1. Introduction

Welcome and thank you for visiting this second round public exhibition for the revised Larbrax Wind Farm.

Through this exhibition you can learn about Ørsted, find out what the revised Larbrax Wind Farm proposals are, the progress we have made with the project since the first round of public consultation in November 2023, the associated community benefit opportunities, and provide your valued feedback.

About the Project

The revised Larbrax Wind Farm is a revision of the consented Labrax Wind Farm, an onshore wind farm approximately 9 km west of Stranraer, on the Rhins peninsula.

Between 2013-2015, a proposal for Larbrax Wind Farm was consulted on and a planning application was submitted to Dumfries and Galloway Council. The planning permission was granted on appeal by the Scottish Government in 2016. From 2016-2024, a number of efforts have been made to make the project both technically and commercially viable, including discussions with turbine suppliers and Scottish Power Transmission (SPT) with regards to the procurement of the consented 100 m tip turbines and the proposed grid connection. The culmination of this work behind the scenes is the revised proposal for Larbrax Wind Farm, which will significantly improve the efficiency and buildability of the project.

Following the first round of consultation events held on 6th and 7th November 2023 and a detailed design process, Ørsted is now progressing the revised proposal for Larbrax Wind Farm to application. The revised proposals address technical and commercial barriers and, if approved, will make a valuable contribution to Scotland's renewable energy and climate change goals, while returning community and economic benefits to the local area.

Please note that an application has not yet been submitted, therefore, comments made in response to this consultation are not representations to Dumfries and Galloway Council but to Ørsted as the applicant. Members of the public will have the opportunity to submit comments to the council when the application has been submitted (see Board 14b).

The final revised proposal for which planning permission is being sought comprises:

- Up to four wind turbines;
- Each up to 149.9m in height;
- local area;
- Up to 10 MW of battery storage.

Working with You

This is the final round of public consultation which we will undertake before submitting the planning application for the revised Larbrax Wind Farm. Your feedback is vital to our approach to the project, and we would encourage you to fill in the provided questionnaire when you have viewed the exhibition materials. Members of our team are also on-hand to answer any questions you may have.

The information presented in this exhibition can also be found online at: www.larbraxwindfarm.co.uk.

You can contact our team at any time:

E:	larbrax@ors
T:	0131 243 910
P:	Ørsted, 2nd Edinburgh El

• Generating over 20MW of clean, green energy;

• Delivering £5,000 per MW of installed wind energy capacity, equating to \sim £100,000 in annual community benefit for the

sted.com

Floor, 2 Lochrin Square, 96 Fountainbridge, **H3 9QA**



2. About Us

Ørsted is one of the world's most sustainable energy companies and is helping Scotland and the UK deliver on their net-zero ambitions while achieving all the economic, social and environmental benefits that come with that. Headquartered in Denmark, Ørsted is active across Europe, the USA and Asia. Since 2018, Ørsted has expanded significantly and now has a portfolio of 8.2 Gigawatts (GW) of operating and under construction capacity across wind, solar, and energy storage. Our target is to have 17.5 GW of installed onshore wind, solar, and storage capacity across our markets by 2030. In June 2021, Ørsted acquired Brookfield Renewable UK and Ireland, which subsequently was re-branded to Ørsted Onshore UK Ltd.

Already the global leader of offshore wind, we are expanding our onshore wind portfolio in the UK and Ireland.

Ørsted already has an established track record in Scotland through our existing and consented onshore wind farms:

• Phase 2, consisting of 22 turbines (up to 220 m in height) and a generating capacity of up to 112 MW, is consented.

We are developing new energy systems for the future, building skills and creating jobs, all whilst ensuring positive impacts on nature. You can read more about our proposed community benefits on Board 7.

• Kennoxhead Wind Farm Cluster in South Lanarkshire -Phase 1, consisting of 13 turbines (up to 180 m in height) with a generating capacity of up to 62 megawatts (MW) is currently operational. Phase 2, consisting of 24 turbines (up to 220 m in height) and a generating capacity of up to 112 MW, is consented.





