RWE

Creachan Wind Farm

Public Consultation Information
April 2025

Our design journey

Thank you for attending this consultation for our Creachan Wind Farm. There are a number of staff on hand who will be happy to talk you through any of the material and answer any questions that you may have.

Since our first public consultation event we have incorporated feedback and can now show a revised design.

It is essential that the local community and other stakeholders are given the opportunity to view the proposal and, importantly, feedback their views.

After further design inputs we have revised our design for the Wind Farm. This has resulted in a reduction in the number of turbines from 21 to 13.

13
Number of turbines
Initially 21 turbines

180-200m
Maximum blade tip height
4 up to 180m & 9 up to 200m

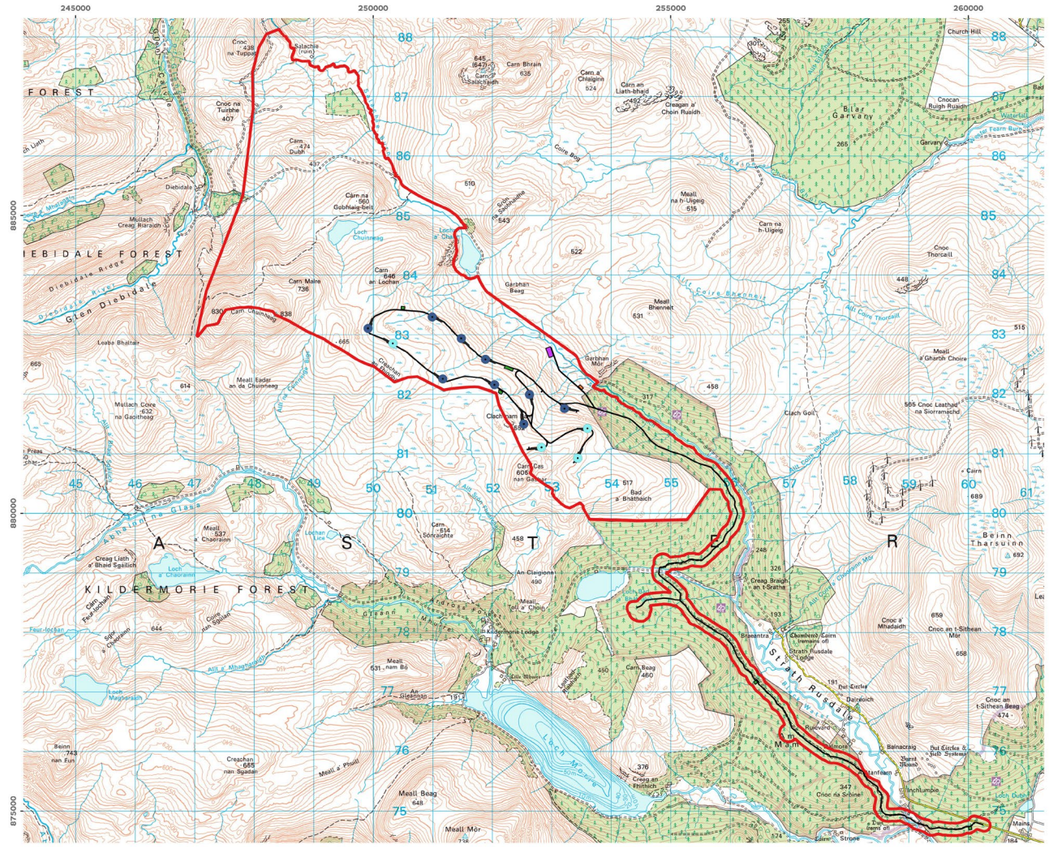
Up to
91 MW
Installed capacity

Up to
86,000
Homes powered*

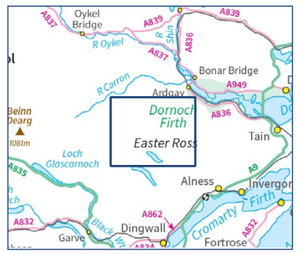
Up to
£455,000
Annual support for local communities**

* Based on average household electricity consumption of 3,509kWh source (Ofgem)
** Based on Scottish Government Guidance of £5,000/installed MW/Annum

