

RWE

Golticlay Wind Farm Extension



Welcome

Thank you for participating in our Golticlay Wind Farm Extension consultation.

Members of our project team are on hand to discuss the proposal in detail and answer any questions you may have. We are eager to hear your feedback on the proposal, with the intention of incorporating it into future designs where appropriate.

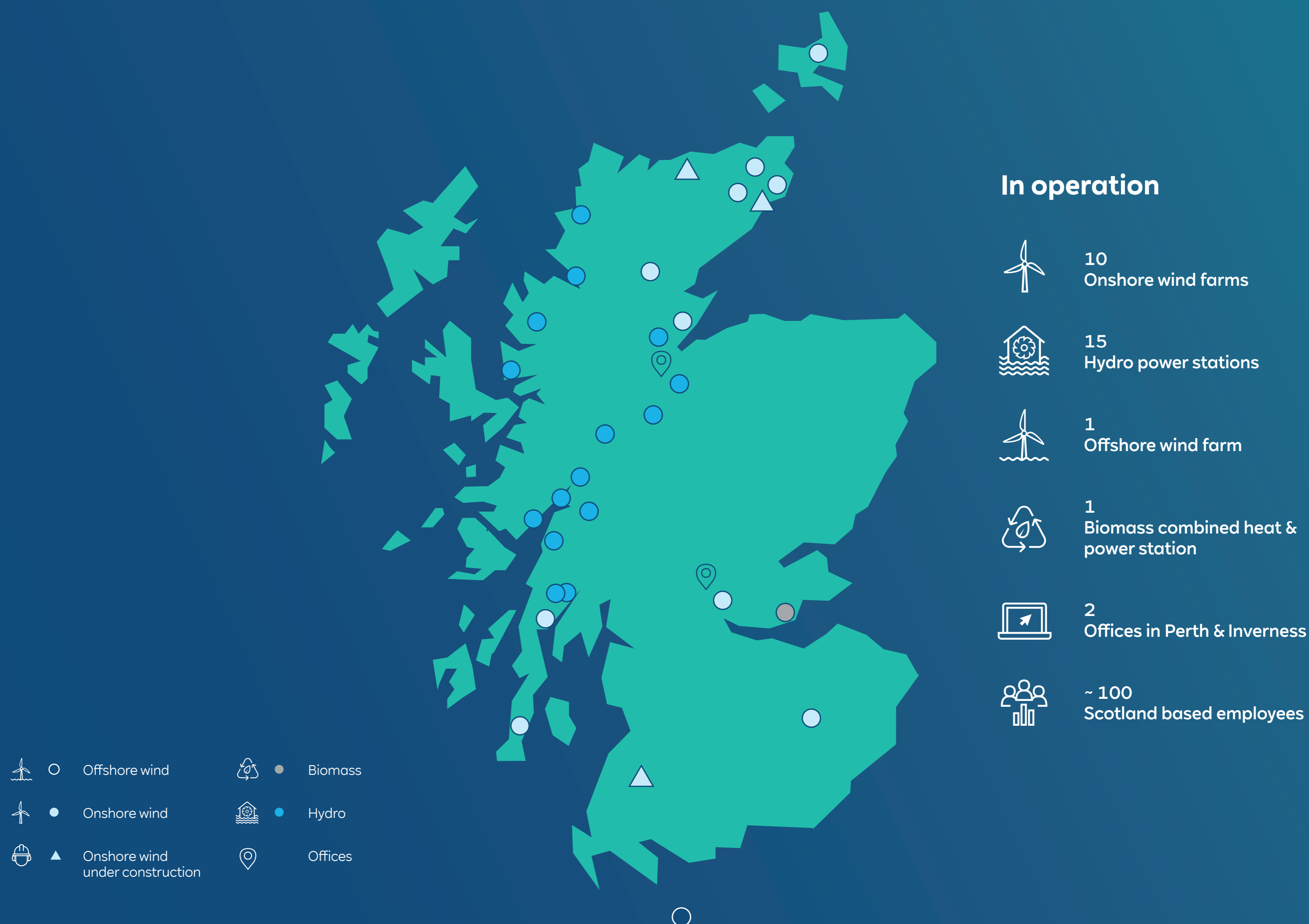
The site is approximately 6km north of Lybster and 19km south west of Wick. In January 2025, we requested an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Opinion from the Scottish Government, who will seek feedback from all statutory and non-statutory consultees. At RWE, proactive community consultation is both essential and integral to our planning process.