3. Site Context

Site Context

The revised Larbrax Wind Farm is located approximately 9 km west of Stranraer in Dumfries and Galloway, and is a redesign of the consented Larbrax Wind Farm for which planning permission was granted on appeal in 2016. The proposed site lies in a remote area in the western edge of the Rhins Peninsula. The site is relatively low-lying, sloping from east to west towards the coast. The highest point of the site is Hind Hill on Galdenoch Moor at around 82m, as well as an unnamed hill of 83m on Larbrax Moor.

Land within the site is mainly used for grazing livestock with some small woodland plantations being used as shelterbelts. Properties within the surrounding area are mainly single rural dwellings, farmhouses and holiday cottages.







Proposals

The previous planning permission for Larbrax Wind Farm allowed for eight turbines each of up to 100 m in height. However, advancements in turbine technology and changes to the energy market, meant that the consented wind farm was no longer viable. As the site is very windy it is the perfect spot to install a wind farm, so we are now seeking to revise the Larbrax Wind Farm proposal in order to optimise the potential energy output from the site, and retain a commercially viable scheme whilst using fewer but much more efficient and taller turbines.

We will be applying to Dumfries and Galloway Council for planning permission to construct and operate the revised Larbrax Wind Farm.

The current proposals comprise:

- Larbrax Wind • Up to four wind turbines, each with a maximum height of up Farm to 149.9 m; • Foundations supporting each wind turbine; • Associated crane hardstandings at each turbine location; 100 m 🗧 • Approximately 3 km of onsite access tracks (2 km of new tracks and 1 km of upgraded tracks) to faciliate access to the turbines and other infrastructure; Up to 2.5 MW -• Up to eight watercourse crossings and associated infrastructure; Up to 20 MW 🖛 • A new access junction on the B738; • A network of underground cables to connect the turbines to 18,607 the onsite substation; • A control building and electrical substation; 25,550 tonnes 🗧 • A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS); A temporary construction compound; • A temporary on-site borrow pit (quarry) for winning stone during construction; • Removal of 0.35 ha of small trees and scrub largely consisting of rhododendron bushes around the site entrance.

**Uses DESNZ "all fossil fuels" emissions statistic of 424 tonnes of carbon dioxide per GWh of electricity supplied in the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (July 2023) Table 5.14



Consented

*Based on the latest Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and Digest of UK Energy Statistics (DUKES) figures, which provide an average UK annual household electrical consumption of 3,239 KWh. Site specific wind data and modelling found that the consented proposal had a capacity factor of 34.4% and the revised proposal, with larger and more powerful turbines, has a capacity factor of 46.6%.

5a. Consented Larbrax Wind Farm vs Revised Larbrax Wind Farm



Revised Larbrax Wind Farm **www.larbraxwindfarm.co.uk**.



5b. Consented Larbrax Wind Farm vs Revised Larbrax Wind Farm

Consented Larbrax Wind Farm

Eight of up to 100 m to blade tip 2.5 MW capacity
346 m ² per turbine based on 21 m diameter
880 m² per turbine (22 m x 40 m)
None
None
5.31 km
None
5.5 m
One CC1: 10,125 m² (75 m x 135 m)
One 1,375 m² (25 m x 55 m)
Two BP1: 1,034 m² (47 m x 22 m) BP2: 19,950 m² (190 m x 105 m)
Seven
1 (60 m high)
lmxlm
4.04 ha
558.4 ha

Component Details

Turbines

Turbine foundation

Turbine hardstanding

Battery storage

Visible aviation lighting

Access tracks (new)

Access tracks (upgraded)

Access track width

Construction compounds

Substation

Borrow pits

Watercourse crossings

Met mast

Cable trenches

Land take (permanent)

Site area

Revised Larbrax Wind Farm

- Four of up to 149.9 m to blade tip 5 MW capacity
- 491 m² per turbine based on 25 m diameter
- $2819 \text{ m}^2 \text{ per turbine} (40 \text{ m x } 70 \text{ m})$
- 10 MW
- None
- 2km
- 1 km
- 6 m
- One
- CC1: 1,500 m² (30 m x 50 m)
- One 1,500 m² (30 m x 50 m)
- One BP1: 6,400 m² (80 m x 80 m)
- Eight
- None
- 1.5 m x 1.5 m
- 2.6 ha
- 345 ha



