

Pentland floating offshore wind farm Pre-application Consultation Report



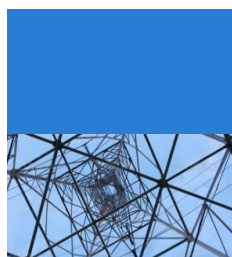
PENTLAND FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND FARM

PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT

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GLOSSARY OF PROJECT TERMS

Key Terms	Definition
Dounreay Tri Floating Wind Demonstration Project (the 'Dounreay Tri Project')	The 2017 consented project that was previously owned by Dounreay Tri Limited (in administration) and acquired by Highland Wind Limited (HWL) in 2020. The Dounreay Tri Project consent was for two demonstrator floating Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) with a marine licence that overlaps with the Offshore Development, as defined. The offshore components of the Dounreay Tri Project consent are no longer being implemented.
Highland Wind Limited	The Developer of the Project (defined below) and the Applicant for the associated consents and licences.
Landfall	The point where the Offshore Export Cable(s) from the PFOWF Array Area, as defined, will be brought ashore.
Offshore Export Cable(s)	The cable(s) that transmits electricity produced by the WTGs to landfall.
Offshore Export Cable Corridor (OECC)	The area within which the Offshore Export Cable(s) will be located.
Offshore Site	The area encompassing the PFOWF Array Area and OECC, as defined.
Onshore Site	The area encompassing the PFOWF Onshore Transmission Infrastructure, as defined.
Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm (PFOWF) Array and Offshore Export Cable(s) (the 'Offshore Development')	All offshore components of the Project (WTGs, inter-array and Offshore Export Cable(s), floating substructures, and all other associated offshore infrastructure) required during operation of the Project, for which HWL are seeking consent. The Offshore Development is the focus of this Environmental Impact Assessment Report.
PFOWF Array	All WTGs, inter-array cables, mooring lines, floating sub-structures and supporting subsea infrastructure within the PFOWF Array Area, as defined, excluding the Offshore Export Cable(s).
PFOWF Array Area	The area where the WTGs will be located within the Offshore Site, as defined.
PFOWF Onshore Transmission Infrastructure (the 'Onshore Development')	All onshore components of the Project, including horizontal directional drilling, onshore cables (i.e. those above mean low water springs), transition joint bay, cable joint bays, substation, construction compound, and access (and all other associated infrastructure) across all project phases from development to decommissioning, for which HWL are seeking consent from The Highland Council.
PFOWF Project (the 'Project')	The combined Offshore Development and Onshore Development, as defined.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CIP	Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners
COP	Copenhagen Offshore Partners
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulations
GVA	Gross Value Added
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
HWL	Highland Wind Limited
MCA	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MS-LOT	Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team
MW	Megawatt
NC	North Coast
NLB	Northern Lighthouse Board
nm	Nautical Miles
NRTE	Naval Reactor Test Establishment
OECC	Offshore Export Cable Corridor
PAC	Pre-application Consultation
PFOWF	Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm
PV	Photovoltaics
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage (now NatureScot)
UHI	University of the Highlands and Islands
UK	United Kingdom
US	United States
WTG	Wind Turbine Generators

1 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT FORM

Form

PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT

Marine (Scotland) Act 2010: Section 24

1. Proposed Licensable Marine Activity

Please describe below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form the proposed licensable marine activity, including its location.

Please see Section 3 for details of the proposed licensable marine activity.

2. Applicant Details

Title	Initials	Surname
Mr	Richard	Copeland

Trading Title
(if appropriate)

Highland Wind Limited

Address

c/o Copenhagen Offshore Partners

4th Floor 115 George Street

Edinburgh

EH2 4JN

Name of contact
(if different)

Position within Company
(if appropriate)

Project Director

Telephone No.
(inc. dialing code)

[Redacted]

Fax No.
(inc. dialing code)

n/a

Company Registration No.

SC675148

Email

[Redacted]

Is this prospective applicant the proposed licensee?

YES ☒ NO ☐

If NO, please complete Section 3 below.

3. Proposed Licensee Details

Title	Initials	Surname

Trading Title
(if appropriate)

Address

Name of contact
(if different)

Position within Company
(if appropriate)

Telephone No.
(inc. dialling code)

Fax No.
(inc. dialling code)

Company Registration No.

Email

4. Pre-application Online Consultation Event

Please describe below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form the pre-application online consultation event

Please see Section 5 for details of the two pre-application consultation events.

5. Information provided by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-application Online Consultation Event

Please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of any information provided by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application online consultation event

Please see Section 5 and Appendix D to Appendix G for details of the PAC materials provided at each of the pre-application consultation events.

6. Information received by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-Application Online Consultation Event

Please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of any comments and objections received by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application online consultation event

Please see Section 6 for details of the feedback received during each of the pre-application consultation events.

7. Amendments made, or to be made, to the Application for a Marine Licence by the Prospective Applicant following their Consideration of Comments and/or Objections received at the Pre-Application Online Consultation Event

Where any amendments are made, or are to be made, by the prospective applicant for a marine licence to the marine licence application as a direct results of their consideration of comments and/or objections received at the pre-application online consultation event, please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of such amendments

Please see Section 3.1.2 and Section 6.5 for further details of the amendments to the marine licence applications following the PAC events. Additionally, please see Section 5.4 and Appendix I for details of how these amendments have been communicated to stakeholders ahead of the marine licence applications being submitted.

8. Explanation of Approach taken by the Prospective Applicant where, following Relevant Comments and/or Objections being received by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-application Online Consultation Event, no Relevant Amendment is made to the Application for a Marine Licence

Where following comments and/or objections having been received by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application online consultation event, no relevant amendment is made to the application for a marine licence by the prospective applicant, then please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form an explanation for the approach taken

Please see Section 3.1.2 and Section 6.5 for further details of the amendments to the marine licence applications following the PAC events. Additionally, please see Section 5.4 and Appendix I for details of how these amendments have been communicated to stakeholders ahead of the marine licence applications being submitted.

CERTIFICATION

Insert name

Richard Copeland

Insert Address

c/o Copenhagen Offshore Partners

93 George St

Town

Edinburgh

County

Postcode

EH2 3ES

I certify that I have complied with the legislative requirements relating to pre-application consultation and that the pre-application consultation has been undertaken in accordance with the statutory requirements.

[Redacted]

Signature

Date 17/08/22

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Introduction

Highland Wind Limited (HWL) (the Applicant) is proposing the development of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm (PFOWF) Array and Offshore Export Cable(s), hereafter referred to as the 'Offshore Development'. The Offshore Development includes an offshore array of up to seven floating Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs), approximately 7.5 km off the coast of Dounreay, Caithness in Scotland, as shown in Figure 2.1.

This Pre-application Consultation (PAC) report has been prepared to accompany applications for a proposed licensable marine activity in accordance with pre-application consultation requirements under the Marine Licensing (Pre-application consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, Section 24 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and The Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020.

Associated with the Offshore Development an application for onshore transmission infrastructure, comprising up to two export cables and a substation, will be made directly to the Highland Council, and this will include a separate PAC report to cover the proposals at the Onshore Site.

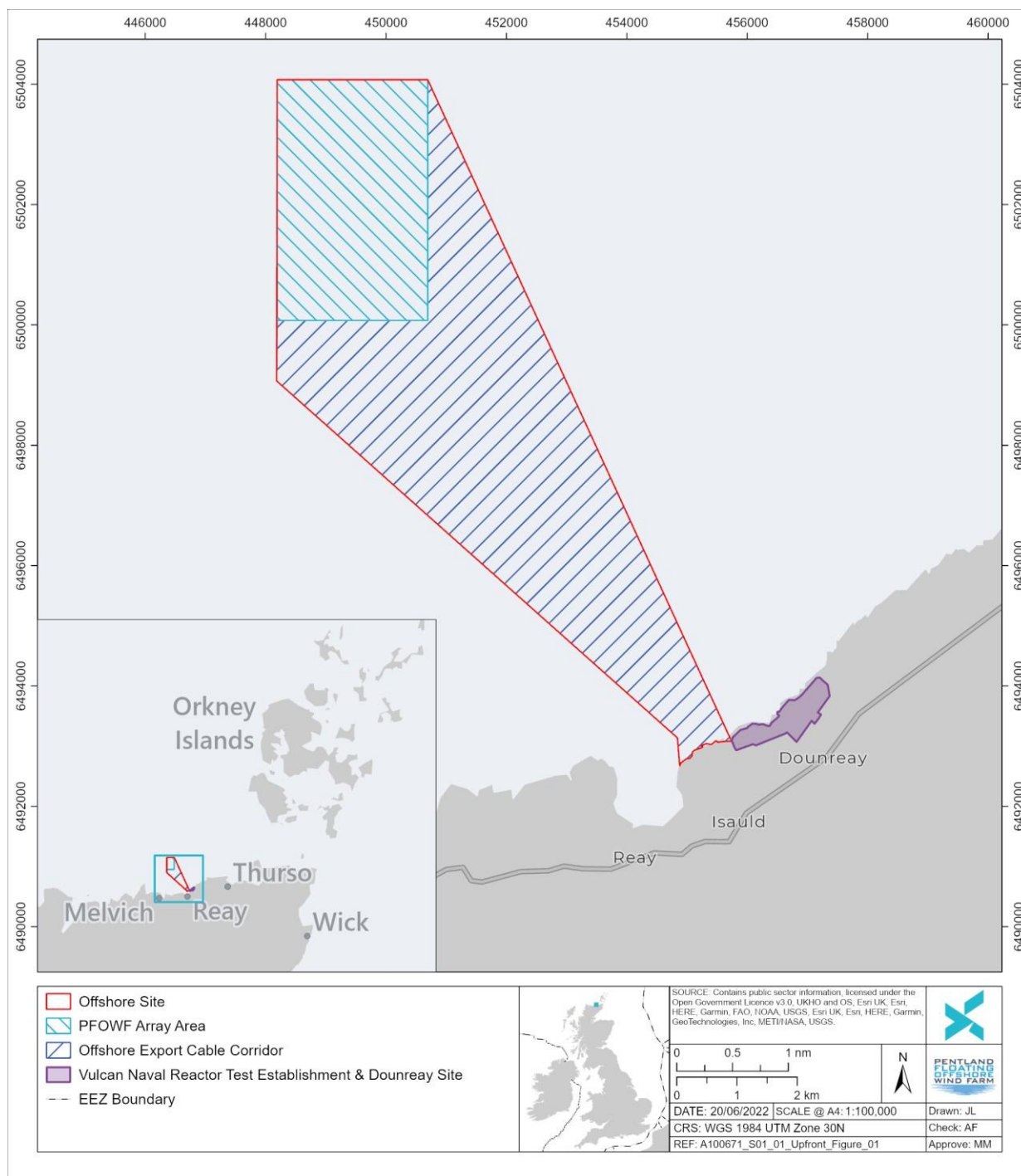


Figure 2.1 Location of the Offshore Development

2.2 Highland Wind Limited

The Offshore Development is being developed by HWL, a Special Purpose Vehicle established to deliver the PFOWF Project.

HWL are majority-owned (90%) by a fund managed by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners P/S (CIP) with HexiconAB as a minority shareholder (10%). Project development activities are being led by CIP's development partner, Copenhagen Offshore Partners A/S (COP).

CIP are a fund management company focused on energy infrastructure including offshore wind, onshore wind, solar Photovoltaics (PV), biomass, energy-from-waste, transmission and distribution, and other energy assets such as reserve capacity and storage. CIP has offices in Australia, Denmark, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom (UK), and the United States (US). CIP was founded in 2012 by senior executives from the energy industry in cooperation with PensionDanmark. CIP manages seven funds and has approximately €16 billion (£13.82 billion) under management.

HexiconAB are a leading floating offshore wind technology and project developer. They were founded in 2009 and are headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden.

COP are a leading and experienced provider of project development, construction management, and operational management services to offshore wind projects. The company is headquartered in Denmark and has offices in Australia, Brazil, Greece, Japan, Italy, France, Korea, Taiwan, the UK, the US, and Vietnam. COP's team of specialists has a broad range of competencies within project management, early and late-stage project development, engineering, construction, procurement, and operational management as well as business development and project financing. The Project's development team is based in COP's Global Floating Wind Competence Centre, in Edinburgh.

2.3 Purpose of this Report

This report provides a brief description of the background to the Offshore Development, and the legislative requirements that both the developer and the consultation process must satisfy, and how these requirements have been satisfied.

The report includes:

- > An overview of the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) undertaken to date, focusing on public consultations conducted for the Offshore Development in line with the legislative requirements (see Section 4)ⁱ; and
- > A review of the output from the public consultation, including the main issues raised by local residents through the consultation process.

ⁱ Details of other consultations undertaken with other consultees (both statutory and non-statutory) in the preparation of the consent application are provided in the Offshore EIAR (Volume 2) Chapter 4: Stakeholder Engagement and in the individual technical assessment chapters of the Offshore EIAR.

3 THE OFFSHORE DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Overview

The Offshore Development is located off the coast of Dounreay (as shown in Figure 2.1). The location of the Offshore Development is referred to as the 'Offshore Site'. This is further divided into two discrete areas referred to as the 'PFOWF Array Area', comprising the geographical area (7.5 km from the coast) where the WTGs, inter-array cables, and other associated infrastructure e.g. anchors and mooring lines will be located; and the 'Offshore Export Cable Corridor', comprising the geographical area within which the Offshore Export Cable(s) will be located and reach landfall (situated above Mean High Water Springs [MHWS]) at Dounreay, Caithness).

The Offshore Development will comprise of:

- > Up to seven offshore WTGs with an installed capacity of around 100 Megawatts (MW);
- > Floating substructures;
- > Mooring lines for each floating substructure;
- > Anchors or piles;
- > Inter-array cables (dynamic and static); and
- > Up to two offshore export cables (continuation of inter-array cables to bring power ashore), with landfall achieved via Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD).

The full description of the Offshore Development is detailed in the Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment Report (Offshore EIAR) (Volume 2) Chapter 5: Project Description.

The Offshore Development will be supported by onshore transmission infrastructure including a substation, joint bays, onshore cables and other associated infrastructure (known as the Onshore Development). The Onshore Development is subject to a separate consent application (and a separate consultation process) sought under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) and does not form part of this application for the Offshore Development. A separate PAC report will be submitted to THC with the application for the Onshore Development.

Underground onshore export cables will connect the Offshore Development to a new onshore substation located adjacent to the Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment (NRTE).

3.1.1 Consented Development

HWL acquired the Dounreay Tri Floating Wind Demonstration Project (the Dounreay Tri Project), previously owned by Dounreay Tri Limited (in administration). The Dounreay Tri Project was granted key consents in 2017. HWL was assigned the consents on the 3rd March 2021.

The original Dounreay Tri Project consents demonstrate precedent for the construction and operation of a test and demonstrator floating offshore wind farm at this location off the coast of Dounreay. Due to advancement made in offshore wind farm technology in recent years, the previous offshore consents are not being progressed and a new Section 36 (S.36) Consent and associated marine licences are being sought for the Offshore Development to replace the previous consents.

The Offshore Development is being developed at the same location as the consented Dounreay Tri Project, although this Application has a smaller footprint than the consented project as shown in Figure 3.1 below.

Whilst the Offshore Development is for a larger scale floating offshore wind farm, the principles of this location and the site's suitability for a floating offshore wind farm were demonstrated through the Dounreay Tri Project consent granted in 2017.

3.1.2 Changes made to the Offshore Development

In reviewing the stakeholder consultation responses associated with the original Dounreay Tri Project, a decision was taken early in the design evolution of the Offshore Development to set the PFOWF Array Area (the area where the WTGs will be located) back from the coast of the mainland by a further 1 km. The primary purpose of this additional setback was to increase the distance that the closest WTG could be located to the coast, thereby reducing the potential visual impacts.

Following feedback received during the PAC event held in May 2022 (as discussed in Section 6), a further refinement to the PFOWF Array Area from what was proposed during the Scoping Stage of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process was carried out. This refinement reduced the PFOWF Array Area by 50% with the primary aim of reducing the horizontal spread associated with the WTGs when viewed from the north coast. By reducing the area, the minimum distance from the coastline to the PFOWF Array area has also been increased. The PFOWF Array Area in relation to the previously consented Dounreay Tri Demonstration Project Marine Licence area is shown in Figure 3.1.

The reduction in the PFOWF Array Area reduces the footprint available to locate the WTGs and associated offshore infrastructure by 50%, which demonstrates the Project's commitment to minimising the potential visual impacts of the WTGs as well as reducing the overall footprint of the Offshore Development, benefiting a number of additional receptors including Ornithology, Commercial Fisheries and Shipping.

In addition to the reduction in the PFOWF Array Area, the total maximum number of WTGs that may be installed has been reduced from ten (as presented during both PAC events) down to seven, further reducing potential visual impacts. This change to the Design Envelope also reduces the number of associated supporting structures and sub-structure infrastructure required, thus reducing impacts from the Offshore Development on marine ecology receptors including direct impacts on the seabed.

A full description of the Offshore Development Design Envelope refinements is provided in the Offshore EIA (Volume 2): Chapter 3: Site Selection and Alternatives.

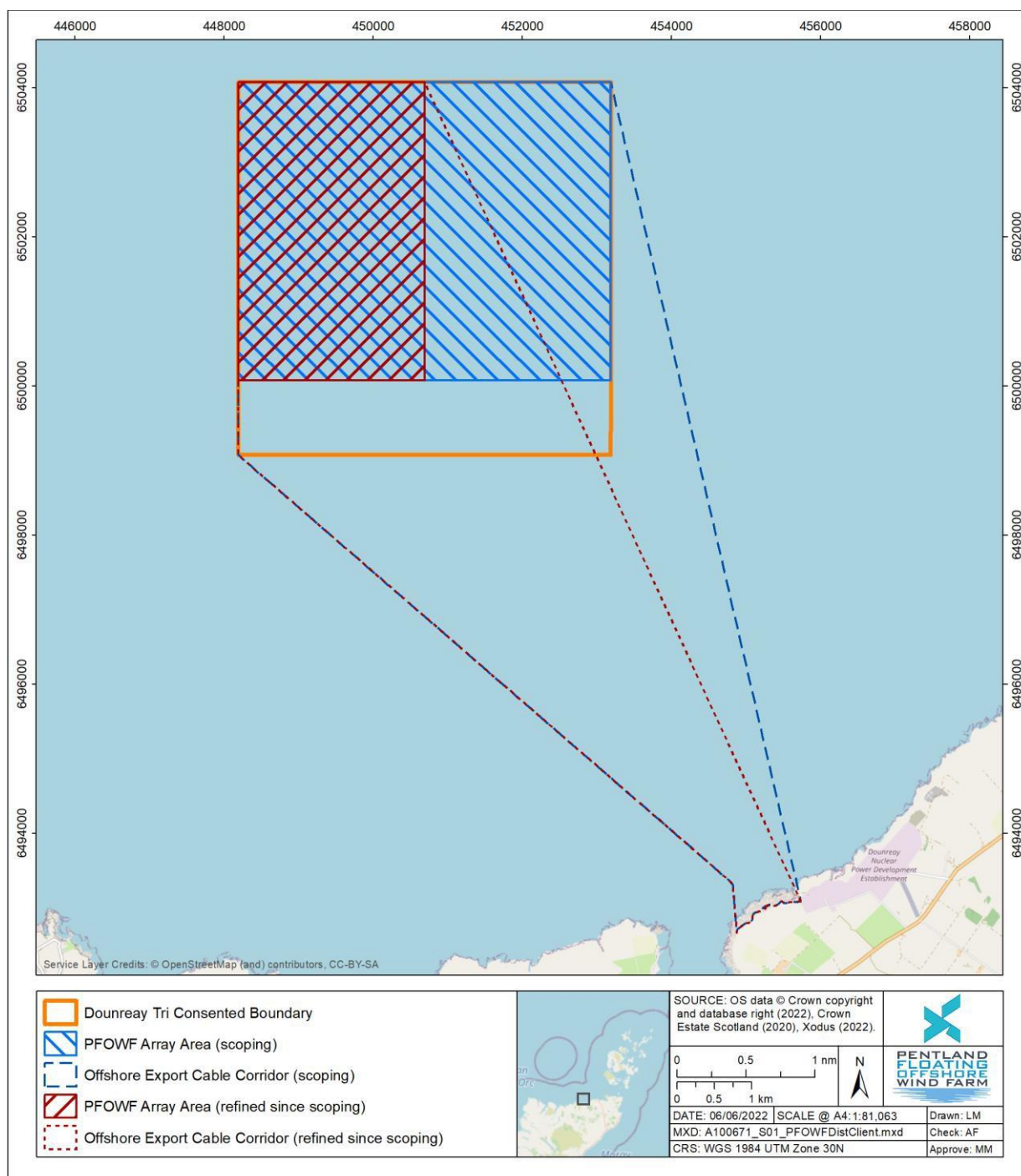


Figure 3.1 PFOWF Array Area in relation to the original Dounreay Tri Consented Boundary and the boundary presented in scoping

3.2 Offshore Development Strategy

The offshore construction activities are anticipated to commence in 2024 with the commencement of horizontal directional drilling (HDD) works at the landfall. Construction of the wind farm and installation of the Offshore Export Cable(s) is then anticipated to take place in two stages, subject to award of new S.36 Consent and Marine Licences associated with this application:

- > **Stage 1:** The anchors for all WTGs will be installed, and a single floating demonstrator WTG and associated infrastructure may be deployed and commissioned ahead of the wider PFOWF Array to trial the technology required for the Project.
- > **Stage 2:** The remainder of the array, comprising up to seven WTGs (up to six if a single WTG is installed as part of Stage 1) and associated offshore infrastructure, will be deployed to test and demonstrate commercial-scale floating wind technologies in Scotland.

The Project is anticipated to be commissioned and operational by the end of 2026.

The Offshore Development will not exceed seven WTGs, and Stage 2 may use elements built out to deliver the single floating demonstrator WTG in Stage 1. The deployment of a single WTG in this year provides a valuable test and demonstration opportunity for the floating technology proposed. Any lessons learned will be fed back into the construction of the remaining WTGs.

The construction methodology and timescales detailed above are indicative at this stage. Should consent be granted for the Offshore Development, consent conditions will require full details of the construction programme, construction sequencing, and installation methodologies to be confirmed within the Construction Programme and Construction Method Statement for the Offshore Development. These will be submitted to the Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team for approval on behalf of Scottish Ministers.

3.3 Objectives of the Offshore Development

The overarching objective of the Offshore Development will be to test and demonstrate new floating offshore wind technologies solutions for floating offshore wind development in Scotland. The innovations and technology trialled through the Offshore Development will be key to the development of large scale floating offshore wind in Scotland (including those developed through the ScotWind seabed leasing rounds) and globally and will create significant opportunities for the local and national economy.

The Offshore Development will generate renewable electricity to feed into the national grid and will also aid to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, thereby reducing future levels of atmospheric CO₂ and other greenhouse gases.

4 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION LEGISLATION

4.1 Marine Scotland Act 2010 (Section 24)

The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 section 24 sets out the requirement for pre-application consultation for developments within the Scottish Marine Area with the potential for significant impact on the environment and local communities. The process provides opportunities to receive feedback from the public and third-party organisations that can then be addressed in the application and supporting EIAR. MS-LOT require applicants to have undertaken pre-application consultation with stakeholders, consultees and the public in accordance with the legislative requirements.

4.2 The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013

The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 came into force on 1 January 2014 and apply to all relevant marine licence applications received by the Scottish Ministers on or after 6 April 2014.

These requirements only apply in respect of relevant applications in the Scottish Inshore Region, from Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) to 12 nautical miles (nm).

Pre-application consultation is required for licensable activities which involve, among other things:

- > The deposit of a submarine cable within the Scottish marine area either in the sea or on or under the seabed from a vehicle, vessel, aircraft, marine structure or floating container, where that cable is over 1,853 m (approx. 1 nm) in length and where it crosses the inter-tidal boundary;
- > The deposit of any substance or object within the Scottish marine area either in the sea or on or under the seabed from a vehicle, vessel, aircraft, marine structure or floating container or
- > The construction of a renewable energy structure within the Scottish marine area in or over the sea or on or under the seabed, where the total area in which the structure is to be located exceeds 10,000 m².

The purpose of the Regulations is to allow the local community, stakeholders and other interested parties to comment upon marine development proposals prior to an application for a Marine Licence being submitted.

The Regulations set out the process for pre-application consultation which is summarised below in Table 4.1

Table 4.1 Pre-application consultation requirements under the Marine Licensing (Pre-application consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013

Requirement	Action Taken
<p>5. Procedure in relation to a pre-application consultation statement.</p> <p>(1).A prospective applicant for a marine licence who considers that the activity in respect of which a licence may, or is to, be sought which may, or is to, be of a class or description prescribed in regulation 4 may notify the Scottish Ministers requiring a pre-application consultation statement from them.</p> <p>(2).A notification requiring a pre-application consultation statement must be accompanied by—</p> <p>a) a plan sufficient to identify the area of the Scottish marine area which is the subject of a prospective application for a marine licence;</p>	<p>A pre-application statement was not sought from Scottish Ministers as there was no ambiguity around the Offshore Development being of a class or description prescribed in Regulation 4.</p> <p>MS-LOT have been engaged throughout the EIA process, on behalf of Scottish Ministers, and are fully aware of the prospective application for marine licences and S.36 consent for the Offshore Development. The PAC notices for both events were sent to MS-LOT for</p>

Requirement	Action Taken
<p><i>b) a description of the nature and the purpose of the licensable marine activity and of its possible effects on the environment; and</i></p> <p><i>c) such further information or representations that the prospective applicant considers relevant.</i></p>	approval and publication on the Marine Scotland website.
<p><i>(3). On receiving a notification under paragraph (1), the Scottish Ministers must, if they consider that they have not been provided with sufficient information to give a pre-application consultation statement, within three weeks of their receipt of the notification give notice to the prospective applicant of the particular points on which they require further information.</i></p>	N/A (see above)
<p><i>(4). When the Scottish Ministers consider that they have been provided with sufficient information in respect of the marine activity referred to in the notification under paragraph (1) they must provide a pre-application consultation statement to the prospective applicant under paragraph (5) or (6) within three weeks of whichever is the later of—</i></p> <p><i>a) the date of receipt by them of the notification requiring a pre-application consultation statement; and</i></p> <p><i>b) the date by which they have received all the further information required by them under paragraph (3),</i></p> <p><i>or within such longer period as may be agreed by the Scottish Ministers and the prospective applicant.</i></p>	N/A (see above)
<p><i>(5). Where the Scottish Ministers are of the opinion that the marine activity referred to in the notification under paragraph (1) is of a class or description prescribed in regulation 4, then they must provide the prospective applicant with a pre-application consultation statement to that effect giving reasons for their opinion.</i></p> <p><i>(6). Where the Scottish Ministers are of the opinion that the marine activity referred to in the notification under paragraph (1) is not of a class or description prescribed in regulation 4, then they must provide the prospective applicant with a pre-application consultation statement to that effect giving reasons for their opinion.</i></p>	N/A (see above)
<p>6. Pre-application consultation</p> <p><i>(1). This regulation and regulation 7 apply to a prospective applicant for a marine licence to whom the Scottish Ministers have provided a pre-application consultation statement under regulation 5(5).</i></p> <p><i>(2). The prospective applicant for a marine licence must give notification that an application for a marine licence is to be submitted to—</i></p> <p><i>a) the Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses;</i></p> <p><i>b) the Maritime and Coastguard Agency;</i></p> <p><i>c) the Scottish Environment Protection Agency;</i></p> <p><i>d) Scottish Natural Heritage; and</i></p> <p><i>e) any delegate for a marine region where the application for a marine licence is for an activity which is to be carried out wholly or partly in that region.</i></p>	<p>Notice was sent via email to Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB), Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH (now NatureScot)), and all other relevant consultees in advance of the Pre-application Consultation Events. These emails were sent on the 20th August 2021, six weeks in advance of the first event and on the 23rd March 2022, six weeks in advance of the second event. Meetings were also held with these consultees and the Applicant early in the Offshore Development process and further meetings held as the application progressed. These consultations are set out in the Offshore EIAR (Volume 2): Chapter 4: Stakeholder Engagement.</p>

Requirement	Action Taken
7. Pre-application consultation event <i>(1). The prospective applicant for a marine licence must—</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>hold at least one pre-application consultation event at which those persons mentioned in regulation 6(2), and members of the public, may provide comments to the prospective applicant as regards the licensable marine activity to which the application for a marine licence is to relate; and</i> 	<p>The Applicant has held two formal Pre-application Events. Please see Section 5 of this report for further details of these events.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) <i>publish in a local newspaper a notice containing—</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i). <i>a description, including the location of, the licensable marine activity for which the marine licence is to be sought;</i> (ii). <i>details as to where further information may be obtained concerning the proposed licensable marine activity;</i> (iii). <i>the date and place of the pre-application consultation event;</i> (iv). <i>a statement explaining how persons wishing to provide comments to the prospective applicant relating to the proposed licensable marine activity may do so, and the date by which this must be done; and</i> (v). <i>a statement that comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the Scottish Ministers and that if the prospective applicant makes an application for a marine licence that there will be an opportunity for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.</i> 	<p>Notices containing the specified information were published in local newspapers as required and published on the Marine Scotland website. Please see Sections 5.2.1.1 and 5.3.1.1: Local Press Notices for further details.</p>
<i>(2). A pre-application consultation event must be held no earlier than six weeks after the later of—</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>the date on which notification of such event is given in accordance with paragraph (1)(b); and</i> b) <i>the date of notification that an application for a marine licence is to be submitted is given in accordance with regulation 6(2).</i> <i>(3). Paragraph (1) does not apply where—</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>a pre-application consultation event in respect of the licensable marine activity for which a marine licence is sought has been held in relation to that activity within one year of the date on which the application for a marine licence is received by the Scottish Ministers;</i> b) <i>that pre-application consultation event has been held in a suitably accessible venue; and</i> c) <i>that pre-application consultation event has been advertised at least six weeks prior to the event in a manner likely to bring the application to the attention of persons likely to be interested in it.</i> 	<p>Notices were published in local newspapers six weeks in advance of both the Pre-application Consultation events. Please see Sections 5.2.1.1 and 5.3.1.1: Local Press Notices for further details.</p> <p>The Applicant has held both Pre-application Consultation Events within one year of the submission of the Application.</p> <p>In line with the Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, which make temporary modifications to the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, the usual requirements placed on developers to hold an in-person public consultation event were suspended with a requirement to hold an online virtual event. In line with this the first event was held virtually, and the second event was held in person and supplemented with an additional online exhibition, please see Section 5 of this report for further details of these events.</p>

Requirement	Action Taken
8. Pre-application consultation report <i>A pre-application consultation report which must be prepared by virtue of section 24(1) of the Act must be in the form prescribed in the Schedule.</i>	This report fulfils this requirement. The Pre-Application Consultation Report Form as prescribed by section 24 of The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 is provided in Section 1 of this report.

4.3 The Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020

The Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 make temporary modifications to the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. The usual requirements placed on developers to hold an in-person public consultation PAC event were suspended with replaced a requirement to hold an online virtual event.

As such, the first PAC event, occurring during the COVID-19 pandemic, was held through an online virtual public exhibition and the second public PAC event was held in person, and supplemented with an online virtual exhibition. The details of these events are presented in Section 5.

5 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION

5.1 Overview

The following sections outline the PAC event undertaken for the Project and signpost to relevant materials presented at the PAC events along with supplementary materials used to notify stakeholders of the events in advance of the events taking place.

5.2 PAC Event 1

The first PAC event was undertaken in line with The Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, whereby the usual requirements placed on developers to hold an in-person public consultation PAC event were suspended and replaced with a requirement to hold an online virtual event.

The virtual PAC event comprised an online exhibition and live chat question and answer session with the project team. The virtual exhibition was hosted on the OpenPlans Platform and was launched on the 27th September 2021 and closed on the 31st October 2021. Figure 5.1 shows a snapshot of the online virtual exhibition. On the 5th October 2021, a live chat function was opened within the exhibition for two Question and Answer Sessions which provided the public an opportunity to directly communicate with the project team.

The PAC event focused on providing a general overview of the Project.

Overall there was a high level of engagement during the first PAC event. A total of 359 users visited the virtual exhibition site during the consultation period and 558 sessions were recorded indicating multiple interactions by the individuals who visited the site. In response to the consultation, over 30 responses were received on the Project through the various mechanisms available (feedback forms, email, telephone calls and live chat function). Feedback was able to be provided anonymously and some individuals provided multiple responses including through different channels. Feedback that was received during the first PAC event associated with the Offshore Development proposal and HWL responses to the feedback received for the event are summarised within Section 6.

