

Welcome

About this event

Thank you for taking the time to attend our second public drop-in exhibition for the Barachander Wind Farm proposal, located northwest of Kilchrenan, Argyll.

We invite you to:

- discuss your views with our project team;
- raise any questions you may have; and
- provide any final feedback.

This event provides further information on the current proposal ahead of the planning application being submitted.

We have also produced a 'Report on Feedback' which summarises the formal written feedback received from our previous September 2023 event and consultation period. We are grateful to everyone who took the time to respond.

Please note that all information presented at this exhibition is also available to view online on our project webpage (details at bottom of panel).

About GreenPower

GreenPower is an award-winning independent Scottish family-owned renewable energy company headquartered in Alloa, near Stirling. It was founded in 2000 by CEO Rob Forrest, one of the early pioneers and leaders in renewable energy in the UK. GreenPower now has over 290MW of consented and operating renewable energy projects and a growing portfolio of onshore wind, solar and green hydrogen projects in active development.

We are passionate about developing sustainable renewable energy projects which help tackle the climate emergency and also benefit the communities in which we operate.

Fundamental to our approach is the importance we place on meaningful and constructive engagement with local communities to ensure that our projects are well designed and considerately delivered. We're committed to making a positive difference and being a responsible developer and operator.

For more information about GreenPower please visit www.greenpowerinternational.com.

What stage is the project at?

The wind farm is in the final design stages and application documents are being drafted. The planning application will be submitted later this year. We are seeking final feedback from the public to help identify any final design changes. Site investigations and surveys completed to date will form the basis for the final Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and where possible, feedback from this consultation will be incorporated into the overall approach to the project.

Providing feedback

We'd love to hear your thoughts and ideas to help shape the final design. It is important that you provide your feedback in writing. You can do this by filling in a Barachander Wind Farm comments form, available at this exhibition, or by downloading it from the project website (details at bottom of panel). You can return the form by email to barachander@greenpowerinternational.com, or by post to Barachander Wind Farm Team, GreenPower, E-Centre, Cooperage Way, Alloa, FK10 3LP.

The closing date for submitting feedback to GreenPower on the project is Monday 15th September 2025. This ensures that all feedback received by this date can be considered ahead of the planning application being submitted.

Written comments submitted to GreenPower are not representations to the consenting authority. There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU), once the planning application is submitted and the statutory consultation period begins.



Some of the GreenPower staff at Carraig Gheal Wind Farm

The Project

Proposed development

The Barachander Wind Farm site is located on the Barachander Farm Estate, north of Kilchrenan in Argyll.

- It will consist of nine wind turbines up to 200m tip height with a total installed generating capacity of approximately 65 MW.
- A co-located 10MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will be located onsite, increasing the site's efficiency by storing electricity when generation exceeds demand and releasing it back onto the grid at times of higher demand.
- The site is in close proximity to the operational Carraig Gheal Wind Farm and is regarded as its sister project.

Site access

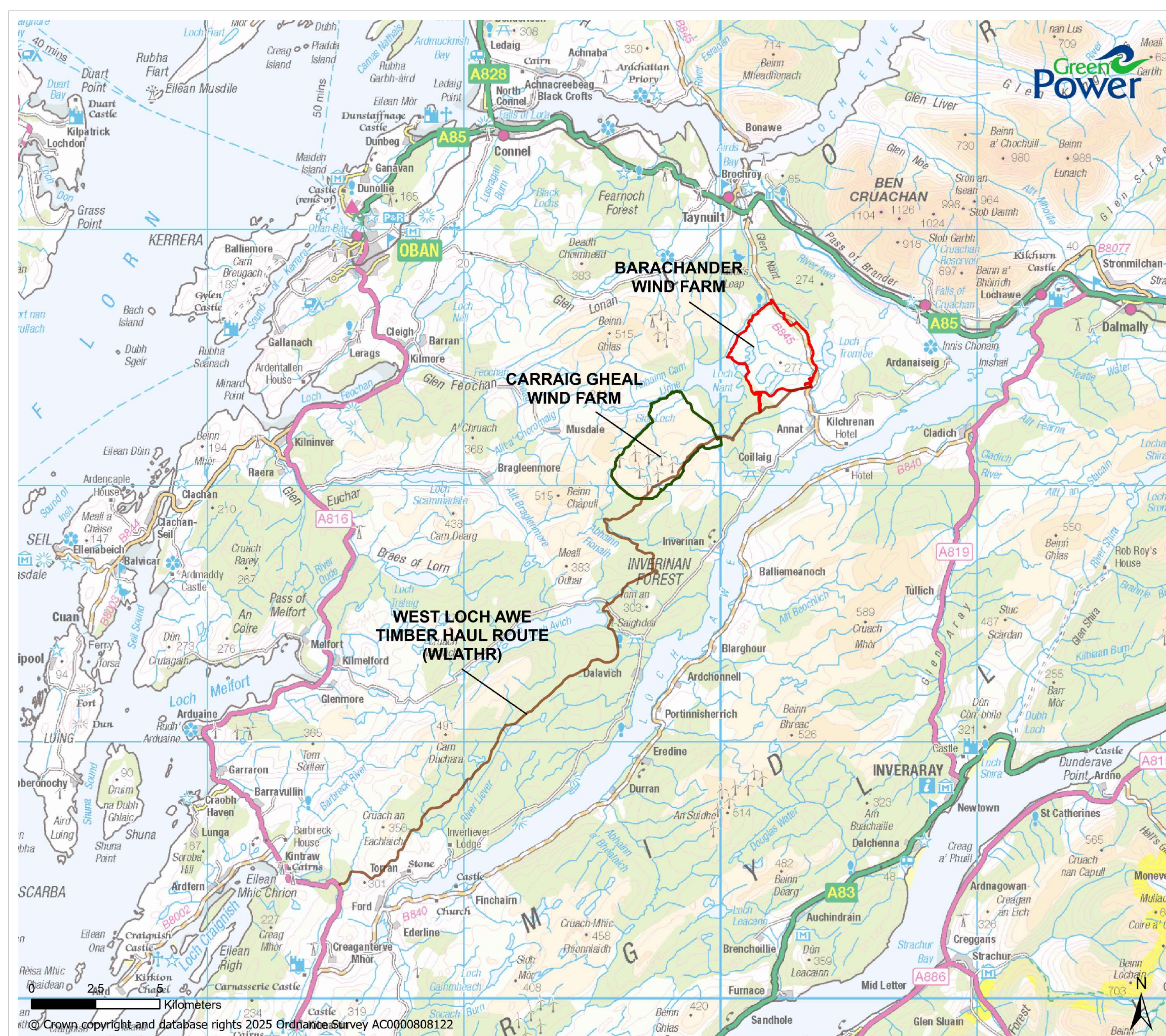
The access route will see components delivered along the 35km West Loch Awe Timber Haulage Route (WLATHR) which GreenPower was instrumental in funding and creating. This strategic route was originally developed to deliver major turbine components for the Carraig Gheal Wind Farm from the A816 south of Kintraw.

For Barachander, components and equipment are proposed to be delivered along the same route, arriving by sea at Campbeltown, travelling along the A83 before joining the WLATHR to the site. This approach avoids the need to use local village roads and minimises community disruption.

Biodiversity enhancement

Opportunities for biodiversity enhancement are being explored as part of the project, both onsite and offsite. Potential measures under consideration include:

- selective removal of commercial forestry to native habitats;
- onsite peatland restoration in appropriate areas;
- deer management to reduce overgrazing and support natural regeneration;
- creation of wildlife corridors to improve habitat connectivity; and
- expansion of the Glen Nant rainforest.



Location map for Barachander Wind Farm

Layout Design

Scoping design (2023)

At the scoping stage, the proposed wind farm layout included 11 turbines, each with a maximum tip height of up to 180m, delivering an output of 55 - 68 MW. The original access track approached the site from the south, passing close to the Dun, a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). The original layout design also intersected with areas of deeper peat, increasing environmental impacts.