Creachan
Wind farm



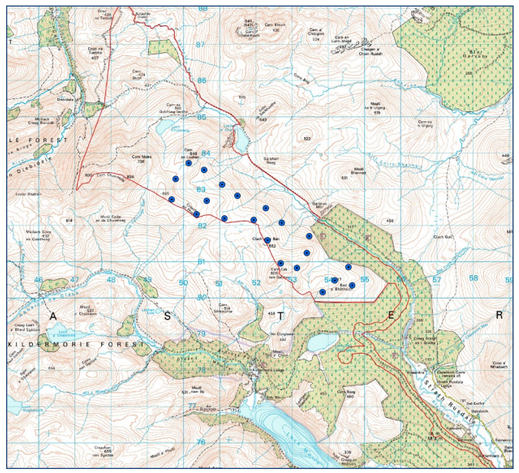
- Site Boundary
- Battery Storage
- Control Building
- Construction Compounds
- Cranepads & Laydown
- Access Track
- Proposed Turbines 180m to tip
- Proposed Turbines 200m to tip



Design Evolution

Scoping & Exhibition Layout 2024:

21 turbines, up to 220m to blade tip height.

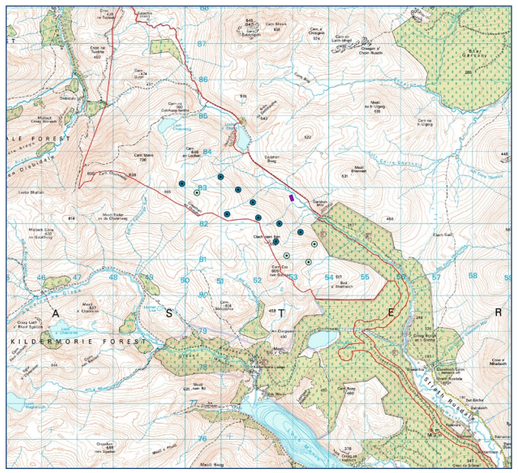


Site Boundary

21 Turbines - Up to 220m

Current Layout:

13 turbines, 4 turbines up to 180m and 9 turbines up to 200m to blade tip height plus battery storage.



Site Boundary

Battery Storage

4 Turbines - Up to 180m

9 Turbines - Up to 200m

Since the first public exhibition in October 2024, there have been some key changes to the site.

The key design drivers have been results of:

- Environmental surveys - primarily peat depth and condition surveys
- Landscape assessments including consultation with Highland Council and Nature Scot
- Feedback from local residents
- The wind resource data we have collected.

Key changes to design are as follows:

- Removed turbines for landscape and visual considerations. The four eastern most turbines have been removed to increase the distance from residential properties on the Strath Rusdale Road and reduce the visibility from viewpoints in the north east including from the Dornhoch Firth National Scenic Area (NSA).
- Reduced the heights of all turbines from the initial proposal of 220m to a maximum of 200m with four turbines at 180m. This again helps reduce visibility from the Dornoch Firth NSA and other key views.
- Positioned turbines to avoid areas of deeper peat and where possible locate turbines in areas where peat is in a poorer condition. Peat depths were another reason to remove turbines from the east of the site.
- Maximise the potential available wind resource by spacing turbines with regard to prevailing wind direction and terrain impacts.
- Other site constraints considered in the layout included ornithological constraints, proximity to watercourses and other sensitive areas.

Battery Storage

We are planning to install co-located battery storage on site.

With the increase of renewables being deployed, greater flexibility is required within the electrical system to manage fluctuating supply and demand.

Energy storage can provide this necessary flexibility, while also providing additional services that facilitate the safe and efficient operation of the grid.

It is expected that Lithium-ion batteries will be installed. This battery technology is well suited for short-duration energy supply due to the speed they can be charged and discharged when required.

