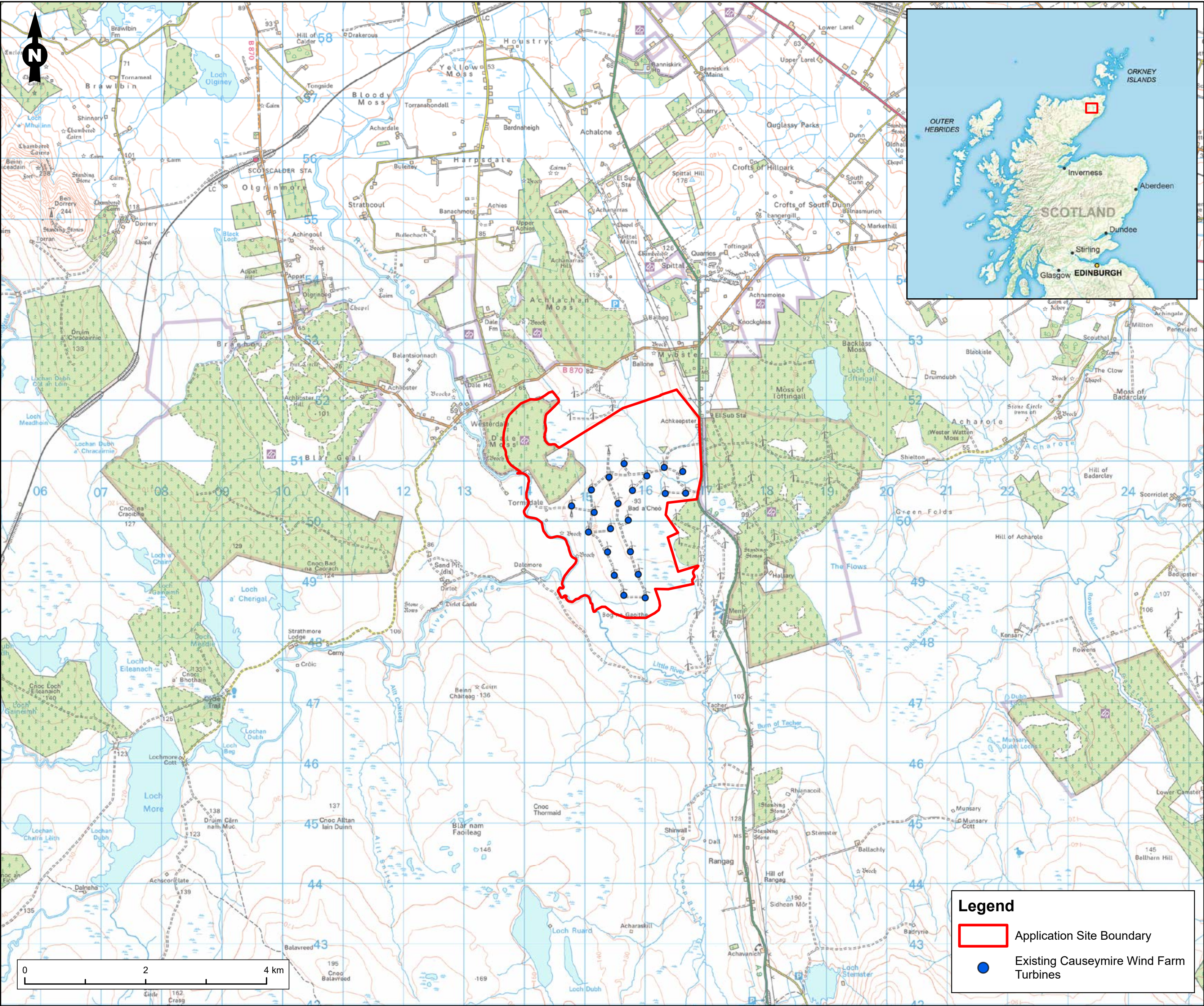


Welcome



Welcome to the public exhibition for the proposed repowering of Causeymire Wind Farm.



Site location

Causeymire Wind Farm has been operational since 2004. The wind farm currently has 21 turbines that are 100 metres to tip.