Proposed layout (2025)

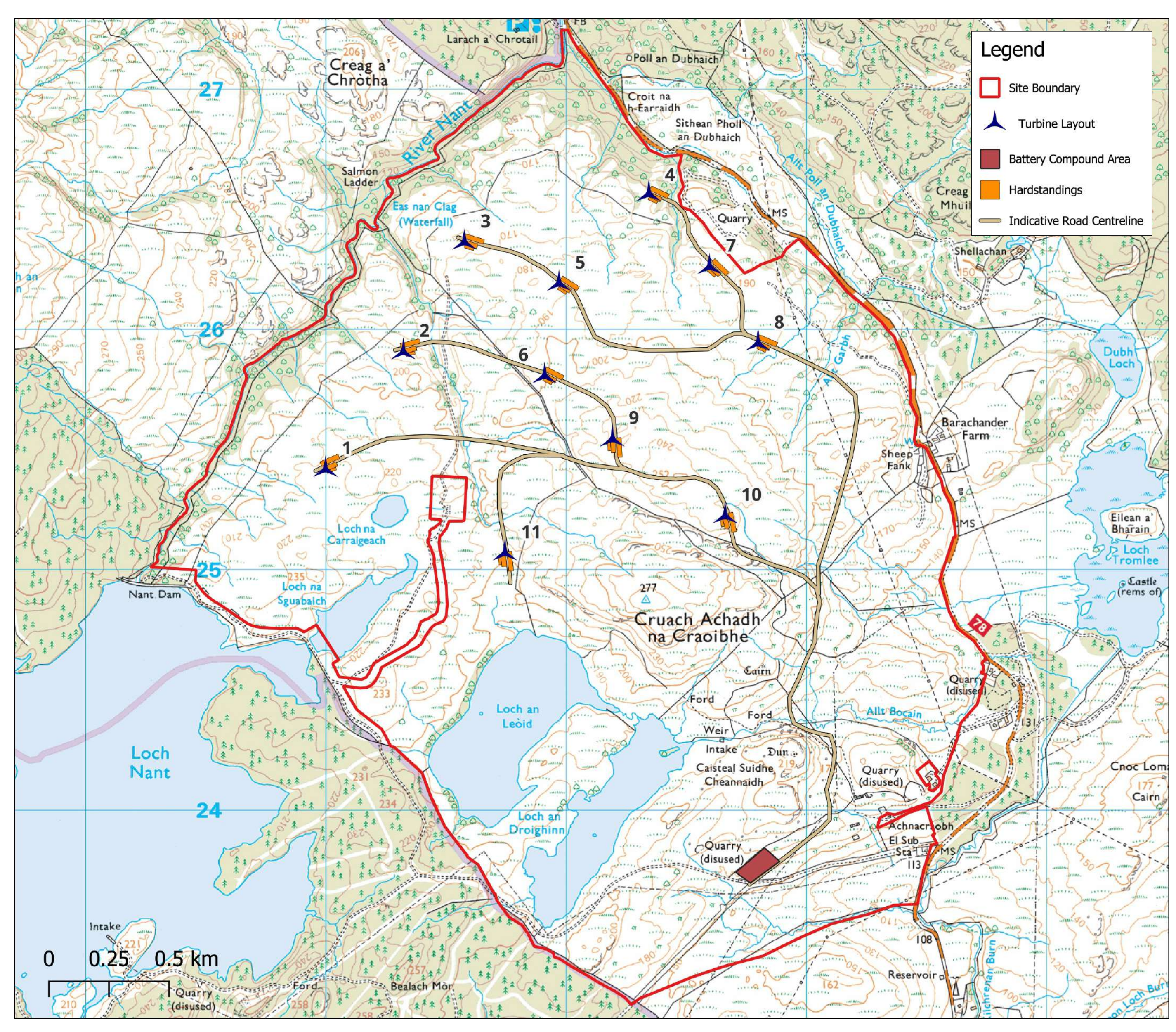
The current design has evolved through technical assessments, environmental studies and public feedback. It now includes 9 turbines of up to 200m tip height, delivering an output of 54 - 65 MW. The turbine locations have been carefully amended around constraints, resulting in a more coherent layout when viewed from residential properties to the east and southeast, particularly through the removal of turbine 10, which had greater prominence in those views.

