

# Nisthill Wind Farm

## Pre-Application Consultation Report

August 2022



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## Executive Summary

In line with Orkney Islands Council's advice, alongside Planning Advice Note 3/2010 which includes the National Standards for Community Engagement, and Planning Aid for Scotland's SP=EED framework, the applicant, Nisthill Wind Farm Limited, has undertaken extensive consultation for its Nisthill Wind Farm proposal. The purpose of this consultation was to introduce the Proposed Development and seek feedback prior to submitting a planning application.

For a number of years, the owners of Nisthill Farm and Ludenhill Farm investigated the possibility of a wind farm on their land. Initially their aim was to develop the project themselves and while they succeeded in taking the key initial steps, it became apparent that an experienced third party was required to assist in the further development of an application. Infinergy, a renewable energy company developing onshore wind farms throughout the United Kingdom, was delighted to be approached by the landowners and have now joined in partnership to support and develop Nisthill Wind Farm.

Combining Infinergy's extensive experience in developing renewable energy schemes and the equally extensive local knowledge of two Orcadian farmers, has allowed a suitable proposal to be developed for the site.

Consultation activity so far has included:

- direct consultation via door knocking of local residents;
- a dedicated project website with online consultation tool ([www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk));
- social media activity on relevant social media pages;
- a Freephone telephone number; and
- a community open day held on 8 June 2022 at Birsay Village Hall.

Local residents and other interested parties were invited to attend the open day. This was publicised through the invitation postcard sent out to all households (843) within a 10km radius of the project alongside advertising and editorial coverage in the Orcadian newspaper, as well as on social media.

At the Community Open Day (COD) members of the development team, including the landowners, were on hand to explain the proposals, discuss the wider issue around onshore wind development on Orkney and demonstrate landscape and visual impact via photomontages. Those attending had the opportunity to complete feedback questionnaires to give their views. Local residents also had the opportunity to air their views via the project website, social media sites and Freephone telephone number.

A total of 52 people attended the open day, and 11 opinion forms were received either on the day or later by freepost. Of those who responded to the public consultation programme asking how they felt about the Proposed Development, 82 percent stated they were very supportive of the Proposed Development with 9 percent being undecided and 9 percent being opposed.

The applicant has written to all local residents who raised questions or concerns via the various feedback mechanisms. Consultation is on-going and will continue post submission.

## **1. Introduction**

The Applicant is aware of the value of engaging with and seeking to involve local people in development proposals, both prior to and following the submission of a planning application. This pre-application report provides detailed information regarding the Proposed Development community consultation.

## **2. Framework for pre-application consultation, Nisthill Wind Farm**

The Applicant's public consultation plans for the Proposed Development were influenced by Orkney Islands Council's advice, alongside PAN 3/2010 which includes the National Standards for Community Engagement and Planning Aid for Scotland's SP=EED framework (**Appendix 12**).

These documents outline how applicants of major infrastructure projects should undertake pre-application consultation with the community. The aim of this procedure is to make sure that communities are made aware of, and have an opportunity to comment on, these types of development proposals before a formal application is made. This allows community views to be reflected early in the process and gives the developer the opportunity to incorporate them into the proposals before making a formal application, as was the case with the Proposed Development.

The Guide outlines the consultation and involvement activities:

- Community Council consultation;
- Adverts and press releases in local media; and
- Public Events (at least one).

During this period, whilst Scottish Government Guidance relating to public consultation during the Covid-19 pandemic was relaxed, consultation activity was adjusted accordingly in order to reach as many people as possible.

## **3. The Applicant's approach to community involvement**

The Applicant's approach to community involvement in projects includes the following:

- Consultation with the local community council, residential neighbours and ward members;
- Establishment of a dedicated project website;
- Information and dialogue via social media platforms; and
- Hosting of a community open day prior to submission of the planning application, when the development is at draft design stage.

## 4. Consultation

Consultation that has taken place so far in this pre-application stage has enabled the Applicant to take forward its commitment to build and maintain constructive relationships with residents and representatives within the local community. A Proposal of Application Notice was submitted to Orkney Islands Council and local stakeholders on 18 March 2022 (**Appendix 1**).

To consult on the proposal with the local community, the Applicant undertook the following activities:

### 4.1 Door Knocking

In January of 2022 an extensive door-knocking exercise was undertaken in the local area.

Figure 1 below shows the properties around the site of the proposed development which were contacted.



Figure 1 – door-knocking consultation

Printed information (**Appendix 2**), including a map and a letter introducing the landowners and explaining the proposal, was given or sent by post to the households indicated in Figure 1 above.

## 4.2 Community Council Engagement

In March 2022, the landowners wrote to Birsay Community Council to introduce the project and explain its potential benefits (**Appendix 3**). Subsequently, on 14 April 2022, both the landowners and members of the Infinergy project team attended the Community Council meeting to provide an update and answer questions.

At this meeting, the team asked the view of the Community Council on in-person engagement and agreed that a Community Open Day at Birsay Village Hall, in addition to online consultation would be most appropriate.

Once a date had been agreed and the hall booked, confirmation of the event and a copy of the advert were sent for information.

The project team will ensure that the Community Council is updated as the development process continues and attend meetings where appropriate.

## 4.3 Online Consultation Website

By the end of March, a new project website [www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk) had been launched to provide information for residents and their representatives about the proposal for a wind farm on Nisthouse and Ludenhill Farms and allow them to give feedback by completing an online questionnaire or asking specific questions via [info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk) - the dedicated email facility.

The dedicated project consultation page (**Appendix 4**) provided:

- introduction to the consultation;
- information panels shown at the COD (**Appendix 5**);
- link to feedback form; and
- details of dedicated email address.

## 4.4 Social Media

At the same time, Infinergy used its Facebook and Twitter pages (**Appendix 7**) to promote the upcoming in-person COD, and the same promotion was posted on the Birsay Community Association Facebook page. In addition, the landowners used their personal social media accounts to promote the events, providing greater reach to local people.

## 4.5 In-person Community Open Days

An in-person COD outlining the draft proposal was held on Wednesday 8 June 2022 at the Birsay Village Hall between 2.30 and 7.30pm. Copies of the exhibition information panels can be found in **Appendix 5** and photographs taken at the exhibition in **Appendix 6**.

As well as being able to discuss the Proposed Development (and plans for constructing the Proposed Development), alongside the wider issue of climate

change, energy security etc., members of the development team were able to offer to provide specific landscape and visual impact by utilising a 3D computer modeling programme able to generate views from any given viewpoint, allowing residents to see just how the development of turbines will look from their own homes. One request was made and provided by email.

### ***Publicity***

An invitations to the public exhibition was sent to all households (873) within a 5-10km radius of the project, see **Appendix 8**.

In order to publicise the exhibition to the wider community, adverts were placed on the Infinergy social media sites and shared with other relevant stakeholders, including the local Community Council and Community Association. See **Appendix 7**.

The local Ward Members, MSP and MP were also sent a project update by email and invited to attend the open day.

### ***Media***

Following the Applicant's attendance at the Birsay Community Council meeting in April, an editorial piece appeared in the Orcadian newspaper introducing the project and detailing the partners involved. This article generated a small number of responses over the coming weeks in the letters page, and the project team was able to respond to enquiries made by the newspaper.

A press release detailing the open day and an advert appeared in the paper in the two weeks prior to the open day (**Appendix 9**):

### ***Attendance***

Based on the open day register, 52 people attended the COD where they had the opportunity to inspect the draft proposal, discuss issues with the project team and complete a questionnaire and/or enquiry request form (**Appendix 10**) for return on the day or via FREEPOST.



## 5. Consultation Feedback

Throughout the community consultation programme we have received qualitative and quantitative feedback and listed below is a summary of the key findings obtained thus far.

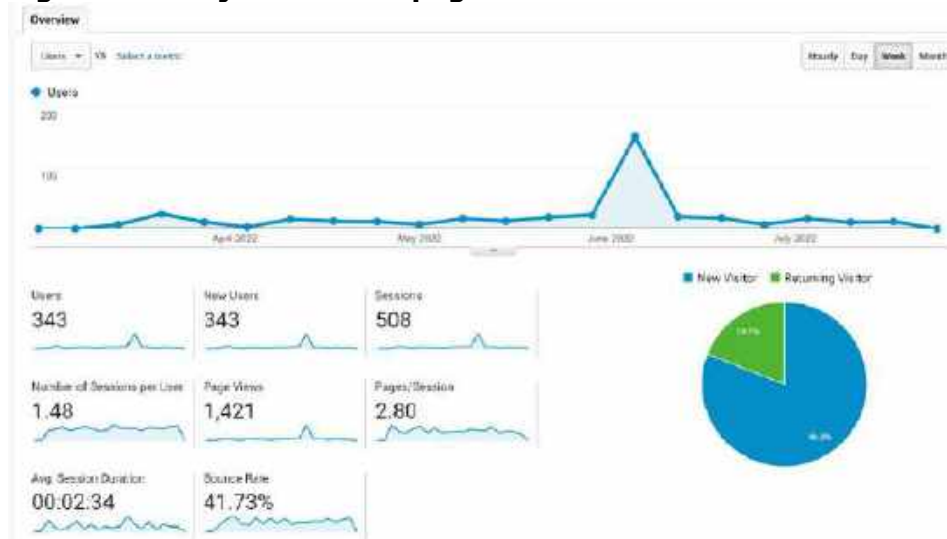
### 5.1 Door-knocking

In total, 32 of the 33 properties contacted responded to this initial consultation exercise. 25 completed the 'no-objection' letter left with them (**Appendix 2**). 8 indicated that they'd like to see further information or felt that they could not support the application for a number of reasons, including a general objection to onshore wind developments. One property was contacted by letter as no one was at home (Appendix 2) and to date, no response has been received.

### 5.2 Online Consultation

From launch at the end of March, until 25 July, the Nisthill project site had a total of 1421 page views. The Nisthill online consultation page went live on Monday 6 June 2022. Data shows that the dedicated consultation page has had 97 page views up until the end of July 2022. A summary of the activity can be seen in Figures 2 and 3 below:

**Figure 2 – Project website page views to date**



**Figure 3 – Consultation page views 6 June – 7 July 2022**



During that period, no requests for further information were made using the dedicated email address, [info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk) and no online consultation feedback forms were submitted.

### 5.3 Community Open Day

Open day opinion forms were completed by eleven attendees, all of whom live within 10km of the project.

Three opinion forms were completed at the event, and the remaining eight sent in their questionnaire to the freepost address after the event. These questionnaires are taken into account in the overall results of the public consultation exercise. Copies of all returned open day questionnaires can be found in **Appendix 11**.

All of the completed forms provided the following results on whether or not respondents support the Proposed Development, or if they are still undecided:

Very supportive	9	(82%)
Supportive	0	(0%)
Undecided	1	(9%)
Opposed	0	(0%)
Very opposed	1	(9%)
No comment	0	(0%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

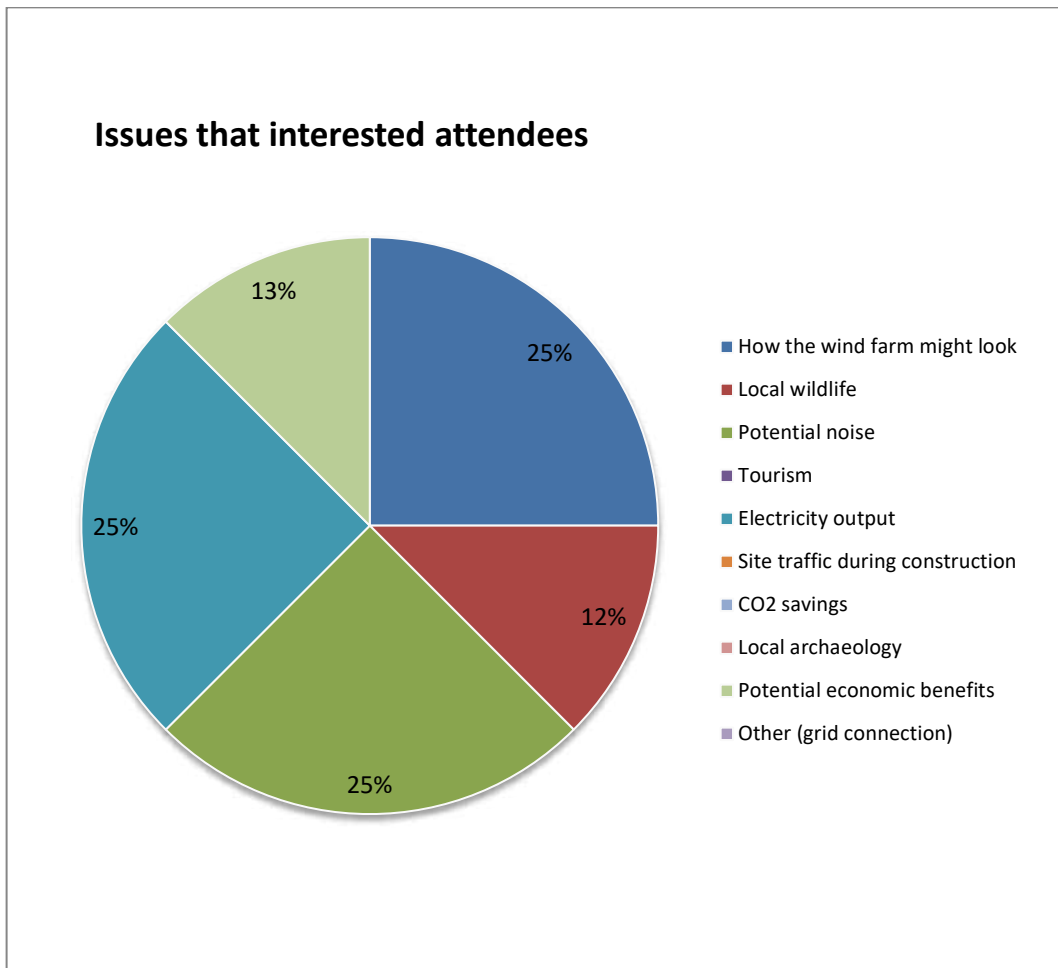
### 5.4 Issues

Feedback questionnaires asked respondents if they had any specific issues or concerns about the proposal and a list of possible issues was provided.