6. Access, Programme and Preservation and Enhancement of Nature

Access

The site will be accessed from a new junction with the B738, located on the eastern part of the site. Traffic will then drive west into the site. General construction vehicles will come from the north and east via the A77, A751, A75 and the B738. Vehicles transporting turbine components are expected to travel south from King George V Docks in Glasgow via the M8, M74, A74(M) and M6 (existing at Junction 42) then back north on M6 (existing at A74(M) junction 22 at Gretna Green). Vehicles will then travel west via the A75 to Stranraer (using Commerce Road to avoid going into the town), south and west along the A77 to Portpatrick then north on the B738 to the site entrance. Construction materials will be sourced from local quarries where this cannot be fully sourced from the borrow pit within the site.



A Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), Staff Travel Plan and Abnormal Loads Traffic Management Plan will be agreed and implemented in consultation with the local roads authority to manage traffic movements and minimise effects on local communities during construction.

It is estimated that it will take approximately 12 months to construct the revised Larbrax Wind Farm. Construction works will include the following main activities, most of which will be undertaken concurrently to reduce disruption to those living in the local area:

- Construction of onsite control building, substation and battery energy storage system;
- Excavation of trenches and cable laying adjacent to site tracks;
- Delivery and erection of wind turbines and energy storage batteries;
- Construction of a network of underground cables to connect turbines and battery energy storage system to the onsite substation;
- Commissioning of wind farm (assuming grid connection is in place);
- Restoration of temporary construction areas; and
- Implementation of habitat management and enhancement proposals.

Revised Larbrax Wind Farm **www.larbraxwindfarm.co.uk**.

Construction

• Enabling works such as forestry felling, working of borrow pit (small quarry) and establishing the site construction compound;

• Construction/upgrading of site access tracks, site access junction on B738, passing places and any watercourse crossings;

• Construction of culverts under tracks to facilitate drainage and maintain existing hydrology;

• Construction of turbine foundations;

Operation

Planning permission will be sought for an operational period of 35 years. During the operational phase it is expected that there will be very little traffic generated by the project, and this will be limited to general maintenance visits. Towards the end of the operational period, a decision will be made as to whether to refurbish, remove, or replace the turbines. If refurbished or replaced, this would be subject to a new planning application.

Nature Preservation and Enhancement

We are investigating opportunities for habitat restoration and enhancements to help compensate for habitat loss as a result of the revised Larbrax Wind Farm. These measures may use areas of the site which are not being developed. The aim will be to achieve a biodiversity net gain within the site (i.e. leave the current nature resource on the site in a better state than it was before the revised Larbrax Wind Farm). Working with our ecology and peatland specialists, we will prepare an Outline Biodiversity Enhancement and Management Plan (OBEMP) for the site and this will accompany the planning application. Measures proposed will be agreed with Dumfries and Galloway Council and NatureScot as statutory consultees before they are implemented should the application be approved.





7. Community Benefits

Ørsted is dedicated to being an active partner in the communities where we develop, build, operate and own green energy assets such as onshore wind farms. In Scotland, we offer a community benefit programme committed to supporting communities close to our wind farm sites. We're keen to support local community projects wherever we can.

Throughout the operational lifetime of Larbrax Wind Farm, Ørsted will pay £5,000 per installed MW into a community development fund - equating to approximately £100,000 per year or £3.5 million over the anticipated 35-year lifetime of the project.

The final value of the payments will be subject to the chosen turbine capacity rating. Based on four turbines and a candidate turbine with a capacity of 5 MW, this gives an output capacity of 20 MW. Should the chosen turbine have a larger output capacity (within the permitted tip heights allowed), then community benefit payments will be greater.

We are committed to consulting and engaging with the people who live and work near our projects to ensure that community benefit funds support the projects and initiatives that are of Skills and training are a vital part of Scotland's transition to a most value to local people, such as:

• Local energy bill discount schemes;

Accessibility improvements, recreational routes and ignposting.

