



Mochrum Fell Wind Farm, Dumfries & Galloway

Proposal of Application Notice

May 2020



Contents

1	Introduction	3
1.1	Introduction Purpose of Report	3
1.2	COVID-19 new measures	3
1.3	Background to the Proposal	5
1.4	Project Description	5
1.5	The Applicant	6
1.6	Format of Report	6
2	Engagement Approach Introduction	7
2.1	Introduction	7
2.2	Interim Community Engagement	8
2.3	COVID-19 impact	9
3	Proposed Consultation Process	
3.1	The Legislative Requirement	11
3.2	Our Aims	11
3.3	Who will be consulted?	11
3.4	How will Engagement take place?	13
4	Appendices	15

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1.1 This report provides the detail to support a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) for a proposal by Falck Renewables for a revised wind farm proposal at Mochrum Fell, near Castle Douglas. The proposal seeks to amend the existing planning permission (Reference: 13/P/2/0327 / PPA-170-2102) which was approved on 5th July 2016 and has a 5 year consent period.
- 1.1.2 The purpose of the PAN is to set out the proposed approach to consultation during the preapplication stage in order to comply with the requirements of planning legislation and guidance, and to meaningfully engage with local community interests before a planning application is submitted.

1.2 COVID-19 new measures

- 1.2.1 Normal practice requires Applicants to carry out at least one form of 'face to face' engagement along with other recommended best practise engagement steps. However, due to the current COVID-19 situation the Chief Planner issued a letter to all Heads of Planning on 3rd April 2020 setting out advice and guidance on new procedures to be undertaken to ensure the planning system can continue to operate safely in this lockdown period.
- 1.2.2 In relation to 'Pre-Application consultation with communities' the letter confirmed that the regulatory requirement for major and national developments to include at least one public event, cannot take place as a public gathering at this time. The letter advised:
 - "We intend to bring forward regulations as soon as we can which will, for this emergency period, suspend this requirement... We will expect prospective applicants to replace this requirement for a physical, face-to-face public event with an alternative, online version so that local people can still be engaged and have an opportunity to have an influence on proposals that affect them".
- 1.2.3 On 15th April 2020 Scottish Statutory Instrument 2020 No.124 'The Town and Country Planning (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020' was issued. The Regulations came into force on 24th April 2020 and insert regulation 7A.
- 1.2.4 This regulation formalises the position promoted within the Chief Planner's letter and confirms that during this emergency period, and 6 months thereafter, the main public face to face event should be substituted by alternative means to be agreed with the local Planning Authority (LPA) and provides that this may occur by electronic means.

Guidance on Emergency Consultation Procedures

- 1.2.5 On 24th April 2020 The Scottish Government issued a Guidance Note entitled 'COVID 19 Emergency and Pre-Application Consultation and Requirements for a Public Event' (The Guidance Note'). The Guidance Note explains the effect of the Coronavirus Regulations and provides further guidance on alternative online consultation.
- 1.2.6 The Guidance Note confirms the suspension of the need to hold a face to face public event for new PANs submitted within the emergency period. The replacement of this requirement with alternative consultation measures is required and the note provides more detailed guidance on what will be acceptable, and confirms the changes required for both related newspaper adverts and the PAN itself.

- 1.2.7 The key change for the newspaper adverts is the need to include details of where the online location of further information on the proposed development is to be found. In addition, instead of details on the public event, the notice must give an indication of the alternative consultation arrangements to be progressed, and confirm how and when these will operate, how parties can find out more information on this, including online access links or locations.
- 1.2.8 With regard to access to information and timescales for making comments by a specified date, the Guidance Note confirms that these avenues should remain open, in addition to the alternative online 'event'.
- 1.2.9 The Guidance Note urges Applicants to enable an extended period for submission of comments which should run from the date of the newspaper notice in order to compensate for the limited accessibility to interact with the Applicant face to face and not from the date of the replacement 'event', as would be the practice out-with the Regulations.
- 1.2.10 Applicants are guided to consult with the LPA and Community Councils on mechanisms to raise awareness off the alternative consultation measures proposed, and to agree the proposed approach to conveying information on this to ensure the consultation is as effective as possible within the local area, and draws upon local knowledge and known channels of information sharing.
- 1.2.11 The Guidance Note confirms that there is no statutorily specified alternative to the 'public event' and that reasonable alternatives should be proposed and discussed with the LPA. The ability to ensure that alternatives are not set up to facilitate only 'one-way traffic' is stated as being important. As such, Government is seeking, as a minimum temporary substitute, to a face to face consultation, an event that is:
 - Hosted at a central, free, publicly accessible web location which sets out clearly the preapplication consultation steps being undertaken, the location of information and the time period for engagement and how do to that. It should:
 - o Identify the location of the development site;
 - Present the proposal for the site; and
 - o Be as user friendly as possible.
 - Live and interactive web-based consultation suggesting at least one event of 2-3 hours duration
 with live question and answer session and links to other online opportunities to make comment,
 as questions and receive responses, and that these live events are scheduled to enable public
 participation.
- 1.2.12 It is required that the public must be able to access information and engage through one route and that the approach is not scattered across platforms with disseminated information sources. The Government explicitly states that the public should not have to 'join or sign-up' to websites, forums or social media platforms to access information, and that the information provided should be available to access at whatever pace the person accessing it requires. Responses to questions and queries / clarifications must be made either during the specified consultation period, or by a later date as set by the Applicant. A minimum period of 7 days should be set for the public to be allowed to submit questions or views on the information provided online.
- 1.2.13 It is explicitly stated that a longer period than the recommended minimum for the alternative public event as noted above is set for which the public can access the provided information and submit comments, albeit without the benefit of live responses. This period should be at least 21 days from the placing of the newspaper notice. The 7 days for the public event, and the 21 days overall (minimum) can run in parallel or consecutively).

- 1.2.14 A range of suggestions on ways in which Applicants can build on the minimum event are provided which include online video presentations, FAQs provided online, additional telephone access opportunities for those without internet access, etc. Again, these should be confirmed within awareness raising measures and timing should be clearly stated.
- 1.2.15 The Team working on the engagement and PAN strategy for the Mochrum Fell proposal have been implementing electronic engagement within the renewables sector for some time and techniques such as virtual 'village halls exhibitions', e-meetings and video conferencing are all tried and tested means, which can increase inclusivity of public engagement and which are well suited to the current crisis. Such approaches are referred to below.
- 1.2.16 The amendment wording on Applicant obligations introduced by the recent Regulations is utilised within the formal PAN Notice completed for the proposed full planning application for Mochrum Fell, and is contained at **Appendix A**.

1.3 Background to the Proposal

- 1.3.1 The existing planning permission for the Mochrum Fell Wind Farm, as referenced above at section 1.1, has not yet been implemented. After careful consideration and review it has been determined that an increase in tip height is required in order to deliver a technically improved scheme, which can also bring local benefit through the removal of Turbine 5, which had the most visual impact.
- 1.3.2 The proposed changes seek therefore to deliver 7 turbines at an increased tip height of up to 149.9m, compared to a previously consented scheme of 8 turbines at 126.5m to tip. There are no further material changes proposed to the scheme all turbine positions and ancillary infrastructure will remain as approved, albeit some minor non material changes to foundation sizes etc will alter slightly due to increased turbine sizes.
- 1.3.3 In light of recent case law, (Finnie v Welsh Minister and Others (Case Number: C1/2018/2922) which ruled that Section 73 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 cannot be used to "change the description of the development", and which ruled that the planning Inspector who had granted planning permission at Appeal for two wind turbines on land near Llandeilo (increasing the height from 100m to 125m) had acted beyond her statutory powers it is now not possible to achieve such a proposed amendment (increase in tip heights) by way of a section 42 application as had been previously proposed by Falck Renewables.
- 1.3.4 Therefore, a full planning application is being progressed and as the proposed development's generating capacity will exceed 20 Mega Watts (MW) the proposal is categorised as 'Major' Development under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Development) (Scotland) Regulations 2009. This PAN commences the major application process.

1.4 Project Description

- 1.4.1 The proposed development site remains as per the approved Mochrum Fell Wind farm. The Site Plan is provided as **Appendix B**. The development comprises an exact replication of the existing consented development, other than an increase in tip height and the removal of Turbine 5. The main elements of the proposed development are summarised below:
 - Construction of 7 wind turbines in previously consented positions (removal of Turbine 5) at a tip height of up to 149.9m;
 - Construction of access tracks, crane hardstanding's and other laydown areas as previously consented;
 - Construction of control building / substation as previously consented;
 - 1 permanent anemometer mast in the previously consented position;

- Borrow pits and associated infrastructure as previous.
- 1.4.2 The proposed development would be operational for 30 years, after which the development would be decommissioned and the land returned to previous use unless otherwise agreed with the LPA.
- 1.4.3 The proposal is Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 'EIA' development and an EIA Report will be submitted in support of the planning application to assess the potential impact and significance (if any) of the development with a particular focus on the proposed change in height, and removal of Turbine 5. The EIA will be scoped and agreed with the Council in early course.

1.5 The Applicant

- 1.5.1 Falck Renewables and its affiliated companies ("Falck Group") are an experienced worldwide player in the development, construction, purchase and management of wind and solar power projects at all stages of their development. Falck Group has a proven track record of successfully developing, construction and operating wind projects across Europe. Falck Group owns a wind and solar portfolio of 1,123 MW in operation with over 400 MW of onshore wind operational in the UK across 12 sites.
- 1.5.2 Falck Renewables has UK offices in London and Inverness. Inverness houses their construction team that is engaged directly with pre-construction, construction and post construction activities. Falck Groups headquarters are in Milan, where Falck Renewables S.p.A is listed on the Milan Stock exchange.
- 1.5.3 More details about Falck Group can be found at www.falckrenewables.com.

1.6 Format of Report

- 1.6.1 This Report is divided into two further Chapters as follows:
 - Chapter 2 sets out the proposed Engagement approach covering:
 - What is required;
 - What has been done previously;
 - ➤ COVID-19 impact.
 - Chapter 3 Proposed Consultation Process, covering:
 - Who we will engage with;
 - How will we engage;
 - What is the process and how will it be reported?
 - Appendices.

2 Engagement Approach

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 Falck Renewables has extensive experience in delivering wind energy projects and designing and delivering meaningful community consultation is a key part of this process. Engagement with local people, key stakeholders and consultees from a very early stage in projects enables the developer to have a greater insight into concerns and potential issues, and explore ways in which to mitigate and resolve these, and to design a project which has addressed impacts, and which can be viewed favourably, and even potentially be considered an asset, to the local community. Involving the community and ensuring they are represented is therefore an integral part of any project process.
- 2.1.2 As outlined previously, the proposed application to amend the height of the turbines at Mochrum Fell constitutes a Major Development. The Applicant is therefore required to carry out Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) with the local community and to submit a PAC Report with the planning application in due course.
- 2.1.3 As a pre-requisite, an Applicant must provide a PAN setting out how it intends to carry out consultation and engage with the community. The PAN Notice is contained at **Appendix A** and the following chapters fulfil the requirement to set out how consultation will be carried out.
- 2.1.4 The Scottish Government Best Practise Guidance on Community Engagement is provided in Planning Advice Note (PAN) 81 entitled 'Community Engagement, Planning with People'. Critically it is noted that each development is unique and requires a bespoke approach. Notwithstanding this, PAN 81 sets 10 National Standards for Community Engagement to help plan, monitor and evaluate the engagement proposed for each development. This approach underpins the site-specific approach to be adopted for Mochrum Fell and set out in detail in Chapter 3.
- 2.1.5 A summary of the National Standards is provided below for information and this guidance has been taken into account.

1.	INVOLVEMENT	Identify and involve the people and organisations who have an interest in the focus of engagement
2.	SUPPORT	Identify and overcome any barriers to involvement.
3.	PLANNING	Gather evidence of need and resources to agree purpose, scope and actions.
4.	METHODS	Agree and use methods of engagement that are fit for purpose.
5.	WORKING TOGETHER	Agree and use clear procedures that enable participants to work together effectively and efficiently.
6.	SHARING INFORMATION	Ensure necessary information is communicated between the participants.
7.	WORKING WITH OTHERS	Work effectively with others with an interest.
8.	IMPROVEMENT	Develop skills, knowledge and confidence of the participants.
9.	FEEDBACK	Feed results back to the wider community and agencies affected.

10. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

2.1.6 In light of the changed position to consultation which has emerged due to COVID-19 event, Falck Renewables and their advisors – David Bell Planning Ltd and Quatro PR – developed a range of econsultation options and provided these to Dumfries and Galloway Council (DGC) to agree an acceptable approach which best reaches the community and stakeholders involved in the project. Mochrum Fell has a long history and was subject to considerable community scrutiny in its original form.

2.2 Interim Community Engagement

- 2.2.1 Given the site's planning history and the previous intention to progress by way of a s.42 application which was subject of a formal pre-application enquiry to the Council in November 2019 a degree of consultation has already been carried out and key stakeholders and community interests are already identified and known to the Falck Renewables Team. A copy of a draft Interim Statement of Community Engagement is provided at **Appendix C** and summarised in the following section.
- 2.2.2 Whilst community engagement is not a statutory requirement for s.42 applications, Falck Renewables considered it good practise to advise stakeholders of the proposed changes and to set out the reasons for the proposed amendments seeking feedback and comments to inform final proposals.
- 2.2.3 The following is a summary of the key actions already undertaken:
 - 6km consultation zone identified;
 - Preparation of consultation list including residents, individuals and community groups, alongside local MP, MSPs, ward Councillors and planning committee members;
 - Drop-in sessions at Parton Village Hall and Corsock Village Hall, held on 8th and 9th November 2019;
 - Awareness of events raised via letters direct to elected representatives and key stakeholders, residential invitations dropped to all dwellings within 6km radius (264 addresses) with feedback details provided;
 - Posters within commercial and community buildings within 6km radius;
 - Local newspaper public notice placed in the Galloway News on 31st October 2019;
 - Project website advertised the events and provision of details on project team, key documents, subscription to updates and online surveys;
 - Email and telephone hotline details provided.
- 2.2.4 The drop-in sessions were designed to provide simple and focused information on the proposed change to the height of the turbine and to summarise the reasons for the changes. The presentation focused on the key issue of landscape and visual concerns with wire-frames provided for key viewpoints, photomontages and information on community funding approach and opportunities arising from the project.
- 2.2.5 47 people attended the events. 29 feedback forms were submitted with 81% of the respondents stating they found the displays useful.

- 2.2.6 Summary analysis of feedback confirmed that the majority of attendees are supportive of renewable energy projects and the need to increase the generation of energy from renewable resources. The majority of respondents supported the principle of the amendment to Mochrum Fell (15 of 26) although 10 people stated they did not support the project. An overwhelming majority (20 respondents from 26) noted an interest in having the chance to invest in renewable energy projects in their area, as advocated by Scottish Government.
- 2.2.7 Analysis of comments received included concerns that the photographs were dishonest, referred back to the depth of objection to the original proposals and feelings that consent should never have been allowed. Some concerns as to the impact of a height increase were expressed relative to over saturation of wind projects in the wider areas. Many expressed ideas and input as to how any community fund should work and what the funds should be spent on.
- 2.2.8 Plans for further focussed consultation and engagement with the community and stakeholders were in place and included:
 - Meetings with community groups, local Councillors and key stakeholders;
 - Project website updates;
 - Liaison with Local Energy Scotland and the community regarding shared ownership;
 - Responding to local resident correspondence;
 - Pro-active engagement to update local residents on progress of amended proposals;
 - Supplying further Statements of Community Involvement throughout the planning process.
- 2.2.9 Following confirmation from DGC, following the submission of a formal pre-application enquiry, that a full planning application would be required, the planned further engagement actions were paused.
- 2.2.10 Chapter 3 below sets out the engagement proposed to support the new full planning application approach and reflects the new regulations published to respond to the COVID-19 crisis.

2.3 COVID-19 impact

- 2.3.1 As explained, as a result of the Coronavirus outbreak and the social distancing restrictions currently in place across the UK, the Scottish Government has put in place emergency measures which require Applicants for planning applications to put in place e- solutions to replace face to face / public gathering consultations. More specific guidance on what types of consultation will be acceptable was provided on 24th April and has been summarised in section 1.
- 2.3.2 Applicants are encouraged to consult with respective LPAs and ensure that the approaches proposed are as inclusive and accessible as possible to all sectors of the community given the current circumstances.
- Quatro PR has been advising Falck Renewables for a considerable period of time on their consultation strategies and public engagement. They are 'ahead of the curve' in e-consultation and engagement as they have identified previously potential gaps in accessibility in traditional events and the opportunities advances in technology provide in the modern era. As a result, Falck Renewables is well placed to proceed with the formal engagement required as part of the PAC process with systems for hosting and analysing virtual events already in place, tested and verified. A series of options were presented to Falck Renewables for consideration and these have been discussed with the wider advisory / project team and the Council prior to committing to the approaches laid out in the following Chapter.

- 2.3.4 The approaches proposed are considered appropriate to enable reach to all sectors of the community, to reflect the availability and quality of connectivity in the area and to fit the demographic of the area as well as the current circumstances.
- 2.3.5 Where accessibility of key groups is considered to be potentially compromised, alternative traditional means of communication and information provision is proposed within the limits of the current restrictions e.g. letters / copies of information in paper copy direct to doors via Royal Mail.

3 Proposed Consultation Process

3.1 The Legislative Requirement

- 3.1.1 As set out in the Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006, Regulation 7A, (amended by The Town and Country Planning (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020), an Applicant must consult with community councils and hold a public event, during the emergency period, by electronic means, and clarification of what these actions are, and by what means must be stated within the PAN.
- 3.1.2 The overall objectives of these actions are "to encourage improved trust and more open, positive working relationships from the earliest stages in the planning process and to provide, where possible, an early opportunity for community views to be reflected".

3.2 Our Aims

- 3.2.1 The aims of the proposed consultation strategy are:
 - To facilitate a constructive and accessible consultation process to inform the project and satisfy recent legislative and guidance requirements;
 - To assist the public's understanding of the benefits and impacts of the proposed changes to the consented wind farm and the process involved in achieving those changes;
 - To add value and improve the presentation and approach to presenting the changes and application through meaningful and productive consultation and to ensure interested parties are informed, engaged, listened to and able to express their opinions freely and openly;
 - To work with the community to define the structure of community benefits available as part of the development.

3.3 Who will be consulted?

- 3.3.1 As per the Regulations 2008 (as emended by the emergency Regulations 2020 and related guidance) "The prospective application is to consult ...every community council any part of whose area is within or adjoins the land where the proposed development is situated and in doing so is to give a copy of the proposal of application notice to such community council". (including by electronic means).
- 3.3.2 In addition, it is good practise to consult with all elected Members at all levels with an interest in the local area, residents within a reasonable defined area to the site (6km radius defined for this site), local action groups and other known stakeholders, landowners or interested parties.
- 3.3.3 As referenced and noted within the Interim Engagement Statement contained at **Appendix C**, consultation has already been undertaken under the 'umbrella' of the earlier proposed s.42 application, in November 2019. The engagement list has therefore established from this earlier process, and also from the original planning application and is noted below:

MPs & MSPs	Mr Alister Jack MP
	Mr Finlay Carson MP
	Ms Michelle Ballantyne MSP
	Ms Claudia Beamish MSP