#### ***Open day questionnaires***

In question 5a respondents of the open day questionnaire were informed that a range of surveys had been conducted that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the Proposed Development. Respondents were asked to indicate which of the following elements of the proposal they were interested in and would like to be kept updated about (note: total responses rather than individual respondees):

How the wind farm might look	2
Local wildlife	1
Potential noise	2
Tourism	0
Electricity output	2
Site traffic during construction	0
CO <sub>2</sub> savings	0
Local archaeology	0
Potential economic benefits	1
Other	0

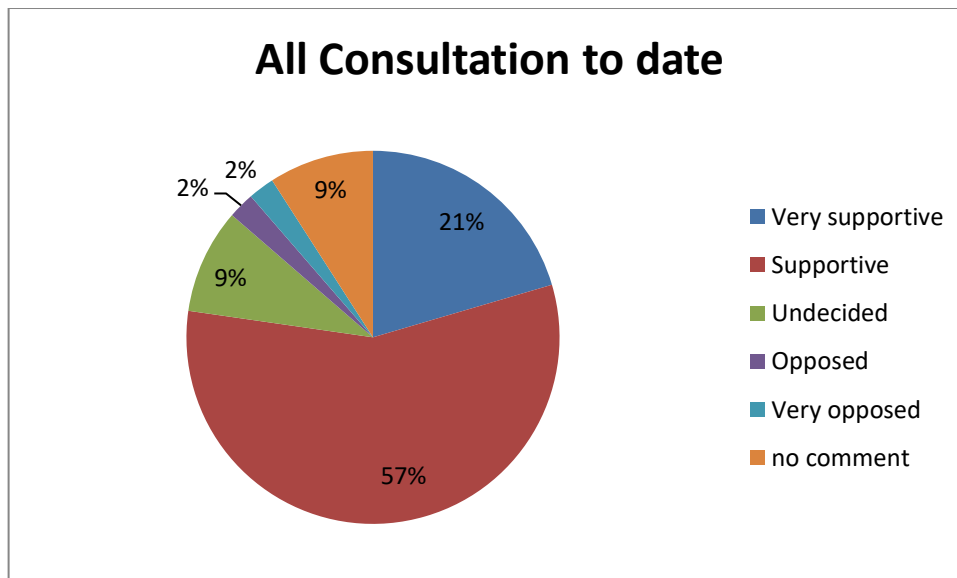


## 5.5 Summary of Feedback

Overall feedback for the Proposed Development, taking into account all consultation methods can be summarised as follows:

### Proposed Development Overall Results

	Door-knocking	Exhibition	Total	
Very Supportive	0	9	9	21%
Supportive	25	0	25	57%
Undecided	3	1	4	9%
Opposed	1	0	1	2%
Very Opposed	0	1	1	2%
No Comment	4	0	4	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>100%</b>



## **6. Community Benefit**

The Applicant wants to help the community surrounding its renewable energy project benefit from it in as many ways as possible and has committed to uphold the Scottish Government's guideline figure of £5,000 per MW of installed capacity for the Proposed Development.

### **6.1 Community Benefit Fund**

An initial discussion around Community Benefit was had with the Birsay Community Council and the Applicant asked members to start to think about ways in which the wider community could potentially benefit as well as how the fund might be managed. As the delivery of Community Benefit would be some years away, they were reassured that there was sufficient time to develop suitable plans.

### **6.2 Community Shared Ownership**

In addition to the Community Benefit Fund aligned with the proposed development, the Applicant advised that it will also encourage the community to consider becoming part-owners of the project, offering up to 10% of the project as 'shared-ownership' which could see the communities of Orkney become significant community investors in renewable energy and thereby generate further revenues to be invested locally. Those revenues will be in addition to, not instead of, the community benefit outlined above.

## **7. Response to Consultation Feedback**

Further to the consultation process outlined in this statement, a number of activities have or are being undertaken in order to respond to feedback received. These are detailed as follows:

### ***Correspondence***

Following the open days, correspondence was sent to those who raised issues or questions via the exhibition, online feedback forms or by email directly and this will continue throughout the planning process.

## **8. Future Consultation**

### ***Next Steps – Pre and Post Submission***

The Applicant is committed to the continued involvement of and consultation with the local community and other stakeholders throughout the planning process.

Even though the pre-application consultation has been completed, this does not mean that the consultation will end. The Applicant is committed to further consultation during the planning determination period, ensuring that local residents

and stakeholders continue to be involved in the process and are kept informed of the proposal's progress.

***Stakeholder/Interest group briefings***

Members of Orkney Islands Council as well as the Community Council and other community interest groups will be kept updated with project developments.

***Media relations***

Media relations activity will be ongoing. Once the application has been submitted, a news release detailing the submitted proposal and consultation outcomes will be issued to the media. The Applicant will respond to media enquiries and requests for information throughout the determination time period.

***Ongoing response to queries***

The Applicant will continue to respond to queries that are received via the various consultation channels i.e. Freephone telephone number, freepost address, dedicated email address and website.

# **Appendix 1**

## **Proposal of Application Notice**





# PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE

FOR OFFICIAL USE  
ONLY

Reference No:

Registration Date:

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2008

**The planning authority will respond within 21 days of receiving the Notice. It will advise whether the proposed pre-application consultation is satisfactory or if additional notification and consultation above the statutory minimum is required. The minimum consultation activity includes consultation with the relevant community council(s), the holding of one public event and its advertisement in a local newspaper.**

## 1. APPLICANT'S DETAILS

NAME	Nisthill Wind Farm Limited		
ADDRESS	16 West Borough, Wimborne, Dorset		
POSTCODE	BH21 1NG	TELEPHONE	
EMAIL			

## 2. AGENT'S DETAILS

NAME	Emma Bathgate		
ADDRESS	ITPEnergised, Centrum House, 108-114 Dundas Street, Edinburgh		
POSTCODE	EH3 5DQ	TELEPHONE	07415 393 077
EMAIL	emma.bathgate@itpennergised.com		

## 3. ADDRESS OR LOCATION OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Please state the postal address of the prospective development site. If there is no postal address, describe its location. Please outline the site on an OS base plan and attach it to this completed Notice.

Land at Ludenhill and Nisthouse, Swannay, west of Loch of Swannay.

Site centre British National Grid (BNG) HY 30393 27104

#### 4. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Describe in general terms the development to be carried out. Outline its characteristics and identify its class (national or major).

The Proposed Development will comprise of four wind turbines, each up to 180 m blade tip height. The total generating capacity is anticipated to be in the region of 26.4 MW, therefore considered a major development. The associated infrastructure will include site access, internal access tracks, crane hardstanding, underground cabling, on-site substation and maintenance building, temporary construction compound(s) and borrow pit search area.

#### 5. PARTIES NOTIFIED

State which other parties have received a copy of this Proposal of Application Notice and the date the Notice was served.

Birsay Community Council will received a copy of the PAN on the 18th March 2022. Further parties noted within the supporting information document will also received the PAN.

#### 6. CONSULTATION

Please give an account of what consultation is being proposed. State when such consultation will take place, with whom it will be and what form it will take.

It is proposed to hold a community open day at Birsay Community Hall for the local community in April/May 2022. We will confirm this with the Community Council to ensure they are comfortable with this arrangement given the current levels of Covid-19. In addition, a dedicated consultation webpage will be added to the project website which will provide all of the information and feedback mechanisms proposed for the in-person open day. This page will be live for a full month from the proposed open day date. More details are provided in the supporting information document. The date has not been confirmed but a newspaper advert will be published nearer the time outlining the relevant information for the event and circulated to the Community Council to share digitally.

**A planning application for a national or major development cannot be submitted less than 12 weeks from the date the Proposal of Application Notice is received and without the statutory requirements having been undertaken. The application must be accompanied by the Pre-Application Consultation report.**

Development Management, Orkney Islands Council, School Place, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1NY  
Tel: (01856) 873535 Fax: (01856) 886451 Email: [planning@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:planning@orkney.gov.uk) Web: [www.orkney.gov.uk](http://www.orkney.gov.uk)



# Nisthill Wind Farm

## Proposal of Application Notice Supporting Information

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Client: Nisthill Wind Farm Limited  
Project/Proposal No: 3586  
Version: 1.0  
Date: 2022-03-17



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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose of Report

This report supports the Proposal of Application (PAN) for Nisthill Wind Farm, a proposal by Nisthill Wind Farm Limited to construct and operate a wind farm on land at Ludenhill and Nisthouse, Swannay.

This report forms part of a PAN submission for the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) process for a Major Development, as defined by the Schedule of the Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Development) (Scotland) Regulations 2009.

ITPEnergised, on behalf of the Applicant, submitted an EIA Scoping Request to Orkney Island Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 (22/080/SCO). The purpose of the PAN is to set out the proposed approach to consultation with the local community, prior to the submission of a potential planning application in order to comply with the requirement of planning legislation and guidance.

## 1.2 Description of the Proposed Development

The Proposed Development will comprise of four wind turbines, each up to 180 m blade tip height. The total generating capacity is anticipated to be in the region of 26.4 MW. The associated infrastructure will include site access, internal access tracks, crane hardstanding, underground cabling, on-site substation and maintenance building, temporary construction compound(s) and borrow pit search area(s).

The site is located approximately 5 km west of Birsay (refer to **Appendix 1**) in OIC area. The site comprises of an area of approximately 120 hectares (ha). The site is predominately grassland with gently sloping topography up to 107 m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). The eastern boundary of the site borders Loch of Swannay.

## 1.3 The Applicant

The Applicant 'Nisthill Wind Farm Limited', is a partnership between farmers Mr Adrian Breck of Ludenhill, Mr Paul Archibald of Nisthouse and Infinergy Limited.

Mr Breck and Mr Archibald are multigenerational Orcadian farmers and landowners of the Proposed Development site. Already Ludenhill Farm has contributed towards tackling climate change with the instalment of a 500kW wind turbine in 2016. Together the landowners hope to generate significantly more renewable energy with this Proposed Development.

Infinergy Limited is a renewable energy company developing onshore wind farms throughout the United Kingdom. The Applicant has expertise and experience needed to design, develop, build and operate wind energy developments. The Applicant is committed to helping meet the United Kingdom's renewable energy targets, whilst developing responsibly and putting the right sized wind farm in the right place. Infinergy is a member of trade organisations RenewableUK and Scottish Renewables. For more information please visit: <http://www.infinergy.co.uk>.

# 2. Consultation Process

## 2.1 Introduction

The aim of the consultation process is to:

- Assist the public in understanding the benefits and impacts of Nisthill Wind Farm;
- Provide the opportunity for the public to express opinions and provide feedback about Nisthill Wind Farm; and

- Obtain feedback about Nisthill Wind Farm and add value to inform design.

## 2.2 The Legislative Requirement

This PAN has been prepared in line with the legislative context outlined below:

- The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 Section 35B(4) as inserted by the Planning Etc (Scotland) Act 2006;
- The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 Regulation 6; and
- Scottish Government Guidance: Coronavirus (COVID-19): development planning consultation and engagement advice - May 2020

## 2.3 Engagement Opportunities

The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 states “A proposal of application notice must...contain an account of what consultation the applicant intends to undertake, when such consultation is to take place, with whom and what form it will take.”. Further details are provided below.

### 2.3.1 Proposed Consultation

There will be various approaches to engagement with stakeholders and the local community including:

- Introductory meeting with the local Community Council in order to seek guidance on level of comfort with in-person events, and regular updates following the events.
- A Community Open Day (if appropriate) to provide interested parties information about Nisthill Wind Farm and the opportunity to ask specific questions and provide feedback.
  - The Community Open Day would be held in Birsay Community Hall April/May 2022, the specific date of the event is to be confirmed.
- The website [www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk) will have a dedicated consultation page which will include the latest project information developed for the Community Open Days. The opportunity to submit comments over the 12 week consultation period will be possible via the website.
- Printed materials can be made available upon request.

There will be 12-week timeframe where consultation can occur, this will be from the submission of the PAN to Orkney Island Council on 18th March 2022 until 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The consultation can occur via the website, email or feedback forms provided at the Community Open Day or online.

A newspaper advert will be placed in the Orcadian newspaper 14 days prior to the Community Open Day event, providing information with regards to dates, times and locations of the event.

### 2.3.2 Who will be consulted?

Under Regulation 7 of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, pre-application consultation must 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 the community council.”

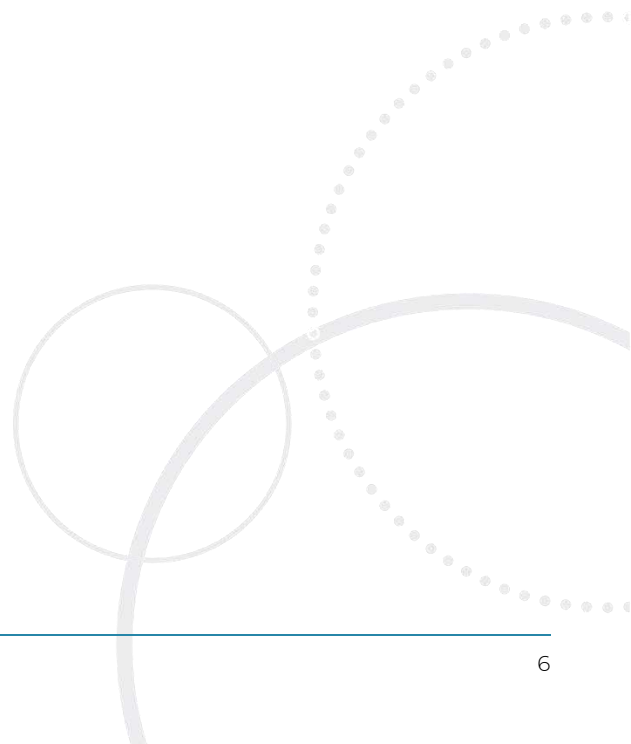
In line with legislation and good practice, consultation will be undertaken with community council, elected MP, MSPs, councillors, local residents within close proximity to the Proposed Development, local action groups and other known stakeholders or interested parties.

