



Kildavaig Farm Wind Turbine

Supporting Information

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June 2011

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1. Areas of nature Conservation

I. Policy and Guidance

Protected species are referred to in the Scottish Planning Policy (NPPG) 14 paragraphs 142-145, where species which are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) are referred to generally. These paragraphs highlight that regardless of further planning policies and guidelines, certain named species are legally protected and therefore any development which would have a detrimental impact either directly on the species or on its habitat will be considered as a criminal act. Furthermore species which are protected under European acts and are considered to be of European importance are also awarded additional protection and development must not interfere with their existence.

The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 placed a duty on public bodies to ensure that they were furthering their conservation of biodiversity efforts. It required Scottish Ministers to publish lists of species and habitats which were to be recognised as being of particular importance, and to draw up the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy which is compiled of several action plans to ensure the conservation of biodiversity.

In 2007 the list of species and habitats of principle importance was revised so as to acknowledge emerging priorities, conservation successes, and information gathered in the past decade. The 2007 list contains 1149 species and 65 habitats that are listed as priorities for conservation under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP). In 2007 DEFRA published "Conserving Biodiversity-The UK Approach" which outlines the framework for halting the loss of biodiversity.

Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAP's) were also produced for every county in the UK which serve to highlight local biodiversity issues and highlight priority species and habitats for each area.

II. Local Sites

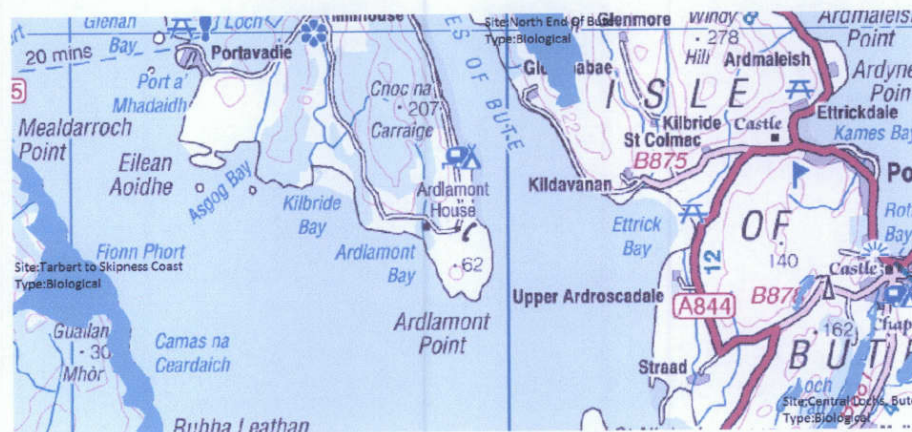
There are a total of 203 nature conservation sites in the Argyll and Bute Council area-none of which are within 1km of the proposed turbine development. The closest sites are North end of Bute and the Tarbert to Skipness coast both of which are SSSI's (Site of Special Scientific Interest). These sites are 4 and 7km away from the development site respectively and both are separated from the area by a water mass, so they will not be adversely affected.

With regards to birds and protected species an initial check of the National Biodiversity network has not highlighted any sites of interest within the development. The Argyll and Bute Council administrative area does have a variety of species records –

Acarine (*Acari*), alga, amphibian, annelid, bacterium, bird, bony fish (*Actinopterygii*), bryozoans, cartilaginous fish (*Chondrichthyes*), centipede, clubmoss, coelenterate (*Cnidarian*), conifer, crustacean, diatom, echinoderm, fern, flatworm (*Turbellaria*), flowering plant, fungoid, fungus, hairworm (*Nematomorpha*), harvestman (*Opilliones*), hornwort, horsetail, insect-alderfly

(*Megaloptera*), insect-beetle (*Coleoptera*), insect-booklouse (*Psocoptera*), insect-butterfly, insect-caddis fly (*Trichoptera*), insect-dragonfly (*Odonata*), insect-earwig (*Dermaptera*), insect-flea (*Siphonaptera*), insect-hymenopteran, insect-lacewing (*Neuroptera*), insect-mayfly (*Ephemeroptera*), insect-moth), insect-orthopteran, insect-scorpion fly (*Mecoptera*), insect-stonefly (*Plecoptera*), insect-true bug (*Meniptera*), insect-true fly (*Diptera*), lichen, liverwort, millipede, mollusc, moss, quillwort, reptile, ribbon worm (*Nemertinea*), roundworm (*Nematoda*), slime mould, spider (*Araneae*), sponge (*Porifera*), springtail (*Collembola*), stonewort, tunicate (*Urochordata*).

The map bellow has been created using ArcGIS. The map indicates that the site is free of SSSI's.



The map indicates that the closest SSSIs' are approximately 7km to 10km away. The North End of Bute, the tarbert to Skipness Coast and the Central Lochs of Bute are all biological designations. There is a National Nature Reserves (Mealdarroch) and Special Conservation Area (Tarbert Woods) which falls along the Tarbert to Skipness Coast. We do not expect that the proposed turbines at Point farm should have any impact upon these sites.

3. Historic and Archaeological Sites

The map below has been created using ArcGIS. The map indicates that the site is free of Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Gardens and Designated Landscapes. Having said this, the map does indicate that there are three listed buildings within 5km of the turbine site.



