



# Hare Hill Windfarm Repowering

# Public Information Day

**April 2024**

A wide-angle photograph of a windfarm in a rolling, hilly landscape under a blue sky with light clouds. A large white wind turbine is in the foreground, slightly to the right of center. In the distance, many other wind turbines are visible on the hills.

# Introducing Hare Hill Windfarm Repowering



## Who are we?

ScottishPower Renewables (SPR) is part of the ScottishPower group of companies operating in the UK under the Iberdrola Group, one of the world's largest integrated utility companies and a world leader in wind energy. SPR, the first integrated energy utility in the UK to generate 100% green electricity, is already investing a total of £10 billion over five years - £8 million every working day, focusing on wind energy, solar energy, smart grids and driving the change to a cleaner, electric future.

At SPR, we are committed to developing renewable energy responsibly. We strive to be a good neighbour in all aspects of our work and are dedicated to maximising the opportunities for local communities to benefit from our projects. We aim to find the best balance of environmental factors; to minimise impacts resulting from our developments; and to demonstrate that the benefits of our project are of real value, wide-reaching and shared with the community.

We are at the forefront of the development of the renewables industry through pioneering ideas, forward thinking and outstanding innovation. Our ambitious growth plans include expansion of our existing onshore wind portfolio, investment in new large-scale solar deployment and innovative grid storage systems including batteries.

We are committed to early consultation with the local community in the development of our projects and throughout the development process, to ensure local stakeholders are given the opportunity to provide feedback and are kept informed of project progress.



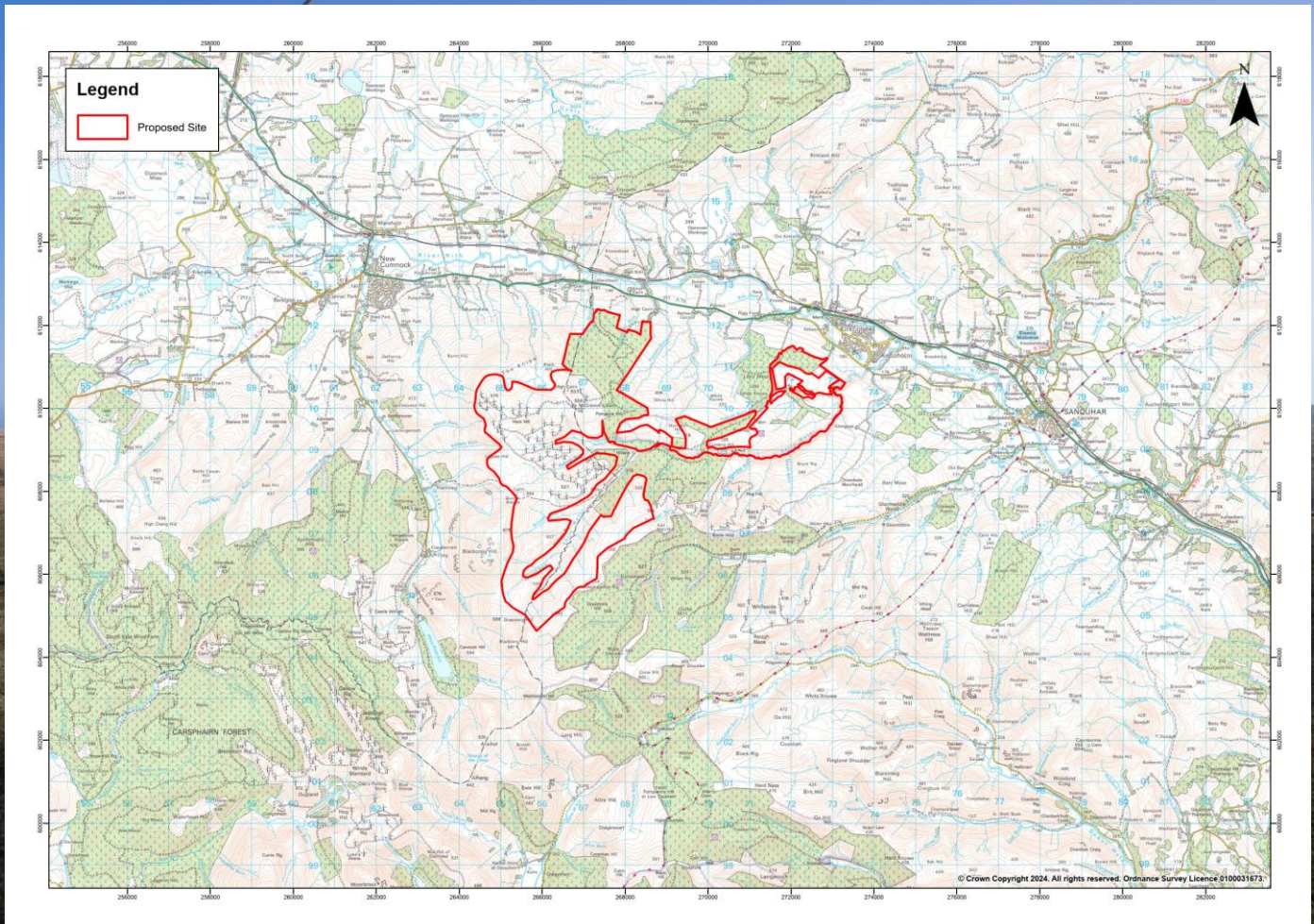
## Hare Hill Windfarm Repowering Proposal

SPR is proposing to develop and repower the two operational windfarms at our existing Hare Hill site. Located on the border of East Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway, Hare Hill Windfarm and Hare Hill Windfarm Extension sit to the southeast of New Cumnock, East Ayrshire.

