

Introduction

This Project Information Leaflet is designed to give you up to date information about the proposed Millenderdale Wind Farm.

GreenPower is currently undertaking pre application consultation on its proposals to construct, operate and decommission a wind farm at Millenderdale Farm, Lendalfoot, near Girvan, South Ayrshire.

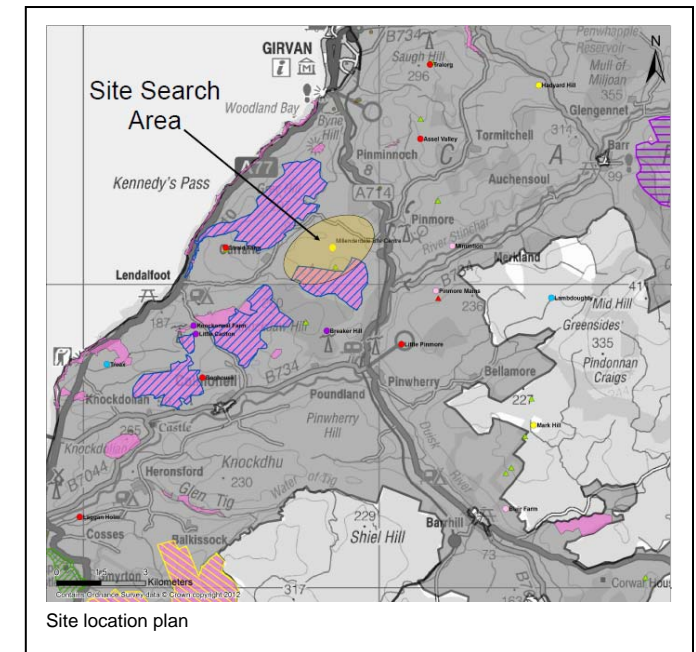


Brief History

GreenPower first identified the Millenderdale site in late 2008 as part of an ongoing desktop review of environmental, technical and policy considerations throughout the UK. Since then, GreenPower has been working with a team of consultants to further evaluate the technical and environmental factors on and around the site. Baseline information has been collected across a range of disciplines which will, along with the views of the local community and other consultees, be used to shape the final project design.

Why this site?

Feasibility studies and initial environmental assessments have shown that Millenderdale Farm is suitable for wind power due to the combination



of key factors that indicate an excellent wind farm site. These include:

- Excellent wind resource
- Suitable terrain with little or no disturbance to wind patterns
- Site is free from environmental designations
- Site is outwith key civil and military aviation constraints
- Site is unconstrained by telecommunications links

Project Description

The wind project will consist of a number of major components:

- Wind turbines
- Foundations & hard-standing
- Access tracks
- Sub-station/control room
- Power cables

The wind turbines will be of a similar design to those found at the nearby Hadyard Hill and Mark Hill Wind Farms.

The turbine foundations will vary according to ground conditions but are likely to comprise a reinforced concrete structure. These remain mainly below ground level and restoration after construction will seek to minimise the amount of

For more information about the project please contact

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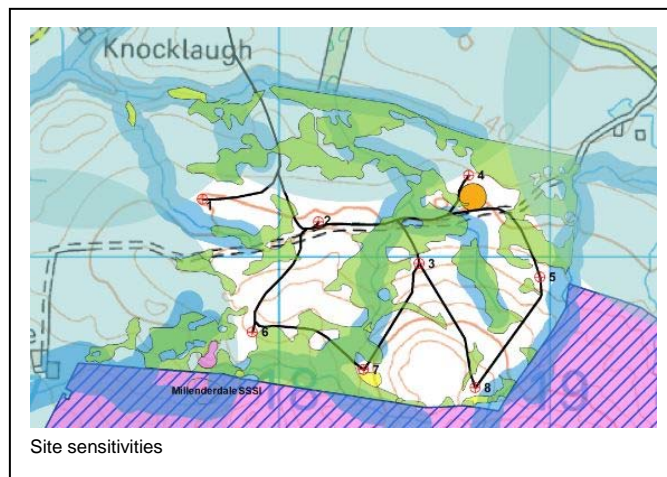
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exposed concrete. An area of hard-standing is required adjacent to each of the turbines on which to locate the crane for erecting the turbine and storing the turbine components prior to erection.

The access tracks are similar to forestry tracks, which are common within this area, albeit the wind farm tracks have a slightly wider running width.

The power cables within the site will all be buried underground and these will generally follow the lines of the access tracks to minimise disturbance to the ground. This reduces both visual and environmental impacts.