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Community Benefit

- Skills development and training;
- Digital connectivity improvements;
 - Linkages with local schools and colleges on STEM subjects;
 - grades to local amenities such as community halls and uildings;
 - Local facilities such as football pitches and sport centres;
 - Support and sponsorship of local groups and projects; and

Community Ownership

Ørsted also offers local communities surrounding our onshore wind projects the opportunity to own part of the project.

By owning a part of Scotland's green energy supply, local communities have the chance to benefit directly from the longterm economic benefits onshore wind energy brings.

If the community were eager to explore community ownership options, Ørsted would offer the opportunity to purchase a stake in the revised Larbrax Wind Farm.

Education and Skills

green economy that is powered by renewable energy, and we are determined to support skills development and local job opportunities as we develop the revised Larbrax Wind Farm.

In 2014, the Larbrax Wind Farm Skills Fund was announced as part of the original Larbrax Wind Farm, which we wish to continue. Ørsted will be working with Dumfries and Galloway College to explore additional educational opportunities in the energy sector – helping to reinforce the College's existing offering in Stranraer and bridging local skills gaps.

We are continuing to discuss and work with the college to ensure that our funding commitment is spent in the best possible way to fit the needs of the local area.

8. Climate and Nature Emergency

The impacts of climate change are widely recognised as being one of the greatest global economic, environmental and social challenges facing the world today. A major cause of climate change is a rise in the concentration and volume of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, a significant contributor to which, is the use of fossil fuels to generate electricity, provide heat and to fuel transport.



The Scottish Government has declared a climate emergency and a range of stretching targets, including:

• To achieve net zero emissions by 2045¹, five years ahead of the UK Government;

• To produce 50% of 'all energy' from renewables by 2030 - in 2021 only 24% of total energy needs were supplied by renewables²;

• An ambition for a minimum of 20 Gigawatts (GW) of onshore wind capacity to be installed by 2030 - Scotland currently has an installed onshore capacity of 9.6 GW^3 so meeting the minimum target will require a doubling of Scotland's current installed capacity in under six years.

protect the biodiversity in the region⁴.

Onshore wind is now one of the cheapest forms of electricity and will therefore continue to play an important role in realising the Scottish Government's climate change targets. The revised Larbrax Wind Farm will generate electricity from a renewable source of energy, offsetting the need for electricity generation from fossil fuels and helping Scotland move towards a decarbonised energy system. The electricity that will be produced will result in a saving in emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2) with associated environmental benefit (see Board 4).

Onshore wind also has an important role to play in tackling the biodiversity crisis. The Scottish Government's Onshore Wind Policy Statement and recently-adopted National Planning Framework (NPF4) require developers of onshore wind to further contribute to biodiversity restoration and enhancement ambitions, including the target of halting biodiversity loss by 2030 and substantially restoring biodiversity by 2045⁵. Board 6 sets out our commitment to conserving and enhancing nature within the revised Larbrax Wind Farm site.

² Scottish Government, 2021, 'Scottish Energy Statistics Hub – Share of Renewable Energy in Gross Final Consumption. Available [online] at: https://scotland.shinyapps.io/ Energy/?Section=WholeSystem&Chart=RenEnTgt

^D Scottish Renewables (2023), 'Statistics – Energy Consumption by Sector (Chart 3)', Available [online] at: https://www.scottishrenewables.com/our-industry/statistics

uk/article/21773/Climate-Emergency

⁵ Scottish Government (September 2023) 'Tackling the Nature Emergency – Scottish Biodiversity Strategy to 2045'. Available [online] at: https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-biodiversity-strategy-2045-tackling-nature-emergency-scotland-2/documents/

Locally, in June 2019, Dumfries and Galloway Council declared the climate emergency to respond urgently to climate change and transition to a carbon neutral region . Dumfries and Galloway Council has published a 12-point plan outlining actions to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emission by 2045 and

Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019

⁴ Dumfries and Galloway Council (2019), 'Climate Emergency'. Available [online] at: https://www.dumgal.gov.