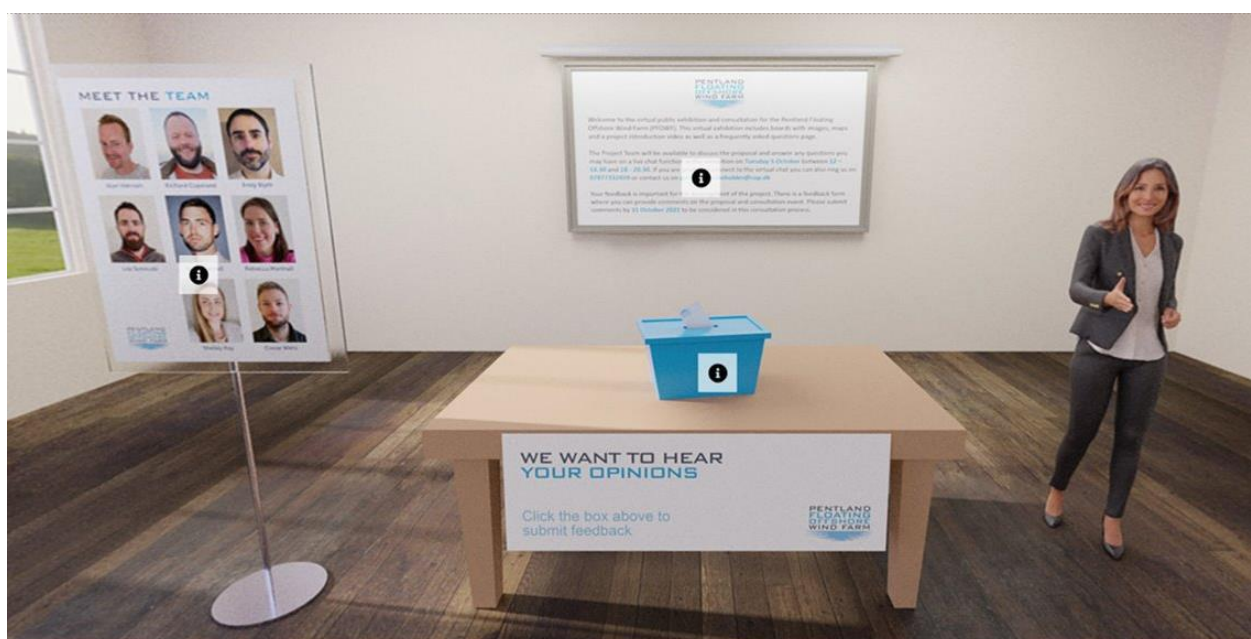


Figure 5.1 Snapshot of the virtual online exhibition for the first PAC event

5.2.1 Advertisement

5.2.1.1 Local Press Notice

The exhibition and event was advertised in the John O’Groats Journal on the 20th August 2021, six weeks in advance of the live question and answer session. The PAC advertisement was also sent to MS-LOT for publication on the Marine Scotland website on the 17th August 2021. A copy of the local press notice for this event is shown in Appendix A; Figure 6.1.

5.2.1.2 Leaflet Drop

HWL carried out a targeted leaflet drop ahead of the event, to properties in the KW14 7 postcode district which encompassed properties along the coastline in proximity to the Offshore Development. The leaflet was distributed to over 3,500 properties in the local community to advertise the upcoming PAC event. A copy of the leaflet is provided in Appendix B; Figure 6.3.

5.2.1.3 Community Posters

A number of posters were put up in local community areas ahead of the event going live, these posters are shown in Appendix C; Figure 6.5. Project Website Notice

The PAC event was advertised on the project webpage (www.pentlandfloatingwind.com).

5.2.1.4 Community Council Notice

HWL contacted the relevant community councils (including those from Caithness, Sutherlands and the Orkney Isles) directly via email to inform them of the upcoming event on 24th August 2021.

5.2.1.5 Statutory Consultee Notice

Notice of the first PAC event was sent to statutory consultees including MCA, NLB, SEPA, NatureScot and the Highland Council on the 20th of August 2021 via email, six weeks in advance of the exhibition going live.

5.2.2 Content

The virtual exhibition comprised a series of exhibition boards and a video to introduce the Project and explain the proposal. A copy of the exhibition boards are shown in Appendix D.

5.2.3 Feedback Opportunities

Members of the public were asked to provide comments on a feedback form that was available within the virtual exhibition room, which could be submitted anonymously. Attendees were encouraged to complete and return these forms in order to provide their comments to the project team, although comments could also be received through the live chat function or through phoning or emailing the project team directly. A copy of the feedback form is shown in Appendix H; Figure 6.8.

5.3 PAC Event 2

In order to update the local community on the Pentland Project, HWL carried out a second series of public consultation events. In person drop-in events were held on the 11th May 2022 at the Reay Golf Course and on the 12th of May 2022 at the North Coast Visitor Centre in Thurso. Both events provided an opportunity for interested members of the community to speak directly to the project team on the proposed development. Images of these events are shown in Figure 5.2 and Figure 5.3 below.



Figure 5.2 Reay Golf Course in-person PAC Event 2



Figure 5.3 Thurso North Coast Visitor Centre in-person PAC Event 2

In addition to this, a second online virtual exhibition went live on the OpenPlans platform on 9th May 2022 and the consultation period closed on 20th May. During this virtual exhibition, on the 18th May 2022, a live chat question and answer session was opened within the exhibition which provided an opportunity for the public to directly communicate with the project team. Figure 5.4 shows a snapshot of the online virtual exhibition.



Figure 5.4 Snapshot of the virtual online exhibition for the second PAC event

These events provided updated information on the status of the Project and focused on areas that were identified from the first PAC event of most interest to the public. Feedback from members of the public was encouraged from those in attendance at the in-person events and online.

Overall there was a high level of engagement during the second PAC event. Over 40 individuals attended the in-person events and 132 users visited the virtual exhibition site during the consultation period with 189 sessions recorded online indicating multiple interactions by the individuals who visited the site. In response to the consultation, 16 written responses were received through the various mechanisms available (email, live chat function and feedback forms). Feedback that was received during the second PAC event associated with the Offshore Development proposal and HWL responses to the feedback received for the event are summarised within Section 6.

5.3.1 Advertisement

5.3.1.1 Local Press Notice

The in-person local events and the online exhibition were advertised in the John O'Groats Journal on the 25th March 2022, six weeks in advance of these events taking place. The PAC advertisement was also sent to MS-LOT for publication on the Marine Scotland website on the 30th March 2022. A copy of the local press notice for this event is shown in Appendix A; Figure 6.2.

5.3.1.2 Leaflet Drop

HWL carried out a targeted leaflet drop ahead of the event, to properties in the KW14 7 postcode district which encompassed properties along the coastline in proximity to the Offshore Development. The leaflet was distributed to over 3,500 properties in the local community to advertise the upcoming PAC event.

Due to an error, the first consultation event flyer was circulated wrongly referencing the events in September and October 2021. HWL was contacted by several individuals who received the incorrect flyer, and the correct version was emailed to them. The flyer referred to the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm website where the correct information regarding dates and events was available. In addition, to rectify this error, a mail drop was manually conducted to approximately 300 houses in Reay, Melvich and Portskerra (i.e. properties along the coastline in closest proximity to the Offshore Development) ahead of the events (7th and 8th May 2022). A copy of this leaflet is provided in Appendix B; Figure 6.4.

5.3.1.3 Community Posters

A number of posters were put up in local community areas to advertise the second PAC events, these posters are shown in Appendix C; Figure 6.6.

- > Noticeboard near Kirtomy;
- > Bus shelter near Armadale;
- > Noticeboard near Strathy Point;
- > Noticeboard near Strathy East;
- > Church at Strathy Noticeboard;
- > Melvich Noticeboard;
- > Halladale Inn;
- > Noticeboard between Reay and Melvich;
- > Reay Village Hall;
- > Reay Shop Bus Shelter;
- > Reay Golf Club Noticeboard;
- > Forss Business Park Noticeboard;
- > Weigh Inn Hotel Noticeboard; and
- > Blue Door Café Noticeboard.

5.3.1.4 Project Website Notice

The PAC events were advertised on the project webpage (www.pentlandfloatingwind.com). An email was sent out to persons who had registered their interest in receiving project updates on 8th April 2022.

5.3.1.5 Community Council Notice

HWL contacted the relevant community councils (including those from Caithness, Sutherland and the Orkney Isles) directly via email to inform them of the upcoming event on 2nd May 2022.

5.3.1.6 Statutory Consultee Notice

Notice of the first PAC event was sent to statutory consultees including MCA, NLB, SEPA, NatureScot and the Highland Council on the 23rd of March 2022 via email, six weeks in advance of the exhibition going live.

5.3.2 Content

A series of exhibition boards were on display at these in-person events focusing on the topics of interest which were highlighted to be of most importance by the public during the first PAC event. Images of these in-person events are shown in Figure 5.2 and Figure 5.3 above. This included a number of poster boards as shown in Appendix E and a series of visual materials to show how the Offshore Development would look from key viewpoints for both the five WTG and ten WTG layouts, as shown in Appendix F.

Similar materials were available at the virtual exhibition, which also provided a link to an interactive map where viewpoints could be clicked on by the public to see how the Offshore Development would look at various viewpoints. A copy of the exhibition boards are provided in Appendix G, a screengrab of the interactive map is also available in Appendix G; Figure 6.7.

5.3.3 Feedback Opportunities

Members of the public were asked to provide comments on a feedback form that was available within the in-person events and virtual exhibition room, which could be submitted anonymously. The feedback form is provided in Appendix H; Figure 6.9.

Attendees were encouraged to complete and return these forms in order to provide their comments to the project team, although comments could also be received through speaking directly to the project team during the in-person events and through the live chat function on the website or through phoning or emailing the project team.

In addition, a representative from Foundation Scotland was in attendance at the in-person events in Reay and Thurso in May 2022. Foundation Scotland had launched an online survey to facilitate consultation for the proposed community benefit fund which closed for comments in July 2022.

5.4 Pre-submission Project Information Update

An online pre-submission project information update was launched on 4th July 2022 through a virtual exhibition space. The information update explained reductions to the Offshore Development's footprint and the reduction in the number of WTGs being considered as part of the Application. These changes were made based on feedback from the second PAC event and the Scoping Opinion responses. Stakeholders were notified of the information update through email, and flyers were sent to community organisations for distribution. Stakeholders were able to contact the Project Team by email if they had questions or to request further information. Copies of the flyer and information boards for this event are provided in Appendix I.

6 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

6.1 Introduction

The following section examines the feedback responses received during the first and second PAC events and identifies how HWL have responded to this feedback where appropriate. In line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) this feedback has been redacted and summarised for anonymity.

How this feedback received has been incorporated into the Offshore Development's Design Envelope is further detailed in Offshore EIAR (Volume 2): Chapter 3: Site Selection and Alternatives.

6.2 Feedback Received

Feedback from both PAC events was received through a number of mechanisms, including feedback forms, emails, telephone calls, live question and answer sessions and direct feedback to the Project Team at the in-person events. The overall feedback numbers are provided below in Table 6.1.

Table 6.1 Feedback responses from the PAC Events

Feedback Mechanism	No. of Responses*
PAC Event 1 – Virtual Exhibition (launched 27th September 2021)	
Feedback Forms	8
Q&A Sessions	5
Direct Communications (Emails, phone calls etc)	19
PAC Event 1 Total	32
PAC Event 2 – In person Reay and Thurso Events (11th & 12th May 2022) and Virtual Exhibition (launched 9 May)	
Feedback Forms	10
Q&A Sessions	2
Direct Communications (Emails, phone calls etc)	4
PAC Event 2 Total	16

*The number of responses accounts for the total number responses received. However, some individuals contacted the team on multiple occasions and through different channels (i.e. feedback form and email).

6.3 PAC Event Feedback - Quality

Table 6.2 provides an overview of the feedback received on the quality of the events described in Section 4 above.

Overall 18 feedback forms were received across the two PAC events. Eight feedback forms were received during the first PAC event and ten feedback forms were received during the second PAC event. Of those who submitted formal feedback through the feedback forms, 33.3 % rated the quality of the events as "Excellent", 44.4% found the event to be "Good" and 22.2 % found the event to be "Average". No person who responded to the event via the feedback forms found the events to be of "Poor" quality. 94.4% of those providing feedback noted that the events and exhibitions were easy to navigate.

One person noted in their feedback form that they felt that the second PAC materials provided were not a true representation of Portskerra, suggesting that additional visual materials should have been provided.

Table 6.2 Overview of Event Quality

How did you find the quality of information provided at today's event?		Did you find the exhibition accessible and easy to navigate?		Accessibility - If no, what could we do better?	HWL Response to comments received
Response	No. of Responses	Response	No. of Responses		
PAC Event 1 – Virtual Exhibition (launched 27 th September 2021)					
Excellent	2	Yes	8	No additional comments provided	N/A
Good	4				
Average	2	No	0	No additional comments provided	N/A
Poor	0				
PAC Event 2 – In person Reay and Thurso Event (11 th & 12 th May 2022) and Virtual Exhibition (launched 9 May)					
Excellent	4	Yes	9	No additional comments provided	N/A
Good	4				
Average	2	No	1	One response commented that the information provided was not a true portrayal of Portskerra village. The response noted that the island of Hoy would be obliterated by the Offshore Development. The comment noted that two additional viewpoints from Portskerra should have been on display to show how the wind farm would have an impact on the village.	The visual materials provided from the viewpoint at Portskerra/ Melvich (including photomontages and wirelines) have been created by leading industry experts in line with industry best practice and guidance and at locations agreed through consultation with Statutory Consultees. In addition, a computer-generated model of the wind farm was developed to show the Offshore Development from any locations along the north coast. This was available online through a portal in the virtual exhibition. During the in-person events it was possible for individuals to see the wind farm from any local addresses using this model. Further details on the assessment of the visual impacts on Portskerra/ Melvich and Hoy are provided in Offshore EIAR (Volume 2): Chapter 16: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Amenity. Additionally, all viewpoint visual materials are provided in Offshore EIAR (Volume 4): Visual Materials: Appendix 16.9.

How did you find the quality of information provided at today's event?		Did you find the exhibition accessible and easy to navigate?		Accessibility - If no, what could we do better?	HWL Response to comments received
Response	No. of Responses	Response	No. of Responses		
Poor	0	N/A	0	No additional comments provided	N/A

During the first PAC events, feedback was also received via email and the live chat function noting that on two occasions members of the public reported that they had difficulty submitting their feedback through the forms provided. One of these individuals also noted that they found the virtual exhibition hard to navigate due to their internet connection. These correspondences were followed up by the Project Team and full feedback was subsequently received from both individuals through email and the live question and answer session.

6.3.1 Feedback on Level of Engagement

Table 6.3 highlights feedback from the feedback forms on the level of engagement HWL has undertaken with the public since the beginning of the Project.

Overall 38.9% of those completing feedback forms thought the level of engagement was at “the correct level”, 22.2% thought there was “not enough” engagement carried out and 38.9% were “unsure” on the level of engagement.

On one occasion following the first PAC Event a member of the public contacted the Project Team via email and noted that they felt more in-person engagement was needed. At the time, due to COVID-19 restrictions, this was not possible. However, subsequently, HWL committed to and undertook a number of in-person events for the second PAC Event in light of eased COVID-19 restrictions.

Since receiving feedback from the first and second PAC events, HWL carried out a pre-submission information event, which took place in July 2022. This event was targeted at key consultees and interested stakeholders to inform them of how the feedback from the PAC events has been considered by the Project. HWL will continue to engage the local community and stakeholders as the Project progresses.

A further eight responses on the level of engagement undertaken from the project were submitted by alternative methods to the feedback forms. These responses raised concerns with the level of face-to-face consultation with the local community and Sutherland. Two responses raised concerns about the accessibility of using virtual exhibitions for the local community, particularly in regard to the first PAC event. One response raised concerns with the level of engagement with marine water sport activities in Caithness and North Sutherland.

Due to restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the first PAC event was undertaken virtually in line with these restrictions. The second PAC event was held both in-person and virtually. Two locations along the North Coast (Reay and Thurso) were selected as the locations for the events to make them as accessible to the local community as possible. Following the second consultation event in May 2022, a meeting was held with the Pentland Canoe Club. Other recreational water sport groups were approached for a meeting through the Highland Community Sports Hub.

Table 6.3 Feedback on level of engagement undertaken by HWL submitted by feedback form

Do you have any concerns on the level of engagement undertaken to date from Highland Wind Limited?			
Response	No. of Responses	Further Comments	HWL Response/ Action
Correct Level	7	No additional comments provided	N/A
Not Enough	4	One additional comment received stating there had been a lack of in-person events in Sutherland, particularly Melvich/ Portskerra.	HWL want to keep the local community up to date with the development of the Project. The Project Team have given presentations on the Project to a number of community organisations and other interested groups and have reached out to community councils in the local area to present at their upcoming meetings. HWL are happy to arrange follow up engagement sessions with other organisations or interested groups and can be contacted at Pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk or through the Project website at www.pentlandfloatingwind.com to arrange these.
Unsure	7	One additional comment received noting there had not been enough engagement.	

6.4 General Feedback on the Proposal

Table 6.4, Table 6-5 and Table 6-6 provide an overview on the general feedback received from the feedback forms across the two PAC events in response to questions regarding the overall proposal, the offshore elements and the onshore location of the infrastructure.

Those in agreement with the proposal note that it is a necessary development to negate the effects of climate change and to test deep water technologies.

The key elements of concern on the proposal are the visual impacts associated with the Offshore Development, impacts on tourism, the benefit the Offshore Development can bring to the local community and the potential impacts on ornithology and marine ecology.

Following the feedback received from the second event key changes to the project design were made including reducing the Pentland Array Area by 50% and reducing the number of WTGs in the design envelope from ten down to seven to reduce the visual impacts of the Offshore Development. Detailed responses by HWL to the comments are included in Section 6.5.

Table 6.4 Overview of feedback on the proposal

Do you agree with Highland Wind Limited's proposals for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm?		
Response	No. of Responses	Summary of key reasons for responses
Agree	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > It's the way forward. > Importance as a prototype for future deep-water projects.
Disagree	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Impact on economy for coastal communities. > Lack of benefit for the local community. > Development is too close to the shore. > Concerns regarding impacts on ornithology, migratory mammals and fish and shellfish species.
Unsure	2	No additional comments provided.

In response to the question regarding the proposed offshore elements for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm, the key concerns that were raised were concerns about the location of the Offshore Development and the impacts on the local economy from visual impacts associated with the Offshore Development.

Table 6.5 Overview of feedback on the offshore elements

Do you have any concerns with the proposed offshore elements for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm?		
Response	No. of Responses	Summary of key reasons provided for responses
None	6	No additional comments provided.
Concerned about the offshore elements	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Concern about the location of the Offshore Development > Concerns about impacts on the local economy including tourism from visual impacts associated with the Offshore Development. > Concerns about impacts on ornithology including puffins. > Concerns about the visual impacts for local residents and the impact on the views from the coast. > Concerns about the cumulative impact of the PFOWF with onshore wind farms
Unsure	2	No additional comments provided.

In response to the question regarding the proposed location of the onshore infrastructure, the responses indicated no concerns for the Onshore Development location. Those that responded to the question noted that they were concerned with the visual impacts of the Offshore Development and associated impacts on the local economy including tourism. As these comments pertain to the Offshore Development, these responses have been summarised in Table 6.5 above.

Table 6.6 Overview of feedback on the onshore infrastructure

Do you have any concerns with the proposed location of the onshore infrastructure for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm?		
Response	No of. Responses	Summary of key reasons provided for responses
None	9	No additional comments provided
Concerned about the location	7	No additional comments provided specific to onshore infrastructure.
Unsure	1	No additional comments provided
No response	1	No additional comments provided

As the event presented proposals for both the Offshore Development and the onshore elements, the onshore responses are included for completeness but are not relevant to the application covered by this PAC report, and as such, are not considered further.

6.5 Key Topics Raised and HWL Responses

Table 6.7 provides an overview on the general feedback received from the feedback forms from the two PAC events. This has been collected across all feedback channels including feedback forms, emails, telephone calls, and discussions during the live Q&A sessions during the virtual exhibitions.

The area of most interest from the public is the potential for visual impacts associated with the Offshore Development, particularly on the local community and also in regard to cumulative pressures of windfarms in the region. This accounted for 19 responses for the Offshore Development. In this regard HWL have now committed to reducing the PFOWF Array Area (the area where the WTGs are to be located by 50%). This will reduce the horizontal extent of the PFOWF Array and reduce the associated visual impacts. By reducing the area, the minimum distance from the coastline to the PFOWF Array Area has also been increased from 6.5 km to 7.5 km. Additionally, from this feedback, HWL have also committed to reducing the number of WTGs proposed from ten down to seven. This will also minimise the visual impacts associated with the Offshore Development.

Ten responses were in relation to the impacts of the Offshore Development on tourism, particularly focused on the visual impacts to the North Coast (NC) 500 route. HWL has met with local tourism authorities to discuss how the Offshore Development could be an opportunity for local tourism.

Furthermore, there were four responses regarding the impact of the Offshore Development on ornithology and marine ecology. An additional response was also made in relation to fisheries and navigational safety. The reduction in the number of WTGs and associated supporting structures will reduce potential impacts and resultant effects on these receptors.

13 responses were in relation to the supply chain with several noting that it is a great opportunity to develop the supply chain and it will be beneficial to local businesses from increased visitors to the area brought about by the Offshore Development workforce.

Seven responses received were in relation to alternatives considered for the Offshore Development including site selection, proximity to shore and alternative technologies which should be invested in. The Offshore Development site selection and alternatives process has been extensive and is detailed in Offshore EIA (Volume 2): Chapter 3: Site Selection and Alternatives.

Three responses noted that the Offshore Development was vital to testing deep water technologies required to combat the effects of climate change.

Finally, six responses received were in relation to community benefits. HWL are in the process of developing a Community Benefit Fund for the Project. Independent grant making charity Foundation Scotland has conducted a consultation on the Community Benefit Fund with relevant local stakeholders. A representative from Foundation Scotland attended the events in Reay and Thurso in May 2022 to answer any questions and receive feedback from the local community.

Table 6.7 Key Topics Raised in Feedback for the Offshore Development

Key Topics Raised in Feedback	No. of responses*	Summary of responses received	HWL Response/ Action
Visual Impacts from the Offshore Development	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The majority of responses received on visual impacts raised concerns in regard to the visual impacts of the Offshore Development, including the proximity to shore, the number of turbines, height of the turbines, and the spread of the turbines across the Pentland Firth and the cumulative visual impacts with the onshore wind farms in the area. > Concerns were raised with regard to impacts on the local community, including on local amenity, local businesses and associated impacts on tourism. > Concerns were raised about visual impacts from Strathy Point, Portskerra and Melvich. > One response noted that the PFOWF could provide a point of interest. > Concerns were raised about the impact on views to the Old man of Hoy. > Several responses raised concerns regarding the cumulative impact of the Offshore Development with onshore wind farms and the West of Orkney Wind Farm. 	HWL have now reduced the extent of the PFOWF Array Area by 50% and reduced the number of proposed WTGs from ten down to seven in order to reduce the horizontal extent of the PFOWF Array and visual impacts associated. Further information on the visual impacts of the Offshore Development are provided in the Offshore EIAR (Volume 2): Chapter 16: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Amenity.
Supply Chain	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Several responses concerned the excellent opportunities for the supply chain from the Project including benefits to local from the Offshore Development workforce. 	Further information on the socio-economic impacts from the Offshore Development are provided in Offshore EIAR (Volume 2): Chapter 19: Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism.

Key Topics Raised in Feedback	No. of responses*	Summary of responses received	HWL Response/ Action
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > A number of responses offered services in support of the Offshore Development. > Two responses noted that the local supply chain should be targeted for the Offshore Development. 	
Impacts on Tourism (NC 500)	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Several responses raised concerns with the impact on tourism from the visual impact including deterring tourists from the area including users of the NC500 and associated impacts on local accommodation providers (including campsites, hospitality and B&Bs) and broader impact to the local economy. > One response noted that effects on tourism and the benefits of renewable energy tourism should be assessed in the application. 	<p>A 2012 report (Dinnie, 2012) published by ClimateXChange in response to an enquiry from the Scottish Government Renewables Team showed that wind farms have little or no adverse impacts on tourism in Scotland. Additionally, a recent report published by the Scottish Government in 2022, concludes that survey findings on the impact of offshore wind farms on tourism show that the vast majority of respondents would not avoid having a holiday in Scotland because of visible wind turbines. 80% of respondents noted that being able to view turbines from an offshore wind farm while on holiday in Scotland would make no difference to their choice of holiday, while 4% would be more likely to choose the holiday if they could see turbines. 11% of national respondents noted they would be less likely to choose the holiday because they could see turbines from an offshore wind farm (Scottish Government, 2022). Further information on the tourism impacts from the Offshore Development are provided in the Offshore EIAR (Volume 2): Chapter 19: Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism.</p>
Alternatives considered	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Several responses raised concerns about the alternatives considered including the location in the Pentland Firth, distance to shore and consideration of alternative sites and technologies (including hydrogen, tidal energy and nuclear). 	<p>The Offshore Development underwent an extensive site selection process through Environmental considerations, informed by previous survey work, technical considerations of the metocean, wind, and seabed characteristics, distance to shore, shipping and navigational features, commercial fisheries activity, electrical and grid infrastructure. Following the consultation event in May, HWL have now reduced the extent of the PFOWF Array Area by 50% and reduced the number of proposed WTGs from ten down to seven in order to reduce the horizontal extent of the PFOWF Array and visual impacts associated. Further information on the site selection and technology considered is included in Chapter 3: Site Selection and Alternatives</p>

Key Topics Raised in Feedback	No. of responses*	Summary of responses received	HWL Response/ Action
Community Benefits	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Several responses raised concerns regarding benefits to the local community including access to energy generated or reduction in local energy prices. > One response noted that restoration of the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands could be included in the community benefits. > Several responses raised concerns about the impact to the community economy including through the associated impacts on tourism. > One response was in favour of how the Offshore Development could benefit local hospitality 	<p>HWL are committed to ensuring this Project provides long term benefits to the local community. HWL has undertaken social and economic studies with involvement of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) and leading industry experts to understand the positive impacts the Project will have (both directly and indirectly) on the community, for example, through providing jobs, Gross Value Added (GVA) potential and demand for local services. Further information on the socio-economic impacts from the Offshore Development are provided in Offshore EIAR (Volume 2): Chapter 19: Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism.</p> <p>HWL is developing a Community Benefits Fund and engaged Foundation Scotland to lead the consultation (which concluded in July 2022).</p>
Impacts on Ornithology/ Marine Ecology	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Concerns were raised about impacts to ornithology including in relation to the puffin colony and migrating bird species including puffins, terns, cormorant, guillemot and gannet. > One response raised concerns with the impact on marine ecology including the potential impact of EMF on marine ecology receptors including on behaviour and navigation, risk of entanglement from underwater moorings and anchors and impact on migratory fish species including salmon, lobsters, crabs and sandeels. > Concerns were raised regarding marine mammals including whales, porpoises and dolphins and basking sharks and the impact of the turbines and power and anchor cables. 	<p>HWL have committed to reducing the number of WTGs from ten down to seven, this also significantly reduces the sub-surface infrastructure required to support the WTGs. This in turn will reduce impacts on a number of ecology receptors including benthic ecology, fish and shellfish, marine mammals and Ornithology. Further information on the potential impacts of the Offshore Development on these receptors is provided in the Offshore EIAR (Volume 2); Chapter 9 to Chapter 13.</p>

Key Topics Raised in Feedback	No. of responses*	Summary of responses received	HWL Response/ Action
Role in addressing climate change	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several responses highlighted that the project was important to negate the effects of climate change and to test deep water renewable technologies vital for the future 	The carbon assessment determined that over the life-cycle of the Offshore Development, the emissions avoided from more carbon-intensive energy sources will exceed those of the Offshore Development. Consequently, the Offshore Development will make a beneficial, contribution to UK carbon budgets, a proxy for the global climate. The impact of the Offshore Development and climate change on the environment is considered in Chapter 20: Climate Change and Carbon Impact Assessment.
Impacts on fisheries and navigational safety	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One response raised concerns regarding the impact on navigational safety and local fishermen working within the Pentland Firth. 	The reduced PFOWF Array Area and number of WTGs will reduce risks to navigational safety and fisheries. A detailed Navigational Risk Assessment has been undertaken for the Offshore Development based on surveys and consultation with stakeholders. Additionally, consultation with local fishermen and mariners has occurred and these discussions have informed the impact assessments. Further information on the potential impacts of the Offshore Development on these receptors is provided in the Offshore EIAR (Volume 2); Chapter 13: Commercial Fisheries and Chapters 14: Shipping and Navigation.
<p><i>*The totals here are based on the number of comments received on each topic. Some individual responses included comments on a number of topics. For clarity where individuals have commented on a range of topics these have been included in each applicable topic total.</i></p>			

6.6 Conclusions

Regarding Pre-Application Consultation for the Project, HWL's overarching aim has been to ensure the efficient development of an environmentally and socially responsible offshore wind farm that benefits the local community.

The project team has gone above and beyond the statutory Pre-Application Consultation requirements. This robust consultation process has resulted in a number of recommendations regarding the design of the Offshore Development, which have now been accounted for in the Design Envelope (as discussed in Section 3.1.2). Additionally, HWL are developing a Community Benefit Fund which is being developed in line with the feedback received from the local community.

6.7 Opportunity to Comment

In accordance with legislative requirements and industry best practices, submission of the Offshore Development Application will be advertised and this Offshore EIAR will be publicly available. Stakeholder engagement will continue following submission, and there will be an opportunity to make formal representations to Scottish Ministers.

Paper copies of this Offshore EIAR and other documentation are normally made available to view at publicly accessible locations. However, the Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 make temporary modifications to the usual requirements placed on developer companies to make the application and EIA documentation physically available for public inspection in public places within the local area. The modifications require developer companies to instead ensure that all required documentation is available electronically for public inspection.

As such, this Offshore EIAR, including all figures, technical appendices, and accompanying documents, are available to view on the Project website at www.pentlandfloatingwind.com. Anyone having difficulty accessing the Application documents through this website can contact Pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk for assistance. The Application documents are also available via the Marine Scotland website at <https://marine.gov.scot/marine-licence-applications>. If you wish to comment on this Offshore EIAR or make representations to Marine Scotland, you must do so within 30 days from the last advert. Please email Marine Scotland at the following address: ms.marinerenewables@gov.scot, or write to Marine Scotland at:

Scottish Government
Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team
Marine Laboratory
PO Box 101
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

6.8 References

Dinnie, E., (2012). The Impact of Wind Farms on Scottish Tourism. The James Hutton Institute. Enquiry for the Scottish Government Renewables Team. ClimateXchange. https://www.climateexchange.org.uk/media/1686/the_impact_of_windfarms_on_scottish_tourism.pdf [Accessed 08/07/2022]

Electricity Act 1989, c. 36. <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/29/contents> [Accessed 01/07/2022]

Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, c. 28. <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2010/5/contents> [Accessed 01/07/2022]

Marine Licensing (Pre-application consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (SI 2013/286): <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2013/286/made>. [Accessed 01/07/2022]

Scottish Government (2022). Public Perceptions of Offshore Wind farm Developments in Scotland. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/public-perceptions-offshore-wind-farm-developments-scotland/> [Accessed 08/07/2022]

The Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2020/157/contents/made> [Accessed 01/07/2022]

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/8/contents>. [Accessed 01/07/2022]

APPENDIX A LOCAL PRESS NOTICES

Highland Wind Limited
Marine (Scotland) Act 2010
The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended)
PRE-APPLICATION PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Notice is hereby given that Highland Wind Limited (company number: SC675148, 4th Floor 115 George Street, Edinburgh, Midlothian, Scotland, EH2 4JN) plans to hold a pre-application consultation (PAC) event regarding two applications for proposed licensable activities at Dounreay, Caithness (central grid reference: 58° 39.093' N, 03° 50.976' W). The application for marine activities consist of the installation of up to 10 floating wind turbine generators, associated floating platforms, inter-array and export cables. A separate application for onshore activities includes the commissioning of an onshore substation and associated infrastructure.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic there are temporary modifications to the Marine Licence (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 and the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013.

In response to these modifications and in order to safeguard the community a **virtual public exhibition on the proposal will be available online from Monday 27 September 2021** on the project website at www.pentlandfloatingwind.com.

The project team will be available for a live question and answer session on the proposals between **12:00 – 14.30 hrs and 18.00 – 20.30 hrs on Tuesday 5 October 2021** via a live chat function in the virtual public exhibition which will be accessible from www.pentlandfloatingwind.com. The event will provide an opportunity for the public and stakeholders to consider and comment on the **prospective application**.

If you are unable to access the online question and answer session, you can contact the project team on +44 (0)7427186664.

The virtual public exhibition will include a link to a feedback form where comments and questions on the proposal, as well as any requests for further information, can be submitted directly to the Project Team. Alternatively, you may do so by emailing pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk.

If you have any further questions or comments on the proposals, we request that these be submitted via the feedback form by 5pm on **Sunday 31 October 2021**. Alternatively, you may do so by emailing the Project Team at the above contact details.

Please note that comments made to Highland Wind Limited are not representations to the Scottish Ministers or The Highland Council. Once the licence applications are submitted there will be an opportunity for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers and The Highland Council on the associated applications.

Figure 6.1 First PAC Event Local Press Notice

Highland Wind Limited Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) PRE-APPLICATION PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Notice is hereby given that Highland Wind Limited (company number: SC675148, 4th Floor 115 George Street, Edinburgh, Midlothian, Scotland, EH2 4JN) plans to hold a pre-application consultation (PAC) event regarding two applications for proposed licensable activities at Dounreay, Caithness (central grid reference: 58° 39.093' N, 03° 50.976' W). The application for marine activities consist of the installation of up to 10 floating wind turbine generators, associated floating platforms, inter-array and export cables. A separate application for onshore activities includes the commissioning of an onshore substation and associated infrastructure.

The following pre-application consultations will be held:

Event	Date and Time	Location
Virtual Exhibition	Launched Monday 9 May 2022	Available at: https://openplans.uk/pentland/
In person drop-in event at Reay Golf Course Club House, Thurso	Wednesday 11 May 2022, 14.00 – 20.00	Reay Golf Course, Club House, Reay, Thurso KW14 7RE
In person drop-in event at North Coast Visitor Centre, Thurso	Thursday 12 May 2022, 11.00 – 17.00	North Coast Visitor Centre, High Street, Thurso, KW14 8AJ
Online Question and Answer Session	Wednesday 18 May 2022, 12.00 – 14.30 and 18.00 -20.30	Accessible using live chat function in virtual exhibition, available at: https://openplans.uk/pentland

If you are unable to access the online question and answer session, you can contact the project team on 07877332459 during the allotted times on Wednesday 18 May 2022. The consultations will provide an opportunity for the public and stakeholders to consider and comment on the prospective application. The virtual public exhibition will include a link to a feedback form where comments and questions on the proposal, as well as any requests for further information, can be submitted directly to the Project Team. Alternatively, you may do so by emailing pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk. Further information about the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is available at <https://www.pentlandfloatingwind.com/>.

If you have any further questions or comments on the proposals, we request that these be submitted via the feedback form by **Friday 20 May 2022**. Alternatively, you may do so by emailing the Project Team at the above contact details.

Please note that comments made to Highland Wind Limited are not representations to the Scottish Ministers or The Highland Council. Once the licence applications are submitted there will be an opportunity for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers and The Highland Council on the associated applications.