	Ms Emma Harper MSP
	Ms Joan McAlpine MSP
	Mr Colin Smyth MSP
	Mr Paul Wheelhouse MSP
	Mr Brian Whittle MSP
Dumfries & Galloway	Cllr lan Howie
Council Councillors	Cllr David James
	Cllr John Young
	Cllr Dougie Campbell
	Cllr Pauline Drysdale
	Cllr Jane Maitland
Dumfries & Galloway Ward	Cllr lain Howie
Members for Castle Douglas and Crocketford	Cllr David James
	Cllr John Young
Community Councils	Balmaclellan Community Council
	Carsphairn Community Council
	Corsock and Kirkpatrick Durham Community Council
	Crossmichael and District Community Council
	Dalry Community Council
	Dunscore Community Council
	Glencairn Community Council
	New Galloway and Kells Community Council
	Parton Community Council

Community Groups	Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership
	The Glenkens & District Trust
	Galloway Sailing Centre
	Glenlaggan Caravan Park
	Loch Ken Marina
	Loch Ken Holiday Park
	Bread & Beer
	Howmuir Workshop
	Sunnybrae Workshop
	Old Temperance Inn

3.4 How will Engagement take place?

- 3.4.1 The following methods will be used to engage with stakeholders and interested parties, including the general public.
 - The website www.mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk will be updated to include an interactive form to encourage online consultation and feedback.
 - A specific Facebook page and Twitter account will be established to share information, promote consultation activities through Facebook advertising, and indicate opportunities to provide feedback.
 - The community hotline 0330 363 6229 continues to operate and is manned during normal office hours.
 - A community update newsletter outlining project details and the revised consultation approach
 will be distributed to all residents and other stakeholders within the consultation zone via Royal
 Mail. A feedback / comment form and a freepost envelope will also be included to encourage
 participation.
 - A 'virtual village hall' event will be organised via digital channels to allow stakeholders and interested parties to receive information about the project, question the developer and consultant team and provide feedback. The date for this meeting is proposed as: Saturday 27th June 2020, 10am 12 noon.
 - A recording of the village hall event will be made available on the project website within 24 hours.
 Viewers will be encouraged to submit questions or comments for a further period of 30 days.
 Comments and queries will be responded to by the team.
 - An animation of exhibition materials and project details will be shared at the virtual village hall event and via all digital channels.

- For those without access to internet, we will host a traditional telephone conference call where people can call in, learn more about the application and question the project team. The date for this telephone conference is: 24th June 2020 at 7-8pm.
- Printed materials will also be available upon request.
- 3.4.2 The timescales for the public to actively engage with the consultation process via submission of comments to the website, or access to the telephone line, will run from the submission of the PAN to the LPA through to the end of the 12-week period. Comments specifically relating to the 'live' event will be accepted and responded to for 7 days from the event date, with a recording of the event available for interested parties remaining online.
- 3.4.3 A newspaper advert will be placed in the Galloway News a minimum of 14 days prior to the Virtual Village Hall event providing full details of how to access the event as required by Scottish Government guidance and Regulations. In addition, the event and revised consultation strategy will be promoted via social media platforms and through Community Councils. A copy of the wording for the newspaper advert is provided at **Appendix D**.

4 Appendices

David Bell Planning Ltd 26 Alva Street Edinburgh EH2 4PY

07876 597494 david.bell@dbplanning.co.uk

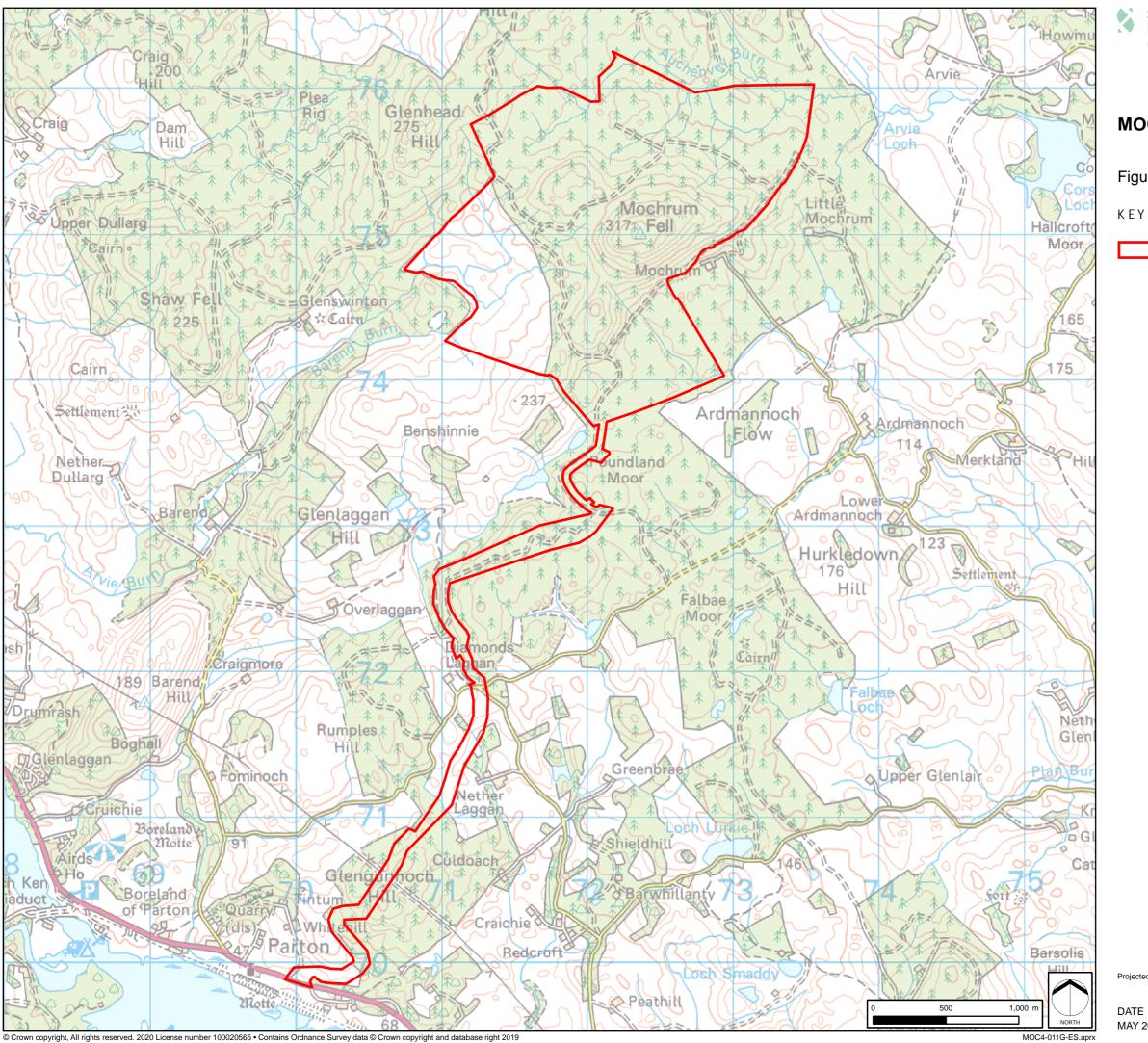
Appendix A – Proposal of Application Notice

PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (Section 35B)
The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland)
Regulations 2013 (Regulations 4 -7)

To be completed for all developments within the national or major categories of development

Name of Council	Dumfries & Galloway Council				
Address	Head of Planning & Development				
Address	Council HQ				
	English Street,				
	Dumfries DG1 2	DD			
Proposed develop	mont at [Note 1]	Mochrum Fell Wind Farm, near Corsock, Dumfries &			
Proposed develop	illelit at [Note 1]	Galloway			
Description of pro	posal [Note 2]	Erection of Wind Farm and associated infrastructure at			
		Mochrum Fell (amendment to existing consent for 7 turbing			
		and removal of T5 and increase to 149.9m to blade tip).			
Notice is hereby g	jiven that an appl	ication is being made to			
[Note 3] Dumfri	es & Galloway	Council by [Note 4] Falck Renewables			
Of [Note 5]					
	Margaret Street,	Lonwon W1W 8SY			
In respect of [Note 6] Virtual Village Hall and other online engagement, see PoAN Report					
To take place on [Note 7] 27th June 2020 10am-12noon (see PoAN Report for others)					
[Note 8] The follo	wing parties have	received a copy of this Proposal of Application Notice			
Refer to supporti	ng PoAN Report	section 4.3.2 for list of key consultees and stakeholders.			
[Note 9] For further details contact David Bell at David Bell Planning Ltd, 26 Alva Street, Edinburgh					
on telephone number 07876 597494					
And/or at the following address www.mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk					
[Note 10] I certify that I have attach					
Signed					
On behalf of	David Bell Plan	ning Ltd for Falck Renewables			
Date	21/05/20				







MOCHRUM WIND FARM, POAN

Figure 1 The Application Site Boundary

KEY

Proposed Site Boundary

Projected Coordinate System: British National Grid

SCALE MAY 2020 1:25,000

QA

MF



Appendix C to PAN

MOCHRUM FELL WIND FARM

Interim Statement of Community Engagement

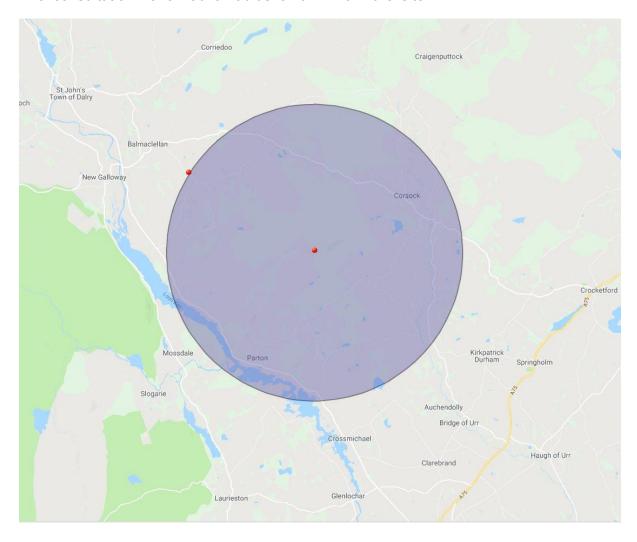
November 2019

INTRODUCTION

- Falck Renewables is one of Europe's leading renewable energy companies with an installed capacity of 1,026MW, of which more than 400MW is in the UK. Falck Renewables produces energy from many sources including wind, solar, biomass and waste-to-energy.
- 2. Falck Renewables is seeking to increase the tip height of the Mochrum Fell wind turbines to 149.9m from the already approved tip height of 126.5m. Increased tip heights will allow the turbines to produce more electricity. As part of our application, Falck Renewables will reduce the scheme from 8 to 7 turbines by removing Turbine 5 which was the most visually prominent. No other changes are proposed to the approved project.
- 3. The revised application will consist of the following components:
 - Construction of 7 wind turbines in the previously consented positions (consented turbine 5 is not proposed to be included within the amendments to design) at a tip height of up to 149.9m
 - Construction of access tracks, crane hardstandings and other laydown areas in the previously consented positions
 - Construction of a control building / substation in the previously consented position
 - 1 permanent anemometer mast in the previously consented position
 - Borrow pits and associated infrastructure in the previously consented position
- 4. The Variation Application to increase the turbine tip heights will be submitted to Dumfries and Galloway Council in December 2019 under Section 42 of the Planning Act. The application will be available to review via the Dumfries and Galloway Council website and also the project website, www.mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk It is likely to be determined in late Spring 2020. Falck Renewables accept the proposed development is EIA development and on this basis an EIA Report will be submitted in support of the S42 application.

IDENTIFYING THE CONSULTATION ZONE

The consultation zone had a radius of 6km from the site



INFORMING THE KEY STAKEHOLDERS

In addition to residents, a comprehensive list of individuals and community groups were identified as being appropriate to consult. This included both the local MP and MSPs, ward councillors and councillors on the planning committee at Dumfries and Galloway Council, representatives on the local community councils and community groups.

The following individuals and representatives were also invited to attend the drop-in sessions at Parton Village Hall on 8th November 14:00-20:00 and/or Corsock Village Hall on 9th November 10:00-14:00:

MPS AND MSPS

- · Mr Alister Jack MP
- Mr Finlay Carson MSP
- Ms Michelle Ballantyne MSP
- · Ms Claudia Beamish MSP
- Ms Emma Harper MSP
- Ms Joan McAlpine MSP
- Mr Colin Smyth MSP
- Mr Paul Wheelhouse MSP
- · Mr Brian Whittle MSP

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COUNCIL COUNCILLORS

- · Cllr lain Howie
- · Cllr David James
- Cllr John Young
- Cllr Dougie Campbell
- Cllr Pauline Drysdale
- · Cllr Jane Maitland

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY PLANNING COMMITTEE

- · Cllr Jim Dempster, Chair
- · Cllr John Campbell, Vice-Chair
- Cllr lan Blake
- Cllr Ian Carruthers
- Cllr Archie Dryburgh
- · Cllr Pauline Drysdale
- · Cllr Doug Fairbairn
- Cllr Andy Ferguson
- Cllr Andrew Giusti
- Cllr Ivor Hyslop
- Cllr Jeff Leaver
- · Cllr Henry McClelland
- Cllr Jim McColm
- Cllr David McKie
- Cllr Jane Maitland
- Cllr John Martin
- Cllr Tommy Sloan
- · Cllr Ronnie Tait
- · Cllr John Young

