

The Scottish Government  
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Energy Consents Unit  
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**SSE Renewables**  
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G2 6AY

Tel: 01738 341866

16<sup>th</sup> August 2021

**Dear Stephen,**

**APPLICATION FOR CONSENT UNDER SECTION 36 OF THE ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 AND DIRECTION FOR DEEMED PLANNING PERMISSION UNDER SECTION 57(2) OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997, AS AMENDED (ECU CASE REFERENCE: ECU00001900) TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE BHLARAI DH WIND FARM EXTENSION, IN THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL PLANNING AUTHORITY AREA**

SSE Generation Limited (SSEG) “the Applicant” is applying under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for consent, together with a direction under section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 for deemed planning permission to be granted to construct and operate Bhlaraidh Wind Farm Extension. The appropriate fee for the application was paid and received by your department on 29 July 2021.

The Proposed Development extends the operational onshore Bhlaraidh Wind Farm to maximise the renewable energy generation potential at the site. Consent is sought for a period of 50 years.

The Proposed Development comprises a generating station consisting of a wind farm with up to 18 Wind Turbine Generators with a maximum tip height of up to 180m, supported by ancillary development. The Proposed Development is located on the adjoining land to the east of the operational Bhlaraidh Wind Farm on the Glenmoriston Estate, near Invermoriston, Highlands. The application boundary is shown on Figure 1.1 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report.

The EIA Report has been prepared in accordance with The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, as amended and The Electricity Works (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020.

The EIAR documentation submitted with this application includes:

- Non-Technical Summary;
- Volume 1: Main Report;
- Volume 2: Figures (excluding Landscape, Visual and Cultural Heritage);
- Volume 3: Landscape and Visual Figures and Cultural Heritage Visualisations;
- Volume 4: Technical Appendices; and
- Volume 5: Confidential Annex (provided to the Energy Consents Unit, NatureScot and RSPB on request).

The Carbon Calculator online tool has been completed and submitted on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and has the reference number 2K6B-E55Z-NBQO.

Supporting documents which also form part of the application submission include:

- Planning Statement;
- Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report;
- Design and Access Statement (DAS); and
- Outdoor Access Plan.

A copy of the application will be served on the Highland Council as planning authority in accordance with The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

The application and this EIA Report will be advertised in accordance with The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, as follows:

- The Edinburgh Gazette (20 August 2021);
- The Herald (20 August 2021);
- The Press and Journal (20 August 2021 and 27 August 2021); and
- The Inverness Courier (20 August 2021 and 27 August 2021).

Copies of the notices placed will be provided to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) once advertised.

Under the Electricity Works (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, the requirement for developers to make Section 36 application documents including the EIAR available for public inspection in hard copies, has been temporarily suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead there is a temporary requirement to make them available via an online website. In accordance with this, all application documents (with the exception of Volume 5: Confidential Annex) will be available via the ECU website and the application website:

<https://www.sserenewables.com/bhlaraidhextension>

Yours sincerely

**Jane MacDonald**  
Consent Manager

cc The Highland Council