all properties written to within 3km of the Proposed Development's boundary. The Applicant has no record that the owners of the property attended either of the third round events.
- 4.2.6 Following the above consultation events (once the southern access was introduced as part of the Proposed Development), a representative from the Applicant visited the property twice on 7th September 2023, knocking on the front door in both the morning and the evening, but there was no answer.

4.2.7 Through subsequent investigations with existing contacts in the local area, on the 12th September 2023 the Applicant emailed what was understood to be an email address for the owner of the property. On the 22nd of September 2023, a response was received from the recipient, confirming they own the property. The Applicant will continue to engage with them following the submission of the Section 36 application.

5 First Round of Public Consultation

5.1 Overview

- 5.1.1 The Applicant held one first round consultation event on 17th August 2021 from 7pm to 8.30pm. This was a virtual event, held on Zoom, and began with a short presentation from the Applicant's project team followed by a Q&A session with the attendees.
- 5.1.2 The event was hosted online due to the Scottish Government's COVID-19 advice and guidelines in place at the time. In the absence of a face-to-face exhibition, materials were provided via the dedicated project website (www.ridgecleanenergy.com/ladyfield), which was launched ahead of the event.
- 5.1.3 The stated aims of the event were to introduce the Applicant, inform the local community of the proposals and to receive feedback from attendees. Information, including graphics and visualisations, was provided in relation to the following:
- Project facts, including maps of the wind farm location and layout;
 - Work undertaken to date;
 - The application, determination and public consultation processes; and
 - Project and community benefits.
- 5.1.4 During this first round of public consultation, the site layout comprised up to 22 turbines with a maximum tip height of 200m, across an area of land measuring 844ha. This layout was the same one that was used for EIA Scoping in June 2021.
- 5.1.5 A total of seven people registered to attend the event, however only two attended. They were provided with the details of the development in this early stage, and it was agreed that regular contact would be maintained with them as the project developed.
- 5.1.6 In line with COVID-19 guidance at the time, multiple opportunities were made available for two-way communication during the public consultation response period. A number of communication platforms were available for the public to provide feedback, request additional information and seek clarification, if needed. These opportunities for communication included 'Request a Call Back' from a member of the project team, and 'Submit Comments', both of which were added to the project website. Members of the public were also encouraged to contact the Applicant by telephone, via the dedicated project email account or by post.
- 5.1.7 Members of the public were also able to request wireline visualisations from their properties to understand the extent of the Proposed Development with regard to residential, recreational and tourist viewpoints.
- 5.1.8 Attendees were also invited to complete a short survey providing feedback on the Proposed Development.
- 5.1.9 The Applicant also created a 'Community Survey' (see Appendix M), which was available to be completed via the project website. The main purpose of the survey was to provide the Applicant with a better understanding of what the local people valued most in their area and how they thought it could be improved.

5.2 Publicity of Events

5.2.1 An invitation to the online event (see Appendix D) was published in the Argyll Advertiser and on the Inveraray Community Council Facebook page.

5.2.2 An invitation was also sent to several key stakeholders, including:

- The local MSP;
- The local MP;
- Three local councillors from Argyll and Bute Council (Mid Argyll);
- Two Case Officers from the ECU;
- Four statutory consultees, including a Planning Officer from Argyll and Bute Council, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), NatureScot, and Historic Environment Scotland (HES); and
- Inveraray Community Council.

5.3 Feedback from Attendees and Responses from the Applicant

Feedback	Format of Feedback	Applicant's Response
Attendees asked to be contacted regularly by the Applicant providing project updates	Verbal via Zoom	The Applicant has provided monthly project updates to those who asked to be contacted. This has continued throughout the Pre-application Consultation stage until planning submission.

Table 5.1 – Feedback received during the first round of public consultation and the Applicant's responses

6 Second Round of Public Consultation

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 The Applicant held two in-person public consultation events in February 2022, details of which are shown in the table below.

Venue	Day	Date	Time	Attendees
Dalmally Community Centre Dalmally PA33 1AX	Wednesday	2 nd February 2022	16:30 – 20:30	1
The Inveraray Inn Front Street East Inveraray PA32 8XB	Thursday	3 rd February 2022	16:30 – 19:30	~24

Table 6.1 – Overview of the events carried out during the second round of public consultation

6.1.2 At the time of the second round of public consultation events, the Proposed Development consisted of up to 18 turbines with a maximum tip height of 200m. Four turbines were removed from the layout shown at the first round of consultation, predominantly to reduce visual impact of the Proposed Development on views to the south, particularly from Inveraray Castle.

6.1.3 The purpose of these events was to update the community on the Proposed Development and provide a further opportunity to submit feedback. Several members of the project team were present at the events, readily available to explain the proposals to members of the public and answer any questions.

6.1.4 Similarly to the online exhibitions, information, including graphics and visualisations was provided. Following the events, all the materials that were on display were uploaded to the project website.

6.1.5 During the second public consultation period, 143 visits were made to the project website.

6.2 Publicity of Events

6.2.1 Details of the second round consultation events were published in the Argyllshire Advertiser in January 2022.

6.2.2 Inveraray Community Council was notified via email to advise them of both events.

6.2.3 The local MSP, local MP and councillors from Argyll and Bute Council were all notified about the events.

6.2.4 All adverts, letters and emails were sent in advance of the both the online and in-person exhibitions with the intention that recipients would have 1 week notice prior to the events. The advertisement can be seen in Appendix E.

6.3 Feedback and Responses from the Applicant

6.3.1 The Applicant provided Feedback Forms, to be completed during the events or taken home and posted to the Applicant. A total of two feedback forms were received.

6.3.2 Feedback gathered from attendees has been summarised in the table below.

Feedback	Format of Feedback	Applicant's Response
Number and height of turbines and visual impact for residents along A819	Verbal	<p>The Applicant produced and supplied individual wirelines and photomontages to those residents along the A819 who said they would like them. Visualisations were issued to residents from four properties following the second round of public exhibitions.</p> <p>Following feedback from the second round of public consultation events, the Applicant reduced the proposed number of turbines to 15.</p>
Proximity of turbines to properties along A819	Verbal	See above.
Known ornithology in the area	Verbal	From initiation of the Proposed Development and throughout the Pre-application Consultation process, the Applicant has implemented a buffer distance from the adjacent Special Protection Area (SPA), which is designated for Golden Eagle habitat.
Disruption from construction traffic along A819	Verbal	<p>The Proposed Development proposes to use two points of access off the A819, to the north west and south west of the development. Although realistically only one would be used for turbine component delivery, both could accept turbine component delivery and for robustness the EIAR assesses this as such.</p> <p>The potential for temporary disturbance from construction traffic has been assessed in Chapter 12 Noise and Chapter 13 Traffic & Transport.</p> <p>The construction process would be controlled through implementation of a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP), a Construction Transport Management Plan (CTMP) and a Noise Management Plan (NMP) which will include a commitment to liaise directly</p>

		with local residents via a Community Liaison Group.
Cumulative impact with the proposed SSEN overhead line	Verbal	The Applicant liaised with SSEN to inform them that their option to route the overhead line through the Site would be problematic, therefore one of the alternative routes would be preferable.
Q&A session for residents along A819 and Inveraray Community Council	Verbal	<p>The Applicant has provided a monthly update via email to all residents along the A819 who requested to be updated. This first began in February 2022 and continued up until planning submission in October 2023. A local councillor and MSP were copied into all emails.</p> <p>The Applicant has offered meetings with those residents throughout, providing them with opportunities to discuss the Proposed Development in more detail.</p>
There would be financial gains for the town upon completion	Feedback Form	Noted / no response.
The site is a good project which should benefit the town. Not sure if discounts could be agreed to residents on energy bills once up and running – especially with current increases.	Feedback Form	The Applicant had already investigated the possibility of providing local energy discounts (LEDs) to the local community and this remains an option if the project were to gain planning permission.
Request for future events to be advertised on the 'All About Dalmally' Facebook group as well as in the Oban Times	Verbal	For the third round of consultation events, the Applicant posted an advertisement on the 'All About Dalmally' Facebook group and in the Oban Times.

Table 6.2 – Feedback received during the second round of public consultation and the Applicant's responses

7 Third Round of Public Consultation

7.1 Overview

7.1.1 The Applicant held a third and final round of public consultation in October 2022, consisting of two in-person events, details of which are shown in the table below.

Venue	Day	Date	Time	Attendees
The Inveraray Inn Front Street East Inveraray PA32 8XB	Monday	24 th October 2022	By appointment	10
The Inveraray Inn Front Street East Inveraray PA32 8XB	Tuesday	25 th October 2022	16:30 – 20:00	11

Table 7.1 – Overview of the events carried out during the third round of public consultation

- 7.1.2 During the third round of public consultation events, the Proposed Development comprised up to 15 turbines with a maximum tip height of 180m.
- 7.1.3 Three turbines had been removed following the second round of public consultation, as it was clear that the number and height of turbines and visual impact was a key concern for some members of the community, particularly for residents along the A819.
- 7.1.4 The residents along the A819 also raised concerns regarding the proximity of the turbines. Subsequently, the remaining 15 turbines were re-located, removing turbines from the south and western areas of the site, reducing further landscape impacts and to create a balanced scheme whilst avoiding known constraints where possible.
- 7.1.5 The reduction in tip height from 200m to 180m resulted in small reductions in visibility, and also reduced the land take necessary for infrastructure associated with taller towers.
- 7.1.6 The site boundary was also reduced in size to mirror the updated option agreement boundary, and the BESS and onsite substation compound was included.
- 7.1.7 The purpose of these sessions was to update the community on the Proposed Development and provide a further opportunity to submit feedback.
- 7.1.8 Specific wirelines were made available for residents living nearest the site to contextualise views from their houses. These were made from three locations within Glen Aray representative of the locations of residents' properties.
- 7.1.9 During this public consultation period, 49 visits were made to the project website. Feedback Forms were made available to attendees, however none were filled out.
- 7.1.10 Feedback from this round of public consultation was generally positive and local people appreciated the fact that the number and height of the turbines had decreased to reduce visual impacts. There was also complimentary feedback acknowledging the positive partnership work

that had developed between the Applicant, Inveraray Community Council (ICC) and local community groups.

- 7.1.11 At the events, the Applicant provided water cylinder insulation jackets and sheep's wool chimney pillows (to block draughts) to help reduce household energy costs. A number of these were taken by visitors to the exhibition, with the surplus insulating jackets being left at The George Hotel for visitors to the 'Warm Spaces' initiative, which the Applicant instigated. In addition, energy help information flyers were made available at the consultation events.

7.2 Publicity of Events

- 7.2.1 A total of 37 newsletters advertising the events were sent to all homeowners living within 3km of the site boundary.
- 7.2.2 Newsletters were also sent to the local Community Councils, Argyll and Bute Councillors, the local MP and MSP.
- 7.2.3 Information posters were put on display in public places in Inveraray, Dalmally and Portsonachan.
- 7.2.4 An advertisement was published in the Argyllshire Advertiser for two consecutive weeks, on 14th and 21st October 2022.
- 7.2.5 Notices were also posted on the Inveraray Community Council and 'All About Dalmally' Facebook pages, as suggested by attendees following the February 2022 public exhibitions. The advertisement can be seen in Appendix F.

