

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

OVERVIEW

Background

RES is one of the world's leading independent renewable energy developers with operations across Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific. From its Glasgow office RES has been developing, constructing and operating wind farms in Scotland since 1993.

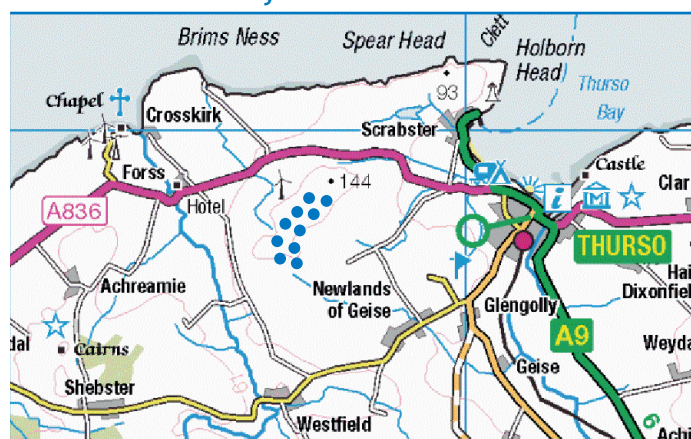
RES has been exploring the potential for a wind farm of around 10 turbines at Cairnmore Hill, approximately 4.5km west of Scrabster. The site has excellent wind resource, can be easily accessed off the A836 and is close to Scrabster harbour which could be suitable for turbine deliveries.

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.

RES is also one of the world's leading battery storage companies, having pioneered energy storage projects in the US and Canada, and is looking at the possibility of including on-site energy storage as part of the Cairnmore Hill Wind Farm proposal.

Indicative turbine layout

● Indicative wind turbine location



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WORK UNDERTAKEN SO FAR

Key project activities

The key milestones for the project so far are set out in the table below.

Date	Activity	Purpose
July 2016	Scoping Report submitted	To set out anticipated scope of works required
Aug 2016	Proposal of Application Notice submitted	To set out proposed engagement and consultation
Nov 2016	Public exhibitions held in Forss and Thurso	To gather local feedback and views on proposal
2017-2018	Design development	To further develop and refine the design

Since RES submitted its Scoping Report a number of detailed environmental and technical surveys have been undertaken including Ornithology, Ecology, Archaeology, Cultural Heritage, Landscape, Traffic and Transport, Hydrology, Geology and Peat.

In addition, RES is continuing to engage with key stakeholders about the project and review feedback received at the public exhibitions. More information on the findings from the public exhibitions is provided overleaf.

The surveys undertaken so far, together with feedback received at the public exhibitions (and from ongoing stakeholder engagement), is helping RES to develop and refine the design with a view to submitting a planning application to Highland Council towards the end of this year.

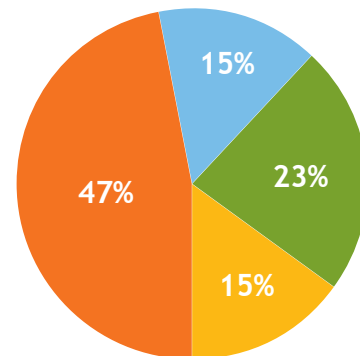
PUBLIC EXHIBITION FEEDBACK

The public exhibitions held in November 2016 were well attended, with over 80 people turning out to learn more about the project and share their views, and more than 60 comments forms were submitted.

Detailed comments were provided on topics such as turbine height, visibility, environmental benefits, battery storage, local benefits and jobs and employment. A more detailed analysis of comments will be provided in RES' Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report which will accompany any planning application submitted.

Copies of the exhibition information boards, together with further project information and documents can be found on the project website at www.cairnmorehill-windfarm.co.uk

The breakdown of people's views on the proposed layout was as follows:



- 47%** I am happy with the current proposed layout
- 15%** I am neutral towards the current proposed layout
- 23%** I have concerns about the proposed layout
- 15%** I don't like wind farms in general

BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT



Photo of Forss Wind Farm, Caithness

If consented, Cairnmore Hill will be an efficient site, contributing valuable low cost, low carbon electricity for around 25-30,000 households*, equivalent to 20% of all 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.

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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If you require information in Braille, large text or audio, please let us know. For those receiving this newsletter by post, we obtained your address through a national postcode database or following a separate request or contact from you during which you provided your contact details and asked to be kept up to date with the project. If you do not wish to receive more information from us about this proposal, please write to us and let us know.

*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