

TORRISDALE WIND FARM

Public Information Day

Carradale, 11 February 2025



Welcome to the public information day for our proposed West Torrisdale Wind Farm development located in a forestry plantation around 4 km to the south-west of Carradale, in Argyll and Bute, on the Kintyre peninsula.

An application for the proposed development was submitted to the Scottish Ministers under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 on 10 January 2025 under application reference ECU00002224.

The public information day is being held so you can learn more about the submitted proposals, view hard copy application documents, ask any questions you might have about the application, and meet the project team.

Project Summary

The proposal is for up to 9 wind turbines at a maximum blade tip height of 149.9m, a battery storage

system, and all associated infrastructure, with a total generating capacity in excess of 50 MW.

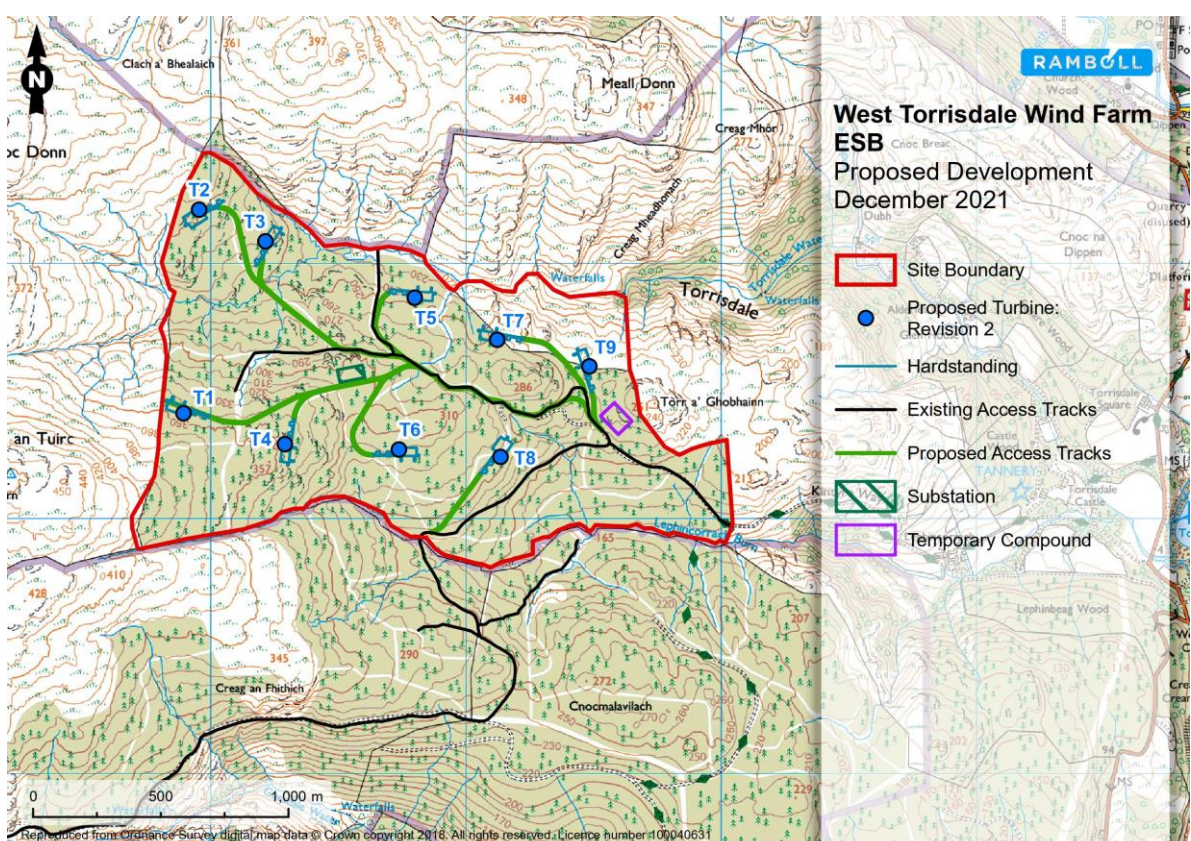
The site benefits from good wind speeds, existing site access from the track network of the operational Beinn an Tuirc Wind Farm, a nearby grid connection point at the Carradale Substation, and has no designated environmental features on-site.

Applicant

ESB, established in 1927, is Ireland's part state-owned electricity utility company and is a leading independent power generator in the UK.