7.3 Feedback and Responses from the Applicant

Feedback	Format of Feedback	Applicant's Response
The revised site layout has reduced the visual extent of the Proposed Development and has minimised views of the project from Inveraray	Verbal	Noted / no response.
Appreciation of the need for renewable energy projects	Verbal	Noted / no response.
Appreciation of the input/support that the Applicant had provided for the Inveraray Pier Project	Verbal	Noted / no response.
Local Energy Discounts for those living closest to the Proposed Development	Verbal	The Applicant is still considering Local Energy Discounts (LEDs) for households in the community as one of the community benefit funds of the project.

Positive outcome of the 'Warm Spaces' initiative that the Applicant had instigated during Winter 2022-2023	Verbal	The Applicant is incredibly pleased that the project was a success and will be supporting it again for the upcoming winter.
Appreciation from Inveraray Primary School for the Applicant's funding support for the School Breakfast Club	Verbal	The Applicant asked the school to inform them of any future projects that could be supported.
Appreciation from Inveraray Senior Citizens group for the Applicant's assistance with funding Wi-Fi for Nicol Hall	Verbal	Noted / no response.
Potential new community centre project in Inveraray	Verbal	The Applicant has informed the community council they would like to support them with this initiative and are ready to provide assistance if/when requested.

Table 7.2 – Feedback received during the third round of public consultation and the Applicant's responses

8 Key Stakeholder Consultation

8.1 NatureScot

- 8.1.1 An initial Pre-application Consultation meeting was held between the Applicant and NatureScot (formerly Scottish Natural Heritage) on the 10th of March 2020. At this meeting, the site location and site layout were presented to NatureScot, along with an outline of the environmental surveys that will be carried out. During the meeting, the Applicant also highlighted that they would be proposing a 'clean energy hub' in a nearby town or location which would aim to provide a focal point for the local community and include for features including rapid EV charging and provide wider sustainable benefits that that are identified by the community. Examples of wider sustainable benefits could include a library, shop, bank, etc.
- 8.1.2 The Applicant and NatureScot discussed the ornithological surveys that would be carried out, starting later that month (March 2020) and running for a period of two years. The Applicant and NatureScot reviewed the proposed vantage points and it was agreed that they were suitable in that they provided excellent coverage of the site, look out over the Glen Etive and Glen Fyne SPA, and cover the known extent of a Golden Eagle territory. It was noted that Sea Eagles were also active in the area and there would be a need to evaluate Black Grouse, Hen Harrier, and other raptor species. NatureScot also highlighted that the Applicant may wish to consider other ecological receptors including Pine Martin, Red Squirrel and bats. The extent of protected species surveys would be informed by Phase 1 Habitat surveys.
- 8.1.3 The Applicant and NatureScot discussed landscape impacts. The landscape viewpoints would be agreed at pre-scoping and would be based upon initial suggestions from the landscape architect. It was agreed that the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) would be carried out in accordance with SNH Guidance. Potential LVIA receptors were discussed and included Cruach, Inveraray, North Loch Fyne (south side), and the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. It was also highlighted that any potential impacts / views from Dùn na Cuaiche tower would likely be a focus of Historic Environment Scotland (HES).
- 8.1.4 Peat probing was also discussed, with the need to coordinate with Defence Estates (Ministry of Defence) due to the risk from unexploded ordnance being highlighted.
- 8.1.5 Habitat Enhancement was then discussed, with the Applicant stating that Habitat Enhancement will be considered from the outset and proposals built upon whilst data is collected throughout the EIA process.

8.2 Energy Consents Unit (ECU)

- 8.2.1 An initial Pre-application Consultation meeting was held with the ECU on the 18th of May 2021, with Arcus, the Applicant's lead environmental consultant. At this meeting, the site location, site layout, cumulative plan and Zone of Theoretical Visibility were presented to the ECU.
- 8.2.2 The project team detailed that ornithology surveys were already being carried out and that NatureScot were already being engaged with, evidenced by the technical report which had been drafted and sent to NatureScot for their review. The species identified and detailed in the technical report were discussed, with the project team and the ECU agreeing that Golden Eagle

was the most sensitive constraint identified. The project team discussed the collision risk analysis carried out for the scoping layout, and that the results of this initial work had been shared with NatureScot, who the Applicant's ornithology specialists were engaging with. It was also highlighted that the second year of data will inform further modelling.

- 8.2.3 Another core aspect discussed was the work that had been undertaken to date from a landscape and visual perspective, with a focus of minimising visibility from Inveraray, where possible, and containing the overall visibility. It was highlighted that the location of the site on the east facing slopes of a valley side with a higher ridge to the west and higher hills to the east means the visibility to the east and west is very contained. It was noted that the north and south alignment of the glen means visibility is greater in these directions but there was positive feedback in that there is limited visibility from key settlements such as Inveraray. It was noted that there would likely be significant visual effects, potentially including from within the Inveraray Castle Garden and Designed Landscape (GDL), although visibility is limited to areas away from the central parts of the designation where the castle is located, and the area is surrounded by woodland which would further screen this.
- 8.2.4 The ECU provided positive feedback on the project website already being set up and the Applicant having already commenced engagement with the local community.
- 8.2.5 The forthcoming Local Development Plan 2 was also discussed, which will be formally adopted by the time the application is submitted. Although it was agreed that the key issues (eagles, Inveraray Castle GDL, and Aviation Lighting) won't be affected by this, they will be important regardless of the policy position.

8.3 Argyll and Bute Council

- 8.3.1 Due to the lack of a Scoping Response from Argyll and Bute Council, a consultation meeting was held directly with the Council's Senior Planning Officer on the 25th of January 2022, prior to the scoping response being received on the 15th of February 2022.
- 8.3.2 At this meeting, the project team detailed that ornithology surveys had been ongoing since March 2020 and were expected to be completed in March 2022. The Project Team also outlined that ecology surveys have been completed and peat surveys were ongoing.
- 8.3.3 A revised layout was also discussed, with this layout being driven by current known onsite constraints, as well as advice received from the Applicant's landscape and visual expert. The Council Planning Officer noted that Dùn na Cuaiche would be a key consenting consideration and it was agreed that HES will be engaged early in the design process to alleviate concerns where possible. It was highlighted that the project team were intending to visit the Site with HES and it was agreed that the Council Planning Officer would take part in this site visit, however, volume of workload prevented the Planning Officer from attending. Following the site visit with HES, notes from the meeting were shared with the Planning Officer.
- 8.3.4 The project team also shared wirelines of the revised layout which would be used in the upcoming public exhibitions held on the 2nd and 3rd of February 2022. These wirelines were discussed and the Planning Officer noted that views from the other side of Loch Fyne, looking north towards the Development will be key, as well as those on the west side.

8.4 Historic Environment Scotland (HES)

- 8.4.1 After conversations with the ECU and NatureScot, Arcus contacted HES on 4th May 2022 to discuss the Proposed Development and its potential visibility from some of the designated assets in and around Inveraray.
- 8.4.2 It was agreed by both parties (the Applicant and HES) that a meeting on site would be beneficial. Prior to the meeting, Arcus provided HES with the pre-chilled layout and accompanying draft wirelines, specifically showing views to and from the designated assets within and associated with the gardens and policies of Inveraray Castle, to the south of the Proposed Development, as well as key assets on Loch Awe, to the north of the Proposed Development.
- 8.4.3 Members of Arcus' cultural heritage team met with representatives from HES at Inveraray on the 8th of June 2022 to review the wirelines in situ and better understand visibility of different turbines from in and around the designated assets.
- 8.4.4 Following feedback received during the meeting, the Applicant refined the site layout by removing turbines from the southern part of the Site, as these turbines were closest to, and most visible from Inveraray. This reduced impacts on designated historic assets, such as Inveraray Castle.
- 8.4.5 The refined site layout and accompanying wirelines were then shared with HES. HES responded on the 14th of June 2022, stating that based on the updated site layout and wirelines provided, it is unlikely there would be significant adverse impacts such that they would not object on monuments grounds, but that there might nevertheless be adverse impacts and the detail of this should be set out in a robust assessment in the EIA Report.

8.5 Inveraray Community Council

- 8.5.1 The Applicant has engaged with Inveraray Community Council (ICC) throughout the Pre-application Consultation stage, with the first meeting taking place in May 2021. Since then, the Applicant has built up a good working partnership with ICC, supporting them in their efforts to bring Inveraray Pier into community ownership and supporting other smaller community projects.
- 8.5.2 Councillors from ICC were invited to all public exhibitions including the online event in August 2021. The Chair of ICC and other councillors attended the public exhibitions in February and October 2022. The Applicant has also held several online meetings and in-person meetings with ICC to update the councillors on the project and to further progress the Community Partnership work (see Section 9).

8.6 Other Community Groups

- 8.6.1 The Applicant first contacted Inspire Inveraray in June 2021. The Applicant has since worked in partnership with Inspire Inveraray on the Inveraray Pier Project, facilitating an Option to Purchase agreement being exchanged between Inspire Inveraray and the current pier owner.
- 8.6.2 The Applicant has also assisted Inspire Inveraray to produce a fundraising plan and write a number of fundraising applications, resulting in over £244,000 being raised, therefore enabling Inspire Inveraray to purchase the pier and start necessary restoration works in Autumn 2023.

8.7 Local Councillors

- 8.7.1 The Applicant has had several Zoom meetings with Argyll & Bute Councillors Jan Brown, Dougie Philand and Garrett Corner to update them on the Proposed Development and the ongoing Community Partnership between the Applicant and the local community.
- 8.7.2 The Councillors were invited to all three rounds of public consultation events, and the Applicant also met privately with Jan Brown and Garret Corner in October 2022, prior to the third round of public consultation events. A follow-up online meeting took place with Dougie Philand in November 2022 as he could not attend the October 2022 public exhibitions.
- 8.7.3 Dougie Philand wrote a column in the Argyllshire Advertiser on 20th April 2023 (see Appendix V) stating “It was so gratifying to see that Inveraray Inspire and the Community Council have secured the funding to purchase and repair the pier.”

8.8 Member of Parliament (MP)

- 8.8.1 The Applicant has regularly updated Mr Brendan O’Hara MP on the progress of the Proposed Development and its Community Partnership work. Mr O’Hara has submitted a number of letters of support for the Inveraray Pier Project and he has expressed his appreciation for the assistance the Applicant has given the community with the pier project.

8.9 Member of Scottish Parliament (MSP)

- 8.9.1 The Applicant has regularly updated Ms Jenni Minto MSP on the progress of the Proposed Development and its Community Partnership work. The Applicant has liaised directly with Ms Minto to successfully address any concerns of neighbouring residents of the Site.
- 8.9.2 Ms Minto has voiced her approval for the support the Applicant has given Inspire Inveraray to bring the pier into community ownership and has written several letters of support.
- 8.9.3 Ms Minto has also offered to be available for the grand opening of the pier once the restoration works have been completed.

