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YOUR REF./DATE:

OUR REF.:

PLACE/DATE:

Craig Watch

2nd November 2021

Craig Watch Wind Farm – Consultation: 4th – 26th November 2021

Dear Mr Macpherson,

We hope you are keeping safe and well.

We are writing to update you on our proposals for Craig Watch Wind Farm located approximately 8 km southeast from Dufftown. I have also taken the opportunity to provide information on our next round of consultation for the proposal.

About Us

Statkraft is Europe's largest generator of renewable energy, with origins going back 125 years in Norwegian hydro power. In the UK we operate a hydro power plant and four onshore wind farms and are a leading provider of Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). We are also involved in solar farm development and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. In addition, we are proud to have been appointed by the National Grid to assist on grid flexibility and to help them achieve their ambition to operate a zero carbon electricity system. Our Scottish offices are in Glasgow, and we have 4,500 employees across 18 countries.

Project Update

We first announced our interest in developing a wind farm located approximately 8 km southeast from Dufftown, straddling Moray and Aberdeenshire Council boundaries, in November 2020. In March this year we exhibited the project at its early stages via an online public consultation website, in line with the Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time. Since then we have refined the design and invite you to view our plans before they are submitted to the Scottish Government in 2022.

Since our March 2021 virtual exhibition, we have listened to feedback to shape the development. The number of turbines has reduced from 16 to 11, removing the most visually prominent turbines and protecting peatland habitats.

We are committed to a Community Benefit Fund that delivers, £5,000 per megawatt (MW) installed per year as per Scottish Government recommendations. If consented, the project will generate £363,000 per year for local groups and initiatives based on 72.6 MW of installed capacity.

We are open to offering Shared Ownership on our projects if there is local interest. We are keen to hear views on enabling the community to have a financial share in the project.

November Consultation

At Statkraft, we believe that proactive public consultation is an integral element of the planning process. It is essential that the local community and other stakeholders be given the opportunity to view the proposals and importantly, feedback their views directly to the project team.

In addition to our online consultation, we will be taking a hybrid approach to our next round of consultation with both face-to-face drop-in sessions and a virtual exhibition which will include two live interactive chat sessions.

The virtual exhibition will be hosted on our dedicated project website and will go live on 4th November 2021 (www.craigwatch.co.uk). The website will contain information on the proposals and include a comment form so that feedback can be provided to the project team.

As part of the virtual exhibition we will also be hosting two live chat sessions from our project website (www.craigwatch.co.uk), where members of the project team will be available for a question and answer session via interactive text. These will take place on:

- **Thursday 11th November (5pm-7pm)**
- **Thursday 25th November (4pm-6pm)**

We appreciate that not everyone will have access to the online consultation material, so we are writing to over 1,300 homes and business with a freepost reply card so that they can view the project information and provide feedback offline. We will also be holding two drop-in sessions which you will be able to register at www.craigwatch.co.uk or by calling 0800 772 0668. These will take place on:

- **Tuesday 16th November (2pm-6pm): Mortlach Memorial Hall, Albert Place, Dufftown, AB55 4AY**
- **Wednesday 17th November (3pm-7pm): Glass Village Hall, Glass, AB54 4XY**

Whilst we have stated a date by which we would like comments returned (Friday 3rd December), we will continue to consult with the local community moving forward.

All of this feedback will be used by Statkraft, in conjunction with the various technical and environmental studies undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, to help shape and inform the project.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our adviser Steven Livingston on 0141 264 2831 or by email at steven.livingston@libertyone.co.uk.

Yours sincerely,



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