

Welcome, and thank you for taking the time to visit our public information day for the proposed Bettyhill Windfarm Extension. Members of the community are invited to provide their feedback on the proposals presented here using the questionnaires provided. Comments submitted will be anonymously recorded along with our response, where appropriate, in the pre-application consultation report submitted to The Highland Council with the planning application.

The Site

The proposed site is located on the Skelpick Estate over 2 km south east of Bettyhill, on moorland within the Bettyhill Common grazing. The proposed development site occupies an area of about 186 hectares (approximately 460 acres). Access would be from the A836 to the north of the site using the existing track to the two operational turbines in the Bettyhill Windfarm.

The site is identified in The Highland Council Interim Supplementary Guidance Onshore Wind (March 2012) as lying within an area of search for onshore wind energy development.

The Proposal

The extension would provide an installed capacity of up to 28 megawatts (MW) of electricity and would comprise:

- Up to seven wind turbines with a blade tip height of up to 125 m;
- An anemometer mast to measure wind speed;
- Access tracks and underground cabling;
- An electrical substation; and
- Other infrastructure (such as borrow pits).

To date, the number / location of the wind turbines has been determined by constraints identified during the Environmental Assessment and design process that has led to this consultation. The design for the extension is not fixed at this stage and we welcome your comments.

We believe the development has potential advantages:

- A good wind resource for a commercial windfarm;
- A turbine layout that can be accommodated within the local landscape, with limited effects on visual amenity of local people;
- A turbine layout which will generally be located further away from receptors than the two existing turbines, allowing a good separation between turbines and residential properties; and
- Opportunities for beneficial habitat management.

The Planning Process

Following the completion of ongoing survey work, and once all the feedback has been considered, we will finalise our planning application and accompanying Environmental Statement. We propose to submit our application to The Highland Council in early 2016. Once the planning application is submitted, the Council and their consultees will commence their own consultation, during which time the public will be invited to give their thoughts on the proposals.

Who is BH Wind Energy Ltd?

BH Wind Energy Ltd is an independent private Scottish Company established to develop, build, own and operate the proposed windfarm extension. It is run by the same joint venture (North British Windpower Ltd and Invenergy LLC) that developed the two existing operational turbines at Bettyhill.

Site Location Plan



Environmental Constraints

Issues that have been considered as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment include:

Visual Effects:

The design of the scheme has considered potential visual impacts by sensitive siting of turbines. The proposed extension adopts a relatively simple linear arrangement in keeping with the north/south grain of the landscape. The design has taken account of the relationship of the site to the sensitive landscapes of Strathnaver; the Kyle of Tongue National Scenic Area (NSA); Ben Loyal/Ben Hope Wild Land Area; and other Special Landscape Areas.

Designated Ecological Areas: the site is west of the Caithness and Sutherland peatland Special Protection Area (SPA) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

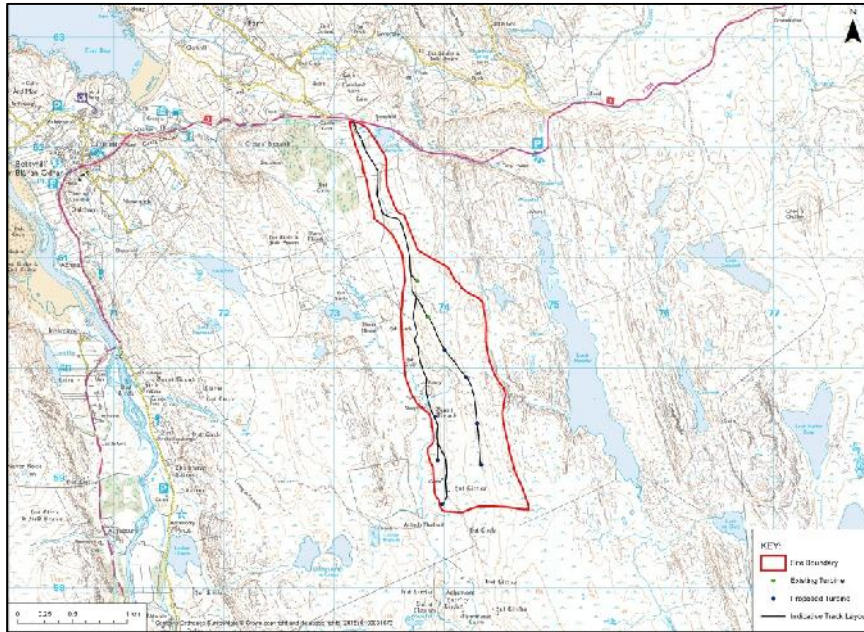
Protected Species: surveys have been ongoing on site since 2012 and indicate that sensitive bird species such as greenshank, red throated diver and golden eagle are present. Effects on these species would be minimised in the design of the windfarm and by use of mitigation.