Due to the age of the existing turbines and advances in wind power technology, we are proposing to repower the wind farm with new turbines. We are very interested in continuing our conversation with the community about how we can develop a project that will:

- Deliver local and regional supply chain opportunities
- Make a positive contribution to the local economy
- Provide around £416,000 a year in community benefit to support local people.

About Nadara

We are an independent renewable generator, formed through the coming together of Renantis and Ventient Energy in January 2024. Nadara designs, builds, and manages power plants from renewable energy sources, with an installed capacity of more than 1.1 GW across the UK.

What is repowering?

Repowering is the process of replacing older first-generation wind turbines before the end of their operational life with more powerful models that use the latest technology and are capable of producing significantly more electricity more efficiently while using as much of the existing infrastructure as possible.

Proposed number of turbines: **13**

Proposed height of turbines: **up to 200 metres**

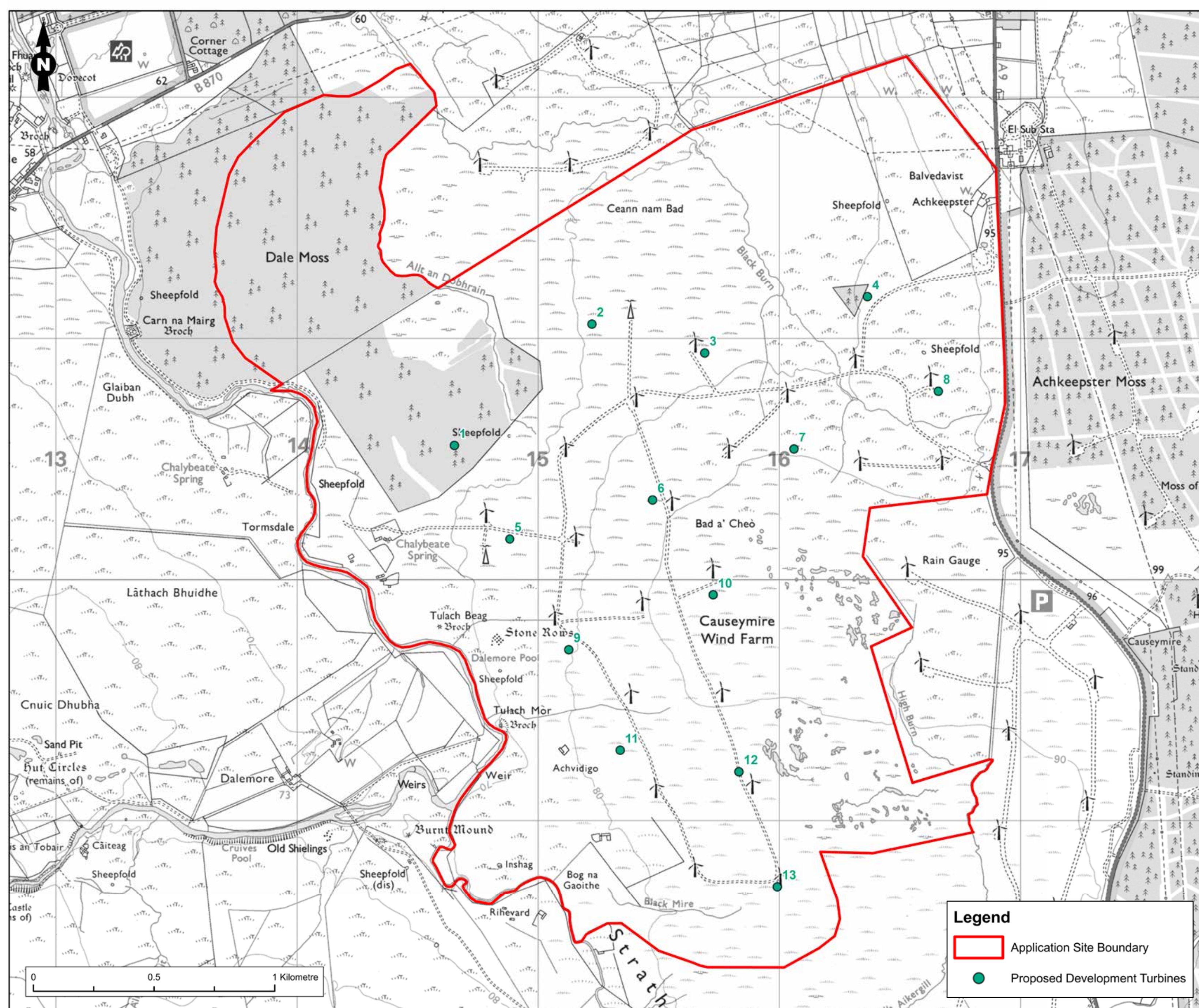
Proposed installed capacity: **83.2 MW**

