



## 2020 Renewables

Ms Androulla Richford  
Wanlockhead Village Council  
Strathview  
New Row  
Wanlockhead  
ML12 6UJ

**Our reference:** 2020-L-5074  
**Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017

**name:** Alasdair MacLeod  
**e-mail:** amacleod@2020renewables.com  
**DDT:** +44 (0) 1475 749 950

Dear Ms Richford,

### Submission of North Lowther Energy Initiative Application

We are writing in relation to our proposals for the North Lowther Energy Initiative (NLEI).

North Lowther Energy Initiative Limited, a partnership between Buccleuch and 2020 Renewables, has recently submitted a Section 36 application to the Scottish Government for a wind farm in the North Lowther hills in Dumfries & Galloway.

The proposed development is for 35 turbines, each with a rated output of 4.2 Mega Watts (MW), giving a maximum capacity of 147MW.

We are pleased to submit a formal application following two years of planning and design work. The North Lowther Energy Initiative team is grateful to the residents and groups who attended the public exhibitions in Sanquhar, Wanlockhead and Crawfordjohn as well as those who have contacted us directly. The feedback we have received to date has been particularly useful for the project team, allowing them to enhance the design of the project.

We believe this is a good site for a wind farm; it has a good wind resource and, if consented, will be able to provide enough clean energy to power more than 75,000 homes. If consented, the project would represent a £200 million investment and, once operational, the wind farm would create seven local and 33 regional jobs.

The wind farm can also play a crucial role in unlocking the potential of the consented Glenmuckloch Pumped Storage Hydro scheme and help underpin its development, creating further investment and job opportunities. The pumped storage hydro scheme is capable of generating up to 400MW of electricity which would provide energy in times of peak demand and significantly improve the stability of the grid in the region. Together, these projects would involve more than 300 local jobs and secure and prolong job creation in the area.

The North Lowther Energy Initiative is the latest in a series of recent investments by Buccleuch and 2020 Renewables in the local region, including the restoration of the Glenmuckloch open cast coal mine, Glenmuckloch wind farm and community-owned wind turbines, the potential for a pumped storage hydro scheme at the same site and the Crawick Multiverse.

Whilst we realise that much of the attention will focus on the energy aspect to the proposal, it should be acknowledged that there is likely to be significant net conservation benefits to the North Lowther Energy Initiative as well. As part of the application, there is scope for widespread habitat enhancement which could be tailored to benefit birds, particularly raptors and waders.

Proposals for management measures within the development area include management of wet modified bog and blanket bog, management of dry heath, and management of riparian woodland.

NLEI Limited is a company incorporated in Scotland with Company Number SC511747 having its Registered Office at SUITE F3, CLYDE VIEW, 22 POTTERY STREET, GREENOCK, INVERCLYDE, PA15 2UZ

including planting of up to 297 hectares of native riparian planting. This would include the 36.61 hectares of planting obligation as part of the proposals, however the remaining area will represent new woodland cover, resulting in a significant net expansion of woodland. The wind farm would also support a regional Project Officer as well as enhance local access facilities for walking and mountain biking.

If the application is successful, the project is committed to providing community benefit to the local area in line with the recommended rate of £5,000 per MW. Depending on the final operational capacity of the site, it is estimated that this will generate between up to £735,000 per annum for local communities – more than £18 million over the lifetime of the development.

We will upload the application and further information to the project's dedicated website at [www.northlowther.co.uk](http://www.northlowther.co.uk). If you have any questions regarding our proposals or if you would like to meet us to discuss the plans in more detail, please get in touch with the project manager, Ian Simms ([isimms@2020renewables.com](mailto:isimms@2020renewables.com)).

Thank you for the opportunity to update you on our proposals.