Cultural Heritage: ten recorded features lie within the site. The layout has been designed to avoid direct impacts on these features and minimise effects on their setting.

Hydrology: Several water features are present at the site including the burns which are part of the catchment for the Clachan Burn. No private water supplies have been identified within the vicinity of the site.

Noise: The proposed turbines will be further away from residences than the two existing turbines, and this means that noise is not expected to have a significant impact. Modelling is still to be completed and will take into account any noise generated by the two existing turbines of the Bettyhill Windfarm.

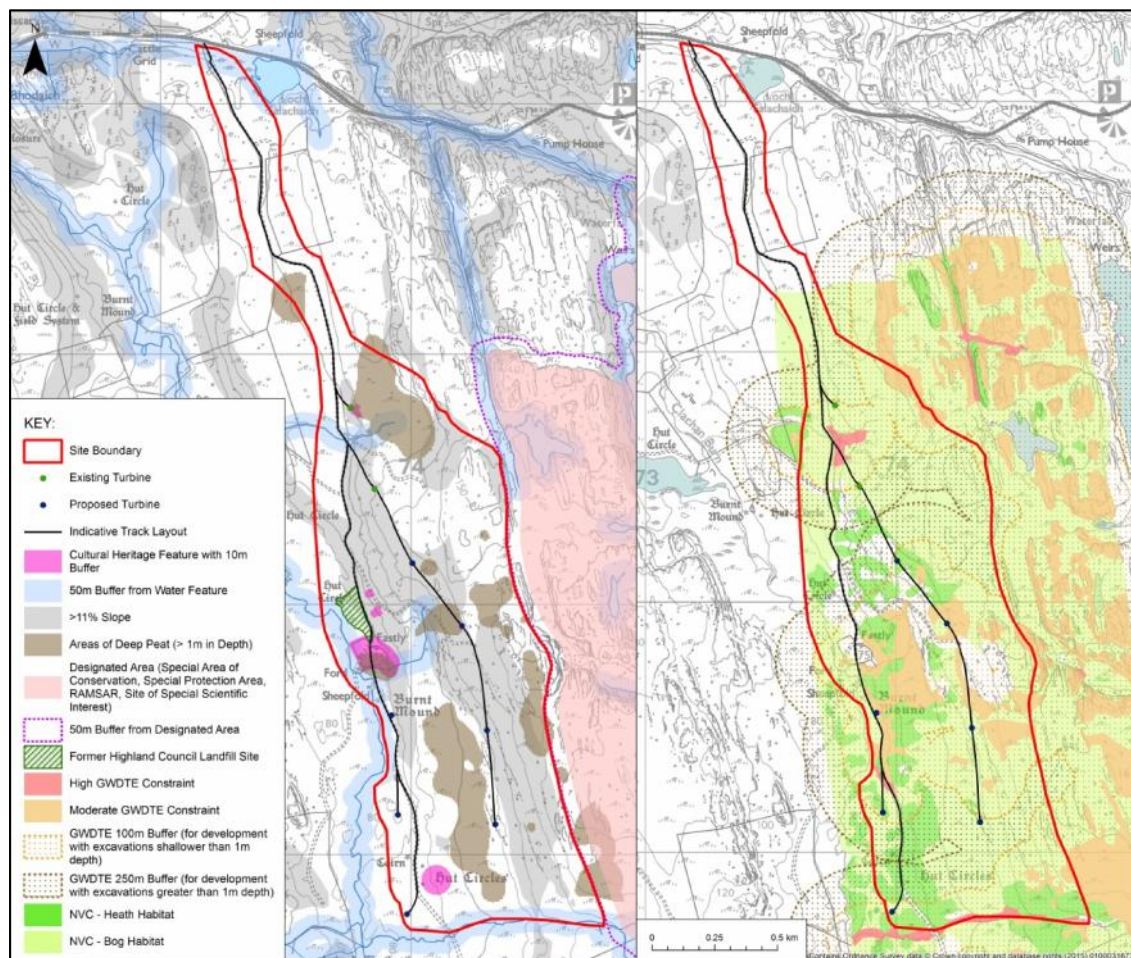
Site Layout Plan



Traffic: It is expected abnormal loads would arrive at the Port of Scrabster and travel to the site via the A836. A Traffic Management Plan would be prepared in agreement with the Council, and emergency services to manage any potential impact.

Peat: the site has been extensively worked for peat over the years. A peat depth survey has been undertaken. The peat, particularly the worked peat, tends to be in the flat plateau areas between rocky outcrops and forms a series of steps to the east with an overall increase in elevation and the geology steps up.

Constraints Plan



This leaflet provides some basic details of the project for your information. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact BH Wind Energy Ltd via the correspondence addresses below.