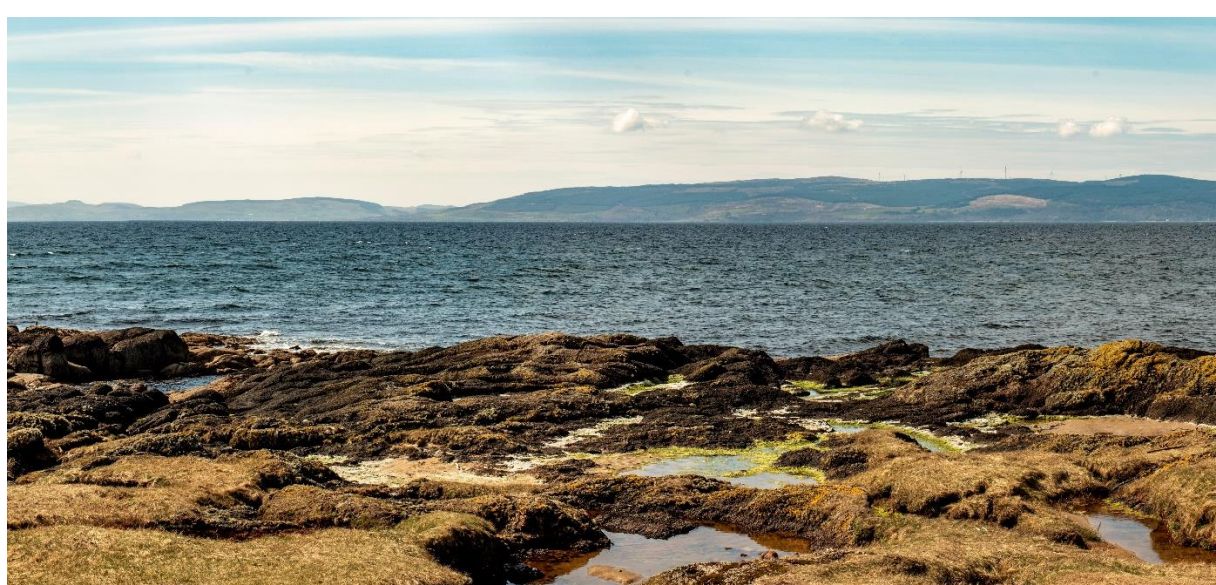


WELCOME TO THE WEST TORRISDALE WIND FARM PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENT

Thursday 9th, Friday 10th and Saturday 11th
December 2021



Welcome to the public consultation for the proposed ESB West Torrisdale Wind Farm located 4 km to the south-west of Carradale, in Argyll and Bute.

The initial consultation period for West Torrisdale Wind Farm opened on Friday 3rd December 2021 and will close on 31st December 2021.

Utilising the natural environment to harness clean, zero-carbon energy, the West Torrisdale Wind Farm project will, if consented, support local construction companies along with local supply chains during its operation; offer community benefit and shared ownership opportunities; and support the long-term management of West Torrisdale Forest. The proposed development site benefits from good wind speeds, existing site access and a nearby grid

connection point, and has no on-site environmental designations.

Site Description

The proposed development site is located on the Kintyre Peninsula, approximately 4 km to the south-west of Carradale in Argyll and Bute. The site lies in the Kintyre and the Islands ward of Argyll and Bute Council area. The proposed site is located in commercial forestry.

Developer

ESB is developing West Torrisdale Wind Farm. ESB is Ireland's premier energy company and a leading independent power generator in the UK market. The company has a track record of over 20 years as a successful investor in the UK since commissioning one of the first independent power generation plants at Corby in Northamptonshire in 1994. ESB owns and operates wind farms across the UK and Ireland with a total installed capacity of 600 MW.



