

Code: UKCAL-CWF-CON-EIA-APL-00001-A005

## **Application Document 1**

Appendix 1-4 First Round Proposed Development (Offshore) Consultation Materials

HINE

Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm Ltd

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## Application Document 1 Appendix 1-4 First Round Proposed Development (Offshore) Consultation Materials

Code	UKCAL-CWF-CON-EIA-APL-00001-A005	
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CALEDONA

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## 1 In-Person and Virtual Consultation Materials



## **NEED FOR THE PROJECT**

The challenges of climate change, energy supply and security of supply are driving governmental policy and decision making on renewable energy developments.

In Scotland, the Scottish Government's target to achieve net zero emissions by 2045 and to ensure 50% of energy consumption comes from renewable sources will increase demand for green electricity.

The ongoing development of the renewable energy sector will be required to meet these targets, with offshore wind playing a significant role as development and operational costs are reduced. To progress this, the ScotWind leasing process was launched in 2021 by the Crown Estate Scotland. This released new areas of seabed within Scottish waters for future offshore wind development.

The proposed Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm development will make an important contribution in helping to achieve the relevant international, European, UK and Scottish policy and societal aims.

### Introducing Caledonia OWF

With expected capacity of 2 GW, Caledonia OWF will be capable of supplying around two million homes with green, low-cost electricity.

The site was awarded to Ocean Winds under the Scottish Government's ScotWind process and will join Moray East and Moray West as the company's third offshore wind farm in the UK.

Find out more at www.oceanwinds.com/caledonia



Four key drivers for the shift in energy production to renewable energy:





Secure energy supply











## INTRODUCTION

### **Project Overview**

In 2022, Ocean Winds was awarded exclusive rights to develop an offshore wind farm as part of the ScotWind bidding round, within the NE4 Plan Option located within the Moray Firth, off the northeast coast of Scotland. This has been named the Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm (OWF). Caledonia OWF submitted an Offshore Scoping Report in September 2022.

### **Experience**

Ocean Winds' considerable knowledge of and experience in the Moray Firth region through the Moray East and Moray West developments puts the company in an advantageous position when it comes to Caledonia OWF.

Ocean Winds has built relationships with an extensive network of local, regional and national stakeholders, and has a good understanding of environmental baseline conditions through project-specific data collection, monitoring programmes, and strategic research projects within the Moray Firth.

### Who We Are

Ocean Winds is an international offshore wind developer with primary target markets in Europe, the United States, South America and Asia.

Ocean Winds currently has a total gross capacity of 14.53 GW worldwide. After the results of the ScotWind Clearing, Ocean Winds' Scottish portfolio of projects now reaches 6.1 GW of gross capacity.





#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Our website provides further information about the project and will be updated with details about upcoming events:

caledoniaoffshorewindfarm.com

If you'd like to get in touch, you can either complete the feedback form or email us at:

caledonia.info@oceanwinds.com



Ocean Winds is a 50:50 venture between EDP Renewables and Engie.







## OVERVIEW OF THE OFFSHORE SCOPING REPORT

### Requirement

The proposed Caledonia OWF development is in the preapplication stage and has recently carried out a scoping exercise. This has culminated in the submission of an Offshore Scoping Report. This was submitted to Marine Scotland as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, requesting a Scoping Opinion on the details included.

The Offshore Scoping Report introduces the proposed development and sets out the relevant legislation and policy that will be taken into consideration during the EIA. It also contains:

- A project description (based on a worst-case design envelope)
- The intended EIA methodology
- Approach to consultation throughout the pre-application stages of project.

The purpose of the scoping exercise was also to provide a highlevel characterisation of the baseline environment for a range of technical disciplines (receptors), as well as consider the potential impacts that the proposed development could have on these receptors (i.e., during construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning).









