CALEDONIA
Offshore Wind Farm

Code: UKCAL-CWF-CON-EIA-APL-00001-A006

Application Document 1

Appendix 1-5 First Round Proposed Development (Onshore) Consultation Materials

Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm Ltd

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Application Document 1 Appendix 1-5 First Round Proposed Development (Onshore) Consultation Materials

Code	UKCAL-CWF-CON-EIA-APL-00001-A006
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CALEDONIA
Offshore Wind Farm

Ocean Winds' ambition for the Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm is to deliver low-cost, low-carbon energy in the quickest time possible.

The UK urgently needs the ability to produce more green electricity to bring down both the cost of energy and greenhouse gas emissions. Caledonia is one of the few sites remaining which offers optimum conditions for fast, low-cost construction.

Our proposed development will have a target capacity of 2GW, meaning it's primed to generate enough green electricity to meet the average needs of around 2 million homes.

With over a decade of development experience in the Moray Firth, we're uniquely placed to deliver a high-quality, low-risk wind farm quickly. We're particularly proud to have introduced offshore wind as a new sector to the region.

We believe infrastructure development should be done with communities, so our projects always begin with public engagement. Ocean Winds has already delivered benefits for local communities and invested considerably in local supply chains, and we're committed to amplifying this even further.

Our history speaks for itself. We've already delivered for Scotland in the Moray Firth and we're confident we'll do this again.

Learn more about Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm and send us feedback at:
www.caledoniaoffshorewind.com

Mark Baxter
Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm – Project Director

THE NEED FOR MORE GENERATION CAPACITY

At the start of the century, the UK had enough power stations to produce around a third more electricity than peak demand, but over the last 20 years, the generation margin has tightened as life-expired thermal power stations have come offline.

Since 2015, eleven coal fired power stations have closed, with the three remaining plants due to close by 2024; five of the UK's eight nuclear stations are still online but are due to close by the end of the decade.

Meantime, demand for electricity is set to increase as the country takes measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to reach net zero. For example, transition to an electric vehicle typically doubles annual household consumption; transition from gas to electric heating doubles this again.

The National Grid has a range of measures to keep the lights on but, like any commodity, when electricity is in short supply, prices are high; a situation made worse by exposure to volatile international gas prices.

Offshore wind is the quickest and lowest cost means of bringing additional generation capacity to the National Grid. The energy produced does not rely on internationally-traded gas or oil; it is produced from our indigenous wind resource, which is not subject to the risk of the international political and economic situation.

Increasing the country's ability to generate its own power provides greater security of supply in an increasingly uncertain world and is a key way to reverse the recent trend of increasing consumer prices.

WHY THE MORAY FIRTH?

The Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm (OWF) site in the Moray Firth offers three great advantages:

- **An excellent wind resource** – in comparison with many wind farms built in the UK to date, the wind blows stronger and for longer, meaning more electricity can be produced at lower cost.
- **Water depths** – on the Caledonia OWF site these are between 40m and 100m. In three quarters of the site, the water is shallow enough to use fixed foundation technology; the same technology that Ocean Winds used at its Moray East and Moray West sites. This means the technology is not just proven, but optimised to reduce cost and risk, enabling Caledonia OWF to be built quickly and at low cost.
- **Distance from shore** – Caledonia OWF is one of the few ScotWind projects which is close enough to shore to be built using conventional AC transmission technology. When wind farms are further than around 120km from their grid connection point, it becomes necessary to use DC transmission to get the electricity to shore. That means the additional cost of installing AC-DC convertors offshore and DC-AC convertors onshore. Not only does this add cost, it also adds time and risk, as AC-DC equipment is in short supply globally.

The Caledonia OWF will have a target capacity of 2GW and will almost double the generating capacity of the Moray Firth.

On the basis of conservative wind estimates, it is expected that Caledonia OWF will be able to produce enough electricity to meet the average annual needs of around 2 million homes.

It is expected to displace enough gas-fired generation to make emissions savings of 2.8million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year.

OCEAN WINDS

WHY OCEAN WINDS?

Ocean Winds is a trusted global company with a proven reputation of delivering and operating offshore wind infrastructure in the Moray Firth for over 12 years.

In 2009, the offshore wind industry was in its infancy, close to shore and in shallow (typically 5m) waters. Shallow coastal sites of this nature are limited, particularly in Scotland, and we recognised the advantages of taking the technology into deeper waters.

Ocean Winds has been part of the Scottish offshore wind industry since the outset – 6 GW of our global 16.6 GW portfolio is in the UK; all of it in Scotland.

Trading as EDP Renewables, Ocean Winds entered the offshore wind market in Scotland, opening its UK head office in Edinburgh in 2010 to develop offshore wind in the Moray Firth, as part of the Crown Estate's third round of offshore wind licensing.

The 950 MW Moray East was our first offshore wind project

It began to produce power in 2021. It was a landmark project in terms of technology and cost. Project delivery was more than building a new power station; it was introducing a new technology and a new industry to Scotland.

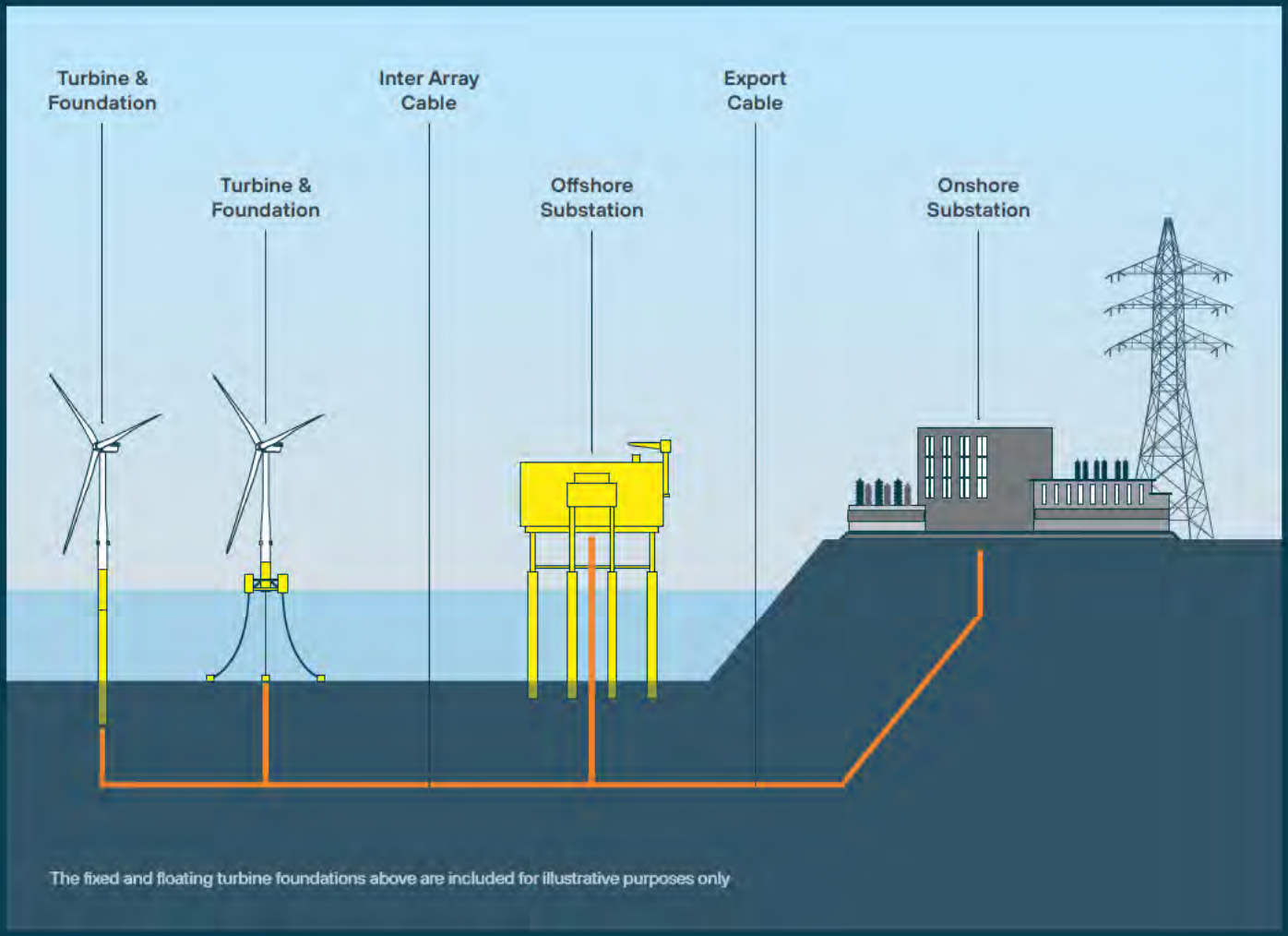
The success of Moray East has been followed by the 882 MW Moray West which is currently under construction. Offshore wind depends on a world-wide supply chain, and for the period of construction, Ocean Winds made the Cromarty Firth its focus, with all offshore components such as, blades, turbines nacelles, foundations etc., coming to local ports for finishing and preparatory work prior to marshalling and installation.

We generate local economic opportunity as well as electricity

We work closely with local suppliers such as Global Energy and the Port of Cromarty Firth, and their suppliers, supporting local companies to diversify into the new market by investing in people and facilities. That investment depends on a pipeline of market opportunities in the form of new projects, and Caledonia OWF extends that pipeline into the next decade.

OFFSHORE WIND FARM INFRASTRUCTURE

The major components of an offshore wind farm are outlined below:



TURBINES

Turbine technology has improved dramatically over the last decade and continues to improve.

When the first projects were deployed at the turn of the century, 3 MW turbines were considered large. Moray East uses 9.5 MW turbines, and Moray West (under construction) will use 14.7 MW. It is not possible to accurately predict technological advances by the time Caledonia OWF will be built, so a range of capacity is being considered; 14MW - 25MW.

Offshore substation platforms

All turbines are connected to an offshore substation platform by an inter array cable. The substation collects the electricity produced and transforms it to a higher voltage for transmission to shore. It is expected that up to six offshore substation platforms will be required.

Export cable and onshore substation (transmission infrastructure)

The power is taken to shore via subsea export cables. It is expected the cable will make landfall on the Aberdeenshire coast and from there will be carried by underground cable to the existing National Electricity Transmission Grid. A new, conventional onshore substation will be required to make the power generated at sea available to homes and businesses across the country via the National Grid.

The location for connection to the National Grid will be determined by the companies who own and operate it.

The export cable, onshore underground transmission cable and onshore substation will form the transmission infrastructure. More information on this can be found on page 10.

FOUNDATIONS AND SUBSTRUCTURES: FIXED AND FLOATING TECHNOLOGY

Since entering the offshore wind market over a decade ago, Ocean Winds has strived to reduce the cost of electricity by enabling infrastructure to be installed in deeper waters, opening up more of the world's oceans for offshore wind generation.

Ocean Winds has optimised fixed foundations such as the jackets (the three-legged structures similar to offshore oil platforms) used on Moray East or the monopiles (initially used for early, shallow-water projects, but now used in water depths of 35-54m by Moray West). As the technology has improved, economic deployment in deeper water has become possible, and Ocean Winds has been at the leading edge of commercial delivery of this advance.

Most of the world's oceans are too deep for the use of fixed foundations. To address this, we have pioneered the use of floating foundation technology.