Estimated value of community benefit fund: **£14.56 million over 35 years**

The proposed development



The proposed repowered Causeymire Wind Farm will have up to 13 turbines of a height of up to 200 metres to the blade tip and will generate up to 85 MW.



Proposed development layout

Causeymire Wind Farm has been operational for over 20 years. Our proposed plan is to repower the site and we have developed an initial layout. The environmental and technical studies we carry out throughout the design process, along with feedback from the public and statutory consultees, will inform the final number and layout of the turbines.

One of the key design principles for the proposed project is to use the existing wind farm infrastructure and access tracks as much as possible.

Decommissioning

Options for the potential reuse of the materials from the existing turbines are currently under consideration. We are working with wind turbine decommissioning experts to investigate the possibilities.

Construction and access

- The project will require one or more construction compounds, access tracks and watercourse crossings to enable construction.
- Access to the site will be from the A9 via the junction to the existing wind farm.
- Watercourse crossings will be kept to a minimum, but, where required, these will be designed in accordance with Scottish Government best practice and Scottish Environment Protection Agency guidelines.
- Crushed stone will be used to upgrade existing or construct new access tracks, hardstanding areas for cranes and foundations. The source of the stone and aggregate will be confirmed during the design process.
- Crushed stone from the hardstanding for the existing turbines will be decommissioned and reused for the new turbine hardstanding areas.

Protecting the environment



We have appointed environmental consultants Ramboll to carry out a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the proposed repowering of Causeymire Wind Farm to ensure that the project is designed in a way to minimise its impact on the surrounding environment.



We are currently at the scoping stage and submitted a request for an EIA Scoping Opinion from Scottish Ministers in November 2025. This seeks a view from Scottish Ministers, with input from relevant authorities and statutory consultees, on the environmental issues that should be considered in the EIA.

Detailed studies for the following disciplines are proposed to be undertaken within the EIA:

- Landscape and Visual Amenity
- Cultural Heritage
- Biodiversity (Ecology and Ornithology)
- Soils/Peat
- Noise and Vibration
- Traffic, Transport and Access
- Aviation.

Standalone technical appendices will be prepared for socio-economics, the water environment and climate change to ensure that sufficient environmental information is included in the EIA Report.

The outcomes of the EIA will be reported in an EIA Report that will form part of our formal application for consent from the Scottish Ministers.