The following topics were considered within the Offshore Scoping Report:

- Marine and coastal processes
- Marine water and sediment quality
- Benthic subtidal and intertidal ecology
- Fish and shellfish ecology
- Offshore ornithology
- Marine mammals and other megafauna
- Commercial fisheries
- Shipping and navigation
- Marine archaeology and cultural heritage
- Military and civil aviation
- Seascape, landscape and visual impact
- Socio-economics, tourism and recreation
- Climate
- Other human activities



## **PROJECT PROGRAMME**



#### **PROJECT TIMELINE**

2022	Scoping Report submissions	
2023	Data gathering and EIA preparation	
2024	Consent application submission	
2025	Consent awarded	
2026 -	Consent condition discharge	
2027 -	Start of onshore construction	
2028 -	Start of offshore construction phase	
2029	First power	
2030	Connection to grid	

#### **Current Phase**

The project is currently in the development phase and submitted its Offshore Scoping Report in September 2022.

It is anticipated the Onshore Scoping Report will be submitted in November 2022.

#### **Key Milestones**

#### The key milestones of the project are:

- Commencement of onshore construction 2027 (duration of 2.5 years)
- Commencement of offshore construction 2028 (duration of 3 years)
- First power 2029

At the current scoping stage, the timescales and durations are indicative. Assuming the project is awarded the necessary consents, it is anticipated that construction of the offshore elements will take approximately three years between 2028 to 2030.

Precise information on the construction process will become available once the final design of the proposed development has been defined.

#### **Confidence in the Programme**

Given the extensive experience Ocean Winds has in developing and constructing in the Moray Firth, Caledonia OWF is confident in the ambitious project programme.







## PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION



The array area of the proposed Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm is within the Moray Firth, off the northeast coast of Scotland. It is approximately 429 km<sup>2</sup> in size and around 22 km from Wick at its nearest point to land.

National Grid Electricity System Operator has stated that the grid connection point for Caledonia will be at New Deer in Aberdeenshire, with a potential landfall for the export cables along a stretch of coastline between Sandend Bay and Old Haven.

The process to refine this landfall location is ongoing, with a preferred landfall site to be identified through the consideration of key factors including environmental, engineering/technical, cost constraints and risks.

## The 2GW Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm will consist of the following infrastructure:

- Up to 150 wind turbine generators (WTGs) to convert wind energy to electricity
  - WTG capacities will range from 14 to 25 MW
  - Total capacity will be 2 GW with an indicative split of 75% fixed and 25% floating
- The maximum blade tip height will be 350m above mean sea level, with a minimum blade clearance of 35m above mean sea level
- Up to six offshore substation platforms (OSPs) which will transform the electricity generated to a higher voltage, allowing more efficient transmission to shore
- Inter-array cables to connect the WTGs and interconnecter cables to connect the OSPs
- Up to six export cables connecting the OSPs to the landfall point and the landfall point. This connects the site to the grid.







# CALEDONA Offshore Wind Farm

## Proposed Development Description



#### Fixed jacket on pin piles

- Secured to the seabed by driven and/or drilled pin piles attached to the jacket feet.
- These are driven and/or drilled into the seabed from either a floating vessel or a jack-up barge using hydraulic/vibratory hammers.

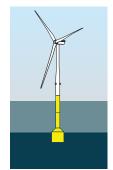
#### Fixed Monopile

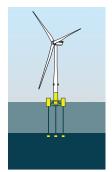
- Driven into the seabed from either a floating vessel or a jack-up barge using hydraulic or vibratory hammers.
- In areas of hard soil or bedrock close to the seabed surface, where piling with a hammer is difficult or impossible, drilling may be used to assist piling.

#### Floating Semisubmersible

- Column stabilised platform with variable draft.
- The complete hull and turbine are assembled and precommissioned onshore and towed to site using vessels.
- Once on site these are connected to the pre-installed mooring lines.
- These connect to anchors on the seabed.









#### Fully restrained platform

- Consisting of a monopile with mooring lines and piled anchors, and a transition piece.
- An innovative fixed foundation concept with mooring lines for additional stability, combining characteristics of fixed and floating technologies to extend monopile feasibility to 80+ m water depth.

#### Fixed jacket on suction caissons

- A steel lattice construction fixed to the seabed by suction buckets. The buckets are capped, hollow cylinders, fitted at the end of the jacket legs.
- On the seabed water is pumped out of the buckets which are pressed into the seabed by the resulting differential pressure.

#### Floating tension leg platform

- Floating foundation with extra buoyancy restrained by taut mooring lines vertically connected to the seabed.
- Foundations are held in place by mooring lines connected to anchors on the seabed.
- Anchors are installed using a range of methods including piling, drilling or suction.

#### Gravity based structure

- Concrete and steel structure which acts under the force of gravity to remain positioned on the seabed.
- Structure is floated to site by vessel and positioned on seabed.
- Filled with ballast (sand and gravel) to achieve final design weight to ensure stability and suitable load resistance.







## **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process**

### Requirement

The purpose of undertaking an EIA is to ensure that the potential effects of a project on the environment, both individually and cumulatively with other proposed/existing projects, are taken into consideration before relevant consents are granted.

### Process

The EIA is the process of systematically identifying potential impacts that a project could have on the environment. Where potential impacts are likely to result in significant effects, specific measures will need to be taken to reduce or remove such impacts both now, and in the longer term. These are known as mitigation measures.



#### SCOPING

Sets out potential environmental impacts and identifies those proposed to be scoped in or out of the EIA process. It also describes the available data to inform the EIA and any additional data collection requirements.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

Presented within an EIA Report, this involves evaluation of both the magnitude of an impact and the sensitivity of a receptor, which is then used to assign significance to the positive or negative effects of the project.

Consideration of mitigation is required for significant adverse impacts, with changes to the design (embedded or design mitigation) or additional mitigation included to avoid or reduce significant effects.

Projects are also required to consider the potential impacts that could occur cumulatively with other relevant plans, projects and activities.

#### DETERMINATION

Following submission of the application, the relevant authorities are required to approve or reject a project. The decision may be accompanied by certain conditions that must be fulfilled, such as post-consent monitoring and the provision of an Environmental Management Plan.





## 2 Advertisements in Newspapers

Digital copies of advertisements placed in the relevant newspapers listed below are provided.

Table 2-1 First Round Offshore Advertisements

Newspaper	Date Published	Media Group/Publisher
Banffshire Advertiser	1st November 2022	Highland News and Media
Fraserburgh Herald	3rd November 2022	Angus County Press
John O Groats Journal	4th November 2022	Highland News and Media
Banffshire Advertiser	24th January 2023	Highland News and Media

Tuesday, November 1 to Monday, November 7, 2022



## **PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

**Supplying Scotland with local** low-cost, low-carbon energy

With capacity to power two million homes, the 2GW Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm will nearly double the Moray Firth's ability to supply Scotland with local low-cost, low-carbon electricity.

When operational in 2030, Caledonia OWF will mark two decades of continuous investment by Ocean Winds in the Moray Firth, providing opportunities for local growth.

#### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS**

The Caledonia project team invites you to attend faceto-face public engagement events to learn more about the development, including its location, purpose, and the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment process, and share your feedback



Find out more and meet the team at one of the following events from 12.00pm to 8.00pm:

WICK Monday 7 November Mackays Hotel, Union Street KW1 5ED

FRASERBURGH Wednesday 9 November Fraserburgh Leisure Centre, North Links Seaforth Street AB43 9BB

BUCKIE Thursday 10 November Buckie Thistle Ace Winches Lounge Midmar Street, Buckie AB56 1BJ

There will also be a digital public exhibition in the form of a Virtual Village Hall available until 31/12/22 which can be accessed on the website www.caledoniaoffshorewind.com



### SELL YOUR WHISKY

Inverness, Elgin, Speyside Area Bottle Collections Collection Dates: 12th & 18th November

Monthly Online Auctions **Free Valuations** Free Door Step Service & Local Pick Up Points



SC612333 The Cellar, Invergordon, IV180LQ 01463 210 427 sales@thegrandwhiskyauction.com



www.caledonia.virtual-engage.com

Come back in a year and tell us if cutting your budget was a good idea

Brands can help in a cost of living crisis by cutting their marketir budgets. Wrong. We have more than 40 years of evidence that a short-term reaction is never as effective as long-term investme Find out more at ipa.co.uk/eff-works #EffWorks





Jobs North offers the best service for employers recruitment agencies and job seekers searching for jobs in Inverness, Highland and Moray. Visit - jobs-north.co.uk



#### **NEWS**



child in the family, making Christmas Day feel extra special.