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THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

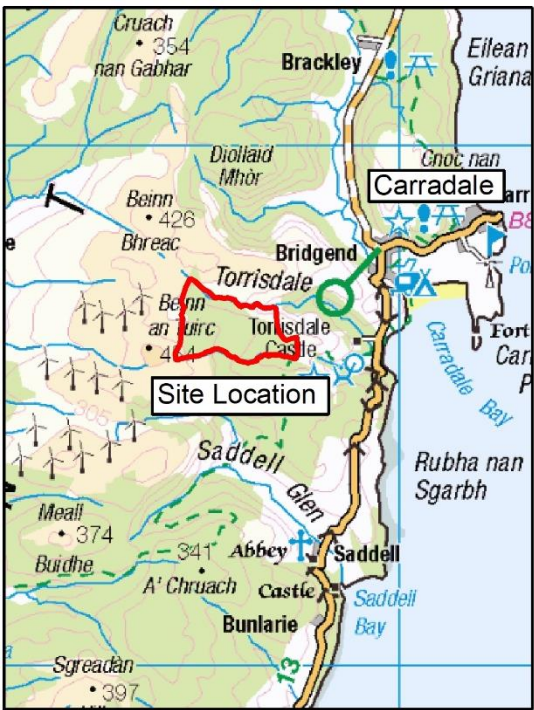


ESB wishes to construct a new onshore wind farm with up to 9 turbines that aims to deliver energy generation in excess of 50 MW. Environmental, technical and commercial considerations throughout the design process will inform the final number of turbines.

The turbines will have a maximum tip height of 149.9 m, and a generating capacity of around 6 MW. The final turbine selection will be informed by an environmental impact assessment that will look at various factors to assess the environmental consequences of the development. The plans include battery storage capacity to maximise the use of the grid connection and help balance the national electricity transmission grid.

Construction and access

- A construction compound, access tracks and watercourse crossings will require installation to enable wind farm construction.
- Access to the site for vehicles delivering construction materials and turbine components will be from the A83 to the west of the site via an existing forestry haulage route. The existing access track will be upgraded, where required, to meet the specifications for all construction and turbine delivery vehicles.