9 Community Partnership

9.1 Overview

- 9.1.1 The RCE team combines expertise in developing UK renewable energy projects with working with local communities to create enduring local benefits. The RCE team invests time and energy early in the development process and has a proven track record of creating valuable community assets.
- 9.1.2 For each of their renewable energy projects, a Community Partnership Coordinator is assigned to build a relationship with key people in the area. Their aim is to identify and develop local projects and initiatives that will add economic and social value to the community, or support the community's path to Net Zero.
- 9.1.3 Over the past two years, the Applicant's Community Partnership team has been working with local champions from the community, to understand how the Proposed Development can help bring tangible local benefits to the area.
- 9.1.4 RCE have brought their skills and experience to assist Inspire Inveraray and Inveraray Community Council on their mission to purchase and restore Inveraray Pier. RCE have been instrumental in helping the community raise significant grant funding from numerous sources, enabling Inspire Inveraray to complete the purchase of Inveraray Pier and begin the restoration works. RCE has also supported projects at Nicoll Hall for Inveraray Senior Citizens, the Breakfast Club at the Primary School, and has instigated the 'Warm Spaces' initiative.

9.2 Inveraray Pier Project

- 9.2.1 From the beginning of the Pre-application Consultation process, RCE have been working closely with local community groups, in particular Inspire Inveraray and Inveraray Community Council.
- 9.2.2 During initial discussions with these groups in 2021, it was quickly made apparent that the pier was a particularly important asset for the community, given the fishing heritage of the town and the pier formerly being a landmark attraction for the town's tourism. Over recent years, the pier had fallen into disrepair after being bought by a private owner, making it unusable and therefore closed to the public.
- 9.2.3 As part of their partnership work, the Applicant worked with Inspire Inveraray and the current owner of the pier to help negotiate and finalise the terms for an 'Option to Buy' agreement.
- 9.2.4 The Applicant's team has worked closely with Inspire Inveraray to develop a fundraising plan and apply for grant funding from various sources, on behalf of the community.
- 9.2.5 The Applicant drafted letters of support which have been successfully used by Argyll and Bute Councillors, the local MSP, and the local MP, supporting the project and the related grant applications (see Appendices P to S).
- 9.2.6 To date, the Applicant has been successful in helping raise funds of over £244,000 for this worthwhile project, enabling the community to buy back the pier in July 2023 with essential restoration works starting in Autumn 2023, with the aim of the pier being reopened to the public

in Spring 2024.

- 9.2.7 Once the pier has been restored and reopened, it will once again be the iconic landmark of the town, helping bring back tourists to Inveraray by providing promenading, fishing, diving, boat trips and watersports. It could also be used to offer health and wellbeing activities such as yoga, writing, art, nature drawing classes, and potentially host community events with local bands and choirs.

9.3 Warm Spaces Initiative

- 9.3.1 The Applicant instigated the 'Warm Spaces' initiative in Inveraray, launching the idea to the Inveraray Community Council in October 2022. 'Warm Spaces' was then supported by the Applicant and The George Hotel, running weekly from October 2022 to the end of March 2023. Inveraray Community Council provided transport and The George Hotel served lunch to approximately 20 to 30 people every week. Entertainment was provided on some occasions, as well as a talk by ALLenergy (organised by the Applicant) to provide tips on energy efficiency at home. Due to its success, the 'Warm Spaces' project will continue in Inveraray in Chalmers Court (sheltered housing) throughout winter 2023/2024.

9.4 Inveraray Community Hall

- 9.4.1 The Applicant is currently supporting the community to raise funds for the regeneration of the derelict community hall in the centre of Inveraray. The Applicant is working closely with Inspire Inveraray to draw up grant funding applications to raise funds for community consultations, surveys and architect designs to progress this project.

9.5 Other Community Projects

- 9.5.1 The Applicant has met and supported Inveraray Senior Citizens at Nicoll Hall ensuring that the building has Wi-Fi for 24 months.
- 9.5.2 In partnership with Inveraray Community Council, the Applicant has supported the Breakfast Club at Inveraray Primary School, and is liaising with the acting head of the school, to host assembly talks on Climate Change and Carbon Capture, and to potentially support the school's community garden project.
- 9.5.3 The Applicant has met with the Reverend of West Lochfyneside Church at the last public exhibition in October 2022. During this meeting, a project to support the community in Furnace was discussed, and subsequently 'Heat and Greet' mornings were launched to support the local community during the cost-of-living crisis, running from November 2022 to March 2023.
- 9.5.4 RCE is also fully aware of the impact the current energy crisis is having on people, and on completion of the project is planning to work with the community to provide further financial and practical support.

10 Conclusion

10.1 Summary

- 10.1.1 This Pre-application Consultation Report has provided an overview of the pre-application engagement and consultation activities that have been, and continue to be, undertaken by the Applicant for the Proposed Development.
- 10.1.2 The Applicant has undertaken a comprehensive Pre-application Consultation programme to proactively inform and engage with the local community and key stakeholders. This process has allowed the Applicant to identify and respond to local issues with the Proposed Development. Of the issues raised during the consultation process, issues relating to landscape and visual impact, ornithology, and traffic were of particular importance to the community. Constructive comments on these topics have been taken into consideration by the Applicant and its consultants, and have subsequently informed the final site design.
- 10.1.3 The Applicant also acted on the requests from those living nearest to the project to be provided with regular, direct updates by sending monthly project updates via email.
- 10.1.4 Furthermore, a number of ideas were raised by the local community for potential community benefits, some of which have already been pursued by the Applicant, and others that the Applicant will consider if the project is to gain approval.

10.2 Key Changes to the Proposed Development

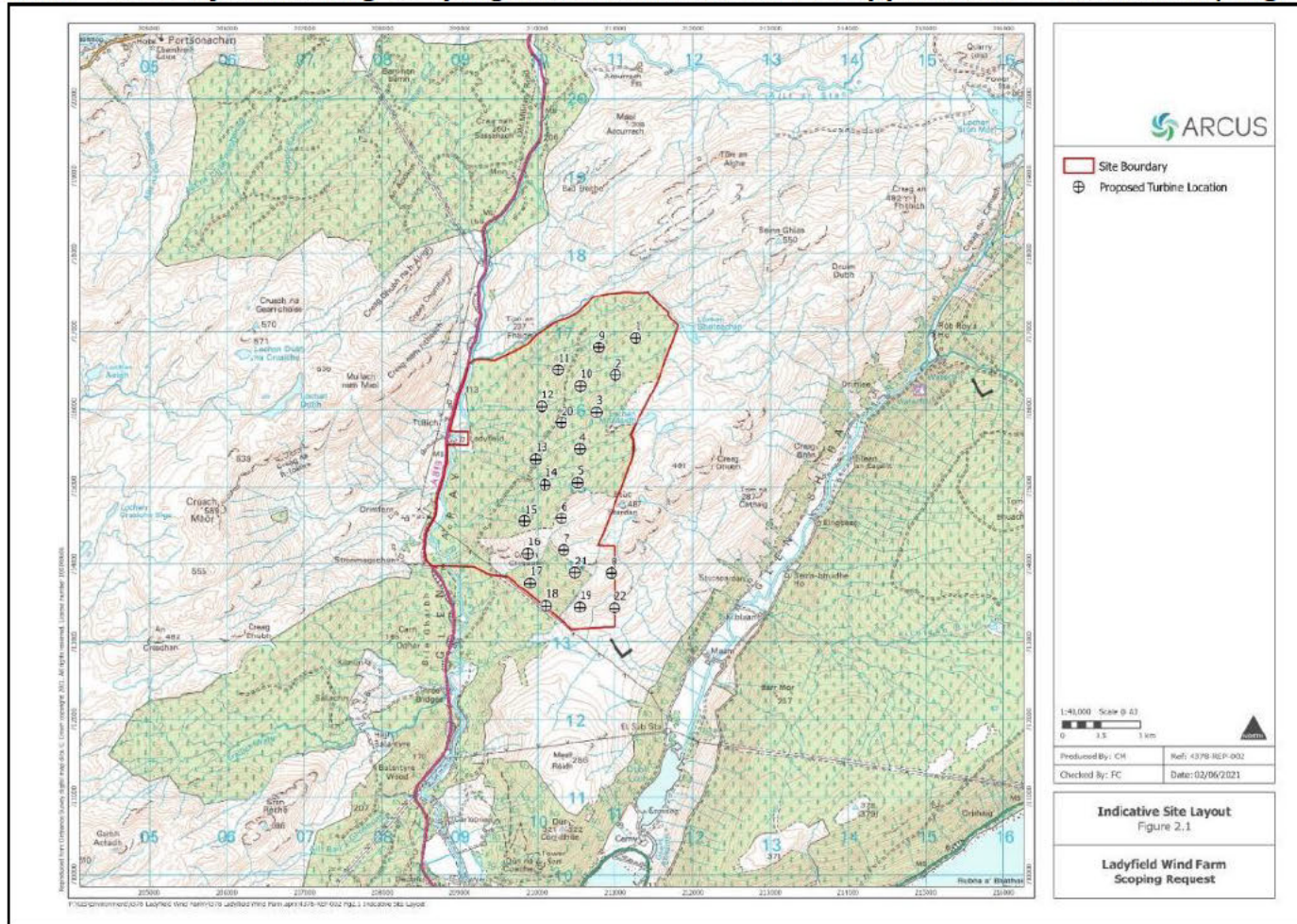
- 10.2.1 The Applicant has listened carefully to the responses received from members of the public and key stakeholders during the Pre-application Consultation process. These responses have been taken into account and have played an important role in the evolution of the site design. The key changes to the Proposed Development include:
- Reducing the number of turbines from 22 to 13. The Applicant received comments regarding visual impact of the Proposed Development during both the second and third rounds of public consultation (as listed in Tables 6.2 and 7.2,) and from key stakeholders throughout the Pre-application Consultation process. The decrease in the number of turbines has successfully reduced visual impacts on the town of Inveraray, local heritage assets such as Inveraray Castle, and residents living in closer proximity to the site. The reduction in turbines has also been implemented to avoid onsite constraints, such as deep peat and watercourses, whilst keeping turbines c.300m or greater from the Special Protection Area.
 - To strengthen the outcomes of the point above, turbines were restricted to the northern area of the Site, to reduce visual impacts to receptors to the south of the Proposed Development.
 - Lowering the maximum tip height of the turbines from 200m to 180m, reducing the visual impact on Inveraray and residents living in closer proximity to the site. The Applicant received comments regarding visual impact of the Proposed Development during the second and third rounds of public consultation, as listed in Tables 6.2 and 7.2. Smaller turbine towers also means a smaller land requirement is needed for construction.

10.3 Consultation following Planning Submission.

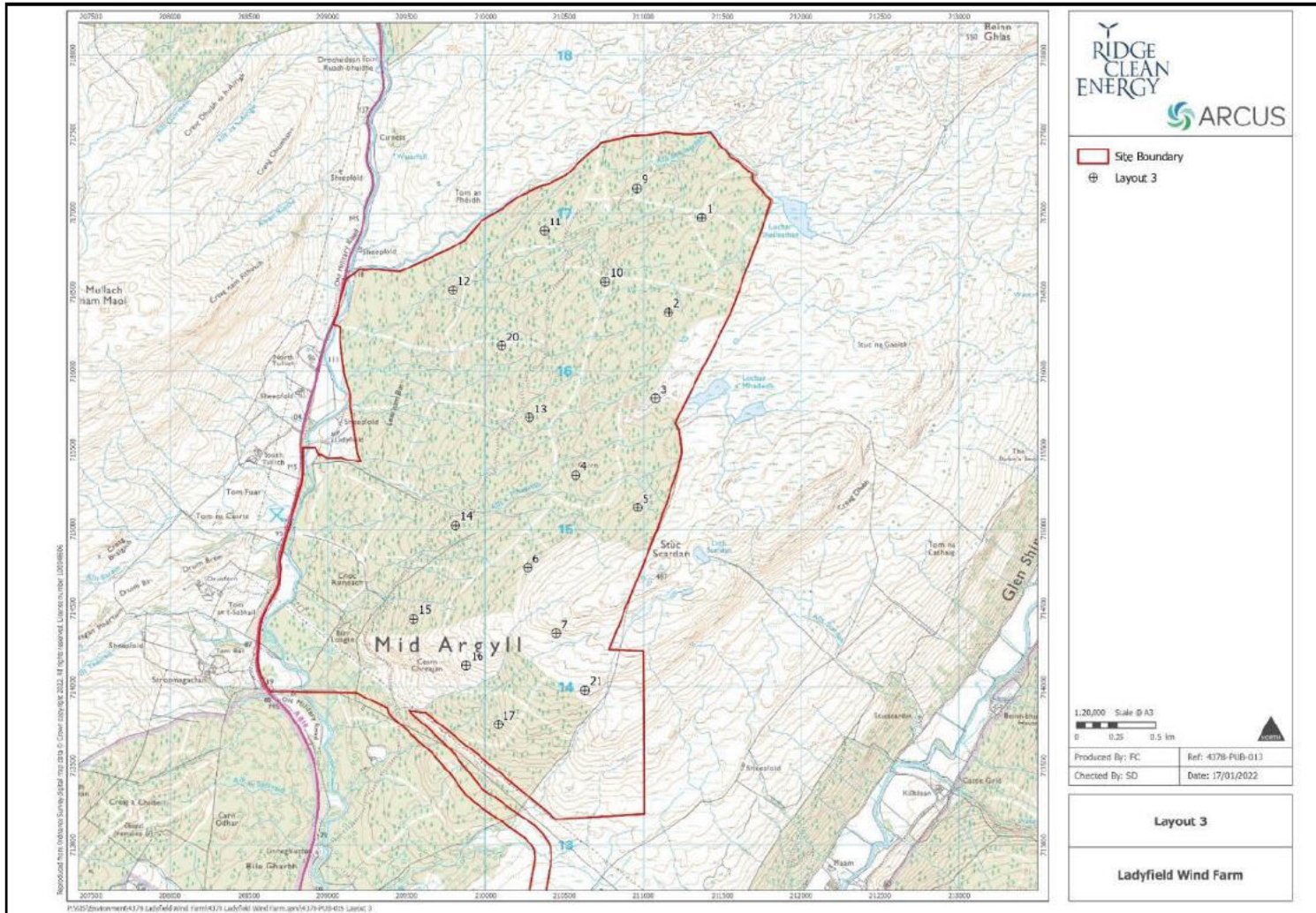
10.3.1 The Applicant will continue the open dialogue it has established with the local community during Pre-application Consultation as the application process continues. The Applicant continues to strive to build trust and relationships with the community and is already further progressing several initiatives as identified in this report.

11 Appendices

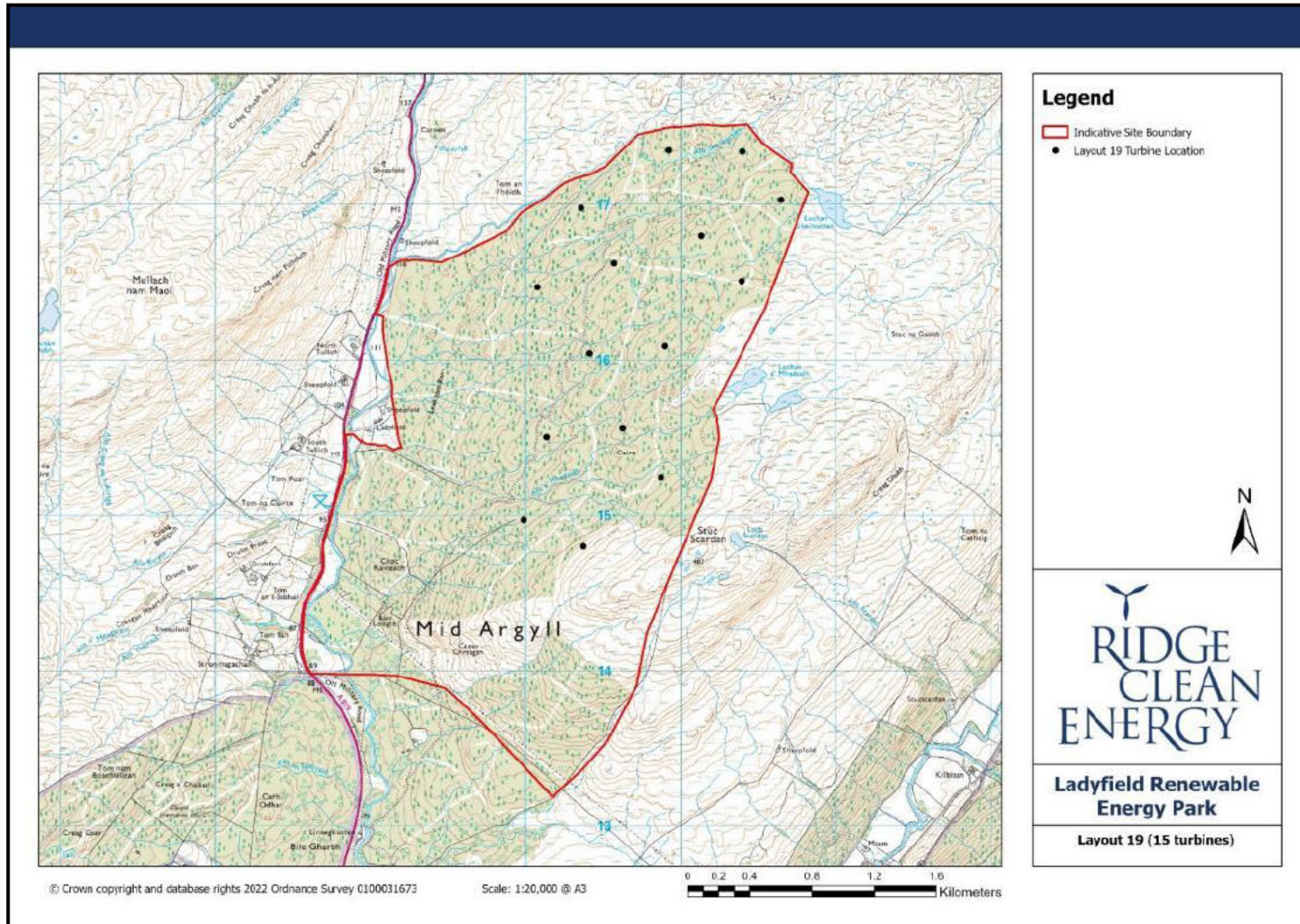
11.1 Appendix A – Site Layout During Scoping and First Round of Pre-application Consultation (August 2021)



11.2 Appendix B – Site Layout During Second Round of Pre-application Consultation (February 2022)



11.3 Appendix C – Site Layout During Third Round of Pre-application Consultation (October 2022)



11.4 Appendix D – First Round of Pre-application Consultation, Online Event Invitation (August 2021)



LADYFIELD WIND FARM

LADYFIELD WIND FARM ONLINE PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Ridge Clean Energy is pleased to invite you to the online public exhibition for the proposed Ladyfield Wind Farm.

The project is at an early stage, and this exhibition will be the first of many opportunities to speak to the project team, and hear more about Ladyfield Wind Farm.

Please find details on the proposed development; as well as the online event information below.

THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The proposed Ladyfield Wind Farm, is located approximately 4.7 km north of Inveraray. The wind farm could consist of up to 22 turbines (up to 200 m tip height) and associated infrastructure. The layout is still at an early stage, with environmental survey work ongoing throughout 2021 and into 2022.



Site Location

THE APPLICANT

The applicant is Ridge Clean Energy Limited (RCE), a UK-based clean energy company. The team at RCE have developed, constructed, and operated renewable energy projects in the UK, since 2003. Working in partnership with land owners and local communities, the Applicant identifies, funds and develops new projects to supply clean energy to homes, businesses and other power consumers.

RCE is committed to developing renewable energy projects, whilst fully engaging with the local communities. RCE are building a strong working relationship with the local community council and are keen to invest and assist in local initiatives, such as the restoration of Inveraray Pier, through the proposed Ladyfield development.



PLANNING APPLICATION & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

The environmental survey work is ongoing, and it is expected an application will be submitted to the Scottish Government in summer 2022. The layout (turbine numbers, heights, track locations) will be fixed in early 2022, after all environmental survey work at the site has been completed, and the public has had the opportunity to provide comments through exhibitions (either online, or in person).



INVITATION TO THE EVENT

We are pleased to invite all local residents to our online exhibition to introduce Ladyfield Wind Farm, and to allow the opportunity to meet and question the project team on the proposals. We would be delighted if you were able to attend the event and take part in our community consultation. The event will be held online due to the current COVID-19 pandemic; the event will start at 19:00 till 20:30 on the 17th August 2021, and include a short presentation and a Q&A session thereafter. Please register your interest on the project website, where you can also read about the proposals in advance of our event.


Project website and event registration: <https://ridgecleanenergy.com/ladyfield-consultation/>

19:00 till 20:30

17th August



11.5 Appendix E – Second Round of Pre-Application Consultation, Public Exhibitions Invitation (February 2022)




LADYFIELD RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK PUBLIC EXHIBITION INVITE

Ridge Clean Energy is pleased to invite you to public exhibitions for the proposed Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park.

Whilst the project is still at an early stage, this exhibition is an opportunity for the project team to update local residents of progress that has already been made. This set of exhibitions follows our first online exhibition; further exhibitions are planned as the project advances.

THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT


The proposed Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park, is located approximately 4.7 km north of Inveraray. The wind farm could consist of approximately 18 turbines (up to 200 m tip height) and associated infrastructure. The layout is still at an early stage, with environmental survey work ongoing throughout 2022.



Site Location

THE APPLICANT

The applicant is Ridge Clean Energy Ltd. (RCE), a UK-based clean energy company. The team at RCE have developed and constructed renewable energy projects in the UK since 2003. Working in partnership with land owners and local communities, RCE identifies, funds and develops new projects to supply clean energy to homes, businesses and other power consumers. RCE is committed to developing renewable energy projects, whilst fully engaging with the local communities. RCE are building a strong working relationship with the local community and are keen to invest and assist in local initiatives, such as the restoration of Inveraray Pier, through the proposed Ladyfield development.



PLANNING APPLICATION & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

The environmental survey work is ongoing, and it is expected an application will be submitted to the Scottish Government in Summer 2022. The layout (turbine numbers, heights, track locations) will be fixed in Spring 2022.


