

Welcome to the first newsletter from RES, designed to keep the local community informed about our Cairnmore Hill Wind Farm proposal.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

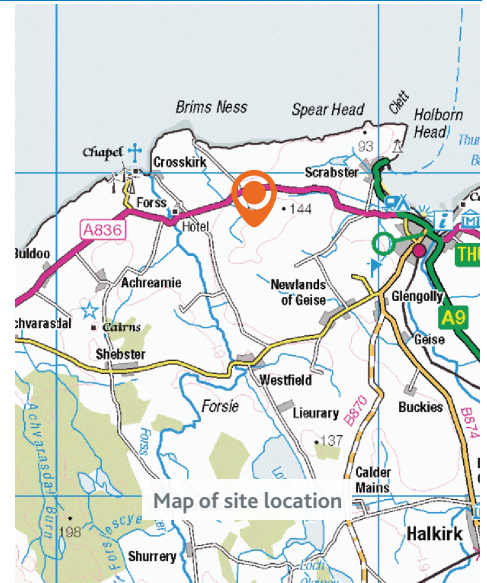
What are we proposing?

We are exploring the potential for a wind farm of up to 10 turbines at Cairnmore Hill, located approximately 4.5 km west of Scrabster. Some initial survey work has been undertaken to assess the site's viability and we are now at the stage of consulting with the local community.

Why Cairnmore Hill?

The site has excellent wind resource, very few ecological constraints, can be easily accessed off the A836 and is close to Scrabster harbour which could be suitable for the delivery of turbines.

In addition the site lies within an area identified by Highland Council's new Spatial Framework policy as having 'potential for wind farm development' and in an area that the Caithness and Sutherland Local Development Plan seeks to promote as an internationally renowned centre for renewable energy.



BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT

What are the benefits?

Cairnmore Hill will be an efficient site, capable of producing clean, green renewable electricity for around 25-30,000 households*, or the equivalent of over 20% of households in the Highlands region**. In addition, the project has the potential to deliver economic benefit to the area of between £2.2 million and £2.8 million in the form of jobs, employment, and use of local services.

More widely, Cairnmore Hill will make an important contribution to the overall generation mix in Scotland by increasing energy security and reducing reliance on fossil fuels. Importantly, onshore wind is a home-grown fuel source and the cheapest form of large scale low carbon electricity.

Onshore wind has a critical role to play in helping stabilise and secure our future energy needs, and projects such as Cairnmore Hill provide real opportunities for helping to achieve this.



Photo of Kelburn Wind Farm,
North Ayrshire, Scotland

*Calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation of the site (based on RES studies Cairnmore Hill Wind Farm has a predicted maximum capacity factor of 42.1%) and dividing this by the annual domestic (electricity) consumption per household figure from the Department of Energy and Climate Change 2014 (4092kWh)

**Based on the Highland Household estimate (106,834 households) from the National Records of Scotland (NRS) - Estimates of Households and Dwellings in Scotland, 2015

PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS



Engaging with the community

We are keen to engage with the local community and as part of our pre-application consultation we are holding public exhibitions in the local area to enable people to find out more about the proposal and provide us with their views. RES staff will be on hand to answer any questions or queries, and questionnaires will be available to gather feedback. Details of the exhibitions are as follows:

Tuesday 22 November 2pm - 8pm
Caithness Horizons (Education room)
Old Town Hall
High Street
Thurso
KW14 8DD

Wednesday 23 November 12 noon - 6pm
Forss Village Hall
Forss
Near Thurso
KW14 7XU

The exhibitions initiate a consultation period being run by RES to gather comments on the proposal. **The closing date for comments is Friday 23 December 2016.** Comments after this date will still be accepted but not necessarily considered in relation to the development of the proposal.

Commenting on the proposal

Any comments on the proposal must be provided in writing by either filling out a questionnaire form at one of the exhibitions or by writing to Ruth Liddicoat, Community Relations Manager via email at ruth.liddicoat@res-group.com or by post at RES, Third Floor STV, Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1PQ.

Please note that comments provided to RES are not representations to Highland Council (the determining authority). If RES submits a planning application there will be an opportunity to make formal representations on the application to the Council.

Further information on the proposal can also be found on our project website at www.cairnmorehill-windfarm.co.uk.

CONTACT US

If you would like further information on the proposal please get in touch with our team using the details below.



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