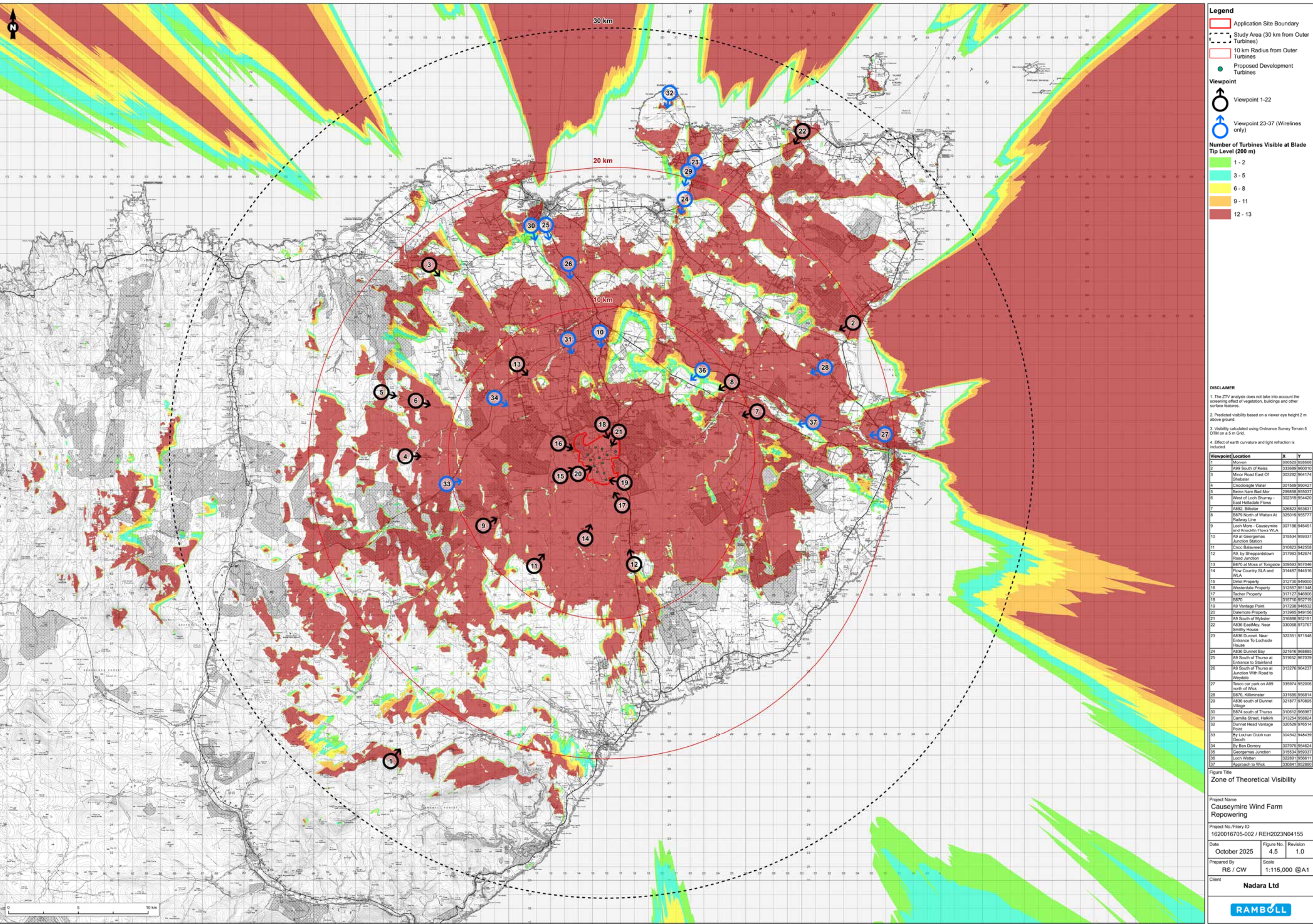
The EIA process includes:

- Consultation with the local authority, local community councils, statutory and non-statutory organisations, and the public to identify specific concerns and issues
- Determining the existing environmental conditions at and around the site by reviewing available data and conducting specialist field surveys
- Refining the design of the repowered wind farm to avoid or mitigate potentially significant environmental effects, where possible
- Assessing the potential impacts of the repowered wind farm on the surrounding environment
- Developing mitigation solutions to reduce potentially significant effects.

Landscape and visual



The EIA will include a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) which will establish the potential effects of the repowered Causeymire Wind Farm on the surrounding landscape and visual amenity.



Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

Desk-based studies and specialist field surveys have been carried out to establish the current landscape and visual context of the site and to identify key sensitive receptors.

The LVIA will consider potential impacts and likely significant effects in relation to:

- Landscape fabric and character
- The special qualities and integrity of classified landscapes such as Wild Land Areas
- Visual amenity from settlements and key transportation and recreational routes
- Visual amenity from nearby residential properties.

The LVIA will also consider the cumulative effects arising from the proposed development in conjunction with other existing and consented/in-planning wind farm developments.

Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

A Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV), a computer-generated model that identifies the likely extent of the visibility of the proposed development, has been prepared based on a preliminary layout, to inform the LVIA.

