

How to visit the virtual exhibition

from 30th November to 13th December

1. The online exhibition will be accessible from the Heathland Wind Farm project page on the EDF Renewables website. Visit: www.edf-re.uk/our-sites/heathland
2. You can provide any comments or find out how to get in touch with us via the virtual exhibition hall
3. You can also email us directly with any comments or questions at heathland@edf-re.uk
4. You can find out how to formally register your views on the Section 36 application for consent. An application for permission to build the wind farm is expected to be made in January 2021 to the Scottish Government's Energy Consent Units (ECU). When this happens, a formal consultation period will begin to allow all consultees, including local residents, to make representation directly to the ECU or to the local planning authority (LPA). The LPA will also be asked for their views on the scheme by the ECU.

EDF RENEWABLES

EDF Renewables UK and Ireland is a joint venture between two companies, EDF Energy (EDF's UK business) and EDF Renewables Group (EDF's global renewables business). EDF Renewables Group has more than 25 years' worth of experience in delivering renewable energy projects in more than 20 countries around the world.

EDF Renewables UK and Ireland has an operating portfolio of 36 wind farms and one of the UK's largest battery storage units (together totalling almost 1GW) and we are providing some of the much needed new affordable, low carbon electricity across all technologies.

We have an expanding renewables portfolio with almost 4GW of projects in planning and development across wind, battery and solar and we have 600MW currently under construction. We also have offices in Edinburgh, Durham, London and Dublin.

FORESTRY AND LAND SCOTLAND

The proposed Heathland Wind Farm development is on the national forests and land managed by Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) on behalf of Scottish Ministers. EDF Renewables and FLS are working together to ensure the best outcome for the proposed development. The Scottish Government continues to support generation of energy, including electricity from renewable sources as part of its strategy for improving sustainability, benefiting communities, reducing the effects of climate change and maximising financial returns from Scotland's national forests and land.

More details at www.forestryandland.gov.scot



26th November 2020

Dear Resident

Proposed Heathland Wind Farm - Online Exhibition

I am writing to update you on our proposed plans for the Heathland Wind Farm, situated on the commercial forestry site managed by Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS), approximately 1.5 km north east of Forth, South Lanarkshire.

Since hosting our earlier exhibitions in February and listening to the views of local residents and stakeholders, we have continued to develop our design for the site.

Our new proposal has considered the feedback received from residents and consultees and has sought to produce a viable project which is both environmentally and technically robust. The details of the changes made to the earlier site design that form our new proposal are included in this leaflet.

In addition, we will also be providing more comprehensive information on the proposed wind farm in a virtual exhibition, which will be available for viewing online from 30th November to 13th December.

Naturally, we would have preferred to have been able to host another round of public information days at local venues, but Covid-19 restrictions mean that we are unfortunately unable to do so.

Nevertheless, we have attempted to include the full breadth of information that would normally be available at the exhibitions in an online environment and this includes 3D visualisation of the proposed wind farm.

Full details of how to access the exhibition and ask us any questions are provided on the back page of this leaflet.

As well as contacting us with any comments on the proposal at this stage, you will also have the opportunity to make your views known to the planning authorities once the formal application has been made. Full details of this process are also provided in this leaflet.

I very much hope that this information and our online exhibition is of interest to you.

Yours sincerely



Torsten Frost
Onshore Wind Development Manager

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HEATHLAND Wind Farm

 **14**
turbines on site

 Up to
80MW
generating capacity

 **48,000**
annual households supplied*

 **83,000**
tonnes of CO₂ will be offset annually
by the proposed wind farm**

PROJECT UPDATE

EDF Renewables shared details of its proposed new Heathland Wind Farm at public consultation events held in February 2020.

Consent for a 17 turbine wind farm on this site was originally granted by Scottish Ministers in October 2018. At the events held earlier this year we explained how using fewer, larger turbines on the site could meet the energy needs of more households and make a bigger contribution to reducing CO₂ emissions as part of enhanced Government climate change targets.

The design we presented in February proposed to reduce the original 17 turbines planned for the site to 14, at an increased height of up to 180 metres to rotor blade tips – increasing the generation capacity from 54MW to up to 84MW.

Since February we have considered the stakeholder feedback and have now developed a new final design for the site.