Layout Considerations

The baseline evaluations undertaken have revealed a number of key sensitivities on the site which require consideration:

Groundwater dependant habitats: These are vegetation types which are sensitive to changes in the local hydrology. The site design will aim to avoid highly sensitive habitats with consideration of good design and mitigation being key in areas of medium sensitivity.

Indirect effects on designations: There are a number of sites adjacent to the project which are designated for their vegetation communities. It may not be possible to avoid construction within the hydrological catchment of these sites without a significant reduction in wind farm capacity. However, with good mitigation in place and careful design of site drainage etc, impacts on these sites can be avoided.

Proximity to houses: South Ayrshire Council has guidance on the proximity of wind farms to houses in order to protect residential amenity. Site specific assessments for each of the local properties will be undertaken and consideration of these findings incorporated in the final layout design. As a design guide a buffer of between 700 and 900m has been

illustrated, depending on the relationship between the property and wind farm.

Proximity to watercourses: Where practical, tracks and other infrastructure will be positioned more than 50m from watercourses. In respect of all construction activities, mitigation will be deployed for the control/attenuation of any run off.

Working within these key site sensitivities, the final project design will largely be driven by landscape and visual considerations to ensure a design is achieved which fits both with the local landscape and the wider pattern of wind farm development in the area.

Access

The delivery route for the large turbine components will likely be via one of the local ports, the closest of which is Ayr. These loads will be delivered under escort and the timing of these deliveries will be as directed by the Police. It may be that to minimise disruption to other road users deliveries are scheduled at night. Some parking restrictions and alterations to street signage etc will be required at certain locations on the route along with some modifications to the junction off the A77 at Shalloch Mill.

Turbine deliveries will access the wind farm via a mix of new and upgraded access roads running from near Shalloch Mill, just off the A77 south of Girvan through farmland to the site. Some construction traffic will also use the local road network in order to establish the works. It is expected that stone for construction of the roads can be won on site and along the access route and concrete for the turbine foundations is likely to be batched on site. Both these factors lead to a reduction in required off site vehicle movements. A traffic management plan will be agreed with South Ayrshire Council prior to the commencement of construction so that any effects of construction traffic are well managed.

Benefits of the Project

The presence of the wind project will introduce a number of direct and indirect benefits. The project will lead to direct input into the local economy



through construction contracts, maintenance contracts, land rental, habitat maintenance, ecological monitoring and site restoration works. Between 25 and 40 construction staff could be on site at any one time. These staff will likely require local accommodation and services, making further inputs to the local economy. While a principle contractor will be appointed to manage the works, the use of local trades will be encouraged.

It is also proposed that a community fund be established, which will be in proportion to the size of the project. It is proposed that local trustees will manage this, with the aim of benefiting the wider community.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Consideration of the potential environmental effects of the Millenderdale Wind Farm in the context of local and national policy will be the key factors in reaching the planning decision required to permit the project to go ahead. GreenPower, using the expert skills of specialist consultants, will undertake a thorough assessment of the potential environmental effects and place these at the core of the project design process.

South Ayrshire Council was consulted earlier this year on the scope of the environmental assessment work. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will accompany the planning application and will be made available for the public to review.

- Areas of study proposed to be covered in the EIA are:
- Project Design Evolution
- Details of Proposed Development
- Construction and Environmental Management
- Planning and Policy Context
- Project Benefits

- Landscape & Visual
- Ecology
- Access, Traffic and Transport
- Hydrology
- Cultural Heritage and Archaeology
- Noise
- Aviation & Telecommunications
- Shadow Flicker
- Recreation

The EIA process covers the entire life cycle of the project, from construction, through operation to decommissioning and site restoration.

Community Participation

The involvement of the local community is important to us throughout the development and operation of this project.

We have commenced dialogue with the local community councils and we will continue this dialogue as we progress through the planning process.

Once the project is operational we are keen to maintain these local links and this will be undertaken through liaison with the community fund and continued dialogue with other local groups.

We are also keen for Millenderdale Wind Farm to establish a legacy for the local community beyond its operational life and will be open to discussing ways in which the community fund can be managed for the longer term.

Next Steps

GreenPower is currently undertaking a period of pre-application consultation in order to better understand the local community's views on the project. This information will feed into the final project design, along with the other baseline environmental and technical information, resulting in a planning application which will be submitted to South Ayrshire Council. The Council will then undertake a period of formal consultation to collect the views of a variety of statutory and non-statutory consultees before determining the Application.

GreenPower would be pleased to keep you updated on the progress of the application. To register your contact details with us please write or email us using the details overleaf.

We look forward to working with all stakeholders to bring a successful and environmentally acceptable project to fruition.