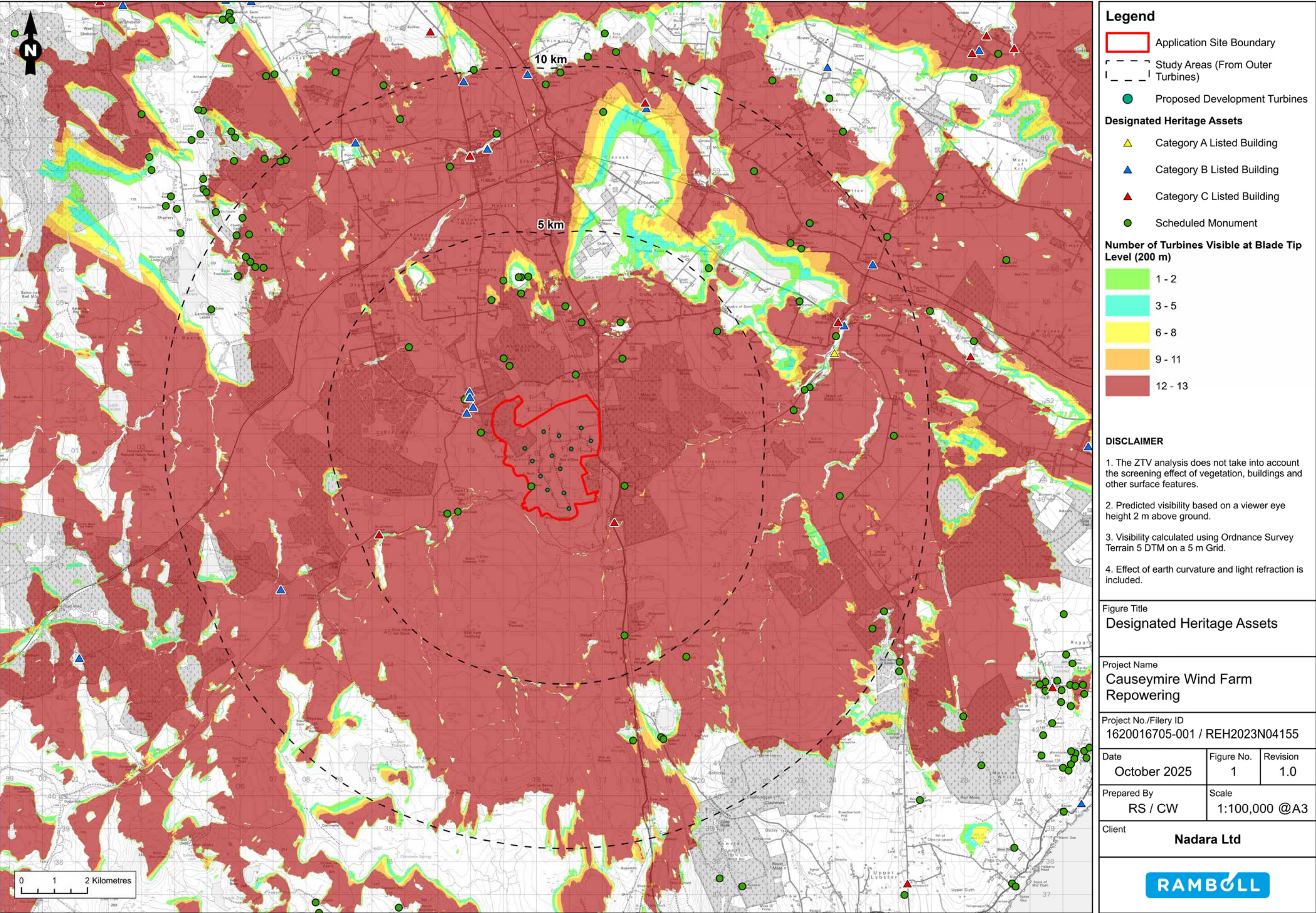
Photomontages

The LVIA will be supported by photomontages and wirelines which provide a visual representation of the proposed development from various viewpoints, which will be agreed in consultation with statutory consultees. A selection of these viewpoints is provided in the following boards.

