

Welcome

About this event

Thank you for taking the time to attend our final public drop-in exhibition for the Neven Point Wind Farm proposal, located on the southern edge of Eday.

We invite you to:

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

This event provides some further information on the proposal and sets out the final proposed design 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 November 2024 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 website (details at bottom of panel).

Separate consultation on landing point

Alongside this wind farm exhibition event we are also holding the first of two public drop-in exhibitions to gather feedback on our proposal to construct a landing point adjacent to the existing pier.



Location map for Neven Point Wind Farm

Providing feedback

We're keen to receive feedback and discuss any concerns or suggestions that you may have. Please provide your feedback in writing.

Written feedback can be provided by filling in a 'Wind Farm' comments form (separate to the 'Landing Point' comments form), available at this exhibition, or by downloading it from the project website. You can return the form by email to nevenpoint@greenpowerinternational.com, or by post to Neven Point Wind Farm Team, GreenPower, e-Centre, Cooperage Way, Alloa, FK10 3LP.

The closing date for submitting feedback to GreenPower on the final design for the wind farm proposal is Friday 28th February 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 determining authority (Orkney Islands Council). There will be an opportunity to submit written representations to the Council once a planning application has been submitted and the statutory consultation is initiated.

About GreenPower

GreenPower is an award-winning independent Scottish family-owned renewable energy company headquartered in Alloa, near Stirling. We were founded in 2000 by CEO Rob Forrest, one of the early pioneers and leaders in renewable energy in the UK, and now have 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 considerably 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.

The project

Turbines

The proposed Neven Point Wind Farm is located on Greentoft Farm, on the southern edge of Ward Hill. The turbine locations have been carefully refined over the past two years to address community feedback and technical constraints and to minimise potential adverse effects wherever possible.

The design has evolved from an 8-turbine proposal, when GreenPower first acquired the project in June 2022, to a 5-turbine scheme with tip heights of up to 180m and an installed capacity of between 24 and 30 MW.

Site access tracks and hardstandings

Existing farm tracks will be upgraded and further access tracks, mainly in the form of short spurs to the turbine locations, will be created. Hardstanding areas at the base of each turbine are needed for a crane and other plant during turbine construction and erection.

Substation and energy storage

The single-storey on-site substation collects the energy generated from the turbines via a network of underground cables.

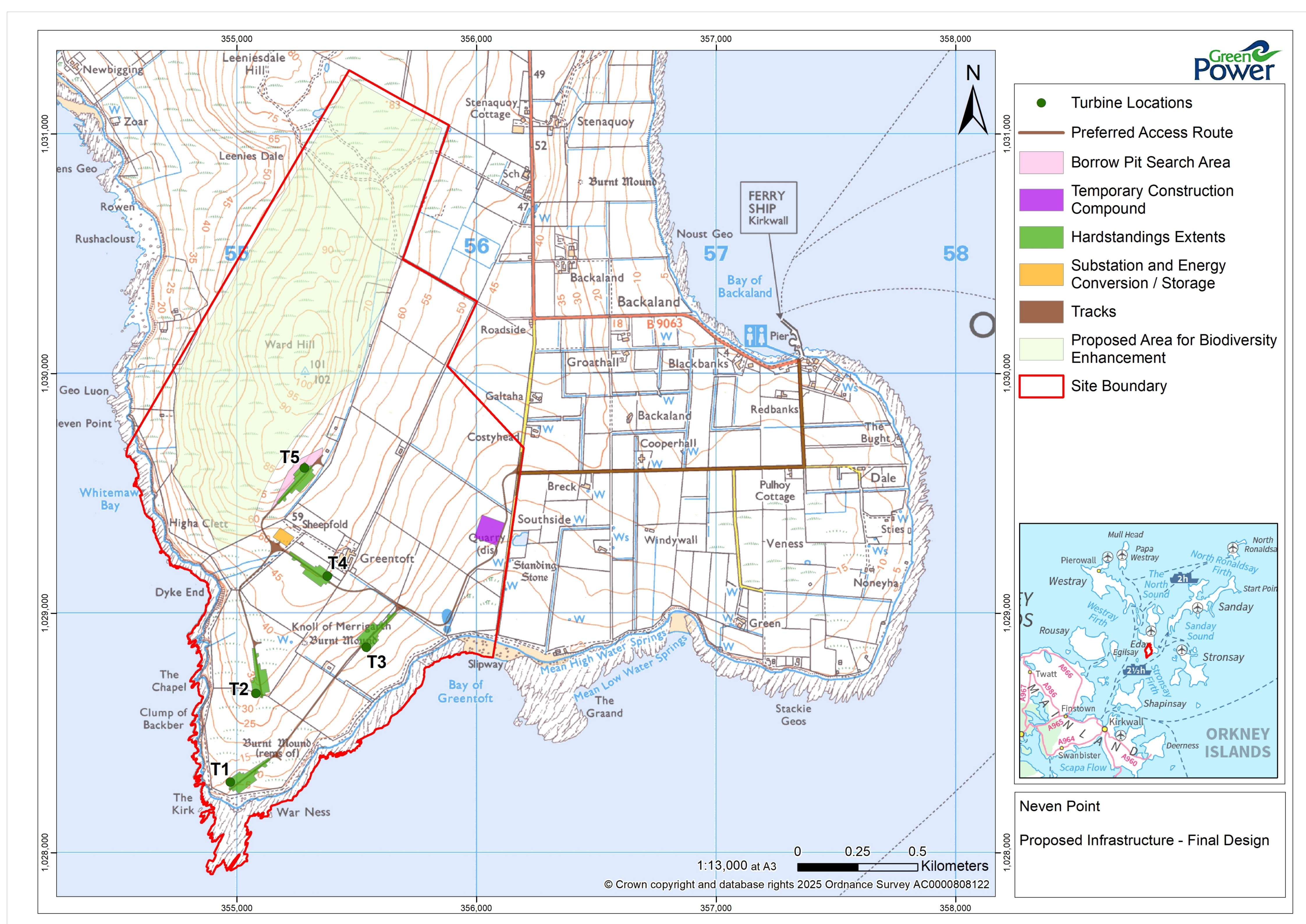
An on-site Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will be located next to the substation. It will increase the site's efficiency by storing electricity when generation exceeds demand and releasing it back onto the grid when required.

Temporary infrastructure

A temporary construction compound for staff offices, welfare facilities, accommodation, materials and plant will also be created, together with borrow pits for sourcing aggregate during construction.

Land use

The land needed will take up around 3% of the most productive Greentoft farmland and the farm operations will continue.



Project design

Considering the environment

We have completed hundreds of hours of detailed surveys, as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) work, to identify constraints. The results have been incorporated into our project design and enhancement proposals.

The studies we have undertaken include:

- Residential visual amenity
- Hydrology, geology and hydrogeology, (including private water supplies)
- Cultural heritage and archaeology
- Landscape and visual
- Telecommunications and shadow flicker
- Ecology and ornithology
- Aviation
- Traffic and transport
- Habitat enhancement
- Noise
- Socioeconomics

Noise

Noise monitoring surveys have been undertaken at nearby properties. Independent analysis confirms ability to comply with day time and night time noise limits.

Telecoms and cultural heritage

The layout is designed to avoid direct impact on the scheduled monument while ensuring existing telecoms links remain unaffected.

Ornithology and ecology

Four years of surveys (double the standard requirement) have been carried out and the layout refined with appropriate buffer distances for sensitive species.

Data from multiple ecology surveys have been collected since 2020. Sensitive ecological areas have been identified and avoided where possible.

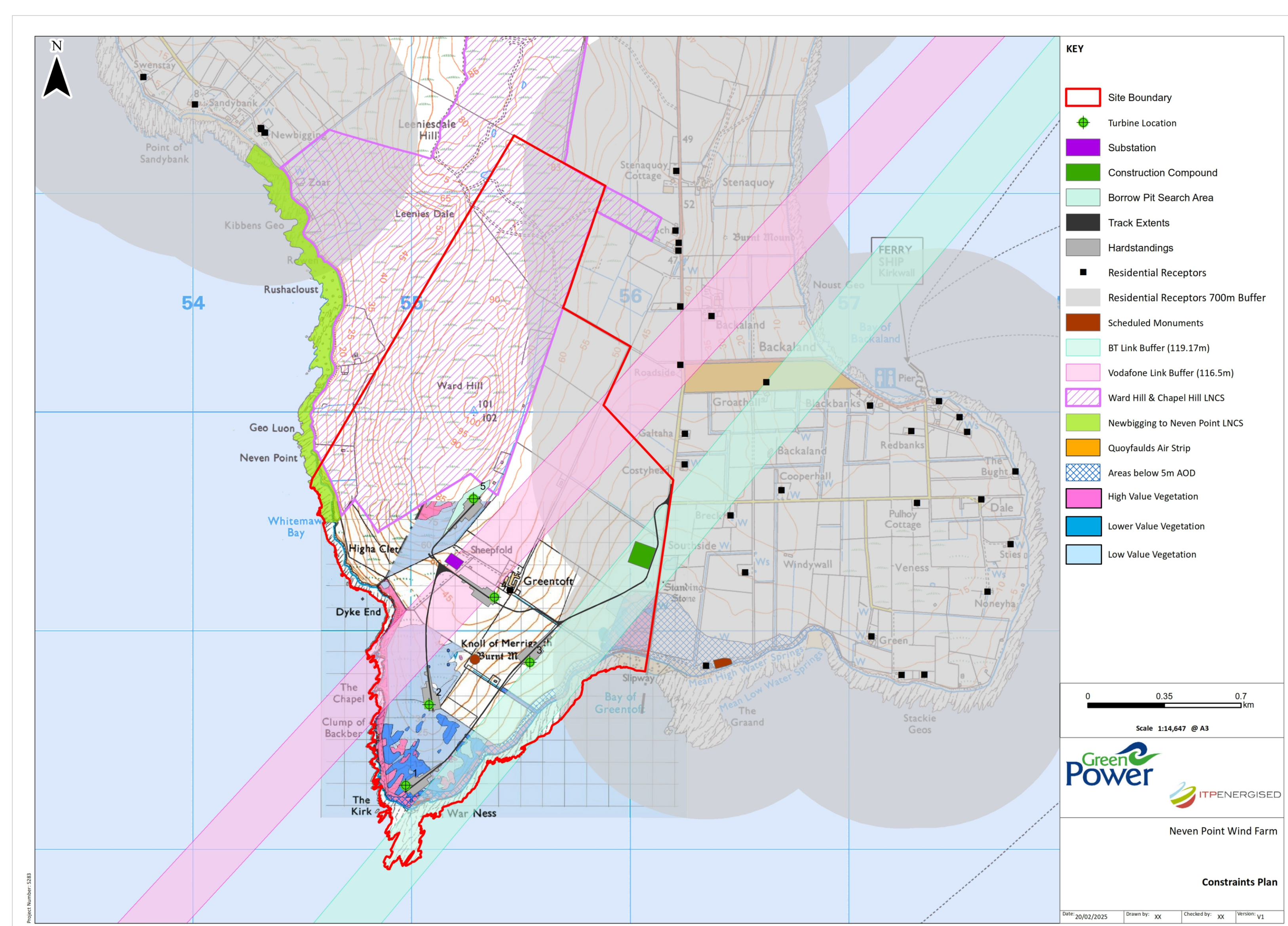
Landscape and visual

Assessments by independent chartered landscape architects have been key in shaping the project design. Significant changes have been made to the layout over the last few years with the current 5-turbine layout refined through sightline and viewpoint analysis whilst reducing potential effects on residential amenity.

Turbines are set back from properties as far as possible. Comparable wind farms exist at closer relative proximity to dwellings across the UK.

Other considerations

Additional buffers, surveys and data on hydrology, geology, aviation, shadow flicker and socioeconomics have been considered. All findings will be detailed in the EIA report.



Project timeline

November 2024 - exhibition feedback

The feedback received from the November exhibition and subsequent consultation period was carefully considered (in addition to feedback received since 2022). The design, our approach to delivery of the project, and how local benefits can be best realised have all been informed by constructive community feedback.

December 2024 - design freeze

A wealth of data has been collected over the years which helped to significantly refine the layout prior to the November 2024 exhibition and renewed pre-application consultation. Following the November 2024 exhibition we have again carefully considered the balance of public and key consultee feedback, final survey data, site constraints, and environmental impacts to confirm the final design.

February 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.

Spring 2025 - planning submission

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

The planning application is expected to be submitted to Orkney Islands Council in spring 2025. The planning application will be supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and the PAC Report.

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

Planning process (2025 - 2026)

It usually takes between 6 and 18 months for a planning determination to be made. Should the project receive consent there is then a period of approximately 12 months during which the relevant planning conditions are reviewed and discharged, ahead of construction.

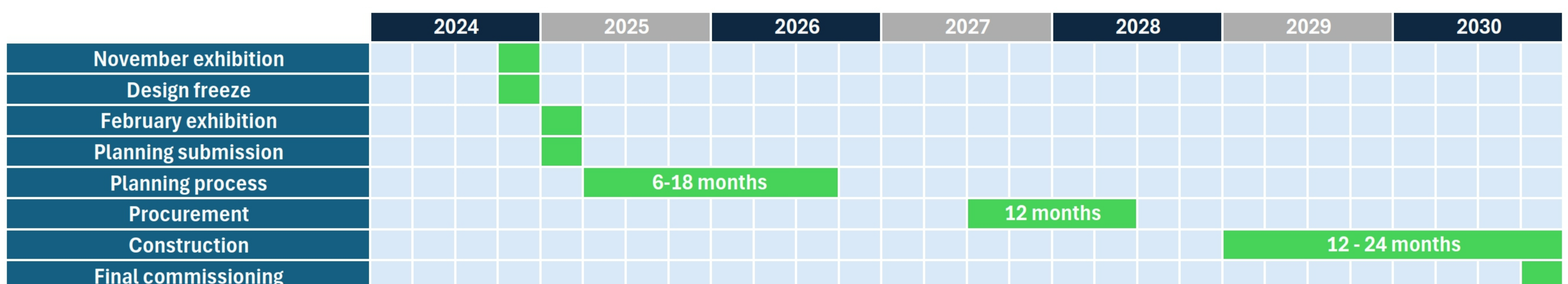
Procurement process (2027 - 2028)

The procurement process usually runs for around 12 months.

Construction (2029 - 2030)

The construction of the project is expected to take between 12 and 18 months, subject to weather conditions, with a final 2 to 4 months to test and commission the project before it is fully operational.

The planning permission being sought would allow the wind farm to operate for a 40-year period.



Maximising economic benefits

Economic impacts

The proposed development will deliver substantial economic benefits, including:

- **Investment of around £35.7M** with 39% of this expenditure staying within Scotland, including Orkney, supporting local businesses and supply chains.
- **Estimated 41 job years** during construction in Orkney and **168 job years** across Scotland (including Orkney), covering both direct and indirect employment opportunities.
- **Long term operational contracts** with an estimated **£0.4M per year** of contracts generated for Orkney-based businesses and **£0.7M per year** across Scotland (including Orkney). Over the project's operational lifespan, this equates to **£16M for Orkney** and **£28M for Scotland**, benefiting sectors such as maintenance, servicing and supply chain
- **Business Rates** to Orkney Islands Council predicted to be **£225,000 annually**, helping to support vital services.
- **Community Benefit Fund** estimated between **£156,000** and **£195,000** per year (up to **£7.8M over 40 years**).

Involving the local supply chain

It is important to GreenPower that we involve local businesses on Eday and from wider Orkney as much as possible, to maximise local contract opportunities. The greatest opportunities often occur during the construction phase of the project.

During construction the skills and services that the project is likely to require include: plant hire, labourers, joiners, civil engineers, ecologists, crane services, welfare services, catering, cleaning, plant operators, steel fixers, fencers, electrical engineers, administrators, groundworks, accommodation, vehicle maintenance and office support.

We will host 'Meet the Buyer' events for local businesses to enable those who could provide products and services during construction (and operation) to meet GreenPower and our contractors and maximise the opportunity to tender for work on the project.