~ 80 MW
Installed capacity

~ 80m x 165m
Footprint

Lithium-ion
Batteries

~ 104 x 20ft
Battery containers

~ 26 x 20ft
Inverter containers

How the wind farm could look

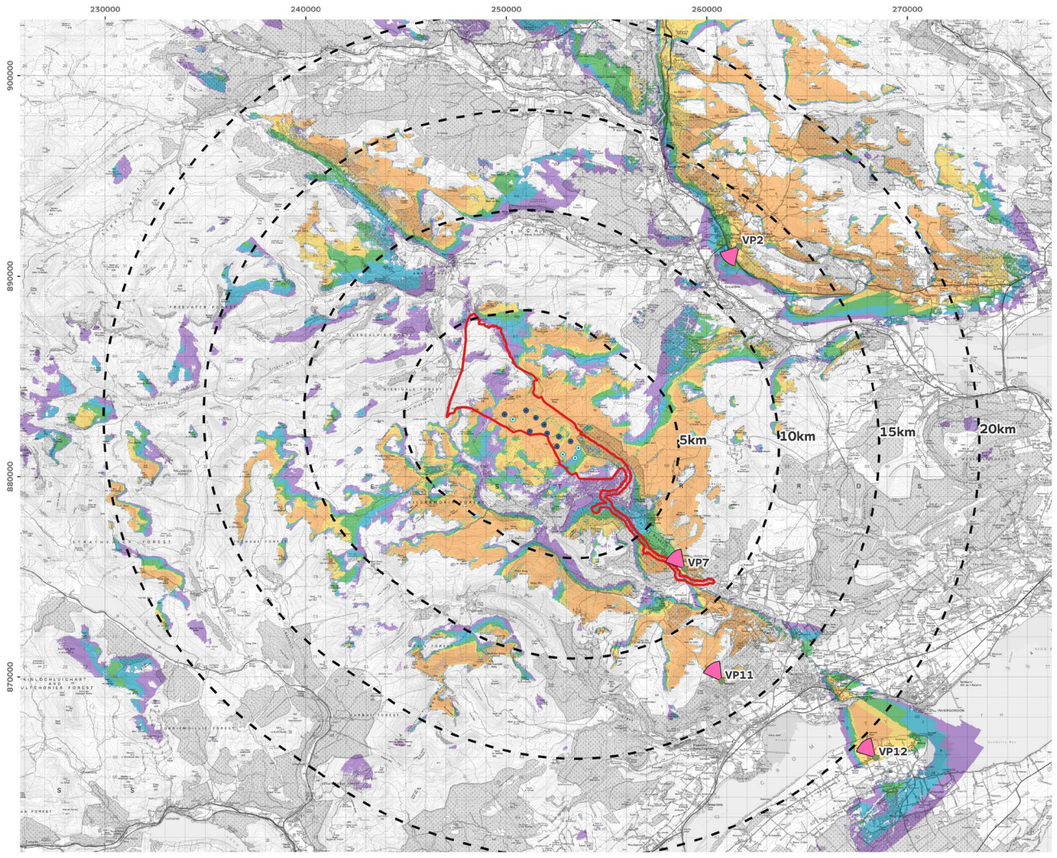
Our proposal is for 13 turbines with a total generating capacity of up to 91 MW plus battery storage.

At this exhibition we are displaying a number of representative visualisations from the surrounding area. These include:

- **VP2** Bonar Bridge (Matheson Road)
- **VP7** Strath Rusdale
- **VP11** Fyrish Monument/Cnoc Fyrsih
- **VP12** B9163 near Resolis and Balblair

The planning application itself will include 18 visualisations from a wider geographical area and will include a selection of night-time visuals.

The ZTV (Zone of Theoretical Visibility) presented here shows where the wind farm could be seen, assuming a landscape without any surface features (for example it does not take into account any natural or built elements like trees or buildings) which can limit how much of the wind farm is actually visible.