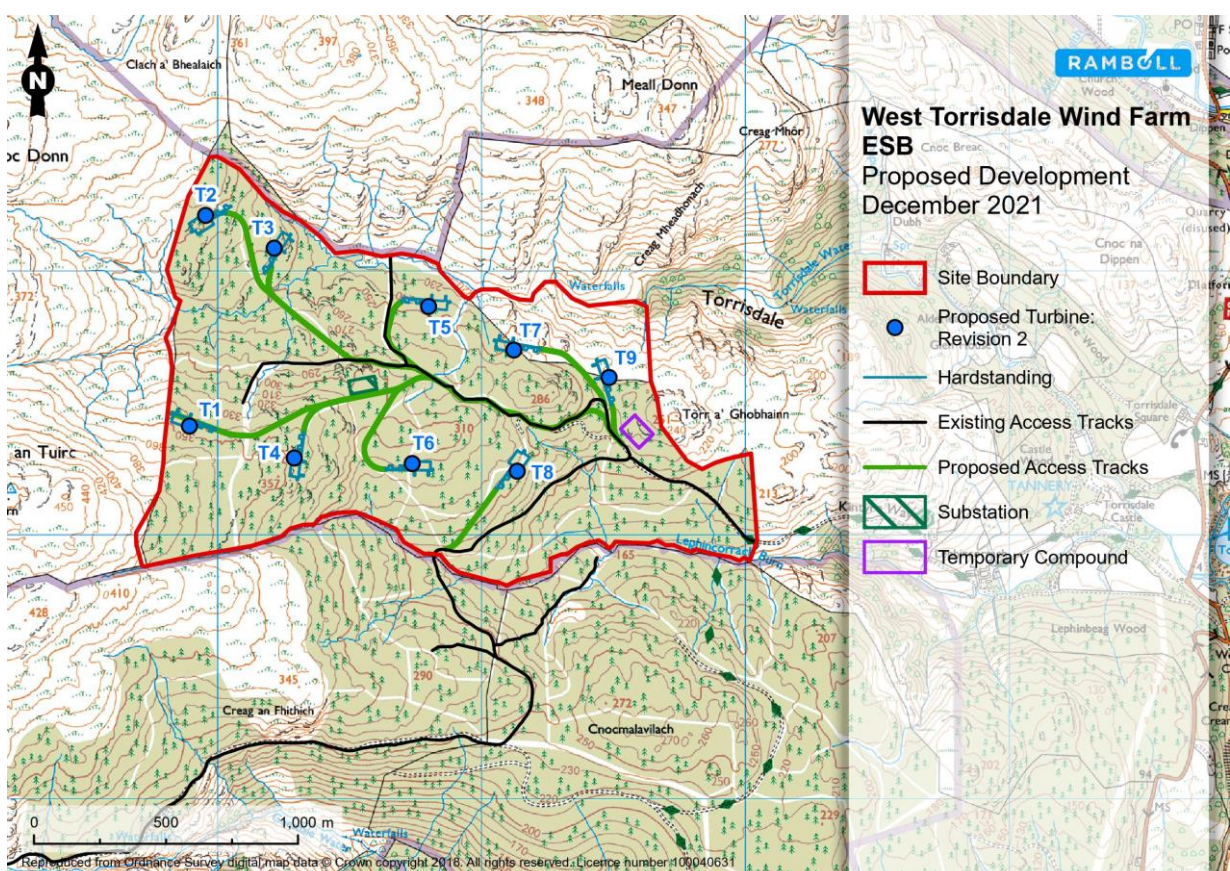
Site Location Plan

- Watercourse crossings will be installed as required. Their design will be in accordance with Scottish Government best practice and due regard for Scottish Environment Protection Agency guidelines to enable the passage of fish and other wildlife.
- Crushed stone will be used to construct new tracks, create hardstanding areas for the cranes and to lay foundations. The source of the stone and aggregate is to be confirmed during the design process and the environmental impact assessment (EIA) phase.



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PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE LAYOUT



Proposed Site Layout Plan

How have our studies influenced the layout?

The main environmental constraints which have defined the layout are as follows:

- **Landscape and Visual:** turbines will be under 150 m, so should not require visible aviation lighting. Turbines have been positioned off the Kintyre peninsula 'spine'; set back from the eastern edge of the peninsula; and the layout has been designed to be visually cohesive.
- **Forestry:** the design has aimed to retain as much forestry as possible.
- **Peat:** there are pockets of deep peat within the site. Turbines and infrastructure have been positioned to avoid these areas.
- **Sensitive Habitats:** positioning of turbines has taken account of sensitive ecological habitats, including peatlands and ground water dependent terrestrial ecosystems.
- **Cultural Heritage:** turbines positioned to avoid direct and indirect effects on known cultural heritage assets.

- **Water Environment:** the layout has aimed to maintain standard separation distances from watercourses and private water supplies.
- **Slope:** the site is characterised by steep slopes which have dictated the positioning of turbines and tracks.

In addition, the layout has been influenced by wind resource analysis carried out by ESB, and the design has maximised the use of pre-existing tracks within the site.

The exact number and location of wind turbines will be determined by constraints identified during the EIA and influenced by statutory consultees and public consultation.



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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT



Ramboll UK Ltd has been appointed to carry out a detailed environmental impact assessment (EIA) of the West Torrisdale Wind Farm project. This study will form part of the formal application for consent to be made to the Scottish Ministers.

The environmental impact assessment process includes:

- Consultation with the local planning authority, various organisations and the public to identify specific concerns and issues;
- Determining the existing conditions at and around the wind farm site by reviewing the available data and undertaking specialist field surveys;
- Assessing the potential impacts on the existing environment; and
- Mitigation proposals to alleviate any significant impacts identified.

The environmental impact assessment work is on-going, and, to date, we have carried out extensive surveys to gather data on the following:

- Ornithological interests;
- Protected species;
- Priority habitats;
- Carbon rich soils and priority peatland habitats;
- Hydrology;

- Forestry;
- Landscape and visual impact;
- Traffic and Transport; and
- Archaeology.