Cultural heritage



Our studies will assess the effects of the repowered wind farm on the historic environment, including archaeology and cultural heritage.



Designated heritage assets

Desk-based assessment and specialist field surveys have been carried out to establish the cultural heritage baseline within the site and the wider landscape.

The assessment will consider the potential impacts and likely significant effects in relation to:

- Unknown remains within the site which could experience direct impacts as a result of construction activities.
- Identified heritage assets within the site and surrounding area which could experience impacts upon their setting, including the potential for cumulative impacts. Such assets include Tulach Mor broch, located on the site, and the Cairn Merk broch to the west.

A Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) will be used to help identify assets intervisible with the proposed development and/or where the proposed development would appear in key views to and from assets. Alongside the ZTV, wireframes and/or photomontages will be produced to support the cultural heritage assessment.

Enhancing biodiversity



Delivering habitat and biodiversity enhancement is an integral part of the proposed development.

This will include opportunities for enhancement such as peatland restoration and grassland management, following on from the extensive work already carried out on the site of the existing wind farm to improve the moss and heather cover and increase the numbers of both visiting and breeding bird species.

Our studies will also assess the potential effects of the proposed development on biodiversity, including ecological and ornithological features to ensure the proposed project is designed in a way that minimises its impact on the environment.

Desk-based assessment and specialist field surveys will be carried out to inform the biodiversity baseline conditions within the site and surrounding area.

So far we have carried out the following field surveys onsite:

- Habitat Classification Survey (UKHab)
- National Vegetation Classification (NVC) Survey
- Habitat and Peatland Condition Assessment
- Protected Species Surveys
- Bat Activity Surveys, using bat detectors deployed at proposed turbine locations to determine bat activity levels across the site
- Freshwater Pearl Mussel Survey
- Ornithological field surveys (September 2023 to February 2025).

The biodiversity assessment will consider:

- Habitat loss, fragmentation or alteration
- Disturbance of protected species
- Collision risk with turbine blades for bats and birds
- Displacement of bird species that use the existing wind farm.

Habitats within the site are dominated by blanket bog and other bog systems, purple-moor grass, rush, and lochans. A number of bird species have been recorded on or close to the site, and have become accustomed to the wind turbines on the existing site. These include red-throated diver, red kite, hen harrier and white-tailed eagle.

Suitable mitigation and/or restoration measures will be presented in a series of management plans including an Outline Habitat Management Plan and/or Species Protection Plans. We will also consider the cumulative effects of the proposed development with other wind farms in the area.



Peat restoration



The EIA will assess the effects of the proposed development on peatland at the site.

A key design principle for the proposed development is to avoid or minimise impacts on the highest value peat resources within the site.

This means using existing infrastructure and access tracks as much as possible, and where feasible locating individual infrastructure elements within areas of shallower peat and within areas that are considered to already be degraded/eroded. By utilising the existing wind farm track where possible, the amount of new track required for the proposed project will be kept to a minimum.

A Phase 1 peat depth survey was undertaken in May 2024 recording peat depths on a 100-metre grid across the site. This data, along with information on other development constraints, is currently being used to inform the design and a further review of the layout of the proposed turbines, and allow development of wider infrastructure, including site access tracks and potential battery storage facility.

Following further design development, a Phase 2 peat depth survey will be undertaken, which will supplement the Phase 1 survey data with higher resolution data which is more focussed on the proposed areas of infrastructure. This will allow further refinement of the design.

Over the lifetime of the existing wind farm, work has been undertaken to re-wet substantial areas of bog on the site. Drain blocking measures were put in place to improve the quality of the bog pool system. As a result, the sphagnum moss cover has increased from 11% of the site in 2004 when the wind farm was built, to 48% in 2019. These measures will continue if the site is repowered.



Peatbog habitat enhancement

Over the lifetime of the existing wind farm extensive remedial work has been carried out to re-wet substantial areas of the bog on the site, increase the moss and heather cover and increase both visiting and breeding bird species at the site. Drain blocking measures were put in place to improve the quality of the bog pool system, and sheep, cattle and deer grazing was actively controlled to encourage changes to the vegetation and raise the height of the heather to make it more attractive to breeding raptors.

