



Corriemoillie wind farm

Environmental Statement

Volume 1

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Climate &
Renewables

This Environmental Statement has been prepared in support of an application under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended by The Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006) for the development of a wind farm at Corriemoillie, in Ross Shire.

The Environmental Statement comprises the following documents:

- Non-Technical Summary (NTS);
- Environmental Statement Volume 1; and
- Technical Appendices Volume 2

In addition to the above, the application is accompanied by a Planning Statement, which has been submitted in support of the application but which does not form part of the Environmental Statement.

The Environmental Statement can be viewed, along with the other documents referred to in this section at The Highland Council Planning Department, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX.

The ES can also be viewed by the public during normal working hours at the following locations:

Further copies of the NTS are available free of charge and the Environmental Statement may be purchased for £300.00 per hard copy or £20 for CD-ROM from:

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Corriemoillie Wind Farm Environmental Statement

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Corriemoillie Wind Farm Environmental Statement**Glossary**

Acid grassland	Grassland that occurs on acidic soils (pH less than 5.5) which are often species-poor.
Above Ordnance Datum (AOD)	The mean sea level at Newlyn (UK) used as a base measurement on Ordnance Survey Maps for contours.
Amber list species	Populations in moderate decline or previously in severe decline but are recovering.
Ambient Noise	The all encompassing sound at any point in time.
Amenity value	Defined as the relative pleasantness of a journey and relates in particular to the exposure of pedestrians and others to traffic.
Acquifer	A body of rock through which appreciable amounts of water can flow.
Assessment	An umbrella term for description, analysis and evaluation.
Attenuation	Increase in duration of flow hydrograph with a consequent reduction in peak flow.
Biodiversity	Biological diversity, or richness of living organisms present in representative communities and populations.
Borrow pit	An area where soil, sand or gravel has been dug up for use elsewhere.
Breeding site	Term used to describe an area of land, or open water and land, large enough to provide a breeding otter with security from disturbance, one or more potential natal den sites, play areas for cubs, no risk of flooding and access to a good food supply.
Broadleaved woodland	An area of woodland with predominantly deciduous tree species (less than 10% coniferous trees in the canopy).
Catchment	The area contributing flow to a point on a drainage system.
Coniferous woodland	An area of woodland with predominantly coniferous tree species (less than 10% deciduous trees in the canopy).
Contaminated land	The 'Environment Protection Act 1990' defines Contaminated Land as 'any land which appears to the local authority as to be in such condition, by reason of substances, on or under the land, that significant harm is being caused or there is a significant possibility of such harm being caused; ... or pollution of controlled water is being, or likely to be caused'.
Conservation Area	Area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Designated under Section 61 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997.

Contractor	The successful tenderer in the construction process.
Controlled Activity Regulations (Scotland) 2005	Controls all engineering activity in or near watercourses.
Culvert	A metal, wooden, plastic, or concrete conduit through which surface water can flow under or across roads.
Decibel (dB)	The range of audible sound pressures is approximately 0.00002 Pa to 200 Pa. Using decibel notation presents this range in a more manageable form, 0 dB to 140dB. Mathematically: Sound pressure level (d) = 20 log (pt/pO) Where p) = 2 x 10 ⁻⁵ Pa
Effect	The result of change or changes in specific environmental resources or receptors.
EIA directive	Directive 85/33/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment, as amended by DIRECTIVE 97/11/EEC and applied by the Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations.
Electric fishing	Fishing method using electricity to attract fish.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	The process by which information about the environmental effects of a project is evaluated and mitigation measures are identified.
Environmental Statement (ES)	Document provided by the Developer to the Competent Authority, containing environmental information required under Article 5 of Directive 85/337/EEC as amended.
European Commission (EC)	Embodies and upholds the general interest of the European Union. The Commission is the driving force in the Union's institutional system.
European Union (EU)	Union of European States.
Eutrophication	The process where water bodies receive excess nutrients that stimulates excessive plant growth, resulting in the reduction of dissolved oxygen in the water which can kill other organisms.
Groundwater	Water below the surface of the ground in the saturation zone and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil.
Habitat	Term most accurately meaning the place in which a species lives, but also used to describe plant communities or agglomerations of plant communities, as used, for example in a Phase 1 Habitat Survey.
Habitats Directive	EC Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.
Impact	Any changes attributable to the proposed scheme that have the potential to have environmental effects (i.e. the causes of the effects).