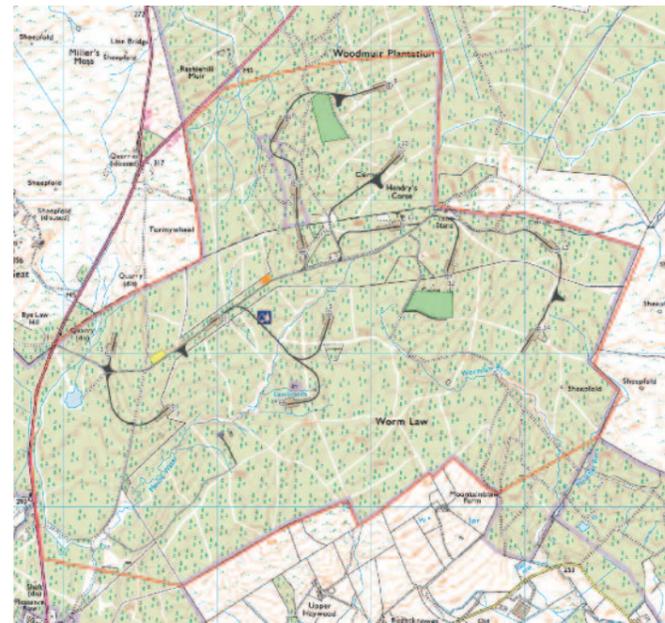
Comments from visitors to the February exhibitions and responses to the existing consented scheme have been key factors in the new design strategy.

The purpose of this exhibition is to share this final design with you, to answer any questions you may have and to let you know how you can make your opinions known as the project progresses through the consenting process.

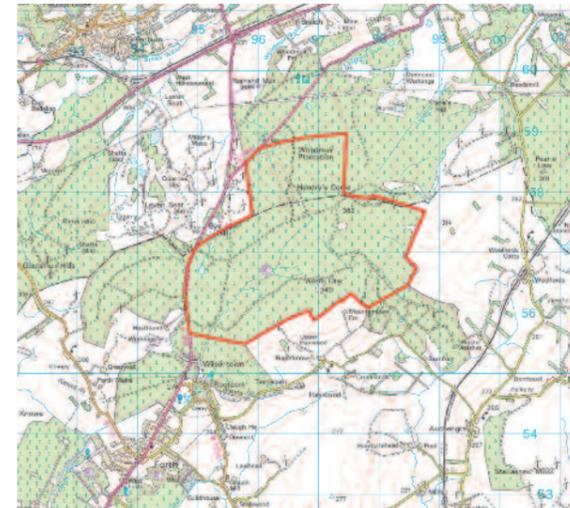
UPDATED PROPOSAL

- Incorporates 14 turbines on the site
- Reduces the height of 3 turbines to 150m to blade tip height and retains 11 turbines at 180m tip height
- Makes changes to the location of all 14 turbines to take into account site ground conditions, landscape and other environmental factors
- Will have a generation capacity of up to 80MW

New Proposed Layout



November 2020



Site Location Plan

 Development Site Boundary

DESIGN CHANGES

Since receiving feedback on our February proposal we have continued to carry out surveys and environmental assessments on the Heathland Forest site. We have worked our way through a large range of design options in an attempt to:

- Maintain buffers around key environmental sensitivities
- Improve the aesthetic design in relation to adjacent wind farms and when appreciated from key viewpoints
- Ensure a robust technical design. We have performed detailed site surveys and are locating infrastructure away from pockets of deep peat and other constraints.
- To take into account known mining history of the site

As a result of our latest changes, four turbines are now proposed to be located in West Lothian and ten in South Lanarkshire.

The reduction of tip heights of three turbines in the west of the site has been made to ensure that the proposed development is visually coherent in relation to the adjacent wind farms, in particular the turbines at Tormywheel.

Liaison with FLS has ensured that forestry felling requirements associated with turbine siting and buffering has been kept to a minimum.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

We anticipate that an application to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) for permission to build the wind farm under Section 36 of the Electricity Act will be submitted in January 2021.

When the application is submitted, there will be a 28 day consultation period for consultees (including local residents) to make representations directly to the Scottish Government and/or the local planning authority, via the websites of these organisations, ahead of any decisions being taken.

The submission of the Section 36 application will be advertised in Public Notices in the local newspapers and copies of the planning application will be available for public viewing.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

If consented, the Heathland Wind Farm would deliver a community fund with a value of £5,000 per MW installed capacity per year, in line with the Scottish Government's recommended rate. Based on a generating capacity of 80MW, the proposed wind farm would provide a local benefit fund of up to £400,000 each year for the lifetime of the wind farm.

Arrangements for the administration of the fund would be agreed with residents, local community councils and development trusts. The locally managed fund would be specifically structured to meet local priorities, support local groups and pay for local improvements and initiatives.

We have examples of how wind farm benefit funds are used to support local community activities across Scotland and would be happy to share these with you at the appropriate time.

EDF Renewables supports the principle of community ownership in wind farms and the lease agreements for the proposed Heathland development have an option for the local communities and FLS to take up to a 25% stake in the project. Further details on the community ownership opportunity are provided in a separate leaflet available at the virtual exhibition.

LOCAL SUPPLY CHAIN

EDF Renewables' procurement strategy encourages local and regional contractors to participate in the project supply chain throughout the construction, operation and decommissioning of the wind farm.

HEATHLAND WIND FARM Economic Benefits

 Up to
£400,000
invested each year in a
local community fund

 Up to
£12 million
available in total over the
lifetime of the wind farm

 **£12.7million**
anticipated regional spend
on construction and services***