The table below outlines the proposed parties:

<b>Community Councils</b>	
Birsay Community Council	Evie and Rendall community council
<b>MP, MSP, Councillors</b>	
Alistair Carmichael MP Liam McArthur MSP	Councillors – West Mainland Ward: Harvey Johnston Rachael King Owen Tierney Duncan Tullock
<b>Community Groups</b>	
Birsay Community Association	

A Pre-Application Consultation Report will accompany the planning application which will detail the consultation and engagement activity and the findings.

# Appendix 1 Site Location Plan









ITPEnergised is a leading, international consultancy offering renewable energy, natural resources, environmental, engineering, technical advisory and asset management services for clients with onshore and offshore projects.

**Visit the ITPENERGISED group offices in:**

Bristol, London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Buenos Aires, Lisbon, Madrid, Delhi, Beijing, Canberra, Auckland

**Sectors:**

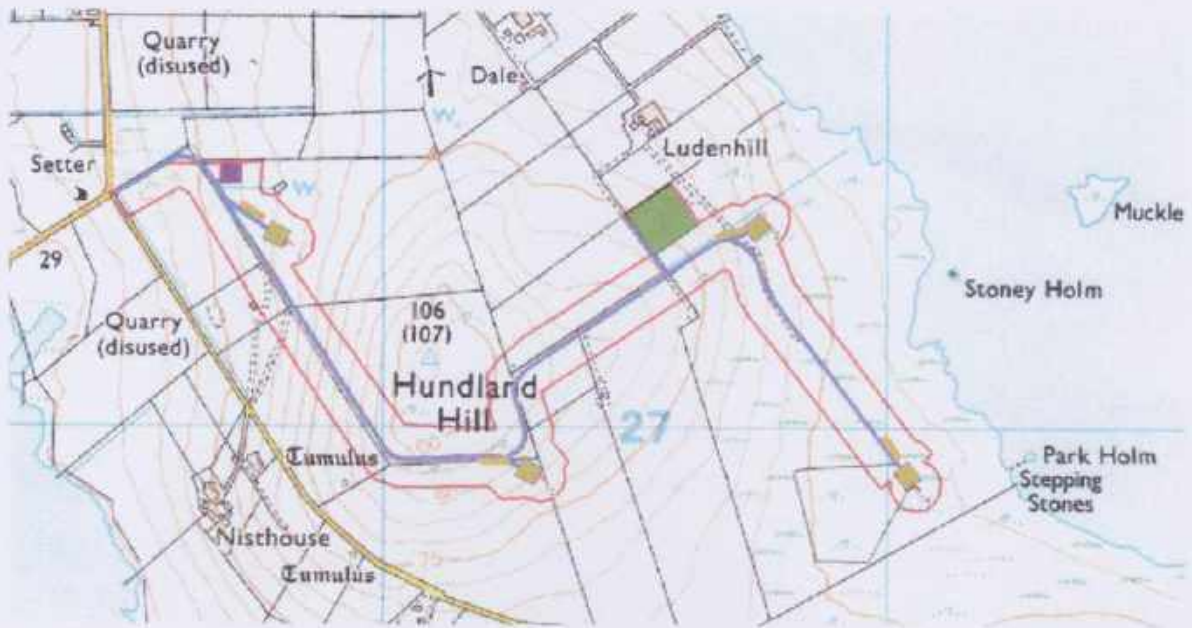
Onshore Renewables & Storage | Offshore Renewables | Oil & Gas  
Property & Urban Regeneration | Corporate, Industrial & Manufacturing








## **Appendix 2**

# **Door knocking information**

# BRECK ARCHIBALD WINDFARM



-  Sub station
-  Crane Hardstandings & blade laydown area
-  Construction compound
-  Access track
-  Redline boundary (includes micro-siting)

Approximate redline boundary area 287,600m<sup>2</sup>

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom right of the page, including a date '11/11/09' and a signature.

**Breck Archibald  
Wind Farm  
Nisthouse/ Ludenhill  
Orkney**

January 2022

Dear Neighbour

On behalf of Adrian Breck Ludenhill Farm and Paul Archibald Nisthouse Farm, I would like to make you aware of plans for the erection of 4/5 turbines to construct a small windfarm on our neighbouring properties.

The planning application will be submitted shortly, and it would be very helpful if you could indicate that you have no objections by signing your name to the foot of this letter.

The Map shows the locations of the turbines and the engineers have fully complied with all safety and noise levels of the turbines.

There will be minimum disruption to the area and no disruption to your property, as all materials are being sourced from within the two farms.

We are grateful for your support and will be in touch with any outcomes.

Kind regards

Adrian Breck  
Ludenhill Farm

Paul Archibald  
Nisthouse Farm

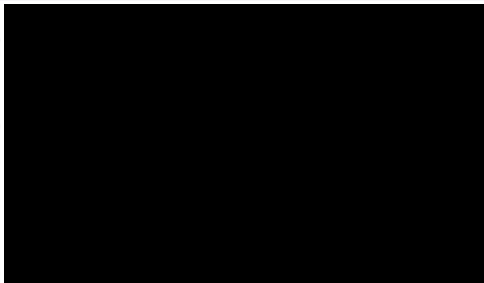
Neighbour Name

Address .

.....

.....

Signature. .





Newhouse  
Swannay by Evie  
Orkney  
Kw172nr  
20/1/2022

Dear sir/madam

Firstly I apologise for not being able to speak to you in person but I have been passed your house several times and knocked on the door but unfortunately to no reply.

I am writing just to explain why I hoped to speak to you in person. As you are aware Mr Adrian Breck owns the land across the loch known as Nisthouse hill, I own the land on the top and the other side. We have joined together to see if we could erect 4 wind turbines on the land, two on my side and two on Adrian's nearer the loch. We feel it is important to let people know what is happening whether for or against.

I have enclosed a map and please note "the crane hard standing and lay down area" is a rough estimate of where the turbines would be sited. (I apologise for the map size)

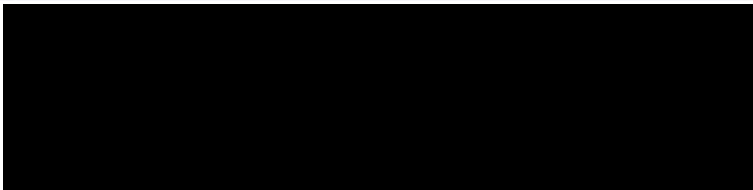
I also enclose a letter of no objection if you wish to sign please do so but I am lead to believe you have shown concern over other development's so please don't take any offence at me including it.

Many thanks for your time .If you have any questions that require answers please feel free to contact myself.

Best wishes

Paul Archibald  
Newhouse  
Swannay by Evie

Tel:721371



Handwritten notes and a signature at the bottom right of the page.

## **Appendix 3 Community Council Correspondence**

**Birsay Community Council**  
Birsay Community Hall  
Birsay  
KW17 2NB

March 11 2022

Dear Chair,

I am writing today to introduce myself and business partners to all relevant members of the Birsay Community Council whilst providing an insight into a small-scale windfarm proposal on the lands of Nisthouse Farm and Ludenhill Farm, situated in Swannay, Birsay.

Several years ago myself and Adrian Breck of Ludenhill Farm investigated possible options and opportunities available to ourselves with regards to a potential wind-farm development on the lands of neighboring farms Nisthouse and Ludenhill, located in Swannay.

As of March 03 2022, a scoping report was submitted to the Orkney Islands Council planning department with the intention of submitting a comprehensive planning application in connection with the development in the coming months.

The development comprises 4x 3 blade wind turbines each individually measuring approximately 180m tip height, generating an approximate capacity of 26,4 MW set on the lands of Hundland Hill – all information can be found at <https://www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk/>.

We hope you can appreciate that two local farmers can only achieve so much alone, so we formed a partnership with UK based windfarm developer Infinergy to push the development forward.

As we are all aware, sustainable energy production is paramount for both the county and nation moving forward, and with this opportunity locals can expect to benefit from a generous community fund, investment opportunities in connection with the development and the general investment in the local economy through the projects construction and maintenance.

Finally, I would like to apologise for not informing you sooner however I am sure you are well aware that these types of proposals can be a sensitive subject, particularly in close-knit communities such as ours here in Orkney. Due to this, we felt it would be prudent to call past all nearby residents to inform them of our plans... in which for the majority of locals we feel reacted warmly.

If you require any further information please feel free to get in touch and I will be happy to advise in any way I can.

*Yours Faithfully,*

**Paul W Archibald**  
Director



## **Appendix 4 Consultation Webpage**

## Online Consultation

### Welcome

#### June 2022

Welcome to the Online Consultation for the Nisthill Wind Farm project. We visited in person (details below) and had a great turnout, but we are also continuing with online consultation following the Covid-19 pandemic, to ensure we reach as many people as we can. If you didn't manage to make it along to our open day, or didn't feel comfortable doing so, you will find all the information and landscape and visual panels that we presented on this page. You'll also find a feedback form to fill in or you can email us directly with comments or questions at [info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk).



### Community Open Day

We held a Community Open Day in Birsay on 8th June 2022.

Wednesday 8th June 2022

If you weren't able to manage along on the day, you can see all the information panels below and if you have any comments or questions, please send us feedback using the form below. This online consultation will be available until 8th July 2022.

Birsay Village Hall, 2.30pm to 7.30pm

### Information Panels

Here you will find the information panels and photomontages we displayed at our in-person Community Open Day on 8th June.

*Please note, visualisations can give an impression of the appearance of a landscape and proposed wind farm however neither photographs or visualisations can convey a view exactly as it would be seen by the human eye in reality.*



## Zone of Theoretical Viability (ZTV)



## Feedback Form

We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this consultation is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with the project team. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

Please [click here](#) to access the form.

## Thank you

Many thanks for taking the time to visit our online consultation. When the consultation period is over, we will transfer all of the relevant files to the [Downloads](#) section of the website. If you have any further questions at any time, please don't hesitate to contact us by email at [info@nishiwindfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@nishiwindfarm.co.uk)

### ABOUT

InEnergy is a renewable energy company, committed to increasing the use of zero-carbon electricity. Power which is generated by wind and solar PV projects allows us to fuel our modern-day lifestyles whilst living in harmony with our natural environment, preserving it for generations to come.

### LATEST NEWS

**Community Open Day -  
Wednesday 6 June 2022**  
MAY 31, 2022

**New partnership announced**  
FEBRUARY 23, 2022

### LINKS

[Home](#)

[News](#)

[The Project](#)

[InEnergy Home](#)

### CONTACT

16 West Brough  
Wimborne  
Dorset BH21 1NG

0800 980 4299

☎ (+44) 01202 847680

[info@nishiwindfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@nishiwindfarm.co.uk)

## **Appendix 5 Community Open Day Information Panels**

# WELCOME TO NISTHILL WINDFARM COMMUNITY OPEN DAY



Welcome to the public consultation for the Nisthill Wind Farm, located 5km to the east of Birsay, West Mainland, Orkney.

Utilising the natural environment to harness clean, zero-carbon energy, the Nisthill Wind Farm project will, if consented, support local construction companies along with local supply chains during construction and operation, offer community benefit and support the long-term future of active farm land on Orkney.

The proposed development site benefits from good wind speeds, and has no on-site environmental designations.

Here you will find a selection of information boards outlining the proposal. Please take your time to study the information and please do not hesitate to speak with any of the Nisthill project team members who are here to answer your questions.

If you would like to leave a written comment, please help yourself to a 'Voice Your Opinion' comment form, available from the reception desk.

## Site Description

The proposed development site is located approximately 5 kilometres (3.11 miles) to the east of Birsay. The site lies in the West Mainland ward of Orkney Council area and is located on active agricultural land.

## Development

Nisthill is a partnership between two local farms and Infinergy Ltd.

The name 'Nisthill' comes from combining the names of Nisthouse and Ludenhill, the two farms that own the site of the proposed wind farm.

Infinergy Limited is a renewable energy company developing onshore wind farms throughout the United Kingdom. The company has in-house expertise and experience needed to design, develop, build and operate wind energy developments.

**INFINERGY**

There are several ways to obtain further information and to contact us:

- Our website [www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk) will be updated regularly to provide you with the latest information. We will publish the planning application documents, including the EIA Report, on the website once the application has been submitted.
- Ring the freephone number 0800 980 4299
- Email us at [info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk)
- Write to us using Freepost **Infinergy Ltd**



# 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.





# THE PROPOSED LAYOUT



## How have our studies influenced the layout?

The main environmental constraints which have defined the layout are as follows:

**Landscape and Visual:** As part of our studies, we have created images showing how the wind turbines will look from several locations. More will be available to view through the planning process. The studies will also consider the effects on the landscape character, special qualities, residential amenity, turbine lighting and surrounding wind farms.

**Peat:** Based on surveys carried out on site, there is a minimal amount of deep peat (greater than 1 m) located within the site. Turbines and infrastructure have been positioned to avoid these areas.

**Noise:** Following the completion of a 'background noise assessment', the turbines have been accurately positioned to ensure they remain within strict national and local guidelines for noise limits.

**Sensitive Habitats:** Extensive surveys have been complete including for habitats, birds and protected mammals. The positioning of turbines will seek to avoid sensitive habitats as far as possible.

**Cultural Heritage:** both the turbines and related infrastructure have been positioned to minimise impacts on known cultural heritage assets.

**Water Environment:** the layout has maintained standard separation distances from watercourses and private water supplies.

In addition, the layout has been influenced by wind resource analysis carried out by Infinergy.

The exact number and location of wind turbines will be determined by constraints identified during the EIA process and influenced by statutory consultees and public consultation.

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT



A full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been commissioned for the Nisthill Wind Farm project. This extensive study will form part of the formal application to be made to Orkney Islands Council.

The environmental impact assessment process includes:

- Consultation with the local planning authority, various organisations and the public to identify specific concerns and issues;
- Determining the existing conditions at and around the proposed wind farm site by reviewing the available data and undertaking specialist field surveys;
- Assessing the potential impacts on the existing environment; and
- Mitigation proposals to alleviate any significant impacts identified.