Yours sincerely,

*Alasdair G MacLeod*

Alasdair MacLeod  
Director

For and on behalf of 2020 Renewables Limited acting as agent for and on behalf of NLEI Limited

**NLEI LTD**  
**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989**  
**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**  
**THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)**  
**REGULATIONS 2017**

Notice is hereby given that NLEI Ltd, (company number SC511747 at registered address Clyde View (Suite F3), Riverside Business Park, 22 Pottery Street, Greenock, PA15 2UZ) has applied to the Scottish Ministers for consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 to construct and operate a wind farm known as North Lowther Energy Initiative (NLEI) within the Queensberry Estate, approximately 5km south of Crawfordjohn, 2km northeast of Sanquhar and west of Wanlockhead in Dumfries and Galloway (Central Grid Reference 283464, 615138). The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be up to 147 MW comprising up to 35 turbines with a maximum ground to blade tip height of 149 metres. The proposed development is subject to Environmental Impact Assessment and the developer has produced an Environmental Statement.

NLEI Ltd has also applied for a direction under Section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 that planning permission for the development be deemed to be granted.

A copy of the application, with a plan showing the land to which it relates, together with a copy of the Environmental Statement discussing the Company's proposals in more detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, are available for public inspection in person, free of charge, during normal office hours at:

Location	Opening Hours	Address
Dumfries and Galloway Council Council Headquarters	Monday to Friday - 10am to 4pm Saturday - Closed Sunday - Closed	109-115 English Street Dumfries DG1 2DD
Museum of Lead Mining Visitor Centre	Monday to Sunday - 11am to 4:30pm	Museum of Lead Mining Visitor Centre Wanlockhead ML12 6UT
Sanquhar Dumfries and Galloway Council Customer Services	Monday - 10 am to 1 pm Tuesday - Closed Wednesday - 10am to 4pm Thursday - 10am to 1pm Friday - 2pm to 7pm Saturday - Closed Sunday - Closed	Sanquhar Dumfries and Galloway Council Customer Services 100 High Street Sanquhar DG4 6DZ



The Environmental Statement can also be viewed at the Scottish Government Library at Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ; on the application website at <http://northlowther.co.uk/resources>; or at [www.energyconsents.scot](http://www.energyconsents.scot).

Copies of the Environmental Statement may be obtained from NLEI Ltd (telephone: 01475 749 950/ email [info@northlowther.com](mailto:info@northlowther.com)) at a charge of £1,100 hard copy and £10 on CD. Copies of a short non-technical summary are available free of charge.

Any representations to the application may be submitted via the Energy Consents Unit website at [www.energyconsents.scot/Register.aspx](http://www.energyconsents.scot/Register.aspx); by email to the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit mailbox at [representations@gov.scot](mailto:representations@gov.scot); or by post to the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU, identifying the proposal and specifying the grounds for representation.

Written or emailed representations should be dated, clearly stating the name (in block capitals), full return email and postal address of those making representations. Only representations sent by email to [representations@gov.scot](mailto:representations@gov.scot) will receive acknowledgement.

All representations should be received not later than 23<sup>rd</sup> July, although Ministers may consider representations received after this date.

Any subsequent additional information which is submitted by the developer will be subject to further public notice in this manner, and representations to such information will be accepted as per this notice.

As a result of a statutory objection from the relevant planning authority, or where Scottish Ministers decide to exercise their discretion to do so, Scottish Ministers can also cause a Public Local Inquiry (PLI) to be held.

Following examination of the environmental information, Scottish Ministers will determine the application for consent in two ways:

- Consent the proposal, with or without conditions attached; or
- Reject the proposal

#### Fair Processing Notice

The Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit processes consent applications and consultation representations under The Electricity Act 1989. During the process, to support transparency in decision making, the Scottish Government publishes online at [www.energyconsents.scot](http://www.energyconsents.scot). When making an email or paper representation you will automatically be opted in to its publication unless you choose to mark it as confidential. We may share your personal data with DPEA and local Planning Authorities but will not publish your personal data (e.g. your name and address) as this is removed beforehand in compliance with the Data Protection Act. Should you choose not to provide your personal data then your representation will only be considered by Scottish Ministers and not be shared for consideration with any other party. If you have any concerns about how your personal data is handled, please email us at: [Econsents\\_admin@gov.scot](mailto:Econsents_admin@gov.scot) or write to Energy Consents Unit, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU