Ardtaraig Wind Farm

Newsletter – February 2017

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Community Open Days

Glendaruel Hall, Wednesday 22nd February, 2-6pm Colintraive Hall, Thursday 23rd February, 2-7pm

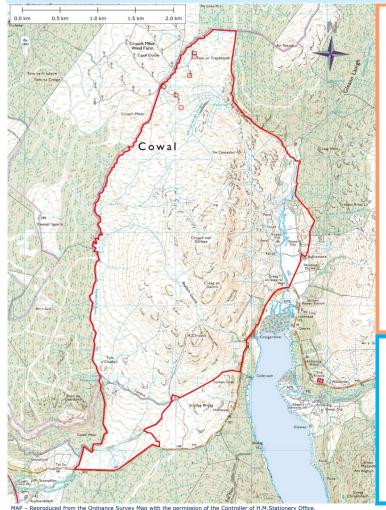
Please come along, we look forward to meeting you.

Proposed Ardtaraig Wind Farm with coffee and cake!

Ardtaraig Estate along with wind farm developer Infinergy is currently investigating the potential of generating renewable energy in order to help ensure a sustainable future for the 15,000 acre traditional shooting estate. Infinergy Ltd is a renewable energy developer with a great deal of experience in designing wind farms, particularly in the Scottish Highlands.

After an initial feasibility review and on-site environmental assessments, the possibilities for a wind farm are beginning to take shape. Now Infinergy would like your input! To ensure the local community is fully consulted on the plans, we would like to invite you to our Community Open Days to have a look at and discuss proposals with the team...and of course enjoy tea or coffee and cake at the same time.

Having gained feedback from numerous environmental bodies, the council and the local community we will further develop the design of the proposed scheme and bring the final version back to you in early summer before submitting the application to Argyll & Bute Council later in the year.



The Proposed Plans

- Located around 14.5km to the west of **Dunoon**, adjacent to the Stronafian Community Forest, the site extends over approximately 750 hectares of gently sloping open moorland.
- **Up to 10 wind turbines** giving a total installed capacity of up to 32MW.
- The height to the top of the blades, when one of the blades is in a vertical position, will be a maximum of 136.5m. At present there are various different turbine types that suit this site and there may well be others to consider in the future.
- **Submission** of the planning application is expected in Autumn 2017.

Why this site in particular?

- Good average wind speed: well suited for wind energy.
- **Sited** away from large numbers of residential properties.
- Ability to work around constraints such as radar, telecoms links designated areas.

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Community Benefit and Shared Ownership

A wind farm's Community Benefit is something that comes as part and parcel of renewable energy developments these days and whilst it is not considered a 'benefit' in terms of the planning application, the Scottish Government has set the bar in terms of the amount projects are expected to contribute. This amount is £5,000 per MW of operational capacity. In the case of the proposed Ardtaraig Wind Farm this could total up to £150,000 per year for the lifetime of the scheme depending on the final number of wind turbines.

We want to try to ensure that the funds specifically help the community become more resilient and sustainable over the long term. We will work with the community, via the Community Councils as elected representatives in the first instance, to ensure a suitable body is in place to manage the funds. If you have any ideas what local projects and initiatives could benefit from funding, please let us know. You can reach us via the contact details below or fill it in on the feedback form provided at the exhibition.

Although there are various options open to the community on how to use this community benefit to generate additional income, one option proposed would be to invest in the wind farm itself. The Scottish Government wants to see communities maximising the potential a project such as a wind farm can bring and increased shared ownership is one of its primary aims going forwards. We look forward to discussing the potential for shared ownership as well as hearing your ideas for community benefit at our open days. If you're not able to make it along, please feel free to contact us using the details below.

The Developer

Onshore wind developer Infinergy Ltd has a significant amount of experience developing wind farms in Scotland. Infinergy has successfully developed the consented 22-turbine Lochluichart Wind Farm in Ross-shire, the 13-turbine Tom nan Clach Wind Farm in Nairnshire and the 59-turbine Dorenell Wind Farm in Moray. The team of specialists working on the application for Ardtaraig has been brought together based on their extensive experience and expertise in wind farm design and development.

Get in touch

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Post : Freepost Infinergy Ltd (no further address

details or stamps required)

Your opinion is important to us; please let us know how you feel about the plans. Please tick the appropriate box, cut off this section and pop it in the post. You can send it free of charge, just write Freepost Infinergy Ltd on the envelope and it will reach us without any stamps required. How do you feel about Ardtaraig Wind Farm? Very supportive Supportive Undecided Opposed Very opposed Comments: Email: Address: Telephone number: Post code: Please remove my details from your database. If you tick this box we won't send you any updates