Access track relocation

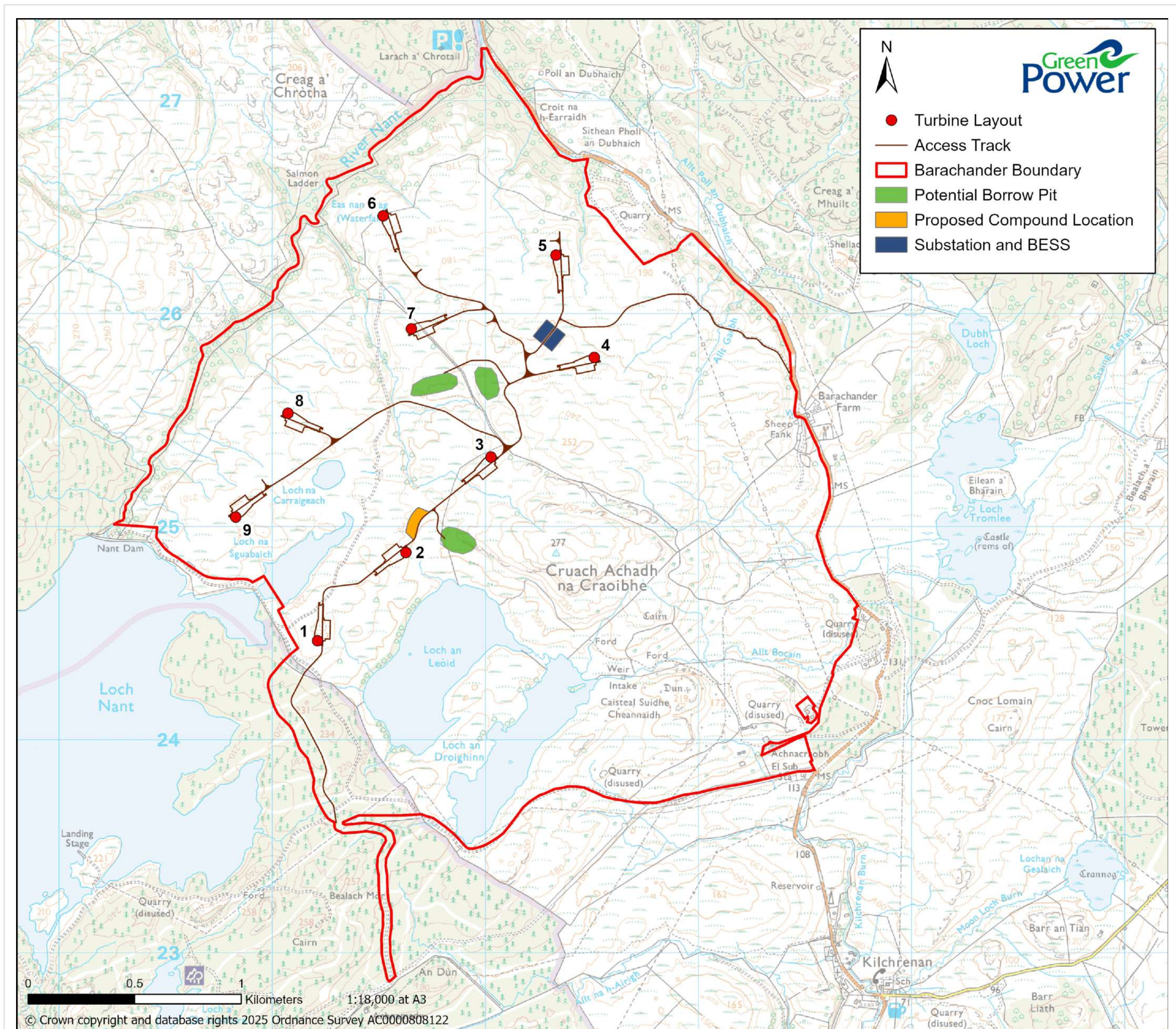
A major improvement involves relocating the site access track to enter from the west, moving the track away from the Dun and some of the more sensitive peat areas. This new route includes an upgrade to the existing Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) tracks used to service the neighbouring forestry plantations, significantly reducing the need for new track construction and minimising land disturbance.