Site Boundary

Turbine Buffer

Proposed Turbines 180m to tip

Proposed Turbines 200m to tip

Viewpoints

Number of turbines theoretically visible to tip height

- 1 - 3
- 4 - 6
- 7 - 9
- 10 - 12
- 13

Bringing the turbines to site

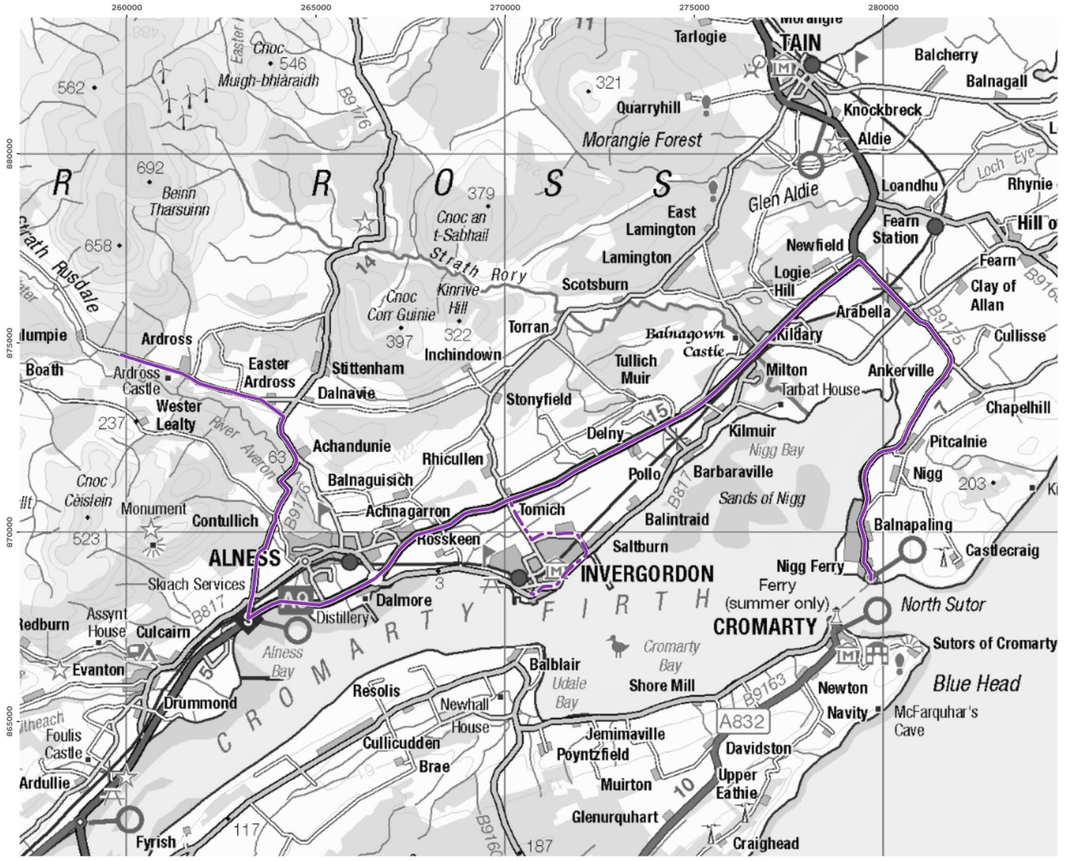
We've shown two possible routes on this map.

We propose to ship the wind turbines into either the Port of Nigg or Invergordon and then transport them by road along the A9, before turning off at the Skiach Services junction.

The route then travels north along the Struie Road (B9176) for approximately 4 miles then west along the Strath Rusdale Road (U1907) for 3 miles.

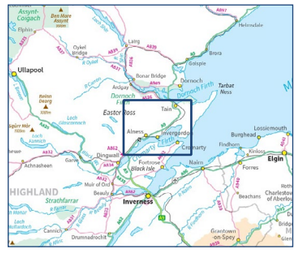
The delivery vehicles would then leave the public highway and utilise existing forest tracks (to be upgraded) to reach the main wind farm site.

We realise that any deliveries would have an effect on the surrounding community, so we'd like to hear your views on the routes we've got in mind.