Christmas Day feel extra special.

Commenting on the campaign, AberNecessities founder Danielle Flecher-Herd said: "Every child dreams of Christmas, but for one in five children in our community, that dream will just not come true.

"Christmas is such a special time, and we want every child to feel the wonder of the festive season. "Our team is working

hard to make sure as many children as possible enjoy the magic of the festivities and wake up to gifts this Christmas morning.

"This year's Christmas operation is huge. "It is just heart-wrench-

ing that so many families in our community cannot afford to bring the magic of Christmas into their homes.

"Because of the shocking cost-of-living crisis and the continued effects of Covid, the number of requests we receive just grows and grows. "So this year we are preparing to lovingly create almost twice as many bespoke Christmas Eve boxes and Christmas gifts as last year.

"The Christmas Eve boxes will bring a smile to so many children's faces, as well as the faces of their parents, helping them enjoy the wonder of the season.

"Every parent wants to create magical memories for their little ones – and together, we can help them do that.

"We know from previous years that the boxes are really well received and help give the whole family something to celebrate, during what will be a very, very difficult winter for many."

Applications for support from AberNecessities comes from healthcare professionals including health visitors and social workers.

Co-founder Michelle Herd added: "We are acutely aware that everyone is affected by the cost-of-living crisis, and as a result we are asking our ever-generous community to give what they can.

"As well as financial donations to sponsor the Christmas Eve boxes, we will have baubles on the Giving Tree at Union Square over the festive season so that people can purchase just one or a selection of small Christmas gifts for local children.

"Every single donation will make a child and parent smile – that's something you really can't put a price on.

"We know people really want to help, and we are keen to offer the opportunity for everyone to support us in whatever way they can."

Donations to sponsor Christmas Eve gift boxes for local children can be made at www.abernecessities. co.uk.

Michelle said every penny is welcome, adding: "We hope that individuals, business owners, managers and colleagues will get together to support the campaign."

### A helping hand

AberNecessities provides disadvantaged families with the essential and basic necessities that no child should go without.

From maternity bundles for mother and baby to nappies, formula milk, clothing, toys and equipment for children aged 0-18 years, AberNecessities recognises the importance of meeting the basic needs of a child in order to give them the best start possible.

It operates on a referral basis, accepting applications from our network of brilliant professionals across the health, social care and education systems.

It knows professionals are best placed to meet the needs and provide the emotional support to the families it supports, while it provides the physical items.

Currently, 21.8% of children living in Aberdeen are living in poverty.

## CALEDON A

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24 John O'Groat Journal

## News publishers across Scotland perform a vital role

N the weeks of high political drama leading to the resignation of Liz Truss, what the papers were saying provided an essential barometer to the rapidly changing fortunes of the increasingly hapless Prime Minister.

Whether it was the exasperation of rightleaning dailies, the fury of the left, and the blowby-blow inside stories from the big Sundays, news titles were helping to make the political weather which blew Ms Truss so catastrophically off course.

Here, Scottish news titles were at the forefront of comment and analysis of the SNP's economic plan for independence, performing the vital role of scrutineers the public needs to understand what's being proposed.

Meanwhile, Scotland's regional and local publications have been getting on with the job of covering their towns and communities, casting



Trusted journalism

week the UK industry

matters, and this

is highlighting the

key role our news

publishers perform

and the good they do.

#### Journalism Matters By John McLellan

light on decisions with immediate impact on their readers, and helping readers cope with the costof-living crisis.

Trusted journalism matters, and this week the UK industry is highlighting the key role our news publishers perform and the good they do, such as The Greenock Telegraph's Time to Talk mental health campaign, the Inverness Courier's Cost-of-Living Crisis series, the Sunday Mail's Anne's Law series to ensure care home residents are never left without visitors, and the Sunday Post's Shaming campaign to win justice for victims of male violence against women.

However, the future of quality journalism in the UK is still very much under

Reporting the facts, uncovering truth and campaigning on local issues is what journalists do. threat, and amid recent upheaval in Westminster, it is essential that the UK government gives the new Digital Markets Unit the promised legal teeth it needs to ensure the big tech platforms pay a fair price for news publishers' stories they reuse for nothing, currently valued at £1 billion a year.