Landscape Viewpoints

Experienced landscape consultants have been tasked with helping us create a carefully designed wind farm to be compatible with the surrounding landscape. An objective approach, which follows recognised guidance methods, has been used to minimise any potential effects on the surrounding landscape and visual resource, and on the people who experience these views.

From the feedback we received during the first round of exhibitions, we have given further consideration to the landscape and visual issues associated with the consented Larbrax Wind Farm and, where possible, sought to minimise any material changes to these impacts through the revised design. A key objective was to ensure that the layout minimised land take and impacts on ecology and current farming practices. This has resulted in the removal of one turbine from the previous consultation layout.

A comprehensive landscape and visual assessment is being prepared, which will include visualisations from selected viewpoints around the project. These visualisations have been key to checking and optimising the turbine layout. A selection of visualisations from representative viewpoints are on display as part of this exhibition. We have prepared visualisations from the viewpoints shown on **Figure 5**.

Figure 5 also shows a comparative Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) map which illustrates the maximum extent to the difference in visibility between the consented Larbrax Wind Farm and the final revised Larbrax Wind Farm layout (assuming no screening from trees, buildings etc).



9. What the Project Could Look Like



FIGURE 5: CONSULTATION VIEWPOINTS AND COMPARATIVE ZTV

- Turbine (revised Larbrax Wind Farm)
- Turbine (consented Larbrax Wind Farm)
- Site boundary (revised Larbrax Wind Farm)
- 10km intervals from outermost turbines (revised Larbrax Wind Farm)

Comparative Tip Height Zone of Theoretical Visibility (tip heights 149.9m/100m

> Only revised Larbrax Wind Farm layout visible

Only consented layout visible

Both revised Larbrax Wind Farm and consented layouts visible

- Viewpoint
 - 1: B738, near Lochlaw Cottage
 - 2: Agnew Monument

3: Parking Area, near Killantringan Lighthouse

4: South Cairn

Notes

Tip Height Details: Revised Larbrax Wind Farm (tip 149.9m) Consented Larbrax Wind Farm (tip 100m)

ZTV:

The ZTV illustrates the comparative extent of visibility of the proposed revised Larbrax Wind Farm (tip 149.9m) and consented Larbrax Wind Farm (tip 100m).

Visibility is shown to a distance of 40km from the outermost turbines in all directions. The ZTV is calculated to turbine hub heights (149.9m and 100m) from a viewing height of 2m above ground level. The terrain model assumes bare ground and is derived from OSTerrain 50 height data (obtained from Ordnance Survey in 2023). Earth curvature and atmospheric refraction have been taken into account. The ZTV was calculated using ArcPro 3.2.0 software.



10. Viewpoint 1: B738, near Lochlaw Cottage







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Location (OS Grid reference): Direction of view: Horizontal field of view:





11. Viewpoint 2: Agnew Monument







Revised Larbrax Wind Farm **www.larbraxwindfarm.co.uk.** Revised Larbrax Wind Farm

Location (OS Grid reference): Direction of view: Horizontal field of view:





12. Viewpoint 3: Parking Area, near Killantringan Lighthouse







Revised Larbrax Wind Farm **www.larbraxwindfarm.co.uk.** Revised Larbrax Wind Farm

Location (OS Grid reference): Direction of view: Horizontal field of view:



198245 E 556742 N 345° 90° (cylindrical projection)



13. Viewpoint 4: South Cairn







Revised Larbrax Wind Farm www.larbraxwindfarm.co.uk. Revised Larbrax Wind Farm

Location (OS Grid reference): Direction of view: Horizontal field of view:





14a. Environmental Impact Assessment

Environmental Impact Assessment

As was done for the consented Larbrax Wind Farm in 2015, an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) is being prepared and will be submitted with the planning application to Dumfries and Galloway Council. We have already prepared an EIA Scoping Report which sets out which effects will be assessed in the EIAR and our proposed approach to doing so for each environmental topic. The EIA Scoping Report can be viewed on the Dumfries and Galloway Council planning portal (reference 23/2032/SCO). The EIA Scoping Report was submitted to Dumfries and Galloway Council in September 2023 with a request for an EIA Scoping Opinion as to which effects should be assessed and how in the EIA. Details are provided below of the environmental topics which are proposed to be assessed in the EIAR.