ESB has offices in Glasgow and is heavily involved in onshore and offshore wind, electric vehicle infrastructure and renewable heating systems, such as the low-carbon heating and cooling system installed in the V&A Dundee.

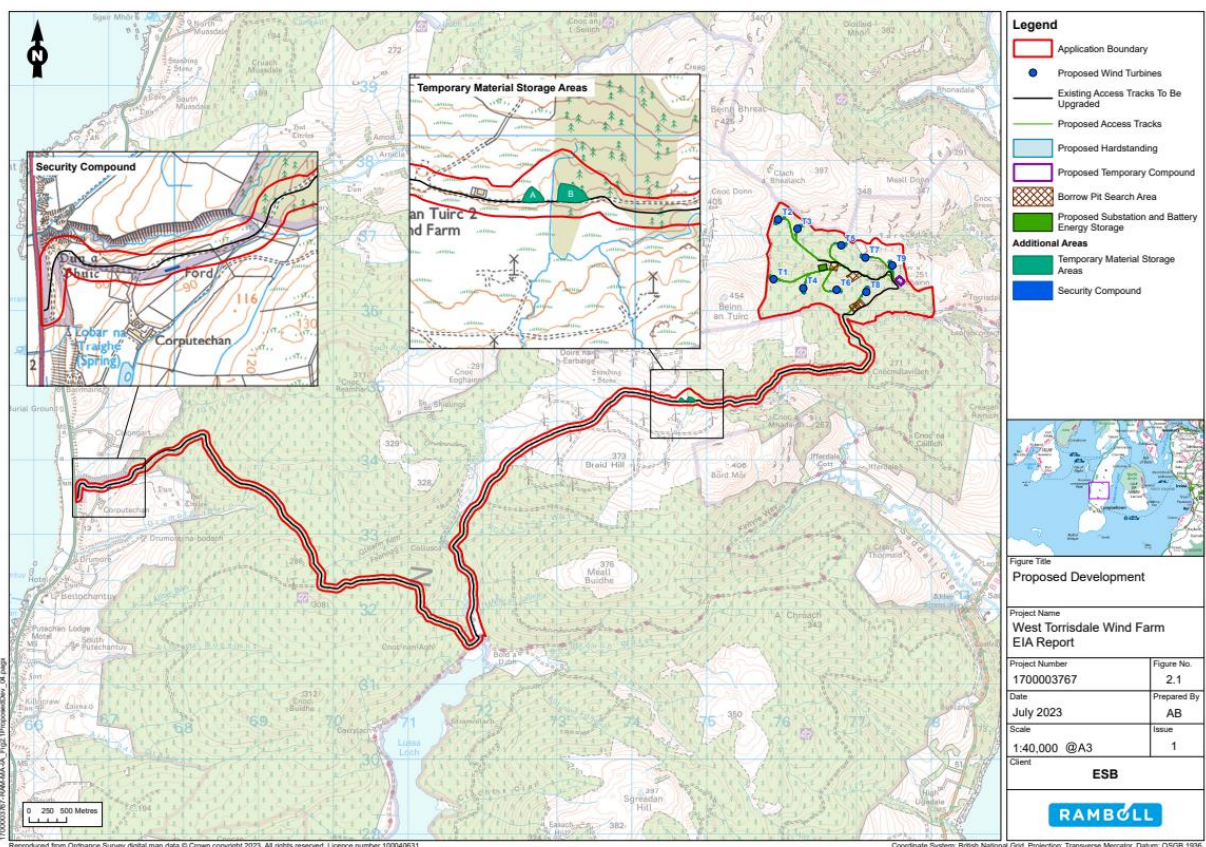
Proposed Site Layout Plan



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WEST TORRISDALE WIND FARM

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT



Proposed Site Location Plan

Proposed Development

The West Torrisdale Wind Farm proposal comprises:

- Up to 9 wind turbines, each up to a maximum tip height of 149.9 m (of up to 6 MW), permanent foundations, associated crane hardstandings and an external transformer at each wind turbine location;
- A series of new on-site access tracks (approximately 4.9 km) with associated watercourse crossings where necessary, and upgraded sections of existing access track (approximately 18.7 km) from the A83 road;
- A compound containing control building, substation (including outdoor transformer and control equipment) a battery storage system (of up to 20 MW) and a LiDAR compound;
- Temporary construction compounds including for construction, security and materials handling; and
- Search areas for three borrow pits.