It is also crucial that the Scottish Government recognises it could do a lot more to support journalism in Scotland, when it spends only a twentieth of its marketing and advertising budgets with Scottish news publishers which reach 90 per cent of the population,

but a quarter on American-owned tech platforms. It could also invest in the proposed Scottish Public Interest Journalism Institute, which it says it supports.

Like many sectors over the past three years, Covid, the energy crisis and global



inflation pose existential threats to many of our businesses, but without trusted, independent journalism and properly trained, professional journalists, the public would be fed a diet of spin, misinformation and social media-driven fake news.

Reporting the facts, uncovering truth, and campaigning on issues about which readers care is what journalists do every day, and the Journalism Matters week is a timely reminder of why their job will always need doing. John McLellan is director of the Scottish Newspaper Society.

www.caledonia.virtual-engage.com

## 

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## Council repair tenders wanted

MORAY Council is seeking tenders for maintenance work to its housing stock

It forms part of the local authority's fouryear contract to provide maintenance works for council buildings and housing. Published on Public

Contract Scotland Tender, with a deadline of February 20, 2023, the contract is split into 26 lots for a variety of trades. Tenders are welcome

from new and existing contractors.

Suppliers looking to tender for the Moray **Council Building Repair** and Maintenance Framework should register with Public **Contracts Scotland and Public Contract Scotland** Tender to get access to the tender documents.

Assistance is available from the Moray Council Community Wealth **Building Team via** Shannon.Creswell@ moray.gov.uk and **Business Gateway on** business.gateway@ moray.gov.uk

# **Response to biogas** plant plans hailed

www.grampianonline.co.uk

#### **By Alan Beresford** alan.beresford@hnmedia.co.uk

PLANS to build a biogas plant on the outskirts of Buckie have met with a positive local response.

The was the message coming from a public drop-in consultation at Buckie's Fishermen's Hall on Thursday, January 19 held by Acorn Bioenergy highlighting their proposals to build the plant at Hill of Rathven Buckie at the junction bv of March Road and the A98. The firm hope to build another similar facility at Longmorn, on the outskirts of Elgin.

Acorn had held an initial consultation in Buckie at the beginning of December and were back in town again to discuss the results and garner any further comments from the public.

Scottish The firm's Business Development Natalie Dillon feedback from Manager said the last month had been very encouraging.



Acorn Bioenergy's Scottish Business Development Manager Natalie Dillon with some of the plans for the Buckie biogas plant. Picture: Daniel Forsyth

been very positive and we've lots of letters of support. "There's also been lots of good engagement with local

Dillon farmers. "We're preparing to have do. ast month had been very discussions to work with If given neouraging. people locally as well as planners, She continued: "It's all with distilleries in the area to estimate

supply them with methane. operational the Buckie plant We're keen to talk to as many would provide around 15 people as possible locally to well-paid permanent with up to 100 created during make sure everyone is happy with what we're proposing to the construction phase. The

If given the green light by planners, Acorn Bioenergy that once

wider community is also

likely to see a financial ben-

efit from the project.

Ms

explained: "Going forward we will be looking to create a Community Benefit Fund and we're keen to hear suggestions how that could be spent. "This would be support-

Tuesday, January 24 to Monday, January 30, 2023

ing net zero projects. We'll be looking to talk to schools, the community council and other organisations, and if anyone has any suggestions, please send them to us at info.scot@acornbioenergy. com

Ms Dillon went on to say that the next stage in the project would see Acorn undertake invasive investigations at the proposed site in order to gain a greater understanding of the ground there ahead of the con-struction phase. Alongside this, the firm aim to lodge a major planning application with Moray Council around mid-February.

Should all go smoothly with the planning process, it is hoped that the biogas plant would be up and run-ning in 2024 following a construction phase lasting be-Dillon tween nine and 12 months.