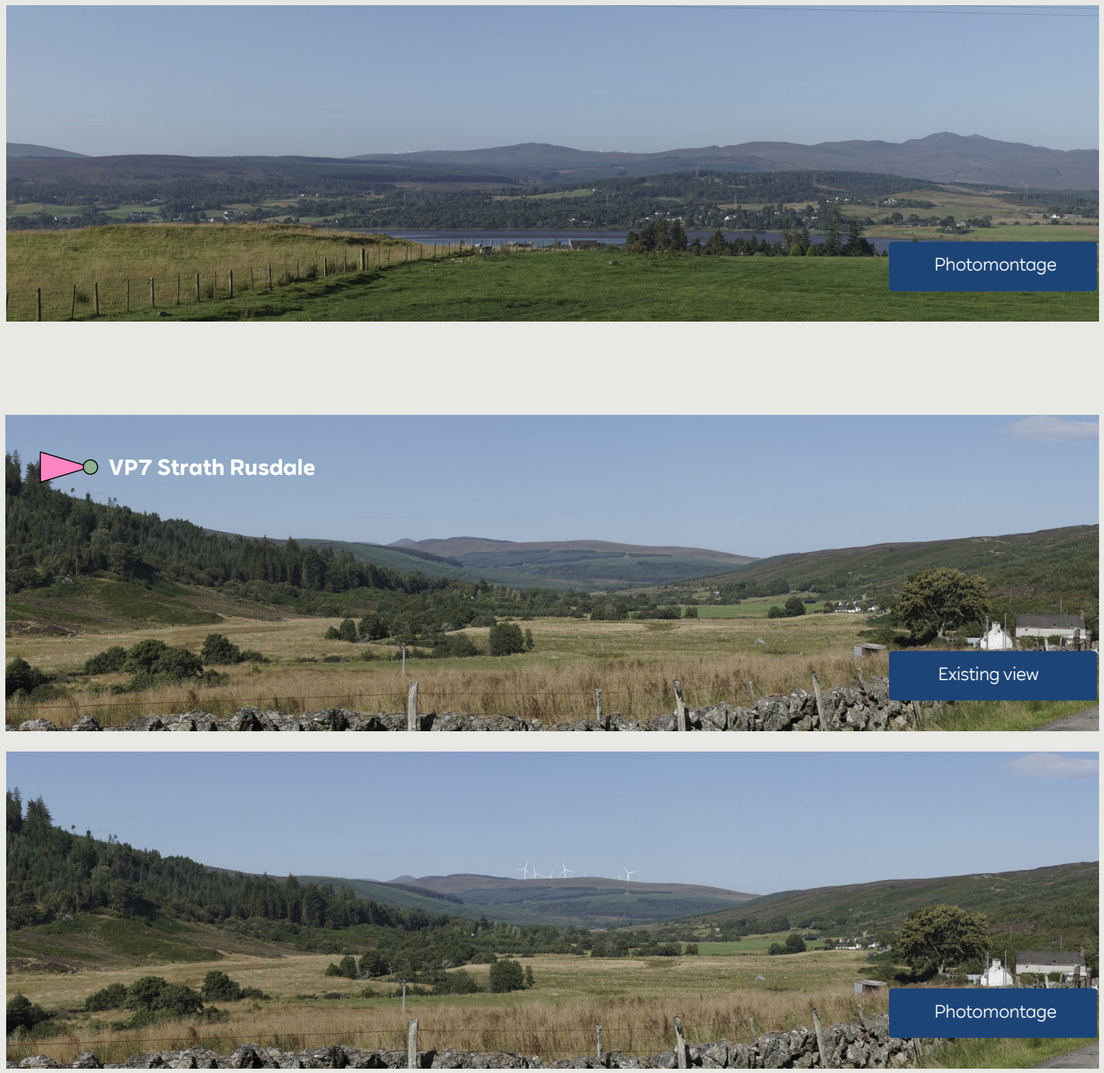


Turbine Delivery Route from Nigg

Turbine Delivery Route from Invergordon



Wind farm viewpoints



Project timeline
Creachan

October 2024

We held our first consultation event and received feedback from the community.

April/May 2025

We are holding our second round of public consultation showing the results of our latest design.

Spring/ Summer 2025

We finalise our planning application.

July 2025

We submit an application to the ECU. The formal consultation period begins where representations are made to the ECU.

July/ August 2025

The community have the opportunity to make their formal comment on the proposal to the planning authority.

2026

Depending on whether any statutory consultees object, the ECU will notify RWE that the development has either been consented, or a public inquiry has been triggered.

What happens next?

In the coming months we'll be finishing off our environmental assessments. The results will then be presented in the form of a planning application which will be submitted to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU).

You can find out more information on the ECU planning portal using reference **ECU00005211** or by searching **Creachan.**

Have your say

Camster Wind Farm

Thank you for taking the time to view the Creachan proposal.
You can provide feedback using the following:

Complete a feedback form (via post or online):

RWE, Ground Floor
Earn House, Broxden Business Park
Perth, PH1 1RA

If you wish to contact a member of the Creachan Wind Farm team you can email us at:

creachan@rwe.com

An online copy of this exhibition can be found at:

rwe.com/creachan

Please note that feedback forms should be returned no later than **30th May 2025.**

Receiving comments at this stage helps us further refine our plans and take into account any key issues that arise locally.

Please note that any comments made to RWE are not representations to the consenting authority. Once RWE submits a Section 36 application, there will be an opportunity to make such representations on that application to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit.

rwe.com/creachan

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