Improved grassland	Grasslands that have been so modified by fertilizers, drainage or grazing that they have lost most of the species expected in unimproved grassland. They contain a very limited number of grasses and a few common forbs.	Riparian habitat	Natural home for plants and animals occurring in a thin strip of land bordering a stream or river.
LA10	The A-weighted noise level exceeded for 10% of the measurement period. A unit generally used in the assessment of road traffic noise.	Roost	Any resting site used by bats including maternity roosts which are used by females and their young, hibernacula which are used during winter hibernation and transitional roosts which may be used at any time.
LA90	The A-weighted noise level exceeded for 90% of the measurement period. This unit is generally used to describe the background noise climate.	Runoff	Water that flows over the ground surface to the drainage system. This occurs if the ground is impermeable or if permeable ground is saturated.
LAeq	Equivalent Continuous Sound Level. A notional steady sound level which would cause the same A-weighted sound energy to be received as that due to the actual, possibly fluctuating, sound level over a given period of time.	Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM)	A monument which has been scheduled by the Scottish Ministers as being of national importance under the terms of the 'Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979'.
Landform	Combination of slope and elevation producing the shape and form of the land surface.	Scrub	Climax vegetation dominated by locally native shrubs, usually less than 5m tall.
Landscape	Human perception of the land, conditioned by knowledge and identity with a place.	Semi-improved grassland	Grassland that has been modified by fertilizers, drainage or intensive grazing. Contain less species diversity than unimproved grasslands.
Land take	Acquired land which is necessary to construct the scheme and associated infrastructure and to undertake the essential environmental mitigation measures.	Semi-natural woodland	Woodland that does not obviously originate from planting. The distribution of species will generally reflect the variations in the site and the soil. Planted trees must account for less than 30% of the canopy composition.
Listed Building	Building included on the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest and afforded statutory protection under the 'Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997' and other planning legislation. Classified categories A – C(s).	Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Areas of national importance. The aim of the SSSI network is to maintain an adequate representation of all natural and semi-natural habitats and native species across Britain. The site network is protected under the provisions of Sections 28 and 19 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as well as the Amendment Act 1985 and the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
Made ground	Material deposited by man i.e. not natural.	Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	An area designated under the EC Habitats Directive to ensure that rare, endangered or vulnerable habitats or species of community interest are either maintained at or restored to a favourable conservation status.
Magnitude	Size, extent, scale and duration of an impact.	Special Protection Areas (SPA)	An area designated under the Wild Birds Directive (Directive 74/409/EEC) to protect important bird habitats. Implemented under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Under the Habitats Directive, all SPAs will be proposed Special Area of Conservation.
Marginal	Vegetation at the waters edge.	Sustainable drainage systems (SuDS)	A sequence of management practices and control structures designed to drain surface water in a more sustainable fashion than some conventional techniques.
Mitigation	Term used to indicate avoidance, remediation or alleviation of adverse impacts.	Theoretical zones of visual influence	Area of land over which a development may be visible, as determined by analysis of OS data and field survey.
Native	A species occurring naturally, in its normal geographic range.	Threshold	The minimum intensity or value of a signal etc that will produce a response or specified effect.
Neutral grassland	Grassland communities that grow on neutral soils (pH 5.5 – 7).	Turbid	High concentrations of suspended sediment and particulates in the water column.
Peatland	Land where plants decompose only partially and accumulate to form brown to black organic material called peat; two main types bogs and fens.		
Phase 1 Habitat Survey	This identifies the different habitats that are contained within or make up a site, and the key plant species for each of those habitat types.		
Plantation woodland	Woodland or any age that obviously originated from planting.		
Red list species	Population in severe decline.		

Water Framework Directive (WFD)	Wide-ranging European environmental legislation (2000/60/EC). Addresses inland surface waters, estuarine and coastal waters and groundwater. The fundamental objective of the WFD is to maintain “high status” of waters where it exists, preventing any deterioration in the existing status of waters and achieving at least “good status” in relation to all waters by 2015.
Water quality	The chemical and biological status of various parameters within the water column and their interactions, for example dissolved oxygen, indicator metals such as dissolved copper, or suspended solids (the movement of which is determined by hydrological process and forms geomorphological landforms).
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (WCA)	Principal mechanism for wildlife protection in the UK.
Yearling	An animal that is between one and two years old.

Other technical terminology is described in the relevant chapters or technical appendices.