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Find out more and meet the team at the following event:

#### BANFF

2 February at 12pm – 7pm **Banff Springs Hotel** 

Golden Knowes Road AB45 2 JE

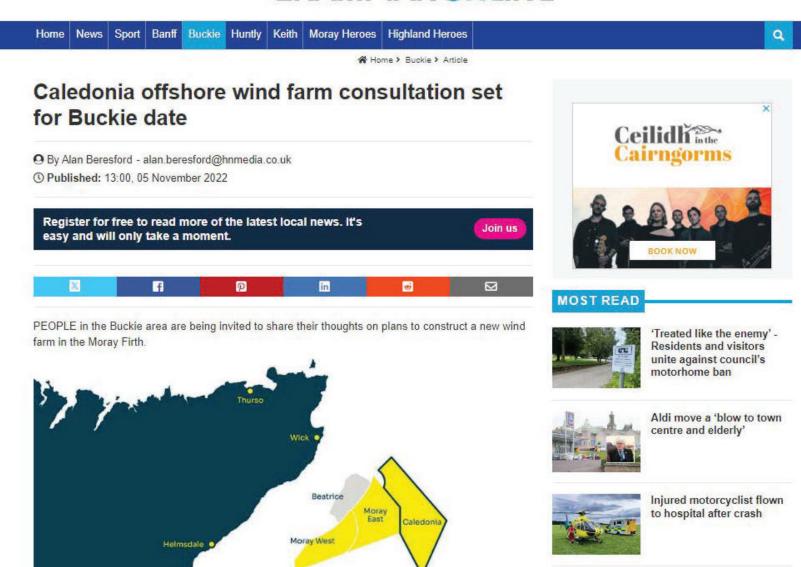
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### 3 Local Press Coverage





MORAY FIRTH

•

Elgin

Buckie

Invergordon

Dingwall



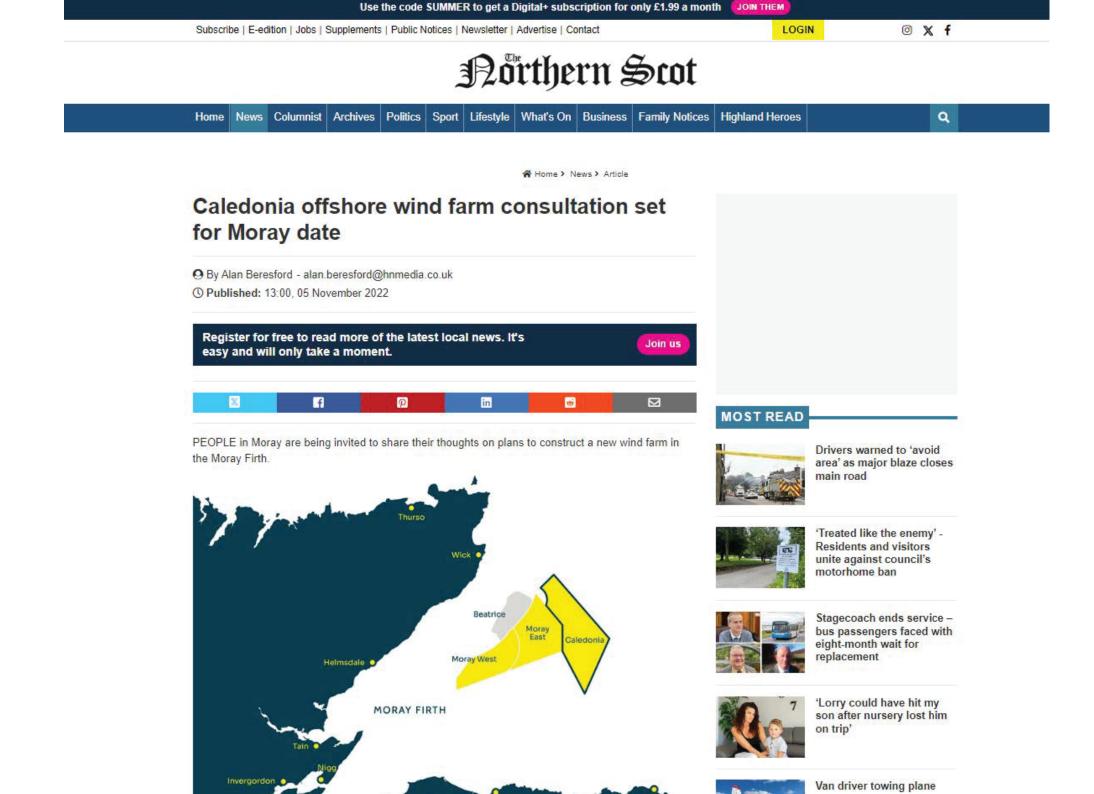
Drivers warned to 'avoid area' as major blaze closes main road