Our WindFloat Atlantic project, in 100m water depths, 20km from the coast of Portugal, is the world's first full-scale project to use semi-submersible technology and was the first floating offshore wind farm in continental Europe. It began producing power in 2019, using three WindFloat® platforms, anchored to the seabed by mooring lines.

Floating offshore wind farms require a different approach to foundations. Because floating technology opens a huge amount of sea area for offshore development worldwide, it creates a major new market opportunity for Scotland.

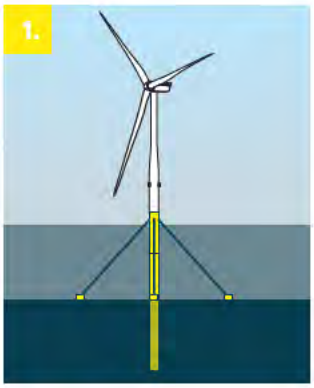
Most ScotWind projects are expected to be built using floating technology (including Ocean Winds' projects off the coast of Shetland). While the majority - 75 per cent - of the Caledonia site will be built using fixed foundations, the deeper parts provide Ocean Winds with the opportunity to do what it does best - economic deployment of new technology at commercial scale.

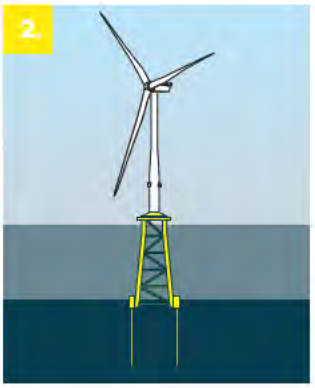
FOUNDATIONS IN THE CALEDONIA OWF SITE

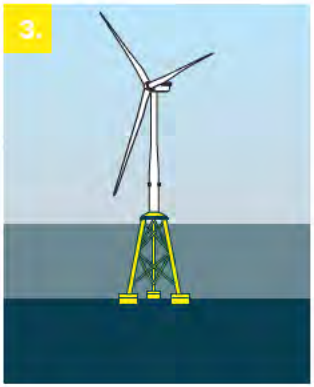
Most of the Caledonia OWF site (three quarters) is of water depths suitably shallow for the deployment of fixed foundations, such as those used in Moray East and Moray West.

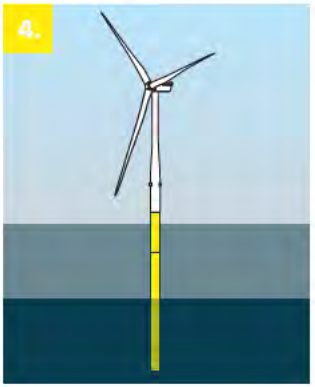
This technology is not just known and proven, but optimised by Ocean Winds at neighbouring sites - this is one of the reasons why Caledonia OWF can be built more quickly and at lower cost than other projects.

The area to the south of the site is deeper, and based on technology available today is the area of the site which would be considered for floating foundations. As this involves the introduction of a new technology to the Moray Firth, the project is keen to hear your views.



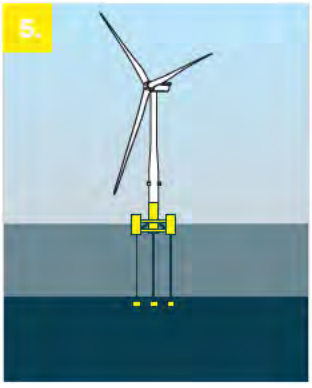


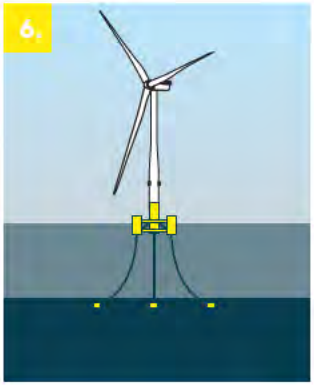


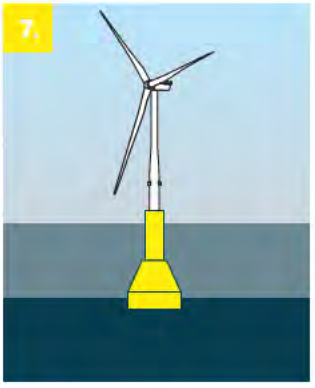


Types of foundation:

1. Fully restrained platform
2. Fixed jacket on pin piles
3. Fixed jacket on suction caissons
4. Fixed monopile
5. Floating tension leg platform
6. Floating semisubmersible
7. Gravity based structure







ONSHORE TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE

The onshore transmission infrastructure includes all the works required to get the power from the cable landfall point to the existing National Electricity Transmission Grid, in the vicinity of New Deer.

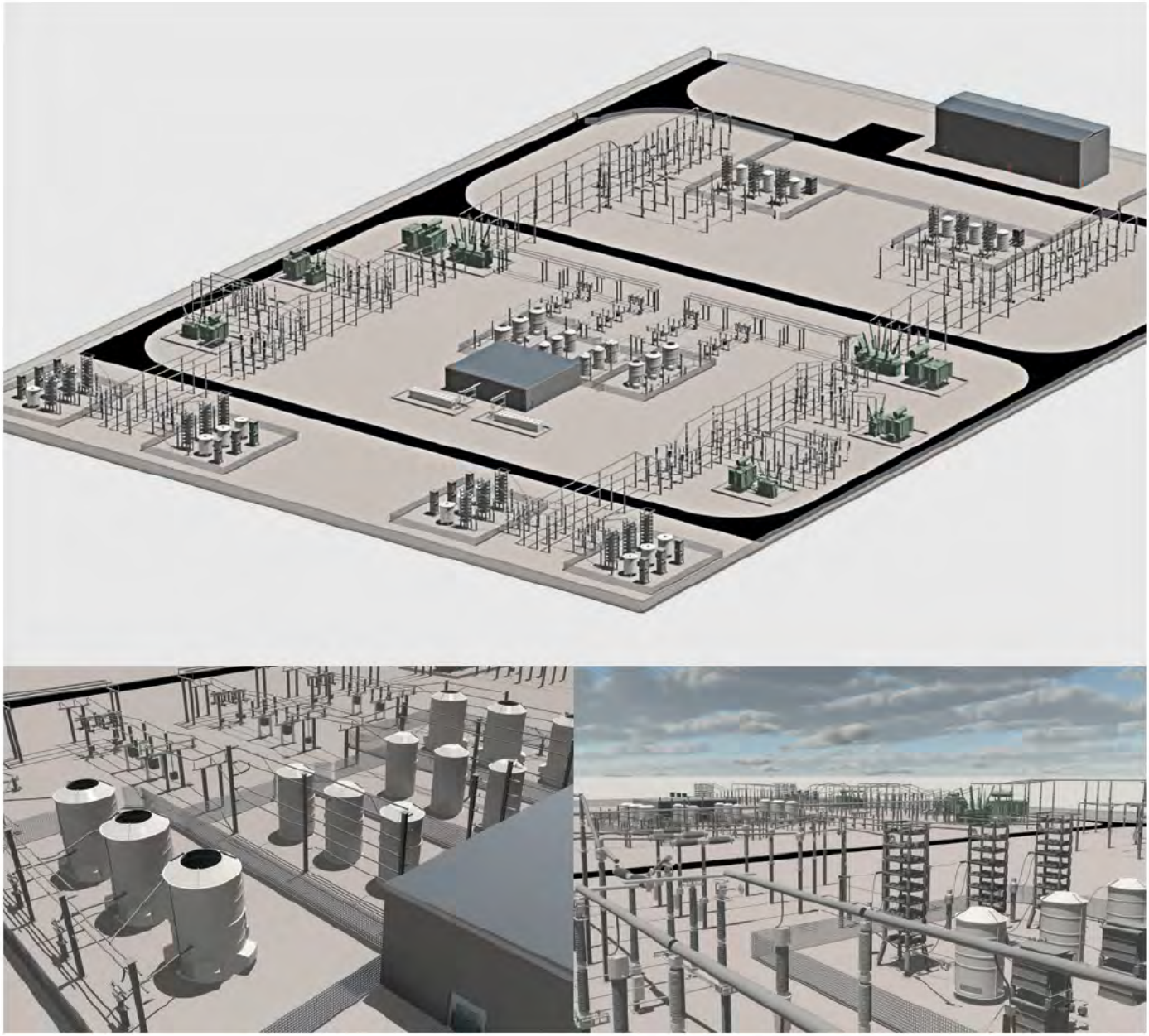
This work requires planning consent from Aberdeenshire Council. It includes:

- **A cable landing point -** the export cables from the offshore substation platforms (located close to the wind farm) will be buried below the seabed and remain underground as they come onshore. Temporary works will be required at a coastal site to land the cable, but all permanent infrastructure will be below ground. The potential landfall location for the export cables is situated along a stretch of coastline between Boyne Bay, east of Portsoy and Boyndie Bay, close to Banff.

Moray East Offshore Windfarm Cable landfall after reinstatement works

- **An underground cable route:** Up to six onshore cable circuits, each consisting of three single core cables and operated at up to 275kV, will be routed underground at a depth of ~1m from the landfall site to the onshore substation. The onshore underground cable route will have a distance of approximately 40km, and the land will be fully reinstated after the works. No overhead pylons will be required.
- **Substation:** Caledonia OWF expects to require one AC substation comprising of HVAC equipment, with a maximum footprint of up to 250m x 500m, up to 15m high and within a 6km diameter of the existing New Deer substation.
- **Onshore cable circuits from substation to grid connection point**: Up to six underground cable circuits will be installed from the onshore substation to the grid connection point. These will consist of three single core cables up to 350mm in diameter with a nominal voltage of 400kV which will be connected into 400kV circuit breakers within the grid connection point. The location for connection to the National Grid will be determined by the companies who own and operate it.

All onshore transmission infrastructure (except the substation) will be underground. During construction, a number of temporary construction compounds and storage facilities will be required. These areas will be reinstated once construction is complete, and infrastructure will not be visible.



These diagrams are purely indicative and do not represent plans for Caledonia

THE CABLE ROUTE

This map shows the results of the latest route corridor assessment, which considered technical and environmental factors to derive a preferred route corridor within the scoping area.

The area indicated on the map is considerably larger than the infrastructure, and represents the search area within which the infrastructure will be located.

We are currently undertaking baseline environmental surveys within this area to identify a ~ 100m working cable corridor and a substation site with a maximum footprint of up to 250m x 500m.

Your views on location of the proposed infrastructure within this corridor are welcome as part of the pre-application consultation which will inform refining the corridor for the planning application.

SCOPING, CONSULTATION & PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The publication of Caledonia OWF's Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report was the first major public document published by the project in September 2022. It provides details on what the project is and what technologies are being considered to deliver it.

It also outlines the work we intend to undertake for the Environmental Impact Assessment - an extensive range of research, surveys, modelling, and most importantly engagement to assess how the new infrastructure will affect the physical, biological and human environments of the Moray Firth. Public and virtual consultation events to gather feedback on this report were held in November 2022.

The project has also submitted its Onshore Transmission Infrastructure Scoping Report to Aberdeenshire Council (the consenting local authority), with public and virtual pre-application consultations held in Aberdeenshire in Summer 2023.