Currently, Hare Hill Windfarm and Hare Hill Windfarm Extension have a combined total of 55 turbines, generating 43.2 megawatts across the two sites. The proposed development will consist of fewer wind turbines, approximately 27 to be installed, with blade tip heights between 180 to 250 metres and the potential to deliver up to 150 megawatts of green electricity – enough to power the equivalent of over 90,000 homes <sup>(1)</sup>.

In November 2023, a request for Pre-Application and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping advice was submitted to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit (ECU). Copies of the submitted documentation can be found on the ECU's website or in the 'Documents' section of SPR's project webpage for the Hare Hill Windfarm Repowering Proposal.

(1) Installed capacity (in MW) multiplied by the number of hours in one year (8,760) multiplied by the average load factor for each technology (being the average load factor for load factor for offshore wind during 2022, 2021 and 2020 as published within the Digest of United Kingdom Energy Statistics, DESNZ, 2023), divided by the average annual household energy consumption (3.694 MWh) (being the average annual household energy consumption during 2022, 2021 and 2020 as published within Energy Consumption in the UK 2023, DESNZ, 2023).



Location of the Proposed Hare Hill Windfarm Repowering

## The need for renewable energy

Policy at the local, national and global level is changing rapidly to address the threat of climate change. Decarbonisation means we must reduce our consumption of fossil fuels and increase renewable and low carbon energy generation.

Key UK and Scottish Government policies that showcase the need for renewable energy are:

- The Climate Change Act 2008 as amended by the Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019 – this set a legally binding target to **reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 100% by 2050**, compared to 1990 levels.
- The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) Scotland Act 2019 – this amended the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and set targets to reduce Scotland's emissions of all greenhouse gases to **Net Zero by 2045**, five years ahead of the UK.
- Onshore Wind Policy Statement (2022) – this set an ambition that Scotland will deploy a minimum of 20 Gigawatt (GW) of onshore wind energy by 2030.

Scotland is still reliant upon fossil fuels for electricity generation and the continued transition towards renewable energy is expected to lead to a reduction in electricity bills and provide greater energy security for all consumers, whilst reducing GHG emissions and helping to meet climate change objectives. Onshore Wind generation plays an important part in the Scottish energy mix and is now one of the lowest cost forms of new, large-scale electricity generation in Scotland.



## Environmental considerations

We are currently undertaking a range of environmental assessments to inform the site design and for submission alongside the planning application. These include:

- Landscape and visual impact
- Ecology and biodiversity
- Heritage and archaeology
- Traffic and access
- Noise
- Hydrology
- Peat & Soils

The work carried out to date has informed the current design of the proposed Hare Hill Repowering. Where required, suitable mitigation will be designed into the scheme.

The overall aim is to design a layout that has the least environmental impact whilst optimising the renewable energy generation from the Site.



## Community Benefits of Hare Hill Repower

We believe the benefits of our projects should be shared with the communities in which we work.

To date, our operational onshore windfarms have shared over £60 million of community benefit to communities across the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Over £15.5 million of community benefit has been used to support community led initiatives and projects in Dumfries & Galloway. More than £11.3 million has been invested into communities in East Ayrshire.

Community benefit funds have led to the delivery of a diverse range of projects, including environmental improvements, educational programmes, heritage and tourism schemes, provision of life saving defibrillators and investment in energy efficiency measures within community buildings.

Repowering Hare Hill Windfarm will increase community benefit funds available to neighbouring communities within Dumfries & Galloway and East Ayrshire.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



LEARN MORE ABOUT REPOWERING



## Powering your community

We are committed to being a responsible developer of renewable energy and strive to be a good neighbour in all areas of our work. We encourage as many people as possible to get involved in and to learn more about our projects, particularly in understanding the local economic and social benefits our developments can create.

As we progress with repowering Hare Hill, we will engage with communities, local stakeholders and both Dumfries & Galloway and East Ayrshire Council to understand how benefits could be delivered to best meet the needs of the local area, should the Proposed Development be consented.



## Benefits of Repowering

- Increased electricity generation = increased security of supply
- Building & maintaining new assets = jobs and supply chain opportunities
- More generation from windfarm = more community benefit funding to share
- New technologies available = increased efficiency – sometimes up to 10x the capacity of the original windfarm, with fewer turbines
- Repowered site = further investment in ecology and the local environment
- Old assets = Sustainable resources for research & training, recycling and restoration into assets like bus shelters and other re-usable components.



## Next steps

We welcome your feedback on our initial proposal to help us refine the details of Hare Hill Repowering. Please contact us using the project mailbox details below to provide us with your comments.

We will use the findings from environmental surveys, technical studies, and consultation feedback to continue to shape the design of the Proposed Development ahead of submitting a Section 36 application to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit towards the end of 2024.

Please note that any comments made to SPR on the proposal at this stage are not representations to the planning authority. When the Section 36 application is submitted to the Energy Consents Unit, statutory consultation will be undertaken. At that time, you will have the opportunity to make a formal representation on the proposal.

You can view more detailed information and ask questions via our website:  
[Hare Hill Windfarm Repowering - ScottishPower Renewables](#)

These contacts can also be used for requests for any further information, submitting comments or asking questions regarding the Proposed Development at any time.

Email: [harehillrepower@scottishpower.com](mailto:harehillrepower@scottishpower.com)  
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