The environmental impact assessment work is on-going, and, to date we have carried out extensive surveys to gather data on the following:

- Ornithology;
- Protected wildlife species;
- Priority wildlife habitats;
- Carbon rich soils and priority peatland habitats;
- Hydrology;
- Noise;
- Landscape and visual impact;
- Traffic and Transport; and
- Archaeology/cultural heritage.



Field studies in progress



# ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEYS



## Ecology and Ornithology

A programme of ecological and ornithological surveys has been carried out on the site. The results will be used to ensure that any impacts on wildlife are altogether avoided or mitigated if necessary. In addition, opportunities for biodiversity enhancements that the development could deliver will be explored in consultation with specialist interest groups.

### Ornithology surveys

A comprehensive bird survey programme is currently ongoing to ensure the latest data is collected. This includes breeding and non-breeding seasons. Overall, the aim is to ensure all present bird species are accurately accounted for and any impacts on them is correctly assessed.

### Ecology surveys

The ecology surveys include:

- Extended Phase 1 habitat survey; and
- National Vegetation Classification survey.

## Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

The effects of the Proposed Development on the historic environment, including cultural heritage and archaeology, is currently being assessed.

Surveys have concluded that there are two scheduled monuments within the site boundary, Hundland Hill and Nisthouse burial mound. These features have been taken into account during the design process. The environmental impact assessment will assess the magnitude and significance of effects on heritage assets in the surrounding area.

## Peat

An initial Phase 1 peat survey has been undertaken to establish the peat depth, if any, across the site.

Following the results of this survey the proposed layout has been designed to avoid areas of deep peat. If required, a 'Peat Management Plan' will also be prepared to accompany the wind farm planning application.

## Noise

There are two potential sources of noise:

1. The turbine blades passing through the air as they rotate
2. The rotation of the gearbox and generator in the hub of the turbine

Standing next to a turbine, it is possible to hear a swishing sound as the blades rotate.

Wind turbine technology, year-on-year has continued to improve around the world. As a result the industry has seen improvements not only in electrical output but also importantly reducing noise levels even further.

Generally wind turbine noise levels increase as wind speeds increase, however, so does the background noise level as the wind blows around the local area.

### How is noise assessed and measured?

Noise is measured in decibels - dB(A)

Wind farm noise is assessed based on guidance provided by ETSU-R-97 "The Assessment & Rating of Noise from Wind Farms".

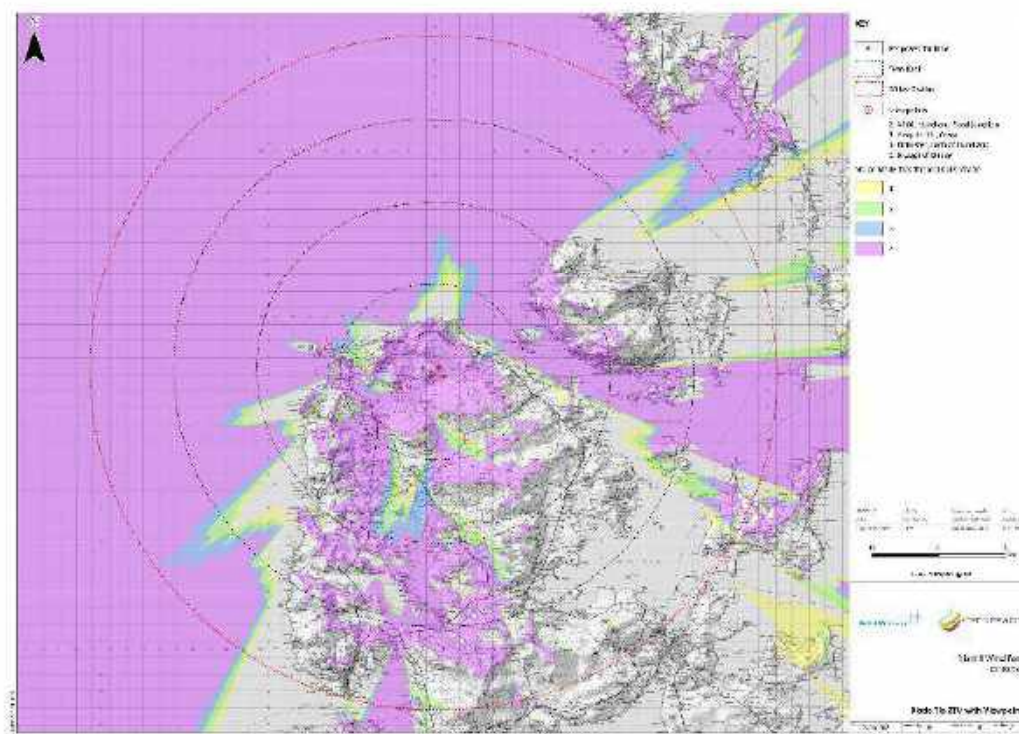
The now completed noise surveys have shown the proposed development would comply with the above regulations. As part of the application process, Orkney Island's Council's Environmental Health Officer will continue to be consulted.



noise monitoring equipment



# LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACT



A landscape and visual impact assessment establishes the potential effects of the proposed development on the surrounding landscape.

A zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) as shown above is a computer-generated tool that establishes the likely extent of the visibility of a proposed development and key visual receptors. A ZTV based on preliminary design options has been prepared to inform the landscape and visual impact assessment. This ZTV assumes no vegetation or buildings and so is worst case.

The ZTV indicates the areas where turbines will be visible, based on the relief of the surrounding study area (45 km from the outer turbines). This is supported by producing and analysing wirelines and photomontages from several agreed viewpoints that give a clearer picture of what the new turbines would look like.

The current design consists of 4 turbines of up to 180 m (590 feet) to blade tip.

On the next two banners, you will see four different viewpoints with their respective photomontages. These are to give you an indication of how the wind farm might look. The final EIAR will provide a number of additional viewpoints and give further detail about each and will be available to view once lodged with Orkney Islands Council.

## Why tip heights of 180 metres (590 feet)?

There are a number of reasons why a higher tip height is being proposed on this site than is already in situ in Orkney. Firstly, the taller the wind turbine, the more wind it is able to capture. As a result, far more green electricity is generated, maximising the site's capacity. Furthermore, wind turbine manufacturers are continuously improving turbine technology and addressing the specific needs of other countries globally.

Elsewhere in the world, it has become commonplace for 200 m (656 feet) and higher turbines to be erected. In response turbine manufactures are following this global market trend and removing the smaller turbine models (<150 m) from their production line. By choosing a 180 m turbine model we are not only maximising the site's capacity but also ensuring the proposed development, if permitted, can be developed without delay.

# PHOTOMONTAGES



Viewpoint 2 (1.38km): A966, Hundland Road Junction. Existing view and photomontage of the proposed Nisthill turbines from the junction of the A966 with Hundland Road. Existing view and photomontage taken from Grid Reference 329328 1029601 set up with a 53.5 degree field of view.



Viewpoint 3 (1.52km): A966, Vinquin Hill, Costa. Existing view and photomontage of the proposed Nisthill turbines from the roadside on Vinquin Hill. Existing view and photomontage taken from Grid Reference 331932 1028381 set up with a 53.5 degree field of view.



# PHOTOMONTAGES



Viewpoint 5 (1.5km): Kirbuster, Loch of Hundland. Existing view and photomontage of the proposed Nisthill turbines from the road to the west of Loch of Hundland. Existing view and photomontage taken from Grid Reference 328849 1026214 set up with a 53.5 degree field of view.



Viewpoint 6 (6.03km): Brough of Birsay. Existing view and photomontage of the proposed Nisthill turbines from Brough of Birsay. Existing view and photomontage taken from Grid Reference 323898 1028540 set up with a 53.5 degree field of view.

# THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



**Nisthill Wind Farm will work closely with local communities, businesses and residents in seeking to ensure that the project will bring tangible benefits to local people and help meet our national climate change and energy security needs.**

## Business, Jobs and Investment

We would like to hear from businesses in Orkney to ensure that we can fully consider the skills and services of local people and suppliers if the Nisthill Wind Farm receives approval.

The opportunities available would include those for:

- An engineering, procurement and construction contractor;
- Construction material suppliers: concrete, aggregate and building materials;
- Electrical contractors: supply and installation of plant, cabling, earthing, etc.
- Plant and equipment hire contractors: excavation earthworks, cranes, welfare units, etc.
- Labour hire companies: engineers, plant operatives and general labourers;
- Transport: taxis and minibuses for local labourers.

## Local Accommodation Providers

Construction projects of this nature typically require some specialist technicians from outside the area, so they will require local accommodation and catering facilities.

## Community Benefit

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 a project is expected to contribute. This amount is £5,000 per MW of installed capacity. With Nisthill Wind Farm, this would mean up to £132,000 per year for the lifetime of the scheme depending on the final number and capacity of wind turbines.

We want to try to ensure that the funds help the surrounding communities become more resilient and sustainable in the long term. We will work with communities to ensure a suitable body is in place to manage the proposed funds.

There are many options open to the community on how to use this community benefit to generate additional income. The Scottish Government would like to see communities maximising the potential a project such as a wind farm can bring through investment, and increased shared ownership is one of its primary aims going forwards.

Please feel free to write any ideas that you have on how community benefit could make a positive contribution to your local community on the feedback forms provided, or just have a chat with us while you are here.



## WHAT NEXT?



We hope to submit the planning application for Nisthill Wind Farm to Orkney Islands Council by the end of this summer.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EiAR) including all the results from the surveys will be submitted with the planning application. All of the submitted documents will be uploaded to our website [www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk) under 'Downloads'.

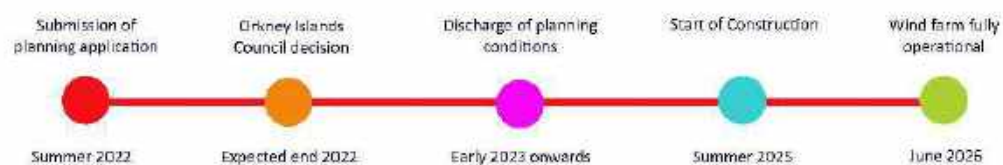
If you would like to receive a CD/USB stick containing all the planning application documents or a hard copy of the Non-Technical Summary (NTS), please request this in the 'Voice your opinion' comment form available at the reception desk. The CDs/USB sticks and the NTS are provided free of charge for as long as stock last.

### Consultees

Professional bodies in the fields of ecology, aviation, noise, landscape, cultural heritage, transport etc will all be consulted. To help the council assess the proposal, not only do they listen to you, the local residents, but also the following consultees:

- Ministry of Defense
- Historic Environment Scotland
- Ofcom
- NatureScot
- RSPB
- Local Community Councils
- VisitScotland
- National Air Traffic Services
- SEPA

The timeline shown below gives an indication of possible timescales should the proposal be deemed acceptable and is subject to change depending on the planning process.



### Contact points:

Email: [info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk)

Freephone: 0800 980 4299

Post: FREEPOST INFINERGY

Nisthill Wind Farm 

## **Appendix 6 Community Open Day Photographs**

Pictures taken at the Community Open Day, Birsay Hall.






## **Appendix 7 Community Open Day Social Media**

# Nisthill COD Social Media Posts


**Birsay Community Association**

826 people like this  
846 people follow this  
<http://www.birsayhall.co.uk/>  
Send message  
admin@birsayhall.co.uk  
Community

**Photos** See all



**Videos** See all



Thank you Blazin Fiddles and Saltfishforty for a fantastic ...  
18  
446 views · 6 years ago

**Page transparency** See all  
Facebook is showing information to help you better understand the purpose of a Page. See actions taken by the people who manage and

Send Message Like Search ...

**Birsay Community Association**  
9 December 2021 · 🌐  
[www.birsayhall.co.uk](http://www.birsayhall.co.uk)

BIRSAYHALL.CO.UK  
BCH

2

Like Comment Share

Write a comment...

**OTHER POSTS**

Fiona Milligan added a new photo to Birsay Community Association's time line.  
Just now · 🌐


**Nisthill Wind Farm**  
**Community Open Day**

To find out more about the proposal for Nisthill Wind Farm the project team invite you to our Community Open Day:

**Birsay Village Hall**  
**Wednesday 8th June, 2.30-7.30pm**

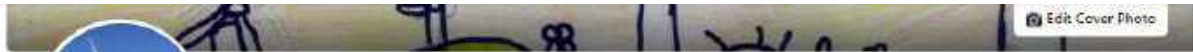
The open day will give local people the chance to view and comment on the proposals. The project team will be on hand to listen to comments and answer questions.

For more information:  
Freephone: 0800 980 4299  
info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk  
www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk



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Complete your Page to grow your audience. Adding more details can help people connect with you.

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### Intro

Wind energy company committed to help increase renewable energy generation in the U.K.

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Page · Energy company

infenergy.co.uk

Edit details

Add Hobbies

Add Featured

### Photos

See All Photos



What's on your mind?

Live video

Photo/video

Get Messages

### Posts

Filters

Manage posts

List view

Grid view



Infenergy

Published by Rose Milgate · Just now

We're working with two local farmers in Orkney to help take their dream of having a windfarm forward! #renewableenergy #climatechange #energysecurity

## Nisthill Wind Farm

### Community Open Day

To find out more about the proposal for Nisthill Wind Farm the project team invite you to our Community Open Day:

**Birsay Village Hall  
Wednesday 8th June, 2.30-7.30pm**

The open day will give local people the chance to view and comment on the proposals. The project team will be on hand to listen to comments and answer questions.