Having said this below is a list of historical and archaeological sites within the surrounding areas of the proposed development.

- Kilbride Church
- Caisteal Sidhe
- Kilbride, St Bridge's Chapel
- Kildavaig
- Kilbride, Allt Thomas
- Achadachoun
- Corra farm, Old Road
- Kildavaig, Chapel
- Achadachoun
- Cnoc Na Crume
- Corrachra
- Cnoc Na Carrage
- Mary Jean, Carry Point, Cowal, Kyles of Bute, Firth of Clyde,
- Ardlamont House
- Oriole, Carry Point, Cowal, Kyles of Bute, Firth of Clyde
- Kilbride Church, Churchyard
- Kilbride Cemetery

4. Settlement Character

The closest settlement to the development site is the village of Tighnabruaich which is situated approximately 6km to the north of the site. Tighnabruaich is part of Argyll's Secret Coast, it is situated approximately 60 miles to the west of Glasgow and is accessible by ferry. It is nestled along the east coast of Loch Fyne and stretching into the beautiful Kyles of Bute. The village is popular for sailing and yachting and has its own sailing school. The residents and tourists to the area are served by a gift shop, art gallery, post office, grocery store and several coffee shops. There are a number of cycle routes and walking routes for the area and numerous hotels and guest houses.

The pier is used by the paddle steamer Waverley which is the last seagoing passenger carrying paddle steamer in the world. She was built in 1946 and sailed from Craigendoran on the Firth of Clyde to Arrochar on Loch Long until 1973. Purchased by the Paddle Steamer Preservation Society she has been restored to her 1947 appearance and now operates passenger excursions around the British coast. The pier is also home to a Royal national Lifeboat Institution.

5. Visual Amenity



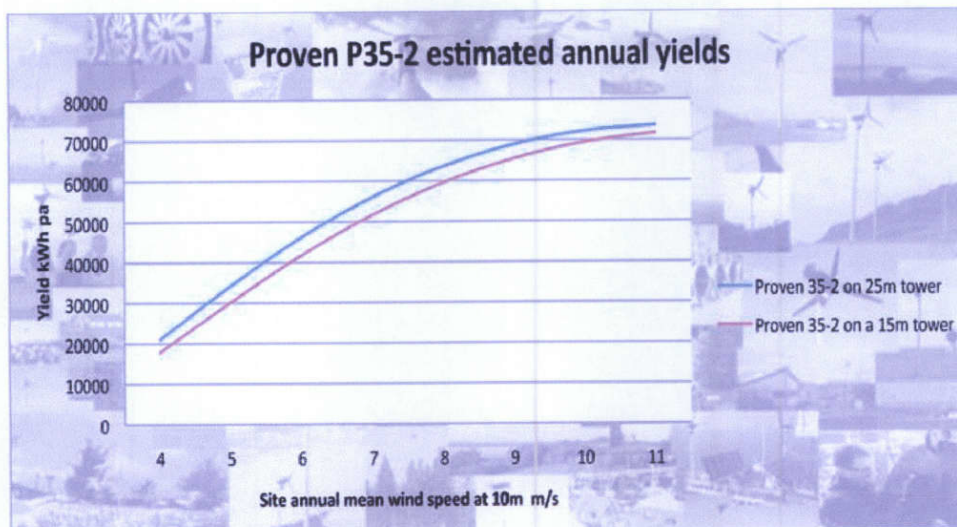
Above is a ZTV depicting the possible visual impact of the proposed turbine at Kildavaig Farm. The most significant visual impact is expected to be within 5km of the proposed site, resulting in the area of Ardlamont Point being affected most by the turbine. Having said this there are areas of mature trees which will create a reasonable visual shield. The ground upon which the turbines

have been located has been selected due to the vegetation and undulating ground levels which will hopefully assist in reducing the visual impact of the development.

6. Local Plan

The Argyll and Bute Local Plan 2009 guides development within the area. Policy LP REN 2 explains that on site commercial and domestic wind turbines are those located as close to the premises which they are intended to serve as is safely and technically possible.

The eastern turbine is located approximately 250m west of the farm steading. The turbine has been located as close to the farm steading as is possible without risking the turbine being affected by turbulent air which is created by the farm buildings. The turbine is located beyond the existing undergrowth & vegetation to ensure that this does not affect the strength of the wind which typically comes from the South West. The point at which the turbine has been located on are the highest in the farm within 300m of the farm steading. As a result of this we hope to mitigate some of the visual impact by keeping the turbine away from the coast and below the sky line. Within this area it is expected that the drop in height of 10m will reduce the wind speed by 0.7m/s which over the lifetime of the turbine will have a significant effect on the amount of energy produced.



The annual output of electricity does not exceed the energy requirements of those premises by more than 25%. At Kildavagie Mr MacRae uses approximately 14,670 kW per year. The hope is that Mr MacRae can renovate this property and return it to use full use and the wind turbine will provide some of the energy requirements for the farm again. Mr. MacRae has identified this project as a diversification opportunity that will provide an income for the farm independent of the fluctuations in farm prices, and significantly reduce its carbon footprint. It is intended that this income stream will be used to secure the continued employment of local farm workers, while also providing funds for the upkeep of the farm property