Figure 6.2 Second PAC Event Local Press Notice

APPENDIX B LEAFLET DROP

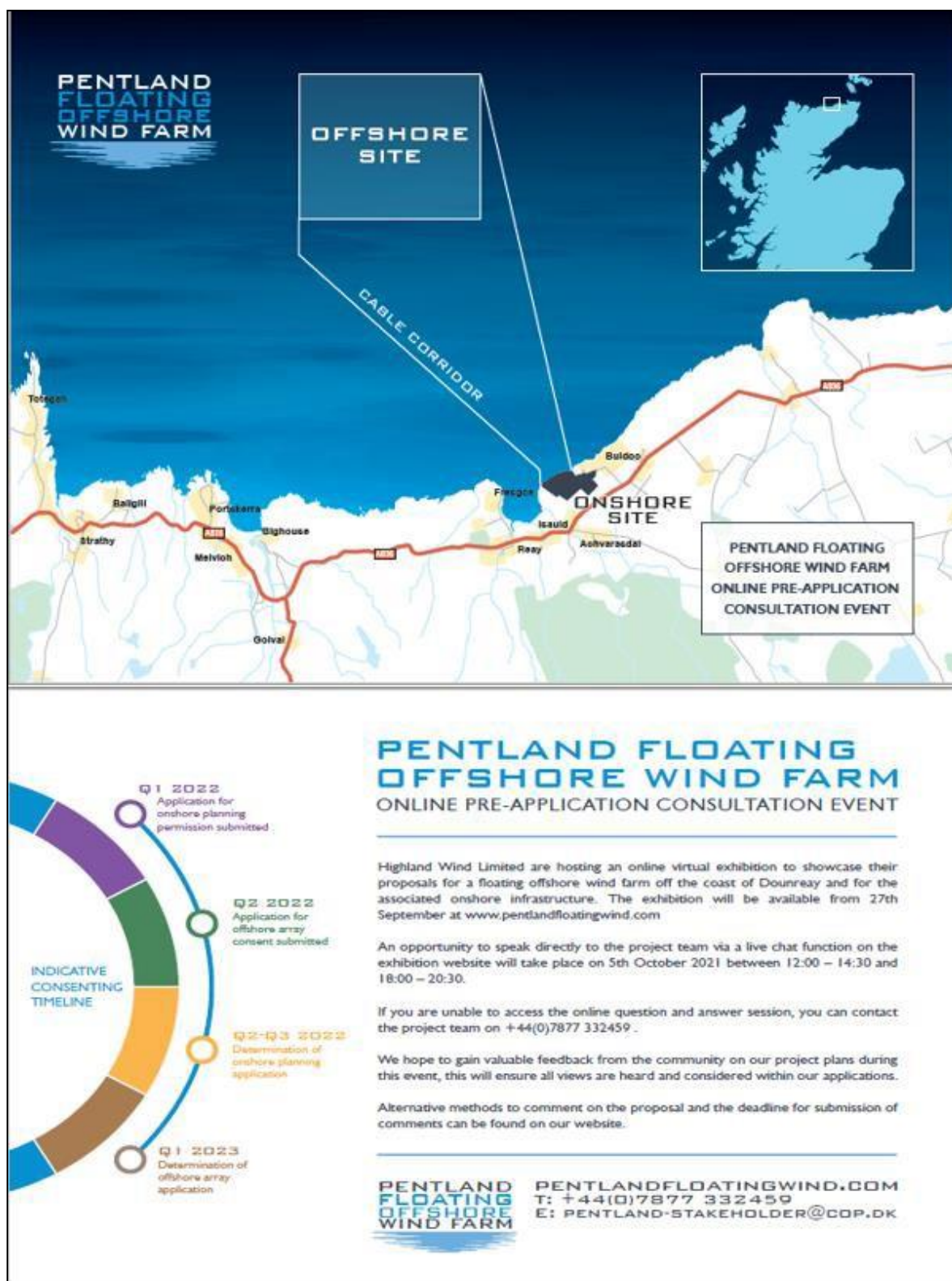


Figure 6.3 First PAC Event Leaflet

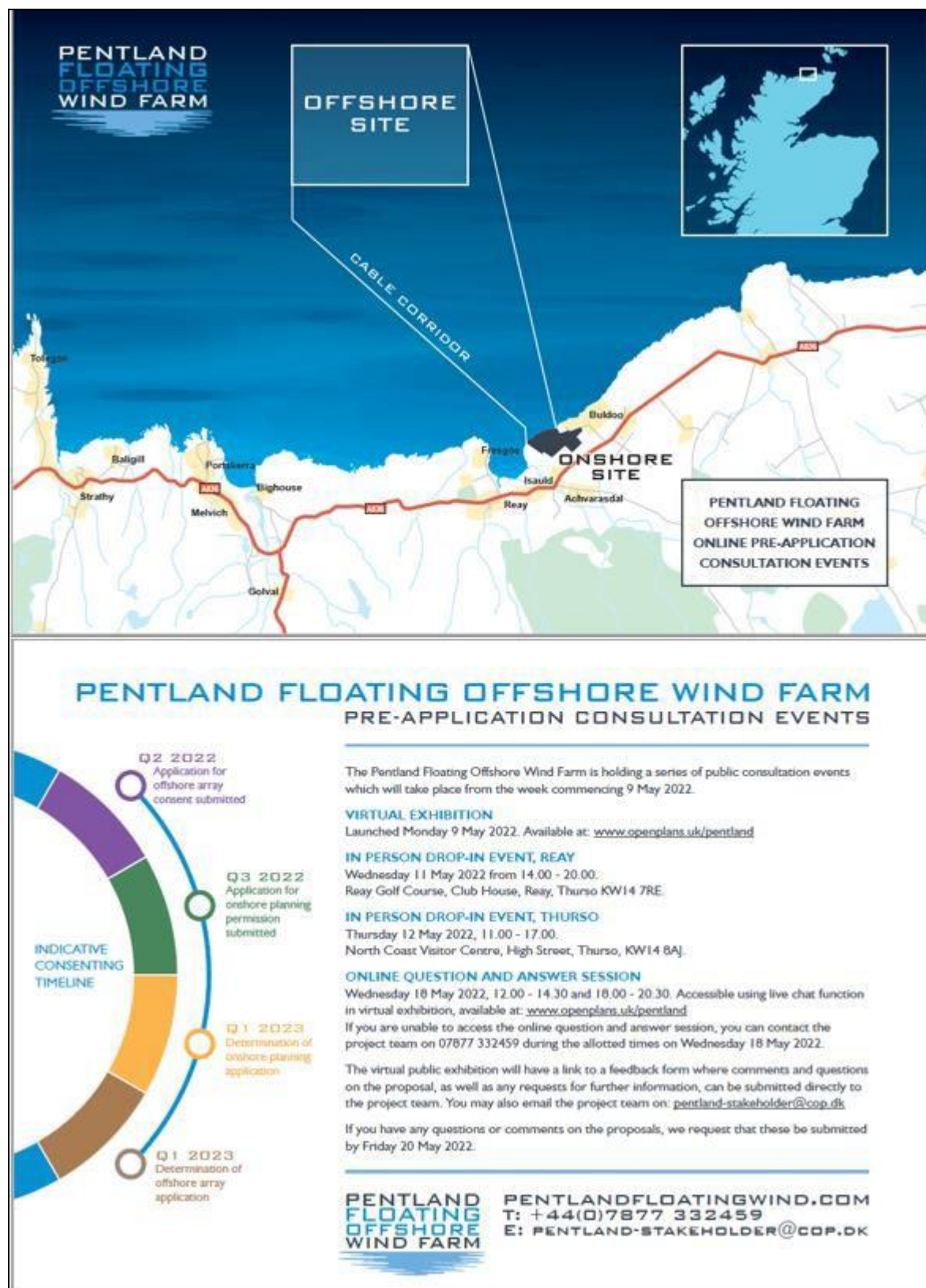


Figure 6.4 Second PAC Event Leaflet

APPENDIX C COMMUNITY POSTERS

**PENTLAND
FLOATING
OFFSHORE
WIND FARM**

ONLINE PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION EVENT

An online virtual exhibition to showcase proposals for a floating offshore wind farm off the coast of Dounreay and for the associated onshore infrastructure.

**From 27th September 2021
at pentlandfloatingwind.com**

On 5th October 2021 between 12:00 - 14:30 and 18:00 - 20:30 you can join the project team for a live-chat question and answer session in the virtual exhibition room which is accessible via a link on our website.

OFFSHORE SITE

CABLE CORRIDOR

ONSHORE SITE

PENTLANDFLOATINGWIND.COM
T: +44(0)7877 332459 • E: PENTLAND-STAKEHOLDER@GOP.DK

Figure 6.5 First PAC Event Community Poster

PENTLAND
FLOATING
OFFSHORE
WIND FARM

PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION EVENTS

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

Launched Monday 9 May 2022

IN PERSON DROP-IN EVENTS

Reay Golf Course Club House, Reay

Wednesday 11 May 2022, 14.00 - 20.00

North Coast Visitor Centre, Thurso

Thursday 12 May 2022, 11.00 - 17.00

ONLINE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Wednesday 18 May 2022, 12.00 - 14.30 and 18.00 - 20.30

For more information visit: www.pentlandfloatingwind.com



Figure 6.6 Second PAC Event Community Poster

APPENDIX D FIRST PAC EVENT - EXHIBITION BOARDS



WELCOME

Welcome to the virtual public exhibition and consultation for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm (PFOWF). This is the first of a number of public consultation events designed to keep local residents and other interested stakeholders up-to-date and to encourage feedback as the PFOWF Project progresses. We are committed to working with local communities and stakeholders to help shape the development of our proposal.

This consultation is being undertaken virtually in order to minimise risk to the public with regard to COVID-19. The layout of this exhibition is similar to what you would expect to find at a traditional public exhibition including information boards on the proposal, opportunities to ask the team questions and possibilities to provide feedback.

This virtual exhibition includes images, maps, frequently asked questions and an introduction video to provide an overview of the project and current development activities.

LIVE CHAT QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION

On the 5 October 2021, the project team will be available to answer any further questions you may have on a live chat function in the virtual public exhibition during the following times: **12:00 – 14:30** and **18:00 – 20:30**.

You can provide feedback through the feedback form in this virtual exhibition until 31 October 2021. A second event will be held before we submit the EIA application to provide you with an update of the project. It is anticipated that the second event will be held in early 2022.

Our website www.pentlandfloatingwind.com provides further information about the project. Should you have any further questions or feedback once the consultation period for this exhibition has closed, you can contact us at pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk.

If you would like to provide us feedback on the event, consultation closes on 31 October 2021. The virtual exhibition space will remain live throughout the planning process.

WHO WE ARE

Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is being developed by Highland Wind Limited which is majority owned by a fund managed by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) with Hexicon AB as a minority shareholder. Project development activities are being led by CIP's development partner, Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP). The project development team is based in COP's Global Floating Wind Competence Centre, recently established in Edinburgh.



Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners P/S (CIP) is a fund management company focused on energy infrastructure including offshore wind, onshore wind, solar photovoltaic (PV), biomass and energy-from-waste, transmission and distribution, reserve capacity and storage, and other energy assets like Power-to-X.

CIP has offices in Copenhagen, Hamburg, New York, Tokyo, Utrecht, Melbourne and London. CIP was founded in 2012 by senior executives from the energy industry in cooperation with PensionDanmark. CIP manages eight funds and has approximately €16 billion under management.

www.cippartners.dk



Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP) is a leading and experienced provider of project development, construction management, and operational management services to offshore wind projects.

The company is headquartered in Denmark and has offices in Taiwan, USA, Australia, Japan, South Korea, UK & Vietnam. COP's team of specialists has a broad range of competencies within project management, early and late-stage project development, engineering, construction, procurement, operational management as well as business development and project financing.

www.cop.dk



Hexicon AB is a leading floating offshore wind technology and project developer. It was founded in 2009 and is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden.

www.hexicon.eu

THE PENTLAND FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND FARM

Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm will be located off the coast of Dounreay, Caithness.

Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm will be developed in stages:

- A single turbine demonstrator project
- A larger array project (up to 10 turbines) with a maximum generating capacity of 100MW providing enough energy to power up to 70,000 homes, equivalent to 64% of homes in the Highland Council Area (based on 2019 figures)

The onshore substation for the project will be located adjacent to the Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment (NRTE) and the former Dounreay Nuclear Facility.

Environmental Impact Assessments for the array project are currently being prepared and will be submitted to Marine Scotland and the Highland Council in 2022.



DEVELOPMENT



The demonstrator project is seen as the pathway to the development of the larger Pentland floating array project, as well as future potential floating projects in Scotland.

INNOVATION



The innovative technology trialled in this demonstrator project will be key to the commercialisation of this floating technology. It will deliver valuable insight into developing floating wind technology in Scotland.

LEARNING



The learnings from this will help contribute to the development of a strong Scottish supply chain for floating wind.

INDICATIVE DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE



Q1-Q2 2022
Submit Applications for
Array Consents

Q1 2023

Array Consent Determination /
Start of Construction for Demonstrator



Q3 2023
Demonstrator Construction
Complete

Q2 2025

Start of Construction
for Array



Q4 2026
Array Construction
Complete



WHY FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND?

Currently the majority of offshore wind farms in Scotland are fixed bottom, there are only two floating wind farms in operation. Unlike traditional fixed bottom wind farms, floating wind farms use wind turbine generators mounted on a floating substructure which is connected to the seabed using mooring lines and anchors. Approximately 80% of global offshore wind resources are in water depths where fixed bottom wind farms are not technically and economically feasible. Floating technology is key to the UK achieving net zero as the energy transition will require a mix of floating and fixed foundation wind farms.



Generic floating structure



- Floating offshore wind offers the offshore wind industry key opportunities to create a new supply chain and job opportunities.
- Fixed bottom wind is now one of the most economically competitive forms of energy and it is expected that floating wind will follow suit.
- Scotland is a world leader in floating technology and is well positioned to capitalise on advances in the sector due to experience in oil and gas and maritime heritage.
- The significant global pipeline for floating offshore wind could create export opportunities for the local supply chain in Scotland.

INSTALLATION

One of the advantages with floating offshore wind is the capacity for the complete wind turbine and structure assembly to be towed to site where it is hooked to the pre-installed mooring system which allows it to be installed and decommissioned much quicker than fixed-bottom turbines.

SUBSEA CABLES

A key design difference between a fixed bottom and floating turbine is the dynamic nature of the cables. The cable system must accommodate the movement of the floating substructure without impacting the cables. This is typically achieved by adding a buoyancy element into the design.

FLOATING SUBSTRUCTURES

Currently there are over 40 floating wind turbine generators (WTGs) structure concepts at varying stages of development in the industry. Each has varying dimensions to meet the unique engineering challenges associated with floating turbines, turbine sizes and project specific requirements.

MOORING & ANCHORS

The mooring and anchoring systems are responsible for maintaining the position of the floating offshore wind farm during the most extreme events or energetic storms. There are a number of different anchoring solutions available.

The final project design has not yet been determined and will depend on the seabed conditions, engineering studies and environmental impacts assessed. The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm Project has adopted a project design envelope approach to retain flexibility to capitalise on innovations in this area.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

OFFSHORE PROPOSAL

PROJECT DESIGN ENVELOPE

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm has adopted a design envelope approach to developing the project. This is a common approach with major infrastructure projects including offshore wind farms. The design envelope approach does not consent specific technology, but allows maximum parameters to be used to assess impacts. This allows the flexibility to utilise new innovations emerging in floating wind technology, whilst also gathering greater information about the site conditions.

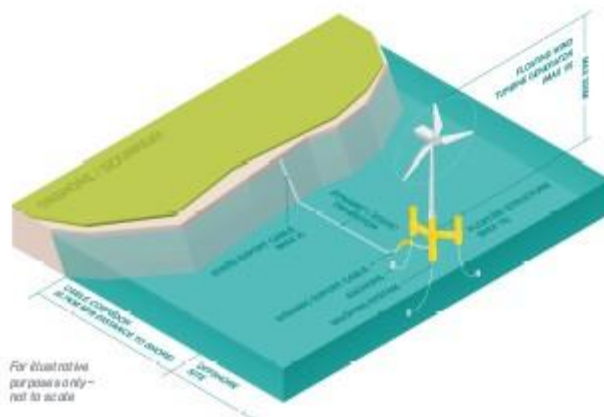
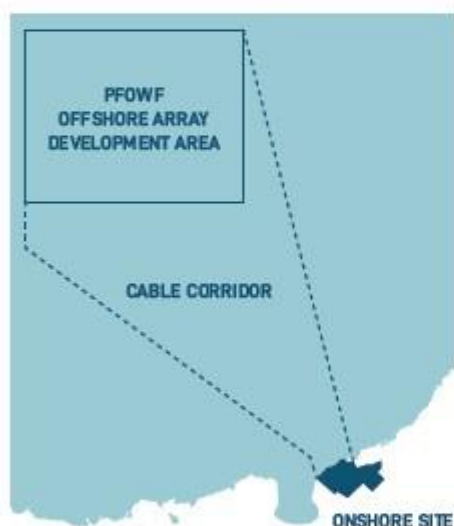
The Environmental Impact Assessment will consider these parameters that represent the worst-case scenarios for receptors likely to be

impacted by this development. As such, the project design envelope presented here shows the proposed maximum parameters for the project. The final project parameters may not reach these maximum limits and the final project design will be submitted for approval.

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm offshore array development area is 20 km² within the Pentland Firth, approximately 6.7 km north of the coast of Dunroary, Caithness. The offshore infrastructure works will comprise:

- Up to a maximum of 10 floating wind turbine generators (100 MW capacity);
- Turbines will have a maximum tip height of 300 m;
- Floating structures (one per turbine) to support the turbines;
- Mooring structures (anchors and mooring lines) to secure the floating structures;
- A network of inter-array cabling linking the individual wind turbines; and
- A maximum of two offshore export cables connecting the wind turbines to the onshore substation.

It is anticipated that the closest turbine will be at least 8 km offshore from Sandside Bay.



As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, we are currently undertaking:

- Geophysical and geotechnical seabed surveys;
- Environmental surveys;
- Technical and engineering studies; and
- Discussions with stakeholders and the local community.

Through undertaking these activities, the project design envelope will be refined further to ensure the optimal design can be adopted for the project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

ONSHORE PROPOSAL

A landfall site has been identified at Dounreay, immediately adjacent to the Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment (NRTE) and the former Dounreay Nuclear Facility.



The onshore infrastructure will comprise:

- A cable landfall west of the Vulcan nuclear facility – the preferred option is for the cable to be brought to shore by Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) depending on HDD feasibility studies;
- An onshore cable buried to a depth of approximately 1 metre;
- A cable Transition Joint Bay (TJB) where offshore and onshore cables are spliced together; and
- An onshore substation and switchgear.

The offshore turbines will export power up to a maximum of 110 kV. The Project will require an onshore substation to connect to the transmission network at 132 kV.

The onshore substation or switchgear will include the electrical equipment required to connect the Project to the grid. This may include switchgear, transformers, harmonic filter, reactive compensation devices, protection equipment, batteries and other auxiliary equipment. The entire footprint is likely to be an area of approximately 100 m x 60 m (0.60 hectares).

The majority of electrical plant will be indoors owing to the coastal location and will broadly be adjacent to existing infrastructure in the area. The exact configuration and access roads will be decided at a later stage.



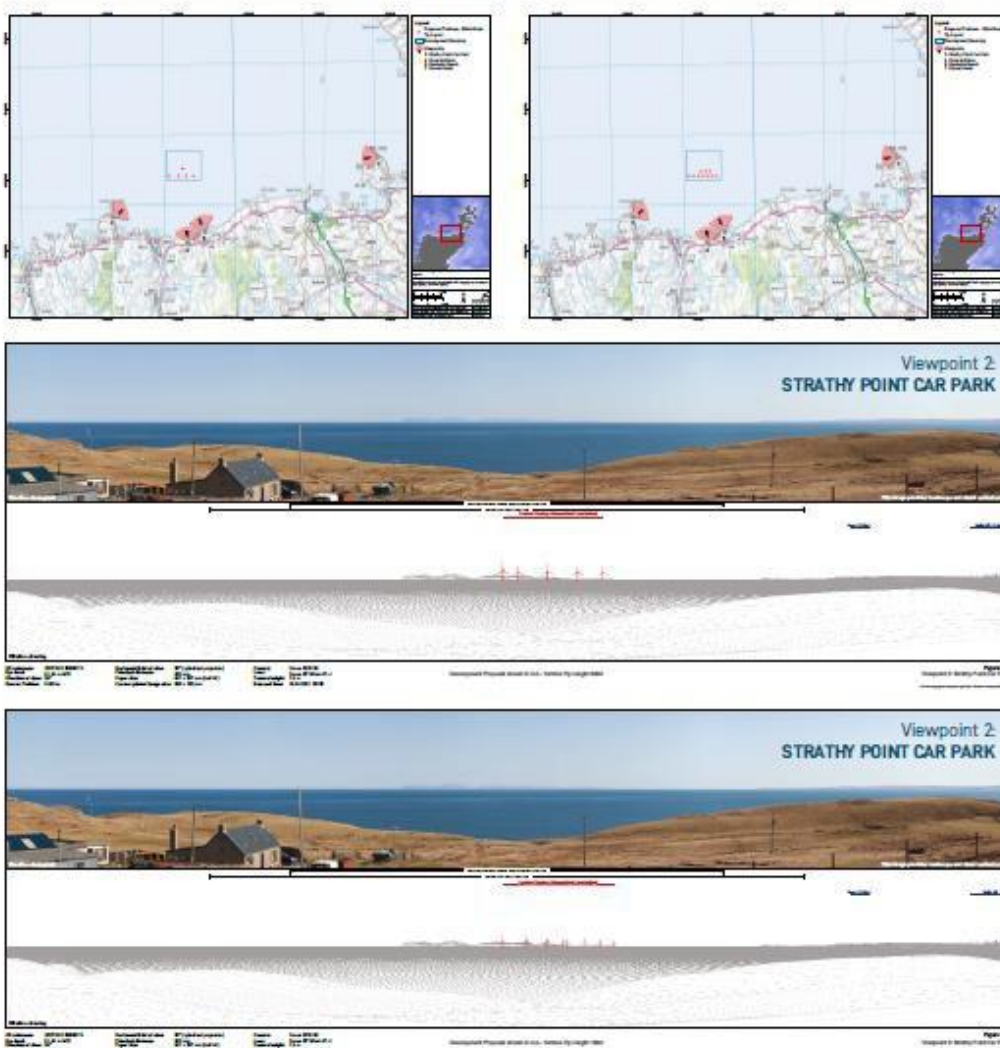
For illustrative
purposes only –
not to scale

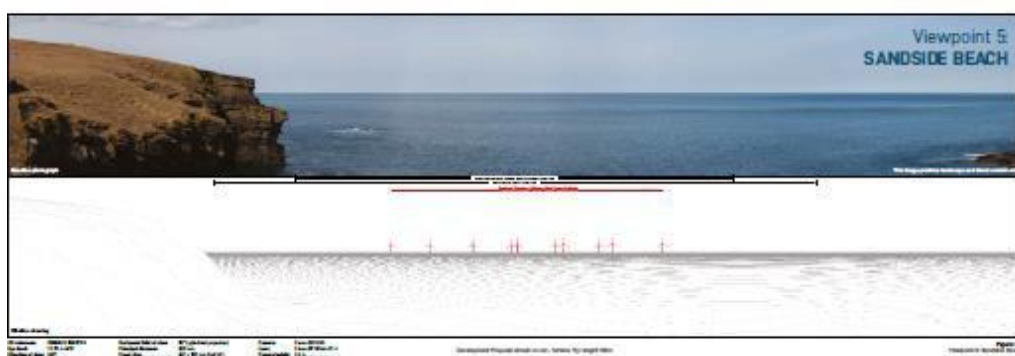
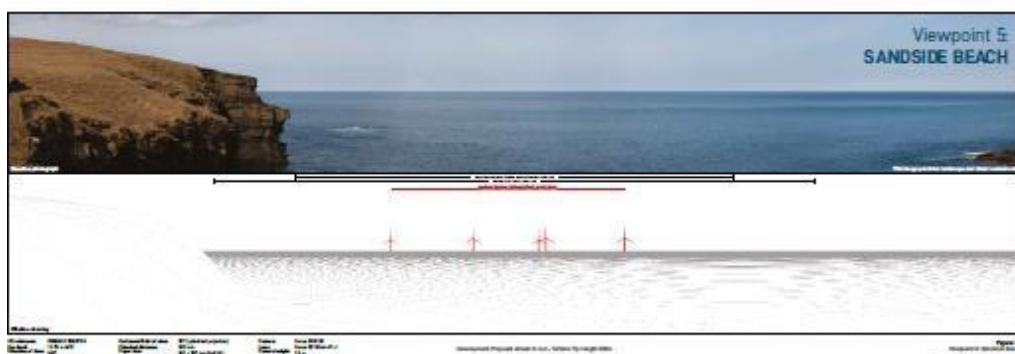
SEASCAPE, LANDSCAPE & VISUAL IMPACTS

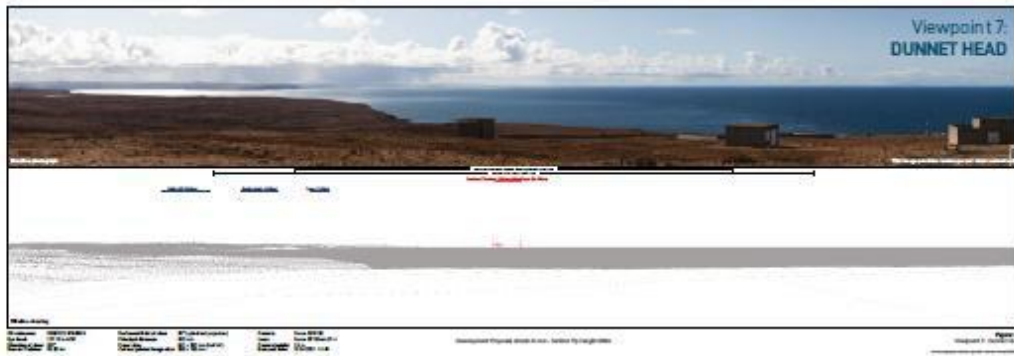
As part of our Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), we will be undertaking a Seascape and Landscape Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA).

The SLVIA will consider the potential visual effects of the offshore and onshore infrastructure from a number of coastal viewpoints. Wirelines are presented below and give an indication of the likely views of the proposed offshore array area from selected viewpoints. These wirelines do not take into consideration weather conditions such as mist and fog or any intervening obstacles such as houses and vegetation, all

of which influence how visible the turbines will be. The wirelines are therefore provided for indicative purposes only. For each view point two scenarios are shown: an indicative layout of 5 turbines at 300m tall and 10 turbines at 192m to tip height. The final turbine configuration is likely to fall somewhere between these. Comparative baseline photographs from the selected viewpoints are also provided below.







CONSENTS & ASSESSMENTS

The project will make two separate applications for both the offshore and onshore components.

OFFSHORE

Marine licences and consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 will be sought from Marine Scotland for the offshore infrastructure.

ONSHORE

An application for planning permission will be made under Section 57 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to The Highland Council for the onshore elements of the Project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

EIA is a process which identifies and assesses the potential significant environmental effects of a project, informs the design of the project from an environmental perspective, and sets out standard industry and additional mitigation measures to eliminate or minimise the project's effect on the environment. An EIA Report is the written output of the EIA process. Two EIA Reports will be produced (one for the onshore part of the project and

one for the offshore) and will demonstrate that all potentially significant effects on the environment have been considered and assessed and that appropriate mitigation measures to reduce any significant effects are identified and commitments made to implement these.

WHAT WILL BE ASSESSED?

It is currently proposed that the following environmental topics will be considered within the EIA Reports:

ASSESSMENT

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

OFFSHORE EIA REPORT

Offshore Physical Environment
Physical Processes
Water & Sediment Quality

ONSHORE EIA REPORT

Geology & Hydrogeology
Land Use, Agriculture & Soils

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

Benthic Ecology
Fish & Shellfish Ecology
Marine Mammals & Other Megafauna
Marine Ornithology

Terrestrial Ecology
Terrestrial Ornithology

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

Commercial Fisheries
Shipping & Navigation
Aviation & Radar
Seascape, Landscape & Visual Amenity
Marine Archaeology & Cultural Heritage
Other Users of the Marine Environment
Socio-Economics, Tourism & Recreation

Onshore Archaeology & Cultural Heritage
Air Quality
Landscape & Visual Amenity
Traffic & Transport
Onshore Noise



SURVEY CAMPAIGN

In order to understand the local environment, potential impact from the development and how we can reduce and mitigate impacts, our EIAs will include the findings from a range of surveys and studies conducted in the local area.

We have already begun the environmental surveys in the onshore and offshore environment and a number of studies to support the applications. The survey campaign and studies undertaken for the project are detailed below:



1. A site walkover survey has been undertaken to ground truth the above ground elements and constraints of the onshore site. Additionally, onshore geotechnical site investigations and studies are underway to inform onshore cable routing activities and substation siting. **ONGOING**

2. A programme of bird surveys is currently underway to identify the local ornithology features in order to support the offshore and onshore ornithology impact assessments. These surveys include terrestrial, breeding bird surveys, breeding seabird surveys and wintering bird surveys. **ONGOING**

3. A programme of terrestrial ecology surveys are ongoing to identify the local wildlife and ecology in order to support the terrestrial ecology impact assessment. These assessments will look at the potential impact on such species as otters and bats, as well as any protected or sensitive habitats or flowers, such as bogs. **ONGOING**

4. In order to ascertain the potential visual impacts on static viewpoints a number of windlines and photomontages will be created from all viewpoints to be assessed within the EIAs. **ONGOING**

5. The onshore EIA will undertake a high-level assessment of the turbine noise and potential impacts to receptors, in accordance with relevant guidance. **ONGOING**

6. Socio-economic studies are being undertaken to quantify aspects such as potential for direct, indirect, and induced jobs and GVA associated with the development and operation of the proposed project. A supply chain study is also being conducted in tandem. **ONGOING**

7. Geophysical seabed surveys have been undertaken to characterise the seabed and seabed features in order to inform the offshore EIA and to allow for detailed project design and cable routing activities. **COMPLETE**

8. Geotechnical investigations of the seabed will be undertaken to assess the technical stability of the seabed in order to inform the installation requirements for the subsurface structure and export cable. **ONGOING**

9. Benthic surveys have been conducted offshore in order to obtain samples of the seabed to characterise the benthic habitats, macrofaunal species and the quaternary sediments to support the offshore EIA. **COMPLETE**

10. A floating LIDAR buoy has been deployed in order to ascertain metocean characteristics for the offshore site; this data will be used to ensure that the correct floating wind technologies are selected for the Project. **ONGOING**

11. Shore-based maritime traffic surveys (summer and winter) of the offshore site area will be undertaken using a combination of Radar, AIS and visual observations. These surveys will characterise the shipping activities in the vicinity of the development in order to support the EIA. **ONGOING**

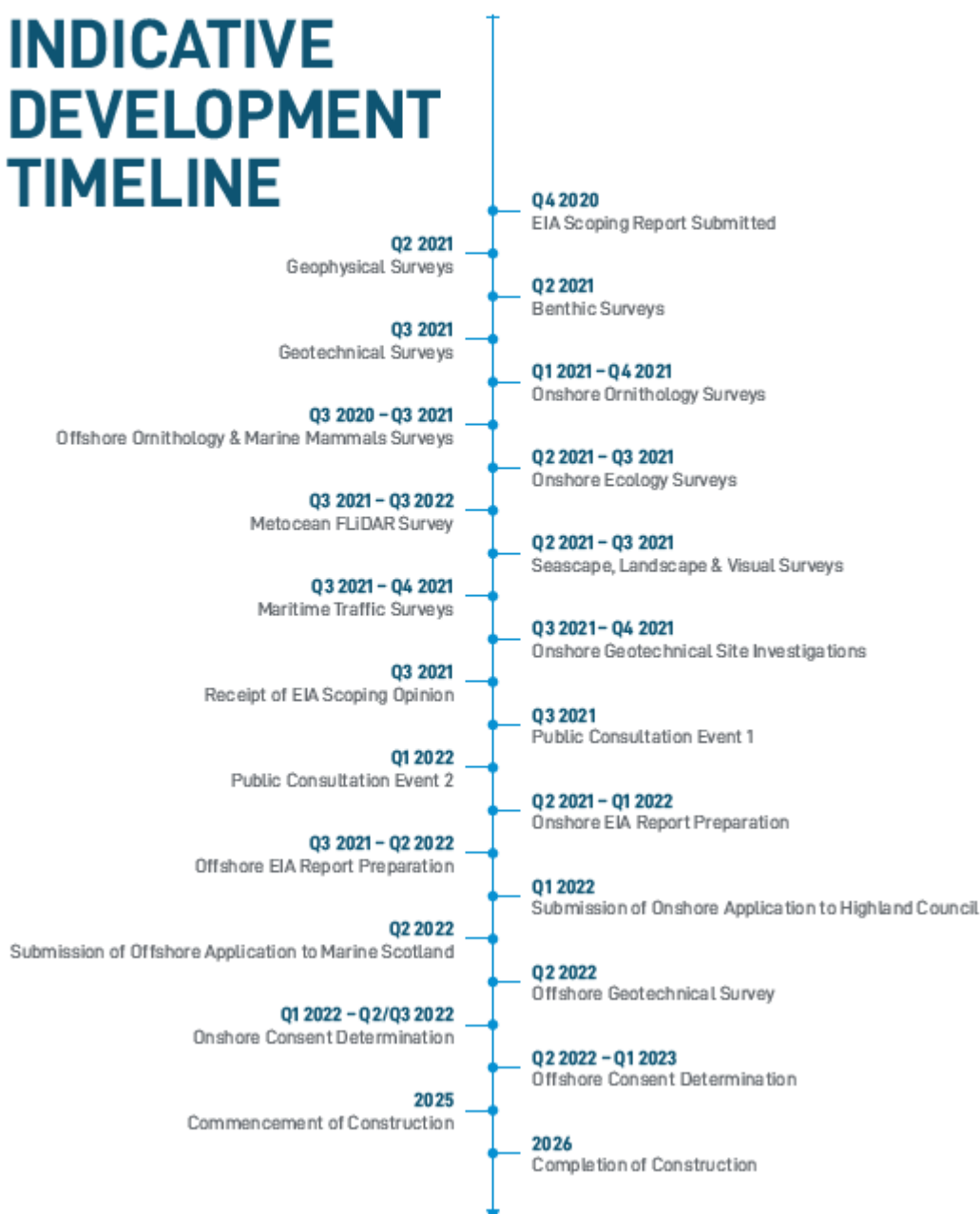
12. Aerial surveys are being undertaken to identify seabirds and marine mammals including whales, dolphins, porpoises and seals in the vicinity of the offshore site. **COMPLETE**

13. An archaeology and cultural heritage site survey was conducted to ascertain the position of any potentially vulnerable cultural heritage features within the onshore site. **COMPLETE**

14. Engagement with local fisheries is being undertaken to understand how they use the offshore wind farm site, cable route and surrounding area. **ONGOING**

15. Engagement with stakeholders, including local residents, community councils, local and national authorities. **ONGOING**

INDICATIVE DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE



THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

PREPARATION FOR THE APPLICATION

In December 2020 the EIA Scoping Report for both the onshore and offshore elements of the Project was submitted to Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT). Detailed feedback from statutory consultees was collected and has been used to help define the scope of the onshore and offshore EIAs.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES / SURVEYS

Desk based assessments, consultations with statutory consultees and field studies are underway. These will define the baseline environment and identify receptors for consideration within the EIA Report.