Reduction of infrastructure footprint

As part of the engineering design and layout refinement, the project's requirement for new tracks has been significantly reduced compared to the scoping design. Fewer turbines means less excavation, lower material requirements for foundations and hardstandings, and improved access track routing that avoids areas of deep peat and sensitive habitats. Overall, the revised design offers a more balanced approach, maximising energy generation while minimising environmental impacts.



Scoping Design 2023
Wind Turbine Locations and Infrastructure



Proposed Layout 2025
Wind Turbine Locations and Infrastructure

Environmental Considerations

Considering the environment

We have completed hundreds of hours of detailed surveys through the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which has informed the identification of site constraints. The results have been incorporated into our project design and opportunities for enhancement.

Surveys undertaken include:

- residential and visual amenity;
- hydrology, geology and hydrogeology (including private water supplies);
- cultural heritage and archaeology;
- landscape and visual;
- telecommunications and aviation;
- ecology and ornithology;
- traffic and transport;
- habitat enhancement;
- noise; and
- socioeconomics and shadow flicker.

Ecology and ornithology

Four years of ornithology surveys (double the standard requirement) have been carried out to collect robust data. The layout has been refined with appropriate buffer distances to identified sensitive species and to avoid habitats of highest value. Where required mitigation and enhancement measures are being considered to ensure the project will result in an overall biodiversity enhancement net gain.

Noise

Noise monitoring surveys have been undertaken at nearby properties. Independent analysis confirms the ability to comply with daytime and nighttime noise limits as set out by Argyll and Bute Council.

Landscape and visual

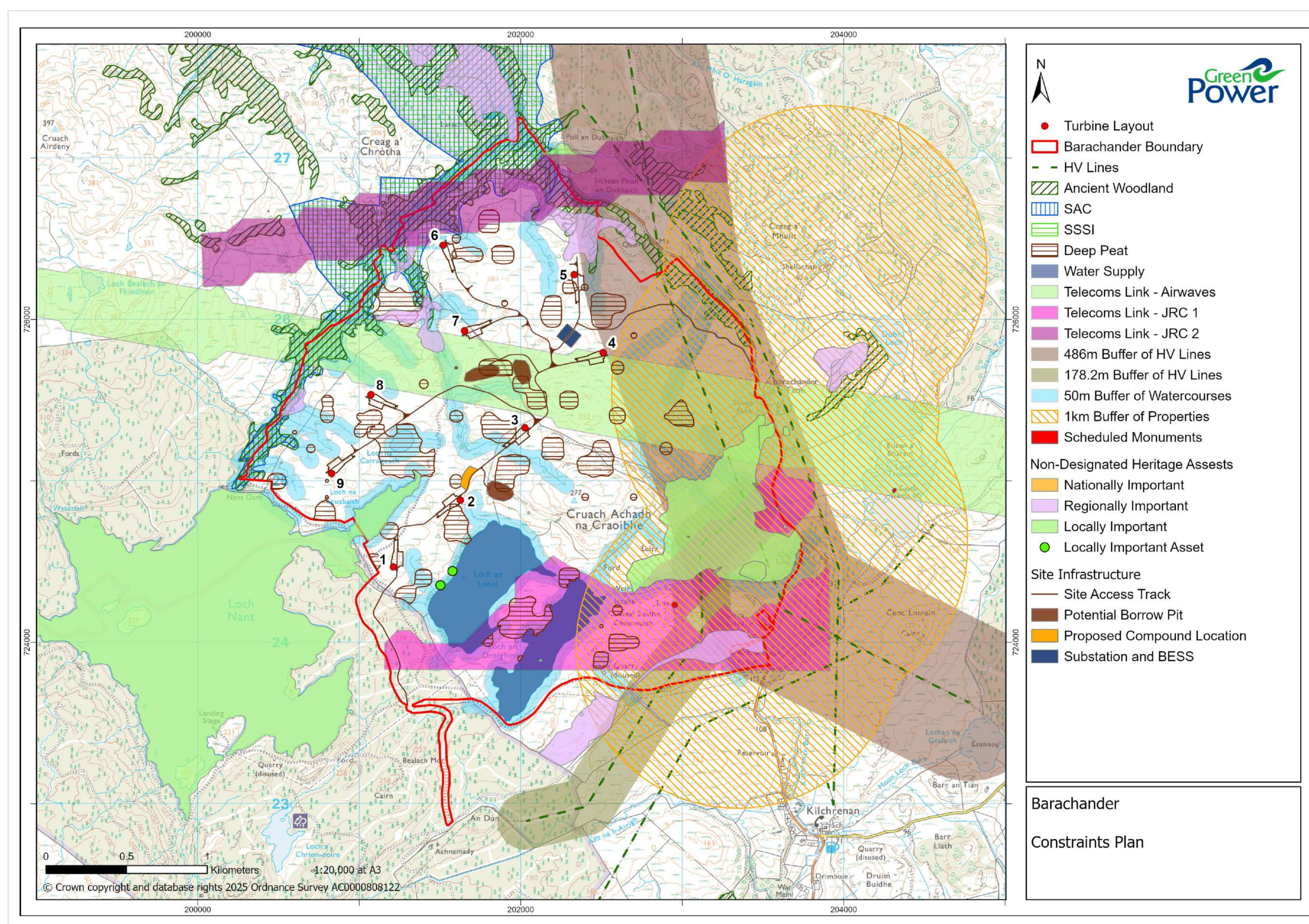
Assessments by independent chartered landscape architects have played a key role in shaping the design of the project. The refined layout features fewer turbines while maintaining a similar output, with their careful relocation in response to community feedback and environmental data ensuring they integrate with the surrounding environment