For more information:

Freephone: 0800 980 4299  
info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk  
www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk

Nisthill Wind Farm



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Home



Infinergy Ltd @infinergyWind · 7m



Looking forward to heading to [#Orkney](#) in a few weeks to help two local farmers make their dream of having a wind farm a reality!  
[#renewableenergy](#) [#climatechange](#) [#energysecurity](#)

## Nisthill Wind Farm

### Community Open Day

To find out more about the proposal for Nisthill Wind Farm the project team invite you to our Community Open Day:

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For more information:

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info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk

www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk

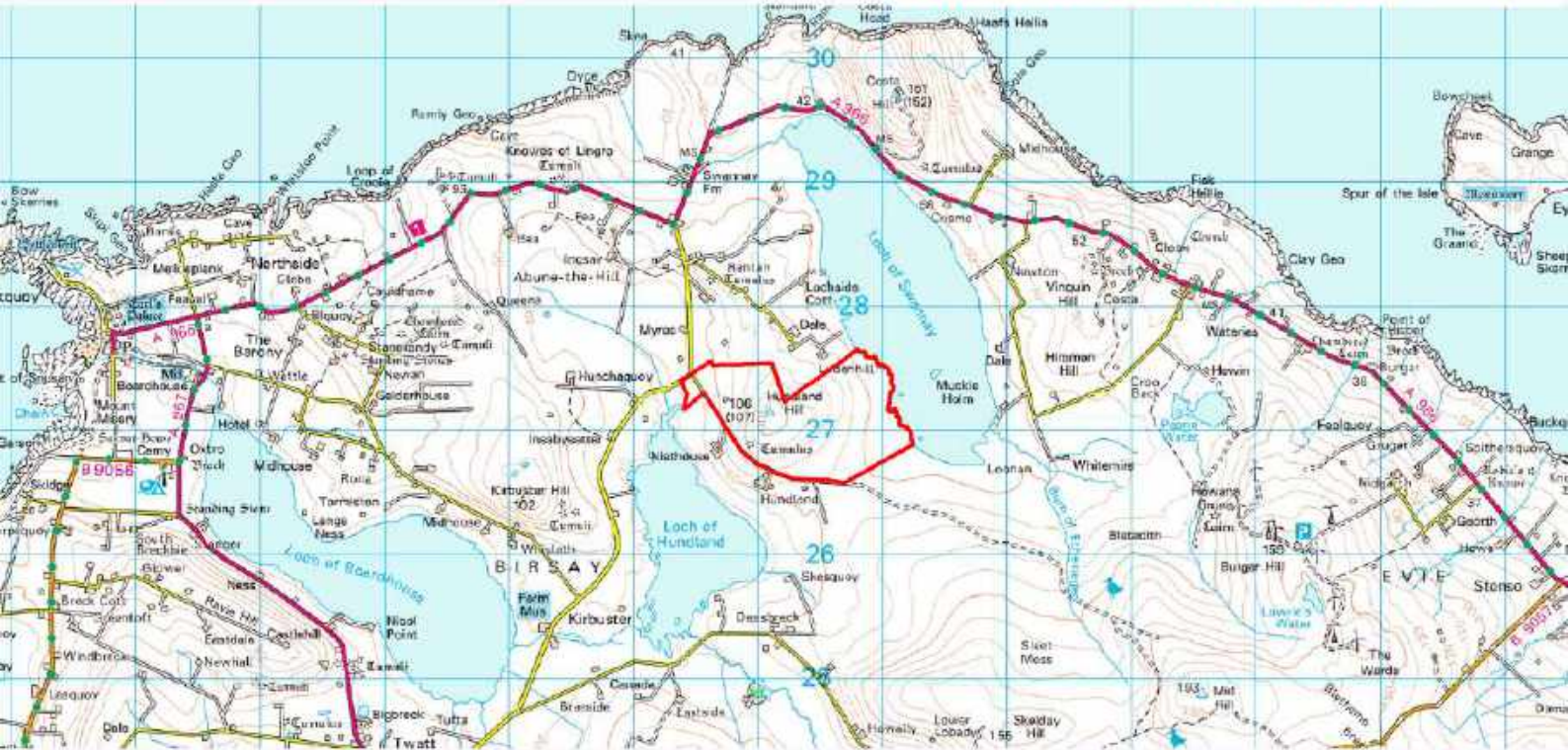
Nisthill Wind Farm 



## **Appendix 8 Community Open Day Postal Invitation**



# Nisthill Wind Farm



INVITATION TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR  
THE NISTHILL WIND FARM PROPOSAL

## Invitation to a community open day for the proposed Nisthill Wind Farm.

Together, Infinergy, in partnership with two local farmers, is developing a proposal for Nisthill Wind Farm, located approximately 5 kilometres (3.11 miles) to the east of Birsay. Utilising the natural environment to harness clean, zero carbon energy, the Nisthill Wind Farm project will, if consented, support local construction jobs and employment during its operation, as well as offer community benefit and shared ownership opportunities, and support the long-term management of the land and the ambitions of the island for renewable energy generation.

### COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

#### Birsay Village Hall

Wednesday 8th June 2022, 2.30pm - 7.30pm

#### ONLINE EXHIBITION

All information available at the community open day will be available on the project website [www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk)

The online consultation will run from Wednesday 8th June to Friday 8th July 2022.

If you are unable to access the information online, or require any further information, you can email [info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk)

[www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk)



## **Appendix 9 Community Open Day Press Release**



# Plans progress for new windfarm in Birsay

## ■ Nisthill Windfarm hoped to create £5million in community benefit

By **Ethan Flett**

PLANS FOR A NEW windfarm in Birsay have been made public, with the developers estimating £132,000 to be generated per year in community benefit.

The Nisthill Windfarm is being masterminded by farmers Paul Archibald of Nisthouse and Adrian Breck of Ludechill, along with renewable energy developer, Infinergy Ltd.

The four-turbine development will be situated on their farmland, between the Loch of Swannay and the Loch of Hundland, with the owners hoping to get consent for a 40-year lifespan.

In all, the four 180-metre structures will have an installed capacity of 26.4MW per year — the equivalent needed to provide energy for 15,000 households, according to the project's website.

Asked how the windfarm came about, Mr Breck mentioned his career in renewable energy, starting with the Burgar Hill project. From there, he spent 15 years on other renewable energy enterprises across Scotland, from windfarms to hydro schemes.

"With having the farmland, I always knew it was suitable for turbines," he said. "So I got together with Paul Archibald and it took off from there."

The pair have been working on the Nisthill project for two-and-a-half years, taking it as far as they could on their

own, before teaming up with Infinergy towards the end of last year.

From his experience in the industry, Mr Breck emphasised not only the money that such renewable projects bring to communities, but also their wider positive impacts. He said: "It's a huge benefit to communities. Absolutely huge. It brings so much work to the islands."

A presentation on the project was delivered at a meeting of the Birsay Community Council on Thursday, April 14.

As for the distribution of the community benefit money, which is set to total £5million over the lifespan of Nisthill, the decision is in its early stages. However, it was mentioned during the meeting that Birsay is already set to benefit from Hoojan Energy's Costa Head Windfarm, so spreading the gains of Nisthill to other parishes was an option.

During her presentation to the community council, Fiona Milligan from Infinergy said that they have no fixed notions about how the community benefit will be used.

She said: "That's something that we would want to discuss with you further and if you felt that you wanted a wider community area to benefit, then that's great. That's something we will discuss with you over time."

As for the use of the fund, she suggested that fuel poverty was high on the agendas for such projects. Other options might include improving

local transport or academic bursaries.

During the meeting Infinergy's Kari Clouston, the project manager, said that, at 180 metres, the turbine height would be new for Orkney.

A statement from the website explains the reasons for this: "Firstly, the taller the wind turbine, the more wind it is able to capture. As a result, far more green electricity is generated, maximising the site's capacity."

"Furthermore, wind turbine manufacturers are continuously improving turbine technology and addressing the specific needs of other countries globally. Elsewhere in the world, it has become commonplace for 200m (656 feet) and higher turbines to be erected."

In response, turbine manufacturers are following this global market trend, and removing the smaller turbine models (<150m) from their production line. By choosing a 180m turbine model we are ensuring the scheme, if permitted, can be developed without delays.

As with Orkney's other windfarms, Mr Clouston pointed out that the export of the energy will depend upon the needs case for the new interconnector cable being met.

The energy regulator Ofgem has set a December deadline for 1.15MW or projects to be under way in the county, for them to install the cable that will connect Orkney with the Scottish mainland.



The owners of the planned Nisthill Windfarm Paul Archibald (left) and Adrian Breck (right), with project manager Kari Clouston (centre).

On the prospect of the needs case being met, Mr Clouston said: "We're pretty confident. That's why Infinergy has decided to take that risk, in a sense, with Paul and Adrian and move forward with them to do this project because we do believe that it is eventually going to come off."

With an installed capacity 26.4MW, Nisthill will make a significant contribution. For sake of comparison, Hoojan Energy's Hesta Head and Costa Head projects will add 20.4MW and 16.3MW respectively (according to Orkney Islands Council's May, 2021,

impact analysis report). The council's Quanterness, Hoy, and Farsy windfarms will each add 20.8MW, and the Hammers Hill extension will add 8.4MW.

As for the current stage of the Nisthill Windfarm, the scoping report has been submitted, as has the pre-planning application. In May, Infinergy is planning to hold consultations with the community, ahead of submitting the full planning application to Orkney Islands Council in June.

Should it be granted permission, it is currently anticipated that construction would commence no earlier than 2024.



The site of the Nisthill Windfarm.

# Community Open Day – Wednesday 8 June 2022

May 31, 2022 – Site Admin –

The Nisthill Wind Farm project team invites you to visit our Community Open Day to be held at Birsay Village Hall on Wednesday 8th June between 2.30pm and 7.30pm.

At the open day, we'll be displaying a range of information about how the project is developing and what it might look like and we'll be on hand to take questions and receive feedback.

If you are not able to make it along on the day, all of the information will be available on this website from 8th June to 8th July along with an online feedback form.

For further information please don't hesitate to email [info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk)

## RECENT NEWS

› [Community Open Day – Wednesday 8 June 2022](#)

› [New partnership announced](#)

## Nisthill Wind Farm

### Community Open Day

To find out more about the proposal for Nisthill Wind Farm the project team invite you to our Community Open Day:

**Birsay Village Hall  
Wednesday 8th June, 2.30-7.30pm**

The open day will give local people the chance to view and comment on the proposals. The project team will be on hand to listen to comments and answer questions.

For more information:

Freephone: 0800 980 4299  
[info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@nisthillwindfarm.co.uk)  
[www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.nisthillwindfarm.co.uk)

Nisthill Wind Farm 



Image by Nisthill Wind Farm

# **Appendix 10**

## **Community Open Day Questionnaire**



# Voice your opinion!

Please fill in our questionnaire

### Contact Details

Name ..... E-mail .....

Address ..... Telephone .....

.....  
Postcode .....

Wind Farm Project ..... Date .....

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

**1. What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements?**  
(onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

**2. What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?**

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

**3a. How do you feel about the ..... Wind Farm proposal?**

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

**3b. Why do you hold this view?** Please state

**4. How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?**

Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)     Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)     Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

**5a. To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?**

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

- |                              |  |   |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No  | <input type="checkbox"/> How the wind farm might look      | <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity output - homes powered           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> Local wildlife                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Site traffic during construction             |
| Please select one            | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential noise from the turbines | <input type="checkbox"/> CO <sub>2</sub> savings                      |
|                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Local archaeology*                           |
|                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state)              | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential economic benefits from the project |

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground

**5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:**

**6. How did you first learn about the project?**

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

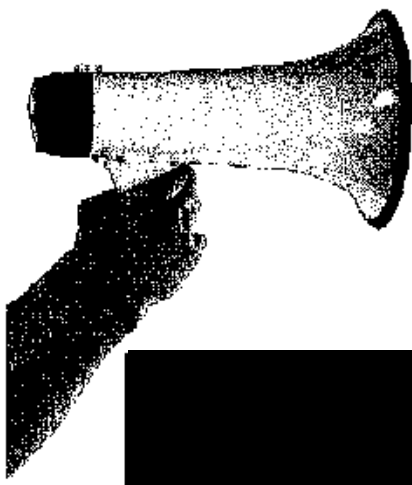
**7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.**

**8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.**

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

# **Appendix 11**

## **Returned Redacted Questionnaires**



# Voice your opinion!

Please fill in our questionnaire

Wind Farm Project Nisthull Date 8/6/22

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

1. What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements? (onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

2. What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

3a. How do you feel about the Nisthull Wind Farm proposal?

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

3b. Why do you hold this view? Please state

4. How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?

Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)  Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)  Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> How the wind farm might look	<input type="checkbox"/> Electricity output - homes powered
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Local wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/> Site traffic during construction
Please select one	<input type="checkbox"/> Potential noise from the turbines	<input type="checkbox"/> CO <sub>2</sub> savings
	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/> Local archaeology*
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potential economic benefits from the project

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground



5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freepost Infinergy Ltd.**

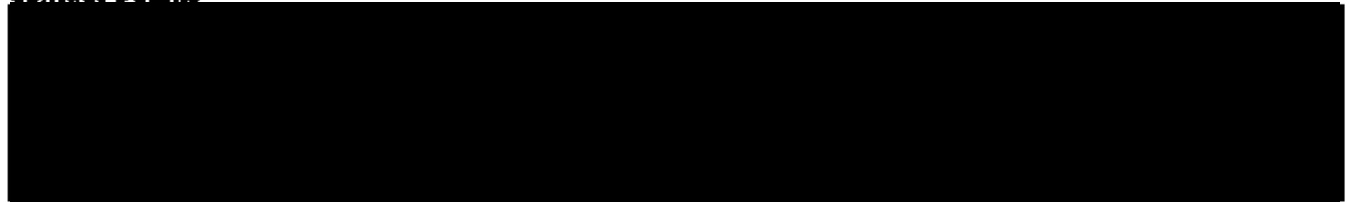




# Voice your opinion!

## Please fill in our questionnaire

### Contact Details



Wind Farm Project M5THILL ..... Date 8-6-2022 .....