INVITATION TO THE EVENT

1. Dalmally Community Hall, Wed 2nd Feb, 16:30-20:30; and
2. Inveraray Inn Campbell Room, Thurs 3rd Feb, 16:30-19:30.



We are pleased to invite all local residents to our exhibition to introduce Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park, and to allow the opportunity to meet and question the project team on the proposals. We would be delighted if you were able to attend the event and take part in our community consultation. As a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we ask members of the public to book a 15 minute consultation slot to attend. To book a slot please visit the project website noted below. If you are unable to attend the events, information on the proposed development is available on the project website: <https://ridgecleanenergy.com/ladyfield-consultation/>

15 minute slots available to book on:
Wed 2nd Feb, 16:30-20:30
Thurs 3rd Feb, 16:30-19:30



11.6 Appendix F – Third Round of Pre-application Consultation, Public Exhibition Invitation (October 2022)



LADYFIELD RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK UPDATE PUBLIC EXHIBITION INVITE

Ridge Clean Energy is pleased to invite you to a public exhibition for the proposed Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park. The project has changed since our exhibitions in February, and we would like to update local residents on the proposed revisions.

THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The proposed Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park is located approximately 4.7km north of Inveraray. The project now consists of approximately 15 turbines (reduced from 18) up to 180m tip height (reduced from 200m) and associated infrastructure.



Site Location

Ridge Clean Energy Ltd. (RCE)

RCE is a UK-based clean energy company. The team at RCE have developed and constructed renewable energy projects in the UK since 2003. Working in partnership with landowners and local communities, RCE identifies, funds and develops new projects to supply clean energy to homes, businesses and other power consumers. RCE invests time and energy during the development stage to build a working relationship locally.

Over the past two years, RCE has been working on redevelopment of the Inverary Pier, supporting work at Nicoll Hall for Senior Citizens, supporting the Breakfast Club at the school, and instigating the Warm Spaces initiative.



PLANNING APPLICATION & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

The environmental survey work is nearly complete, and it is expected an application will be submitted to the Scottish Government in late 2022.

INVITATION TO THE EVENT

**Inveraray Inn, Campbell Room
Tuesday 25th October 4:30pm - 8:00pm**



This image is not a representation of Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park.

We are pleased to invite all local residents to our exhibition to update you on Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park, and to allow the opportunity to meet and question the project team on the proposals. We would be delighted if you were able to attend the event and take part in our community consultation.

If you are unable to attend the event, information on the proposed development is available on the project website:
www.ridgecleanenergy.com/ladyfield-consultation

We hope you can join us on Tuesday 25th October at the Inveraray Inn from 4:30pm - 8:00pm.



11.7 Appendix G – Advertisement for the 'Warm Spaces Inveraray' Initiative



Hello!

Warm Spaces Inveraray

Inspire Inveraray and The George Hotel with support from Ridge Clean Energy are working to ensure all of our elderly members of the community in Inveraray have a warm space to come to this winter.

You are invited to The George for hot food and hot drinks by the fire every Monday from 12 noon, entirely free of charge. Our minibus will collect you and drop you off.

The first 'Warm Spaces Day' is on Monday 10th October. Please give us a call at The George on 01499 302111 and let us know if you can make it and whether you would like to be collected. The day is entirely free of charge for you and we really hope you can make it along.



11.8 Appendix H – Warm Spaces Newspaper Article in the Dunoon Observer, Published October 2022



11.10 Appendix J – Newspaper Article in the Argyllshire Advertiser, Published March 2023

'Delight' at buy-out of a 'neglected pearl'

Repairs will begin on Inveraray's historic pier, after a community buy-out successfully reached its fundraising target last week.

The community company Inspire Inveraray needed to raise £100,000 to buy and restore the old Inveraray Pier. Following the Chancellor of the Exchequer's budget speech, the UK Government said it will allocate £44,332 from its Community Ownership Fund to Inspire Inveraray to buy Inveraray pier from its current owner.

The Scottish Government gave £30,000 in January, by which point the local community had also raised £32,000.

"Inspire Inveraray is delighted to get this grant," said director of Inspire Inveraray Linda Divers. "It takes us to our target and we can now start the process of buying the pier.

"The owner has been a very patient man, giving us the time to fundraise.

"The support we have had throughout the past couple of years from the local community and beyond has been overwhelming and we thank each and every one of them.

"Without them, we couldn't have done this."

In particular, she wanted to thank wind farm company Ridge Clean Energy for helping Inspire Inveraray get the grant.

The community organisation will now carry out repairs to the pier to allow the public to enjoy this famous landmark again. Once restored, the pier will offer many opportunities for residents and visitors, including renewed access to and from the loch, reconnecting neighbouring communities.

Boats crossing Loch Fyne will be able to dock at Inveraray Pier again, bringing more visitors to the town and supporting the community.

The pier will be fully accessible, free of charge and open for everyone to enjoy.

Alyssa Stewart, another director at Inspire Inveraray, said: "The pier has been trapped in a cycle of neglectful private ownership and has been closed to the community and public for nine years.

"The Community Ownership Fund will enable the pier to be restored and opened to the community, boating community and visitors to the town.

"Once again this 'neglected pearl of a great town' will be used for community gatherings, promenading, fishing, diving, boat trips and business and investment opportunities.

"It is an exciting time ahead for Inveraray and will be an asset that the community can benefit from."

Garret Corner, Conservative councillor for Mid Argyll, said: "I am delighted for the town and very happy that all the hard work people have put into raising funds has come to fruition.

"Hopefully the fence will be down on part of the pier very soon."

11.11 Appendix K – First Round of Public Consultation Presentation Slides, August 2021



Ladyfield Wind Farm



Welcome to this Online Public Exhibition for the proposed Ladyfield Wind Farm



Agenda

- Introduction to the Project Team
- Overview of the Proposed Development (Ladyfield Wind Farm)
- Planning & Environmental Impact Assessment
- Work Undertaken to Date
- Project Programme
- Community Investment: Inveraray Pier
- Future Community Consultation Events
- Concluding Remarks and Q&A



Ladyfield Wind Farm

Site Location

The Site is located approximately 3 km north of Loch Shira and approximately 4.7 km north of Inveraray, and covers approximately 844 ha of land. The Site is centred on NGR 210500, 715500.



Key Information

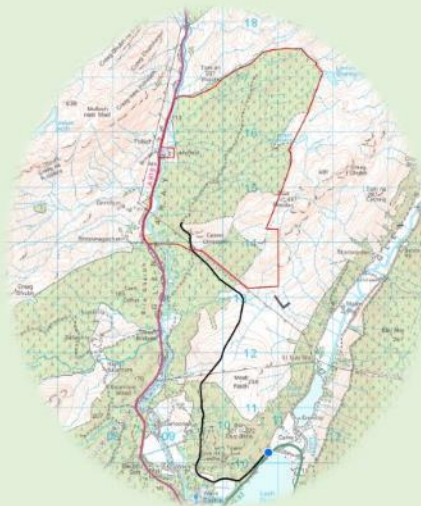
- Up to 22 turbines
- Up to 200 m to tip
- Generating capacity >50 Megawatts
- New & upgraded access tracks



Ladyfield Wind Farm

Site Access & Design

- The Site will be accessed from the A83 (Blue Indicator Dot) following existing forestry tracks.
- The Site access will be upgraded as required to ensure it is fit for the delivery of Development infrastructure.
- The design of the Development, including the turbine layout, will be an iterative process informed by ongoing environmental assessment.



Planning & Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Planning Application

- Development will be >50 Megawatts
- Section 36 Planning Application to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU)
- EIA required to support Application



Environmental Impact Assessment

- Development Description
- Site Selection & Design
- Planning Policy
- LVIA
- Ornithology
- Ecology
- Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
- Hydrology and Hydrogeology
- Geology & Peat
- Noise
- Traffic & Transport
- Forestry
- Land Use, Socio-Economics, & Tourism and Recreation
- Climate Change Impact Assessment (CCIA)
- Other Issues



Work Undertaken to Date

Scoping Report

- A scoping exercise has been undertaken for all environmental topics. The scoping exercise has been submitted to the ECU & consultees seeking agreement on the scope of the future EIA.

LVIA

- High-level landscape and visual appraisal has been undertaken by the project Landscape Architect.
- Landscape baseline photography collection started.
- LVIA visualisations undertaken based on the current Scoping Turbine Layout (as below and on project website).



Ornithology & Ecology

- Ornithology surveys, including Vantage Point Surveys, are ongoing to establish the ornithological baseline at the Site.
- Preliminary Collision Risk Modelling (CRM).
- A range of ecology surveys have also been undertaken.



Work Undertaken to Date

Scoping Report

- A scoping exercise has been undertaken for all environmental topics. The scoping exercise has been submitted to the ECU & consultees seeking agreement on the scope of the future EIA.

LVIA

- High-level landscape and visual appraisal has been undertaken by the project Landscape Architect.
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- LVIA visualisations undertaken based on the current Scoping Turbine Layout (as below and on project website).



Ornithology & Ecology

- Ornithology surveys, including Vantage Point Surveys, are ongoing to establish the ornithological baseline at the Site.
- Preliminary Collision Risk Modelling (CRM).
- A range of ecology surveys have also been undertaken.



Community Investment: Inveraray Pier

What We Do

- RCE works as a partner with the local community from early stages of development, to identify and develop initiatives that answer local needs.
- For example, as part of our work on the Ladyfield project, RCE is already engaged with the Inveraray community to create a restoration plan to reopen the community pier.
- Using RCE's development experience and seed capital, RCE is helping to facilitate the purchase and construction arrangements, the fundraising plan, and overall development schedule.
- RCE is committed to supporting the local economy, ensuring our projects deliver real and positive impacts for families and businesses.

Our Objectives

- RCE is working with the Inveraray community on plans to restore the pier so that it can be used again by local residents and visitors to the town.
- The pier would once again support promenading, fishing, diving, boat trips and watersports.
- Boats crossing Loch Fyne, hopefully including the Waverley, may be able to dock again at Inveraray, bringing more visitors to the town and support the local economy.
- The pier could be used to offer health and wellbeing activities for local people such as yoga, writing, art and nature drawing classes, and could host community events with local bands and choirs.



Future Community Consultation Events

We seek your view!

- This event is being held online due to Scottish Government COVID-19 advice for public engagement.
- With the COVID-19 Pandemic coming under control within Scotland, we seek your views on whether or not the local population would be amenable to in-person events in the future (should we continue on the positive pandemic trajectory we are on)?
- Please let us know your thoughts during the Q&A session and/or post your thoughts in the chat function.
- In-person events are useful and allow a more hands on experience where graphics and other materials are printed for inspection by members of the public.




Concluding Remarks and Q&A Session

Thank you for listening, your attendance, and interest!

- We would now like to invite you to ask the Project Team any questions you have, or to discuss concerns you have over the proposals.
- Our dedicated Project Team can also take questions away with them and revert back with answers to your questions if we are unable to answer at this moment.
- Please familiar yourself with the materials provided, including photomontages of the Development, on the project website:
<https://ridgecleanenergy.com/ladyfield-the-project/>
- Thank you!