We believe it's important for the local community and other stakeholders to share their opinions about the proposal and provide feedback directly to the project team. To ensure everyone can participate, we've set up an online virtual consultation room where you can view and comment on the proposal at your convenience.

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About RWE



RWE is one of the world's leading generators of electricity from renewable sources and the leading power producer in the UK.

RWE's operations in the UK include a variety of technologies, including onshore wind, which generates enough electricity to power 10 million homes, equivalent to around 15% of the UK's electricity.

We aim to expand renewable energy developments in Scotland to help achieve the country's 2045 net zero ambition. In Scotland, RWE currently owns and operates ten onshore wind farms, six of which are in the Highlands, with a combined capacity of 225 MW.

Why do we need wind farms?

In the face of the climate change emergency, the Scottish Government aims to deploy 20 GW of onshore wind by 2030 to achieve net zero by 2045. Onshore wind delivers affordable, clean energy for the long term. Scotland is also one of the windiest countries in Europe and has a long and positive history of delivering renewable energy; this makes it a prime location for investment in renewables.

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Why an extension to Golticlay Wind Farm?

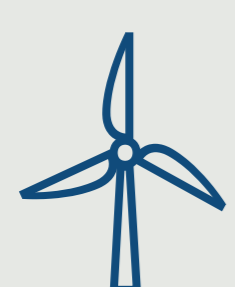
Golticlay Extension borders the Golticlay Wind Farm and has many benefits such as consistently high wind speeds and available grid capacity. These, combined with other benefits makes it an attractive area to develop a wind farm.

Project History

Over a decade ago, RWE (then Innogy) explored this land for a possible wind farm project, previously called Stemster. In 2021, after Innogy merged with E.ON to become RWE, the project was put on hold until the neighbouring Golticlay Wind Farm project progressed.

Golticlay Wind Farm Extension (then Stemster) was scoped twice in 2018 and 2019. Now that Golticlay Wind Farm is consented, we felt it was appropriate to rescope this project as an extension. We have since commissioned further studies to assess the site's suitability against other factors.

Considering environmental and construction constraints, we have generated an initial turbine layout for Golticlay Wind Farm Extension that we are keen to share. When identifying a suitable location for a wind farm, RWE invests considerable time and effort into assessing site viability. The current site is approximately 995 hectares and consists predominantly of open moorland that is used by grazing cattle and sheep.



~ 11
Number of turbines



~ 200 m
Maximum blade tip height



~ 50 MW
Installed capacity



Battery
Energy Storage



~ £313,500
Support for local communities**



~ 71,000
Homes powered*

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

A photograph of the Camster Wind Farm, showing several large white wind turbines standing in a field of dry, brown grass under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The turbines are spaced out across the landscape, with one particularly large turbine in the center-left foreground.

Camster Wind Farm

Our studies

Our independent environmental consultants are conducting a range of studies to understand the impact the wind farm could have on the environment.

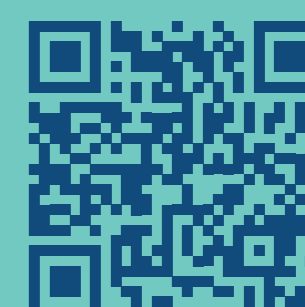
So far, our studies have shown that there are several factors we need to consider when determining turbines locations, including but not limited to geology, ecology, ornithology, landscape and cultural heritage.

