



Supporting Statement

Project Croish House Wind Turbine

Proposal Installation of a single 15kw wind turbine on a 15m mast

Address Croish House, Caoles, Isle of Tiree, PA77 6TS

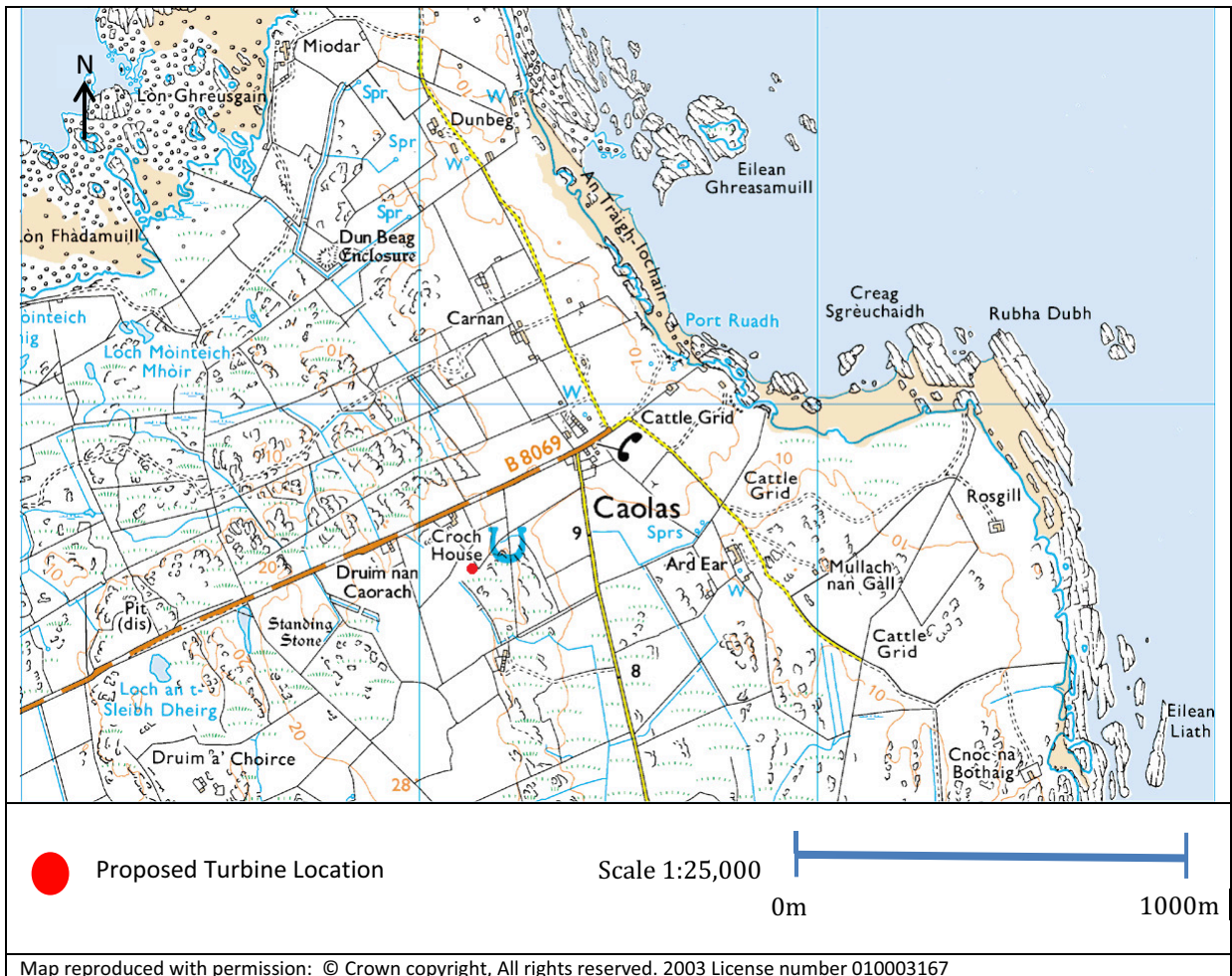
Proposed Development

This statement has been prepared in support of the installation of a single 15kw wind turbine to the southeast of Croish House.

The turbine model for the installation is a C&F Green Energy 15kw wind turbine, height to hub 15.434m, height to blade tip 20.979m. The blade swept diameter is 11.1m, with each blade measuring 5m in length.