11.12 Appendix L – Banners Displayed During Second Round of Consultation, February 2022



**LADYFIELD RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENT**

**WELCOME TO THE LADYFIELD RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENT**

INTRODUCTION & SITE LOCATION

Ridge Clean Energy is delighted to welcome you to this community consultation event for the proposed Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park. We are in the early stages of developing a proposal for a wind farm at the Ladyfield Plantation, located approximately 5 km north of Inveraray, Argyll & Bute.

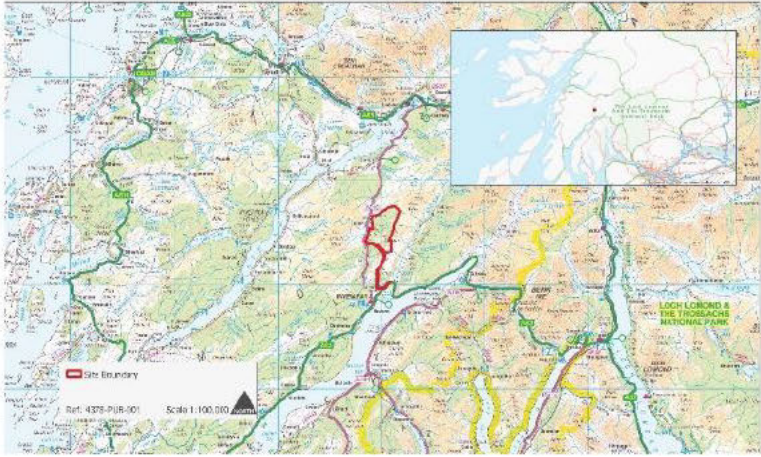


Figure 1. Site Location Plan

FEEDBACK, COMMENTS, & QUESTIONS

We invite you to take a look around this public exhibition event and meet the project team. Please ask questions and raise any concerns you may have. Following your discussions with the project team, if you have any further questions or feedback please complete a feedback form provided.

ABOUT THE APPLICANT

The Applicant is Ridge Clean Energy Ltd (RCE), a UK-based clean energy company. The team at RCE has developed and constructed renewable energy projects in the UK since 2003. Working in partnership with land owners and local communities, RCE identifies, funds and develops new projects to supply clean energy to homes, businesses and other power consumers.

RCE started work on this project in 2020, and has been working to build a strong relationship with Inveraray and the wider community. Separately to its work at Ladyfield, RCE is keen to invest and assist in local initiatives, such as the restoration of Inveraray Pier.

Riversdale Enterprises Ltd is assisting the Applicant in the day-to-day management of the Development. Personnel at Riversdale have previously worked for a number of wind farm developers prior to becoming an independent consultancy. They have been involved in the management of over 1 gigawatt of now operational wind farms across the UK, including within Argyll & Bute.



LADYFIELD RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENT

ABOUT THE PROPOSAL

Number of Turbines:	Approx. 18
Turbine Tip Height:	Up to 200 m
Installed Capacity:	Greater than 50 Megawatts
Ancillary Infrastructure:	Including but not limited to: Upgraded site access, new and upgraded access tracks, a substation control building, and temporary construction compound(s).
Lifespan of Wind Farm:	Up to 40 years
Energy Generation:	Equivalent to approximately 50,000 homes per year*

* Based on DECC and Digest of UK Energy Statistics (DUKES) figures, which assume average UK household electrical consumption of 3.6 kWh and UK average onshore load factor of approximately 27%, using 18 turbines with capacities of 4.2 MW.

THE PROPOSAL TO DATE

The design of the proposal is still at an early stage. Site surveys are ongoing throughout early 2022, and the results continue to inform the evolving wind farm design. So far, the site layout has developed since the design that was presented at the EIA Scoping stage, which was completed in summer 2021.

As a result of the iterative design undertaken by the project team, taking account of known constraints, an updated layout has been produced in January 2022. This updated layout is presented here today.

The iterative design process has reduced in turbine numbers and locations from scoping; dropping from 22 turbines to currently 18.

These changes have been driven by specialist landscape and visual advice whilst also taking into account the following:

- Proximity to houses;
- Watercourses;
- Ground Conditions including topography and peat deposits;
- Important Habitat;
- Ecological Features, such as bat roosts and bird flights; and
- Existing Infrastructure.



* The above image is a wind farm development. Library image, it is not representative of Ladyfield Wind Farm.



LADYFIELD RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENT

SITE LAYOUT

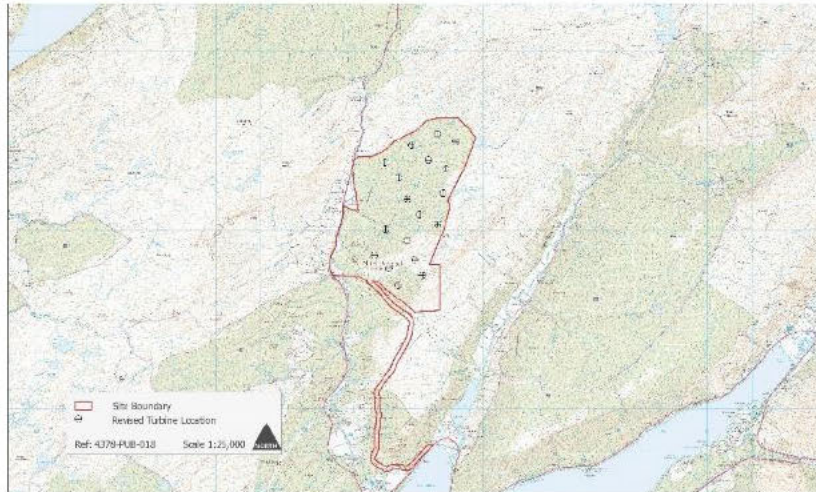


Figure 2. Current January 2022 Layout: 18 Turbines

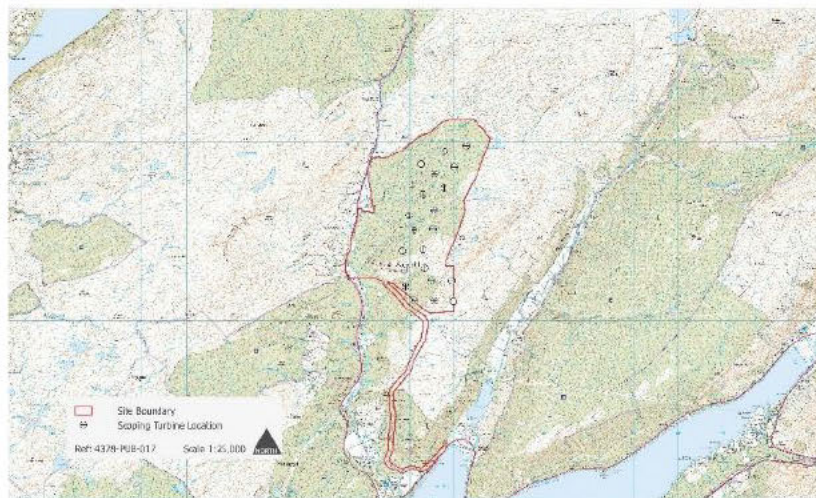


Figure 3. Previous Scoping Layout 22 Turbines

The working EIA layout provided above will continue to evolve as the iterative EIA process develops; the design will respond to the environmental data being gathered in early 2022, and consultation/feedback received from consultees, local residents, and members of the public.

SITE ACCESS

Site access is still under review, with several options being considered. It is likely that the site will be accessed via the A83, avoiding Inveraray and Dalmally, however the final route is still being evaluated.



LADYFIELD RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Application for the proposed development requires a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be undertaken.

The EIA records the baseline environmental conditions of the site and predicts how those characteristics will be affected by the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed development. This environmental baseline exercise gathers all the necessary information to allow robust environmental assessment; it also allows the project team to identify areas where development infrastructure, such as turbines, can and cannot be located. EIA is a critical tool to ensuring a large scale wind farm is designed sensitively.

For Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park, a team of independent specialist consultants have been gathering environmental information and will undertake an impartial EIA of the proposed development. As part of this EIA process, consultation, advice, and guidance is sought from a range of stakeholders including, but not limited to: Argyll and Bute Council, NatureScot, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Historic Environment Scotland.

Landscape and Visual



Our specialist landscape team are leading the design process, with the aim to design a wind farm that is well-balanced against the receiving landscape whilst protecting the environment.

The design process seeks to minimise any potential effects on the surrounding landscape and visual resource, and on the people who experience these views.

A full landscape and visual assessment will be prepared in line with guidance and will include visualisations from agreed viewpoints around the site.

A selection of early-stage wireline visualisations from representative viewpoints are on display today; and our landscape architect is on hand to produce further wirelines on her computer as required.

Cultural Heritage & Archaeology



Experienced archaeologists are currently gathering baseline historical data of the surrounding area to inform the design process.

Desk and field studies are ongoing which will identify the presence and quality of local cultural heritage and archaeology assets, not least Inveraray Castle.

There are no known or designated heritage assets within the site; however, setting effects of assets outwith the site are a key consideration for the project team. The proposed development design will seek to reduce effects on assets as far as possible.



**LADYFIELD RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENT**

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Ornithology



Specialist Ornithologists have been carrying out surveys for almost two years; the data from ornithology surveys will continue to inform the wind farm design. The project team understand the presence of Golden Eagles within the area and is working closely to ensure the design minimises any effects on all bird species, including golden eagle. Any effects identified within the EIA will be appropriately mitigated as far as possible. Discussions with NatureScot remain live and ongoing.

Hydrology



Experienced Hydrologists have undertaken a survey across the site to fully understand the local water environment. The design of the proposed development will seek to minimise the impact on watercourses as far as possible; however, for example, where watercourse crossings are required the EIA will commit the best practice guidelines and ensure appropriate mitigation is in place. The hydrology team is also undertaking a private water supply risk assessment as part of the EIA; if you are a local resident and have a private water supply, please speak to a member of the project team who will take your details for our hydrologists to get in touch with you.

Noise



A robust noise assessment is being undertaken to ensure that the proposed development can operate within acceptable noise limits at all residential properties in accordance with best practice guidelines. Background noise monitoring is being undertaken throughout February 2022 at nearby properties, which enables us to understand the noise environment around the site and design the proposed development accordingly.

Ecology



Specialist Ecologists have been engaged on the site for over a year undertaking a range of ecological surveys that will inform the development design. The project team, led by our ecologists, have been liaising with NatureScot and other consultees regarding our survey efforts and have taken on board consultee advice.

The EIA will cover all relevant environmental topics, including those above but also forestry, peat, climate change and shadow flicker, amongst others.



LADYFIELD RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SUPPORT

As an industry leader, RCE works as a partner with the local community from early stages of development, to identify and develop initiatives that answer local needs. Specifically, we are keen to identify local initiatives for which our expertise and seed capital may be useful. We want to support existing community projects and help new, local ideas become a reality. We would like to work with the community to support them on their path to net zero. The personnel at Ridge Clean Energy have significant experience with delivering community projects and are looking forward to working with local people in achieving net zero communities.

SUPPLY CHAIN OPPORTUNITIES



If the Application for the proposal is successful, RCE would encourage local suppliers and contractors to get in touch to outline what services could be provided by local businesses in order to help the local economy.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



For example, as part of our work on the proposed Ladyfield project, RCE is already engaged with the Inveraray community to create a restoration and fundraising plan to reopen the community pier and we have reached out to other community groups and venues where we can help make a difference. RCE is fully aware of the impact the current energy crisis is having on people, and on completion of the project, is planning to work with the community to provide financial and practical support.