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

- 1. **What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements?**  
(onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)  
 Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed
- 2. **What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?**  
 Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed
- 3a. **How do you feel about the ..... Wind Farm proposal?**  
 Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3b. **Why do you hold this view? Please state**

- 4. **How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?**  
 Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)     Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)     Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. **To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?**

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> How the wind farm might look      | <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity output - homes powered           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes           | <input type="checkbox"/> Local wildlife                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Site traffic during construction             |
| Please select one                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential noise from the turbines | <input type="checkbox"/> CO <sub>2</sub> savings                      |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Local archaeology*                           |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state)              | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential economic benefits from the project |

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground

**5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:**

**6. How did you first learn about the project?**

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

**7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.**

**8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.**

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freepost Infinergy Ltd.**



# Voice your opinion!

## Please fill in our questionnaire

### Contact Details

Wind Farm Project ..... Date .....

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1. What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements? (onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

- Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

2. What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?

- Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3a. How do you feel about the ..... Wind Farm proposal?

- Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3b. Why do you hold this view? Please state

4. How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?

- Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)     Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)     Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> How the wind farm might look      | <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity output - homes powered           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes           | <input type="checkbox"/> Local wildlife                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Site traffic during construction             |
| Please select one                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential noise from the turbines | <input type="checkbox"/> CO <sub>2</sub> savings                      |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Local archaeology*                           |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state)              | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential economic benefits from the project |

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground

5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

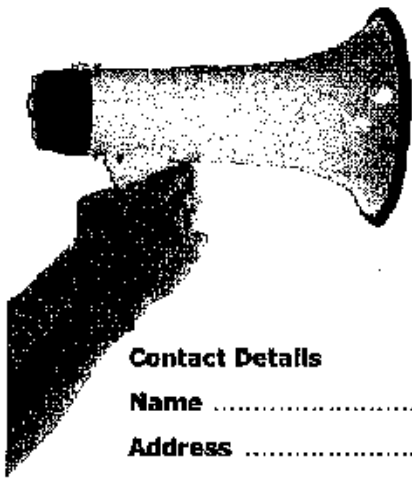
7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freepost Infinergy Ltd.**

Infinergy Ltd



# Voice your opinion!

## Please fill in our questionnaire

### Contact Details

Name ..... E-mail .....

Address ..... Telephone .....

Postcode .....

Wind Farm Project Niskhill Date 8th June 2022

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

1. What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements? (onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

2. What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

3a. How do you feel about the ..... Wind Farm proposal?

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

3b. Why do you hold this view? Please state

*Well planned + presented. A lot of work has gone into this proposal and views of many stakeholders taken into consideration.*

4. How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?

Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)  Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)  Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

- |                              |  |   |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No  | <input type="checkbox"/> How the wind farm might look      | <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity output - homes powered           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> Local wildlife                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Site traffic during construction             |
| Please select one            | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential noise from the turbines | <input type="checkbox"/> CO <sub>2</sub> savings                      |
|                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Local archaeology*                           |
|                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state)              | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential economic benefits from the project |

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground

**5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:**

**6. How did you first learn about the project?**

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

**7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.**

**8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.**

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freepost Infinergy Ltd.**





# Voice your opinion!

## Please fill in our questionnaire

Contact Details



Wind Farm Project ... Nisthull, Birsey ..... Date ... 19/06/22 .....

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Inffnery. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

- 1. **What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements?**  
(onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)  
 Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed
- 2. **What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?**  
 Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed
- 3a. **How do you feel about the ... Nisthull ..... Wind Farm proposal?**  
 Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3b. **Why do you hold this view? Please state**

The proposed turbines have the potential to generate a substantial amount of power (5000 hours worth!). Turbines are a known quantity, more so than tidal devices, and we need cheaper & greener electricity as soon as possible.

- 4. **How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?**  
 Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)     Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)     Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. **To develop this wind farm, Inffnery has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?**

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

- No
- Yes
- How the wind farm might look
- Local wildlife
- Potential noise from the turbines
- Tourism
- Other (please state)
- Electricity output - homes powered
- Site traffic during construction
- CO<sub>2</sub> savings
- Local archaeology\*
- Potential economic benefits from the project

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground

5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

I am interested in the 10% which will be up for public ownership/investment.

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

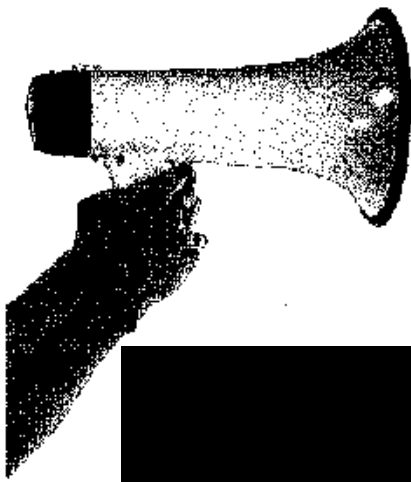
7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

I found the public consultation to be very informative and transparent. I have no objection to the planned development.

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freeport Infinergy Ltd.**



# Voice your opinion!

Please fill in our questionnaire

Wind Farm Project Nisthull Date 19/6/22

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

1. What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements? (onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

2. What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

3a. How do you feel about the Nisthull Wind Farm proposal?

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

3b. Why do you hold this view? Please state

renewable energy for and money for the community

4. How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?

Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)  Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)  Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

No  How the wind farm might look  Electricity output - homes powered  
 Yes  Local wildlife  Site traffic during construction  
Please select one  Potential noise from the turbines  CO<sub>2</sub> savings  
 Tourism  Local archaeology\*  
 Other (please state)  Potential economic benefits from the project

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground

5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state) in law's are the Archibalds

7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

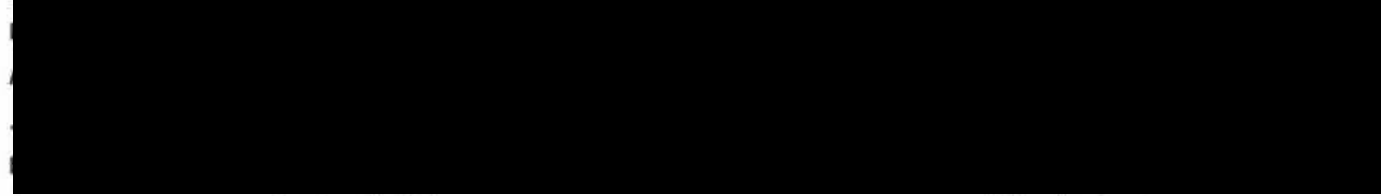
Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freepost Infinergy Ltd.**



# Voice your opinion!

Please fill in our questionnaire

## Contact Details



Wind Farm Project Nisthill Date 12/06/22

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

1. What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements? (onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

2. What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3a. How do you feel about the Nisthill Wind Farm proposal?

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3b. Why do you hold this view? Please state

Orkney should channel it's potential wind energy - it would be ridiculous not to given the current climate.

4. How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?

Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)     Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)     Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> How the wind farm might look	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electricity output - homes powered
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Local wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/> Site traffic during construction
Please select one	<input type="checkbox"/> Potential noise from the turbines	<input type="checkbox"/> CO <sub>2</sub> savings
	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/> Local archaeology*
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/> Potential economic benefits from the project

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground

5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

Excellent proposal. Orkney has to keep up with the times and Nisthill is the perfect location for this project. The potential community benefit is also huge! Good luck.

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freepost Infinergy Ltd.**





# Voice your opinion!

Please fill in our questionnaire

Contact Details

Wind Farm Project

Nisthill, Orkney

Date

09/06/22

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

1. **What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements?** (onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

2. **What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?**

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3a. **How do you feel about the** Nisthill **Wind Farm proposal?**

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3b. **Why do you hold this view?** Please state

Renewables in Orkney has huge potential.  
Massive opportunities!

4. **How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?**

Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)     Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)     Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. **To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?**

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

No     How the wind farm might look     Electricity output - homes powered  
 Yes     Local wildlife     Site traffic during construction  
Please select one     Potential noise from the turbines     CO<sub>2</sub> savings  
 Tourism     Local archaeology\*  
 Other (please state)     Potential economic benefits from the project

Interested in future of Nisthill but  
do not want contacted please.

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground

5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

Would be delighted to see this go ahead. Very supportive!

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freepost Infinergy Ltd.**





# Voice your opinion!

Please fill in our questionnaire

Wind Farm Project NISTHILL Date 13 JUNE '22

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

1. **What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements?**  
(onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

2. **What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?**

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3a. **How do you feel about the ..... Wind Farm proposal?**

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3b. **Why do you hold this view? Please state**

Plenty of wind in area to help make this project work

4. **How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?**

Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)     Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)     Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. **To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?**

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

No     How the wind farm might look     Electricity output - homes powered  
 Yes     Local wildlife     Site traffic during construction  
Please select one     Potential noise from the turbines     CO<sub>2</sub> savings  
 Tourism     Local archaeology\*  
 Other (please state)     Potential economic benefits from the project

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground

5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freeport Infinergy Ltd.**

# Voice your opinion!

Please fill in our questionnaire



Wind Farm Project NISTHILL Date 13 June 22

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

1. **What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements?** (onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)
   
 Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed
2. **What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?**
  
 Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed
- 3a. **How do you feel about the Wind Farm proposal?**
  
 Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed
- 3b. **Why do you hold this view?** Please state

Paul Archibald is my brother and I wish him success in his venture.

4. **How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?**
  
 Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)     Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)     Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

- 5a. **To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?**

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> How the wind farm might look | <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity output - homes powered           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes           | <input type="checkbox"/> Local wildlife                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Site traffic during construction             |
| Please select one                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential noise from the turbines       | <input type="checkbox"/> CO <sub>2</sub> savings                      |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Local archaeology*                           |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state)                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential economic benefits from the project |

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground



5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freepost Infinergy Ltd.**





# Voice your opinion!

Please fill in our questionnaire

Contact Details

Wind Farm Project .....M.S.P.M.I.L.L.....(OKENMPT)..... Date ....8/15/17.....

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

1. What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements? (onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

2. What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

3a. How do you feel about the.....Wind Farm proposal?

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

3b. Why do you hold this view? Please state

BEST FOR: • ENVIRONMENT, • ECONOMIC (JOBS) OF OKENMPT, DURING CONSTRUCTION  
• COMMUNITY BENEFIT - PRIZES / GRANTS TO HOUSES

4. How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?

Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)  Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)  Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

No  How the wind farm might look  Electricity output - homes powered  
 Yes  Local wildlife  Site traffic during construction  
Please select one  Potential noise from the turbines  CO<sub>2</sub> savings  
 Tourism  Local archaeology\*  
 Other (please state)  Potential economic benefits from the project

Empty box for additional comments or issues of interest.

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground

5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freepost Infinergy Ltd.**



# Voice your opinion!

Please fill in our questionnaire

Contact Details

Wind Farm Project Nisthill Wind Farm Date 09.06.2022

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

**1. What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements?**

(onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

**2. What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?**

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

**3a. How do you feel about the NISTHILL Wind Farm proposal?**

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

**3b. Why do you hold this view? Please state**

a) The height and size of the towers & blades  
b) The situation in the dock in the most upspoilt & wildest area of site

**4. How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?**

Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)  Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)  Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

**5a. To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?**

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

No  How the wind farm might look  Electricity output - homes powered  
 Yes  Local wildlife  Site traffic during construction  
Please select one  Potential noise from the turbines  CO<sub>2</sub> savings  
 Tourism  Local archaeology\*  
 Other (please state)  Potential economic benefits from the project

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground



5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

2) Local wild life  
3) Noise from the turbines

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth     Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine     Newspapers     Radio     TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

The windmill nearest Park Holm looks very obtrusive being so near the loch side & does not blend in with the landscape.

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freepost Infinergy Ltd.**



# Voice your opinion!

Please fill in our questionnaire

Wind Farm Project Nisthill Date 12/6/2022

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

1. **What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements?** (onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

2. **What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?**

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

3a. **How do you feel about the Nisthill Wind Farm proposal?**

Very Supportive  Supportive  Undecided  Opposed  Very opposed

3b. **Why do you hold this view?** Please state

I am a firm believer that renewables is the future - especially for Orkney.

4. **How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?**

Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)  Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)  Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. **To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?**

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

No  How the wind farm might look  Electricity output - homes powered  
 Yes  Local wildlife  Site traffic during construction  
Please select one  Potential noise from the turbines  CO<sub>2</sub> savings  
 Tourism  Local archaeology\*  
 Other (please state)  Potential economic benefits from the project

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground

5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

Good luck, Nisthill.

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

Please return this questionnaire to the registration desk at the entrance of the exhibition.  
If preferred you can send the questionnaire free of charge to our freepost address: **Freepost Infinergy Ltd.**





# Voice your opinion!

Please fill in our questionnaire

## Contact Details

Wind Farm Project NISTHILL Date 10/06/2022

Your opinion is important to us. We would appreciate you taking a moment to complete the following questionnaire so we can find out more about your views on the wind farm proposal this exhibition is all about. The aim of this questionnaire is to allow individuals to contribute to the development process and interact with Infinergy. This is not a substitute for the official planning process. No personal information will be passed on to third parties.

1. **What are your views on the use of renewable energy to help meet our energy requirements?** (onshore and offshore wind power, solar power, biomass, wave and tidal power, amongst others)

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

2. **What are your views on the use of wind energy in particular to help meet our energy requirements?**

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3a. **How do you feel about the NISTHILL Wind Farm proposal?**

Very Supportive     Supportive     Undecided     Opposed     Very opposed

3b. **Why do you hold this view?** Please state

PERFECT LOCATION FOR A PROJECT LIKE THIS.  
WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO SEE THIS GO AHEAD!

4. **How close do you live to the proposed wind farm site?**

Within 1 kilometre (0.6 miles)     Between 1 and 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)     Further away than 5 kilometres (3.1 miles)

5a. **To develop this wind farm, Infinergy has conducted a range of surveys that assess the current situation on site and the potential impact of the proposed project. Are there any specific elements of the proposal that you are interested in and would like to be updated about?**

Please tick the issue that interests you most. If more than one issue, please enter them in the box at question 5b.

