

THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT



In partnership with two local landowners, Paul Archibald of Nisthouse and Adrian Breck of Ludenhill Farms, Infinergy is currently developing a proposal for up to four wind turbines on land located approximately 5 kilometres (3 miles) to the east of Birsay and directly to the west of Loch of Swannay.

At this stage, turbine tip heights of up to 180 metres (590 feet) are being proposed with a total installed capacity of up to 26.4MW, enough to power 15,900 homes per year. Environmental, technical and commercial considerations throughout the design process will continue to inform the final number of turbines as well as their dimensions.

Submission of the planning application for Nisthill Wind Farm is expected to be this summer, 2022.

Construction and Access

Should Nisthill Wind Farm be consented, construction would not be expected to commence until approximately summer 2025.

Along with the wind turbines, the proposed development will consist of a temporary construction compound; access tracks; borrow pit; crane hardstanding areas; and a substation to allow the green electricity generated to feed into the Island's electrical infrastructure.

Stone sourced from the onsite borrow pit will be used to construct new tracks, create hardstanding areas for the cranes and to lay foundations. Sourcing the majority of crushed stone directly from the existing borrow pit on site is expected to significantly reduce the number of HGV traffic movements on the local roads surrounding the site.



Route to Site

The potential effects of construction traffic will be assessed throughout the design and EIA process, and in consultation with Orkney Islands Council and Transport Scotland. At present, turbine deliveries are expected to arrive at Kirkwall Harbour. The turbines would exit the harbour and continue west on the A965 through Finstown, turning north onto the A986 and then north east onto Hundland Road. Here the turbines would be transported into the site.

Discussions are ongoing with the local authority to finalise these access plans.

Appropriate improvements to the public road network may be required to accommodate the large turbine components.