LADYFIELD RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENT

PROPOSED TIMELINE AND NEXT STEPS



FEEDBACK & THANK YOU

Thank you for your interest today in our public exhibition for the proposed Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park.

Please take the time to pick up and fill out a feedback form provided by the project team; we would be very grateful to receive your feedback, comments, and any unanswered questions. Please leave your contact details so that we can respond if appropriate.

Should you have further questions following your visit today, please get in touch via the project website: www.ridgecleanenergy.com/ladyfield/

11.13 Appendix M - Local Community Survey



Ladyfield Renewable Energy Park - Local Community Survey

Ridge Clean Energy are a renewable energy developer and community energiser working right across the UK. We want to learn more about Inveraray and the surrounding area, to better understand how our work can support you and your local community. Responses will be anonymous and no personal information will be shared with any third parties.

For the purposes of this survey, please think of your local area as within 15-20 minutes' walking distance from your home.

This survey takes approximately 5 minutes to complete.

1 1\). Please tell us who you are representing in this response:*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> My own personal views | <input type="radio"/> A local community or voluntary organisation |
| <input type="radio"/> A community council | <input type="radio"/> A local business |

* Choose one.

If you are not providing your personal views, please indicate who you are representing:

2 2). What do you think is the best thing about your local area? (Please select as many as you like)*

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Sense of community | <input type="radio"/> Natural beauty and scenery | <input type="radio"/> Leisure activities |
| <input type="radio"/> Heritage and culture | <input type="radio"/> Local volunteers | <input type="radio"/> Wildlife |
| <input type="radio"/> Tourism | <input type="radio"/> Local schools | <input type="radio"/> Safety and security |
| <input type="radio"/> Other | | |

* Choose one.

Please provide any comments relating to your choice:

3 3). What would improve your local area? (Please select as many as you like)*

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> More community facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Better transport system |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Better broadband and phone service | <input type="checkbox"/> Better roads and infrastructure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improvement of existing facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support for families | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased tourism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More affordable housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Better cycling and walking networks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support for local education | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

* Choose between 1 and 12.

Please tell us a little more about your choices, providing as much detail as you like:

4 4). What do you consider to be most important to the future of your local area?

(Please select as many as you like)*

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Support for families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community activities and bonding | <input type="checkbox"/> Support for the elderly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage and culture | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strength of local economy | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Conservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Roads and transport infrastructure | <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband and phone service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy cost and supply | |

* Choose between 1 and 13.

Please tell us why you selected these choices:

5 5). What facilities or local services do you feel are most important to your local area?

(Please select as many as you like)*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post Office | <input type="checkbox"/> Community meeting and activity space |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farmshops supplied by local producers | <input type="checkbox"/> Cafés |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electric vehicle charging points | <input type="checkbox"/> Local transport infrastructure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foodbank/food sharing | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens Advice Bureau |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local government counseling | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

* Choose between 1 and 12.

If you have selected Other, please specify:

6 6). What facilities or local services would you like to see more of? (Please select as many as you like)*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post Offices | <input type="checkbox"/> Community meeting and activity spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farmshops supplied by local producers | <input type="checkbox"/> Cafés |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electric vehicle charging points | <input type="checkbox"/> Foodbanks/food sharing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens Advice | <input type="checkbox"/> Local government counseling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

* Choose between 1 and 11.

If you have selected Other, please specify:

7 7). Are you involved in any local community group or organisation?*

- Yes
 No

* Choose one.

Would you be happy for us to contact you with regards to our community benefits initiatives?

8 8\ Are you happy for us to contact you about your response to this survey?*

- Yes - I am willing to be contacted
 No - I am not willing to be contacted

* Choose one.

If yes, please provide an email address or phone number:



Thank you for taking our survey.

11.14 Appendix N – Note from Inveraray Senior Citizens, August 2022



RIDGE CLEAN ENERGY OF CHARLBURY, OXFORDSHIRE, WHO ARE PROPOSING TO DEVELOP A WIND FARM AT LADYFIELD, GLEN ARAY, INVERARAY, HAS VERY KINDLY SPONSORED OUR BROADBAND CONNECTION IN THE NICOLL HALL FROM 1ST AUGUST 2022 FOR THE NEXT 24 MONTHS.

THE SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE IS GREATLY INDEBTED TO THE COMPANY FOR THIS VERY GENEROUS COMMUNITY GESTURE.

23RD AUGUST 2022

11.15 Appendix O – Advertisement in the Argyllshire Advertiser, October 2022

NOTICES/CLASSIFIED/RECRUITMENT
Campbeltown Courier & Argyllshire
Friday 14 Oct

Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

The applications listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be viewed electronically through Argyll and Bute Council website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Having regard to Schedule 6, Part 3, s10 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020, documents are only available to inspect electronically at this time. Customers requiring assistance can contact us by e-mail: planning@argyll-bute.gov.uk or tel: 01546 665518.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
22/01804/LIE	Partial re-slate of roof, full leadwork replacement, replacement of chimney stacks, new stone copes to chimney stacks, removal of small chimney stack to north side, replacement of gutters and downpipes to east roof	2-17 Colchester Square, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute, PA31 8LH
22/C1787/PP	Erection of dwelling house to include career accommodation, installation of air source heat pump, connection to existing shared sewage treatment plant and formation of access	Land Adjacent To Tigh Na Croit, Whitehouse, Argyll And Bute
22/01736/PP	A terrace and extension to dwelling, erection of decking and installation of air source heat pump	South Lodge, Argyll, Tarbert, Argyll And Bute, PA31 9YA

Written comments can be submitted online at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/line-and-courtesy-planning-applications or to Argyll and Bute Council, Development Management, Kinloch Castle, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RH, within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation to the Council, received is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed on the Council's website. Customers are requested to use electronic communication where possible during the coronavirus pandemic as our ability to process postal mail is restricted.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

Argyll and Bute Council

Councillor Jan Brown (EiW3 Mid Argyll)

Councillor Brown will be holding surgeries during the month of October as follows:

DATE	VENUE	TIME
15th October	Lochgilphead Parish Church Hall	11.30am - 1.30pm
22nd October	Tayvallich Village Hall	11.30am - 1.30pm

Councillor Brown can also be contacted by email: Jan.Brown@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by telephone 07783 548763

Argyll and Bute Council

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES
ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (SMITH DRIVE, CAMPBELTOWN) (TEMPORARY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT) ORDER 2022

On Friday 30th September 2022, Argyll and Bute Council made the above named Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for a temporary period for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any vehicle on that section of Smith Drive, Campbeltown, from its junction with the 3842 Big Kih Street in a south then south easterly direction to its junction with Uchd Raibson Road, a distance of 385 metres or thereabouts. Exceptions apply to any vehicle being used for carrying out the works. This Order which requires because works are being or are proposed to be executed on or near the road, will be effective when indicated by signs from 0600 hours on the 7th of October 2022 to 2359 hours on the 16th of December 2022 or until the remedial works are complete, whichever is the earlier. Alternative routes will be via adjacent streets and will be signed in an appropriate manner. A copy of the Order may be inspected online at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/traffic

Head of Roads & Infrastructure Services, 1A Nairne Brae, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RD

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

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Until mid-April 2023

Contact Adam 077996 4747
arway@btinternet.com

RECRUITMENT

Editor - Oban Times

There has arisen for a self-motivated and ambitious individual a position of Editor for the Oban Times, a busy team. The position will be based in Oban, knowledge of the area would be an advantage. You should also hold a full driving licence. As well as writing for the newspaper and website, you will be expected to take photographs on the job, as well as contribute to our social media channels and podcasts. In return for all this we offer a competitive salary, great experience and training, as well as a fantastic work environment.

11.16 Appendix P – Support Letter from MP to the Garfield Weston Foundation Regarding Inveraray Pier Project, June 2022

Brendan O'Hara MP

Argyll and Bute



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Ms Philippa Charles
Director
Garfield Weston Foundation
Weston Centre
10 Grosvenor Street
London
W1K 4QY

13th June 2022

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to add my wholehearted support for Inspire Inveraray's project to purchase and restore Inveraray Pier.

Inspire Inveraray (SC045744) is a dedicated group of local volunteers who have developed the plan to purchase and restore the pier, re-establishing it as a key cultural asset for the town and community. In fact, it appears that the pier project has been selected as the top priority in a survey of local residents by the Inveraray Community Council (responses are still being tallied). Inspire Inveraray is working closely with, and is fully supported by, the Inveraray Community Council who will help manage the pier once it is acquired.

The pier has been closed for over nine years. Bringing the pier into community ownership would greatly benefit the local community and local economy. The pier would provide the boating community access to the town with its popular tourist attractions, shops, and eateries. Furthermore, there are currently no facilities for avid fishermen, paddleboarders, or water adventurers to easily access the loch from the town. Restoring and reopening the pier would also allow local communities around Loch Fyne to reconnect through the renewed point of access to Inveraray via the loch.

Already, through community fundraising and grant applications, Inspire Inveraray has raised an impressive £38,000 towards the initiative's estimated total cost of £105,000. This committed group is in the process of submitting a grant application to the Scottish Land Fund to cover the majority of purchase costs (which are £55,000). They are seeking a donation of £25,000 from Garfield Weston Foundation, to cover 50% of the restoration costs (which are £50,000).

I have followed and supported the progress of the Inveraray Pier project, and warmly look forward to it reaching the next stage. This innovative, community-led project will be an enduring gift to the town and Scotland's cultural heritage. I would be grateful if this meaningful application could be carefully considered.

Should you require any further information please contact Alyssa Buchanan via email at inveraray@btinternet.com.

Yours faithfully,

Brendan O'Hara MP
Argyll and Bute

8 Colquhoun Square
Helensburgh, G84 8AD
Telephone: 01436 670 587
Email: brendan.ohara.mp@parliament.uk

11.17 Appendix Q – Support Letter from the MP to the Hugh Fraser Foundation Regarding Inveraray Pier Project, July 2022



11.18 Appendix R - Support Letter from MSP to the Scottish Land Fund Regarding Inveraray Pier Project, November 2022



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Jenni Minto MSP

Member of The Scottish Parliament for Argyll & Bute



24th November 2022

Scottish Land Fund
The National Lottery Community Fund
70 Wellington Street
Glasgow
G2 6AU

Dear Sirs/Madam,

Project ID number 20198182 - Inspire Inveraray

I am writing to set forth my support for Inspire Inveraray's project to purchase and restore Inveraray Pier.

Inspire Inveraray (SC045744) are a dedicated group of local volunteers who have developed the plan to purchase and restore the pier, re-establishing it as a key cultural asset for the town and community. In fact, the pier project has been selected as the top priority in a survey of local residents by the Inveraray Community Council. Inspire Inveraray are working closely with, and are fully supported by, the Inveraray Community Council who will help manage the pier once it is acquired.