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Landscape and Visual Amenity

Geology, Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Peat

Ecology

The landscape and visual amenity assessment (LVIA) will assess effects on local landscape and visual amenity (views), including from selected viewpoints, settlements and routes, including cumulatively with other existing or proposed wind farms. The LVIA will also include a Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) which will assess effects on views from nearby properties.

The EIA will assess effects on geology, hydrology, hydrogeology (groundwater) peat, private water supplies (PWS) and groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems (GWDTEs). A peat management plan (PMP) will be prepared to identify the quantity to be excavated during construction and how this will be responsibly managed. An ecological impact assessment (EcIA) will consider the potential impacts of the revised Larbrax Wind Farm on important ecological features (such as important habitats of conservation value, protected species including bats and designated nature sites) during construction and operation. The Outline Biodiversity Enhancement and Management Plan (OBEMP) will be prepared to support the EcIA, and will identify proposals for conserving, restoring and enhancement biodiversity as part of the wind farm.





Ornithology

The EIA will include an assessment of effects of the revised Larbrax Wind Farm on bird populations during construction and operation, particularly legally protected species and other notable birds of high nature conservation value which may be breeding nearby. The assessment will also consider collision risk effects on species of high nature conservation value which are known to fly over the Site.



14b. Environmental Impact Assessment

Noise

Cultural Heritage

The effects of noise associated with construction vehicles, plant and machinery and aerodynamic noise produced by the blades whilst they operate at the nearest residential receptors will be assessed. A cumulative assessment will consider the impact of operational noise from other nearby wind farms in addition to the revised Larbrax Wind Farm. The noise assessment will establish the limits against which the operational turbines will need to comply.

The potential effects on known heritage assets within the site (including unknown buried archaeology), setting effects on assets within the wider area and cumulative effects on designated and non-designated historic assets of local, regional, national and international importance will be assessed. The assessment will be accompanied by visualisations.

Potential traffic related environmental effects, such as delays, impacts on pedestrian journeys and accidents and safety during the construction period will be assessed. Cumulative effects on transport and traffic will be included in this assessment where the revised Larbrax Wind Farm could overlap with other known projects using the same road network. Measures to minimise disturbance from increased HGV traffic, staff traffic and the movement of abnormal loads on local communities and the local road network during construction will be proposed.



The EIAR will be available for viewing electronically on the Ørsted website as well as the Dumfries and Galloway Council online planning portal. It will also be made available at Dumfries and Galloway Council offices for viewing in person. Once the planning application is submitted, Dumfries and Galloway Council will invite comments on the content of the EIAR from statutory and non-statutory consultees, including

internal council departments, SEPA, NatureScot, Historic Environment Scotland and local community councils before making a decision on the application. Members of the public will be able to make representations to Dumfries and Galloway Council on the proposals. Information on how to make representations will be advertised by Dumfries and Galloway Council in the local press.

Access, Traffic and Transport

Shadow Flicker

Shadow flicker occurs when turbines cause a flickering effect inside a building where sunlight passes through a window or door. Even though shadow flicker should not be an issue due to the distance of the turbines from properties, if any properties were to be located within a 130-degree segment to the turbines then they will require to be assessed for shadow flicker. The assessment will quantify the worst-case level of exposure (if any) which the nearest residential receptors could experience once the revised Larbrax Wind Farm is operational and how this will be effectively managed.





Climate Change

A carbon balance assessment will measure the sources of carbon emissions associated with the project during construction as well as carbon savings generated by operating the project. The assessment will also consider resilience of the project to projected climate change effects and how it may affect the ability of receptors to adapt to climate change.





Our Work to Date

We are currently undertaking extensive environmental surveys to optimise the turbine layout and to minimise impacts on the environment and people. We have completed the following surveys to date which will inform the assessments within the EIAR:

Peat

Phase 1 and 2 peat probing was undertaken in July 2023 and May 2024 respectively with results from these peat surveys supplemented by peat depth data from 2013, to provide a comprehensive overview of peat present within the site. Findings include:

- 86.1% of peat probes with peat depths of less than 50cm (meaning no peat);
- 8.5% of peat probes recorded peat depths between 50cm and 100cm; and
- 5.4% of the probed locations showed peat depths greater than 100cm with a maximum depth of 540cm.