One of the guiding principles of Ocean Winds' project development is all proposals should be available to local communities for their consideration. This exemplifies our belief that development should be done with communities rather than to them, and local people should have a stake in infrastructure of which they can be proud.

This document has therefore been written (using details from Scoping Reports) to provide the general public with accessible information about the proposals for the Caledonia OWF, ensuring their views can be expressed at the earliest stage.

Your views are sought on the proposals included in the Onshore Transmission Infrastructure Scoping Report, and may be submitted by post to:
Caledonia OWF Consultation, Ocean Winds, 144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh EH3 8EX

Or by email to:
caledonia.info@oceanwinds.com

An online consultation form is available at:
caledoniaoffshorewind.com/the-project/public-engagement

Note: comments submitted at this stage are comments to the developer and not to the planning authority.

WHAT COMES NEXT?

The pre-application consultation events held for Caledonia OWF's Onshore Transmission Infrastructure Scoping Report will inform the project's onshore planning application. This is expected to be submitted to Aberdeenshire Council in 2024. When the application is submitted, there will be an opportunity to make comment on the application to the planning authority.

In terms of offshore work, the team is now undertaking a wide range of surveys, before moving on to compile an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). We expect the EIA to take around two years to complete.

The project will then apply to Marine Scotland for planning consent for the wind farm, and there will be a public consultation by Marine Scotland on the application. Marine Scotland will then consider the application, and any representations they receive about it, before determining whether or not to grant planning consent.

Ocean Winds will hold another round of consultation events to update the public on both the onshore and offshore infrastructure before the applications are submitted. If consent is granted, it is expected that Caledonia OWF could produce power by 2030.

CALEDONIA Offshore Wind Farm

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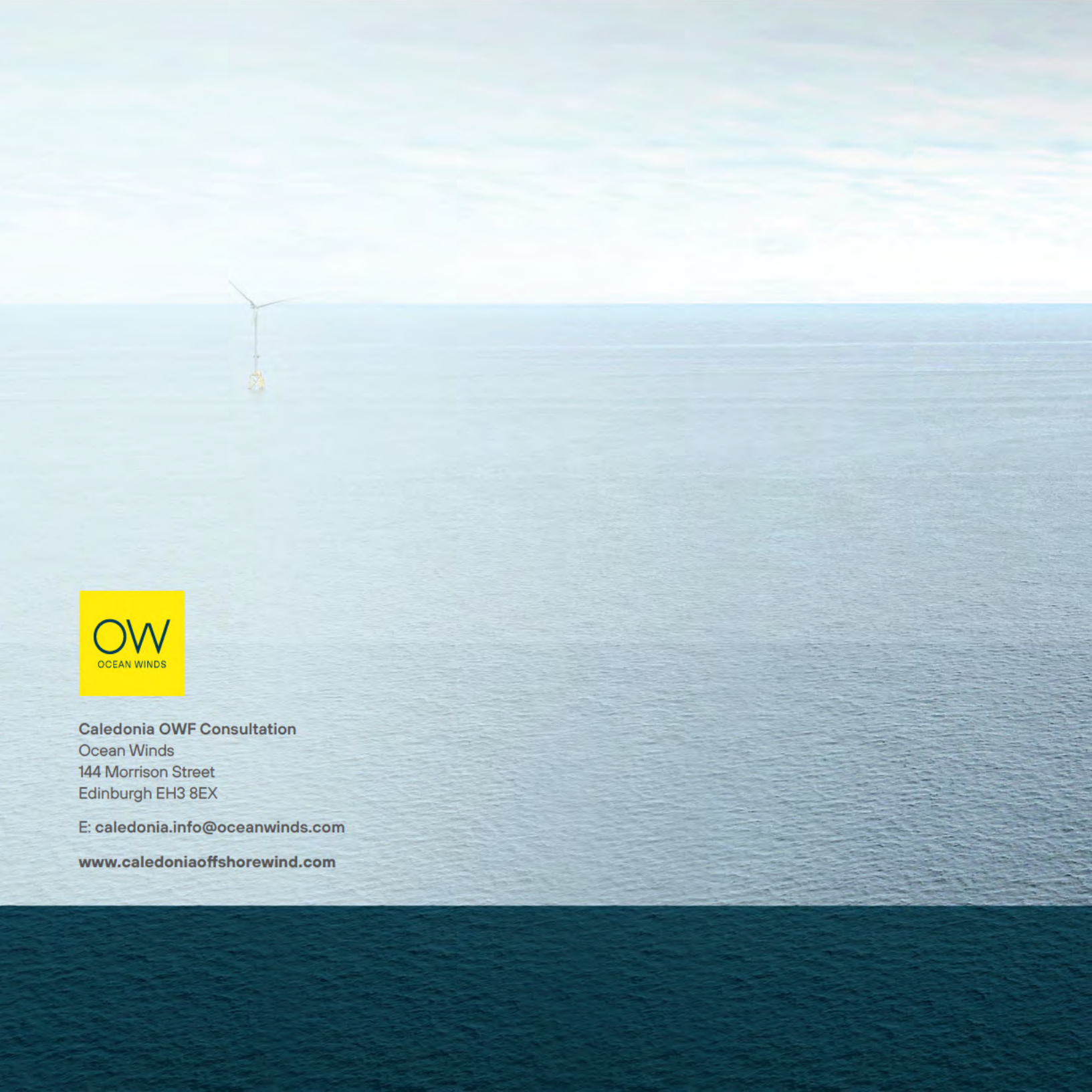

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NEED FOR THE PROJECT

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

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

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 (OWF) development will make an important contribution in helping to achieve the relevant policy and societal aims. Onshore transmission infrastructure is needed to transport energy to where it can be used. This includes all works required to transport power from the cable landing point to the connection point at the National Electric Transmission System, at the existing New Deer substation.

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

- Tackle climate change
- Secure energy supply
- New energy infrastructure
- Maximise economic opportunities

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.caledoniaoffshorewind.com**

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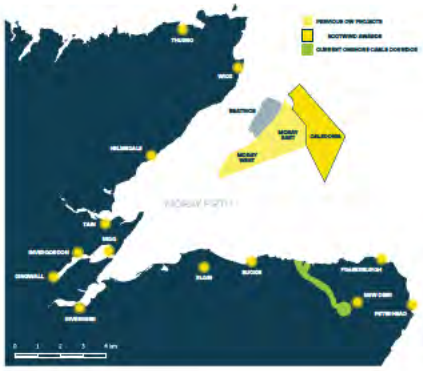
INTRODUCTION

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 Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm (OWF). The project submitted an Offshore Scoping Report in September 2022 and an Onshore Scoping Report in December 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 and the Aberdeenshire area.

Who We Are

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

Ocean Winds has a current total gross capacity of 16.6 GW worldwide, of which 6.1 GW is in Scotland, including ca. 1 GW in operation and ca. 1 GW under construction.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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

If you'd like to get in touch, you can either complete the feedback form or email us at:
caledonia.info@oceanwinds.com

edp Renewables ENGIE

Ocean Winds is a 50:50 venture between EDP Renewables and ENGIE

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OVERVIEW OF THE ONSHORE SCOPING REPORT

Requirement

The proposed Caledonia OWF development is in the pre-application stage and has recently carried out a scoping exercise. This has culminated in an Onshore Transmission Infrastructure Scoping Report which was submitted to Aberdeenshire Council as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in December 2022.

The 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
- The approach to consultation throughout the pre-application stages of the project.

The purpose of the scoping exercise was also to provide a high-level 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 Onshore Scoping Report:

- Land use and agriculture
- Terrestrial ecology and biodiversity
- Landscape and visual
- Terrestrial archaeology and cultural heritage
- Hydrology and hydrogeology
- Geology, soils and contaminated land
- Air quality
- Airborne noise and vibration
- Traffic and transport
- Climate
- Socio-economics, tourism and recreation
- Human health
- Major accidents and disasters

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PROJECT PROGRAMME

PROJECT TIMELINE

- **2022** – Scoping Report submissions
- **2023** – Data gathering and EIA preparation
- **2024** – Planning application submission
- **2025** – Planning permission granted
- **2026** – Application for approval of matters specified in condition
- **2027** – Start of onshore construction
- **2028** – Start of offshore construction
- **2030** – Connection to grid

Current Phase

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

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 onshore elements will take approximately two and a half years between 2027 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.

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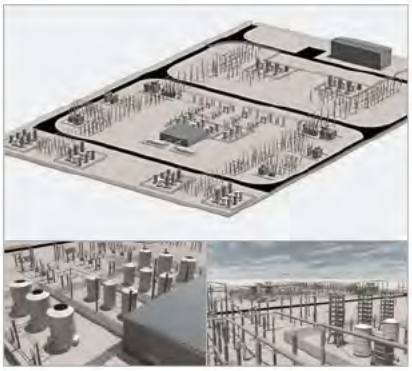
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION

The 2GW Caledonia OWF will consist of the following onshore transmission infrastructure:

- Up to six offshore export cables, with a nominal voltage of up to 275kV
- Landfall site, with up to six transition joint bays
- Up to six onshore cable circuits with a nominal voltage of up to 275kV between the landfall site and onshore substation
- Onshore substation
- Up to six onshore cable circuits with a nominal voltage of up to 400kV, from the onshore substation to the grid connection point.

All onshore transmission infrastructure (except the substation) will be underground. During construction, a number of temporary construction compounds, storage facilities, laydown areas and access and haulage tracks will be required. These areas will be reinstated once construction is complete and infrastructure will not be visible.



PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION

The onshore transmission infrastructure includes all works required to transport energy to the grid connection point at the existing New Deer substation. This includes:

CABLE LANDFALL POINT:

The landfall point is where the offshore export cables from the offshore substation platforms arrive on land. These will be buried below the seabed and will remain underground as they come onshore. The potential landfall location is situated between Boyne Bay, east of Portsoy and Boyndie Bay.

The preferred landfall site will be identified by considering environmental and engineering/ technical risks and cost constraints.

SUBSTATION

Caledonia OWF will connect to the National Electricity Transmission System at the existing SSEN Transmission Substation at New Deer.

The project is currently identifying suitable locations for one AC substation with a footprint of approximately 250m x 500m, up to 15m high, and within a 10km diameter of the existing New Deer substation.

CABLE ROUTE

Up to six onshore cable circuits, each consisting of three single core cables and operated at up to 275kV, will be routed underground from the landfall site to the onshore substation.

The cable route will have a maximum distance of approximately 40km and land will be fully reinstated after the works, with no overhead pylons required.

The map above visualises a preferred route corridor within the scoping area, derived by considering technical and environmental factors.

The project is currently undertaking baseline environmental surveys within this area to identify a ca. 100m working corridor to house the onshore infrastructure. The refined corridor will form the basis of the planning application to Aberdeenshire Council.

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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 Environmental Statement, an EIA report involves the 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.