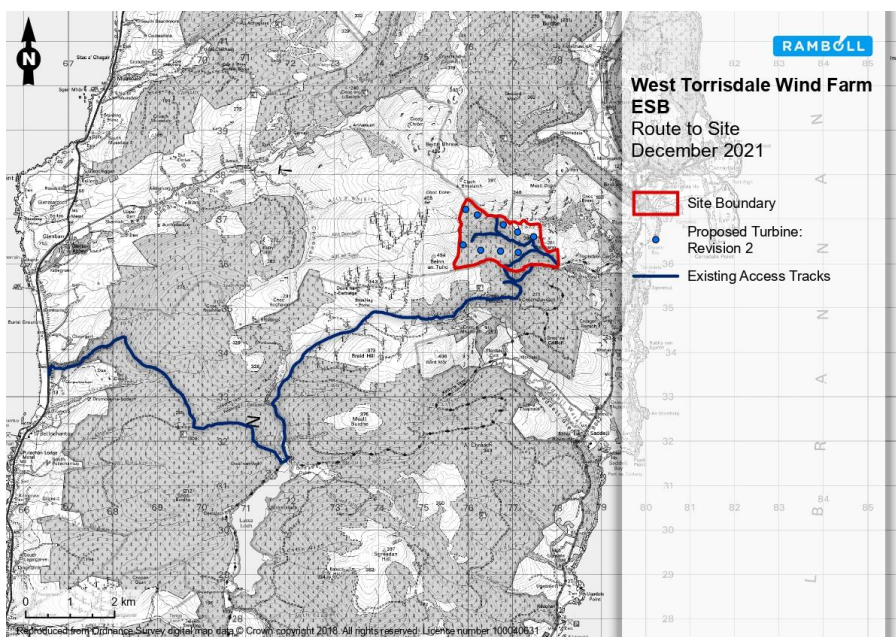
Noise surveys are scheduled for early 2022.

Route to Site

The potential effect of construction traffic will be assessed throughout the design and EIA process, and in consultation with Argyll and Bute Council and Transport Scotland.

As present, turbine deliveries are expected to arrive at Campbeltown Harbour which has previously been used for turbine imports by other wind farms in the area. The turbines would exit the harbour and continue north on the A83, turning east near Bellochantuy into the Beinn an Tuirc Wind Farm site. Here the turbines would be transported along the existing forestry track and wind farm access tracks into the site.

Discussions are ongoing with Forestry and Land Scotland to finalise the access plans. Appropriate improvements to the public road may be required.



Proposed Route to Site



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ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEYS



Ecology and Ornithology

A programme of ecological and ornithological surveys has been carried out on the site. The results will be used to ensure that any impacts on wildlife are mitigated. In addition, opportunities for biodiversity enhancements that the development could deliver will be explored in consultation with specialist interest groups.

Ornithology surveys

A comprehensive survey programme concluded the site is not regularly used by sensitive bird populations.

Ecology surveys

The ecology surveys include:

- A Phase 1 habitat survey;
- A National Vegetation Classification survey;
- Terrestrial mammal surveys;
- Bat surveys; and
- Fish habitat surveys.

Water Environment

The Torrisdale Water and the Lephincorrach Burn bound the site to the north and south respectively. Tributaries of these watercourses flow through the site. Surveys of watercourses and private water supplies within and near the site have been conducted.

Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

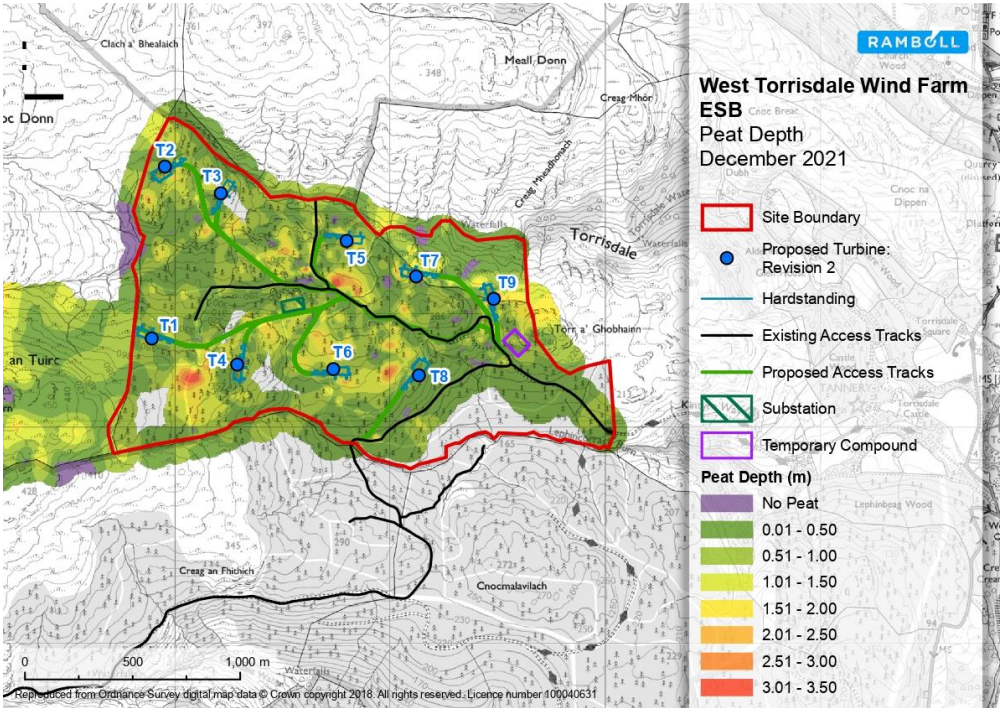
The effects of the proposed development on the historic environment, including cultural heritage and archaeology, will be assessed.