No     How the wind farm might look     Electricity output - homes powered  
 Yes     Local wildlife     Site traffic during construction  
Please select one     Potential noise from the turbines     CO<sub>2</sub> savings  
 Tourism     Local archaeology\*  
 Other (please state)     Potential economic benefits from the project

\*By this we mean any effects the wind farm might have on remains of historical value, either above or under the ground



5b. If you have any further interests, please state below:

6. How did you first learn about the project?

- Word of mouth       Newsletter  
 Google or other search engine       Newspapers       Radio       TV  
 (Invitation for) Public Exhibition  
 Other (please state)

7. Please use the area below to ask a specific question or comment on the Wind Farm proposal.

THIS WOULD BE A GREAT BREAKTHROUGH FOR ORKNEY AND COULD HELP OPEN UP MUCH MORE FUTURE POTENTIAL RENEWABLE PROPOSALS.

8. If you would like us to respond to any of the comments you have made or questions you have asked in this questionnaire, please indicate here and, if required, we will get back to you shortly. Please make sure your details are clearly legible on the front of this form.

- Response wanted  
 No response wanted

## **Appendix 12**

# **Planning Aid for Scotland's SP=EED framework**

# SP=EED™

Scottish Planning = Effective Engagement and Delivery

A Practical Guide to Better Engagement in Planning in Scotland



Planning Aid for Scotland 2011

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3. Information .....	10
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## Foreword

SP=EED™ was developed by Planning Aid for Scotland (PAS) between 2006 and 2008, anticipating that engagement and consultation would be central factors in Scotland's reformed planning system.

The vision of effective engagement contributing to more efficient planning processes and higher quality outcomes was central to the reform of the planning system, as set out in the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006.

SP=EED™ is aimed at planning authorities, planning consultants, private and community-led developers, key agencies, community groups and members of the public, and is endorsed in the Scottish Government's *Planning Advice Note 3/2010*. PAS intends that it will be used as a framework to share and learn from experiences of delivering engagement.

With ever-increasing public desire to be involved in shaping future development, SP=EED™ aims to provoke discussion and provide practical guidance, rather than being prescriptive. Its aim is to ensure that effective engagement will lead to confidence and trust in the integrity of the Scottish planning system.

Information about PAS's SP=EED™ training is also included. If you would like further information about this, or have any questions or comments, please contact [sp=eed@planningaidscotland.org.uk](mailto:sp=eed@planningaidscotland.org.uk)

**Petra Biberbach**  
Chief Executive, Planning Aid for Scotland

## Notes

SP=EED™ assumes that all statutory requirements for community engagement will be met by those undertaking the process. See [www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning)

As used in SP=EED™, the term stakeholder refers to any member of the public, group or organisation, involved in any way with engagement.

As used in SP=EED™, the term partner refers to any member of the public, group or organisation involved in engagement at Level 3.



**SP=EED™** stands for Scottish Planning = Effective Engagement and Delivery and is a practical guide to engagement in planning, devised and produced by Planning Aid for Scotland (PAS). It is targeted at all stakeholders in Scotland's planning system and is designed to help design, deliver and assess the process of engagement. By drawing on good practice and PAS's research, experience of engagement and independent expertise, **SP=EED™** sets out a framework which anyone can use.

## When can SP=EED™ be used?

**SP=EED™** can be used to guide the engagement process for planning authority, developer or community-led plans or proposals, or it can assist community groups and members of the public in suggesting to planning authorities or developers how they would like to be consulted.

## Can SP=EED™ be used outwith planning?

While **SP=EED™** is designed specifically for engagement in planning, it is equally applicable to other development consent consultation procedures e.g. power stations (including renewable energy developments), transmission line or pipeline applications, harbour orders, transport and works orders, traffic regulation orders and private bill procedures. In future, with the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 coming into force, it will equally apply to new marine planning procedures.

## What is the aim of SP=EED™?

**SP=EED™** aims to enhance the overall quality of engagement in Scotland, thereby contributing to a planning system where effective engagement leads to greater efficiency in the delivery of development. Both effective engagement, and public involvement in the design process, can lead to better proposals and fewer objections, meaning quicker progress through the planning process. **SP=EED™** also aims to spread and share good practice throughout the planning community in Scotland.

## What is effective engagement?

There will never be a single formula for achieving effective engagement, so **SP=EED™** does not take a one-size-fits-all approach. Instead, it sets out 3 levels of engagement to suit different scenarios, and provides guidance on how to undertake effective engagement and consultation.

An essential aspect of effective engagement is managing public expectation. Planning can be complicated and emotive, with its legal nature adding a further layer of complexity. Timescales in delivering development can be lengthy, so meaningful engagement needs to be planned to manage and retain stakeholder involvement throughout the process, as well as setting out a realistic understanding of what can be achieved.

It is up to whoever is leading any engagement process to decide how they want to involve people. In some cases, the provision of basic information may suffice; in others, members of the public will play a key role in the design process of new proposals.

### What engagement is required in planning?

The Scottish Government's aim for planning is for it to be inclusive and efficient. The Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 and subsequent regulations and guidance were introduced to achieve this.

In preparing Strategic Development Plans and Local Development Plans, planning authorities are asked to take an innovative approach to engagement and set out a Participation Statement within their Development Plan Scheme.

Pre-application Consultation (PAC) is a mandatory aspect of national and major planning applications. One public event must be held, and advertised as per statutory requirements, and a PAC report submitted with the planning application, detailing the level of engagement that has been undertaken.

However, effective engagement is appropriate and beneficial for any development proposal, regardless of its size or whether it is led by the community or the private sector.

### How does SP=EED™ relate to existing guidance?

Unlike most guidance on public engagement, SP=EED™ is designed specifically for the planning sector. It recognises the inherent complexities of undertaking engagement in planning, based on PAS's experience of helping people to engage with the planning system.

Due to the engagement requirements set out by Scotland's reformed planning system, practical guidance on effective engagement is now more important than ever. The Scottish Government's *Planning Advice Note 3/2010 Community Engagement* endorses SP=EED™ as a means of achieving meaningful engagement. It also recognises the important role of communities and community groups in the decision making process.

### Why is engagement in planning important?

Planning impacts on everyone, so it follows that members of the public and community groups should be given the opportunity to be involved.

Effective engagement can lead to better development proposals, potentially taking on board points raised by members of the public. People who have been actively involved in the design process or consulted effectively early on may have less cause to object at planning application stage. This can lead to proposals moving through the planning process faster and more efficiently.

Scotland's reformed planning system aims to achieve increased engagement alongside greater quality and certainty in the delivery of development. SP=EED™ will help design, deliver and assess effective engagement to achieve this win-win outcome.



SP=EED™ is an essential resource for any organisation or person **designing, carrying out** and **assessing** an engagement process. It is also a useful reference tool for community groups in helping them decide how they would like to be consulted.

<p><b>Planning Authorities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development Plan Schemes and Participation Statements</li> <li>• Strategic Development Plans and Local Development Plans</li> <li>• Strategic Environmental Assessments, Open Space Strategies, etc.</li> <li>• Design or Development Briefs</li> <li>• Supplementary Guidance on engagement</li> <li>• Assessing Pre-application Consultation reports</li> <li>• Advising applicants on level of engagement to aim for</li> </ul>
<p><b>Developers</b> <b>Planning Consultancies</b> <b>Housing Associations</b> <b>Urban Regeneration Companies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal of Application Notices</li> <li>• Designing Pre-application Consultation processes</li> <li>• Pre-application Consultation reports</li> <li>• Development Brief consultations</li> <li>• Masterplan consultations</li> <li>• Regeneration processes</li> <li>• Other development consent consultation procedures e.g. energy consents, roads consents</li> </ul>
<p><b>Community Organisations</b> <b>Development Trusts</b> <b>Members of the Public</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local community plans</li> <li>• Community-led proposals</li> <li>• Discussing and designing approaches to engagement</li> <li>• Negotiating with planning authorities/developers regarding preferred engagement methods</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Agencies &amp;</b> <b>Statutory Consultees</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussing approaches to engagement and consultation</li> <li>• Designing and guiding engagement/consultation processes</li> <li>• Training and reference guidance for staff</li> <li>• Disseminating good practice</li> </ul>

SP=EED™ differs from other guidance on engagement in that it recognises that different approaches will be appropriate in different situations.

SP=EED™ therefore sets out 3 levels of engagement to aim for:

- Level 1**    **Informing**
- Level 2**    **Consulting**
- Level 3**    **Partnership**

**Level 1** is the most appropriate level to aim for in certain scenarios.

**Level 2** is the level of engagement practised most commonly throughout Scotland since the late 1960s, and should be achievable in many scenarios.

**Level 3** is achievable in many scenarios and could be accomplished in community-led proposals, or other proposals where members of the public are involved in the design and development process; or in large development or regeneration projects.

SP=EED™ also sets out 8 criteria for effective engagement:

1	Transparency & Integrity	5	Responsiveness
2	Co-ordination	6	Inclusiveness
3	Information	7	Monitoring & Evaluating
4	Appropriateness	8	Learning & Sharing

Each of the criteria is dealt with on a separate page, outlining what to aim for at each level, and how to achieve this.

The *What to aim for* statements should be regarded as universal, and applicable to any engagement scenario. The *How can you achieve it?* section provides guidance on how to meet the criteria, but SP=EED™ recognises that these are not the only ways in which the aims can be met.

Use SP=EED™ to design effective engagement:

- think about and plan engagement well before the process begins
- help everyone to understand the objectives of the process
- manage public expectation
- identify suitable approaches
- manage the consultation process
- evaluate and learn

Note – an engagement process might achieve different levels with regard to different criteria		
<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Informing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an essential building block for engagement</li> <li>• a one-way process</li> <li>• a valuable end in itself and the most appropriate level to aim for in certain situations</li> <li>• an essential step in achieving Levels 2 and 3</li> </ul>
<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Consulting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• incorporates and builds on Level 1</li> <li>• an interactive and iterative process – listening, and being responsive to issues raised</li> <li>• an appropriate level in many situations</li> <li>• the level of engagement most often aimed for and achieved</li> </ul>
<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Partnership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• incorporates Levels 1 and 2, but goes well beyond</li> <li>• the most demanding level of engagement</li> <li>• achievable and appropriate in the right situation</li> <li>• may take place over an extended period of time</li> <li>• involves in-depth collaboration with partners, and could include potential for their input into design of proposals and the engagement process</li> </ul>

LEVELS	WHAT TO AIM FOR	HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE IT?
<p><b>1</b> Informing</p>	<p><b>The purpose of the engagement is clear and people can find out about it easily.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make a clear statement about the integrity of the engagement process.</li> <li>• Explain clearly the purpose of the engagement process.</li> <li>• Be clear about potential timescales of the engagement process and delivery of development.</li> <li>• Establish whether there is a legacy of trust or distrust from previous engagement – research previous engagement and consultation processes.</li> <li>• Advertise any engagement process or event prominently e.g. leaflets, posters, websites, local press and radio, social media.</li> <li>• Attract passers-by to events by having banners and posters outside venues.</li> <li>• Explain how further information can be accessed.</li> <li>• Explain the limits of the planning system (i.e. matters material to use and development of land).</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b> Consulting</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b> <b>Rights to participate are clearly explained and opportunities to express opinions are publicised.</b></p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make clear which aspects of plans or proposals can and cannot be influenced via the engagement process.</li> <li>• Explain why any aspects of plans or proposals are non-negotiable.</li> <li>• Encourage balanced consideration of the pros and cons of plans and proposals.</li> <li>• Ensure statements and any assumptions in engagement materials are referenced.</li> <li>• Where appropriate, use professional planners to carry out engagement working under the RTPI Code of Conduct - make stakeholders aware of this.</li> <li>• Appoint dedicated note takers for group discussion events.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b> Partnership</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b> <b>Dialogue will take place with partners about how they will be involved in the engagement process and how their input will be used.</b></p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify all potential partners early and explain to them, and other stakeholders, the benefits of a partnership approach.</li> <li>• Explain which aspects of the actual engagement process are negotiable.</li> <li>• Discuss how input from the engagement process will be used.</li> <li>• Discuss options for involving stakeholders in the design of proposals.</li> <li>• Keep a formal record of decisions and allow partners access to this.</li> </ul>

LEVELS	WHAT TO AIM FOR	HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE IT?
<p><b>1</b> Informing</p>	<p>The timetable for the engagement process will be published and relevant relationships explained.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set out the engagement strategy well in advance, identifying how to target key stakeholders.</li> <li>• Allow appropriate time for the engagement process.</li> <li>• Establish whether other engagement/consultation exercises are on-going.</li> <li>• Be clear about, and provide explanation of, the roles of all stakeholders involved.</li> <li>• Allow a realistic amount of time in the workload of those carrying out the consultation.</li> <li>• Be flexible and have contingencies for any delays.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b> Consulting</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b> The timetable for the engagement process will include adequate periods for meetings, public events and discussion with stakeholders.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decide when and how stakeholders' input will be sought and which methods should be used.</li> <li>• Take account of holiday periods and local or big events.</li> <li>• Plan times and locations of events to reach the widest range of stakeholders.</li> <li>• Where appropriate, be prepared to amend timescales.</li> <li>• Invite representatives from relevant local authority departments to meetings/events.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b> Partnership</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b> The timetable for the engagement process will include opportunities for partners to develop their own ideas; partners will be involved in discussing how to co-ordinate actions.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tap into resources from the community: enthusiasm, local knowledge, local volunteers and networks of contacts.</li> <li>• Consider setting up a steering group representing the local community and interested parties.</li> <li>• Plan ahead to allow partners to input into timescales; allocate time and resources for them to develop their own ideas and proposals.</li> <li>• Consult those with experience of a partnership approach for guidance e.g. on timescales, levels of resources required, techniques to use.</li> <li>• Liaise with key agencies/statutory consultees about the partnership approach and its timetable, and take into account any impact of their policies or projects.</li> </ul>