Fraserburgh

Whisky brand with Keith roots secures deal with English Premier League football club







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## 4 Letter to Community Councils

#### Dear

#### Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm – Public Exhibitions

In January, as part of the Scottish Government's ScotWind process, Ocean Winds was awarded a new site in the Moray Firth. This will be the Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm and will have a target capacity of 2GW - generating enough low-cost, low-carbon electricity to power around two million homes.

The project recently submitted its Scoping Report to Marine Scotland for consultation which informs the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

Consultation with local communities is a vital part of our development process and we are holding a series of public exhibition events to outline our plans and gather feedback. We would like to ask you to promote these events as widely as possible to encourage locals to attend and share their views with us.

Ocean Winds began developing offshore wind in Scotland in 2010, notably introducing this as a new sector to the Moray Firth. Since then, we've delivered the 950MW Moray East Offshore Wind Farm and are currently constructing the 882MW Moray West Offshore Wind Farm. Public consultation events were critical to influencing the development of both projects and this is an approach we aim to continue with Caledonia.

Our events will be help at the start of November at the following locations:

Wick - 7 November Mackays Hotel, 12-8pm

Fraserburgh – 9 November Leisure Centre, 12-8pm

#### Buckie – 10 November

Buckie Thistle Ace Winches Lounge, 12-8pm

We will also have a Virtual Engagement alternative which is available at www.caledoniaoffshorewind.com

We've attached an advert you can use to help promote the events, alongside a non-technical brochure which summarises our proposals. If you require a paper copy, please let me know.

If there is demand from your local community we can also organise further engagement.

If you would like to discuss the Caledonia Offshore Wind farm further , please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely

**Communications Manager** 



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### 5 Letter to MPs and MSPs



- To: Highlands & Island MSPs
  - NE Scotland MSPs

MP for Ins Nairn & Badenoch & Strathspey

MP for Caithness Sutherland & E Ross

MP for Banff & Buchan

MP for Moray

Dear

#### Caledonia Offshore Windfarm – Public Engagement

Ocean Winds began developing offshore wind in Scotland in 2010. Since then we have secured multi-billion pound investments to deliver the Moray East Offshore Windfarm (operational as of 2021) and Moray West Offshore Windfarm (under construction).

In January, as part of the Scottish Government's Scotwind process, Ocean Winds was awarded a further site neighbouring Moray East. This will be the Caledonia Offshore windfarm, with a target capacity of 2GW. Over the summer we have developed our initial proposals for the site and published a Scoping Report for the project Environmental Impact Assessment, this is currently undergoing consultation and has been sent to the appropriate agencies and organisations as part of the statutory planning process.

We recognise that our plans are likely to be of interest beyond the agencies and organisations who are statutory consultees. Consultation with local communities forms a vital part of our development process. Post Covid, the internet has become a prefered means of engament for many, so we have oppened a Virtual Engament website for the project, which is avialable at <a href="https://caledonia.virtual-engage.com">https://caledonia.virtual-engage.com</a>

For those who still prefer face-to face enagement, we are holding the project's first public exhibitions, open from 12pm - 8pm:

Wick, Mackays Hotel - 7 November

Fraserburgh Leaiure Centre – 9 November

Buckie Buckie Thistle Ace Winches Lounge - 10 November

These have been advertised in the local press. If you feel these events would be of interest to your constituents, I enclose an electronic copy of the advert for your convenience.

Further details about the project may be found at <u>www.caledoniaoffshorewind.com</u>.

Alternatively we have produced a 12 page project brochure (enc), of which I will be happy to send further copies; please contact me at <u>caledonia.info@oceanwinds.com</u> (including postal address to which the brochure should be sent) to request copies, or to arrange a meeting to discuss any aspect of the project.

Yours Sincerely

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