Cultural heritage

Protecting local and national heritage assets has been a key design consideration. The Dun, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, has been a particular focus. The access track has been re-routed to minimise the effect on the setting of the monument.

Other considerations

Surveys and assessments have also been completed for hydrology, geology, aviation, telecommunications, shadow flicker, and socioeconomics, with exclusion zones (buffers) that have shaped the design where appropriate. All findings will be detailed in the EIA report.



Barachander Constraints Plan

Project Benefits

Climate change

Both the UK and Scottish Governments have committed to significantly increasing renewable energy capacity in order to tackle climate change, reduce energy costs and strengthen energy security.

Scotland's National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) gives strong policy support to onshore wind as part of the transition to net zero. It confirms that renewable energy projects are a national priority and should be supported in principle, provided they are well sited and responsibly designed.

Barachander Wind Farm can play a vital role in helping the UK and Scotland meet their longer-term net zero goals, supporting the continuing shift away from fossil fuels and adding to the resilience and affordability of the electricity system.

Local benefits

Local residents and businesses stand to benefit through both direct and indirect economic benefits associated with the project:

- **Business rates and community benefit**
The project is expected to generate in the region of **£450,000** in annual business rates, supporting local services, although this remains an estimate at this stage. In addition, the community benefit fund will provide up to **£325,000** per year, contributing significant financial resources to local priorities, yielding up to **£13m** over the lifetime of the project.
- **Opportunities during construction**
The construction phase will support local jobs and local suppliers including construction, transport, forestry, catering, hospitality and environmental services.



North Argyll Volunteer Car Scheme (NAVCS) have benefited with grants from the Carraig Gheal Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund

These socioeconomic elements will be assessed in detail as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment.

Community support and training fund

Outwith the annual community benefit fund, a Community Support and Training Fund will be established to support the local community before and during the construction phase of the wind farm.

The fund will aim to:

- **Provide financial support to local businesses and organisations** to help enhance capacity and services related to wind farm construction.
- **Support training and qualification programmes** for local people who wish to gain skills and access employment opportunities linked to the project's development.



"The residents of Kilchrenan are delighted to have the support of Carraig Ghael Wind Farm to keep their village hall in good shape! This funding not only preserves our hall, but also the sense of community that thrives within it." Kilchrenan Hall Committee

Exploring shared ownership

GreenPower is open to exploring shared ownership of the Barachander Wind Farm with the local community. This would allow a community body to invest in a portion of the project and share in any long-term financial returns.

Organisations such as Local Energy Scotland can offer advice and access to funding to help communities explore their options, including support through the Shared Ownership Support Fund.

Should the project be approved, further engagement will take place to explore shared ownership opportunities in more detail and assess local interest.

Community Benefits

Community benefit fund

We can confirm that the wind farm will deliver **£5,000 per MW** of installed generating capacity per year (index-linked) in community benefit funding, starting from the project's expected operational date in 2031.

Based on current estimates, this could deliver approximately **£325,000 per year** for the lifetime of the project. The final amount will depend on the total installed capacity. This could produce up to **£13m** over the life of the project.

Community benefit fund discussions will be held between the relevant parties and are not material considerations to the planning decision making.

Community feedback

Examples of the local priorities identified during the first public exhibition include:

- **support for energy efficiency** upgrades in homes (e.g. triple glazing, insulation, solar panels, and heat pumps);
- an **energy discount scheme** for local residents;
- **affordable housing initiatives** for the local area;
- **improved recreational amenity** such as paths and parking;
- **support for younger generations** such as children's facilities, activities, travel grants and college support; and
- **support for older generations** in rural areas such as transport and delivery services.

We are keen to explore the opportunities identified to date in more detail. If you have any additional feedback or ideas, we encourage you to share these as part of this consultation event. Should the project receive consent, further consultation with the community will be undertaken.

Any decisions on how community feedback is taken forward will follow GreenPower's guidance and principles for Community Benefit. These principles ensure that funds are used transparently, fairly, and for the wider good of host communities:

- **Supporting community needs:** GreenPower will work with host communities to help identify how community benefit funds can best meet local priorities – for example, through the preparation of a community plan or the provision of a dedicated community development officer.

- **Charitable and for the public good:** All benefit funds must be used for purposes that are charitable in nature and deliver clear public benefit.
- **Responsible use of funds:** Community benefit funds cannot be used for political or religious purposes, or to replace core statutory services.

Managing the community benefit fund

There are several ways that community benefit can be delivered, based on what works best for the community:

- **Community led fund:** A panel representing local communities evaluates grant applications and oversees distribution.
- **Project-focused approach:** Funds are directed to specific programmes run by existing organisations, tackling issues such as energy support or housing.
- **Hybrid model:** A combination of both, tailored to community priorities.

GreenPower has extensive experience in delivering community benefit. Through our Carraig Gheal Wind Farm, we've provided over £600,000 in funding to support local initiatives over the past 12 years. The Barachander fund could follow a similar approach, either managed separately or in connection with the existing Carraig Gheal fund.

To learn more about GreenPower's community benefit funds on other projects, including the positive legacies we've created across Scotland and community endorsement of our approach, please speak to our team or visit our company website at www.greenpowerinternational.com.



Kilchrenan/Inverinan & Dalavich Litter Group have benefited with grants from the Carraig Gheal Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund

Project Timeline

September 2023 - exhibition feedback

The feedback received from the September 2023 exhibition and subsequent consultation period was carefully considered. The design, our approach to delivery of the project, and how local benefits can best be realised have all been informed by constructive community feedback.

July 2025 - design chill

All surveys were finalised in 2025, with public feedback from the 2023 exhibition and ongoing discussions with the community integrated where possible. Continued discussions with key consultees including NatureScot and Historic Environment Scotland have also helped inform the current design.

August 2025 - final public exhibition

This second public exhibition presents the final design and approach to delivering the proposed wind farm and gathers any final feedback or questions from the community regarding the proposed development.

Autumn 2025 - planning submission

A Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report will summarise all of the feedback received and explain how the feedback has been considered.

The application is expected to be submitted to the Energy Consents Unit in autumn 2025. The application will be supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and the PAC Report.

The Energy Consents Unit will advertise the application and hold a statutory consultation period during which formal written representations may be submitted.

2025 - 2027 - planning process

The Scottish Government has a commitment to aim for making planning decisions on wind farms within 12 months of receiving a valid planning application.

Should the project receive consent there will be a period of approximately 12 months during which the relevant planning conditions are reviewed and discharged.

2027 - procurement process

The procurement process usually runs for around 12 months.

2030 - commencement of construction

The construction of the project is expected to take between 12 to 18 months, subject to weather conditions.