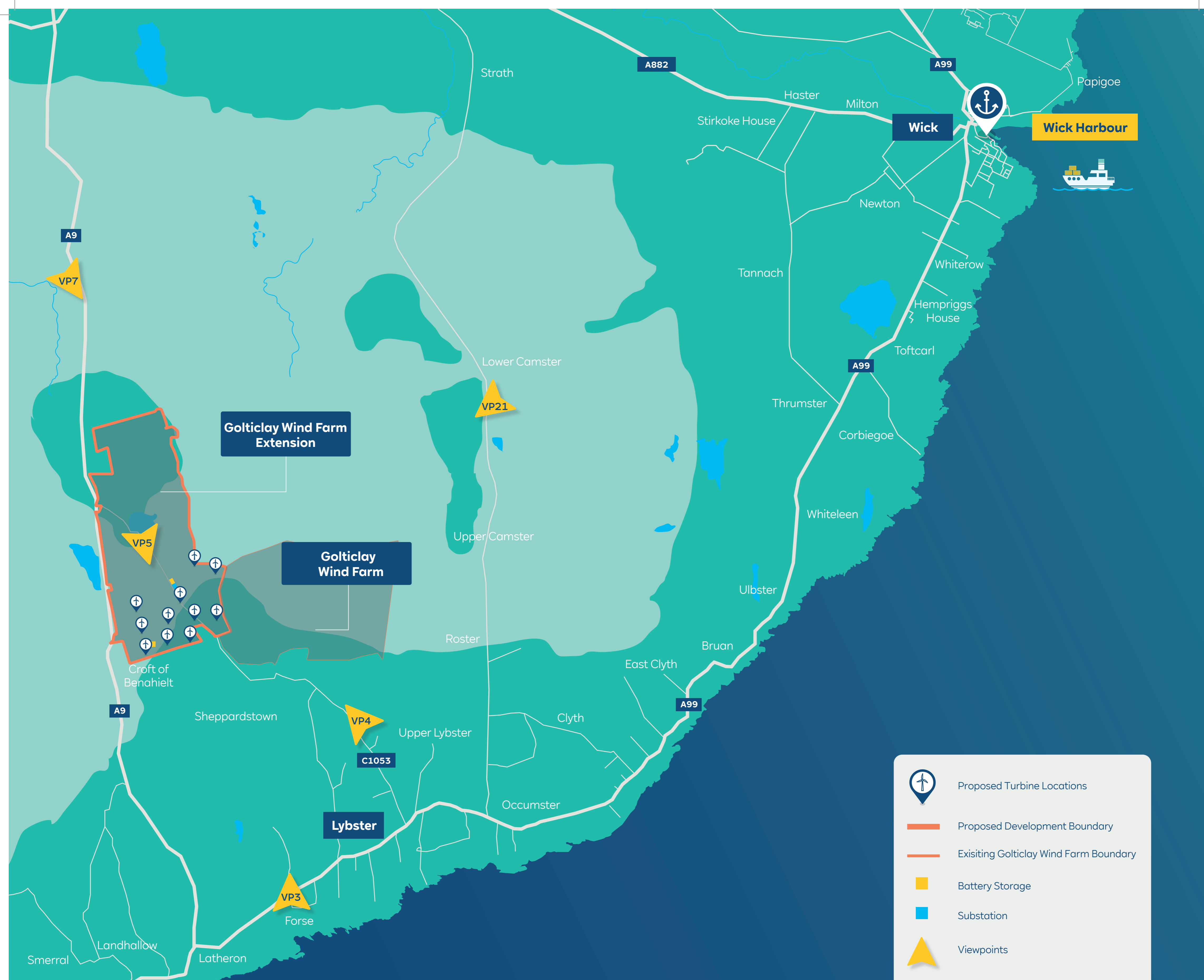
Our assessments and feedback from consultees will guide our decisions on turbine placement and where we need to take extra precautions. The findings of the studies will be documented in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) submitted to support the planning application.

You can find more information about the proposed survey work in the Scoping Report which is available on the Energy Consents Unit planning portal using reference **ECU00006095** or by searching **Golticlay Wind Farm Extension**.



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How the wind farm could look

Our proposal is for up to 11 turbines with a total generating capacity of over 50 MW and battery storage. The turbines will have a maximum tip height of 200 m, helping to make the best use of the wind resource from the site.

We've produced some indicative visuals to give you an idea of what the Golticlay Wind Farm Extension could look like from different viewpoints. While only the views from a few key locations are shown here today, additional viewpoints will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) accompanying the consent application. The full list of viewpoints will be finalised in consultation with The Highland Council, NatureScot, and Historic Environment Scotland. We're keen to hear what you think of our proposals and any questions, concerns or suggestions you may have.

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Bringing the turbines to site

We propose to ship the wind turbines to Wick Harbour and then transport them by road along the A99 and finally along the c1053 to the site entrance.

We understand these deliveries may impact the surrounding community, so we would like your opinions on the proposed routes. We'd also like your feedback on the timing of turbine deliveries and speed restrictions on heavy goods vehicles near the wind farm site.

This will allow us to create a traffic management plan that addresses concerns and minimises the potential impact on the local community.