Surveys have concluded there are two groups of shielings within the site near the Torrisdale Water, and another group high above the existing access track. These have been taken into account during the design process. The environmental impact assessment will assess the magnitude and significance of effects on heritage assets in the surrounding area.

Peat

Phase 1 and 2 peat surveys have been undertaken to establish the peat depth across the site and around proposed turbines and infrastructure.

As a result, the proposed layout has been designed to avoid areas of deep peat as far as possible. A Peat Management Plan will be prepared to accompany the application.

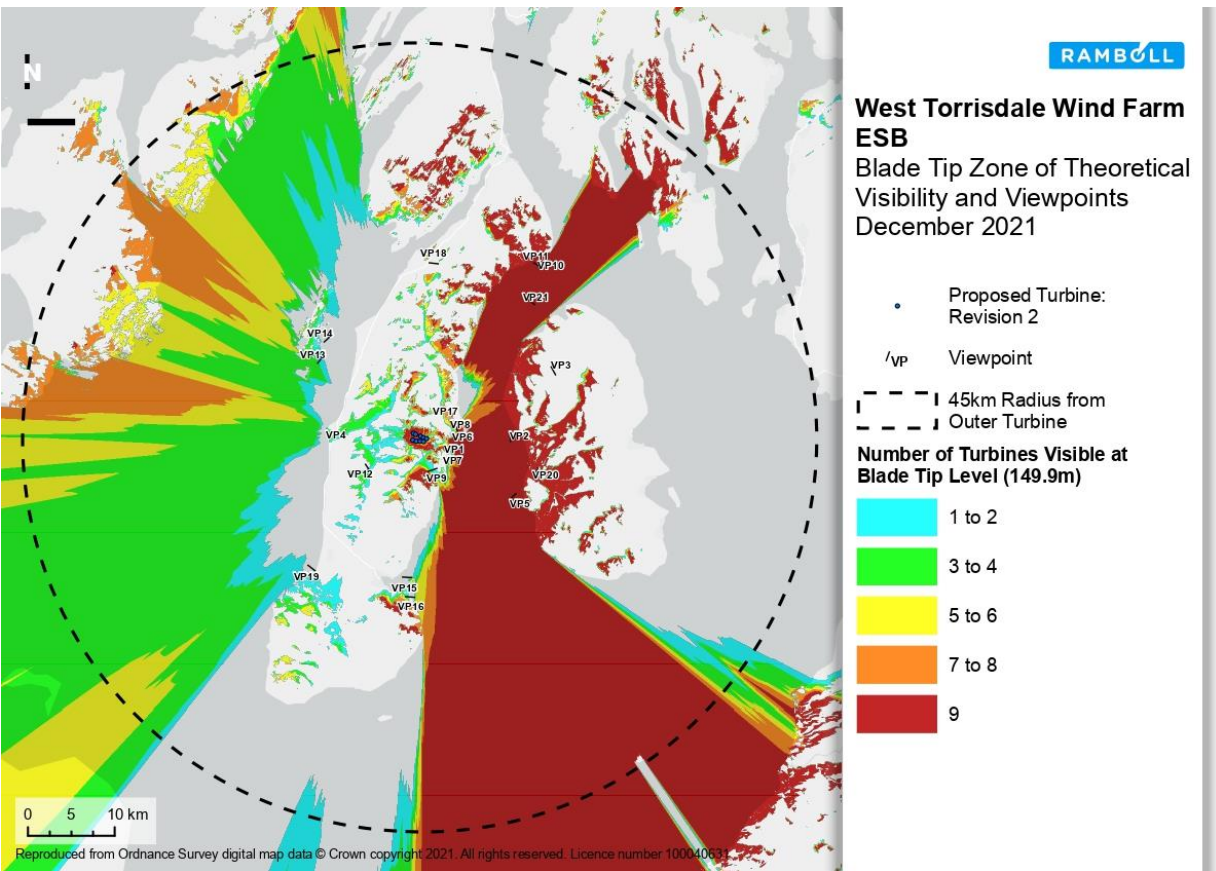


Peat Depth Plan



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LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACT



Zone of Theoretical Visibility

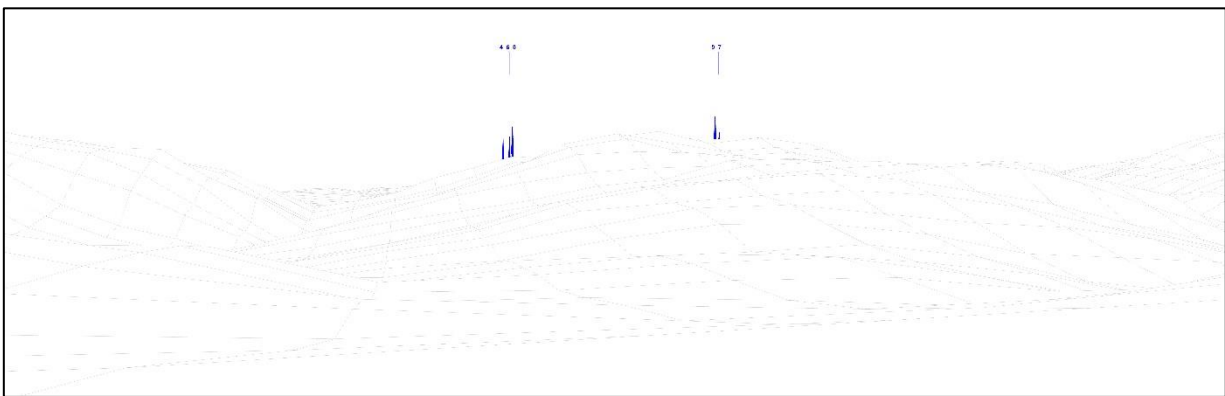
A landscape and visual impact assessment will establish the potential effects of the proposed development on the surrounding landscape and visual amenity.

A zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) is a computer-generated tool that establishes the likely extent of the visibility of a proposed development and key visual receptors. A zone of theoretical visibility based on preliminary design options has been prepared to inform the landscape and visual impact assessment.

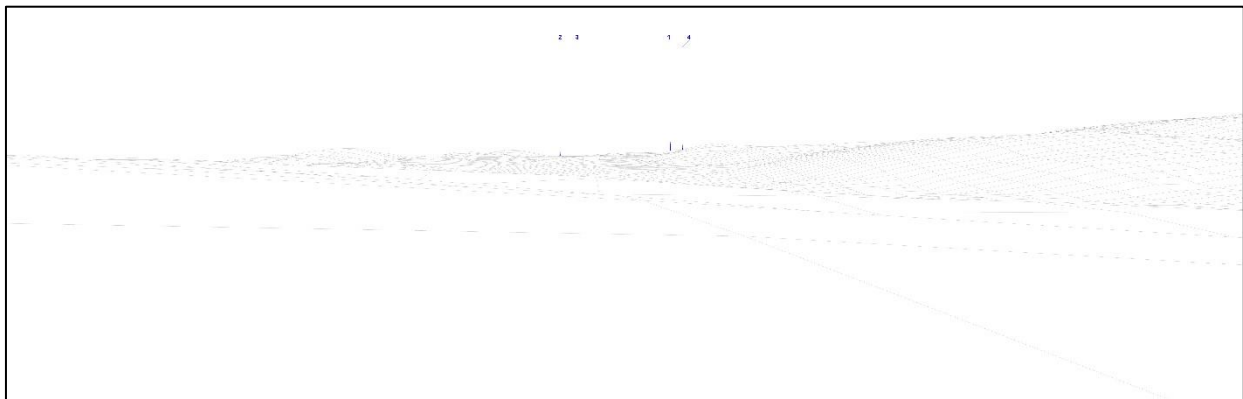
The zone of theoretical visibility indicates the areas where turbines will be visible, based on the relief of the surrounding study area (45 km from the outer turbines). This is supported by producing and analysing wirelines and photomontages from several agreed viewpoints that give a clearer picture of what the new turbines would look like.