Grid

The proposed development will connect to the grid network at Carradale Substation by way of an underground cable route, avoiding the need for overhead lines. This will be subject to a separate planning application.

Access to the site for vehicles delivering construction materials and turbine components will be from the A83 to the west of the site via the existing access track for the operational Beinn an Tuirc Wind Farm and forestry haulage route. The existing access track will be upgraded where necessary.

The turbine components, including blades and tower sections, will be delivered to Campbeltown Harbour and then by road along the A83.

Watercourse crossings will be installed along the access track as required. Their design will be in accordance with Scottish Government best practice and due regard for Scottish Environment Protection Agency guidelines to enable the passage of fish and other wildlife.

Crushed stone will be used to construct the new and upgraded access tracks, for turbine foundations and to create hardstanding areas for the cranes used to erect the turbines. Three search areas for on-site borrow pits are proposed, while some stone will be won from the upgrading of the access track.



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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT



Environmental Impact Assessment

As part of the Section 36 application process, we have undertaken an environmental impact assessment ('EIA') to assess the effects of the proposed development on the natural, physical and human environment.

The number, size and layout of the turbines have been determined by environmental, technical and commercial constraints identified during the EIA and iterative design processes.

The EIA, which has been published in an EIA Report and which forms part of the Section 36 application, covers topics comprising landscape and visual amenity (chapter 4); archaeology and cultural heritage (chapter 5); ecology (chapter 6); ornithology (chapter 7); hydrogeology and hydrology (chapter 8); geology and soils (chapter 9); traffic and highways (chapter 10); noise (chapter 11); aviation and telecommunications (chapter 12), forestry (chapter 13) and shadow flicker (chapter 14).

Ecology and Ornithology

A programme of ecological and ornithological surveys has been carried out on the site, including:

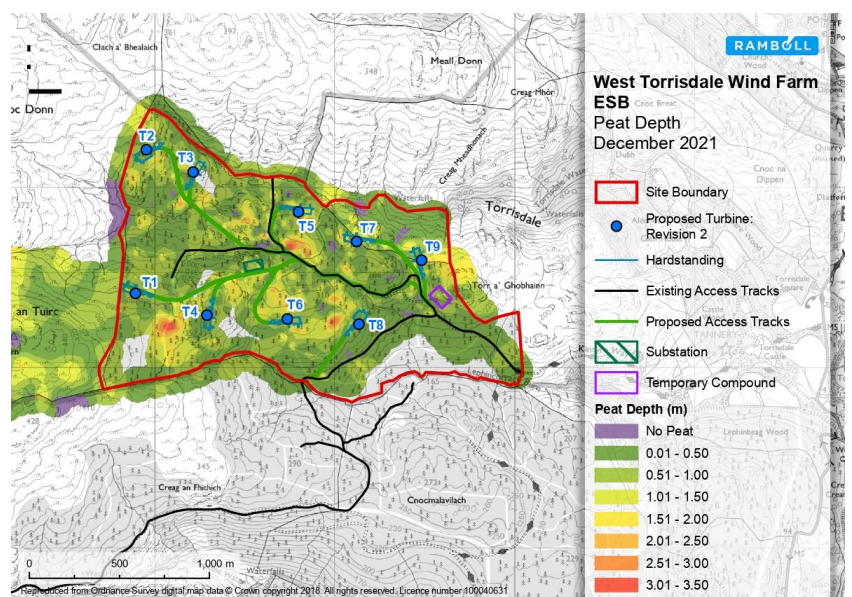
- A Phase 1 habitat survey;
- A National Vegetation Classification survey;
- Terrestrial mammal surveys;
- Bat surveys;
- Fish habitat surveys;
- Vantage point ornithological surveys;
- Breeding bird surveys.

Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

While there are no designated cultural heritage features on site, the location of two groups of shielings located near the Torrisdale Water have been considered in the design process for the proposed development.