Corriemoillie Wind Farm Environmental Statement**Abbreviations**

		CLVA	Cumulative Landscape and Visual Assessment
		dB	Decibel
%	Percent	dB(A)	A-weighted Decibel Level
AADT	Annual Average Daily Traffic	EAC	East Ayrshire Council
AGLV	Area of Great Landscape Value	EALP	East Ayrshire Local Plan
ALS	Area of Landscape Significance	EC	European Commission
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum	EclA	Ecological Impact Assessment
ASFB	Association of Salmon Fisheries Boards	ECoW	Ecological Clerk of Works
ASPT	Average Species Per Taxa	EEC	European Economic Committee
AWI	Ancient Woodland Inventory	EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan	ELC	European Landscape Convention
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey	ES	Environmental Statement
bgl	Below Ground Level	ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Areas
BGS	British Geological Survey	FCS	Forestry Commission Scotland
BHMP	Bird Hazard Management Plan	FDP	Forestry Development Plan
BMWP	Biological Monitoring Working Party	FREDS	Forum for Renewable Development in Scotland
BS	British Standard	FWAG	Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Service Scotland
BSBI	Botanical Society of the British Isles	GDL	Garden and Designed Landscape
BTO	British Trust for Ornithology	GI	Ground Investigation
BWEA	British Wind Energy Association	GIS	Geographic Information System
CA	Conservation Area	GLVIA	Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide	ha	Hectares
CAR	Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005	HAP	Habitat Action Plan
CBC	Common Birds Census	HGDLs	Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes
CDM	Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007	HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicles
CEIA	Comparative Environmental Impact Assessment	HMSO	Her Majesty's Stationary Office
CEL:LfN	Cost Effective Landscapes: Learning from Nature	HRSG	Highland Raptor Study Group
CIRIA	Construction Industry Research and Information Association	IEEM	Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
CITES	Convention of the International Trade of Endangered Species	IEMA	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment

Abbreviations

IMP	Integrated Monitoring Programme	OS	Ordnance Survey
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature	PAN	Planning Advice Note
km	Kilometre	PBA	Protection of Badgers Act (1992)
L _{A10}	10 Percentile Noise Indicator	PCB	Polychlorinated biphenyls
L _{A90}	90 Percentile Noise Indicator	PIP	Pollution Incident Plan
L _{Aeq}	A-weighted Equivalent Continuous Sound Pressure	PPG	Pollution Prevention Guidance
LBAP	Local Biodiversity Action Plan	PPM	Power Performance Mast
LCA	Landscape Character Assessment	PPP	Pollution Prevention Plan
LCT	Landscape Character Type	PWS	Provisional Wildlife Site
LGV	Large Goods Vehicle	RCAHMS	Royal Commission of the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
LRBI	Lowland Raised Bog Inventory	RES	Renewable Energy Systems Group
LVA	Landscape Visual Assessment	RHS	Rivers Habitat Survey
m	Metre	RIGS	Regional Important Geological Sites
m/s	Metres per second	ROS	Renewables Obligation (Scotland) Order
m ²	Square metre	ROW	Right of Way
m ³	Cubic metre	RSA	Regional Scenic Areas
MOD	Ministry of Defence	RSPB	Royal Society Protection of Birds
mph	Miles per Hour	RTA	Road Traffic Accident
MW	Megawatt	SA	Scenic Area
NBN	National Biodiversity Network	SAC	Scottish Agricultural College
NCSA	Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004	SAC	Special Area of Conservation
NMRS	National Monuments Record of Scotland	SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument
NOx	Oxides of Nitrogen	SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
NPF	National Planning Framework	Scotways	Scottish Right of Way and Access Society
NPPG	National Planning Policy Guidelines	SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
NSA	National Scenic Area	SINS	Site of Importance to Natural Science
NSR	Non Statutory Register	SLA	Sensitive Landscape Character Area
NTS	Non-Technical Summary	SLCA	Sensitive Landscape Character Area
NVC	National Vegetation Classification		

Abbreviations

SLG	Strategic Locational Guidance
SMR	Scottish Monuments Record
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SO ₂	Sulphur Dioxide
SOV	Sites of Ornithological Value
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPG	Supplementary Planning Guidance
SPP	Scottish Planning Policies
SRF	Short Rotation Forestry
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SWT	Scottish Wildlife Trust
TMP	Traffic Management Plan
UKBAP	UK Biodiversity Action Plan
VER	Valued Ecological Receptor
VEM	Visual Envelope Mapping
WCA	Wildlife and Countryside Act
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WoSAS	West of Scotland Archaeology Service
WOV	Waterbodies of Ornithological Value
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
WWT	Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility
ZVI	Zone of Visual Influence