The pier has been closed for ten years now and bringing the pier into community ownership would greatly benefit the local community and local economy. Inspire Inveraray have an option to purchase agreement in place to purchase the pier as soon as enough funds have been raised. Reopening the pier would enable the boating community access to the town with its popular tourist attractions, shops, and eateries. Furthermore, there are currently no facilities for avid fishermen, paddleboarders or water adventurers to easily access the loch from the town. Restoring and reopening the pier would also allow local communities around Loch Fyne to reconnect through the renewed point of access to Inveraray via the loch.

Already, through community fundraising and grant applications, Inspire Inveraray have to date raised an impressive £54,000 towards the initiative's estimated total cost of £171,600. Inspire Inveraray have received pledges of funding for restoration costs from Garfield Weston Foundation and The Hugh Fraser Foundation for £15,000 each and are awaiting a decision from Rural and Islands Communities Into Action by the end of the year. Inspire Inveraray are now seeking a grant from the Scottish Land Fund to raise the remaining funds to make this project become a reality.

60-62 Hillfoot Street, Dunoon, PA23 7DT

jenni.minto.msp@parliament.scot

01369 707792

 [facebook.com/JenniMintoSNP](https://www.facebook.com/JenniMintoSNP)  [@jenni_minto](https://twitter.com/jenni_minto)

I have followed and supported the progress of the Inveraray Pier project, and warmly look forward to it reaching the next stage. This is an innovative, community-led project that will be an enduring gift to the town and Scotland's cultural heritage. We would be grateful if this meaningful application could be carefully considered.

Should you require any further information please contact Alyssa Stewart via email at inspireinveraray@gmail.com

Best wishes,



Jenni Minto MSP
Argyll & Bute

11.19 Appendix S - Support Letter from MSP to the Garfield Weston Foundation Regarding Inveraray Pier Project, May 2022



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba



Jenni Minto

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Argyll & Bute

Ms Philippa Charles
Director, Garfield Weston Foundation
Weston Centre
10 Grosvenor Street
London, W1K 4QY

24th May 2022

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to set forth my support for Inspire Inveraray's project to purchase and restore Inveraray Pier.

Inspire Inveraray (SC045744) are a dedicated group of local volunteers who have developed the plan to purchase and restore the pier, re-establishing it as a key cultural asset for the town and community. In fact, it appears that the pier project has been selected as the top priority in a survey of local residents by the Inveraray Community Council (responses are still being tallied). Inspire Inveraray are working closely with, and are fully supported by, the Inveraray Community Council who will help manage the pier once it is acquired.

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Already, through community fundraising and grant applications, Inspire Inveraray have raised an impressive £38,000 towards the initiative's estimate total cost of £105,000. This committed group are in the process of submitting a grant application to the Scottish Land Fund to cover the majority of purchase costs (which are £55,000). They are seeking a donation of £25,000 from Garfield Weston Foundation, to cover 50% of the restoration costs (which are £50,000).

M3.06, The Scottish Parliament, EH99 1SP
jenni.minto.msp@parliament.scot
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Jenni Minto MSP



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I have followed and supported the progress of the Inveraray Pier project, and warmly look forward to it reaching the next stage. This innovative, community-led project will be an enduring gift to the town and Scotland's cultural heritage. I would be grateful if this meaningful application could be carefully considered.

Should you require any further information please contact Alyssa Buchanan via email at inveraray@btinternet.com.

Best wishes



Jenni Minto
MSP for Argyll and Bute

11.20 Appendix T – Energy Efficiency Practical Tips – Provided by RCE at the Third Round of Public Consultation Events, October 2022



ENERGY EFFICIENCY – some practical tips for the home.

Everyone's energy system in their house is different and some simple things can make a big difference to save energy. These are only suggestions and are passing along information we have gathered. If you think any of these might be suitable for your residence then please do read the fitting instructions provided with the product.

1. HOT WATER CYLINDER JACKETS

Not everyone has a hot water cylinder tank but if you do, by insulating the water tank with a thick jacket you can cut heat loss by up to 75% and the cost can be recouped in less than a year. The insulation will keep your water hot for longer as it prevents heat escaping from the tank. This is really useful in busy households who use a fair amount of hot water.

Typically the costs range from £19-£23.

It comes in four separate panels of 80mm thick with cords to secure panels – might not be suitable for confined areas.

2. RADIATOR REFLECTOR PANELS

This product will help reflect the heat from a radiator back into the room rather than escaping through the wall, which in turn can help reduce heat loss and cut heating bills. The Radiator Reflector panel product can be fitted with minimal installation time and very little tools or knowledge required. The panels are either clipped to the back of the radiator or double sided sticky tape can be used.

This could reduce heat loss by up to 50%, insulates and reflects and easily applied in minutes. Recommended by British Gas and the Solid Fuel Advisory Service. Typically the cost is £8.00 for a 4 metre roll.

3. CHIMNEY SHEEP – Chimney Draught Excluder

A Chimney Sheep® is a removable chimney draught excluder made from highly durable, naturally breathable Herdwick wool. The wool is felted to create a perfect plug for the chimney and a handle added for easy insertion and removal. It comes in a circular and rectangular plug. A Chimney Sheep® makes your home feel more comfortable by stopping warm air escaping and preventing cold air coming in as well as reducing wind noise, energy bills, CO2 emissions and any debris that may fall down your chimney. The cost can be recouped within 3-6 months. Prices range from £18-£70 depending on the size of the chimney.



4. SLOW COOKER

Slow cookers are cheaper to run than ovens. They use less electricity than conventional light bulbs, and are among the kitchen's most energy-efficient appliances. Although they take longer to cook food, they're rated at as little as 200 watts – less than a tenth of some electric ovens. An average-sized slow cooker uses just 1.3 kWh per meal cooked, which when broken down to an hourly cost comes in at under 1p on the average energy tariff

This is a great option perhaps for people living on their own to be able to cook a nutritious meal at 1.5 litres capacity, the typical price is from £18. Larger capacity for families at 3.5 litres is from £22.

5. DRAUGHT PROOFING

Draught-proofing is one of the cheapest and most effective ways to save energy – and money – in any type of building. Draught-proofing around windows and doors could save you around £60 a year*. If you have an open chimney, draught proofing your chimney when you're not using it could save around £90 a year*. If you're happy carrying out simple DIY tasks, draught-proofing will be no problem. Generally costs are around £6.50 for a 10 metre roll for a foam based or £7.50 for wool for 5 metres.

*Savings based on a typical gas-fuelled semi-detached property in England, Scotland or Wales.

Further advice on how to keep your home warm is available from:

[The Energy Saving Trust](#) – provides information on how to be more energy efficient

[GOV.UK – Heating and housing benefits](#) – provides information on how to receive winter and cold weather payments if you are 60 or over, disabled or on a low income

30th November 2022

11.21 Appendix U – Advertisement for Warm Spaces Inveraray in the Argyllshire Advertiser, October 2022

31/10/2022, 11:30

Silver service as hotel welcomes Warm Spaces - Argyllshire Advertiser



Silver service as hotel welcomes Warm Spaces

John McCallum Updated: 28/10/22, 6:24 am



Inveraray's Warm Spaces Initiative welcomed 30-odd elderly townspeople to its get-together on Monday – the third meeting this month.

<https://www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk/2022/10/28/silver-service-as-hotel-welcomes-warm-spaces/>

12

31/10/2022, 11:30

Silver service as hotel welcomes Warm Spaces - Argyllshire Advertiser

Held in the George Hotel from 12pm until mid-afternoon, Warm Spaces is thought to be the first event of its kind in Scotland in response to this year's cost-of-living crisis, and is planned to continue weekly throughout the winter for Inveraray's elderly.



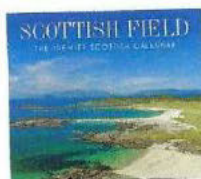
Building for the way we live now

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Claudio Poggi, general manager of the George Hotel, explained: 'Warm Spaces has been running the past several Mondays from the hotel, and we plan to host these gatherings until the end of March at least.

'We are happy to provide a warm, sociable space for older people to come and talk with others, to listen to some local music in the background.



'We put on honest hearty meals such as soups, mince and potatoes, fish and chips – but it's more than just sitting down to a meal.

'It's a chance to talk with others with the comfort of an open fire, all for free.

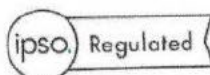
'Historian Ken McTaggart will come to give a talk at Warm Spaces which will be very interesting for those attending.'

Warm Spaces has been supported by community groups and outside interests, ranging from Inspire Inveraray and Inveraray Community Council, to the wind farm group Ridge Clean Energy, which has looked to immerse itself in Inveraray issues at the same time as its plans advance for turbines north of the town.

Claudio gave a nod to the hard work of others in bringing elderly people with mobility issues and without transport to the George for their Monday afternoon catch-up.

He added: 'Sheila Woodrow does a great job collecting people from their homes and getting them to the George.

'Inveraray residents who would like to be collected can contact the George Hotel on 01499 302111.'



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11.22 Appendix V – Councillor Dougie Philand’s Column in the Argyll Advertiser, April 2023

Argyllshire Advertiser 20th April 2023

Councillor’s column – Dougie Philand, Mid Argyll



Councillor's Column, from Mid Argyll representative Dougie Philand.



[John McCallum](#) Updated: 20/04/23, 6:01 pm

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This is my second Councillor’s Column and I thank the Argyllshire Advertiser for being interested and willing to print these articles.

As we move into spring I eagerly await the announcement of the permanent solution for the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful from Transport Scotland.



[Holiday West Highland Spring/Summer 2023](#) *Sponsored Content* The spring/ summer edition of Holiday West Highland is packed full of great reads. From Events and Activities, Area Info, Days Out and Boat Trips. Find out what the West Highlands has to offer... [Read More](#)

Myself and fellow councillor Donald Kelly from South Kintyre have been advocating for a permanent solution since submitting a petition with more than 10,000 signatures in 2012, and have welcomed working along with the Rest and Be Thankful campaign group to secure this.

This is a crucial time in addressing the financial social and economic difficulties we as an Argyll community have endured.

Since my last article, I have attended the Ardrishaig and Inveraray community councils and I have to applaud both community councils for the work they are undertaking on behalf of their communities.

It was so gratifying to see that Inveraray Inspire and the community council have secured the funding to purchase and repair the pier.

This has been no mean feat and I have been delighted along with present and former councillors to support the project.

It is also great to see the regeneration of Ardrishaig and in particular the interest the community council has in the restoration of the King George V play park.

Again, sheer tenacity from the group, I believe, will see the project moving forward and I will continue to support the members to reach their goal.

I would like to echo the request made by Dougie MacFadzean last week in alerting constituents to the current consultation regarding Highly Protected Marine Areas (HMPA).

There is an absolute need to address the current climate emergency we all face, however, the proposals being put forward will have implications for many of our communities and therefore it is vital that our communities respond to the consultation and also make contact with ourselves to enable a fulsome response to be given.

I have had the privilege to be invited on to the board of Argyll and Bute Children's Befrienders and attended my first meeting this week.

This service is such an important support for children in need and I look forward to assisting the aims of the project to be taken forward.

I have also been invited to be on the board of Fyne Homes which, as we all know, is one of the housing associations providing homes for residents of Argyll and Bute.

There is a number of exciting projects which I will be made aware of to support the aims of the association, and I again look forward to assisting in this extremely important sector.