Peat

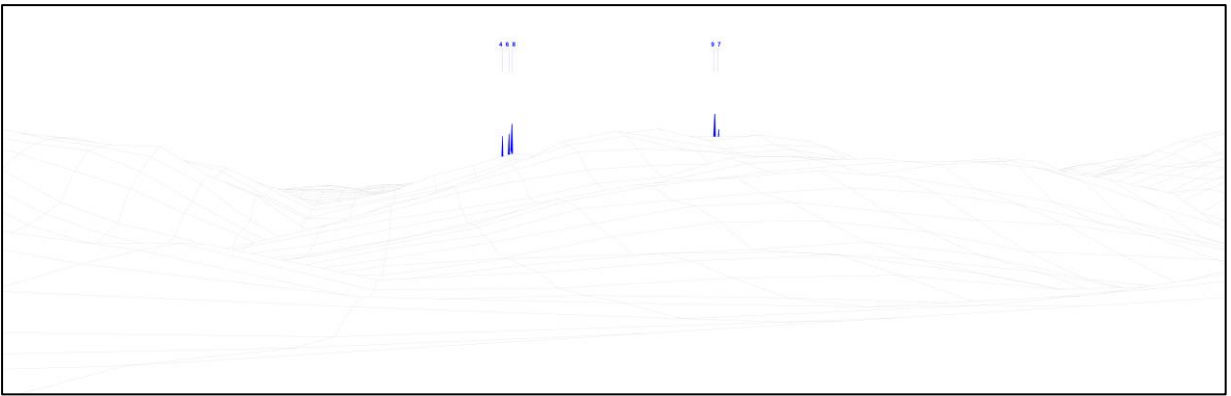
There are pockets of deep peat within the site. The proposed infrastructure has been designed to avoid these areas of deep peat as far as possible. An Outline Peat Management Plan has been prepared, including areas identified for peatland restoration.



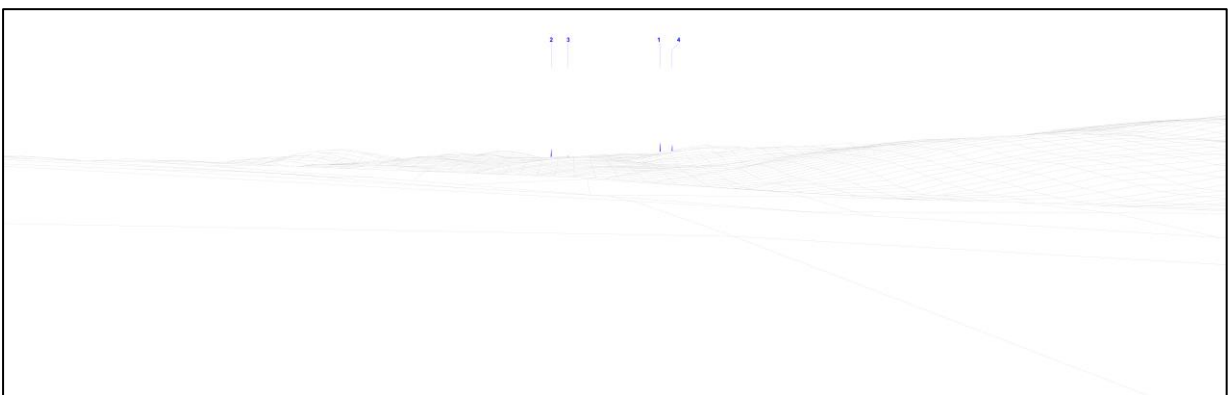
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PHOTOMONTAGES



Viewpoint 1 (2.3 km): Torrisdale Bay Parking Area. Photomontage of the proposed West Torrisdale turbines from Torrisdale Bay Parking Area. Photomontage and wireline taken from Grid Reference 179733, 636007 set up with a 53.5 degrees horizontal field of view.