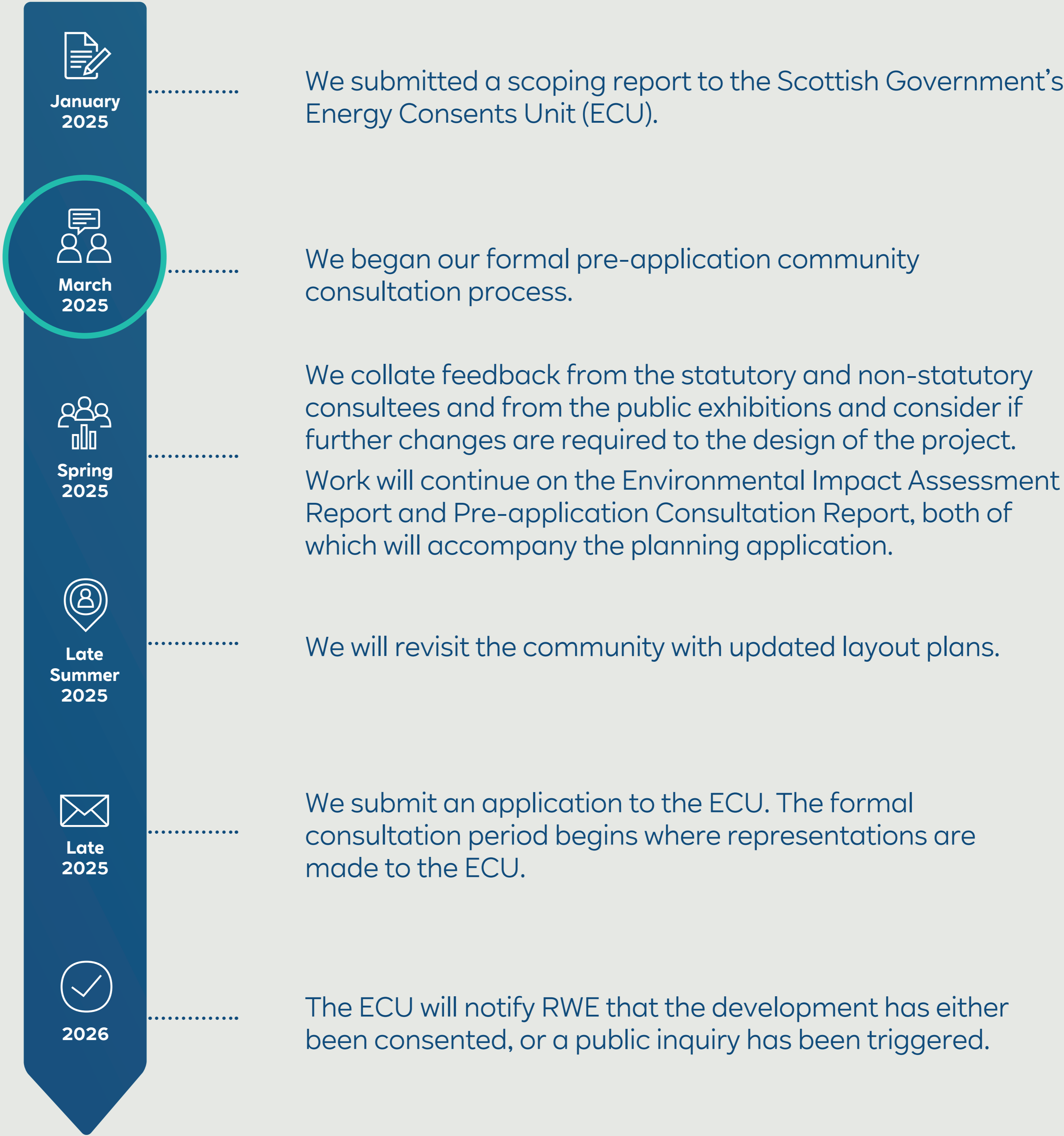
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Project timeline

Golticlay Extension

Detailing the initial stages of the Golticlay Wind Farm Extension:



What happens next?

In the upcoming months, we will finish our environmental studies. The results and your feedback will help us finalise the best layout for the wind farm. The next step will be to present the updated design iteration to you for further review.

Please take this opportunity to provide your feedback so that we can incorporate it into our studies and design.

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Project timeline

Golticlay

**Detailing the construction of the
bordering Golticlay Wind Farm:**



Keep up to date...

If you have any questions regarding the planned works for Golticlay Wind Farm, please contact us at:

rwe.com/golticlay
golticlay@rwe.com

rwe.com/golticlayextension



Working with your community

RWE community funds change lives for the better. As one of the world's leading renewable energy firms, we are committed to making a significant and positive impact on the lives of local people.

Whether we are bringing people together, improving community services, boosting tourism or creating new job opportunities, we are proud to see our funds making a difference in the communities where we operate.

Thanks to renewable energy, communities can access our support and invest it into projects where it's needed most. To date, wind farm projects operated by RWE in Scotland have invested more than £7.8 million into community funds, enabling our neighbouring communities to accomplish amazing things.