The current design consists of 9 turbines up to 149.9 m to blade tip.

PHOTOMONTAGES



Viewpoint 1 (2.3 km): Torrisdale Bay Parking Area. Photomontage of the proposed West Torrisdale turbines from Torrisdale Bay Parking Area. Photomontage and wireline taken from Grid Reference 179733, 636007 set up with a 53.5 degrees horizontal field of view.

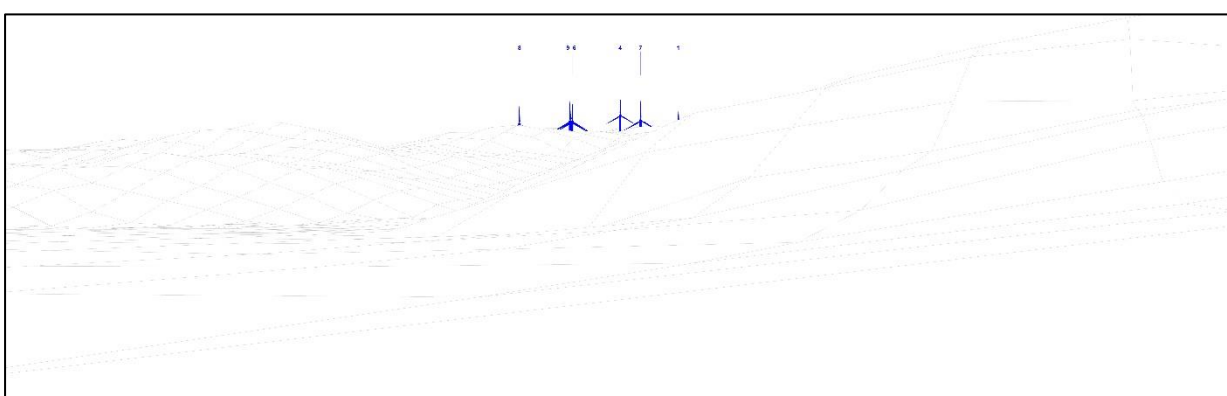
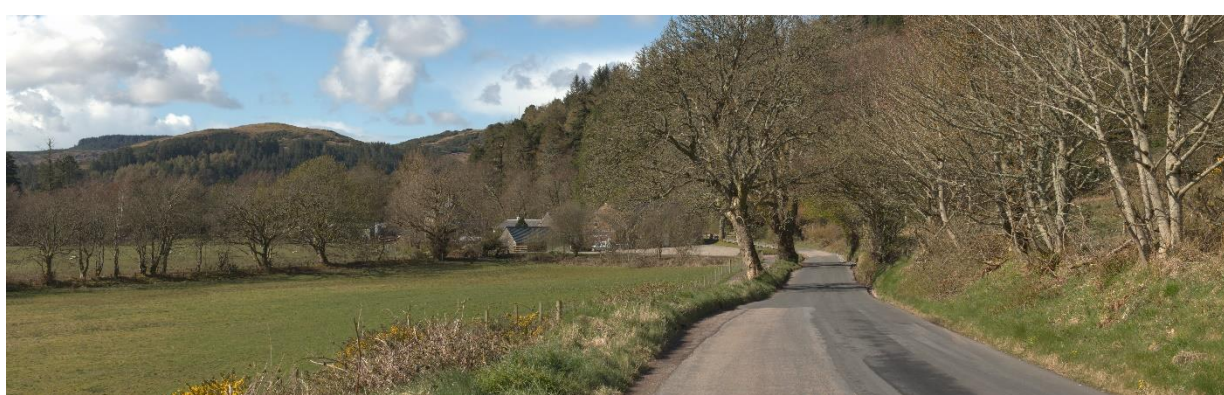


Viewpoint 4 (8.9 km): Glenbarr War Memorial. Photomontage of the proposed West Torrisdale turbines from the War Memorial at Glenbarr. Photomontage and wireline taken from Grid Reference 167020, 637054 set up with a 53.5 degrees horizontal field of view.