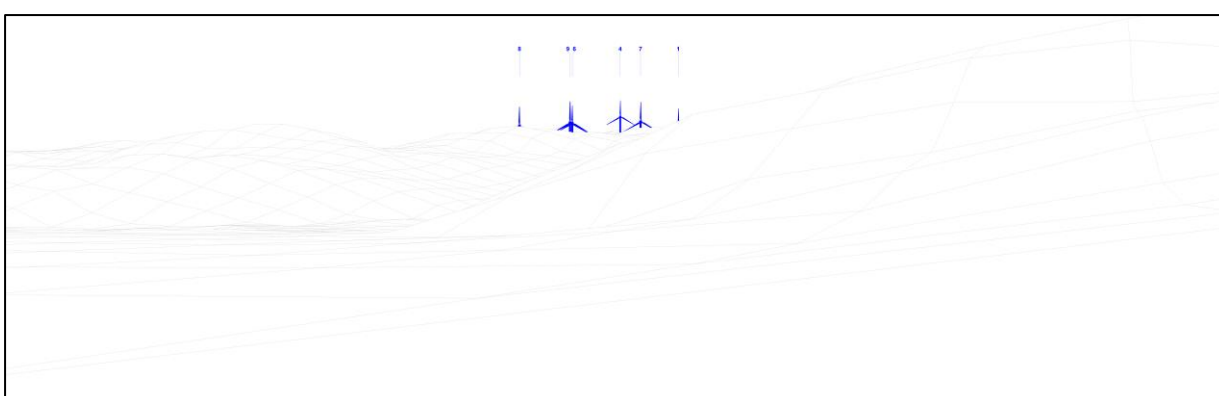


Viewpoint 4 (8.9 km): Glenbarr War Memorial. Photomontage of the proposed West Torrisdale turbines from the War Memorial at Glenbarr. Photomontage and wireline taken from Grid Reference 167020, 637054 set up with a 53.5 degrees horizontal field of view.

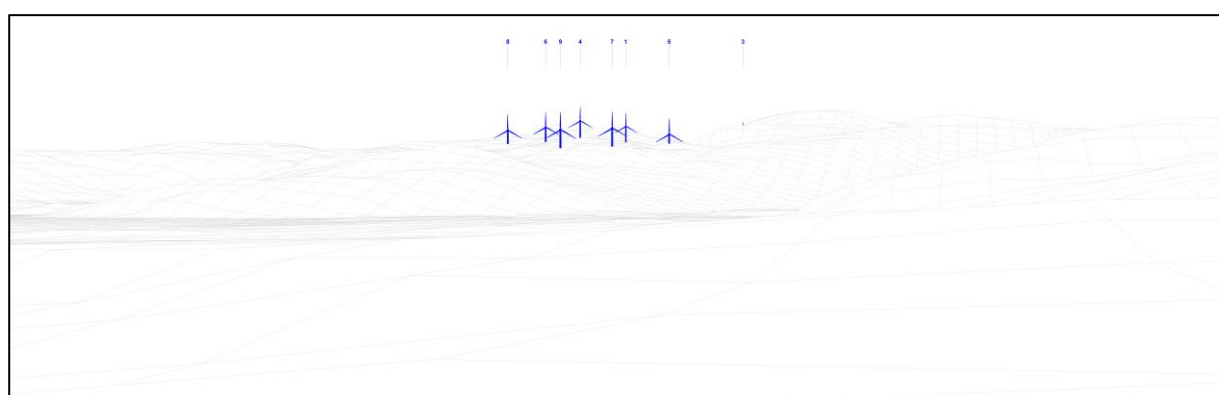


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PHOTOMONTAGES



Viewpoint 8 (3.8 km): near Millennium Bench. Photomontage of the proposed West Torrisdale turbines from the road above the Millennium Bench between Carradale and the Village Hall. Photomontage and wireline taken from Grid Reference 181029, 638193 set up with a 53.5 degrees horizontal field of view.



Viewpoint 14 (4.7 km): Carradale Golf Course. Photomontage of the proposed West Torrisdale turbines from the bench overlooking Tee 6 of Carradale Golf Course. Photomontage and wireline taken from Grid Reference 181961, 638128 set up with a 53.5 degrees horizontal field of view.



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WHAT NEXT?



Section 36 Application Representations

Any representations about the Section 36 application should be received by the Energy Consents Unit not later than **17 February 2025**, although they may consider representations after this time.

Representations can either be done by email to the Energy Consents Unit mailbox via representations@gov.scot or by post to the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU, identifying the proposal and specifying the grounds for representation.

Written or emailed representations should be dated, clearly stating the name (in block capitals), full return email and postal address of those making the representations.

Meteorological Mast

Planning consent was granted in February 2021 (reference 21/00249/PP) for the installation of a 90m 'met' mast on site.

Initial site inspection works were carried out in May 2024 and erection of the met mast will take place later in 2025.

Community Benefit

ESB is committed to payment of community benefit. We are exploring the options for community benefit and want to work with the community to create a workable and targeted package up to the value of £5,000 per megawatt of installed capacity.

Community Shared Ownership

ESB is continuing consultations with the community about the interest in owning a share of West Torrisdale Wind Farm.

Further information about the West Torrisdale Wind Farm can be found on our website at www.esbenergy.co.uk/west-torrisdale-wind-farm or by writing to: Duncan Scott, Project Director, ESB at westtorrisdale@esb.ie



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