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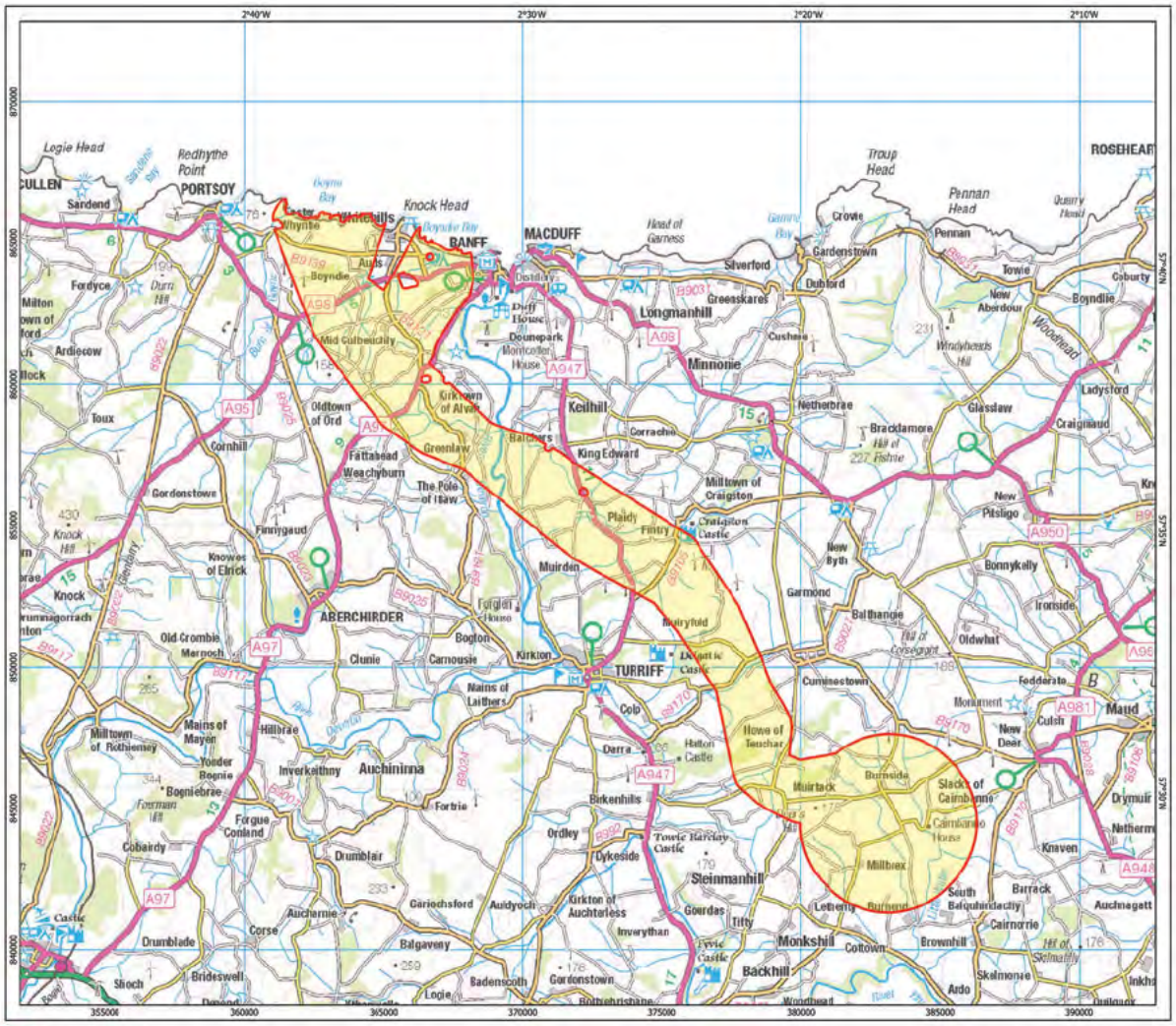
Preliminary Cable Corridor



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2 Advertisements in Local Press

Digital copies of advertisements placed in the relevant newspapers listed below are provided. To note, one digital copy of the notice provided by Highland News and Media to cover Banffshire Advertiser, Banffshire Journal, Banffshire Herald and Huntly Express.

Table 2-1 First Round Onshore Advertisements

Newspaper	Date Published	Media Group/Publisher
Banffshire Advertiser	6 June 2023	Highland News and Media
Banffshire Journal	6 June 2023	Highland News and Media
Banffshire Herald	6 June 2023	Highland News and Media
Huntly Express	6 June 2023	Highland News and Media
Press & Journal	8 June 2023	DC Thompson

publicnotices

CALEDONIA
Offshore Wind Farm

Onshore Transmission Infrastructure

The proposed 2GW Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm will be situated 40km off the Moray Firth coast.

Electricity transmission infrastructure, including an underground cable in Aberdeenshire and new onshore substation in the vicinity of the exisiting New Deer substation will be required to transmit the power generated to homes and businesses onshore.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS

A series of public exhibitions are being held to provide local people with the opportunity to learn about and comment on proposals for the onshore elements of the project.

An online virtual exhibition room which includes the opportunity to comment on the proposals is also available until 7 July 2023 at: **www.caledoniaoffshorewind.com**

Comments can be also made in writing to: **Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm Ltd, 5th Floor, 144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8EX.**

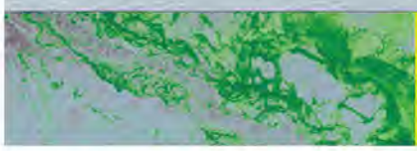
Please note: at this stage, comments made on the development are representations to the developer, not to the planning authority. There will be an opportunity to make representations to the planning authority on any resultant applications.

Meet the team between 12.00-19:00 in:

BANFF
Tuesday 20 June
Banff Springs Hotel
Golden Knowes Road
AB45 2JE

TURRIFF
Wednesday 21 June
Fife Arms Hotel
The Square, AB53 4AE

NEW DEER
Thursday 22 June
St Kane's Church Centre
AB53 6WE



OW
OCEAN WINDS

ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013, Regulation 20(1) or PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997, Regulation 60(2)(a) or 65(2)(a)

The applications listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted may be viewed using the online Planning Register at https://upa.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/online-applications/.

Comments may be made quoting the reference number and stating clearly the grounds for making comment. Comments can be submitted using the Planning Register when viewing the application. Alternatively, comments can be addressed to Aberdeenshire Council, Planning and Economy Service, Viewmount, Arduthie Road, Stonehaven, AB39 2DQ (or emailed to planningonline@aberdeenshire.gov.uk). Please note that any comment, where considered valid, will be published on the Planning Register.

Please note that even if you have made comments to the applicant prior to this application being submitted, or to the Council regarding a similar application that has been made on this site before, you will still need to make your comments to the Council on the current application.

Comments must be received by 26 June 2023

Address: Huntly Parish Church, Church Street,Huntly **Proposal:** Removal of Existing Wall, Erection of Replacement Boundary Wall and Fence and Alterations to Ground Levels – APP/2023/0803

Address: North Gorrachie, King Edward, Banff **Proposal:** Siting of Container for Use at Pet Crematorium (Sui Generis) and Part Change of Use of Dwellinghouse to Form Office – APP/2023/0807

Address: Collonach, 15 Littlejohn Street, Huntly **Proposal:** Installation of 4 Replacement Windows – APP/2023/0928

Address: Gartly Community Hall, Gartly, Huntly **Proposal:** Installation of Ramp – APP/2023/0984

Address: Site at Mill of Delgaty, Turriff **Proposal:** Erection of Dwellinghouse – APP/2023/0993

Address: Clashindarroch Forest, Rhynie, Huntly, AB54 4HH **Proposal:** Installation of 25m Lightweight Lattice Mast Supporting 3no. Radio Antennas, 3no. Transmission Dishes, Radio Equipment Housing, Powersafe Generator Container, Ancillary Equipment and Access Track – APP/2023/0962

Address: Land to the South of Congan's Den, Turriff **Proposal:** Erection of Dwellinghouse – APP/2023/0892

ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL

U53L – TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

"The Aberdeenshire Council (U53L Leitcheston Road) (Temporary Closure to Vehicular Traffic) Order, 2023" has been made under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984.

The order will operate from 12/06/23 for 2 weeks and will prohibit any person from driving on the the U53L Leitcheston Road from the junction with U53AL to Mains of Birkenbog.

Access will be provided for emergency and vehicles requiring access to properties but may be subject to delay until the road is cleared of construction plant to allow safe passage through the works.

The temporary restriction is necessary in the interests of public safety owing to work for electricity company. An alternative route is available via the U53L to C13L towards Birkenbog, C13L to U53AL to U53L and vice versa.

Details of the restriction can be viewed online at https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/apps/roadworks/ Any queries should be directed to Sarah Cooper on 01467 533164.

Head of Legal and People, Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen AB16 5GB

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (as amended) PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
The application(s) for planning permission and other related consents may be examined online at http://publicaccess.moray.gov.uk/eplanning or https://www.tellmescotland.gov.uk Access to these is available at the Access Point, High Street, Elgin, 9am to 5pm, Mon to Fri and public libraries.
Written comments may be made to Manager (Development Management and Building Standards Manager), Economic Growth and Development, Moray Council, P.O. Box 6760, Elgin, IV30 9BX Telephone 0300 1234561 Fax (01343) 693169 or comments.planning@moray.gov.uk by 26/06/2023

Information on the application including representations will be published online.
Representations must be made as described here, even if you have commented to the applicant prior to the application being made.

Reference Number	Proposed Development, Address, Reason(s) for Advertisement

23/00790/PPP Proposed house plot on site to rear of 44 Regent Street, Keith
Reason(s): 1(e)

23/00789/APP Convert office to self-contained flat at 44 Regent Street, Keith
Reason(s): 1(e)

Reasons for advertisement:
1(e) Where an application affects a Listed Building and/or a Conservation Area

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Thursday, June 8, 2023

Warnings of wildfires for this weekend

DAVID MACKAY

Wildfire warnings have been upgraded to "extreme" in the Highlands, Aberdeenshire and Moray as firefighters continue to battle the huge Cannich blaze.

A nationwide "very high" alert has been extended through the weekend amidst a dry period across the country.

The response to the Cannich fire, north-west of Inverness, continued yesterday – 10 days after crews were first called to the scene.

The warning comes as temperatures are forecast to top 20C across the Highlands, Moray and Aberdeenshire at the weekend.

The fire service has upgraded the wildfire warning to "red extreme" for some parts of the Highlands, specifically the areas south of Nairn and surrounding Loch Ness.

Meanwhile, an "amber extreme" warning has been issued for the rest of the Highlands, all of Moray and inland Aberdeenshire.

Only the East Coast, Caithness and the Western Isles are in the lower "very high" warning zone while the risk in Orkney and Shetland is "low, moderate or high".

The current warnings are due to remain in place until Saturday.

Meanwhile, 30 firefighters continue to tackle the blaze at Cannich, which covers an area of about six square miles.

FIREFIGHTING: Teams are still responding to a blaze in Cannich.

Fire crews have urged members of the public to take care while enjoying the outdoors at the weekend.

With temperatures due to top 20C across much of the north and north-east, the smallest spark can lead to an emergency.

It is believed the Cannich wildfire may have been started by wild camping.

On Tuesday, an issue with forestry machinery near Loch Lochy spread to the surrounding area with worries it could have gone further.

Station commander John Harvey said: "We know that many people will be hoping to enjoy the outdoors when the weather is good, but we urge everyone to make sure that they don't increase the chance of wildfire.

"Wild and grass fires can start by the careless disposal of cigarettes and barbecues or campfires left unattended.

"They then have the potential to burn for days and devastate vast areas of land, wildlife and threaten the welfare of nearby communities."