COMMUNITY COUNCILS

- Balmaclellan
- Carsphairn
- · Corsock and Kirkpatrick Durham
- Crossmichael and District
- Dalry
- Dunscore
- Glencairn
- · New Galloway and Kells
- Parton

COMMUNITY GROUPS

- · Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership
- The Glenkens & District Trust
- · Galloway Sailing Centre
- Glenlaggan Caravan Park
- · Loch Ken Marina
- · Loch Ken Holiday Park
- · Bread & Beer
- · Howmuir Workshop
- Sunnybrae Workshop
- Old Temperance Inn

RAISING AWARENESS OF THE FIRST PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

We raised awareness of the public consultation in a variety of ways. We are grateful to those who attended the two information sessions and shared their thoughts, support, concerns and comments with us:

- Letters to elected representatives and key stakeholders invitations to attend the information session prior to the opening of the public consultation (Appendix 1) are listed on previous slide.
- Residential invitation delivered to all dwellings within a 6km radius (264 addresses). Recipients were encouraged to offer their initial feedback or ask any questions on the amendment by calling or emailing
- Posters 12 commercial and community buildings within 6km radius were sent and encouraged to display posters, as well as spare copies of the invitations (Appendix 2).
- Local newspapers a public notice was placed in the Galloway News for publication on 31st October (Appendix 6).
- Website visitors to the project website (<u>www.mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk</u>)
 were encouraged to attend the public consultations. The website enables
 residents to interact with the project team, download documents, subscribe to
 receive updates and take part in online surveys (Appendix 7).
- Hotline (01463 714403) is available for residents who want to find out further information.
- Email a specific email was created to give easy access to the project team
 24/7 info@mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk

PUBLIC EVENTS WERE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING VENUES

Location	Date	Time
Parton Village Hall, Castle Douglas, Dumfries & Galloway DG7 3NE	8/11/19	14:00 - 20:00
Corsock Village Hall, Corsock, Dumfries & Galloway DG7 3DN	9/11/2019	10:00 – 14:00

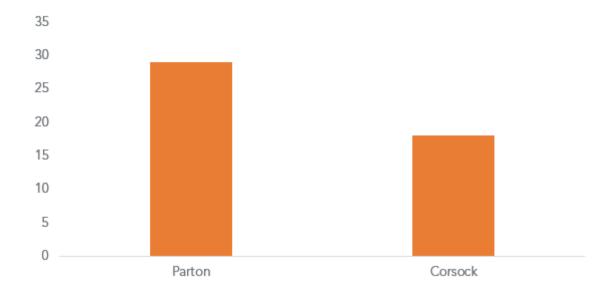
HOLDING THE FIRST PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS

The exhibition display included information banners and an opportunity to see how the proposed amended plan would look from various locations via wire-frames.

The exhibition display provided an introduction to Falck Renewables, the amended proposal, Zone of Theoretical visibility, photomontages and community funding.

Attendees were encouraged to provide their views by completing a feedback form. This could be completed and submitted at the event or submitted by post at a later date.

A total of 47 people attended the public events, broken down as follows:



GATHERING FEEDBACK

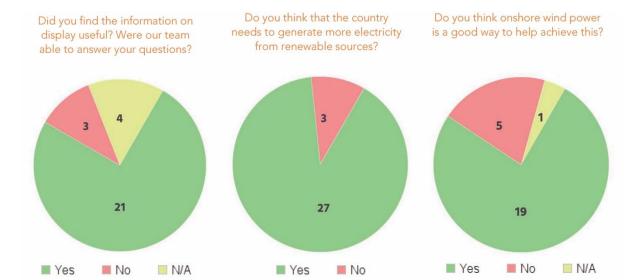
29 feedback forms were submitted at the exhibitions:

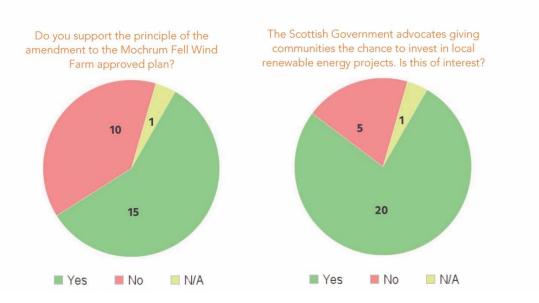
81% of respondents said the information on display was useful, and the team were able to answer their questions.

We received 14 feedback forms from attendees in Parton; 8 from Corsock and 7 via post.

The breakdown of their responses is on the following page.

Note: some attendees did not fill in all of the tick-boxes or leave any comments (on occasion, only supplying contact details).





SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK

Do you have any suggestions or comments for how a Community Benefit Fund could be allocated?

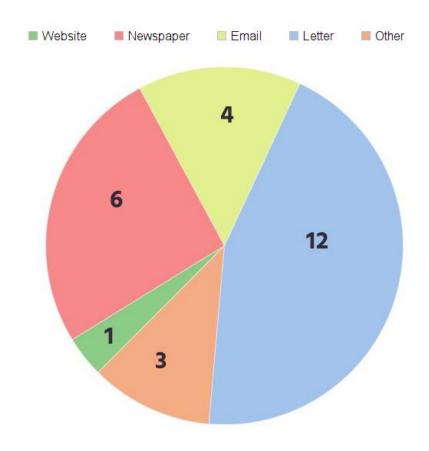
- · It should be pooled to build a decent legacy
- The areas affected for communities' benefit should be narrowed to those closest
- Environmental projects eg electric car charging ports; insulating community buildings; cycle lanes etc
- Kept local within 5-10 miles radius
- Legacy project
- Put in a trust so communities can apply accordingly
- · I'm opposed to such funds in principle
- · Electricity price reduction
- · Keep it broad initially, use a community distribution vehicle
- Invest in Corsock Art Club and any social events bringing community together
- Use for big projects housing; old peoples' homes to keep people in their own community
- Involve the Glenkens District Trust
- · Community Benefit Funds are nothing but bribes and are divisive and paltry
- Should be allocated from a central organisation currently, all the wind farm money has done is cause all the locals to fall out with each other
- · Buy electric cars and charging points for communal use
- · Actually, spend the money on applications instead of admin please!
- The areas affected for community benefit should be narrowed to those closest
- · As long as it is allocated fair and equal
- The company should ensure that any funds distributed are fairly allocated to as many groups as possible

SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK (Continued)

Please use the space below for any comments further to your responses, or any suggestions on how we could improve our services.