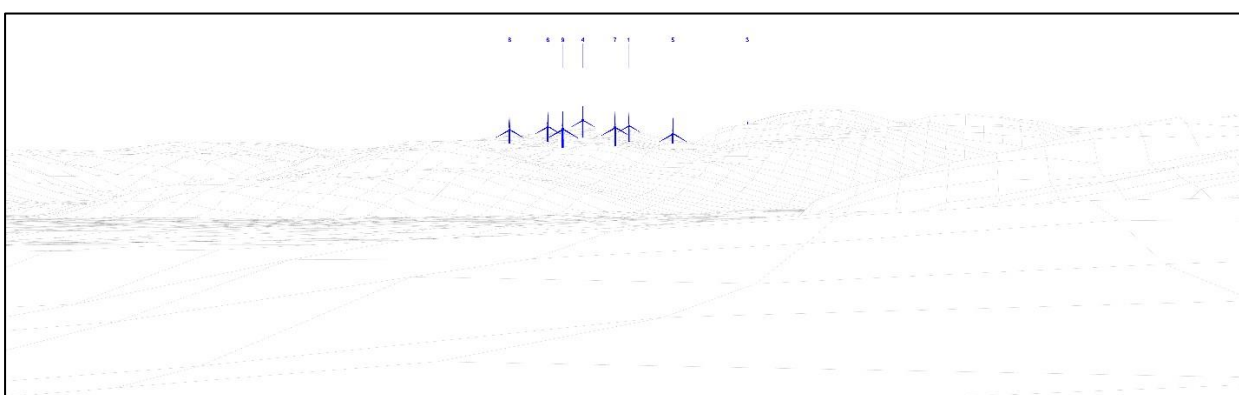


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PHOTOMONTAGES



Viewpoint 8 (3.8 km): near Millennium Bench. Photomontage of the proposed West Torrisdale turbines from the road above the Millennium Bench between Carradale and the Village Hall. Photomontage and wireline taken from Grid Reference 181029, 638193 set up with a 53.5 degrees horizontal field of view.



Viewpoint 14 (4.7 km): Carradale Golf Course. Photomontage of the proposed West Torrisdale turbines from the bench overlooking Tee 6 of Carradale Golf Course. Photomontage and wireline taken from Grid Reference 181961, 638128 set up with a 53.5 degrees horizontal field of view.



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THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



ESB will work closely with local communities, businesses and residents in seeking to ensure that the West Torrisdale Wind Farm Proposal will bring real benefits and help to meet national climate change targets.

Business, Jobs and Investment

ESB would like to hear from businesses across Argyll and Bute and Scotland to ensure that it can fully consider the skills and services of local people and suppliers if the West Torrisdale Wind Farm receives approval.

The opportunities available include those for:

- An engineering, procurement and construction contractor
- Construction material suppliers: concrete, aggregate and building materials
- Electrical contractors: supply and installation of plant, cabling, earthing, etc.
- Plant and equipment hire contractors: excavation earthworks, craneage, welfare units, etc.
- Labour hire companies: engineers, plant operatives and general labourers
- Transport: taxis and minibuses for local labourers.

Local Accommodation Providers

Construction projects of this nature typically require some specialist technicians from outside the area, so they will require local accommodation and catering facilities.

To be considered, please register with the local suppliers' database on our project website:

www.esbenergy.co.uk/west-torrisdale-wind-farm

Community Benefit

ESB is committed to community benefit. We are currently exploring the options for community benefit and want to work with the community to create a workable and targeted package up to the value of £5,000 per megawatt of installed capacity.

We welcome feedback from the local community on community benefit structures.

Community Shared Ownership

ESB is keen to consult the community about interest in investing in owning a share of West Torrisdale Wind Farm.



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WEST TORRISDALE WIND FARM

WHAT NEXT?



ESB hopes to submit its application for consent for the West Torrisdale Wind Farm project to the Scottish Ministers towards the middle of 2022. The Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit will undertake a formal consultation process when the public will be invited to make comment on the proposals.

In the meantime, we would welcome your feedback on our proposals and can provide further information if required. Details of the feedback provided to us via our public consultation will be captured and included in a statement of community consultation provided to the Scottish Government alongside the application for consent. Please note that comments made to ESB at this time are not representations to the Council or Scottish Ministers.

This initial public consultation period is being held from 3 December until 31 December 2021, both in public and online and follows the COVID-19 guidance currently in place in Scotland.

You can view more detailed information on our website: www.esbenergy.co.uk/west-torrisdale-wind-farm

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