3 Local Press Coverage

Aberdeenshire residents given opportunity to influence early stages of Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm

By David Porter - david.porter@hnmedia.co.uk

Published: 17:30, 07 June 2023 | **Updated:** 15:48, 08 June 2023

Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm, a proposed 2GW project being developed in the Moray Firth, is holding a series of public consultation events across Aberdeenshire to gather feedback on its onshore infrastructure including an underground transmission cable and a new electricity substation south of New Deer.

Events will allow local communities to learn more and share their thoughts on the development's onshore infrastructure plans and its approach to the Environment Impact Assessment process.

Events will be held from 12-7pm across three days and three locations:

• Banff (Banff Springs Hotel - June 20).

• Turriff (Fife Arms Hotel – June 21)

• New Deer (St Kane's Church Centre – June 22).

A virtual consultation is also available for those unable to attend the events.

Feedback can be provided at: https://caledonia.virtual-engage.com/

Submitted to Aberdeenshire Council in November 2022, the scoping report outlines proposals for the required onshore infrastructure elements and installation work.

This infrastructure ensures the energy at the offshore site is delivered to the onshore National Grid point and onto consumers.

MOST READ

'Treated like the enemy' - Residents and visitors unite against council's motorhome ban

Aldi move a 'blow to town centre and elderly'

Injured motorcyclist flown to hospital after crash

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

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

4 Letter to Landowners

Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm
Onshore consultation events
June 2023
Letter to landowners

Dear [NAME],

As Project Land Manager for the Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm, a proposed 2GW development in the Moray Firth, I wanted to share some information regarding the onshore infrastructure plans.

In November 2022, we submitted our Onshore Scoping Report to Aberdeenshire Council, outlining plans for the project's onshore transmission infrastructure. This will consist of an underground cable landfall site along the coast, a new electricity substation in the vicinity of New Deer and an underground cable route connecting the two sites. All land will be fully reinstated after these works and no overhead pylons will be required for the cable route.

When planning the underground cable route, the project considered technical and environmental factors to derive a preferred cable corridor (please see map attached). We are sharing the current cable corridor map with you and other relevant landowners ahead of it being shared publicly at the project's upcoming consultation events.

The project will require the acquisition of certain land-rights, discussions with individual landowners have commenced, but as this is in its early stages, not all relevant landowners have yet been contacted by the project; this will happen over the coming months.

Caledonia has now begun pre-application consultation, during which the project will consult with the community prior to submitting its onshore planning application. We are holding a series of public exhibitions in Banff (Banff Springs Hotel, 20 June), Turriff (Fife Arms Hotel, 21 June) and New Deer (St Kane's Church Centre, 22 June). These events will allow local residents to meet the project team and discuss the development, its proposed onshore infrastructure and its approach to the Environment Assessment process. The events run from 12pm – 7pm on each day and will be accompanied by an on-line digital exhibition from 5 June for those who prefer not to attend in person: www.caledoniaoffshorewind.com.

I will be available at the public exhibitions to discuss matters specific to landowners; however if you would prefer to make private arrangements to meet at a date and time of your convenience, please email me on [redacted]@oceanwinds.com, or write to me at the address below.

We know the Caledonia development is of significant interest to the local community and we are committed to consulting extensively to ensure your views are taken onboard throughout to inform project development.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

Project Land Manager
Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm

5 Briefing Invitation to Local Councillors

7 June 2023

To: All Aberdeenshire Councillors

Dear Sir/Madam

Invitation: Offshore Wind Briefing, Ops. & Maint. Base, Fraserburgh, Wed 28 June 12pm

Ocean Winds has been developing offshore wind generation in the Moray Firth since 2010, and are now one of Scotland's biggest offshore wind companies, responsible for the Moray East Offshore windfarm (operational) Moray West Offshore Windfarm (under construction) and Caledonia Offshore Windfarm (under development).

I would like to invite you to a briefing session about our current and future projects, including the Caledonia Offshore Windfarm – a 2GW Scotwind project expected to be delivered in 2030.

The session will be held:

Location: **Moray East Operations and Maintenenace Base, Fraserburgh Harbour**

Date: **Wed. 28 June**

Time: **12pm – 2pm**

Lunch and a tour of the Operations and Maintenance base will be included.

I would be grateful if you could RSVP to caledonia@weareaspect.com by 16 June to allow planning for numbers and catering arrangements to be made. Owing to the size of the O&M base, accomododation is limited; if demand exceeds places available we shall organise a second event.

If you would like to discuss further, please contact me on 07584 608842.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Communications Manager.

6 Direct Mailer

7 June 2023

To: All Aberdeenshire Councillors

Dear Sir/Madam

Invitation: Offshore Wind Briefing, Ops. & Maint. Base, Fraserburgh, Wed 28 June 12pm

Ocean Winds has been developing offshore wind generation in the Moray Firth since 2010, and are now one of Scotland's biggest offshore wind companies, responsible for the Moray East Offshore windfarm (operational) Moray West Offshore Windfarm (under construction) and Caledonia Offshore Windfarm (under development).

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If you would like to discuss further, please contact me on 07584 608842.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Communications Manager.

The Occupier
ADDRESS1
ADDRESS2
ADDRESS3

October 2023

Dear Householder,

Caledonia Offshore Windfarm – Onshore Infrastructure Consultation

As part of the Scottish Government's Scotwind Programme, Ocean Winds is currently developing plans for a new 2GW offshore windfarm in the Moray Firth. In order to connect this facility to the National Grid, new infrastructure will be required in Aberdeenshire, including an underground cable and a new substation in the vicinity of New Deer.

In June we undertook a series of village consultation events, advertised in the local press, in order to give local people the opportunity to discuss the project and provide feedback on our plans. Part of that feedback included the importance of ensuring awareness of plans for new infrastructure, and the challenges of doing this in a changing media environment and declining newspaper circulation.

In response we have therefore decided to write to all residents neighbouring the area being considered for the cable route and the substation directly, in order to provide each household with a paper copy of the information made available at the public exhibitions. We have also extended our date for providing feedback to the proposals to 1 December. In this envelope you will find:

1. A booklet, providing an overview of the project. The onshore elements (underground cable and substation) are on p10 -p13
2. An Opinion Survey - This is the same as was made available at the public exhibitions and may be used if you wish to provide feedback about the proposals. (If you attended the exhibition and completed a survey there is no need to do so again)
3. A prepaid envelope to return the survey to our offices.

If you would prefer to complete the survey electronically, it is available on line at https://caledonia.virtual-engage.com

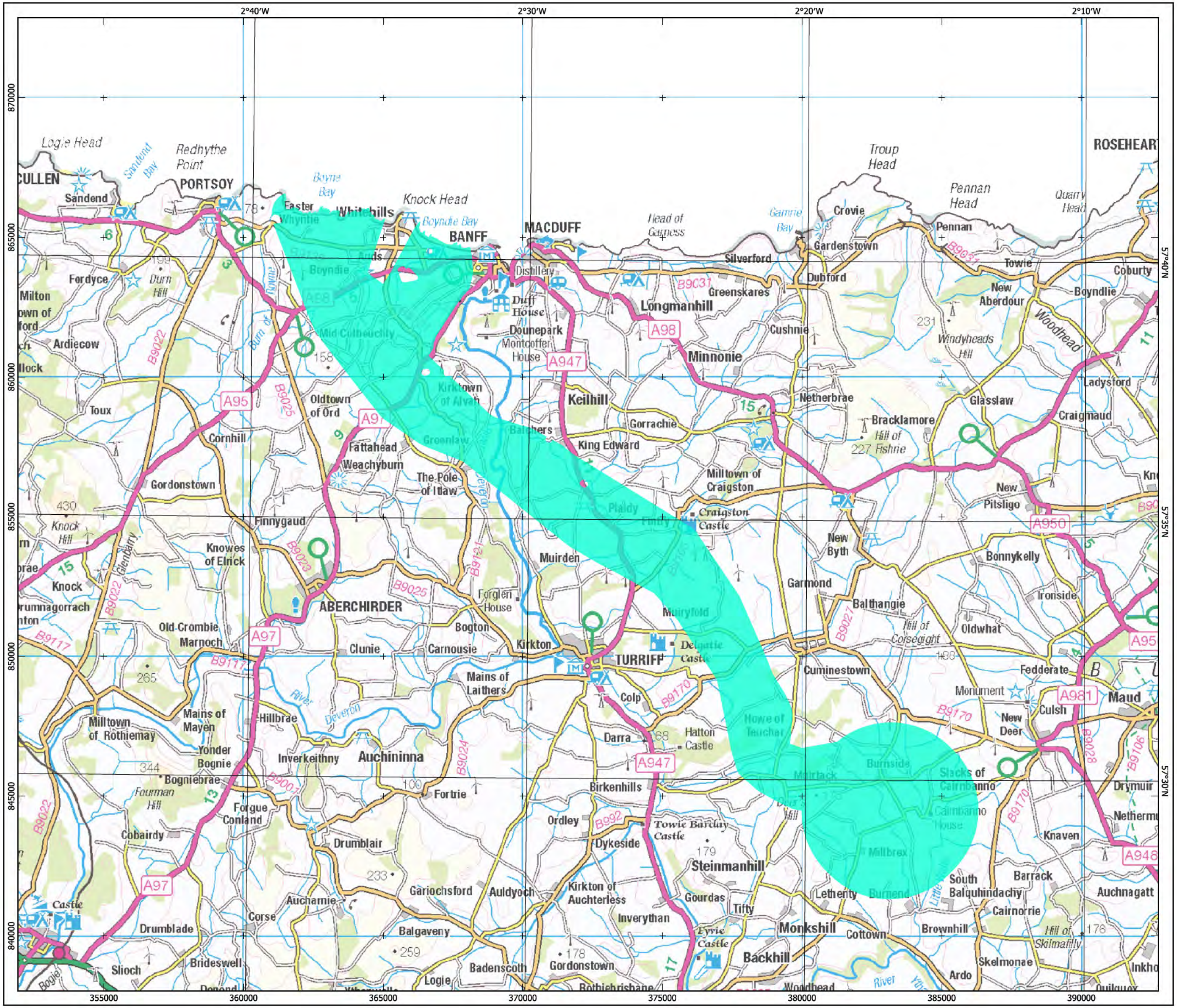
This consultation is a pre-application consultation by the developer (not the planning authority). Responses to it will help inform any planning application which we go on to submit to Aberdeenshire Council as the planning authority. When such an application is submitted, there will be the opportunity to make comment directly to the planning authority.

Yours faithfully

[redacted], Communications Manager

Caledonia Offshore Windfarm Limited
5th Floor, Atria One, 144 Morrison St.
EDINBURGH EH3 8EX
T: +44 (0) 131 556 7602

Preliminary Cable Corridor



Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right (2023)

Scale at A3: 1:125,000

0 1 2 3 4 5 km

N

CRS: British National Grid (EPSG:27700)		
Produced:	Reviewed:	Approved:
TG	IA	RD
Date: 05/05/2023	Revision: 02	
REF: UKCAL-OW-ONE-ENV-MAP-00002		

Preliminary Cable Corridor

CALEDONIA Offshore Wind Farm

OW OCEAN WINDS

Onshore Transmission Infrastructure Pre-Application Public Opinion Survey

Ocean Winds (the company responsible for delivering the now-operational Moray East Offshore Windfarm in the Moray Firth) are developing proposals to deliver another offshore windfarm, neighbouring the Moray East site as part of the Scotwind process. The new windfarm will be called the Caledonia Offshore Windfarm, it will have an expected capacity of approximately 2000MW. Similar to the Moray East Offshore Windfarm, it is proposed to be connected to the national electricity transmission system by new underground cable circuits in Aberdeenshire, and a new onshore substation in the vicinity of New Deer.