- I think the photo shop on the photographs is dishonest
- Possibly (hire) a local person to help chat at presentations
- Reduced energy bills to all community
- Giving the community the opportunity to invest in a share of a turbine to reduce their own bills - as in France, if you see a turbine from your house then 10% taken off bills
- With 880 objectors, 500 objections and a unanimous refusal from the planning committee this should never have been passed by the reporter.
 Please drop the proposal and leave residents, visitors and wildlife in peace.
- This windfarm should never have been allowed, please drop this proposal immediately. This is not an area for turbines over 80m tall. The ZTV is misleading and inaccurate. Reduced visibility on the circles could not be explained! You were at pains to say that the areas of increased visibility were small but failed to point out that the amount of turbines seen in the existing area would be much greater. For the sake of the residents, tourists, wildlife and a precious landscape please stop this folly no thank you.
- D&G is already saturated with turbines the landscape cannot support any more. Locals do not want more turbines. They spoil the natural beauty of the landscape and negatively affect tourism - which many peoples jobs depend on
- The turbine height is already too high and too loud for the council's plan for D&G - how can they be approved to be bigger!? The democratic process for this whole wind farm application has been a joke
- Insufficient notice for public exhibitions
- If the local population have to suffer the inconvenience of all the works,
 please help keep the funds in the right place

How did you find out about today's event?



NEXT STEPS

We are grateful to the various representatives and members of the communities we have visited for their openness and thoughtful contributions. Further actions include:

- Meetings with community groups, local Councillors and other key stakeholders
- · Project website news and information
- Liaison with Local Energy Scotland and the community regarding shared ownership
- · Responding to correspondence and calls from local residents
- Pro-active engagement to update local residents on the progress of the amended proposal
- Supplying further Statements of Community Involvement throughout the planning process

APPENDIX 1 - a copy of the stakeholder invitation

DROP IN EVENTS

Parton Village Hall,
Parton,
Dumfries and Galloway
DG7 3NE

Friday 8th November 2pm to 8pm

Corsock Village Hall, Corsock, Dumfries and Galloway DG7 3DN

Saturday 9th November 10am to 2pm [Address]
[Date]
Dear X,

REVISED PROPOSALS FOR MOCHRUM FELL WIND FARM

I am writing on behalf of Falck Renewables to invite you to attend one of our public information sessions on revised proposals for the Mochrum Fell Wind Farm.

As you will be aware, Scottish Government granted consent for an 8-turbine wind farm at Mochrum Fell in 2016, having found 'no material considerations for refusal'. However, after further and careful consideration of wind resource and turbine options for the site, we are now exploring options to amend the consented scheme.

Falck is currently considering an increase in turbine heights from 126.5m (the height of 7 of the 8 consented turbines) to approximately 150m. This would allow for the removal of the most visible turbine, reducing the overall number of turbines from 8 to 7.

We will be holding two drop-in sessions (details left) in November to inform the local community about the revised proposals.

The events will be an opportunity for residents and stakeholders to find out more about the revised proposals, ask questions and provide feedback, prior to Falck submitting a section 42 application to Dumfries & Galloway Council to amend the consented scheme.

Representatives from the project team will be in attendance to meet you and to answer any questions you may have. Alternatively, if you are unable to attend, we would be happy to arrange an alternative time to brief you.

In the meantime, if you have any queries or would like further details, please contact my colleague Suzanne Kane on 01463 714403 or skane@quatro-pr.co.uk

We look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Olly

MATT OLLEY | BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT MANAGER | FALCK RENEWABLES



MOCHRUM FELL WIND FARM

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSIONS

DROP IN EVENTS

Friday 8th November 2pm to 8pm

Parton Village Hall, Parton, Dumfries and Galloway DG7 3NE

Saturday 9th November 10am to 2pm

Corsock Village Hall, Corsock, Dumfries and Galloway DG7 3DN Falck Renewables is holding two drop-in sessions in November to inform the local community about its revised proposals for Mochrum Fell Wind Farm. The new plans would see the consented application revised to increase turbine tip heights and reduce the total number of turbines.

The events will be an opportunity for residents to find out more about the revised proposals, ask questions and provide feedback, prior to Falck Renewables submitting a section 42 application to Dumfries & Galloway Council to amend the consented scheme.

REVISED PROPOSALS

In 2016, Scottish Government granted consent for an eight-turbine wind farm at Mochrum Fell near Corsock, having found 'no material considerations' for refusal. However, after further and careful consideration of wind resource and turbine options for the site, amendments to the consented scheme are being explored.

Falck Renewables is proposing an increase in turbine tip heights from 126.5m (the height of seven of the eight consented turbines) to approximately 150m, whilst also removing the most prominent turbine (turbine 5) originally approved. This would reduce the overall number of turbines from eight to seven. These are the only amendments proposed to the consented scheme.

ABOUT FALCK RENEWABLES

Falck Renewables is a leading independent energy business in the UK. We develop, design, build and manage power production plants from renewable sources, with an installed capacity of 1,026 MW in the UK, Italy, United States, Spain and France.

Falck Renewables has a portfolio of 12 wind farms in operation in the UK; ten are located in Scotland, one in Wales and one in the East Riding of Yorkshire in England. Falck Renewables' construction headquarters are located at Dochfour, near Inverness.

CONTACT US

If you would like further information about the proposals or our upcoming events, please contact Suzanne Kane on:

T: 01463 714403

E: info@mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk

The plans shown at the events will also be available online from Monday $4^{\rm th}$ November on our website.

We look forward to seeing you there!





PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSIONS

Revised proposals for Mochrum Fell Wind Farm

Falck would like to update you on its plans to submit a revised application for Mochrum Fell Wind Farm, west of Corsock.

WHEN /
Friday 8th November,
2pm to 8pm

WHERE /

Parton Village Hall, Castle Douglas, Dumfries and Galloway DG7 3NE

WHEN /

Saturday 9th November, 10am to 2pm

WHERE /

Corsock Village Hall, Corsock Village, Dumfries and Galloway DG7 3DN

FIND OUT MORE:

www.mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk info@mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk 01463 714403

ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND



MOCHRUM FELL WIND FARM PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSIONS

Thank you for attending today. Please tell us what you think of our amendment to the approved plans.
Did you find the information on display useful? Were our team able to answer your questions?
YES NO N/A
Do you think that the country needs to generate more electricity from renewable sources?
YES NO N/A
Do you think that onshore wind power is a good way to help achieve this?
YES NO N/A
Do you support the principle of the amendment to the Mochrum Fell Wind Farm approved plan?
YES NO N/A
The Scottish Government advocates giving communities the chance to invest in local renewable energy projects. Is this of interest?
YES NO N/A
How did you find out about today's event? (Please circle one below)
Newspaper Letter Email Website Other:
Do you have any suggestions or comments for how a Community Benefit Fund could be allocated?
Please use the space below for any comments further to your responses, or any suggestions on how we could improve our services Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.
Name Address Phone Email
YES, please keep me informed on project news
NO, I do not want to receive project updates

Information is collected and stored by Falck Renewables in accordance with GDPR and the Data Protection Act 1988.