The peat data will inform the preparation of a Peat Management Plan (PMP) and Peat Landslide Hazard Risk Assessment (PLHRA) (if required). A Peatland Condition Assessment will also be undertaken, to inform discussions on potential peatland enhancement or restoration opportunities which could be proposed within the OBEMP.

A key design objective has been to avoid peatland habitats as far as possible through the careful placement of turbines and infrastructure. Peat excavation and re-use will be fully detailed in the PMP.

Private Water Supply Questionnaires

Traffic and Transport

Avoiding impacts to local residents' private water supplies is of utmost importance to Ørsted. As such, our hydrology consultants issued questionnaires to 10 nearby properties in order to determine whether these properties have their own supply in the vicinity of the site so that we can avoid impacts through design as far as possible. None of the private water supply sources are located close to infrastructure and are therefore of no concern.

We have been undertaking traffic surveys and doing research to obtain information on existing traffic flows for roads which are likely to be used by construction traffic. This data will be used to assess the traffic and transport effects in the EIAR. We have also been investigating the offsite works which may be required to facilitate the safe transportation of turbine components to the site and will present this in a Route Survey Report (RSR) within the EIAR.

Noise

We undertook noise monitoring at four residential properties surrounding the site between November 2021 and January 2022 using the most robust survey method available. The noise survey measured background noise in a wide range of wind conditions, and are considered to be representative of the baseline noise conditions of the local area. The baseline noise levels will be used to determine operational noise limits for each property included in the operational noise assessment. It is against these limits which the revised Larbrax Wind Farm will be assessed, and it is likely that these will be used to inform a planning noise condition which limits the levels of exposure for local residents. A key design objective has been to ensure that the operational noise limits for each property are not exceeded, including when Larbrax Wind Farm is operating alongside the existing single turbines nearby.

15b. Our Work to Date

Ecology and Ornithology

Updated habitat and protected species surveys were completed in summer 2023 to provide validation and updates to surveys undertaken in 2013, 2017 and 2021. The latest surveys recorded the presence of badger and some habitats of high conservation value such as blanket bog, wet modified bog and wet dwarf shrub heath, which is consistent with the results of the previous surveys. Avoiding blanket bog habitat and other priority habitats where possible, was a key design objective for the access track. Bat roost potential surveys have also been undertaken to understand potential bat constraints associated with the loss of woodland for the new access junction. No trees or structures were noted as being suitable for roosting bats.

Additional bird surveys were completed for one breeding season between March and August 2021. Flight activity surveys recorded 12 species of high conversation value such as barn owl, peregrine falcon, hen harrier, greylag goose and merlin). No breeding raptors were found within the site, however barn owl and peregrine falcon were known to be breeding outside the site. Breeding wader surveys found species such as curlew, lapwing, oystercatcher and snipe. No evidence of black grouse was found. Breeding locations and key foraging locations of target species have been taken into consideration in the design process to minimise the risk of disturbance, displacement and collision effects.





16. Next Steps and Feedback

Next Steps and Feedback

We place great importance on the impact the project may have on the environment and local community, and are therefore keen to have your feedback before we submit the planning application.

We would be grateful if you could spare five minutes to complete our questionnaire. You can also send your comments or feedback to us as follows:

- E: larbrax@orsted.com
- Ørsted, 2nd Floor, 2 Lochrin Square, 96 Fountainbridge, P: Edinburgh EH3 9QA

You will still be able to view the information presented in this exhibition on our website (www.larbraxwindfarm.co.uk) after this date.

The timeline adjacent set out the next steps proposed for the revised Larbrax Wind Farm project and indicative timescales.

Thank you for taking the time to visit this public exhibition. Please leave any comments you may have in the questionnaire provided

Revised Larbrax Wind Farm www.larbraxwindfarm.co.uk.