If you are a local business interested in getting involved in the project, please talk to our team at the exhibition or contact us at nevenpoint@greenpowerinternational.com

Creating job opportunities for Eday

During the operational period, full time and part time site managers will be required in addition to other ongoing roles to provide maintenance and operational support.

We're keen to maximise the opportunities for local residents to fill these sorts of roles, wherever possible. During tendering, GreenPower will apply weight to competitive tenders that can commit to training opportunities and qualifications for members of the local community.

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 during the construction phase of the wind farm. This fund, with a value of £25,000, will be available prior to construction.

The fund will aim to:

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

Shared ownership

GreenPower is open to exploring the potential for shared ownership of the project with the community. Sources of finance are available to communities through organisations such as Local Energy Scotland that can advise and support local people as they explore the options available to them. Further engagement will be carried out post consent, should the project be approved.

* All figures drawn from BIGGAR Economics and RenewableUK models on economic impacts. Final figures will be set out in the full EIA Report accompanying the application.

Community benefit

Feedback and ideas

Community benefit and socioeconomics were the topics that stimulated the most feedback at our previous consultation. We welcome this and are committed to exploring with the community how best to deliver meaningful, tangible benefits from the project to Eday.

Ideas so far from residents have included an interest in receiving **an annual discount off electricity bills** and/or support for **energy efficiency improvements to homes**. Another key area of feedback was the importance of ensuring community benefits are **administered transparently and distributed fairly**.

In response to feedback we can confirm that community benefit will rise to £6,500 per MW per year (index-linked) from the date of operation in 2030. The project could deliver between £156,000 and £195,000 per year in community benefit for the operational lifetime of the project. The exact amount will depend on the total capacity of turbines installed.

Home energy efficiency improvements

Support could include grants for triple glazing, insulation, or funding towards solar panels and heat pumps, with the aim of reducing energy bills and adding value to residences. It would help decarbonise Eday and enable a sustainable community. We are seeking feedback on this as a potential benefit.

Annual electricity discount proposal

Based on the interest in an annual discount on electricity bills for local residents, we are exploring how a scheme like this could be delivered.

Our initial idea is a banded approach which could look something like this:

- Band 1 - homes within 1.5km: £2,000 per year
- Band 2 - homes within 2.5km: £1,000 per year
- Band 3 - rest of the island: £500 per year

This is a starting point for consultation, not a final proposal, and we are interested in your feedback.

If supported in principle by the community, we would explore the levels and how such a banded scheme could be implemented. This approach, based on the values above, would still leave around £100,000 per year in the community benefit fund for other community initiatives.

Administration of community benefit

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

- **Community benefit fund:** one of the most common approaches is to set up a community benefit fund steering group, with grant applications considered by a democratically appointed community decision-making panel in partnership with GreenPower.
- **Project-focused:** this is where key community projects and initiatives are the focus, such as an energy efficiency/electricity bill discount programme overseen by a panel drawn from across the community in partnership with GreenPower.
- **Hybrid approach:** a combination of the above.

GreenPower has many years of experience supporting communities neighbouring our projects. We strive to empower communities to go further than our funding alone would allow and community funds can be used to attract additional investment into the island.

For more information about how GreenPower's community benefit funds work on other projects, including the positive legacies they've created for communities across Scotland and community endorsement of our approach, please speak to our team or visit our company website at www.greenpowerinternational.com.



GreenPower's Carraig Gheal Wind Farm community benefit funds have supported an inspirational environmental initiative spearheaded by a local 8 year old in Argyll.

Jack Grant, (fifth from right) aged 8 and a local resident of Avich and Kilchrenan Community Council area, had a dream three years ago that a local litter pick was required. This dream has not only been realised but it has grown into a community wide effort as the Kilchrenan/Inverinan & Dalavich Litter Group.

Jack said, "The reason why I want to do litter picks is because it keeps the planet clean and I think that's really important. On my latest litter pick I loved wearing my new "Chief Litter Picker" hi-vis vest." Isobel, Jack's Mum, explained that the initial idea came from her son: "Jack is a very enthusiastic environmentalist even aged 8 and really cares about the litter problem in our local area".