Please note: Comments and feedback on these proposals are not formal representations on the planning application. These can be made to the Scottish Government after an application for consent has been submitted.

APPENDIX 5 - the exhibition boards

FALCK RENEWABLES

ABOUT FALCK RENEWABLES

Falck Renewables is one of Europe's leading renewable energy companies with an installed capacity of 1,026MW, of which more than 400MW is in the UK.

Falck Renewables produces energy from many sources including wind, solar, biomass and waste-to-energy.

Our activities include the development, financing, construction and operational management of renewable energy projects.

falckrenewables.eu



FALCK RENEWABLES

GRUPPOFALCK

AMENDED PROPOSAL

Falck Renewables is seeking to increase the tip height of the Mochrum Fell wind turbines to 149.9m from the already approved tip height of 126.5m

Increased tip heights will allow the turbines to produce more electricity.

As part of our application, Falck Renewables will reduce the scheme from 8 to 7 turbines by removing Turbine 5 which was the most visually prominent.

No other changes are proposed to the approved project.

The revised application will consist of the following component

- Construction of 7 wind turbines in the previously consented positions (consented turbine 5 is not proposed to be included within the amendment
- (consented turbine 5 is not proposed to be included within the amenda to design) at a tip height of up to 149.9m
- Construction of access tracks, crane hardstandings and other laydown area in the provincesh consented positions.
- Construction of a control building / substation in the previously consented por
- 1 permanent anemometer mast in the previously consented position

The Variation Application to increase the turbine tip heights will be submitted to Dumfries and Galloway Council in December 2019 under Section 42 of the

The application will be available to review via the Dumfries and Galloway Council website and also the project website, www.mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk It is likely to be determined in late Spring 2020.

Faick Renewables accept the proposed development is EIA development and on this basis an EIA Repo (will be submitted in support of the S12 application.



FALCK RENEWABLES

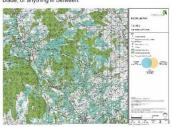
GRUPPOFALCK

ZONE OF THEORETICAL VISIBILITY

As part of the submission of the Section 42 Variation Application a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) study is produced.

The ZTV study indicates locations from where the consented and proposed turbines will potentially be seen.

The coloured areas do not indicate how much or how many of the turbines will be visible and views from the coloured areas may theoretically include the whole of the wind farm, just the tip of one blade, or anything in between.



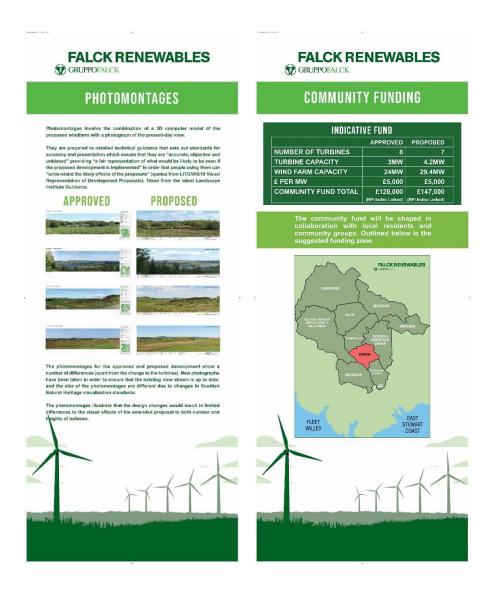
The study takes account of landform modelling, based on Ordnance Survey data and buildings and woodland based on Ordnance survey mapping and assume building.

In practice, visibility from a specific location may vary from the model shown — either through being screened by localised features such as tree belts; or where views have been opened up by failing. The purpose of the ZTV study is to indicate patterns of visibility; in practicular the differences likely to arise from the increased height.

In this case (as can be seen from the ZTV), the study indicates that new areas of visibility would be were limited.



APPENDIX 5A - the exhibition boards (continued)





PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSIONS

Revised proposals for Mochrum Fell Wind Farm

Falck Renewables would like to update you on its plans to submit a revised application for Mochrum Fell Wind Farm, north of Parton.

WHEN /
Friday 8th November,
2pm to 8pm

WHERE /

Parton Village Hall, Castle Douglas, Dumfries and Galloway DG7 3NE

WHEN /
Saturday 9th November,
10am to 2pm

WHERE /

Corsock Village Hall, Corsock Village, Dumfries and Galloway DG7 3DN

FIND OUT MORE:

www.mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk info@mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk 01463 714 403

ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND

APPENDIX 7 - Website: www.mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk



ome Public Information Sessions

Amended Proposa

About Falck Renewables

Contact Us



THANK YOU

For questions please contact Rob Fellows at:

Quatro PR

Tel: +44 (0)20 7566 7971

Mobile: +44 (0)7905 255044 Email: rfellows@quatro-pr.co.uk

Appendix D – PAN Newspaper Advert Proof



Proposal of Application Notice

Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure (Scotland)) Regulations 2008 & The Town and Country Planning (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020

Mochrum Fell Wind Farm Proposal:

Erection of Wind Farm and associated infrastructure at Mochrum Fell (amendment to existing consent for 7 turbines and removal of T5 and increase to 149.9m blade tip).

At: Mochrum Fell Wind Farm, near Corsock, Dumfries & Galloway

A proposal of application notice (PAN) has been submitted to the Council. In light of COVID-19 restrictions consultation is required to be undertaken virtually. The following events and information sources have been set up:

- A telephone conference event for those with limited access to the internet will be held on 24th June at 7 - 8pm. Call: 033 3113 3429, Room Number (86315296#) Guest Pin (3500#)
- A Virtual Village Hall online event to be held on Saturday 27th June 2020, 10am 12 noon, Join at: crowdcast.io/e/mochrum-fell-wind-farm/register
- Information on the proposed development including information boards and a fly through, can be found at: www.mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk

Interested parties are invited to participate in these events. The virtual village hall event will enable a real time opportunity to replace the usual public event and will enable opportunities for real time questions and responses, and also offline communication if preferred. The session will be recorded, and comments and queries can be posted for a further 30 days, to 28th July 2020.

Comments on the presentation and information on the website (www.mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk) are also encouraged and can be made throughout the 12 week consultation period.

The community hotline for all gueries is 0330 363 6229 (operational normal office hours).

Comments should not be submitted to the Council at this time as they will not be taken into consideration. Statements made to the prospective applicant and their representatives are not representations to Dumfries & Galloway Council. If a planning application is subsequently submitted, then there will be an opportunity to make a direct representation to the Council at that time.

Further information or queries can be requested by contacting: info@mochrumfellwindfarm.co.uk