Detailed turbine specifications will be submitted as supporting documents to the planning application.

Location



Pre-application Consultation

At the pre-application stage, Mint Energy consulted Argyll and Bute Council to request a preliminary assessment of the suitability of the Croish House site for a wind turbine installation. Argyll and Bute Council examined the proposal and ruled that the site was generally consistent with the provisions of the Argyll and Bute Development Plan. A full Environmental Impact Assessment was not requested, however, Argyll and Bute Council recommended that a full application should be supported by noise information and visualisations to assist in the assessment of the potential impact of the installation. It was also

suggested that Mint Energy consult with SNH to discuss any possible ornithological impact of the proposed wind turbine installation.

At the preliminary assessment stage, the proposal consisted of two 15kw wind turbines to be installed to the south of Croish House. Following a more in depth investigation into the potential noise impact of the development, the proposal was reduced to a single 15kw wind turbine installation to ensure that the installation did not result in any unacceptable noise pollution at nearby noise sensitive receptors.

It should be noted that, in line with advice received by Argyll and Bute Council at the pre-liminary consultation stage, the machine has been sited as close as possible to the existing Croish House development as is practical when the effects of noise impact and shadow flicker are taken into consideration.

This statement has been prepared in support of a single 15kw wind turbine installation at Croish house and will address the following concerns in relation to the proposed development:

- Noise
- Shadow Flicker
- Landscape and visual impact
- Impact on natural, built and cultural heritage
- Access and roads
- Use of airport and its safety
- Defence and emergency service operations
- Impact on communication installations

1. Noise

Using acoustic performance data resulting from MCS certification testing for the C&F Green Energy 15kw wind turbine, a desk based noise impact assessment has been conducted to ensure that the wind turbine complies with noise regulation guidelines positioned at the proposed location.

The report will be submitted in support of the planning application.

2. Shadow Flicker

As stated in Scottish Government planning guidance, “shadow flicker” should not be a problem when turbines are positioned at a distance equal to 10 times the rotor diameter of a wind turbine.

For a C&F Green Energy 15kw wind turbine with a rotor diameter of 11.1m, the turbine should be placed at least 111m from neighbouring properties. The Croish House turbine is positioned at least 130m from any neighbouring properties and should not cause any issues due to “shadow flicker”.

3. Landscape and Visual Impact

As per SNH guidelines, visualisations to assess the landscape and visual impact of the proposed Croish House wind turbine have been provided with the full planning application. The visualisations submitted present “before” and “after” views, as well as wireframe drawings to demonstrate the visual impact of the 15kw wind turbine installation.

4. Impact of Natural, Built and Cultural Heritage

4.1 Natural Heritage

In response to a pre-application consultation query, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) stated that they were satisfied that no ornithological survey work would be required to support the proposal to install a 15kw wind turbine at Croish House. SNH drew their conclusion based on previous studies in support of the nearby community wind turbine.

4.2 Built and Cultural Heritage

Scheduled Monuments

There are no Scheduled Monuments within a kilometre radius of the proposed development site.

Monuments and Buildings

Within approximately a 500m radius of the turbine position there a number of Scottish site records of historical importance and one listing of a historical finding in national records.

None of these recorded monuments will be disturbed as a result of the installation of the turbine base or supporting cable runs.

Listed Buildings

The closest listed buildings in relation to the proposed wind turbine installation are approximately 1.8km from the development site.

- Grade B Ruaig 5A, B, C, D, E Brock

These buildings are situated a significant distance away from the development site and are unlikely to be impacted by the installation.

5. Access and Roads

The components of the 15kw wind turbine are delivered in sections, the longest of which does not exceed 6m in length.

The total weight of the turbine is less than 5 tonnes. The entirety of the turbine can be delivered on a 4 – wheel flatbed.

As such, there should be no special arrangements necessary for delivery to site – such as escorts or traffic safety measures.

6. Use of airport and its safety

The Croish House development is of a scale that should not cause any interference with nearby airports.

7. Defence and Emergency Service Operations

No interference to defence and emergency service operations will occur as a result of the proposed 15kw wind turbine installation at Croish House.

8. Communication Installations

There is no known interference with electrical equipment or electromagnetic disturbance due to C&F Green Energy wind turbine installations. The blades are constructed using a non-conductive GRP, with no metal inserts, preventing interference with communications equipment.