This pre-application consultation provides the opportunity for the public to make comment on the onshore elements of the project (the underground cable and onshore substation) prior to a planning application being submitted.

Please note that this consultation provides feedback to the developer, and not to the local planning authority. The opportunity to provide representations to the planning authority will be provided after any application for planning consent is made.

1. Do you support the delivery of the proposed Caledonia Offshore Windfarm in the Moray Firth? (Please circle):

   YES
   NO
   NO OPINION

2. Are you aware of the works to deliver the existing Moray East Offshore Windfarm Transmission Infrastructure in Aberdeenshire 2018-2021?

   YES
   NO

3. Do you have any comment on the Moray East works which could inform the way similar future works are undertaken?

   ……

   ……

   ……

4. On p12 of the brochure, a map showing the "search area" within which work is being undertaken to determine where, within the blue boundary, the following infrastructure will be located:
    - The cable will make landfall (underground) at one of the coastal locations indicated
    - A cable corridor of ca 100m width will be located within the ca. 2km search corridor indicated
    - A new substation of up to 250 x 500m will be located within the 6km substation circumference

    The search area indicated in blue on the map is much larger than the infrastructure. This consultation is intended to assist refining where, within the search area, the infrastructure will be located:

    (a) Do you have any comments on the potential cable landfall locations?

    ……

    ……

    (b) Do you have any comments on the proposed cable route corridor?

    ……

    ……

    (c) Do you have any comments on the proposed substation location?

    ……

    ……

5. Do you have any comments on the timeframe on which works are expected to be undertaken?

    ……

    ……

6. If you have any other comments about the proposals for Caledonia Offshore Windfarm transmission infrastructure , please detail below:

    ……

    ……

    ……

7. If you would like to be kept up to date with details about the Caledonia Offshore Windfarm, please provide your email or postal address below:

    ……

    ……

    ……


CALEDONIA
Offshore Wind Farm
Introducing Caledonia
A Proposed 2GW Offshore Wind Farm in the Moray Firth
OW
OCEAN WINDS
www.caledoniaoffshorewind.com

CALEDONIA
Offshore Wind Farm

Ocean Winds' ambition for the Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm is to deliver low-cost, low-carbon energy in the quickest time possible.

The UK urgently needs the ability to produce more green electricity to bring down both the cost of energy and greenhouse gas emissions. Caledonia is one of the few sites remaining which offers optimum conditions for fast, low-cost construction.

Our proposed development will have a target capacity of 2GW, meaning it's primed to generate enough green electricity to meet the average needs of around 2 million homes.

With over a decade of development experience in the Moray Firth, we're uniquely placed to deliver a high-quality, low-risk wind farm quickly. We're particularly proud to have introduced offshore wind as a new sector to the region.

We believe infrastructure development should be done with communities, so our projects always begin with public engagement. Ocean Winds has already delivered benefits for local communities and invested considerably in local supply chains, and we're committed to amplifying this even further.

Our history speaks for itself. We've already delivered for Scotland in the Moray Firth and we're confident we'll do this again.

Learn more about Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm and send us feedback at:
www.caledoniaoffshorewind.com

Mark Baxter
Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm – Project Director

THE NEED FOR MORE GENERATION CAPACITY

At the start of the century, the UK had enough power stations to produce around a third more electricity than peak demand, but over the last 20 years, the generation margin has tightened as life-expired thermal power stations have come offline.

Since 2015, eleven coal fired power stations have closed, with the three remaining plants due to close by 2024; five of the UK's eight nuclear stations are still online but are due to close by the end of the decade.

Meantime, demand for electricity is set to increase as the country takes measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to reach net zero. For example, transition to an electric vehicle typically doubles annual household consumption; transition from gas to electric heating doubles this again.

The National Grid has a range of measures to keep the lights on but, like any commodity, when electricity is in short supply, prices are high; a situation made worse by exposure to volatile international gas prices.

Offshore wind is the quickest and lowest cost means of bringing additional generation capacity to the National Grid. The energy produced does not rely on internationally-traded gas or oil; it is produced from our indigenous wind resource, which is not subject to the risk of the international political and economic situation.

Increasing the country's ability to generate its own power provides greater security of supply in an increasingly uncertain world and is a key way to reverse the recent trend of increasing consumer prices.

WHY THE MORAY FIRTH?

The Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm (OWF) site in the Moray Firth offers three great advantages:

- **An excellent wind resource** – in comparison with many wind farms built in the UK to date, the wind blows stronger and for longer, meaning more electricity can be produced at lower cost.
- **Water depths** – on the Caledonia OWF site these are between 40m and 100m. In three quarters of the site, the water is shallow enough to use fixed foundation technology; the same technology that Ocean Winds used at its Moray East and Moray West sites. This means the technology is not just proven, but optimised to reduce cost and risk, enabling Caledonia OWF to be built quickly and at low cost.
- **Distance from shore** – Caledonia OWF is one of the few ScotWind projects which is close enough to shore to be built using conventional AC transmission technology. When wind farms are further than around 120km from their grid connection point, it becomes necessary to use DC transmission to get the electricity to shore. That means the additional cost of installing AC-DC convertors offshore and DC-AC convertors onshore. Not only does this add cost, it also adds time and risk, as AC-DC equipment is in short supply globally.

The Caledonia OWF will have a target capacity of 2GW and will almost double the generating capacity of the Moray Firth.

On the basis of conservative wind estimates, it is expected that Caledonia OWF will be able to produce enough electricity to meet the average annual needs of around 2 million homes.

It is expected to displace enough gas-fired generation to make emissions savings of 2.8million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year.

OCEAN WINDS

WHY OCEAN WINDS?

Ocean Winds is a trusted global company with a proven reputation of delivering and operating offshore wind infrastructure in the Moray Firth for over 12 years.

In 2009, the offshore wind industry was in its infancy, close to shore and in shallow (typically 5m) waters. Shallow coastal sites of this nature are limited, particularly in Scotland, and we recognised the advantages of taking the technology into deeper waters.

Ocean Winds has been part of the Scottish offshore wind industry since the outset – 6 GW of our global 16.6 GW portfolio is in the UK; all of it in Scotland.

Trading as EDP Renewables, Ocean Winds entered the offshore wind market in Scotland, opening its UK head office in Edinburgh in 2010 to develop offshore wind in the Moray Firth, as part of the Crown Estate's third round of offshore wind licensing.

The 950 MW Moray East was our first offshore wind project

It began to produce power in 2021. It was a landmark project in terms of technology and cost. Project delivery was more than building a new power station; it was introducing a new technology and a new industry to Scotland.

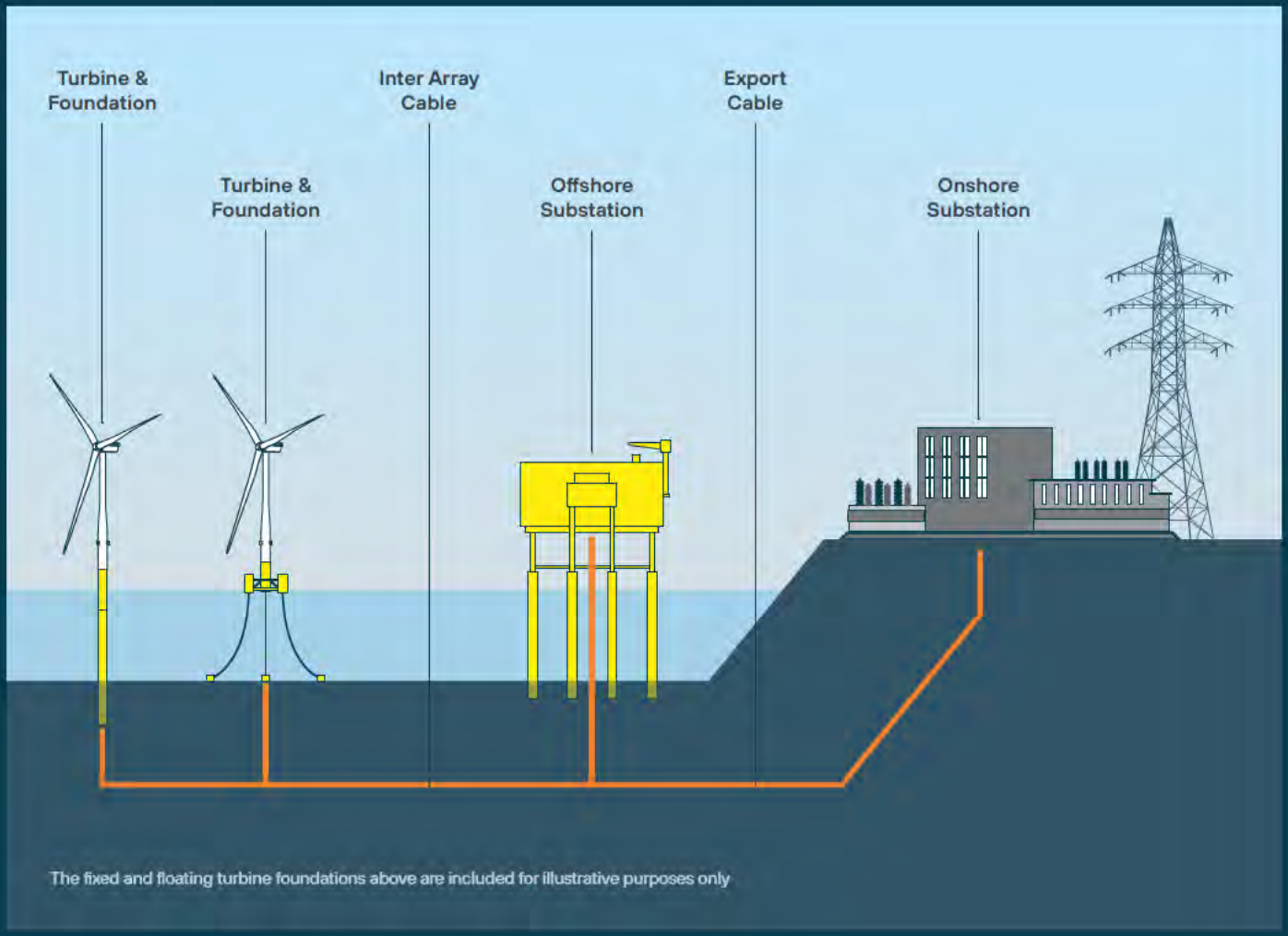
The success of Moray East has been followed by the 882 MW Moray West which is currently under construction. Offshore wind depends on a world-wide supply chain, and for the period of construction, Ocean Winds made the Cromarty Firth its focus, with all offshore components such as, blades, turbines nacelles, foundations etc., coming to local ports for finishing and preparatory work prior to marshalling and installation.

We generate local economic opportunity as well as electricity

We work closely with local suppliers such as Global Energy and the Port of Cromarty Firth, and their suppliers, supporting local companies to diversify into the new market by investing in people and facilities. That investment depends on a pipeline of market opportunities in the form of new projects, and Caledonia OWF extends that pipeline into the next decade.