We want to be a good neighbour and believe that involving local people from the outset is the best way to ensure the Golticlay Wind Farm Extension is sensitively designed and brings benefits to the area.

Community Benefit Fund

We will set up a Community Benefit Fund in line with the Scottish Government Community Benefit Good Practice Guidelines. This will provide a yearly fund to support local community projects throughout the wind farm's lifetime. We'd love to know how you think a Community Benefit Fund could help your area and how it should work.

Getting involved with our Community Benefit Fund won't affect your right to have your say on our planning application at any time, whether you support the wind farm or not.

Community Liaison Group

If the project is consented we would like to create a regular Community Liaison Group (CLG) for the wind farm. As the project develops, RWE is keen to receive direct community feedback and the CLG provides a useful pathway for that information. The CLG would consist of representatives from the host and neighbouring Community Councils and other constituted groups wanting to be involved.

Supply Chain

Many skills, goods and services are required to build a wind farm, and there will be opportunities for local companies to bid for contracts to help develop and construct the site. It is important to us that local suppliers are involved in this project whenever possible.

In 2024 RWE's community funds in Scotland helped to create:

Education & training opportunities

176+

Match funding

£2.5m+

Created

11 jobs

Safeguarded

25 jobs

Community centre

community shop

rwe.com/in-your-community





“The funding provided a means for me to carry out this training which without the funding I probably would not have done. The training has allowed me to carry out the sheep dipping process for myself and I will now be able to do this for surrounding neighbours. This has helped reduce my own costs, something that my neighbours will also benefit from.”

Derek | Local crofter

Investing in Scottish Communities

Enabling skill development in Caithness

In Caithness, several local panels allocated RWE community funds to support residents in education and training. These awards provide access to learning opportunities that equip individuals with essential skills to secure or maintain jobs in key industries. The funds have supported degree courses, master's qualifications, HND courses, and vocational training, enabling people to start businesses or improve employment prospects. One local beneficiary is Derek, a crofter who received funding for a two-day course, allowing him to achieve his Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Sheep Dips for Crofters.

Supporting valued local services in Caithness

Watten Shop, or Woodside Stores, is a community success story. When the shop was at risk of closing, a group of residents came together to save it. With support from a wind farm-funded Community Development Officer, the group developed a plan to create more than just a grocery store.

With over £90k from the RWE's Camster Wind Farm Community Fund, the Watten Shop Group used the funding to cover an initial lease period, legal costs, wages, stock and equipment. Funding also went towards purchasing the shop, securing match funding in the process.

The shop boosts the local economy by prioritising local produce and providing part-time employment and work experience opportunities. It also features a small café helping to reduce social isolation. All profits are reinvested into local projects.

Enabling communities to address social isolation

Aberdalgie & Forteviot Parish Church Greenshoots Centre received two awards from Lochelbank Wind Farm for play equipment and bark surfacing, aimed at creating an activity-based play garden.

This traditionally rural parish, located to the southwest of Perth, is expanding rapidly due to the construction of new housing. In response to this, the church developed the Greenshoots Centre, a garden and community green space that provides an opportunity to bring communities together to learn new skills and connect.

Supporting affordable childcare in Argyll

The local panel allocating the RWE An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund has decided to provide ongoing support to a community-owned childcare facility to help boost the local economy.

Carindow Community Childcare provides affordable care for children aged six months to 12 years in Inveraray. As the only after-school and out-of-term time childcare service in the area, it is vital, especially in light of the acute labour shortage in mid-Argyll, which is worsened by limited childcare options. Our wind farm community funds provide a reliable, long-term income.

Scan the QR code to watch
our short community film



Have your say

Camster Wind Farm

Thank you for taking the time to view the Golticlay Wind Farm Extension proposal.

Over the next few months we will continue to gather a significant amount of information via our technical assessments and your feedback on the proposal.

You can provide feedback using the following:



Complete a feedback form
(via post or online)

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



Arrange a call with a member of the project team.
To book an appointment, please contact us at:

**rwe.com/golticlayextension
golticlayextension@rwe.com**

Please note that feedback forms should be returned no later than 25th April 2025.

Your feedback will help us refine our proposal and take into account key concerns among the local community.

Please note that any comments made to RWE are not representations to the consenting authority. Any feedback provided is for RWE use only and helps us design our plans. Once RWE submits a Section 36 application, there will be an opportunity to make formal representations on that application to the consenting authority.

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