PUBLIC EVENT

The project design and EIA scope will be presented to the public ahead of the applications being submitted. This online virtual exhibition is the first Public Consultation Event for the development and details both the onshore and offshore proposals. Your views and feedback at this stage will help shape the development of our proposal.

PREPARATION OF THE EIA REPORTS

The impacts of the proposed onshore and offshore designs will be assessed by competent experienced professionals using the relevant baseline information collected, various guidance, good practice guidelines and expert judgement. All the findings and proposed mitigation measures identified through the EIA process will be presented in the Offshore and Onshore EIA Reports.

FURTHER EVENTS

Our aim is to host a second Public Consultation Event closer to the time of submission to communicate any updates to the Project, in particular the offshore application, in order to showcase more detailed design decisions and collate any additional feedback into the final applications at this point.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

A planning application for the onshore transmission works for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 will be submitted to The Highland Council. Additionally, an application for a marine licence and consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for the offshore development will be submitted to Marine Scotland. At this point, there will be a period for the public to formally comment on the proposals, information to the public on how to respond will be advertised through local press.

DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION

It is anticipated that it will take up to 1 year for the applications to be determined. During this time the project will continue with engineering studies to finalise the project requirements. During this time detailed supply chain discussions will also be held as well as finalising our community benefits associated with the project.

PREPARATION FOR CONSTRUCTION

The consents granted will likely have a number of conditions associated with them. Information on the detail of the project will be submitted in order to ensure they are in line with the consented project. Construction and environmental management and monitoring plans detailing how the project will be delivered will also be submitted for approval.

CONSTRUCTION

It is anticipated that construction will commence in 2025. The construction of the project is anticipated to take 1 year. An independent Environmental Clerk of Works will be employed to ensure that the construction is carried out in line with the consent.

FAQS

Q: Who are Highland Wind Limited?

A: Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is being developed by Highland Wind Limited which is majority owned by a fund managed by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) with Hexicon AB as a minority shareholder. Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners P/S (CIP) is a fund management company focused on energy infrastructure including offshore wind, onshore wind, solar photovoltaic (PV), biomass and energy from waste, transmission and distribution, reserve capacity and storage, and other energy assets like Power-to-X. It was founded in 2012 and currently has approximately EUR 16 billion under management. CIP is a major investor in the offshore wind sector and has significant investments in a number of offshore wind projects around the world. Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP), which conducts offshore wind development activities on behalf of the funds managed by CIP, has recently opened an office in Edinburgh to support the funds' increasing engagement in Scotland, with a particular focus on floating wind.

Q: What are the benefits of floating wind and do we need it?

A: Almost 80% of the world's wind resource is in water deeper than 60 metres. It is where wind speeds are stronger and more consistent meaning higher capacity factors. It is looking extremely likely that floating wind will be essential to meet the UK's net-zero emission targets and is needed to deliver on ambitions set by the Committee on Climate Change. You can read more about floating wind on Board 3 – Why Floating Wind?

Q: How does Douneay Tri Project fit in with your proposal?

A: The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm Project is an update to the Douneay Tri Project that was granted key consents and a site lease in 2017. The original Douneay Tri Project consisted of a two-turbine offshore wind farm with an installed capacity of between 8 to 12 MW approximately 6 km off Douneay, Caithness. Highland Wind Limited acquired the Project and associated consent, licences and site lease in 2020. Highland Wind Limited are planning to utilise this existing consent by deploying a single demonstrator turbine ahead of the larger array (the focus of this exhibition), subject to a Consent Variation. This demonstrator turbine will be deployed ahead of the array to test the technology needed for the wider array but will ultimately form part of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm and will be included within the proposed maximum 10 turbines. The demonstrator turbine will also be located at least 8.2 km offshore. The current timeline would see the demonstrator deployed by 2023, subject to the award of the Consent Variation.

Q: What are your plans?

A: The primary objective of the Project is to test and demonstrate a technology solution for floating wind in Scotland. By progressing with the demonstrator project, followed by the wider array the capabilities of the local supply chain in Scotland will be better understood. This understanding will allow us to support the development of a strong local supply chain for floating wind in Scotland, helping to meet climate change targets, and providing highly skilled jobs and energy security. Highland Wind Limited firmly believes that this project will be an enabler for larger scale developments resulting from the current ScotWind Leasing Round and in turn will result in knowledge exchange and export opportunities in relation to the global floating offshore wind market.

Q: What technology are you using?

A: Highland Wind Limited will develop the project using the optimal technical, environmental and commercial solution. Currently, this technology is still evolving so the exact technological requirements for the project are still under consideration. We will look to establish our selected technology and suppliers once we have gathered all the information from our meteorological and seabed surveys to ensure the most efficient and technically feasible options are taken forward. Nonetheless, we are planning on using up to 10 turbines, with the maximum height of the turbine blade tip from the sea surface being 300 metres.

Q: Will I see the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm from the shore?

A: The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm EIA Application Boundary will be approximately 6.7 km from shore, this distance has been increased from the previously consented 6 km for the Douneay Tri Project in order to further reduce any visual impacts. It is anticipated that the closest turbine will be at least 8 km offshore from Sandside Bay. A selection of wirelines have been produced for relevant viewpoints around the coastline and showcase the likely views from shore for the maximum tip of the 300 m turbines. You can find these on Board 6: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.

Q: Will there be disruptions during construction?

A: We are working to engage closely with landowners, local residents, the Maritime Coastguard Authority, ports and harbours and Traffic and Transport Scotland to ensure the development minimises disruptions to local communities as far as possible. We already understand there are some concerns regarding construction and operational traffic in the local area. This will be taken into account in our application.

Q: What about environmental impacts on seabirds and other marine life?

A: Renewable energy technologies are key to combatting the effects of climate change, which is considered one of the biggest threats to marine life. Floating wind is part of the solution for a greener and safer future. Nonetheless, any development activity in the marine environment has the potential to impact on marine life and seabirds. We are committed to following best practice and proactively undertaking environmental surveys and conducting assessments, monitoring and modelling to minimise any impact on wildlife during the project's development. The project team continues to engage with key environmental and conservation stakeholders and other relevant consultees in order to inform the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and detail of the project related to the EIA.

Q: When will the Pentland Floating Wind Farm be completed?

A: We are planning to finish construction on commissioning the wider Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm array by 2026, to be fully operational by 2027. The single demonstrator turbine is planned to be deployed ahead of the wider array in 2023 to allow time to test and demonstrate the floating wind technology.

Q: How many homes will you power?

A: The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm will provide enough green energy for up to 70,000 homes per year, equivalent to 64% of households in The Highland Council Area (based on 2019 figures). This would offset up to 125,000 tonnes of CO₂ when considering all types of fossil fuels (<https://www.gov.scot/publications/renewable-and-conversion-calculators/>).

Q: How are you involving the local community?

A: We are committed to early stakeholder engagement. We have contacted local community and community councils to offer a project overview. However, COVID19 has made it difficult to engage in person, hence the use of virtual consultation in this instance. Naturally, we would prefer to carry out stakeholder engagement in person and will do that as soon as we can. Our website contains information on the project or you can contact us on pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk where you can email the project team directly. Alternatively if you wish to you can fill in the feedback form which can be found in the virtual exhibition room. There is also the opportunity to converse directly with the Project Team through our live chat function which will be active between 12:00 – 14:30 and 18:00 – 20:30 on Tuesday 5th October.

Q: What are the benefits to the local community?

A: Highland Wind Limited is committed to ensuring this Project provides long-term benefits to the local community. We are currently undertaking social and economic studies with involvement of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) and leading industry experts to understand the positive impacts the project will have (both directly and indirectly) on the community, for example, through providing jobs, Gross Value Added (GVA) potential and demand for local services. Furthermore, we have commissioned a supply chain study to complement the socio-economic work in order to assess local supply chain capability and identify opportunities to support the project. When available, this information will be shared with any interested parties. We are at the early stages of developing a Community Benefits Fund, which would likely become available on commissioning of the array project. We will seek advice from a number of parties on the best way to administer this fund and would welcome any local views on this.

Q: How many jobs will this development provide to the local community?

A: This is an important aspect to Highland Wind Limited and a key insight that is expected to come out from the studies currently being undertaken. It requires an independent assessment of the local context and economic impact potential, based on the local supply chain capability and the project requirements, to produce a good estimate of the employment potential with this development in full-time equivalent (FTE) terms. One of the aims is to identify opportunities for a more ambitious outcome, both in terms of temporary and permanent direct jobs sourced locally throughout the project life cycle.

Q: Who else are you engaging with in the application process?

A: To date we have been in contact with a number of stakeholders including the Highland Council, Marine Scotland, Scrabster and Wick Harbour Authorities, local fisheries, NatureScot, Northern Lighthouse Board, the Maritime Coastguard Authority, SEPA, landowners, Douneay Site Restoration Limited, NRTF Mucan, Crown Estate Scotland, RSPB and Melvich Community Council. We plan on further engagement as the application progresses towards submission.

Q: I want to keep informed on project updates, how do I do this?

A: Updates on the project will be provided on our website at www.pentlandfloatingwind.com. A second public consultation event will also be held closer to the time of submission of the proposals to update the community on any refined elements of the project. Additionally, there will be an opportunity for the community to make formal comment on the proposals to Scottish Ministers and The Highland Council once our applications have been submitted. Details on how to go about this will be detailed in a local newspaper and published on our website at the time of submission.

APPENDIX E SECOND PAC EVENT – IN PERSON EVENT BOARDS

WELCOME



Welcome to the public exhibition and consultation for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm. This public consultation event is designed to keep local residents and other interested stakeholders informed and to encourage feedback as the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm progresses towards submission. We are committed to working with local communities and stakeholders to help shape the development of our proposal.

We are pleased to welcome you to this consultation event. The following information boards are designed to provide an introduction to the project. If you have any questions when reviewing the boards please reach out to one of the project team. This consultation is being undertaken both virtually and in-person. The virtual exhibition also includes information boards on the proposal including images, maps and visualisations of the wind farm in addition to frequently asked questions and an introduction video to provide an overview of the project and current development activities. Within the virtual exhibition there are also opportunities to ask the team questions and to provide feedback.

IN PERSON DROP-IN EVENTS

On Wednesday 11 May 2022 a public consultation event will be held at the Reay Golf Course from 14.00 - 20.00.

On Thursday 12 May 2022 a public consultation event will be held at the North Coast Visitor Centre in Thurso from 11.00 - 17.00.

LIVE CHAT QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION

On Wednesday 18 May 2022 the project team will be available to answer any further questions you may have on a live chat function in the virtual public exhibition during the following times: 12.00 - 14.30 and 18.00 - 20.30.

You can provide feedback using the feedback form in the virtual exhibition until 20 May 2022.

Our website www.pentlandfloatingwind.com provides further information about the project. Should you have any further questions or feedback once the consultation period for this exhibition has closed, you can contact us at pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk.

If you would like to provide us feedback on the event, consultation closes on 20 May 2022. The virtual exhibition space will remain live throughout the planning process.

WHO WE ARE – Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is being developed by Highland Wind Limited which is majority owned by a fund managed by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) with Hexicon AB as a minority shareholder. Project development activities are being led by CIP's development partner, Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP). The project development team is based in COP's Global Floating Wind Competence Centre, recently established in Edinburgh.



Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners P/S (CIP) is a fund management company focused on energy infrastructure including offshore wind, onshore wind, solar photovoltaic (PV), biomass and energy-from-waste, transmission and distribution, reserve capacity and storage, and other energy assets like Power-to-X.

CIP has offices in Copenhagen, Hamburg, New York, Tokyo, Utrecht, Melbourne and London. CIP was founded in 2012 by senior executives from the energy industry in cooperation with PwC Denmark. CIP manages eight funds and has approximately €16 billion under management.

www.cippartners.dk



Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP) is a leading and experienced provider of project development, construction management, and operational management services to offshore wind projects.

The company is headquartered in Denmark and has offices in Taiwan, USA, Australia, Japan, South Korea, UK & Vietnam. COP's team of specialists has a broad range of competences within project management, early and late-stage project development, engineering, construction, procurement, operational management as well as business development and project financing.

www.cop.dk



Hexicon AB is a leading floating offshore wind technology and project developer. It was founded in 2009 and is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden.

www.hexicon.se

www.pentlandfloatingwind.com

THE PENTLAND FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND FARM



Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm will be located off the coast of Dounreay, Caithness.

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm will comprise up to ten turbines and will provide enough energy to power to approximately 70,000 homes, equivalent to approximately 65% of homes in the Highland Council Area (based on 2020 figures).

A single turbine will be deployed as the first stage of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm in 2025 to allow time to test and demonstrate the floating wind technology. The remaining turbines (up to nine) will be deployed during 2026.

The onshore substation for the project will be located adjacent to the Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment (NRTE) and the former Dounreay Nuclear Facility.

Environmental Impact Assessments for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm are currently being prepared and will be submitted to Marine Scotland and the Highland Council in 2022.



DEVELOPMENT

A staged approach to the deployment of the floating technology underpins the development of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm, as well as our future floating projects in Scotland and globally.



INNOVATION

The innovative technology trialled in this project will be key to the commercialisation of this floating technology. It will deliver valuable insight into developing floating wind technology in Scotland.



LEARNING

The learnings from this will help contribute to the development of a strong Scottish supply chain for floating wind.



WHY FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND?



Currently the majority of offshore wind farms in Scotland are fixed directly to the seabed, there are only two floating wind farms in operation. Unlike traditional fixed bottom wind farms, floating wind farms use wind turbine generators mounted on a floating substructure which is connected to the seabed using mooring lines and anchors. Much of the seabed around Scotland is too deep to be well suited to fixed bottom turbines. Floating offshore wind provides a technological solution which enables the production of large amounts of renewable energy which underpins Scotland and the UK's energy transition and is key to achieving net zero.



BENEFITS TO SCOTLAND

- Floating offshore wind offers the offshore wind industry key opportunities to create a new supply chain and job opportunities.
- Fixed bottom wind is now one of the most economically competitive forms of energy and it is expected that floating wind will follow suit.
- Scotland is a world leader in floating technology and is well positioned to capitalise on advances in the sector due to experience in oil and gas and maritime heritage.
- The significant global pipeline for floating offshore wind could create export opportunities for the local supply chain in Scotland.



Generic floating structure – for illustrative purposes only, not a representation of the final substructure or mooring and anchoring design

INSTALLATION

One of the advantages with floating offshore wind is the capacity for the complete wind turbine and substructure assembly to be towed to site where it is hooked up to the pre-installed mooring system which allows it to be installed much quicker than fixed bottom turbines that require calmer seas and wind conditions during installation.

SUBSEA CABLES

A key design difference between a fixed bottom and floating turbine is the dynamic nature of the cables. The cable system must accommodate the movement of the floating substructure. This is typically achieved by adding a buoyancy element into the design.

FLOATING SUBSTRUCTURES

Currently there are over 40 floating wind turbine generators (WTGs) substructure concepts at differing stages of technical maturity in the industry. Each has varying dimensions to meet the unique engineering challenges associated with floating turbines, turbine sizes and project specific requirements.

MOORING & ANCHORS

The mooring and anchoring systems are responsible for maintaining the position of the floating wind turbine generators (WTGs) during the most extreme events or energetic storms. There are a number of different anchoring solutions available which can be deployed depending on the site conditions.

The final project design has not yet been determined and will depend on the seabed conditions, engineering studies and environmental impacts assessed. The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm Project has adopted a project design envelope approach to retain flexibility to capitalise on innovations during the next stages of the project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

OFFSHORE PROPOSAL



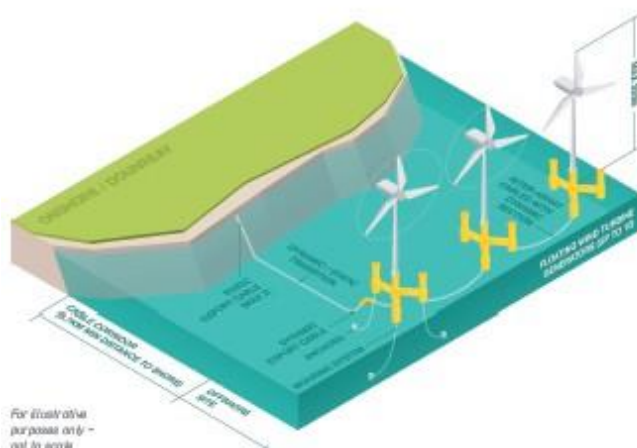
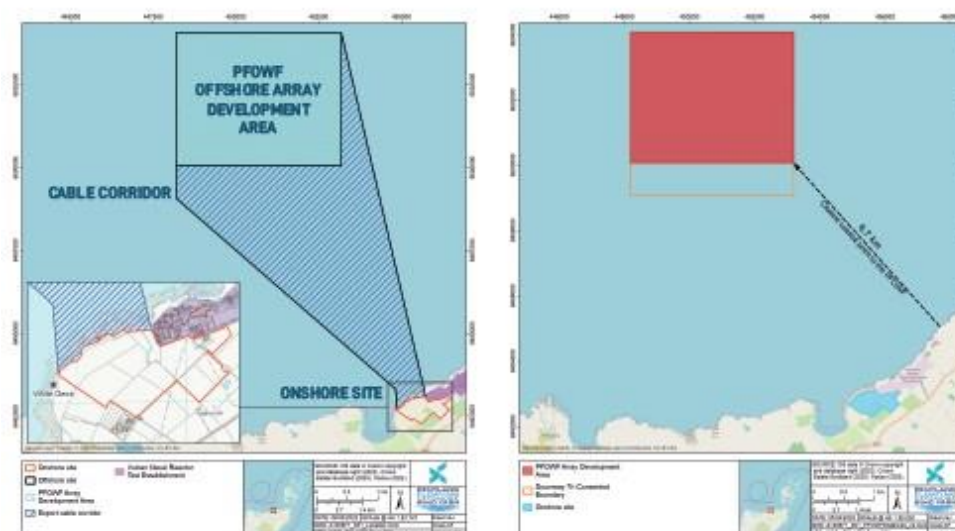
PROJECT DESIGN ENVELOPE

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm has adopted a design envelope approach to develop the project. This is a common approach with major infrastructure projects including offshore wind farms. The design envelope approach does not consent specific technology, but allows outline consent to be granted and enables projects impacts to be assessed on the basis of maximum parameters or worst case scenarios for specific receptors. This gives projects the flexibility to utilise new innovations in emerging floating wind technology and greater information on site conditions once this is available.

The Environmental Impact Assessment will consider the parameters that represent the worst impact for receptors caused by the development. As such, the project design envelope presented here shows the proposed maximum parameters for the project. The final project parameters may not reach these maximum limits and the final project design will be submitted for approval prior to construction.

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm offshore development area is 20 km² within the Pentland Firth, approximately 6.7 km north of the coast of Dounreay, Caithness. The offshore infrastructure works will comprise:

- Up to a maximum of ten floating wind turbine generators;
- Turbines will have a maximum tip height of 300 m;
- Floating substructures (one per turbine) to support the turbines;
- Mooring systems (anchors and mooring lines) to ensure the turbines stay within a given footprint;
- A network of inter-array cabling linking the individual wind turbines; and
- A maximum of two offshore export cables connecting the offshore wind farm to the onshore substation.



As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, we undertook the following activities:

- Geophysical and geotechnical seabed surveys;
- Environmental surveys;
- Technical and engineering studies; and
- Discussions with stakeholders and the local community.

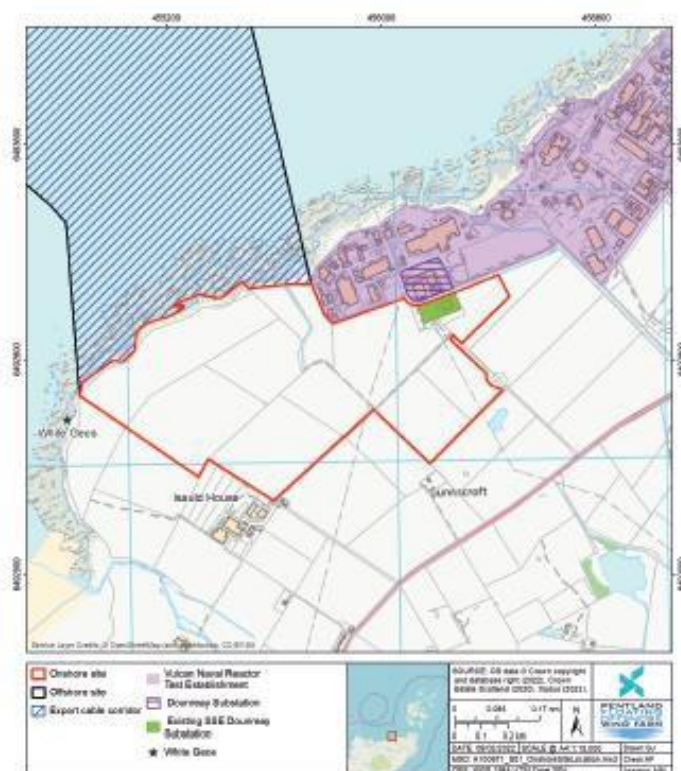
Through these activities we were able to gain an understanding of the conditions of the site which will ensure that the optimal design can be adopted for the project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

ONSHORE PROPOSAL



A landfall site has been identified at Dounreay, immediately adjacent to the Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment (NRTE) and the former Dounreay Nuclear Facility.



The onshore infrastructure will comprise:

- A cable landfall west of the Vulcan nuclear facility – the preferred option is for the cable to be brought to shore by Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) depending on HDD feasibility studies;
- An a maximum of two onshore cables buried to a depth of approximately 1 metre;
- A cable Transition Joint Bay (TJB) where offshore and onshore cables are spliced together;
- An onshore substation and switchgear; and
- A temporary construction compound.

It is currently proposed that the grid connection point will be into the existing SSE 132/33/11 kV Dounreay Substation and a connection agreement has been received from Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) Transmission.

The onshore substation or switchgear will include the electrical equipment required to connect the Project to the grid. This may include switchgear, transformers, harmonic filter, reactive compensation devices, protection equipment, batteries and other auxiliary equipment. The entire footprint is likely to be an area of approximately 100 m x 60 m (0.60 hectares).

While the majority of electrical plant is expected to be located indoors, due to the coastal location some equipment may also be located outside. The equipment is expected to be broadly adjacent to existing infrastructure in the area. The onshore infrastructure will be located within the red line boundary shown on the above map. The exact location of the access roads will be decided at a later stage.



For illustrative purposes only – final substation design and location may differ

CONSENTS & ASSESSMENTS



The project will make two separate applications for both the offshore and onshore components.

OFFSHORE

Marine licences and consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 will be sought from Marine Scotland for the offshore infrastructure.

ONSHORE

An application for planning permission will be made under Section 57 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to The Highland Council for the onshore elements of the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

EIA is a systematic process which identifies and assesses the potential significant environmental effects of a project, informs the design of the project from an environmental perspective, and sets out standard industry and additional mitigation measures to eliminate or minimise the project's effect on the environment. An EIA report is the written output of the EIA process.

Two EIA reports will be produced for the project, one for the onshore project components and one for the offshore project components.

These will demonstrate that all potentially significant effects on the environment have been considered and assessed and that appropriate mitigation measures to reduce any significant effects are identified and commitments made to implement these.



RESPONDING TO FEEDBACK RECEIVED DURING THE FIRST CONSULTATION EVENT

During the first consultation process we received valuable feedback regarding local concerns over certain aspects of the project. The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is currently undertaking Environmental Impact Assessments (offshore and onshore), to establish the potential impacts on various receptors in the vicinity of the Project. An extensive programme of surveys have been undertaken to underpin the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA). The final results of both the offshore and onshore assessments will be detailed within the respective Offshore and Onshore EIA Reports but preliminary results, where available, are indicated below:



VISUAL IMPACTS

Feedback was received concerning the potential visual impacts of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm. In particular, there were concerns regarding the inclusion of wirelines rather than photo montages at the previous consultation event. In order to address this feedback, we have developed photomontages for selected viewpoints. To further aid understanding, we have also developed a virtual reality representation of the windfarm which provides an indication of what the windfarm will look like from different locations along the coastline, and this is available in the virtual exhibition space. The photomontages can be seen on Board 6: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impacts. The impact assessments on seascape, landscape and visual amenity are currently on-going, and the final results of the turbine and substation visual assessments will be detailed within the respective Offshore and Onshore EIA Reports.



IMPACT ON TOURISM

Feedback was received concerning the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on tourism. Studies have shown that existing and proposed wind farm developments are predicted to have little overall economic effect on tourism in Scotland. For more information: <https://www.climatechange.org.uk/research/projects/the-impact-of-wind-farms-on-scottish-tourism/>. Assessments of the impacts of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on tourism are on-going but preliminary results show that there will be no significant effects on tourism throughout the life-cycle of the project. The final results of the assessment will be available in the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACT ON BIRDS

During the first consultation event, feedback was received concerning the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on birds. Detailed assessments on marine and terrestrial birds are currently being undertaken and are supported by in-depth modelling with input from industry leading experts and consultation with regulators. In terms of the Onshore Development, preliminary results of the terrestrial ornithology impact assessment indicate that there will be no significant effects on ornithology features from the onshore development activities. For the Offshore Development, the modelling is still on-going. The final results will be detailed within the respective Offshore and Onshore EIA Reports.



IMPACT ON MARINE MAMMALS

We received feedback concerning the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on marine mammals. Detailed assessments on the potential impacts on marine mammals and other megafauna e.g. basking sharks are currently being completed. These are supported by the results of aerial surveys and underwater noise modelling. Currently the underwater noise modelling assessments are on-going with input from industry leading experts. However, preliminary results of the underwater noise modelling highlight that there will be no significant effects on marine mammals from the pre-construction and construction related activities. The final results of the assessments, including the findings of effects on marine mammals from other assessed impacts will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON SHIPPING & NAVIGATION

Feedback was received concerning the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on shipping and navigation. The impact assessment on shipping and navigation has been supported by vessel traffic surveys and various consultations, including hazard identification workshops with relevant stakeholders. Currently the impact assessment is on-going. However, it is anticipated from preliminary results that there will be no significant effects on shipping and navigation with the implementation of standard best practices and mitigations. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACT ON FISHERIES

During the first consultation event, concerns were raised on the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on fisheries. Local fishers were initially engaged for site investigation surveys in 2021. A consultation workshop was held in November 2021 and SFF, SWFPA OFA, NECRIFG and local fishers were invited to attend. The Project FIR reached out to local fishers in the area to supply flyers for the workshop to maximise attendance as far as practicable. Since the workshop was held, the project has undertaken to reduce the number of anchors and mooring lines from 12 to 9 which will reduce the impacts on other sea users. We have used the feedback from the workshop in the EIA to assess impacts on commercial fisheries. Moving forwards we will continue to engage with the fishing industry. Preliminary results from the commercial fisheries impact assessment indicate that there will be no residual significant effects with the implementation of mitigations which will be detailed in the Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy. The final results of the assessment will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON FISH ECOLOGY

Detailed assessments are currently being undertaken to assess the potential impacts of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on fish ecology. This is supported by underwater noise modelling and the results of the benthic habitat surveys. Currently the underwater noise modelling assessments are on-going with input from industry leading experts. However, based on preliminary results of the underwater noise modelling and other supporting assessments, it is anticipated that there will be no significant effects on fish ecology. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON BENTHIC ECOLOGY

Detailed assessments are currently being undertaken to assess the potential impacts of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm benthic ecology. This is supported by the findings of benthic habitat surveys carried out across the Offshore Site in 2021. It is anticipated from preliminary assessment results that there will be no significant effects on benthic ecology. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON TERRESTRIAL HABITATS & ECOLOGY

The terrestrial habitats and ecology impact assessments have been supported by a number of terrestrial ecology and habitat surveys at the Onshore Site. The findings of these assessments show that no significant effects on terrestrial ecological features are predicted on sensitive coastal and wetland habitats, watercourses, protected or notable plants, bats, and other protected mammals, reptile species and invertebrates. The full details of the assessment and results will be provided in the Onshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON AVIATION

The impact assessment for aviation and radar activity is on-going. However, it is anticipated from preliminary results that there will be no significant effects on aviation and radar with the implementation of standard best practices and mitigations. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



BENEFITS TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY & SUPPLY CHAIN

The Project is currently consulting on community benefit approach. The project is committed to supporting local suppliers, where possible, and developing the project so that it promotes the welfare, livelihood and sustainability of local communities. You can find more details on Board 8: Benefits to the Community on how to get involved in the consultation process and further information on supply chain engagement and contribution to the local economy.

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY



We want to ensure the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm provides long term benefits to communities local to the development. We are working with local schools and universities to provide support to skills development in the renewable industry. We are currently consulting on the development of a community benefit fund. We have also completed a supply chain assessment and socio-economic studies to understand the benefits the project will bring to the community through jobs and value created.



COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

We are at the early stages of developing a community benefit fund for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm, which would likely become available on commissioning of the array project. The fund will support local projects that are focused on climate smart initiatives.

We have commissioned Foundation Scotland who are consulting locally on the development of this fund and would welcome your views. A representative from Foundation Scotland will be available at the in-person drop-in events being held in Thurso and Reay. You can also provide feedback on the community benefit fund through an online questionnaire available at: www.foundationscotland.org.uk/pentland

SUPPLY CHAIN ASSESSMENT & LOCAL VALUE CREATION

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is committed to supporting local suppliers where possible and developing the Project so that it promotes the welfare, livelihood and sustainability of local communities. In 2021 the project team met with a number of local suppliers and negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding with Scrabster Harbour Trust, to work together on the development of operations and maintenance requirements, services and facilities. This shows a commitment to work collaboratively to investigate the potential for construction support services and major component change out for the floating wind turbines.

In 2021, we undertook a social and economic study in partnership with the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) and leading industry experts, to understand the positive impacts the project will have (both directly and indirectly) on the community, for example, through providing jobs, Gross Value Added (GVA) potential and demand for local services. We have also commissioned a supply chain study to inform the socio-economic work in order to assess local supply chain capability and identify opportunities to support the project.

It is anticipated that during the lifetime of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm, between 750-800 FTE job-years in Caithness and between 2,400-3,300 FTE job-years in the Highlands and Islands will be created. The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is anticipated to create around £50 million for Caithness and £150-200 million for Highlands and Islands of Gross Value Added at 2021 prices. These numbers will be updated as we finalise the detailed design, procurement activities and construction and operations and maintenance strategies. The socio-economic impacts of the Project will be assessed in detail within the Environmental Impact Assessment, as set out on Consents & Assessments.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is supporting an Education and Training Fund which will award scholarships to selected students from Thurso and Farr High Schools, who are going on to study higher education and training programmes focussed on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

We are proud to have students from the University of Highland and Islands (UHI) and the University of Strathclyde interning with the project, enabling them to gain offshore wind industry experience. Meet Grant, an intern on the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm:

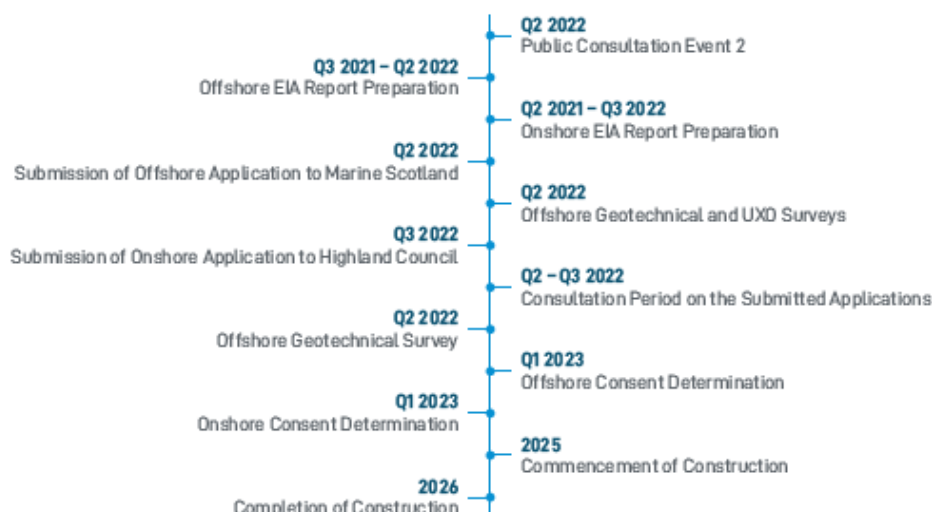


GRANT ANDERSON

I am currently in my final year of Energy Engineering at the UHI Outer Hebrides and

working as an intern on the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm. The internship has allowed me to be fully involved with a range of different disciplines including engineering, health and safety and project management. I have been able to apply many elements of my degree program during the internship including data analysis, report writing and computer modelling. More importantly, it has allowed me to get relevant hands-on experience on a current project which will be valuable for any future employment in the offshore wind world. I have really enjoyed being part of a dynamic and motivated team.

DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE



THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

PREPARATION OF THE EIA REPORTS

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is currently at the stage of preparing the EIA Reports for Submission. Within the EIA Reports, impacts of the proposed onshore and offshore project design will be assessed by competent experienced professionals, using the relevant baseline information collected, various guidance, good practice guidelines and expert judgement. All the findings and proposed mitigation measures identified through the EIA process will be presented in the Offshore and Onshore EIA Reports. Desk based assessments and field studies helped to define the baseline environment and identify receptors for consideration and the assessments are supported by detailed modelling and technical studies. For further information, please see Consents & Assessments.

The project design and EIA scope draws on the feedback from statutory consultees and the comments received during the first Public Consultation Event. Your views and feedback during this second consultation period will continue to help shape the development of our project proposals.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

A planning application for the onshore transmission works for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 will be submitted to The Highland Council. Additionally, an application for a marine licence and consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for the offshore development will be submitted to Marine Scotland. At this point, there will be a period for the public to formally comment on the proposals, information to the public on how to respond will be advertised through local press.

DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION

It is anticipated that it will take up to 1 year for the applications to be determined. During this time the project will continue with engineering studies to finalise the project requirements. During this time detailed supply chain discussions will also be held as well as finalising our community benefits associated with the project.

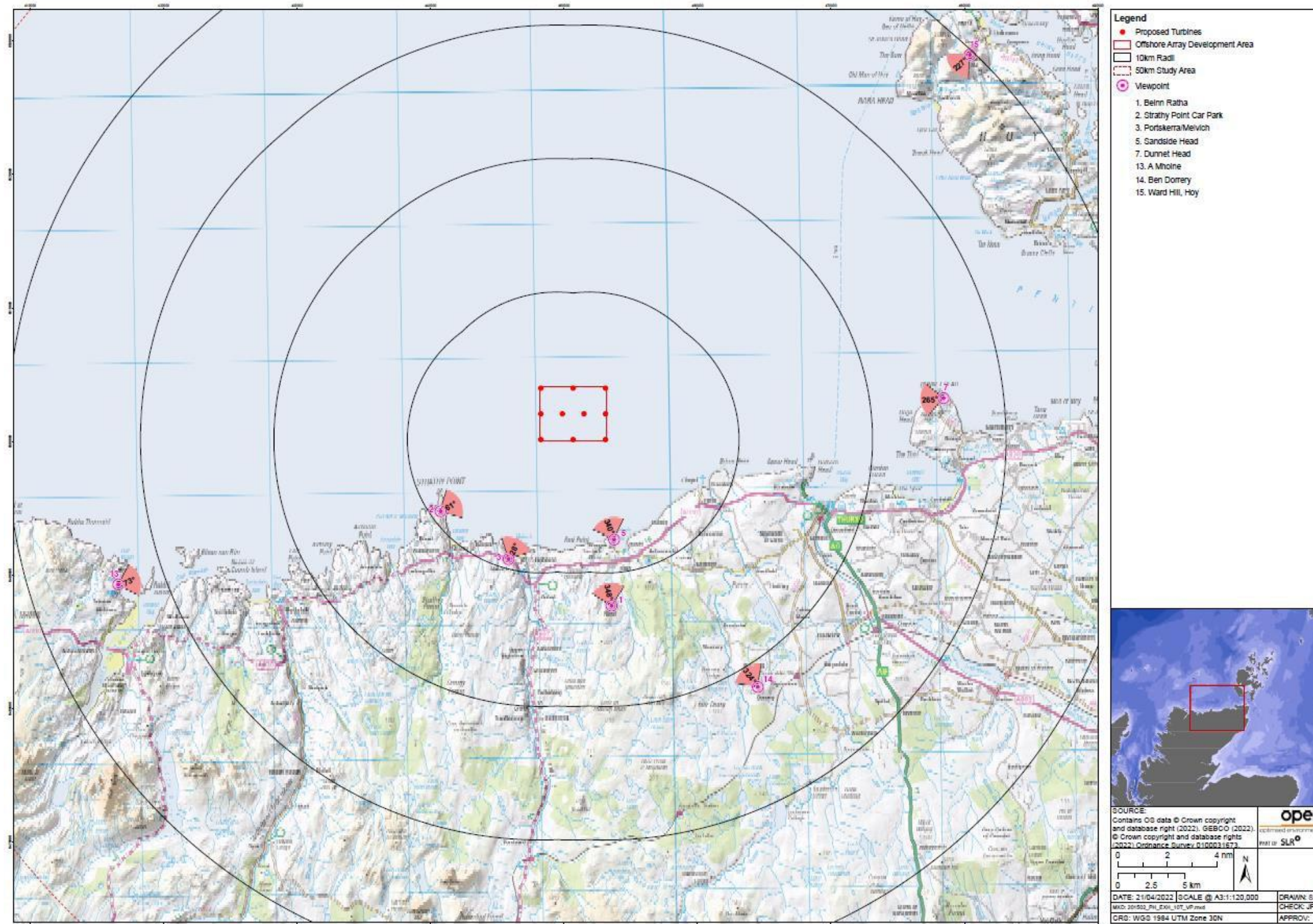
PREPARATION FOR CONSTRUCTION

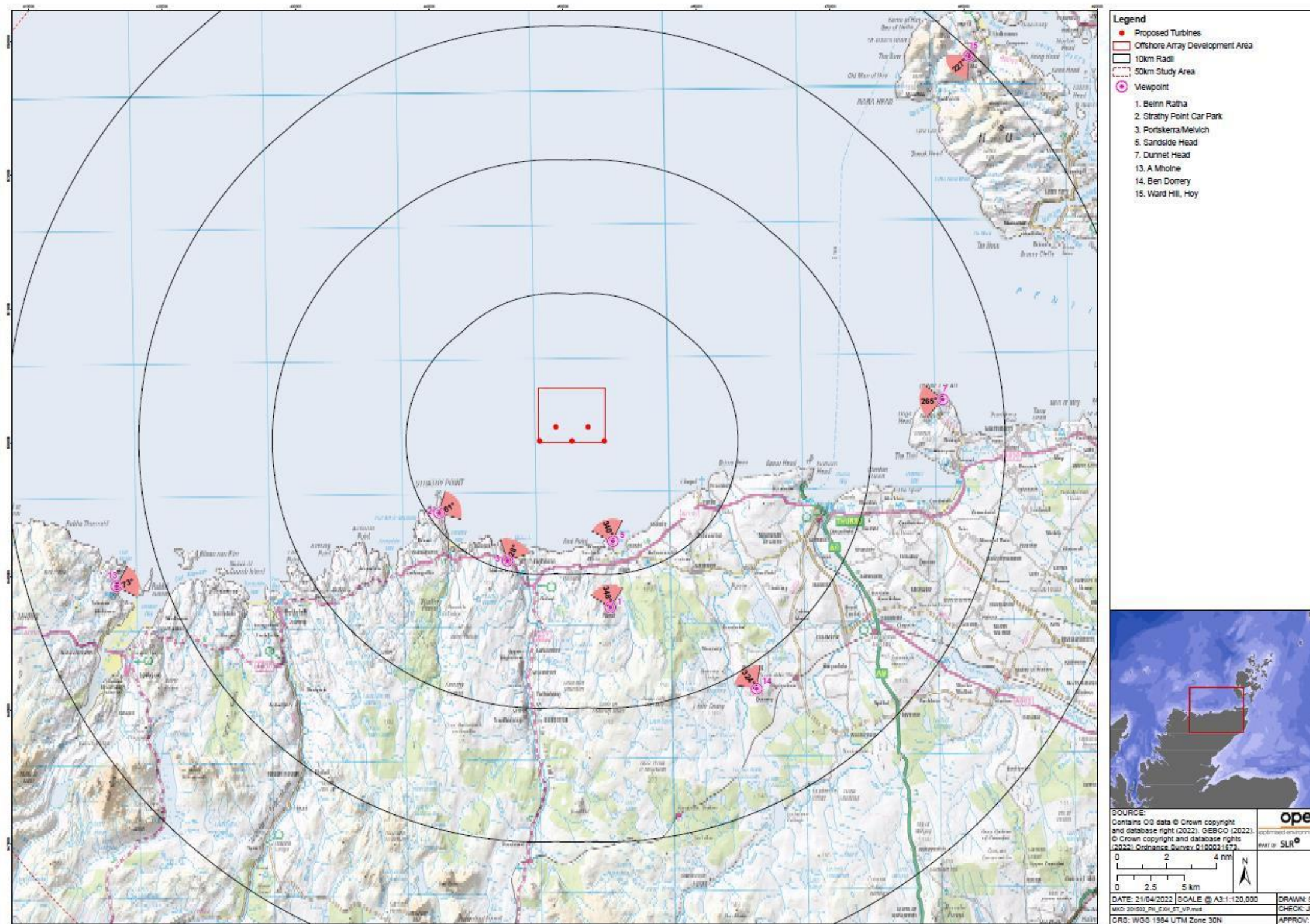
The consents granted will likely have a number of conditions associated with them. Information on the detail of the project will be submitted in order to ensure they are in line with the consented project. Construction and environmental management and monitoring plans detailing how the project will be delivered will also be submitted for approval.

CONSTRUCTION

It is anticipated that construction will commence in 2025. The construction of the project is anticipated to take place within a two year period. An independent Environmental Clerk of Works will be employed to ensure that the construction is carried out in line with the consent.

APPENDIX F SECOND PAC EVENT – IN-PERSON VISUALISATION MATERIALS





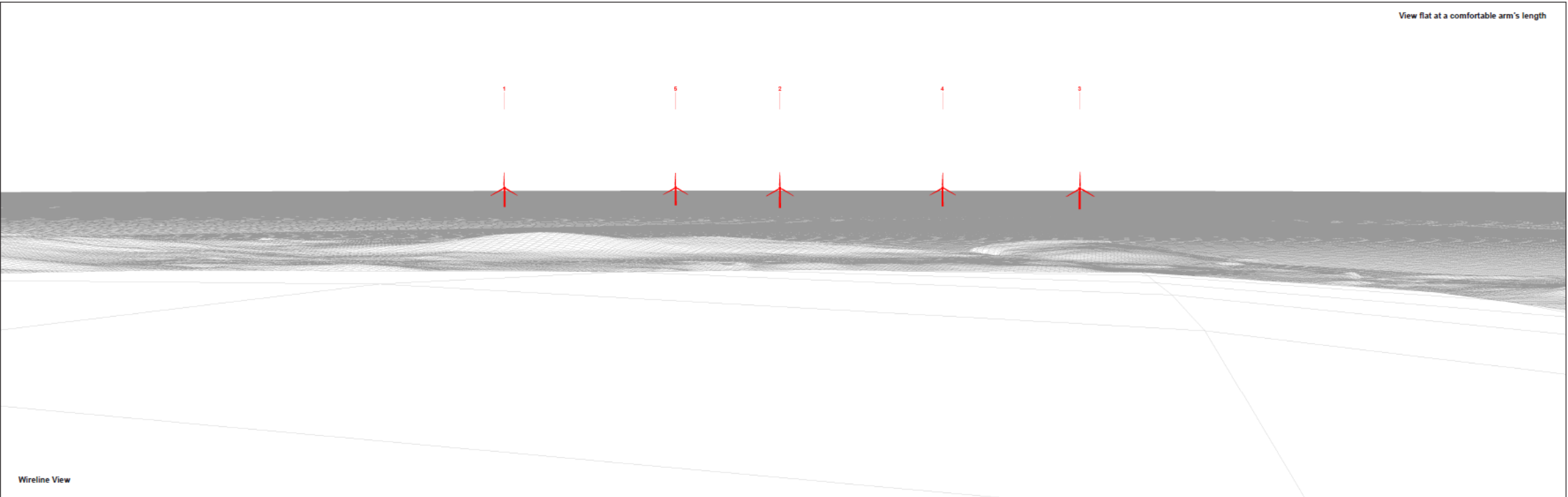


Figure 1a
Viewpoint 1: Beinn Ratha Wireline Proposed Layout
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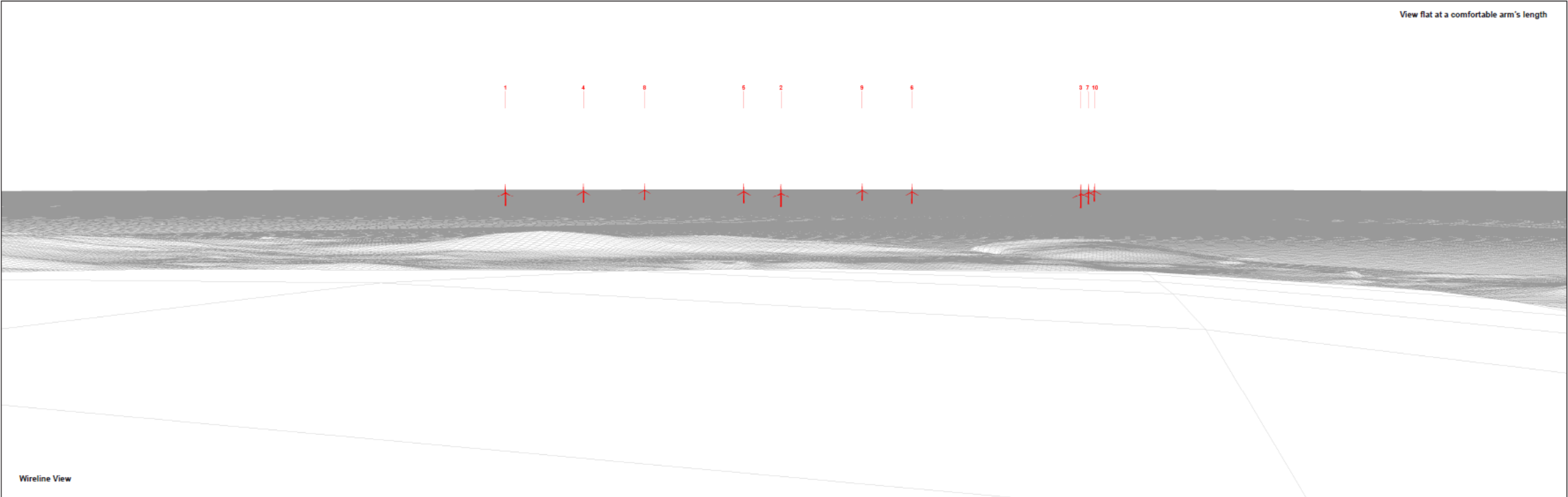
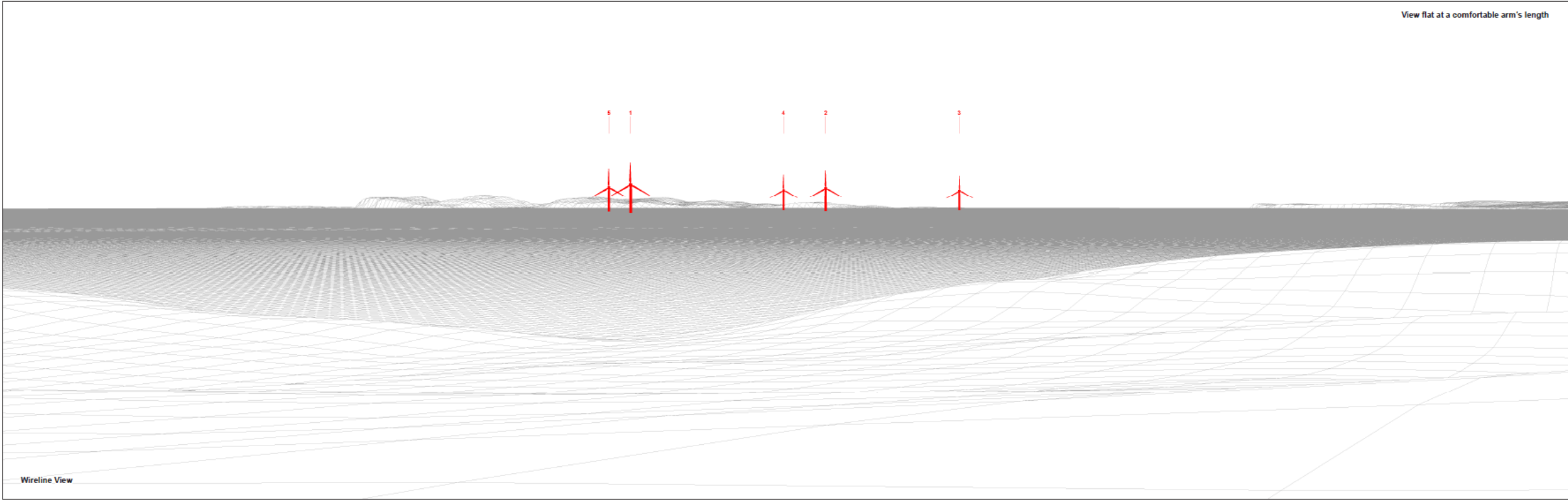


Figure 1b
Viewpoint 1: Beinn Ratha Wireline Alternative Layout
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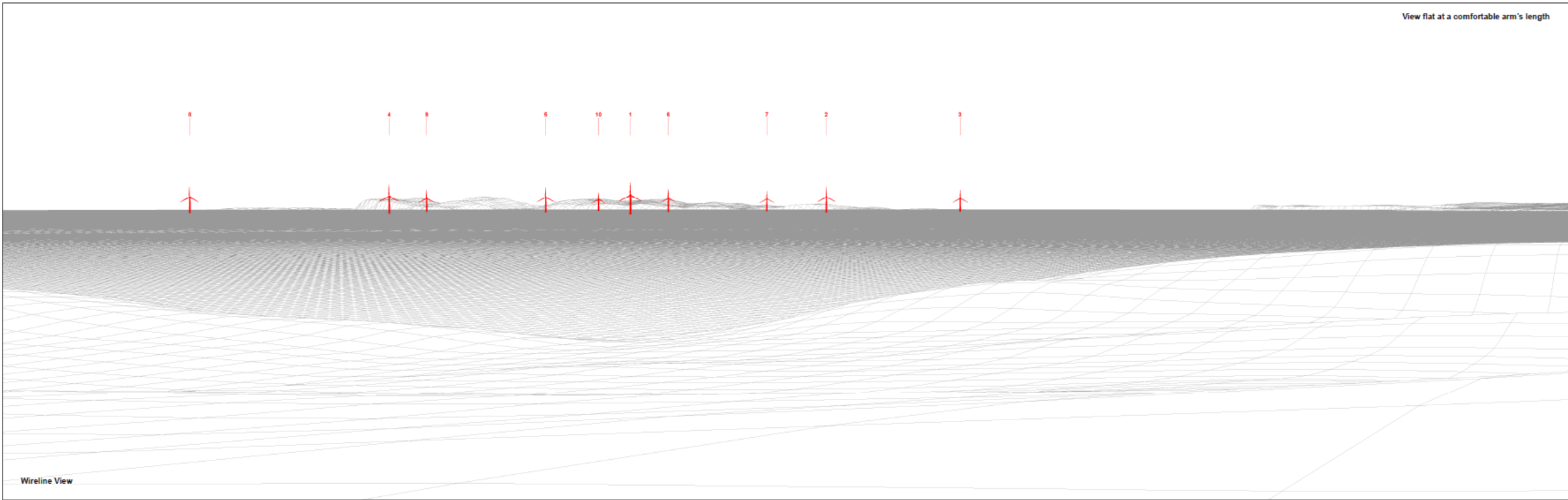
OS reference 282725 E 966587 N
Elevation 80.9 m AOD
Direction of view 81°
Nearest turbine 9,235 m

Horizontal field of view 53.9° (planar projection)
Principal distance 812.5 mm
Paper size A4 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size 820 x 260 mm

Camera Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Lens Canon EF 50mm F1.4
Camera height 1.5m AGL
Date & time taken 16/04/2021 09:55

Figure 2a
Viewpoint 2: Strathy Point Car Park Wireline Proposed Layout

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OS reference 282725 E 966587 N
Elevation 80.9 m AOD
Direction of view 81°
Nearest turbine 9,236 m

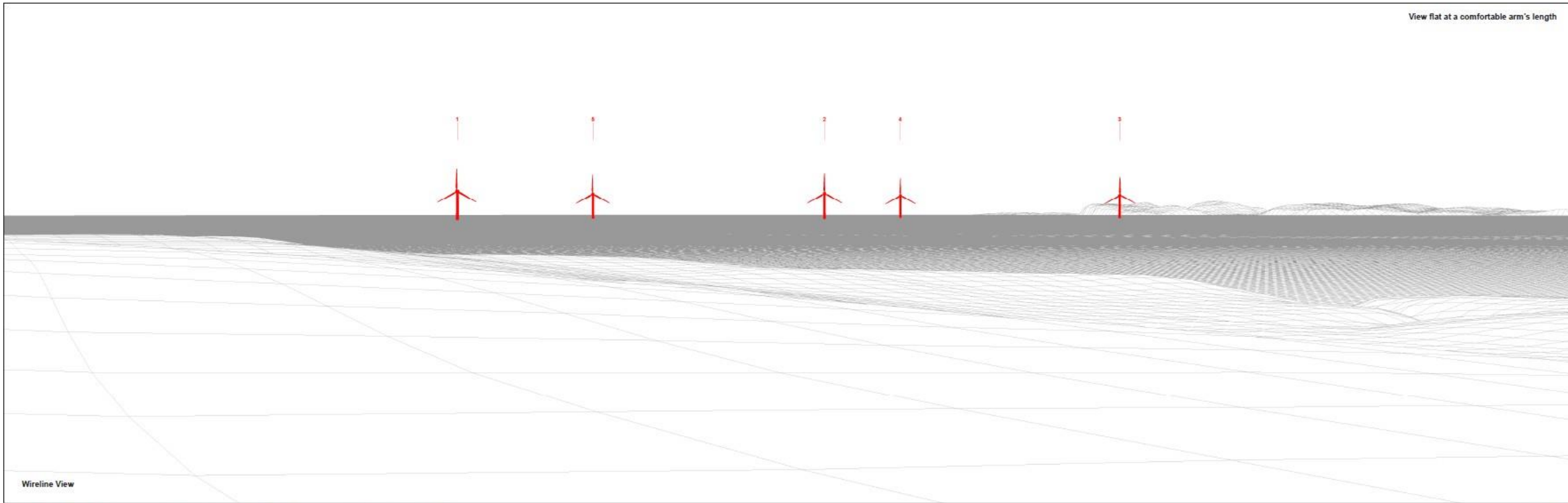
Horizontal field of view 53.9° (planar projection)
Principal distance 812.5 mm
Paper size A4 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size 820 x 260 mm

Camera Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Lens Canon EF 50mm F1.4
Camera height 1.5m AGL
Date & time taken 16/04/2021 09:55

Figure 2b
Viewpoint 2: Strathy Point Car Park Wireline Alternative Layout

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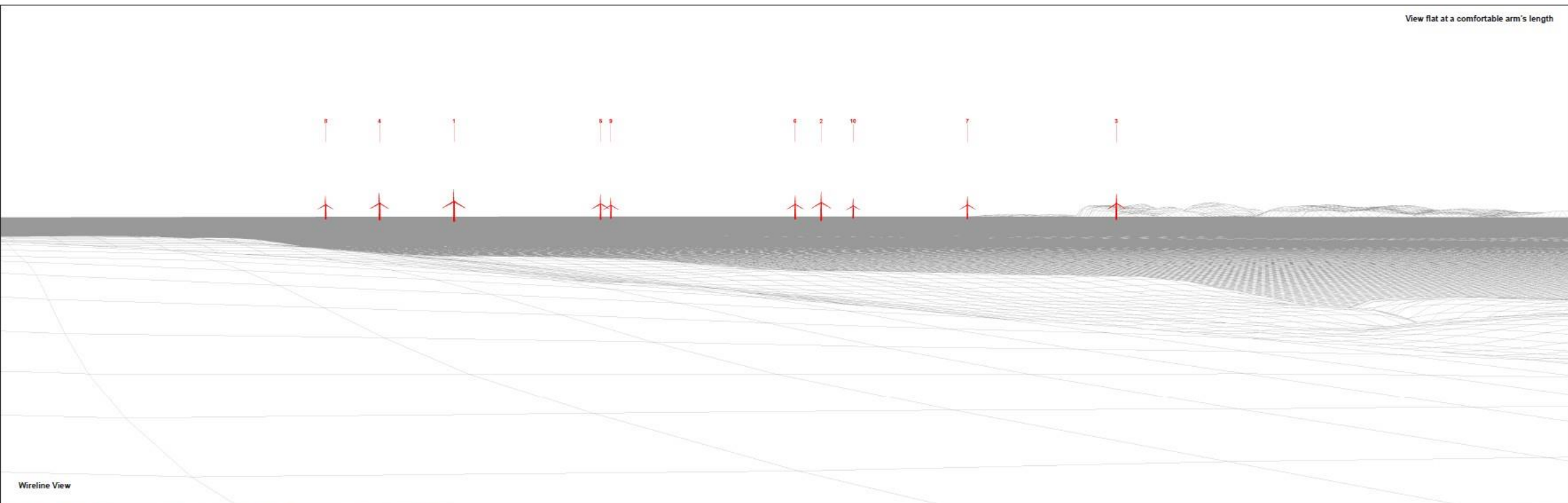


OS reference: 287767 E 964026 N
Elevation: 61.2 m AOD
Direction of view: 28°
Nearest turbine: 9,274 m

Horizontal field of view: 53.3° (planar projection)
Principal distance: 812.5 mm
Paper size: A41 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 620 x 280 mm

Camera:
Lens: Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Camera height: 1.5m AGL
Date & time taken: 10/11/2021 12:05

Figure 3a
Viewpoint 3: Portserra/Melvich Wireline Proposed Layout
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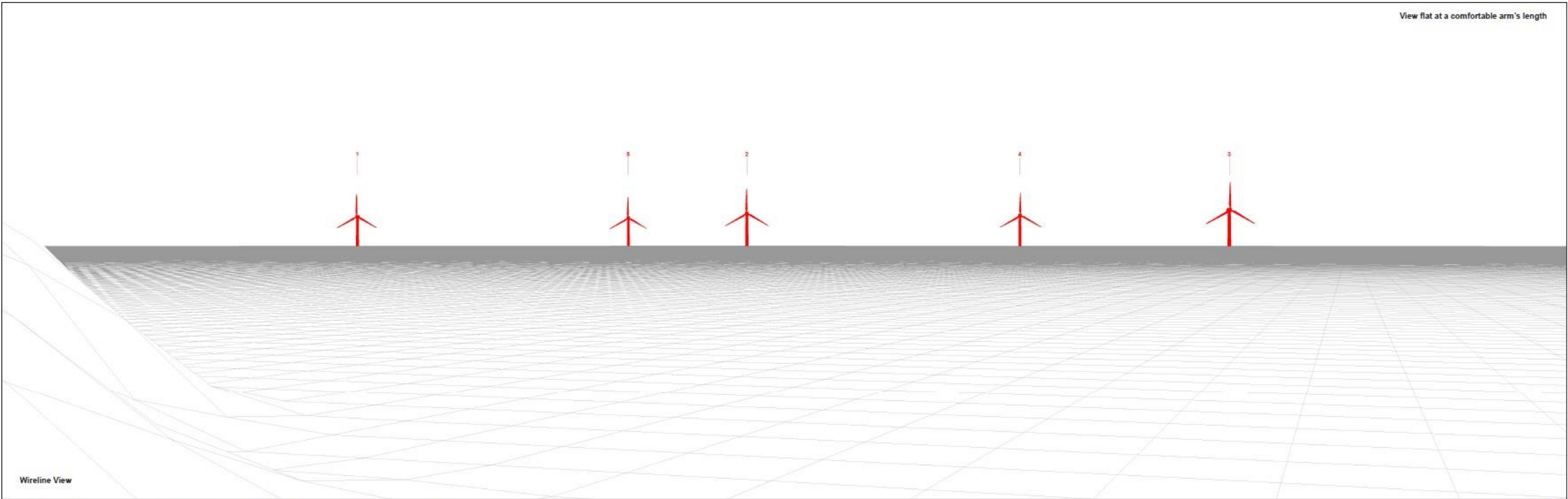
OS reference: 287767 E 964026 N
Elevation: 61.2 m AOD
Direction of view: 28°
Nearest turbine: 9,279 m

Horizontal field of view: 53.3° (planar projection)
Principal distance: 812.5 mm
Paper size: A41 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size: 620 x 280 mm

Camera:
Lens: Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Camera height: 1.5m AGL
Date & time taken: 10/11/2021 12:05

Figure 3b
Viewpoint 3: Portserra/Melvich Wireline Alternative Layout
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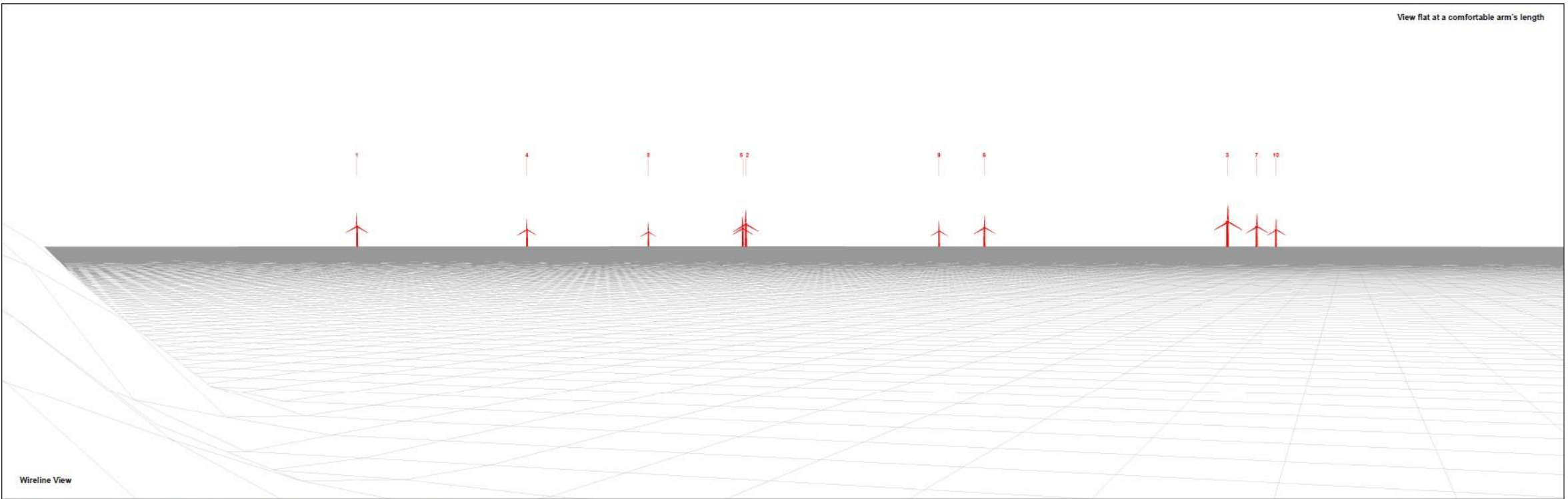


OS reference: 255884 E 966289 N
Elevation: 13 m AOD
Direction of view: 340°
Nearest turbine: 7.525 m

Horizontal field of view: 53.9° (planar projection)
Principal distance: 812.5 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Corrected printed image size: 820 x 280 mm

Camera: Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Lens: Canon EF 50mm F1.4
Camera height: 1.5m AGL
Date & time taken: 5/3/2022 15:45

Figure 4a
Viewpoint 5: Sandside Head Wireline Proposed Layout
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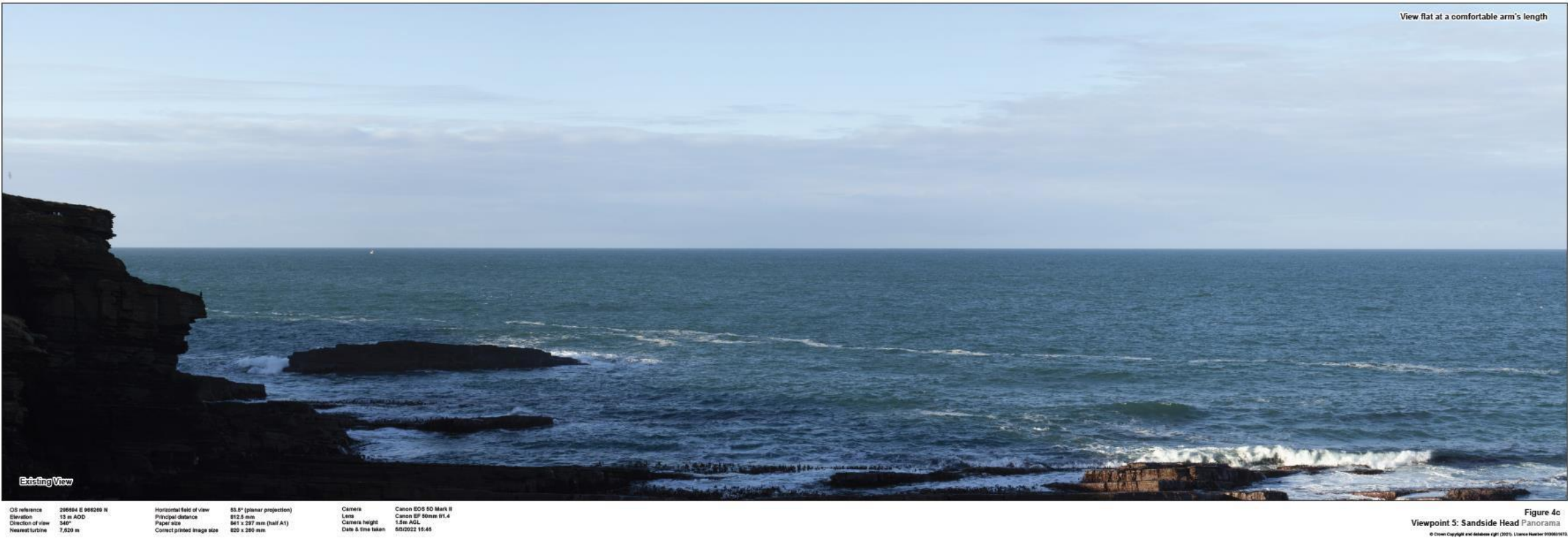