OFFSHORE WIND FARM INFRASTRUCTURE

The major components of an offshore wind farm are outlined below:



TURBINES

Turbine technology has improved dramatically over the last decade and continues to improve.

When the first projects were deployed at the turn of the century, 3 MW turbines were considered large. Moray East uses 9.5 MW turbines, and Moray West (under construction) will use 14.7 MW. It is not possible to accurately predict technological advances by the time Caledonia OWF will be built, so a range of capacity is being considered; 14MW - 25MW.

Offshore substation platforms

All turbines are connected to an offshore substation platform by an inter array cable. The substation collects the electricity produced and transforms it to a higher voltage for transmission to shore. It is expected that up to six offshore substation platforms will be required.

Export cable and onshore substation (transmission infrastructure)

The power is taken to shore via subsea export cables. It is expected the cable will make landfall on the Aberdeenshire coast and from there will be carried by underground cable to the existing National Electricity Transmission Grid. A new, conventional onshore substation will be required to make the power generated at sea available to homes and businesses across the country via the National Grid.

The location for connection to the National Grid will be determined by the companies who own and operate it.

The export cable, onshore underground transmission cable and onshore substation will form the transmission infrastructure. More information on this can be found on page 10.

FOUNDATIONS AND SUBSTRUCTURES: FIXED AND FLOATING TECHNOLOGY

Since entering the offshore wind market over a decade ago, Ocean Winds has strived to reduce the cost of electricity by enabling infrastructure to be installed in deeper waters, opening up more of the world's oceans for offshore wind generation.

Ocean Winds has optimised fixed foundations such as the jackets (the three-legged structures similar to offshore oil platforms) used on Moray East or the monopiles (initially used for early, shallow-water projects, but now used in water depths of 35-54m by Moray West). As the technology has improved, economic deployment in deeper water has become possible, and Ocean Winds has been at the leading edge of commercial delivery of this advance.

Most of the world's oceans are too deep for the use of fixed foundations. To address this, we have pioneered the use of floating foundation technology.

Our WindFloat Atlantic project, in 100m water depths, 20km from the coast of Portugal, is the world's first full-scale project to use semi-submersible technology and was the first floating offshore wind farm in continental Europe. It began producing power in 2019, using three WindFloat® platforms, anchored to the seabed by mooring lines.

Floating offshore wind farms require a different approach to foundations. Because floating technology opens a huge amount of sea area for offshore development worldwide, it creates a major new market opportunity for Scotland.

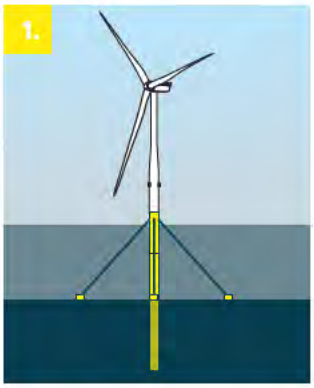
Most ScotWind projects are expected to be built using floating technology (including Ocean Winds' projects off the coast of Shetland). While the majority - 75 per cent - of the Caledonia site will be built using fixed foundations, the deeper parts provide Ocean Winds with the opportunity to do what it does best - economic deployment of new technology at commercial scale.

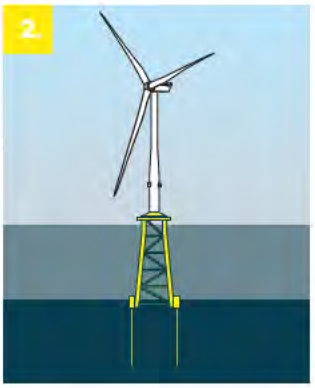
FOUNDATIONS IN THE CALEDONIA OWF SITE

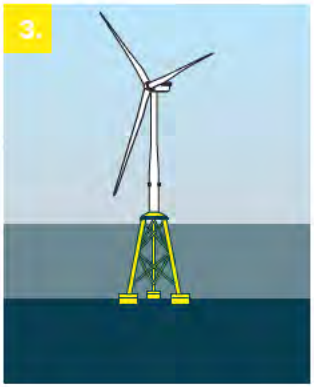
Most of the Caledonia OWF site (three quarters) is of water depths suitably shallow for the deployment of fixed foundations, such as those used in Moray East and Moray West.

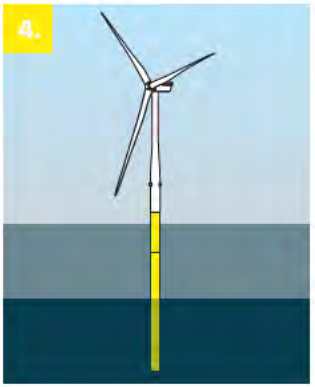
This technology is not just known and proven, but optimised by Ocean Winds at neighbouring sites - this is one of the reasons why Caledonia OWF can be built more quickly and at lower cost than other projects.

The area to the south of the site is deeper, and based on technology available today is the area of the site which would be considered for floating foundations. As this involves the introduction of a new technology to the Moray Firth, the project is keen to hear your views.



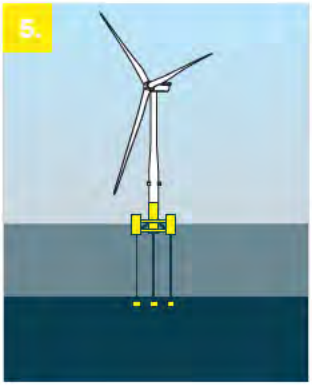


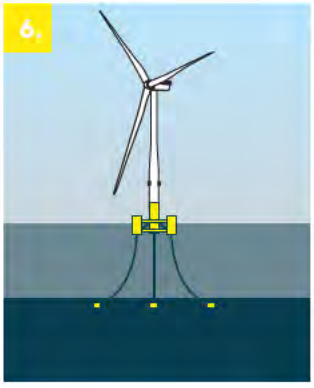


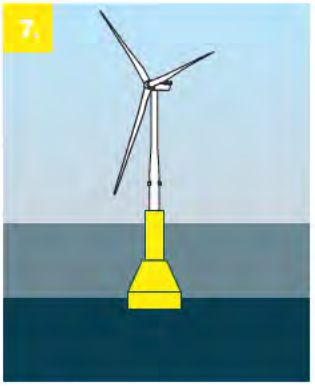


Types of foundation:

1. Fully restrained platform
2. Fixed jacket on pin piles
3. Fixed jacket on suction caissons
4. Fixed monopile
5. Floating tension leg platform
6. Floating semisubmersible
7. Gravity based structure







ONSHORE TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE

The onshore transmission infrastructure includes all the works required to get the power from the cable landfall point to the existing National Electricity Transmission Grid, in the vicinity of New Deer.

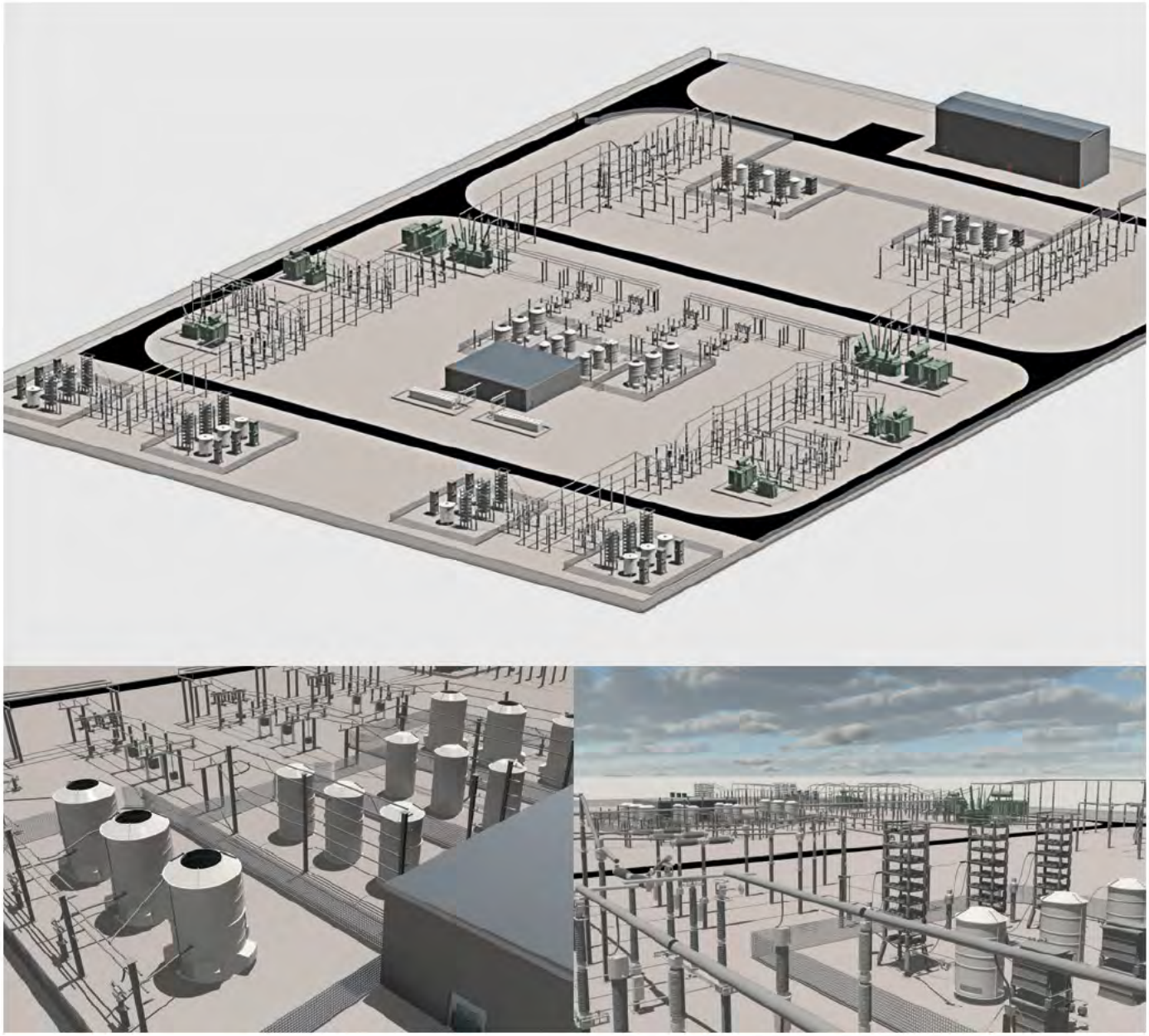
This work requires planning consent from Aberdeenshire Council. It includes:

- **A cable landing point -** the export cables from the offshore substation platforms (located close to the wind farm) will be buried below the seabed and remain underground as they come onshore. Temporary works will be required at a coastal site to land the cable, but all permanent infrastructure will be below ground. The potential landfall location for the export cables is situated along a stretch of coastline between Boyne Bay, east of Portsoy and Boyndie Bay, close to Banff.