Before the existing Causeymire Wind Farm was built studies recorded 29 different species using the site. Studies carried out by independent consultants over the lifetime of the wind farm and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) have identified that all these species still use the site, along with a further 38 species – taking the total number of species recorded at the site to 67.

Traffic and transport



The EIA will consider the traffic and transport impacts of the proposed development during the construction phase, when the amount of traffic generated will be the greatest.



The EIA will assess the potential traffic-related environmental effects such as delays, impacts on pedestrian journeys, accidents and safety, associated with Abnormal Indivisible Loads (such as turbine blades).

Appropriate mitigation measures will be implemented to minimise the likelihood of significant adverse effects occurring. Standard mitigation measures will include implementation of:

- Construction Traffic Management Plan
- Design of suitable access arrangements with full consideration given to the road safety of all road users
- Staff Sustainable Access Plan
- Abnormal Load Transport Management Plan.

The proposed project would be accessed directly from the A9 via the junction to the existing wind farm. The access junction would provide the access to the site for abnormal loads associated with the turbine equipment as well as access for construction materials and

the ongoing site operation traffic. A detailed site access review will be undertaken to detail the finalised access route from the port of entry, which is currently expected to be Wick, to the site access junction.

Detailed swept path analysis will be undertaken along the access route to demonstrate that the turbine components can be delivered to the site and to identify any temporary road works which may be necessary to accommodate the deliveries.

Each turbine is likely to require between 11 and 13 abnormal loads to deliver the components to site. The components would be delivered on extendable trailers that would then be retracted to the size of a standard HGV for the return journey.

The local community



We will work closely with local communities, businesses, and residents to ensure the repowering of Causeymire Wind Farm brings real benefits to the local area.



Business, employment and investment

We want to hear from businesses in the local area and across the Highlands who could be involved in the project if it receives approval and proceeds to construction.

Opportunities available include those for:

- An engineering, procurement and construction ('EPC') 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, craneage, welfare units, etc.
- Labour hire companies: engineers, plant operatives and general labourers.
- Local accommodation and catering services.
- Transport: taxis and minibuses for local labourers.

If you are a local company and would like to register your interest, please email jenny@jmccomms.co.uk or fill in a registration form on www.causeymirerepowering.co.uk

Community benefit

At our wind farms we work with the local community to help us shape a community benefit package that best meets local needs and wishes.

If this project receives consent we will establish a community fund in partnership with local stakeholders. We look forward to hearing from local people throughout the consultation period about what they would like to see.

At several of our wind farms we also have co-operatives which enable people to buy a stake in their local wind farm. We are working closely with community ownership experts Energy4All to set up a new co-op structure to allow both communities and individuals to co-invest if the repowering of Causeymire Wind Farm goes ahead.

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Photomontages



Viewpoint 6: West of Loch Shurrery (Existing view)



Viewpoint 6: West of Loch Shurrery (Photomontage)

Disclaimer: These visualisations are for exhibition purposes only so they can be seen clearly at this size. They do not conform fully to NatureScot and THC visualisation standards but final visualisations included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA Report) that would accompany any application for consent will meet appropriate standards and guidance. Please stand at arms length from visualisation to obtain the best view.



Photomontages



Viewpoint 9: Loch More WLA (Existing view)



Viewpoint 9: Loch More WLA (Photomontage)

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Photomontages



Viewpoint 11: Cnoc Balavreed (Existing view)



Viewpoint 11: Cnoc Balavreed (Photomontage)

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Photomontages



Viewpoint 12: A9 Sheppardstown Junction (Existing view)



Viewpoint 12: A9 Sheppardstown Junction (Photomontage)

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Photomontages



Viewpoint 15: Dirlot Property Entrance (Existing view)



Viewpoint 15: Dirlot Property Entrance (Photomontage)

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Photomontages



Viewpoint 16: B870, SW of Westerdale Properties (Existing view)



Viewpoint 16: B870, SW of Westerdale Properties (Photomontage)

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Photomontages



Viewpoint 18: B870 (Existing view)



Viewpoint 18: B870 (Photomontage)

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