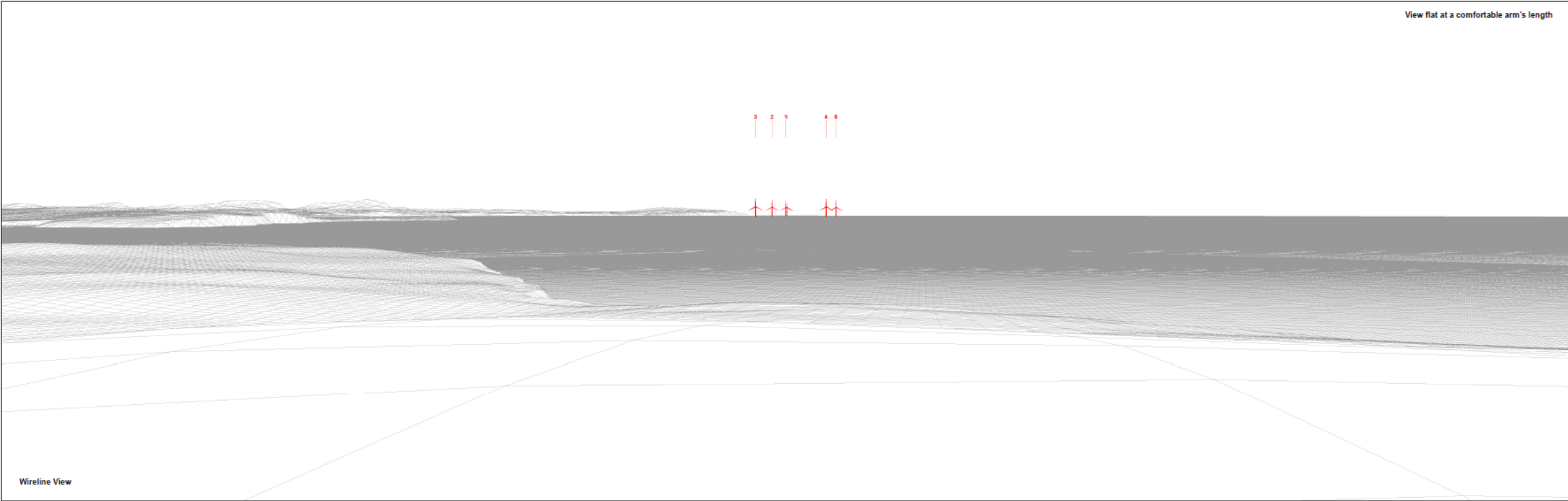
OS reference: 255884 E 966289 N
Elevation: 13 m AOD
Direction of view: 340°
Nearest turbine: 7.522 m

Horizontal field of view: 53.9° (planar projection)
Principal distance: 812.5 mm
Paper size: 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Corrected printed image size: 820 x 280 mm

Camera: Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Lens: Canon EF 50mm F1.4
Camera height: 1.5m AGL
Date & time taken: 5/3/2022 15:45

Figure 4b
Viewpoint 5: Sandside Head Wireline Alternative Layout
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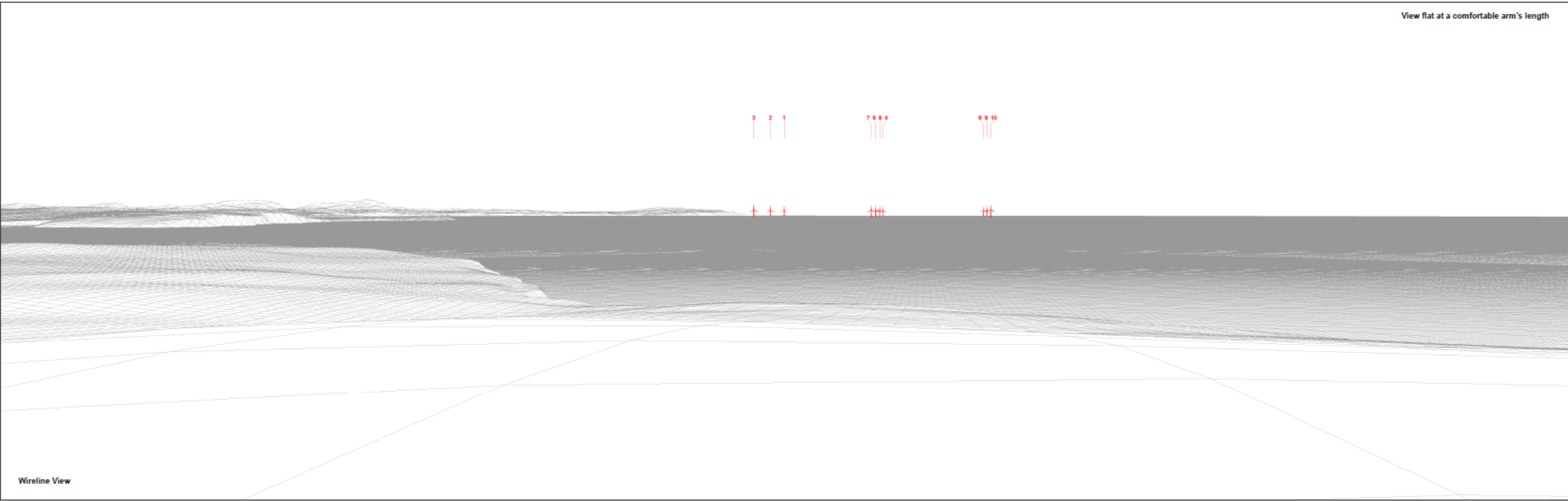


OS reference 320532 E 976496 N
Elevation 125.9 m AOD
Direction of view 285°
Nearest turbine 25,909 m

Horizontal field of view 53.9° (planar projection)
Principal distance 812.5 mm
Paper size 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size 820 x 280 mm

Camera Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Lens Canon EF 50mm f/1.4
Camera height 1.5m AGL
Date & time taken 12/04/2021 14:55

Figure 5a
Viewpoint 7: Dunnet Head Wireline Proposed Layout
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OS reference 320532 E 976496 N
Elevation 125.9 m AOD
Direction of view 285°
Nearest turbine 25,331 m

Horizontal field of view 53.9° (planar projection)
Principal distance 812.5 mm
Paper size 841 x 297 mm (half A1)
Correct printed image size 820 x 280 mm

Camera Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Lens Canon EF 50mm f/1.4
Camera height 1.5m AGL
Date & time taken 12/04/2021 14:55

Figure 5b
Viewpoint 7: Dunnet Head Wireline Alternative Layout
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OS reference	320532 E 676496 N	Horizontal field of view	83.8° (planar projection)	Camera	Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Elevation	125.9 m AOD	Principal distance	812.5 mm	Lens	Canon EF 50mm f/1.4
Direction of view	285°	Paper size	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height	1.5m AGL
Nearest turbine	25,500 m	Correct printed image size	820 x 280 mm	Date & time taken	12/04/2021 14:55

Figure 5c
Viewpoint 7: Dunnet Head Panorama

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OS reference	320532 E 676496 N	Horizontal field of view	83.8° (planar projection)	Camera	Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Elevation	125.9 m AOD	Principal distance	812.5 mm	Lens	Canon EF 50mm f/1.4
Direction of view	285°	Paper size	841 x 297 mm (half A1)	Camera height	1.5m AGL
Nearest turbine	25,500 m	Correct printed image size	820 x 280 mm	Date & time taken	12/04/2021 14:55

Figure 5d
Viewpoint 7: Dunnet Head Photomontage

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APPENDIX G SECOND PAC EVENT – EXHIBITION BOARDS



WELCOME Welcome to the virtual public exhibition and consultation for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm. This is the second consultation event and is designed to keep local residents and other interested stakeholders informed and to encourage feedback as the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm progresses towards submission of its application documents. We are committed to working with local communities and stakeholders to help shape the development of our proposal.

This consultation is being undertaken both virtually and in-person. This virtual exhibition is similar to what you would expect to find at a traditional public exhibition including information boards on the proposal, opportunities to ask the team questions and possibilities to provide feedback. In addition we will hold two drop-in events in Thurso and Reay at which the project team will be available to answer questions on the project.

This virtual exhibition includes images, maps, frequently asked questions and an introduction video to provide an overview of the project and current development activities.

IN PERSON DROP-IN EVENTS

On Wednesday 11 May 2022 a public consultation event will be held at the Reay Golf Course from 14.00 - 20.00.

On Thursday 12 May 2022 a public consultation event will be held at the North Coast Visitor Centre in Thurso from 11.00 - 17.00.

LIVE CHAT QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION

On Wednesday 18 May 2022 the project team will be available to answer any further questions you may have on a live chat function in the virtual public exhibition during the following times: 12:00 - 14:30 and 18:00 - 20:30.

You can provide feedback through the feedback form in this virtual exhibition until 20 May 2022.

Our website www.pentlandfloatingwind.com provides further information about the project. Should you have any further questions or feedback once the consultation period for this exhibition has closed, you can contact us at pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk.

If you would like to provide us feedback on the event, consultation closes on 20 May 2022. The virtual exhibition space will remain live throughout the planning process.

WHO WE ARE

Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is being developed by Highland Wind Limited which is majority owned by a fund managed by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) with Hexicon AB as a minority shareholder. Project development activities are being led by CIP's development partner, Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP). The project development team is based in COP's Global Floating Wind Competence Centre, recently established in Edinburgh.



Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners P/S (CIP) is a fund management company focused on energy infrastructure including offshore wind, onshore wind, solar photovoltaic (PV), biomass and energy-from-waste, transmission and distribution, reserve capacity and storage, and other energy assets like Power-to-X.

CIP has offices in Copenhagen, Hamburg, New York, Tokyo, Utrecht, Melbourne and London. CIP was founded in 2012 by senior executives from the energy industry in cooperation with PensionDanmark. CIP manages eight funds and has approximately €16 billion under management.

www.cippartners.dk



Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP) is a leading and experienced provider of project development, construction management, and operational management services to offshore wind projects.

The company is headquartered in Denmark and has offices in Taiwan, USA, Australia, Japan, South Korea, UK & Vietnam. COP's team of specialists has a broad range of competencies within project management, early and late-stage project development, engineering, construction, procurement, operational management as well as business development and project financing.

www.cop.dk



Hexicon AB is a leading floating offshore wind technology and project developer. It was founded in 2009 and is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden.

www.hexicon.eu

THE PENTLAND FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND FARM

Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm will be located off the coast of Dounreay, Caithness.

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm will comprise up to ten turbines and will provide enough energy to power to approximately 70,000 homes, equivalent to approximately 65% of homes in the Highland Council Area (based on 2020 figures).

A single turbine will be deployed as the first stage of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm in 2025 to allow time to test and demonstrate the floating wind technology. The remaining turbines (up to nine) will be deployed during 2026.

The onshore substation for the project will be located adjacent to the Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment (NRTE) and the former Dounreay Nuclear Facility.

Environmental Impact Assessments for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm are currently being prepared and will be submitted to Marine Scotland and the Highland Council in 2022.



DEVELOPMENT



A staged approach to the deployment of the floating technology underpins the development of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm, as well as our future floating projects in Scotland and globally.

INNOVATION



The innovative technology trialled in this project will be key to the commercialisation of this floating technology. It will deliver valuable insight into developing floating wind technology in Scotland.

LEARNING



The learnings from this will help contribute to the development of a strong Scottish supply chain for floating wind.



WHY FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND?

Currently the majority of offshore wind farms in Scotland are fixed directly to the seabed, there are only two floating wind farms in operation. Unlike traditional fixed bottom wind farms, floating wind farms use wind turbine generators mounted on a floating substructure which is connected to the seabed using mooring lines and anchors. Much of the seabed around Scotland is too deep to be well suited to fixed bottom turbines. Floating offshore wind provides a technological solution which enables the production of large amounts of renewable energy which underpins Scotland and the UK's energy transition and is key to achieving net zero.



BENEFITS TO SCOTLAND

- Floating offshore wind offers the offshore wind industry key opportunities to create a new supply chain and job opportunities.
- Fixed bottom wind is now one of the most economically competitive forms of energy and it is expected that floating wind will follow suit.
- Scotland is a world leader in floating technology and is well positioned to capitalise on advances in the sector due to experience in oil and gas and maritime heritage.
- The significant global pipeline for floating offshore wind could create export opportunities for the local supply chain in Scotland.

INSTALLATION

One of the advantages with floating offshore wind is the capacity for the complete wind turbine and substructure assembly to be towed to site where it is hooked up to the pre-installed mooring system which allows it to be installed much quicker than fixed bottom turbines that require calmer seas and wind conditions during installation.

SUBSEA CABLES

A key design difference between a fixed bottom and floating turbine is the dynamic nature of the cables. The cable system must accommodate the movement of the floating substructure. This is typically achieved by adding a buoyancy element into the design.

FLOATING SUBSTRUCTURES

Currently there are over 40 floating wind turbine generators (WTGs) substructure concepts at differing stages of technical maturity in the industry. Each has varying dimensions to meet the unique engineering challenges associated with floating turbines, turbine sizes and project specific requirements.

MOORING & ANCHORS

The mooring and anchoring systems are responsible for maintaining the position of the floating wind turbine generators (WTGs) during the most extreme events or energetic storms. There are a number of different anchoring solutions available which can be deployed depending on the site conditions.



Generic floating structure – for illustrative purposes only, not a representation of the final substructure or mooring and anchoring design

The final project design has not yet been determined and will depend on the seabed conditions, engineering studies and environmental impacts assessed. The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm Project has adopted a project design envelope approach to retain flexibility to capitalise on innovations during the next stages of the project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

OFFSHORE PROPOSAL

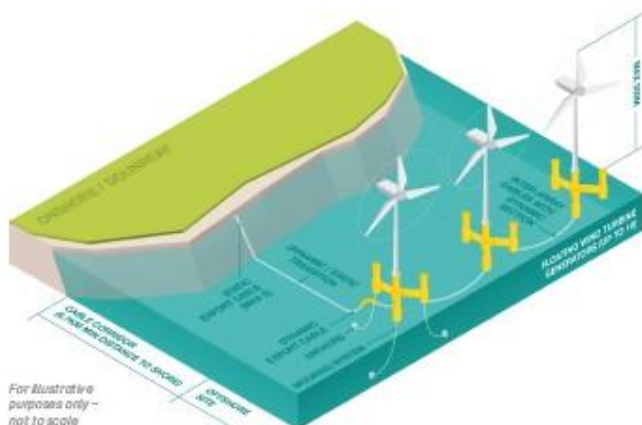
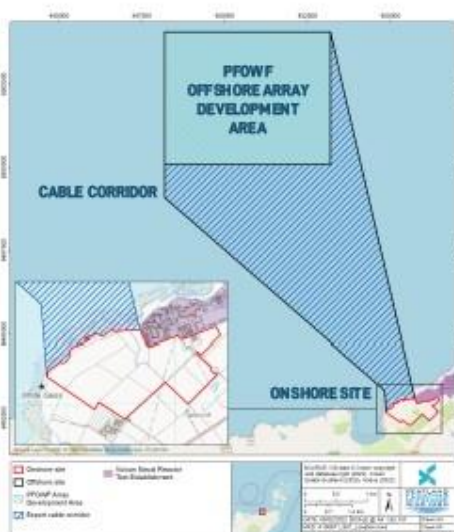
PROJECT DESIGN ENVELOPE

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm has adopted a design envelope approach to develop the project. This is a common approach with major infrastructure projects including offshore wind farms. The design envelope approach does not consent specific technology, but allows outline consent to be granted and enables projects impacts to be assessed on the basis of maximum parameters or worst case scenarios for specific receptors. This gives projects the flexibility to utilise new innovations in emerging floating wind technology and greater information on site conditions once this is available.

The Environmental Impact Assessment will consider the parameters that represent the worst impact for receptors caused by the development. As such, the project design envelope presented here shows the proposed maximum parameters for the project. The final project parameters may not reach these maximum limits and the final project design will be submitted for approval prior to construction.

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm offshore development area is 20 km² within the Pentland Firth, approximately 6.7 km north of the coast of Dounreay, Caithness. The offshore infrastructure works will comprise:

- Up to a maximum of ten floating wind turbine generators;
- Turbines will have a maximum tip height of 300 m;
- Floating substructures (one per turbine) to support the turbines;
- Mooring systems (anchors and mooring lines) to ensure the turbines stay within a given footprint;
- A network of inter-array cabling linking the individual wind turbines; and
- A maximum of two offshore export cables connecting the offshore wind farm to the onshore substation.



As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, we undertook the following activities:

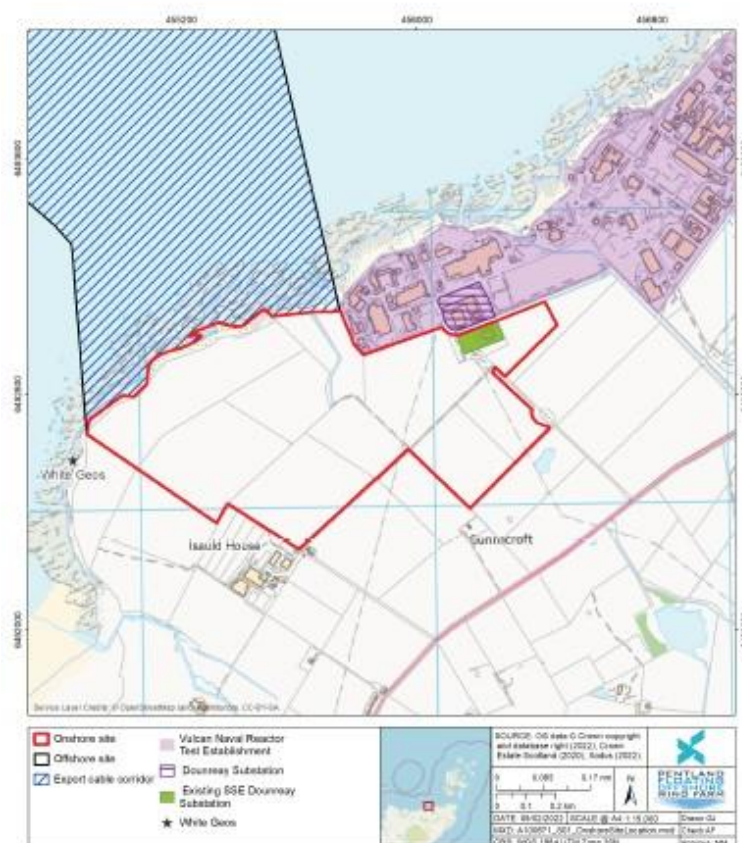
- Geophysical and geotechnical seabed surveys;
- Environmental surveys;
- Technical and engineering studies; and
- Discussions with stakeholders and the local community.

Through these activities we were able to gain an understanding of the conditions of the site which will ensure that the optimal design can be adopted for the project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

ONSHORE PROPOSAL

A landfall site has been identified at Dounreay, immediately adjacent to the Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment (NRTE) and the former Dounreay Nuclear Facility.



The onshore infrastructure will comprise:

- A cable landfall west of the Vulcan nuclear facility – the preferred option is for the cable to be brought to shore by Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) depending on HDD feasibility studies;
- An a maximum of two onshore cables buried to a depth of approximately 1 metre;
- A cable Transition Joint Bay (TJB) where offshore and onshore cables are spliced together;
- An onshore substation and switchgear; and
- A temporary construction compound.

It is currently proposed that the grid connection point will be into the existing SSE 132/33/11 kV Dounreay Substation and a connection agreement has been received from Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) Transmission.

The onshore substation or switchgear will include the electrical equipment required to connect the Project to the grid. This may include switchgear, transformers, harmonic filter, reactive compensation devices, protection equipment, batteries and other auxiliary equipment. The entire footprint is likely to be an area of approximately 100 m x 60 m (0.60 hectares).

While the majority of electrical plant is expected to be located indoors, due to the coastal location some equipment may also be located outside. The equipment is expected to be broadly adjacent to existing infrastructure in the area. The onshore infrastructure will be located within the red line boundary shown on the above map. The exact location of the access roads will be decided at a later stage.

For illustrative purposes only – final substation design and location may differ



CONSENTS & ASSESSMENTS



The project will make two separate applications for both the offshore and onshore components.

OFFSHORE

Marine licences and consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 will be sought from Marine Scotland for the offshore infrastructure.

ONSHORE

An application for planning permission will be made under Section 57 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to The Highland Council for the onshore elements of the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

EIA is a systematic process which identifies and assesses the potential significant environmental effects of a project, informs the design of the project from an environmental perspective, and sets out standard industry and additional mitigation measures to eliminate or minimise the project's effect on the environment. An EIA report is the written output of the EIA process.

Two EIA reports will be produced for the project, one for the onshore project components and one for the offshore project components.

These will demonstrate that all potentially significant effects on the environment have been considered and assessed and that appropriate mitigation measures to reduce any significant effects are identified and commitments made to implement these.



RESPONDING TO FEEDBACK RECEIVED DURING THE FIRST CONSULTATION EVENT

During the first consultation process we received valuable feedback regarding local concerns over certain aspects of the project. The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is currently undertaking Environmental Impact Assessments (offshore and onshore), to establish the potential impacts on various receptors in the vicinity of the Project. An extensive programme of surveys have been undertaken to underpin the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA). The final results of both the offshore and onshore assessments will be detailed within the respective Offshore and Onshore EIA Reports but preliminary results, where available, are indicated below:



VISUAL IMPACTS

Feedback was received concerning the potential visual impacts of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm. In particular, there were concerns regarding the inclusion of wirelines rather than photo montages at the previous consultation event. In order to address this feedback, we have developed photomontages for selected viewpoints. To further aid understanding, we have also developed a virtual reality representation of the windfarm which provides an indication of what the windfarm will look like from different locations along the coastline, and this is available in the virtual exhibition space. The photomontages can be seen on Board 6: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impacts. The impact assessments on seascape, landscape and visual amenity are currently on-going, and the final results of the turbine and substation visual assessments will be detailed within the respective Offshore and Onshore EIA Reports.



IMPACT ON TOURISM

Feedback was received concerning the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on tourism. Studies have shown that existing and proposed wind farm developments are predicted to have little overall economic effect on tourism in Scotland. For more information: <https://www.climatechange.org.uk/research/projects/the-impact-of-wind-farms-on-scottish-tourism/>. Assessments of the impacts of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on tourism are on-going but preliminary results show that there will be no significant effects on tourism throughout the life-cycle of the project. The final results of the assessment will be available in the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACT ON BIRDS

During the first consultation event, feedback was received concerning the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on birds. Detailed assessments on marine and terrestrial birds are currently being undertaken and are supported by in-depth modelling with input from industry leading experts and consultation with regulators. In terms of the Onshore Development, preliminary results of the terrestrial ornithology impact assessment indicate that there will be no significant effects on ornithology features from the onshore development activities. For the Offshore Development, the modelling is still on-going. The final results will be detailed within the respective Offshore and Onshore EIA Reports.



IMPACT ON MARINE MAMMALS

We received feedback concerning the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on marine mammals. Detailed assessments on the potential impacts on marine mammals and other megafauna e.g. basking sharks are currently being completed. These are supported by the results of aerial surveys and underwater noise modelling. Currently the underwater noise modelling assessments are on-going with input from industry leading experts. However, preliminary results of the underwater noise modelling highlight that there will be no significant effects on marine mammals from the pre-construction and construction related activities. The final results of the assessments, including the findings of effects on marine mammals from other assessed impacts will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON SHIPPING & NAVIGATION

Feedback was received concerning the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on shipping and navigation. The impact assessment on shipping and navigation has been supported by vessel traffic surveys and various consultations, including hazard identification workshops with relevant stakeholders. Currently the impact assessment is on-going. However, it is anticipated from preliminary results that there will be no significant effects on shipping and navigation with the implementation of standard best practices and mitigations. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACT ON FISHERIES

During the first consultation event, concerns were raised on the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on fisheries. Local fishers were initially engaged for site investigation surveys in 2021. A consultation workshop was held in November 2021 and SFF, SWFPA OFA, NECRIFG and local fishers were invited to attend. The Project FIR reached out to local fishers in the area to supply flyers for the workshop to maximise attendance as far as practicable. Since the workshop was held, the project has undertaken to reduce the number of anchors and mooring lines from 12 to 9 which will reduce the impacts on other sea users. We have used the feedback from the workshop in the EIA to assess impacts on commercial fisheries. Moving forwards we will continue to engage with the fishing industry. Preliminary results from the commercial fisheries impact assessment indicate that there will be no residual significant effects with the implementation of mitigations which will be detailed in the Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy. The final results of the assessment will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON FISH ECOLOGY

Detailed assessments are currently being undertaken to assess the potential impacts of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on fish ecology. This is supported by underwater noise modelling and the results of the benthic habitat surveys. Currently the underwater noise modelling assessments are on-going with input from industry leading experts. However, based on preliminary results of the underwater noise modelling and other supporting assessments, it is anticipated that there will be no significant effects on fish ecology. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON BENTHIC ECOLOGY

Detailed assessments are currently being undertaken to assess the potential impacts of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm benthic ecology. This is supported by the findings of benthic habitat surveys carried out across the Offshore Site in 2021. It is anticipated from preliminary assessment results that there will be no significant effects on benthic ecology. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON TERRESTRIAL HABITATS & ECOLOGY

The terrestrial habitats and ecology impact assessments have been supported by a number of terrestrial ecology and habitat surveys at the Onshore Site. The findings of these assessments show that no significant effects on terrestrial ecological features are predicted on sensitive coastal and wetland habitats, watercourses, protected or notable plants, bats, and other protected mammals, reptile species and invertebrates. The full details of the assessment and results will be provided in the Onshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON AVIATION

The impact assessment for aviation and radar activity is on-going. However, it is anticipated from preliminary results that there will be no significant effects on aviation and radar with the implementation of standard best practices and mitigations. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



BENEFITS TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY & SUPPLY CHAIN

The Project is currently consulting on community benefit approach. The project is committed to supporting local suppliers, where possible, and developing the project so that it promotes the welfare, livelihood and sustainability of local communities. You can find more details on Board 8: Benefits to the Community on how to get involved in the consultation process and further information on supply chain engagement and contribution to the local economy.

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

We want to ensure the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm provides long term benefits to communities local to the development. We are working with local schools and universities to provide support to skills development in the renewable industry. We are currently consulting on the development of a community benefit fund. We have also completed a supply chain assessment and socio-economic studies to understand the benefits the project will bring to the community through jobs and value created.



COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

We are at the early stages of developing a community benefit fund for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm, which would likely become available on commissioning of the array project. The fund will support local projects that are focused on climate smart initiatives.

We have commissioned Foundation Scotland who are consulting locally on the development of this fund and would welcome your views. A representative from Foundation Scotland will be available at the in-person drop-in events being held in Thurso and Reay. You can also provide feedback on the community benefit fund through an online questionnaire available at: www.foundationscotland.org.uk/pentland

SUPPLY CHAIN ASSESSMENT & LOCAL VALUE CREATION

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is committed to supporting local suppliers where possible and developing the Project so that it promotes the welfare, livelihood and sustainability of local communities. In 2021 the project team met with a number of local suppliers and negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding with Scrabster Harbour Trust, to work together on the development of operations and maintenance requirements, services and facilities. This shows a commitment to work collaboratively to investigate the potential for construction support services and major component change out for the floating wind turbines.

In 2021, we undertook a social and economic study in partnership with the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) and leading industry experts, to understand the positive impacts the project will have (both directly and indirectly) on the community, for example, through providing jobs, Gross Value Added (GVA) potential and demand for local services. We have also commissioned a supply chain study to inform the socio-economic work in order to assess local supply chain capability and identify opportunities to support the project.

It is anticipated that during the lifetime of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm, between 750-800 FTE job-years in Caithness and between 2,400-3,300 FTE job-years in the Highlands and Islands will be created. The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is anticipated to create around £50 million for Caithness and £150-200 million for Highlands and Islands of Gross Value Added at 2021 prices. These numbers will be updated as we finalise the detailed design, procurement activities and construction and operations and maintenance strategies. The socio-economic impacts of the Project will be assessed in detail within the Environmental Impact Assessment, as set out on Board 7: Consents & Assessments.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is supporting an Education and Training Fund which will award scholarships to selected students from Thurso and Farr High Schools, who are going on to study higher education and training programmes focussed on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

We are proud to have students from the University of Highland and Islands (UHI) and the University of Strathclyde interning with the project, enabling them to gain ofshore wind industry experience. Meet Grant, an intern on the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm:



GRANT ANDERSON
I am currently in my final year of Energy Engineering at the UHI Outer Hebrides and working as an intern on the

Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm. The internship has allowed me to be fully involved with a range of different disciplines including engineering, health and safety and project management. I have been able to apply many elements of my degree program during the internship including data analysis, report writing and computer modelling. More importantly, it has allowed me to get relevant hands-on experience on a current project which will be valuable for any future employment in the offshore wind world. I have really enjoyed being part of a dynamic and motivated team.

INDICATIVE DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE



THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

PREPARATION OF THE EIA REPORTS

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is currently at the stage of preparing the EIA Reports for Submission. Within the EIA Reports, impacts of the proposed onshore and offshore project design will be assessed by competent experienced professionals, using the relevant baseline information collected, various guidance, good practice guidelines and expert judgement. All the findings and proposed mitigation measures identified through the EIA process will be presented in the Offshore and Onshore EIA Reports. Desk based assessments and field studies helped to define the baseline environment and identify receptors for consideration and the assessments are supported by detailed modelling and technical studies. For further information, please see Board 7: Consents and Assessments.

The project design and EIA scope draws on the feedback from statutory consultees and the comments received during the first Public Consultation Event. Your views and feedback during this second consultation period will continue to help shape the development of our project proposals.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

A planning application for the onshore transmission works for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 will be submitted to The Highland Council. Additionally, an application for a marine licence and consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for the offshore development will be submitted to Marine Scotland. At this point, there will be a period for the public to formally comment on the proposals; information to the public on how to respond will be advertised through local press.

DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION

It is anticipated that it will take up to 1 year for the applications to be determined. During this time the project will continue with engineering studies to finalise the project requirements. During this time detailed supply chain discussions will also be held as well as finalising our community benefits associated with the project.

PREPARATION FOR CONSTRUCTION

The consents granted will likely have a number of conditions associated with them. Information on the detail of the project will be submitted in order to ensure they are in line with the consented project. Construction and environmental management and monitoring plans detailing how the project will be delivered will also be submitted for approval.

CONSTRUCTION

It is anticipated that construction will commence in 2025. The construction of the project is anticipated to take place within a two year period. An Independent Environmental Clerk of Works will be employed to ensure that the construction is carried out in line with the consent.

FAQS

Q Who are Highland Wind Limited?

A: Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is being developed by Highland Wind Limited which is majority owned by a fund managed by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) with Hexicon AB as a minority shareholder. Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners P/S (CIP) is a fund management company focused on energy infrastructure including offshore wind, onshore wind, solar photovoltaic (PV), biomass and energy from waste, transmission and distribution, reserve capacity and storage, and other energy assets like Power-to-X. It was founded in 2012 and currently has approximately EUR 16 billion under management. CIP is a major investor in the offshore wind sector and has significant investments in a number of offshore wind projects around the world. Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP), which conducts offshore wind development activities on behalf of the funds managed by CIP, has recently opened an office in Edinburgh to support the fund's increasing engagement in Scotland, with a particular focus on floating wind.

Q What are the benefits of floating wind and do we need it?

A: Almost 80% of the world's wind resource is in water deeper than 60 metres. It is where wind speeds are stronger and more consistent meaning higher capacity factors. It is looking extremely likely that floating wind will be essential to meet the UK's net-zero emission targets and is needed to deliver on ambitions set by the Committee on Climate Change. You can read more about floating wind on Board 3 – Why Floating Wind?

Q How does Dounreay Tri Project fit in with your proposal?

A: The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm Project is an update to the Dounreay Tri Project that was granted key consents and a site lease in 2017. The original Dounreay Tri Project consisted of a two-turbine offshore wind farm, with an installed capacity of between 8 to 12 MW, approximately 6 km off Dounreay, Caithness. Highland Wind Limited acquired the Project and associated consent, licences and site lease in 2021. The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm will be built out under a new consent that is the subject of this exhibition.

Q What are your plans?

A: The primary objective of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is to test and demonstrate a technology solution for floating wind in Scotland. By developing the project in stages, through deploying the single turbine followed by the remaining turbines a year later, the capabilities of the local supply chain in Scotland will be better understood. This understanding will allow us to support the development of a strong local supply chain for floating wind in Scotland, helping to meet climate change targets, and providing highly skilled jobs and energy security. Highland Wind Limited firmly believes that this project will be an enabler for larger scale developments resulting from the current ScotWind Leasing Round and in turn will result in knowledge exchange and export opportunities in relation to the global floating offshore wind market.

Q What technology are you using?

A: Highland Wind Limited will develop the project using the optimal technical, environmental and commercial solution. Currently, this technology is still evolving so the exact technological requirements for the project are still under consideration. We will look to establish our selected technology and suppliers once we have gathered all the information from our meteorological and seabed surveys to ensure the most efficient and technically feasible options are taken forward. Nonetheless, we are planning on using up to 10 turbines, with the maximum height of the turbine blade tip from the sea surface being 300 metres.

Q Will I see the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm from the shore?

A: The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm Application Boundary will be approximately 6.7 km from shore, this distance has been increased by 1 km from the previously consented boundary for the Dounreay Tri Project in order to further reduce any visual impacts. It is anticipated that the closest turbine will be at least 8 km offshore from Sandside Bay. A selection of montages and wirelines have been produced for relevant viewpoints around the coastline and demonstrate the likely views from shore for the maximum tip of the 300 m turbines. You can find these on Board 6: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.

