

# Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Beinneun 2 Wind Farm

Volume 1

Chapter 15: Mitigation Summary

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## 15 MITIGATION SUMMARY

### 15.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter summarises the mitigation measures identified within the EIA Report for the proposed Beinneun 2 Wind Farm (“the Development”), located approximately 5.4 km northwest of Invergarry and 11.3 km southwest of Fort Augustus in the Highland Council area.

This mitigation summary demonstrates that the proposed mitigation measures referred to in this EIA Report will be implemented and the Development will therefore lead to, at worst, the effects assessed in the EIA Report.

### 15.2 EMBEDDED MITIGATION CONTROLS

The EIA Report assesses the potential effects of the Development, with the Development being defined by the Development Description (Chapter 4) and embedded measures, which comprise the measures set out in the following Technical Appendices (TAs):

- TA A4.1: Outline Construction Environment Management Plan (oCEMP);
- TA A12.2: Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessment; and
- TA A14.2: Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (BSMP);

The oCEMP includes, either explicitly or implicitly, the following plans that for some projects are referred to, or produced, separately:

- Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP); and
- Pollution Prevention Plan (PPP).

The CEMP also includes controls for the following environmental aspects, which correspond to with the construction-phase mitigation set out in the relevant EIA Report chapters: Noise (chapter 9) and Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Peat (chapter 12).

As a result, potential effects that may arise in the absence of these embedded measures are not assessed. There is, therefore, a requirement for the Development to proceed with the embedded measures in place for the potential effects to be as assessed in the EIA Report.

### 15.3 MITIGATION MEASURES

Mitigation measures are integral to the Development design (as outlined in EIA Report Chapter 3, Site Selection and Design Evolution), including:

- Use of an iterative design process to avoid sensitive habitats, deep peat and watercourses;
- Optimised turbine layout to reduce visual impacts and noise;
- Turbine siting and lighting scheme proposed to the Civil Aviation Authority to minimise aviation safety and night-time visual effects;
- Construction methods that minimise peat disturbance, soil erosion and water pollution; and
- Commitment to peatland restoration and habitat enhancement through a Habitat Management Plan (HMP).

Additional mitigation will be secured via plans and procedures implemented before and during construction, operation and decommissioning.

The mitigation summary shown in Table 15.1 includes all mitigation to which the Applicant is committed in the EIA Report, including both specific mitigation measures and embedded mitigation measures (where these are not part of the inherent design shown on plans, such as the location of wind turbines). It also includes all mitigation, whether to mitigate significant effects or not-significant effects.

Environmental monitoring is only explicitly included in this summary if it is not already described in a secured mitigation measure and only if mitigation actions rely on the findings of such monitoring.

The Applicant will ensure that the mitigation is delivered by making it a contractual requirement in the contract between the Applicant and the Principal Contractor (during

construction) and/or the asset management contractor (during operation) if one is appointed. In some cases the Applicant will engage a qualified and experienced consultant to deliver the mitigation.

The expected means of securing each mitigation is indicated in the right-hand column of Table 15.1, although whether and how this is implemented would be a matter for Scottish Ministers when issuing a Section 36 Consent and Deemed Planning Permission for the Development.

#### **15.4 SUMMARY**

The mitigation measures identified in the EIA Report for Beinneun 2 Wind Farm form a comprehensive package of embedded design features, management plans and operational controls. These will ensure that environmental effects during construction, operation and decommissioning are avoided, reduced or offset as far as reasonably practicable.

The Applicant will commit to securing these measures through legally enforceable planning conditions, inclusion in contractor contracts, and oversight by a qualified Environmental Clerk of Works. With these measures in place, the Development will not result in any effects greater than those assessed in the EIAR and will deliver net environmental benefits, particularly through habitat restoration and significant greenhouse gas savings.

**Table 16.1 Mitigation Summary**

No.	Commitment	Source or Outline Document	Purpose	Project Phase	Delivery	Expected Securing Mechanism
1	Final micro-siting of turbines and infrastructure	Chapter 4, Section 4.2.9	To document final design and ensure consistency with EIAR assumptions while allowing up to 50 m micro-siting to avoid sensitive features	Pre-construction	Before commencement of construction of each of the wind farm and the BESS (separately)	Planning condition
2	Provision of a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	Technical Appendix A4.1, Outline CEMP	To set out the measures that are required to protect environmental resources during the construction phase, including use of an Environmental Clerk of Works (ECoW) to oversee ecological, hydrological and pollution prevention measures, ensuring compliance with CEMP, SPPs and PMP.	Construction	Prior to commencement of construction	Planning condition
3	Limits on the operation phase duration	Chapter 4, section 4.4	To limit the operation phase and thereby ensure that effects are reversible as far as practicable.	Operation	N/a	Section 36 condition
4	Implementation of the aviation lighting scheme	Chapter 5, section 5.6.2, and Chapter 14, Technical Appendix A14.1	To provide aviation lighting that meets the requirements of aviation operators and, within those parameters, minimises light visible by others	Operation	On erection of the turbines and during the operation phase	Planning condition
5	Provision of an Habitat Management Plan (HMP)	Chapter 6, Section 6.7.1.1 and TA A6.6, Outline HMP	To deliver long-term ecological enhancement, including restoration of degraded peatland, low density broadleaf planting and cleuch woodland planting	Construction and operation	Prior to commencement of construction	Planning condition
6	Provision of Species Protection Plans (SPPs)	Chapter 6, Section 6.5.2 and TA A6.6, Outline HMP	To avoid harm or disturbance to protected species; includes pre-commencement surveys, buffers and safe excavation practices	Construction	Prior to and during construction	CEMP / ECoW oversight
7	Provision of a Bird Protection Plan (BPP)	Chapter 7, Section 7.4.3.1, Table 7.6	To protect nesting birds during construction through timing restrictions and exclusion zones	Construction	Prior to and during construction	Planning condition / CEMP

No.	Commitment	Source or Outline Document	Purpose	Project Phase	Delivery	Expected Securing Mechanism
8	Adherence to limits on noise at residential properties from operating wind turbines	Chapter 9, section 9.3.7,	To limit the noise at residential properties to within the assessed limits.	Operation	N/a	Planning condition
9	Implementation of a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP)	Chapter 11, section 11.7.1	To set out measures to reduce the number of construction vehicles as well as identifying measures to mitigate the impact of vehicles.	Construction	Prior to commencement of construction and enabling works	Planning condition
10	Provision of a peat management plan	Chapter 12, section 12.5.4 and TA A12.2, section 4.2	To ensure impacts on peat are minimised during the construction phase	Construction	Prior to and during construction	Planning condition
11	Provision of an Operation Environmental Management Plan (OEMP)	Chapter 12, Section 12.5.1	To ensure environmental protection during the operation phase of the Development	Operation	Prior to and during the operation phase	Planning condition
12	Provision of a Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (DEMP)	Chapter 12, Section 12.5.1	To ensure environmental protection during removal of turbines and site restoration at end of project life	Decommissioning	Prior to and during decommissioning	Planning condition
13	Provision of an Access Management Plan (AMP)	Chapter 13, Section 13.6	To maintain safe public access and manage temporary path closures during construction	Construction	Prior to and during construction	Planning condition
14	Provision of a Battery Safety Management Plan (BSMP)	Chapter 14, section 14.5.1.2 and Technical Appendix A14.2.	To set out the measures required to minimise the risk of, and consequences from, a battery fire	Operation	Prior to commencement of any part of the BESS	Planning condition