Moray East Offshore Windfarm Cable landfall after reinstatement works

- **An underground cable route:** Up to six onshore cable circuits, each consisting of three single core cables and operated at up to 275kV, will be routed underground at a depth of ~1m from the landfall site to the onshore substation. The onshore underground cable route will have a distance of approximately 40km, and the land will be fully reinstated after the works. No overhead pylons will be required.
- **Substation:** Caledonia OWF expects to require one AC substation comprising of HVAC equipment, with a maximum footprint of up to 250m x 500m, up to 15m high and within a 6km diameter of the existing New Deer substation.
- **Onshore cable circuits from substation to grid connection point**: Up to six underground cable circuits will be installed from the onshore substation to the grid connection point. These will consist of three single core cables up to 350mm in diameter with a nominal voltage of 400kV which will be connected into 400kV circuit breakers within the grid connection point. The location for connection to the National Grid will be determined by the companies who own and operate it.

All onshore transmission infrastructure (except the substation) will be underground. During construction, a number of temporary construction compounds and storage facilities will be required. These areas will be reinstated once construction is complete, and infrastructure will not be visible.



These diagrams are purely indicative and do not represent plans for Caledonia

THE CABLE ROUTE

This map shows the results of the latest route corridor assessment, which considered technical and environmental factors to derive a preferred route corridor within the scoping area.

The area indicated on the map is considerably larger than the infrastructure, and represents the search area within which the infrastructure will be located.

We are currently undertaking baseline environmental surveys within this area to identify a ~ 100m working cable corridor and a substation site with a maximum footprint of up to 250m x 500m.

Your views on location of the proposed infrastructure within this corridor are welcome as part of the pre-application consultation which will inform refining the corridor for the planning application.

SCOPING, CONSULTATION & PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The publication of Caledonia OWF's Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report was the first major public document published by the project in September 2022. It provides details on what the project is and what technologies are being considered to deliver it.

It also outlines the work we intend to undertake for the Environmental Impact Assessment - an extensive range of research, surveys, modelling, and most importantly engagement to assess how the new infrastructure will affect the physical, biological and human environments of the Moray Firth. Public and virtual consultation events to gather feedback on this report were held in November 2022.

The project has also submitted its Onshore Transmission Infrastructure Scoping Report to Aberdeenshire Council (the consenting local authority), with public and virtual pre-application consultations held in Aberdeenshire in Summer 2023.

One of the guiding principles of Ocean Winds' project development is all proposals should be available to local communities for their consideration. This exemplifies our belief that development should be done with communities rather than to them, and local people should have a stake in infrastructure of which they can be proud.

This document has therefore been written (using details from Scoping Reports) to provide the general public with accessible information about the proposals for the Caledonia OWF, ensuring their views can be expressed at the earliest stage.

Your views are sought on the proposals included in the Onshore Transmission Infrastructure Scoping Report, and may be submitted by post to:
Caledonia OWF Consultation, Ocean Winds, 144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh EH3 8EX

Or by email to:
caledonia.info@oceanwinds.com

An online consultation form is available at:
caledoniaoffshorewind.com/the-project/public-engagement

Note: comments submitted at this stage are comments to the developer and not to the planning authority.

WHAT COMES NEXT?

The pre-application consultation events held for Caledonia OWF's Onshore Transmission Infrastructure Scoping Report will inform the project's onshore planning application. This is expected to be submitted to Aberdeenshire Council in 2024. When the application is submitted, there will be an opportunity to make comment on the application to the planning authority.

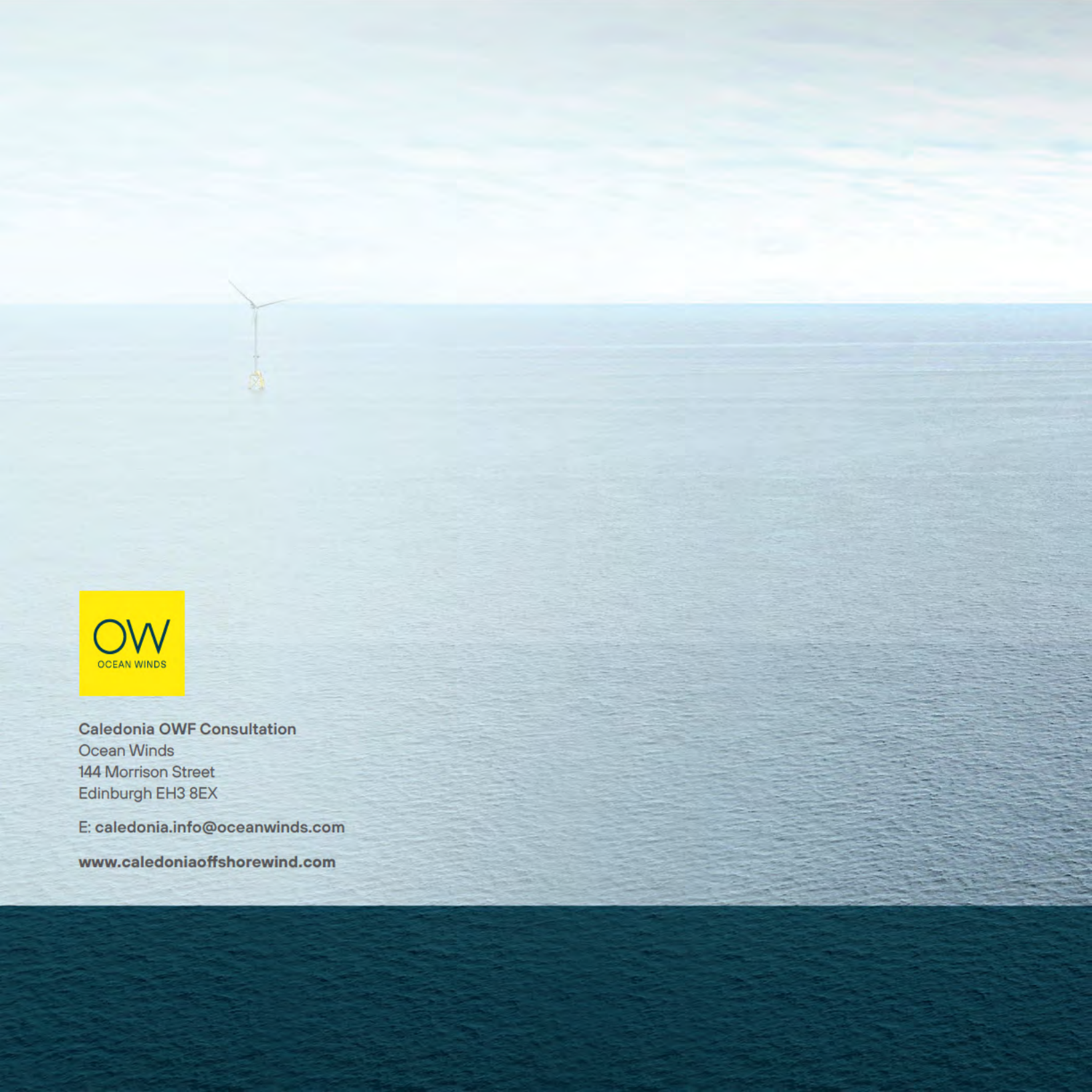
In terms of offshore work, the team is now undertaking a wide range of surveys, before moving on to compile an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). We expect the EIA to take around two years to complete.

The project will then apply to Marine Scotland for planning consent for the wind farm, and there will be a public consultation by Marine Scotland on the application. Marine Scotland will then consider the application, and any representations they receive about it, before determining whether or not to grant planning consent.

Ocean Winds will hold another round of consultation events to update the public on both the onshore and offshore infrastructure before the applications are submitted. If consent is granted, it is expected that Caledonia OWF could produce power by 2030.

CALEDONIA Offshore Wind Farm

OW OCEAN WINDS



Caledonia OWF Consultation
Ocean Winds
144 Morrison Street
Edinburgh EH3 8EX

E: **caledonia.info@oceanwinds.com**

www.caledoniaoffshorewind.com

7 Post Consultation Direct Mailer

Address

XXXX

Ref: UKCAL-CWF-CON-STK-LET-XXXX

Date: 14th April 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Response to Onshore Transmission Infrastructure Pre-Application Opinion survey

Many thanks for participating in the Caledonia Offshore Windfarm Opinion Survey at the end of last year. We have now had the opportunity to review the survey responses and I want to take this opportunity to advise of some of the main findings, how they have guided our decisions in project design and development and the next steps:

1. Requirement for Infrastructure

Questions have been raised about why the infrastructure installed for Moray East Offshore Windfarm cannot be used for Caledonia, or why additional cables etc. were not installed at the time to avoid additional works. Electricity is a highly regulated industry, and to protect consumers against unnecessary costs, anticipatory investment for future projects which are not yet certain is not currently permitted, so capacity beyond what was required for Moray East could not be built. It is therefore necessary for transmission infrastructure to be installed with each windfarm constructed.

2. Cable Landfall

Horizontal directional drilling will be used as the means of installing the cable infrastructure at the landfall site. This was used for the Moray East project and is preferred to trenching work and will enable the infrastructure to avoid on sandy beaches, thus avoiding disruption to local amenities.

3. Cable route

A strong preference was expressed for early knowledge of the cable route. It is therefore intended that, in contrast to previous projects where the project entered the planning process with a wide (ca 2000m) cable corridor within which the cable infrastructure would be located. The Caledonia project will publish the 'red line' boundary of the cable route as intended to be included in the planning application, which

Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm Ltd
5th Floor Atria One, 144 Morrison St.
EDINBURGH EH3 8EX

will be of a nominal width of 100--500m. This will considerably reduce uncertainty for those living near the development.

4. Traffic and Transport

Concerns were raised about the impact construction traffic had on local roads during the Moray East and Moray West onshore construction work. In particular, issues had arisen, not simply as a result of traffic from Moray East's contractors, but by their subcontractors and by delivery drivers. Several measures are therefore being progressed to mitigate this issue, including:

- Review and revision of contracting arrangements with contractors and subcontractors.
- Review of contracting arrangements for those delivering materials and equipment to site.
- Consideration of establishing a 'spot team' to make rapid repairs.
- Consideration of establishing a mechanism to provide advance financial. securities for post-works restoration of roads infrastructure.

5. Substation

Questions were raised about whether the existing substation at New Deer could be used for the new windfarm; this is not possible as additional capacity is required for the new electricity generated. A strong preference was expressed that a new substation should be located as close to the existing infrastructure as possible, and this has guided our choice of site.

6. Cost Of Energy

Questions were raised about the cost of energy and whether it was possible to buy electricity directly from the windfarm at the price at which it is generated. The UK energy market ensures that there is separation from companies which generate electricity, and those who retail it to households. Ocean Winds is a generator and not a retail company, so it is not possible for us to sell power directly to households. The generation of power at low cost and high volume, such as will be done by the Caledonia offshore windfarm, is vital to ensure that the UK has an affordable secure supply of electricity.

A further round of onshore public engagement events will be held at the below times and locations:

- Banff (Banff Springs Hotel – 23 April, 12:00 – 19:00)
- New Deer (Public Hall – 25 April, 12:00 – 19:00)

These events will include publication of the cable route red line boundary, within the previously advertised search corridor, with the anticipation of a planning application being made later in the year. Details of the events can be found at the projects website, along with a virtual consultation for those unable to attend the events: https://www.caledoniaoffshorewind.com.

If you wish for us to delete your contact information, please let us know.

Sincerely

[redacted]

Onshore Project Manager

Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm Ltd
5th Floor Atria One, 144 Morrison St.
EDINBURGH EH3 8EX

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