Q Will there be disruptions during construction?

A: We are working to engage closely with landowners, local residents, the Maritime Coastguard Authority, ports and harbours and Traffic and Transport Scotland to ensure the development minimises disruptions to local communities as far as possible. We already understand there are some concerns regarding construction and operational traffic in the local area. This will be taken into account in our application.

Q What about environmental impacts on seabirds and other marine life?

A: Renewable energy technologies are key to combating the effects of climate change, which is considered one of the biggest threats to marine life. Floating wind is part of the solution for a greener and safer future. Nonetheless, any development activity in the marine environment has the potential to impact on marine life and seabirds. We are committed to following best practice and have proactively undertaken environmental surveys and have conducted assessments, monitoring and modelling to minimise any impact on wildlife during the project's development. The project team continues to engage with key environmental and conservation stakeholders and other relevant consultees in order to inform the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and detail of the project related to the EIA.

Q When will the Pentland Floating Wind Farm be completed?

A: The single turbine demonstrator is planned to be deployed as the first stage of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm in 2025 to allow time to test and demonstrate the floating wind technology. We are planning to finish construction and installation of the remaining turbines during 2026.

Q How many homes will you power?

A: The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm will provide enough green energy for approximately 70,000 homes per year, equivalent to approximately 65% of households in the Highland Council Area (based on 2020 figures). This would offset up to 125,000 tonnes of CO2 when considering all types of fossil fuels (<https://www.gov.scot/publications/renewable-and-conversioncalculators/>).

Q How are you involving the local community?

A: We are committed to robust stakeholder engagement. We have contacted local communities and community councils to offer a project overview. During 2021, COVID-19 made it difficult to engage in person so much of our consultation was held virtually. As restrictions around COVID-19 have been eased we are able to engage in person. We have decided to hold this consultation event both virtually and in-person to ensure that it is accessible to the most amount of people. Our website contains information on the project or you can contact the Project Team directly at pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk. Alternatively feedback can also be provided using the feedback form, available in the virtual exhibition room. There is also the opportunity to converse directly with the Project Team at the consultation event at the Reay Golf Course from 14.00 - 20.00 on 11 May and at the North Coast Visitor Centre in Thurso from 11.00 - 17.00 on 12 May. In addition the team will be available to answer questions online on the 18 May between 12.00 - 14.30 and 18.00 - 20.30 through an online chat function in this exhibition space.

Q What are the benefits to the local community?

A: Highland Wind Limited is committed to ensuring this Project provides long term benefits to the local community. We have undertaken social and economic studies with involvement of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) and leading industry experts to understand the positive impacts the project will have (both directly and indirectly) on the community, for example, through providing jobs, Gross Value Added (GVA) potential and demand for local services. Furthermore, we have commissioned a supply chain study to complement the socio-economic work in order to assess local supply chain capability and identify opportunities to support the project. We are at the early stages of developing a Community Benefits Fund, which would likely become available on commissioning of the array project. We will seek advice from a number of parties on the best way to administer this fund and would welcome any local views on this.

Q How many jobs will this development provide to the local community?

A: It is anticipated that during the lifetime of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm, between 750-800 FTE job-years in Caithness and between 2400-3300 FTE job-years in the Highlands and Islands will be created. More information on the jobs and value created can be found on Board 8: Benefits to the Community.

Q Who else are you engaging with in the application process?

A: To date we have been in contact with a number of stakeholders including the Highland Council, Marine Scotland, Scrabster and Wick Harbour Authorities, local fisheries, NatureScot, Northern Lighthouse Board, the Maritime Coastguard Authority, SEPA, landowners, Dounreay Site Restoration Limited, NRTU Vulcan, Crown Estate Scotland, RSPB, Dounreay Stakeholder Group, Caithness West Community Council and Melvich Community Council. We plan to continue engagement as the application progresses towards submission.

Q I want to keep informed on project updates, how do I do this?

A: Updates on the project will be provided on our website at www.pentlandfloatingwind.com. There will be an opportunity for the community to make formal comment on the proposals to Scottish Ministers and The Highland Council once our applications have been submitted. Details on how to go about this will be provided in a local newspaper and published on our website at the time of submission.

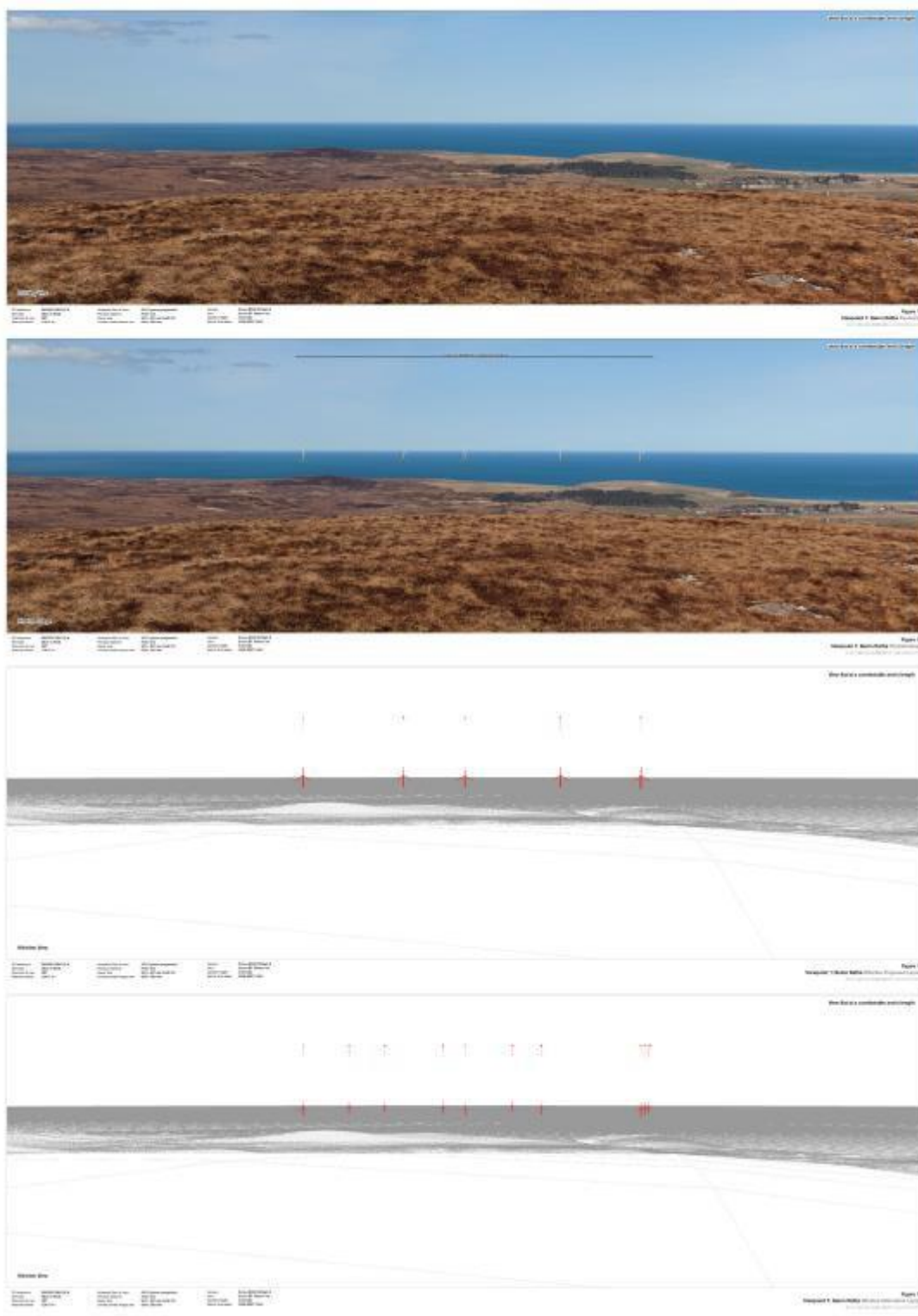




Figure 12
View from the shore looking out over the Pentland Firth towards the proposed floating offshore wind farm



Figure 13
View from the shore looking out over the Pentland Firth towards the proposed floating offshore wind farm

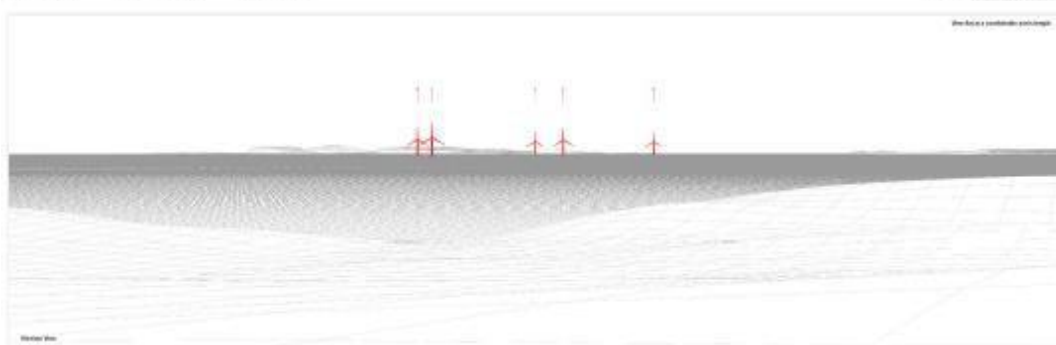


Figure 14
Aerial view of the proposed floating offshore wind farm foundations in the Pentland Firth

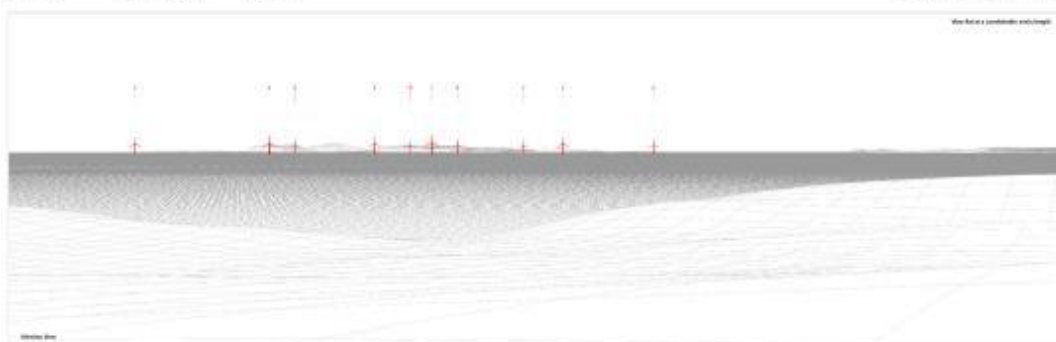
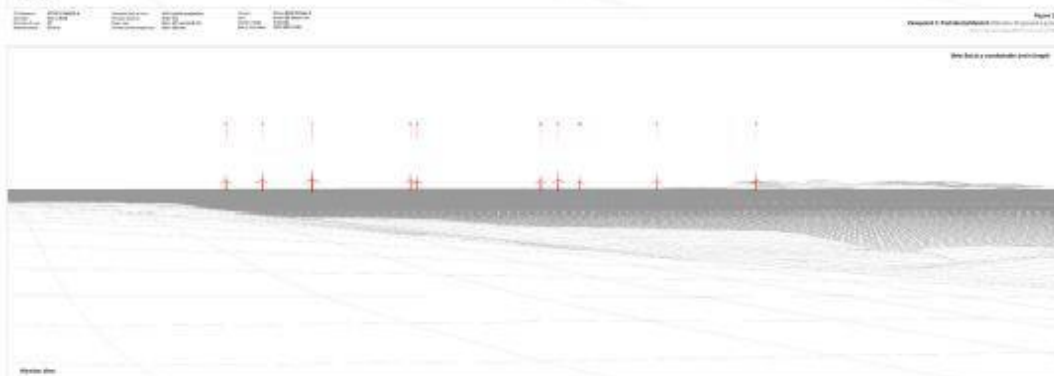
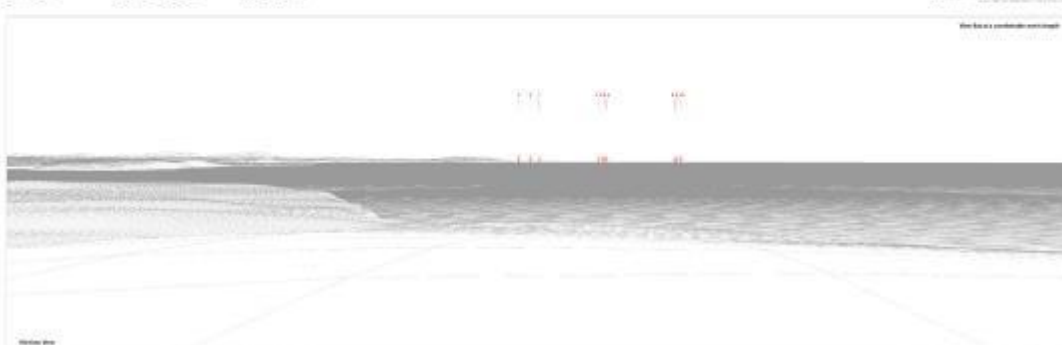
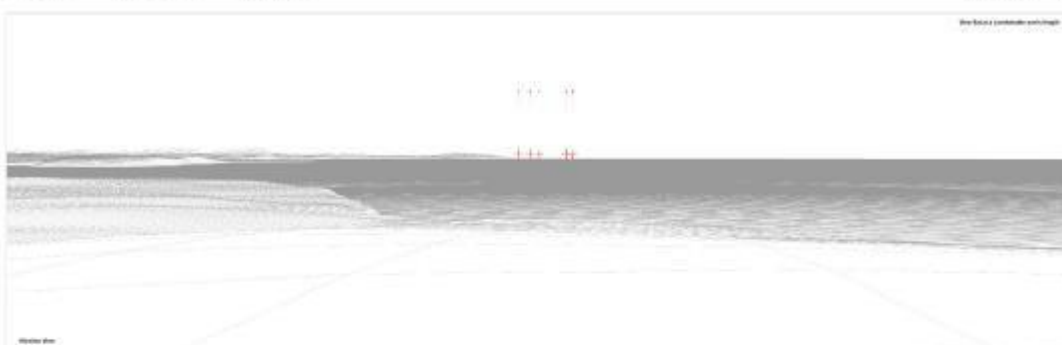
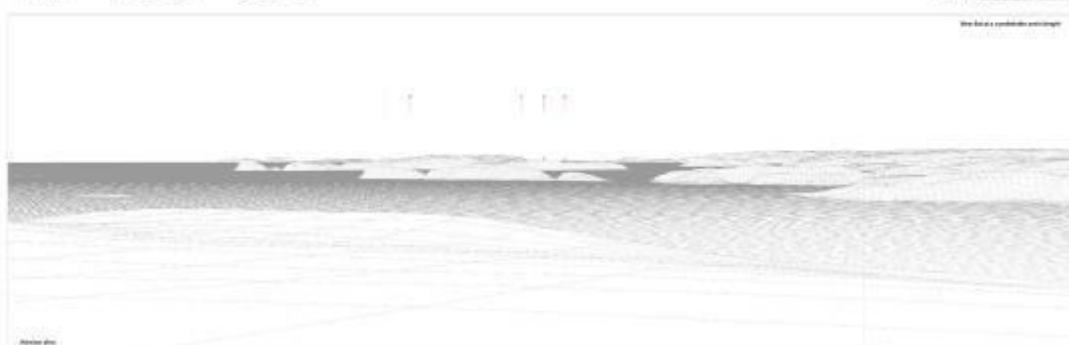


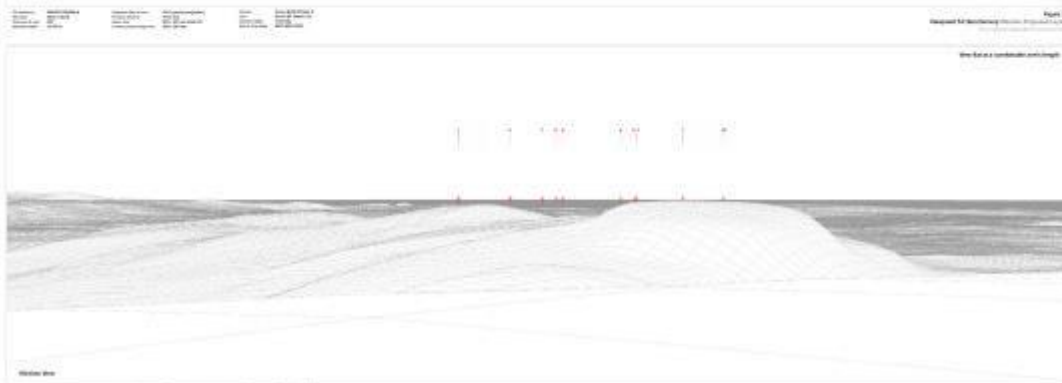
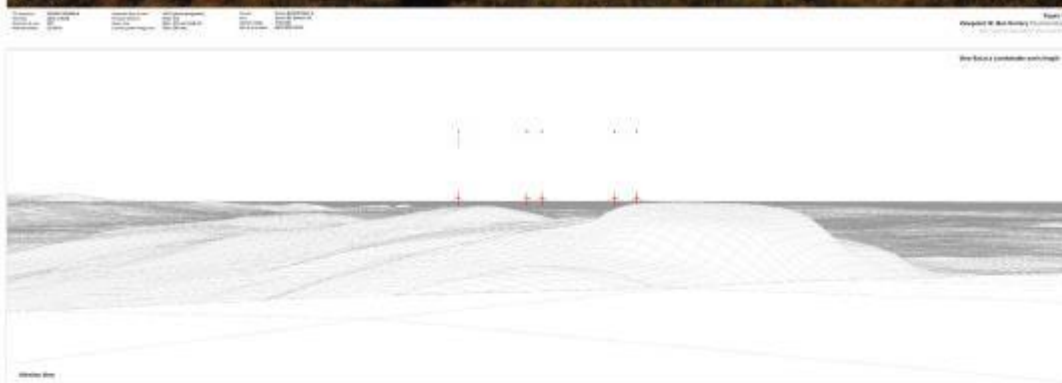
Figure 15
Another aerial view of the proposed floating offshore wind farm foundations in the Pentland Firth











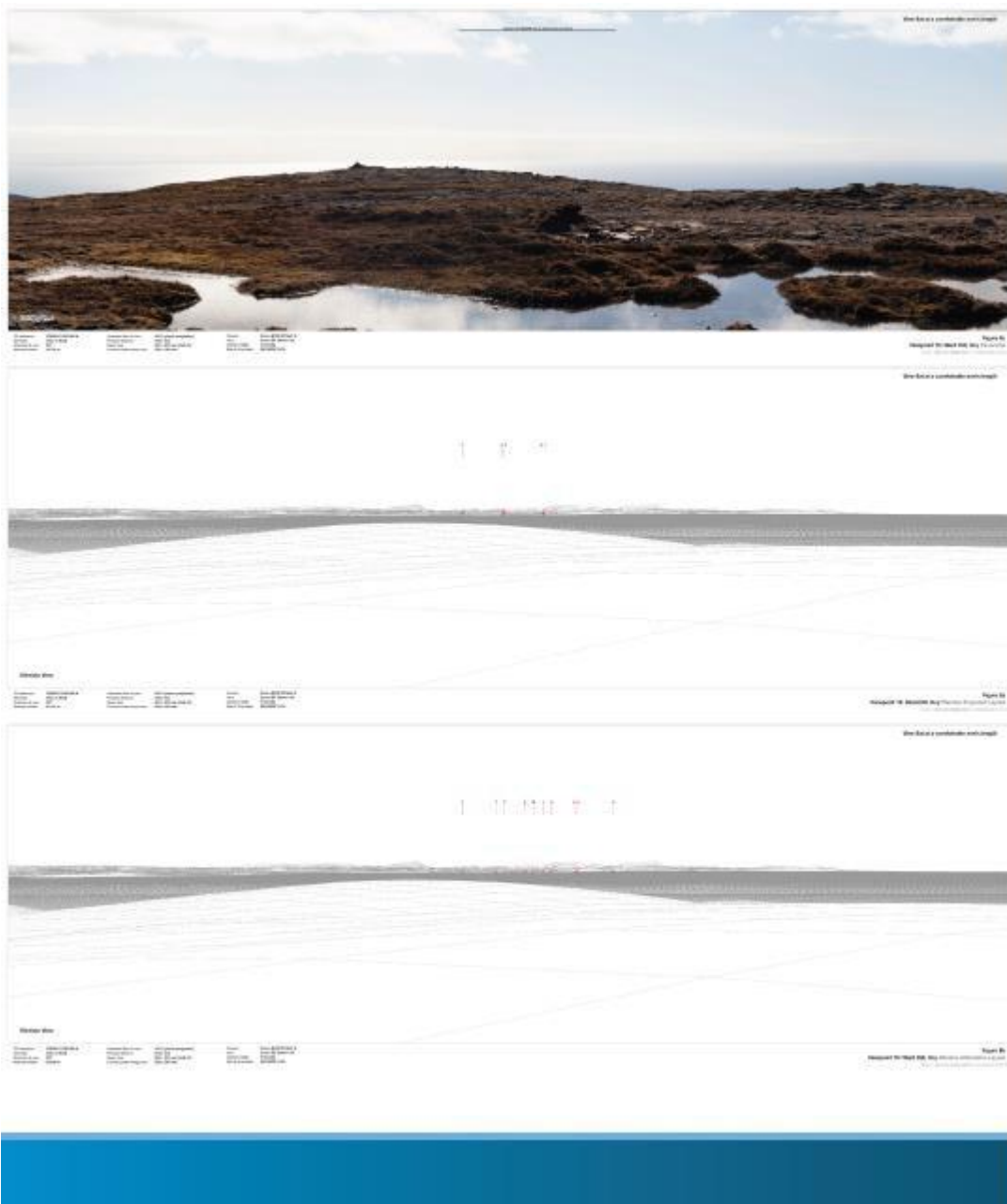




Figure 6.7 Screenshot showing the viewpoint interactive map available at the second virtual exhibition

APPENDIX H FEEDBACK FORMS

Contact us / Feedback

The feedback received from this virtual exhibition is paramount to the success of the project. We need your feedback in order to understand what is important to you and ensure that your views and suggestions are heard so that this proposal brings benefits to the local community as well as the wider public.

How did you find the quality of information provided at today's event?

☐ Excellent
☐ Good
☒ Average
☐ Poor

Did you find the virtual exhibition accessible and easy to navigate?

☐ Yes
☐ No

If no, what could we do better?

Do you agree with Highland Wind Limited's proposals for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm?

☐ Agree
☐ Disagree
☐ Unsure

Could you please provide more information?

Do you have any concerns with the proposed location of the onshore substation for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm?

☐ None
☒ Concerned about the location
☐ Unsure

Could you please provide more information?

Do you have any concerns with the proposed offshore elements for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm?

☐ None
☒ Concerned about the elements
☐ Unsure

Could you please provide more information?

Do you have any concerns on the level of engagement undertaken to date from Highland Wind Limited?

☐ Not enough
☐ Correct level
☐ Unsure

Would you like kept informed of project updates? If so, please confirm your e-mail address.

Do you have any specific concerns regarding the proposals you would like the project team to consider?

Contact Us

If you have any additional comments, feedback or would like to get in touch with the project team then please email us at pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk. Alternative methods to contact us are listed on our website at www.pentlandfloatingwind.com.

Please do not disclose sensitive personal data (race, ethnicity, health information, religion, sexuality or sex life, political opinion, philosophical belief, and trade union membership) or other confidential information such as national identification number or information related to criminal offences or convictions.

Information is collected and stored in accordance with Highland Wind Limited's Privacy Policy.

Figure 6.8 First PAC Event Feedback From

Contact us / Feedback

The feedback received from this consultation is taken into consideration during the development of the project. We need your feedback in order to understand what is important to you, understand your concerns and ensure that your views and suggestions are heard so that this proposal brings benefits to the local community as well as the wider public.

Which public consultation event did you attend?

Online Virtual Exhibition

In person event (Reay and Thurso)

Live Chat Question and Answer Session Online

How did you find the quality of information provided?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Did you find the exhibition accessible and easy to navigate?

Yes

No

If no, what could we do better?

Do you agree with Highland Wind Limited's proposals for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm?

Agree

Disagree

Unsure

Could you please provide more information?

Do you have any concerns with the proposed location of the onshore infrastructure for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm?

None

Concerned about the location

Unsure

Could you please provide more information?

Do you have any concerns with the proposed offshore elements for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm?

None

Concerned about the elements

Unsure

Could you please provide more information?

Do you have any concerns on the level of engagement undertaken to date from Highland Wind Limited?

Not enough

Correct level

Unsure

If you have previously provided feedback, how well has this consultation responded to your feedback?

Not enough

Correct level

Unsure

Not applicable

Could you please provide more information?

Would you like to be kept informed of project updates? If so, please confirm your e-mail address

Do you have any specific concerns regarding the proposals you would like the project team to consider?

Contact Us


If you have any additional comments, feedback or would like to get in touch with the project team then please email us at pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk. Alternative methods to contact us are listed on our website at www.pentlandfloatingwind.com.

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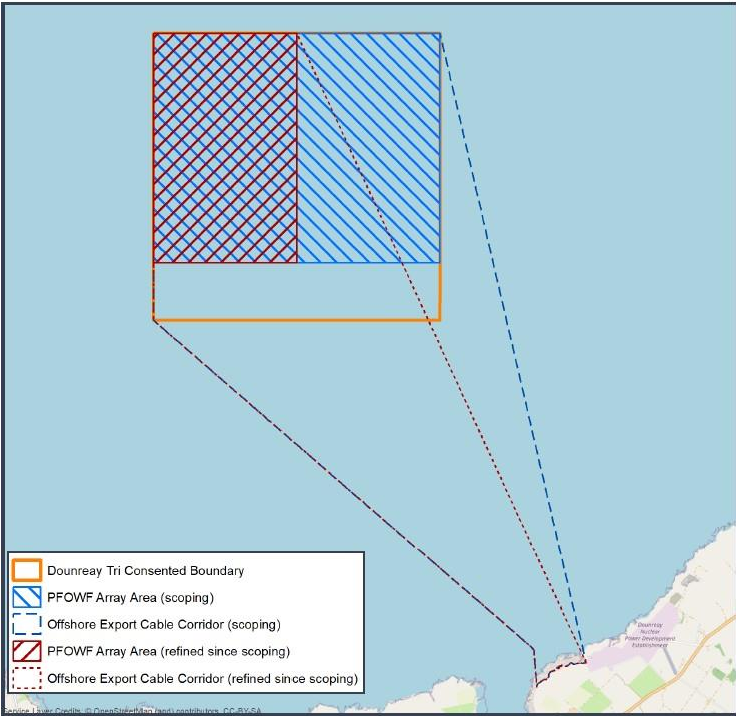
Information is collected and stored in accordance with Highland Wind Limited's Privacy Policy.

Figure 6.9 Second PAC Event Feedback From

APPENDIX I PRE-SUBMISSION INFORMATION UPDATE FLYER AND BANNERS



Project Information Update – Launched 4 July



We received valuable feedback from the local community and other stakeholders on the project through the previous consultations. This feedback has been reviewed carefully to consider how the project design could be revised.

On 4 July we are launching a project information update to show how we have considered the feedback we have received throughout the previous consultation and indicate how it has informed the project design.

KEY CHANGES

Key changes include reducing the offshore site area for the turbines by 50% and reducing the number of turbines in the design envelope from ten to seven.

The turbines will be located further offshore than previously presented and the horizontal spread of the turbines will be reduced. This will reduce the potential visual impacts of the wind farm.

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

The virtual exhibition will be launched 4 July 2022 and is available at: www.openplans.co.uk/pentland

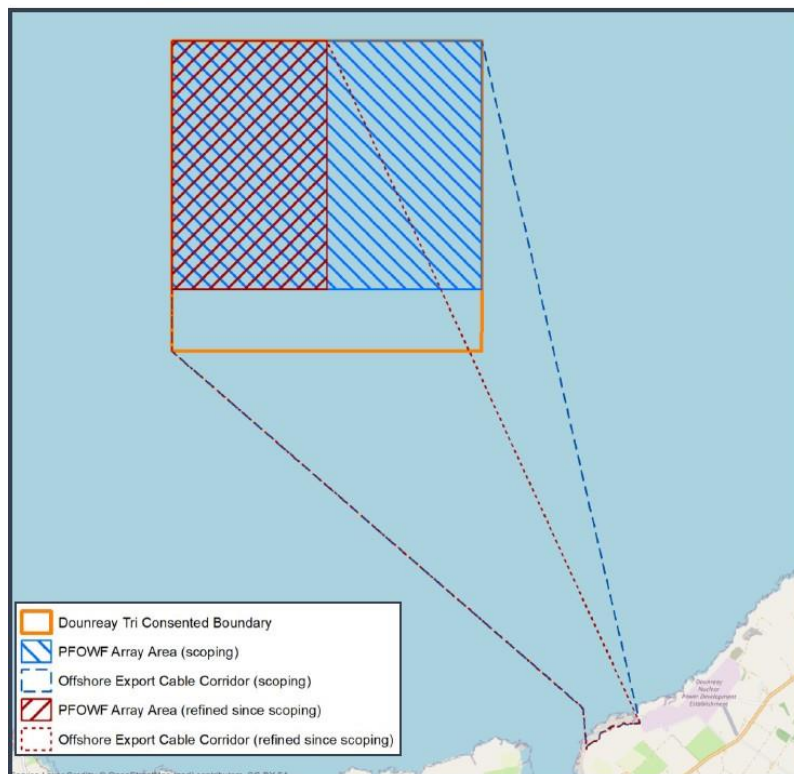
CONTACT US

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm website www.pentlandfloatingwind.com provides further information about the project.

Should you have any further questions or feedback on the changes, you can contact us at pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk.



Project Information Update – Launched 4 July



We received valuable feedback from the local community and other stakeholders on the project through the previous consultations. This feedback has been reviewed carefully to consider how the project design could be revised.

On 4 July we are launching a project information update to show how we have considered the feedback we have received throughout the previous consultation and indicate how it has informed the project design.

KEY CHANGES

Key changes include reducing the offshore site area for the turbines by 50% and reducing the maximum number of turbines in the design envelope from ten to seven.

The turbines will now be located only within the red hatched area, reduced from the blue hatched area that was previously presented, this will mean the horizontal spread of the turbines will be reduced. This will reduce the potential visual impacts of the wind farm.

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

The virtual exhibition will be launched 4 July 2022 and is available at: www.openplans.co.uk/pentland

CONTACT US

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm website www.pentlandfloatingwind.com provides further information about the project.

Should you have any further questions or feedback on the changes, you can contact us at pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk.



WELCOME

Welcome to the project information update for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm. We have prepared this update to keep local residents and other interested stakeholders informed and to show how we've taken on board the feedback received during the consultations, as we prepare to submit the application for the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm.

Throughout the previous consultation periods we received valuable feedback from the local community and other project stakeholders. We have reviewed this feedback carefully and considered how the project design could be refined to take this on board.

The aim of this update is to share how previous feedback has informed the project design which will be submitted to Marine Scotland for determination. The virtual exhibition shows key project

design changes on the offshore elements. The project design will continue to be reviewed and optimised as the project moves from the development phase to construction.

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm website www.pentlandfloatingwind.com provides further information about the project. Should you have any further questions or feedback on the changes, you can contact us at pentland-stakeholder@cop.dk.

WHO WE ARE

Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is being developed by Highland Wind Limited which is majority owned by a fund managed by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) with Hexicon AB as a minority shareholder. Project development activities are being led by CIP's development partner, Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP). The project development team is based in COP's Global Floating Wind Competence Centre, recently established in Edinburgh.



Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners P/S (CIP) is a fund management company focused on energy infrastructure including offshore wind, onshore wind, solar photovoltaic (PV), biomass and energy-from-waste, transmission and distribution, reserve capacity and storage, and other energy assets like Power-to-X.

CIP has offices in Copenhagen, Hamburg, New York, Tokyo, Utrecht, Melbourne and London. CIP was founded in 2012 by senior executives from the energy industry in cooperation with PensionDanmark. CIP manages eight funds and has approximately €16 billion under management.

www.cippartners.dk



Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP) is a leading and experienced provider of project development, construction management, and operational management services to offshore wind projects.

The company is headquartered in Denmark and has offices in Taiwan, USA, Australia, Japan, South Korea, UK & Vietnam. COP's team of specialists has a broad range of competencies within project management, early and late-stage project development, engineering, construction, procurement, operational management as well as business development and project financing.

www.cop.dk



Hexicon AB is a leading floating offshore wind technology and project developer. It was founded in 2009 and is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden.

www.hexicon.eu

RESPONDING TO FEEDBACK

During the consultation process we received valuable feedback regarding local concerns over certain aspects of the project. The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is currently undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to establish the potential impacts on various receptors in the vicinity of the Project. An extensive programme of surveys have been undertaken to underpin the EIA. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the EIA Reports but preliminary results, where available, are indicated below:



VISUAL IMPACTS

During the public consultations, feedback was received from some of the local community regarding potential concerns over the visual impact of the wind farm. In response to this feedback, the Offshore Site of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm has now been reduced by half. This decision has been taken with the primary aim of reducing the horizontal spread associated with the wind farm when viewed from the north coast. As this reduction limits the footprint available to locate the wind turbine generators (WTGs) and associated offshore infrastructure by 50%, this demonstrates the commitment the project has made to minimise the potential visual impacts from the wind farm on land-based receptors. In addition, the maximum number of turbines being applied for has reduced from ten down to seven which will further reduce the potential visual impacts.



IMPACT ON TOURISM

Feedback was received regarding the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on tourism. Studies have shown that existing and proposed wind farm developments are predicted to have little overall economic effect on tourism in Scotland. For more information: <https://www.climatechange.org.uk/research/projects/the-impact-of-wind-farms-on-scottish-tourism/>. Assessments of the impacts of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on tourism are on-going but preliminary results show that there will be no significant effects on tourism throughout the life-cycle of the project. The final results of the assessment will be available in the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACT ON BIRDS

During the consultations, feedback was received regarding the potential impacts on birds. The maximum number of turbines being applied for has reduced from ten down to seven which will reduce the potential impacts on seabirds in terms of displacement and barrier effects. In addition, the minimum blade tip clearance from the sea surface has been increased to 35m above mean sea level. A key driver for this change was to minimise the potential impacts to seabirds in terms of collision risk. Detailed assessments of the potential impacts upon birds are currently being undertaken and are supported by in-depth modelling with input from industry leading experts and consultation with regulators. The modelling is still ongoing and the final results will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACT ON FISHING ACTIVITY

Through the public consultation, feedback was received indicating concerns on the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on fisheries. Local fishers were initially engaged with for site investigation surveys in 2021. A consultation workshop was held in November 2021 and SFF, SWFPA, OFA, NECRIFG and local fishers were invited to attend. The Project FIR reached out to local fishers in the area and provided flyers for the workshop to maximise attendance as far as practicable. We have used the feedback from the workshop in the EIA to assess impacts on commercial fisheries. Since the workshop was held, the project has undertaken to reduce the number of anchors and mooring lines from 12 to 9 which will reduce the impacts on other sea users. In addition, the changes to the site area and the reduction in the number of turbines will minimise impacts on other sea users, including fisheries, as well as reducing the overall footprint on the seabed. Preliminary results from the commercial fisheries impact assessment indicate that there will be no residual significant effects with the implementation of mitigation which will be detailed in the Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy. The final results of the assessment will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON FISH & SHELLFISH ECOLOGY

During the consultations we received feedback regarding the impact of electromagnetic fields (EMF) on fish and shellfish ecology. Detailed assessments are currently being undertaken to assess the potential impacts of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on fish ecology which has been supported by a study of EMF generated by the inter-array and export cables, underwater noise modelling and the results of the benthic habitat surveys. Up to two offshore export cables are being considered. The project is currently considering burial or protection of the cables to the landfill location. Results of the EMF assessment indicate that even without cable burial, the magnetic field produced by the proposed cables would be less than that associated with the earth's magnetic field. As such fish and shellfish receptors are unlikely to detect any notable change from EMFs produced by the cables. Currently the underwater noise modelling assessments are on-going with input from industry leading experts. However, based on preliminary results of the underwater noise modelling and other supporting assessments, it is anticipated that there will be no significant effects on fish ecology. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACT ON MARINE MAMMALS

We received feedback regarding the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on marine mammals. The reduction in the area for the Offshore Site and the decrease in the maximum number of turbines being applied for, from ten down to seven, and corresponding decrease in the total number of mooring lines, piles and anchoring infrastructure being consented will reduce the potential impacts on marine mammals. Detailed assessments on the potential impacts on marine mammals and other megafauna e.g. basking sharks are currently being completed. These are supported by the results of aerial surveys and underwater noise modelling. Currently the underwater noise modelling assessments are on-going with input from industry leading experts. However, preliminary results of the underwater noise modelling highlight that there will be no significant effects on marine mammals from the pre-construction and construction related activities. The final results of the assessments, including the findings of effects on marine mammals from other assessed impacts will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON SHIPPING & NAVIGATION

Feedback was received regarding the potential impact of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on shipping and navigation. The reduction in the area for the Offshore Development and the decrease in the maximum number of turbines being applied for, from ten down to seven, and corresponding decrease in the total number of mooring lines, piles and anchoring infrastructure being consented will reduce the potential impacts on shipping and navigation and other sea users. The impact assessment on shipping and navigation has been supported by vessel traffic surveys and various consultations, including hazard identification workshops with relevant stakeholders. Currently the impact assessment is on-going. However, it is anticipated from preliminary results that there will be no significant effects on shipping and navigation with the implementation of standard best practices and mitigations. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON BENTHIC ECOLOGY

Detailed assessments are currently being undertaken to assess the potential impacts of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm on benthic ecology. The reduction in the extent of the Offshore Site and reduction in the number of turbines and associated decrease in moorings and piles or anchoring solutions will reduce the potential impact on benthic ecology. The assessments are supported by the findings of benthic habitat surveys carried out across the Offshore Site in 2021. It is anticipated from preliminary assessment results that there will be no significant effects on benthic ecology. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



IMPACTS ON AVIATION

The impact assessment for aviation and radar activity is on-going. However, it is anticipated from preliminary results that there will be no significant effects on aviation and radar with the implementation of standard best practices and mitigations. The final results of the assessments will be detailed within the Offshore EIA Report.



BENEFITS TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY & SUPPLY CHAIN

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is committed to supporting local suppliers, where possible, and developing the project so that it promotes the welfare, livelihood and sustainability of local communities. The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is supporting an Education and Training Fund which will award scholarships to selected students from Thurso and Farr High Schools, who are going on to study higher education and training programmes focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Foundation Scotland have recently concluded consultation on the community benefit approach and received useful feedback from the local community. The feedback received will be taken into account in the design of the community benefit fund.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

OFFSHORE PROPOSAL

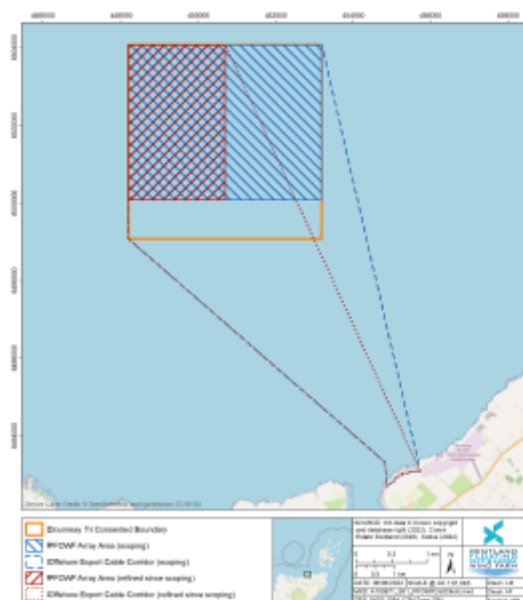
The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm has adopted a design envelope approach to develop the project. This is a common approach with major infrastructure projects including offshore wind farms.

The design envelope approach does not consent specific technology, but allows outline consent to be granted and enables project impacts to be assessed on the basis of maximum parameters or worst case scenarios for specific receptors. This gives projects the flexibility to utilise new innovations in emerging floating wind technology and greater information on site conditions once this is available.

The Environmental Impact Assessment will consider the parameters that represent the worst impact for receptors caused by the development. As such, the project design envelope presented here shows the proposed maximum parameters for the project. The final project parameters may not reach these maximum limits and the final project design will be submitted for approval prior to construction.

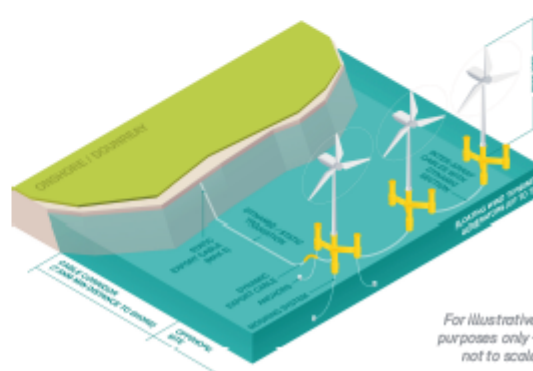
We have taken on board the feedback received during the consultations, specifically regarding visual impacts and have revised the design envelope to minimise these potential impacts. Key changes include reducing the offshore site area for the turbines by 50% and reducing the number of turbines in the design envelope from ten to seven. This means that the turbines will be located further offshore than previously presented and the horizontal spread of the turbines will be reduced.

The revised Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm offshore site area is 10 km² and is located approximately 7.5 km north of the coast of Dunreay, Caithness.



The offshore infrastructure works will comprise:

- Up to a maximum of seven floating wind turbine generators;
- Turbines with a maximum tip height of 300 m;
- Floating substructures (one per turbine) to support the turbines;
- Mooring systems (anchors and mooring lines) to ensure the turbines stay within a given footprint;
- A network of inter-array cabling linking the individual wind turbines; and
- A maximum of two offshore export cables connecting the offshore wind farm to the onshore substation.

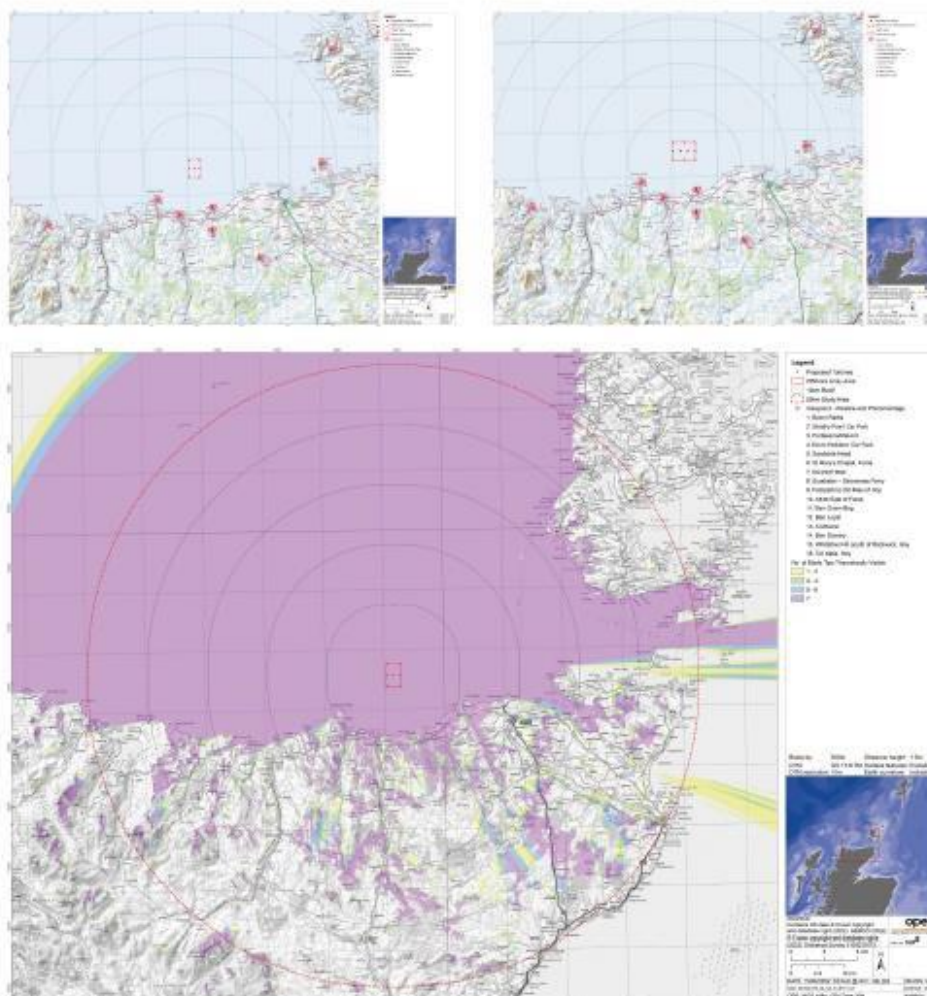


As part of our Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), we are undertaking a Seascape and Landscape Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA).

case scenario is shown. Viewpoints have been selected to present the fullest visibility from those locations that are representative of local residents, road-users, walkers and visitors to the area.

viewpoint; one with seven turbines at 300m to tip height with the newly proposed layout, and one with ten turbines at 192m to tip height on the previously considered layout. This shows the reduction in the potential visual impacts resulting from the proposed changes to maximum turbine numbers and offshore site area.

The presented layouts are indicative at this stage, and the final turbine configuration will be confirmed prior to construction. Comparative baseline photographs from the selected viewpoints are also provided below. In addition, an image which shows the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) for the seven turbine layout is included to provide an indication of the areas where the turbines are likely to be visible from.



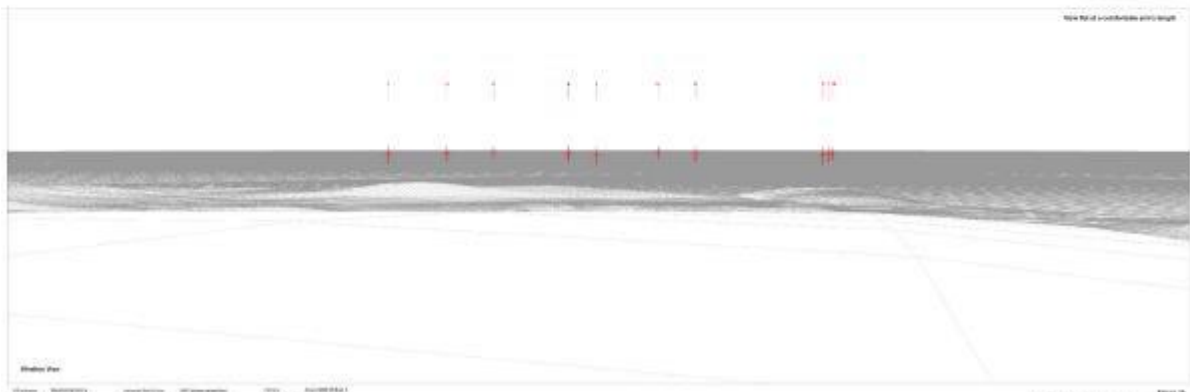
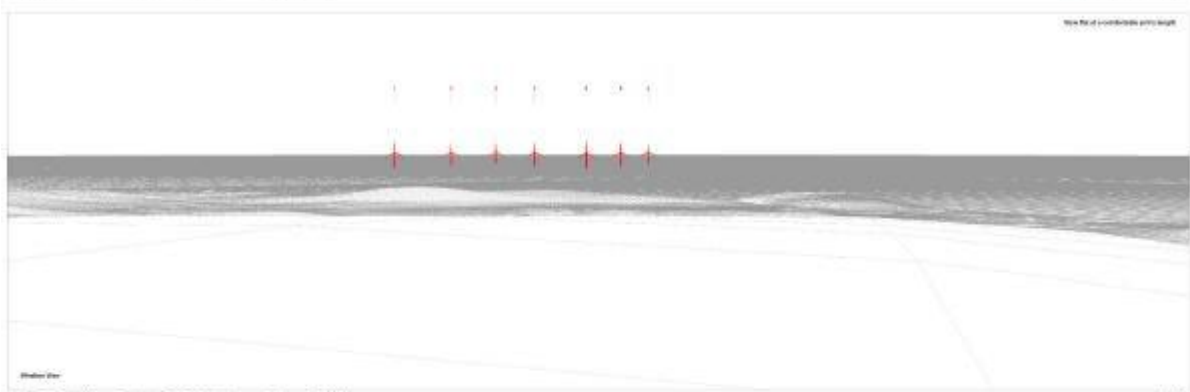




Figure 2c: Aerial view of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm from the shore, showing the coastline, a small building, and the sea.



Figure 2d: Aerial view of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm from the shore, showing the coastline, a small building, and the sea with wind turbines visible in the distance.

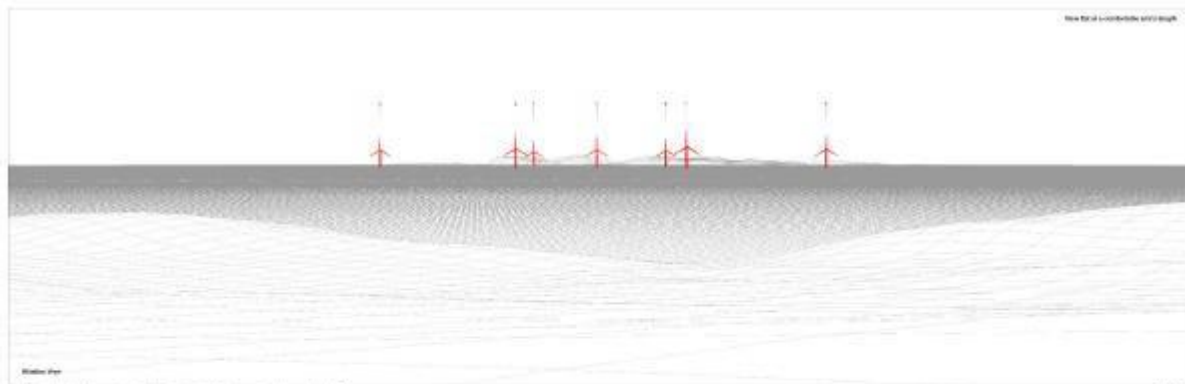


Figure 2e: 3D perspective view of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm, showing the wind turbines and the floating platform.

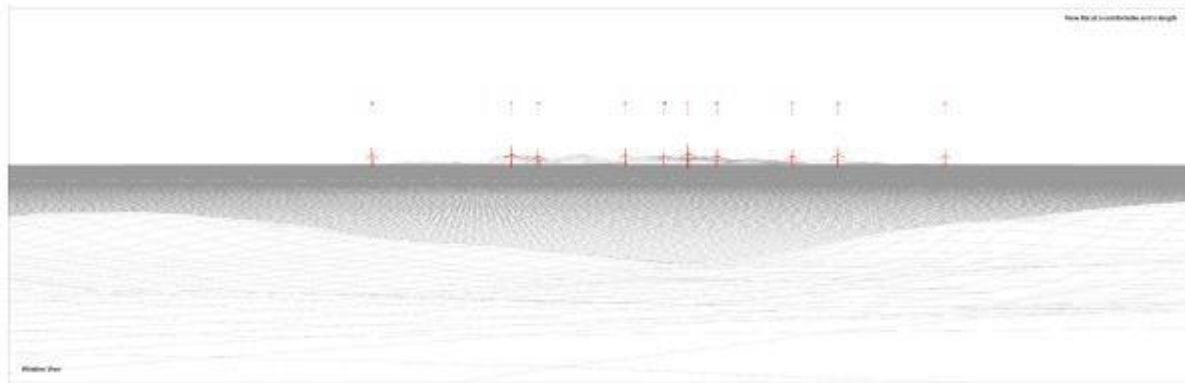


Figure 2f: 3D perspective view of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm, showing the wind turbines and the floating platform.

Figure 1
Downloaded from <http://www.jco.org/> on November 1, 2014

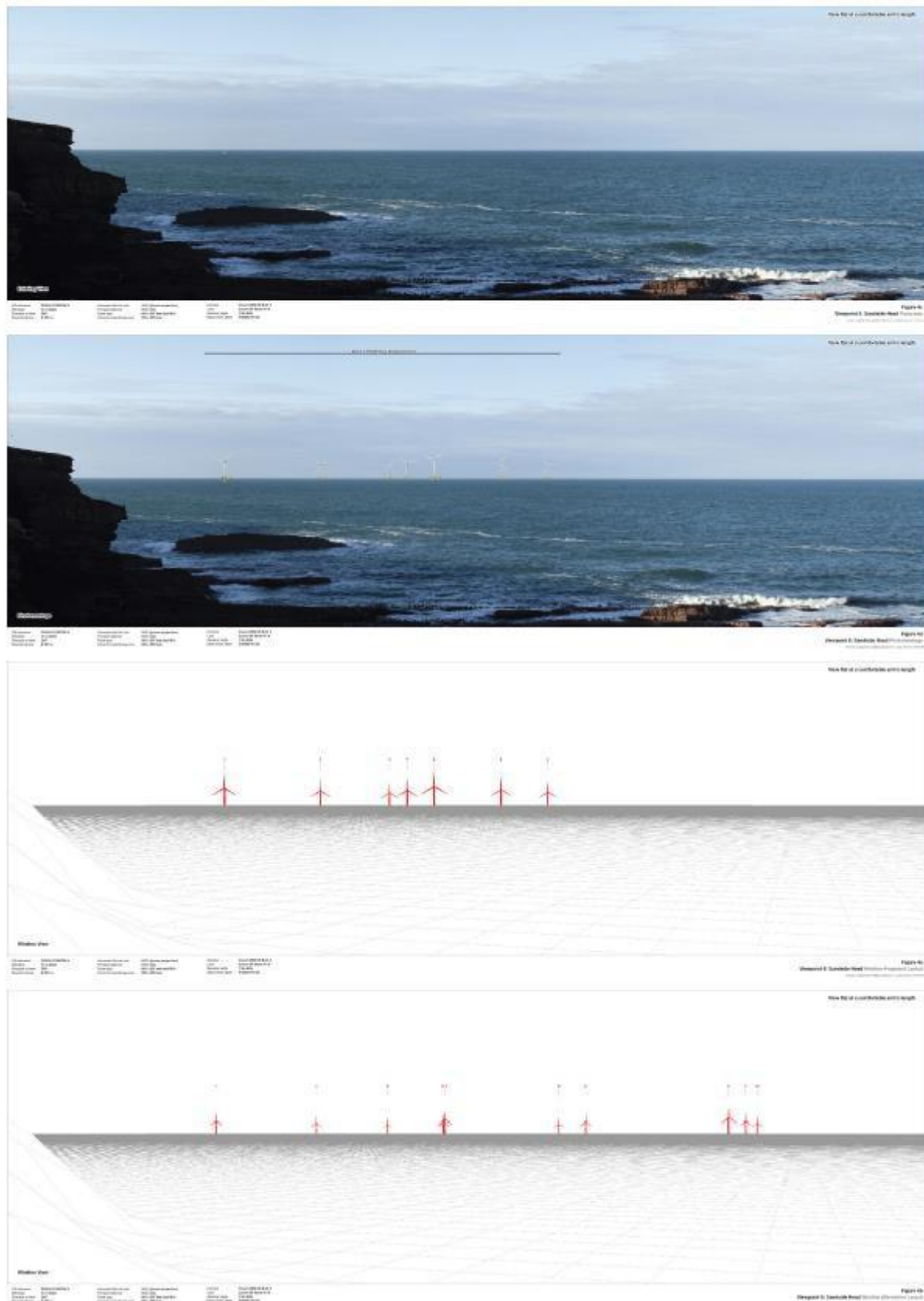




Figure 10: Aerial photograph of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm site, showing the coastline and the proposed wind farm layout.



Figure 11: Aerial photograph of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm site, showing the coastline and the proposed wind farm layout.



Figure 12: Aerial photograph of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm site, showing the coastline and the proposed wind farm layout.

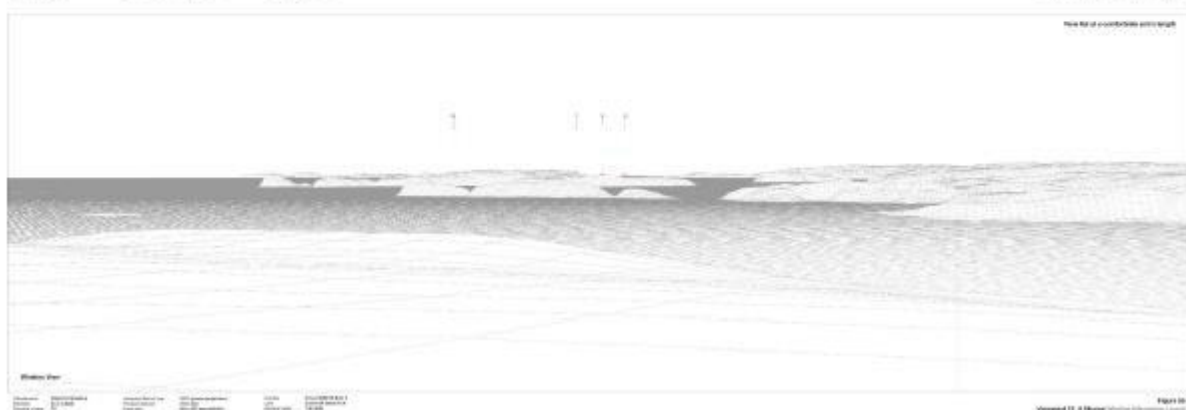


Figure 13: Aerial photograph of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm site, showing the coastline and the proposed wind farm layout.



Figure 15: Aerial photograph of the Pentland Hills landscape, showing rolling hills covered in brown vegetation. A person's shadow is visible in the foreground. In the distance, the sea and offshore wind turbines are visible under a clear sky.



Figure 16: Aerial photograph of the Pentland Hills landscape, similar to Figure 15, but with a horizontal line drawn across the middle of the image, likely indicating a specific area of interest or a boundary.

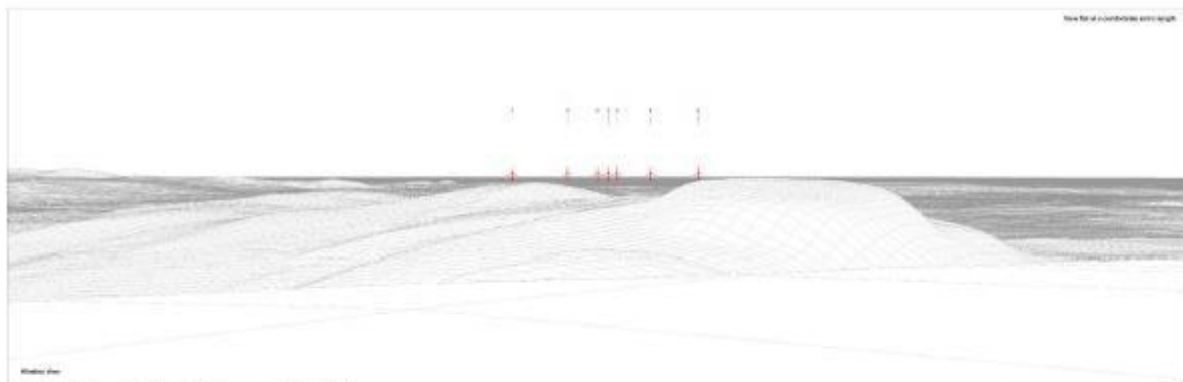


Figure 17: Aerial photograph of the Pentland Hills landscape, showing the same rolling hills and vegetation. The image is overlaid with a white grid pattern, possibly representing a planning or survey grid.

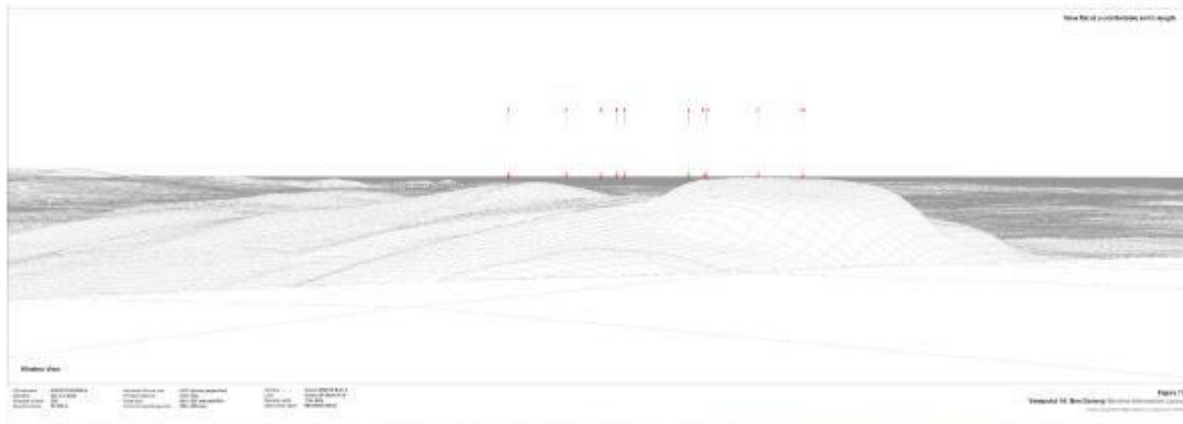
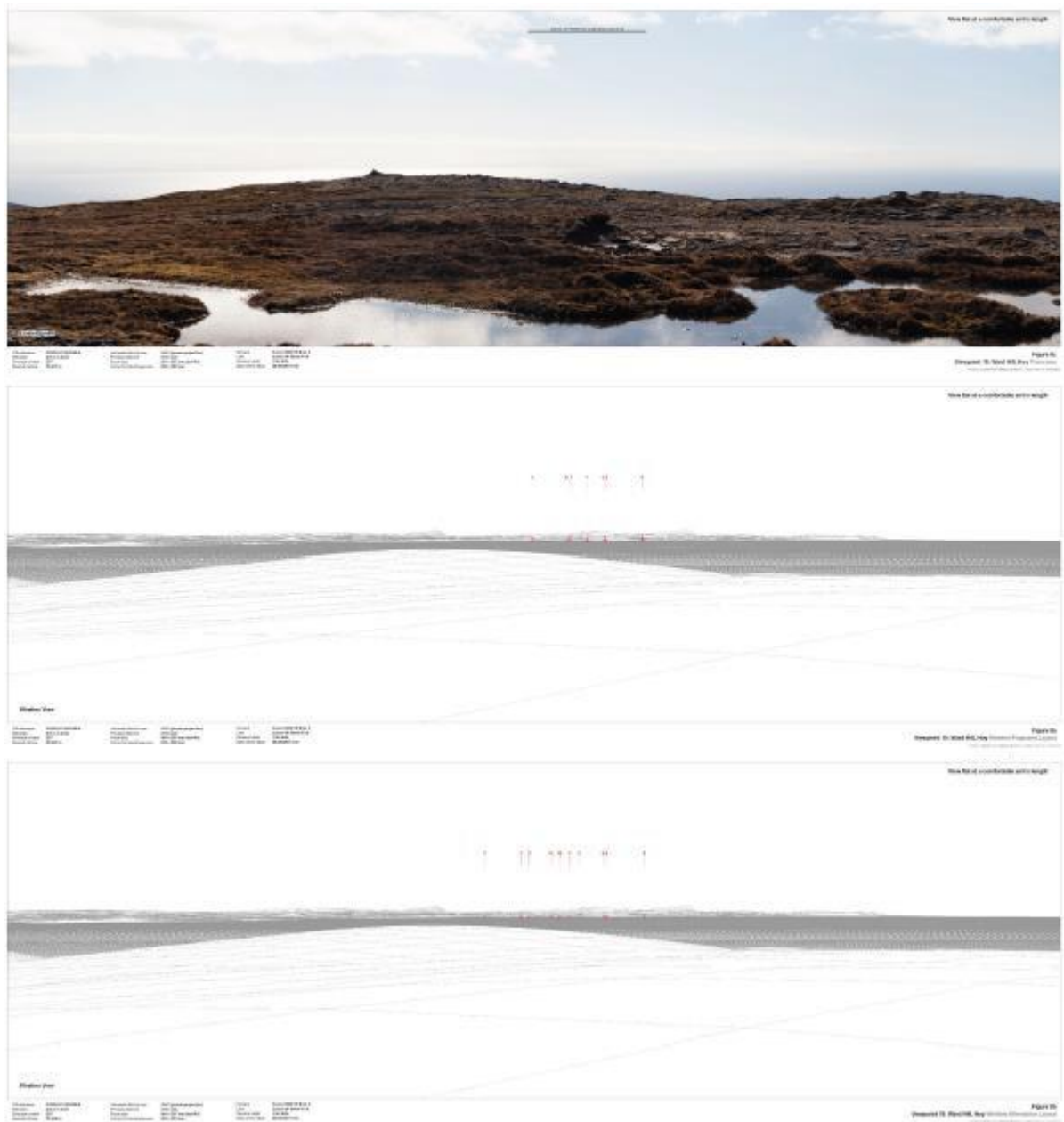


Figure 18: Aerial photograph of the Pentland Hills landscape, showing the same rolling hills and vegetation. The image is overlaid with a white grid pattern, similar to Figure 17, but with a different orientation or scale.



THE PENTLAND FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND FARM

Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm will be located off the coast of Dounreay, Caithness.

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm will comprise up to seven turbines and will provide enough energy to power to approximately 70,000 homes, equivalent to approximately 65% of homes in the Highland Council Area (based on 2020 figures).

A single turbine may be deployed as the first stage of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm in 2025 to allow time to test and demonstrate the floating wind technology. The remaining turbines (up to six) will be deployed during 2026.

The onshore substation for the project will be located adjacent to the Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment (NRTE) and the former Dounreay Nuclear Facility.

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the offshore elements of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is currently being prepared and will be submitted to Marine Scotland in summer 2022.



DEVELOPMENT



A staged approach to the deployment of the floating technology underpins the development of the Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm, as well as our future floating projects in Scotland and globally.

INNOVATION



The innovative technology trialled in this project will be key to the commercialisation of this floating technology. It will deliver valuable insight into developing floating wind technology in Scotland.

LEARNING



The learnings from this will help contribute to the development of a strong Scottish supply chain for floating wind.



INDICATIVE DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE



THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

PREPARATION OF THE EIA REPORT

The Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is currently at the stage of preparing the EIA Report for Submission. Within the EIA Report, impacts of the proposed offshore project design will be assessed by competent experienced professionals, using the relevant baseline information collected, various guidance, good practice guidelines and expert judgement. All the findings and proposed mitigation measures identified through the EIA process will be presented in the Offshore EIA Report. Desk based assessments and field studies helped to define the baseline environment and identify receptors for consideration and the assessments are supported by detailed modelling and technical studies.

The project design and EIA scope draws on the feedback from statutory consultees and the comments received during the Public Consultation Events.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

An application for a marine licence and consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 for the offshore development will be submitted to Marine Scotland. At this point, there will be a period for the public to formally comment on the proposals, information to the public on how to respond will be advertised through local press.

DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION

It is anticipated that it will take up to nine months for the applications to be determined. During this time the project will continue with engineering studies to finalise the project requirements. During this time detailed supply chain discussions will also be held as well as finalising our community benefits associated with the project.

PREPARATION FOR CONSTRUCTION

The consents granted will likely have a number of conditions associated with them. Information on the detail of the project will be submitted in order to ensure they are in line with the consented project. Construction and environmental management and monitoring plans detailing how the project will be delivered will also be submitted for approval.

CONSTRUCTION

It is anticipated that construction of the offshore elements of the wind farm will commence in 2025. The construction of the project is anticipated to take place within a two year period. An independent Environmental Clerk of Works will be employed to ensure that the construction is carried out in line with the consent.