LEVELS	WHAT TO AIM FOR	HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE IT?
<p><b>1</b> Informing</p>	<p><b>Information will be relevant, accurate and comprehensible to the target audience.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the relevant issues clearly and succinctly.</li> <li>• If possible, present information visually; avoid too much text.</li> <li>• Identify at the outset gaps in information available, and how to source this information.</li> <li>• Explain national and regional plans/issues within the local context.</li> <li>• Provide summaries of the role and content of key documents e.g. Local Development Plans, Planning Advice Notes, and explain how to access full versions.</li> <li>• Invite people to sign up for updates e.g. by email or newsletter.</li> <li>• Reference all sources of information.</li> <li>• Consider holding a public meeting to attract and gauge public interest in plans or proposals.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b> Consulting</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b> <b>Information will be communicated and shared, aiming to invite feedback.</b></p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make every reasonable effort to satisfy requests for new information.</li> <li>• Present information in a way which will invite comment and debate.</li> <li>• Flag up any areas of uncertainty; state when and how these may be resolved; and provide opportunities for discussion of these areas.</li> <li>• Provide suitable means for responses and comments to be made.</li> <li>• Collate comments and suggestions - feed them back into the process so that information is up-to-date.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b> Partnership</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b> <b>Identification, collection and dissemination of relevant new information by partners is encouraged.</b></p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a dialogue with all partners from an early stage to collate knowledge and information.</li> <li>• Start the information gathering process as early as possible for maximum efficiency.</li> <li>• Discuss with partners the best means of disseminating information.</li> <li>• Seek professional advice on information gathering techniques e.g. designing questionnaires and other surveys, with the aim of avoiding the problem of unreliable data.</li> </ul>



LEVELS	WHAT TO AIM FOR	HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE IT?
<p><b>1</b> Informing</p>	<p>Information will be presented to suit its intended audience and can be accessed by all stakeholders at each stage of the process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider the best means of publicising the engagement process e.g. public notice boards, libraries, community centres, local press.</li> <li>• Use clear English and avoid planning-related jargon.</li> <li>• Be aware that the target audience will not be planning professionals.</li> <li>• Explain maps, drawings and diagrams in clear and simple terms.</li> <li>• For public events, use venues which are easy to find and times that allow all stakeholders to attend; provide access for people with disabilities and other needs.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b> Consulting</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b> Engagement processes to fit the situation will be used, with opportunities for discussion and for questions to be raised and answered.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that meetings, exhibitions and workshops are held at times and locations to suit different areas and groups within the community.</li> <li>• Allow responses to be submitted by various means (letter, telephone, email) as well as in person at consultation events.</li> <li>• Arrange for relevant professional staff to be on hand to answer questions at all times, or detail when they will be there.</li> <li>• Use models and visualisations of proposals.</li> <li>• Where appropriate, offer workshops and themed focus groups as well as exhibitions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b> Partnership</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b> A collaborative approach to working with partners on proposals, and regular review of the engagement process.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steering groups, meetings and forums will be open to all, and minutes will be made available publicly after these and any other open meetings.</li> <li>• Allow independent professionals/consultants to be brought in to explore possible solutions. e.g. architects, transport consultants etc.</li> <li>• Consider mediation in appropriate situations – when there are divided opinions but common aims.</li> </ul>

LEVELS	WHAT TO AIM FOR	HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE IT?
<p><b>1</b> Informing</p>	<p>Relevant information will be provided at every stage of the process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that contact details for enquiries/responses are given on all materials.</li> <li>• Deal with enquiries promptly.</li> <li>• Enable access to relevant documents on internet and place copies of relevant documentation at public places e.g. libraries, post offices, community centres, planning authority offices.</li> <li>• Publicise any proposed changes to plans or proposals.</li> <li>• Record and publicise changes to plans or proposals as a result of the engagement process.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b> Consulting</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b> Findings from the engagement process will be analysed, disseminated, and potentially incorporated.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a representative to record and answer questions at events.</li> <li>• If appropriate, provide respondents with a written response.</li> <li>• Offer further workshops or discussion groups to hear people's views or in response to feedback received.</li> <li>• Inform stakeholders if, how and why the proposal has been amended as a result of consultation.</li> <li>• If significant changes to a proposal are introduced, consider holding additional consultation events.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b> Partnership</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b> Partners will be offered the opportunity to present and discuss their own ideas and receive feedback.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be ready to consider suggestions for modifying the engagement process.</li> <li>• Be prepared to give feedback on ideas and new matters raised by stakeholders.</li> <li>• Commission professional expertise e.g. trained facilitators to make best use of interactive methods for developing proposals and making decisions.</li> </ul>

# 6 Inclusiveness

LEVELS	WHAT TO AIM FOR	HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE IT?
<p><b>1</b> Informing</p>	<p>Relevant representative groups/ organisations will be identified and information will be designed and disseminated to reach them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a contacts database and keep it up-to-date.</li> <li>• Use formal and informal networks to make the contacts database as representative as possible.</li> <li>• Identify seldom heard groups and consider how they tend to access information – e.g. via local newspapers/groups/venues/libraries etc.</li> <li>• Record data on factors relevant to inclusiveness and representativeness e.g. age, gender, residence, tenure etc.</li> <li>• Think creatively about venues appropriate to the type of proposal and all groups you want to reach, including seldom heard groups.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b> Consulting</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b> An emphasis will be placed on allowing the voices of seldom heard groups and those most likely to be affected to be heard.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target publicity at all groups likely to be positively or negatively affected by the proposal.</li> <li>• Target seldom heard and potentially under-represented groups such as young people, BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) Groups, Gypsy/Travellers, women with young children, people with disabilities and elderly people.</li> <li>• Seek assistance from organisations specialising in promoting inclusiveness and relevant local authority staff: Equalities Officers, Youth Engagement Officers, Access Panels, etc.</li> <li>• Build links with local primary and secondary schools.</li> <li>• Knock on the doors of people affected by proposals rather than assume they will come to events; or use mobile units to reach a variety of areas.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b> Partnership</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b> Assistance and advice will be made available to seldom heard groups to enable them to become partners in the process; overall, a representative range of stakeholders will be consulted.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan an outreach programme to identify and listen to the needs of specific groups.</li> <li>• Go beyond statutory requirements for engagement.</li> <li>• Consider using Equalities Impact Assessments or Health Impact Assessments at the start of the process and review regularly.</li> <li>• Consider using liaison officers to work directly with specific groups.</li> <li>• Where possible, compare the profile of stakeholders involved throughout the whole engagement process to that of areas as a whole.</li> <li>• Consider using professionally designed and conducted surveys to ensure that the views of the population as a whole are known.</li> </ul>

LEVELS	WHAT TO AIM FOR	HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE IT?
<p><b>1</b> Informing</p>	<p>Distribution of information and feedback received on the engagement process will be analysed after the process is completed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Record and monitor distribution of information at the end of the process.</li> <li>Record the number and type of any events that take place.</li> <li>Look at the demographics of those who attended.</li> <li>Consider ways to improve future exercises based on the above and feedback received about the engagement process.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b> Consulting</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b> Monitoring and evaluation of the engagement process will take place on an on-going basis.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor the satisfaction of stakeholders at different stages of the process using appropriate techniques.</li> <li>Keep a record of responses and other contributions to the engagement process, and assess the value, impact and outcome of contributions.</li> <li>Encourage qualitative responses as to how the engagement process could be improved.</li> <li>Reflect on the overall quality of the engagement undertaken.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b> Partnership</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b> Monitoring and evaluation processes will be devised in collaboration with stakeholders.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask partners at the outset about their thoughts on how best to evaluate satisfaction with the process.</li> <li>Be ready to modify approaches to monitoring and evaluating as required on an on-going basis.</li> <li>Analyse findings as you go along, aiming to embed the idea of monitoring and evaluation into every stage.</li> </ul>

LEVELS	WHAT TO AIM FOR	HOW CAN YOU ACHIEVE IT?
<p><b>1</b> Informing</p>	<p>Lessons from the engagement process will be identified and lead to on-going improvements in quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify action points from what has been learned.</li> <li>• Build lessons learned into future engagement processes.</li> <li>• Ensure all those within the organisation leading the engagement process are informed about outcomes and lessons learned.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b> Consulting</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b> Lessons from the engagement process will be reviewed and shared with a focus on learning and training.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share and discuss experiences more widely e.g. with other community groups, or organise forum events.</li> <li>• Make engagement a focus for in-house staff training.</li> <li>• Actively research other engagement processes and possible new techniques to use.</li> <li>• Take people who are new to engagement to meet people who have experience of recent or current projects.</li> <li>• Discuss how to improve future engagement exercises.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b> Partnership</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b> The creation of a creative, problem-solving culture where skills and experience are pooled, shared and enhanced.</p>	<p><b>Level 1 and Level 2 +</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise from the outset that active participation can be a very rich way of learning and seek ways to capitalise on this.</li> <li>• Audit individuals' skills and share via formal or informal training sessions.</li> <li>• Share information about the engagement process, and findings from all partners, with all involved stakeholders.</li> <li>• Offer opportunities for members of the public as well as professionals to receive training.</li> </ul>



PAS training workshops are targeted at the **professional** and **community** sectors.

Training in **SP=EED™** is particularly relevant for:

Planning Authorities	Community Councils
Planning Consultants	Community Groups
Developers	Development Trusts
Other Consultants	Members of the Public

## What are the benefits of **SP=EED™** training?

- explore and understand **SP=EED™** and its practical use
- an opportunity for networking - showcase and share ideas regarding effective engagement
- learn about the Scottish planning system and how to undertake effective engagement
- re-energise and re-focus your ideas

## What is the content of **SP=EED™** training?

**For Professionals:** training focuses on the practical use of **SP=EED™** and developing skills for effective engagement in planning, whether in development plan or development management situations.

**For Communities:** training is aimed at community groups seeking to undertake a development project and wishing to improve their engagement skills. It is also relevant to groups seeking to develop their understanding of effective engagement in relation to planning.

Each workshop will cover:

- the importance of engagement in planning
- effective engagement and consultation practices
- using **SP=EED™** to design, manage and evaluate engagement

**SP=EED™** training can be arranged at a time and place that suits you.

For more information, or to book your training, please contact:

[sp=eed@planningaidscotland.org.uk](mailto:sp=eed@planningaidscotland.org.uk)

or call 0131 220 9730

## Note

Planning Aid for Scotland's website has a series of planning information sheets, providing further information.

Scottish Government Circulars 1/2009 Development Planning, and 4/2009 Development Management, provide further information on requirements for consultation and engagement.

## Access Panels

Voluntary bodies set up to promote the rights of people with any form of disability.

## Design/Development Brief

A document which sets out broad or detailed proposals for development of a specific site or area.

## Developer

A person, business or organisation making a planning application. They do not have to own the land affected by the application as long as they notify the owner.

## Development

The carrying out of building, mining, engineering or other operations in, on, over or under the land or the making of any material change of use in the use of any buildings or land (as defined by the planning acts). Development, so defined, requires planning permission.

## Development Plan

A generic term for the Strategic Development Plan and/or Local Development Plan (see separate entries), the main planning documents which apply to a planning authority area.

## Development Plan Scheme

A document required to be published annually by planning authorities,

outlining a timetable for preparing the Development Plan, and including a participation statement outlining how they will undertake consultation.

## Equalities Impact Assessment

An assessment which considers how a policy or plan may impact, on different sectors of the population.

## Facilitator

A person, who has a neutral stance on matters being discussed, appointed to guide a meeting or discussion group.

## Health Impact Assessment

A means of assessing the health impacts of policies, plans and projects using quantitative, qualitative and participatory techniques.

## Local Development Plan (LDP)

Part of the Development Plan - a statutory document required to be prepared, after full public consultation, by all planning authorities in Scotland. The LDP is the basis for making planning decisions in a given area and deciding future land uses. In the four city-regions, the LDP will be supplemented with a Strategic Development Plan (see separate entry); elsewhere the Development Plan will comprise only the LDP.

## National Developments / Major Developments

Planning proposals are divided into 3 categories: 'national', 'major' and 'local'. National developments are set out in the National Planning Framework. Major planning applications e.g. 50 houses or more, are defined in Scottish Government Planning Circular 5/2009 Hierarchy of Developments. National and major proposals require Pre-application Consultation (see separate entry).

## Masterplan

A document, usually comprising a schematic plan, 3-dimensional

images, and text, which illustrates and explains how it is intended to develop a site.

## **Mediation**

A process involving a neutral, independent, trained mediator who aims to assist parties with differences to communicate effectively to resolve their differences.

## **Open Space Strategy**

A document assessing existing open space and potential for new or improved open space within a local authority area.

## **Planning Advice Note (PAN)**

Documents produced by the Scottish Government providing advice on good practice and other relevant planning information.

## **Planning Application**

An application to a planning authority seeking planning permission for development.

## **Planning Authority**

The body which is responsible for carrying out planning in any area – the local Council or National Park Authority.

## **Pre-application Consultation / Pre-application Consultation Report**

A process required to be undertaken by prospective applicants for national or major planning applications prior to submission of applications to enable local communities to be better informed about significant development proposals in their area. See also: Proposal of Application Notice; Public Event

## **Proposal of Application Notice**

Required to be submitted to the planning authority, and copied to relevant community councils, by prospective applicants for national or major developments at least 12 weeks prior to submission of the planning

application, giving details of the proposal, including how engagement will be undertaken.

## **Public Event**

An event, required to be held by prospective applicants for national or major development proposals as part of the Pre-application Consultation process, where members of the public can make comments.

## **RTPI (Royal Town Planning Institute)**

The UK's leading planning body for spatial, sustainable, integrative and inclusive planning.

## **Steering Group**

A group of interested and relevant stakeholders appointed to guide and lead a project.

## **Strategic Development Plan (SDP)**

Part of the Development Plan - a statutory document prepared after full public consultation. SDPs apply to Scotland's 4 'city-regions'. SDPs will set parameters for Local Development Plans (see separate entry); contain 'vision statements' and 'spatial strategies'; and will consider how land use proposals for neighbouring areas will impact on the SDP area.

## **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**

A process designed to measure the likely environmental impacts (both positive and negative) of a 'Scottish public plan, programme or strategy' (PPS).

## **Supplementary Guidance**

Documents produced by planning authorities to provide additional detailed guidance on certain topics, policies or proposals which are set out in Development Plans.

## Acknowledgements

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