

# MORAY WEST OFFSHORE WINDFARM

## Please give us your views

We welcome your feedback so please give us your views by:

- Completing a feedback form at a public exhibition or taking one away and returning to us by FREEPOST
- E-mailing [info@moraywest.co.uk](mailto:info@moraywest.co.uk) with your comments
- Calling freephone 0800 088 4322 during working hours where someone will be available to record your views

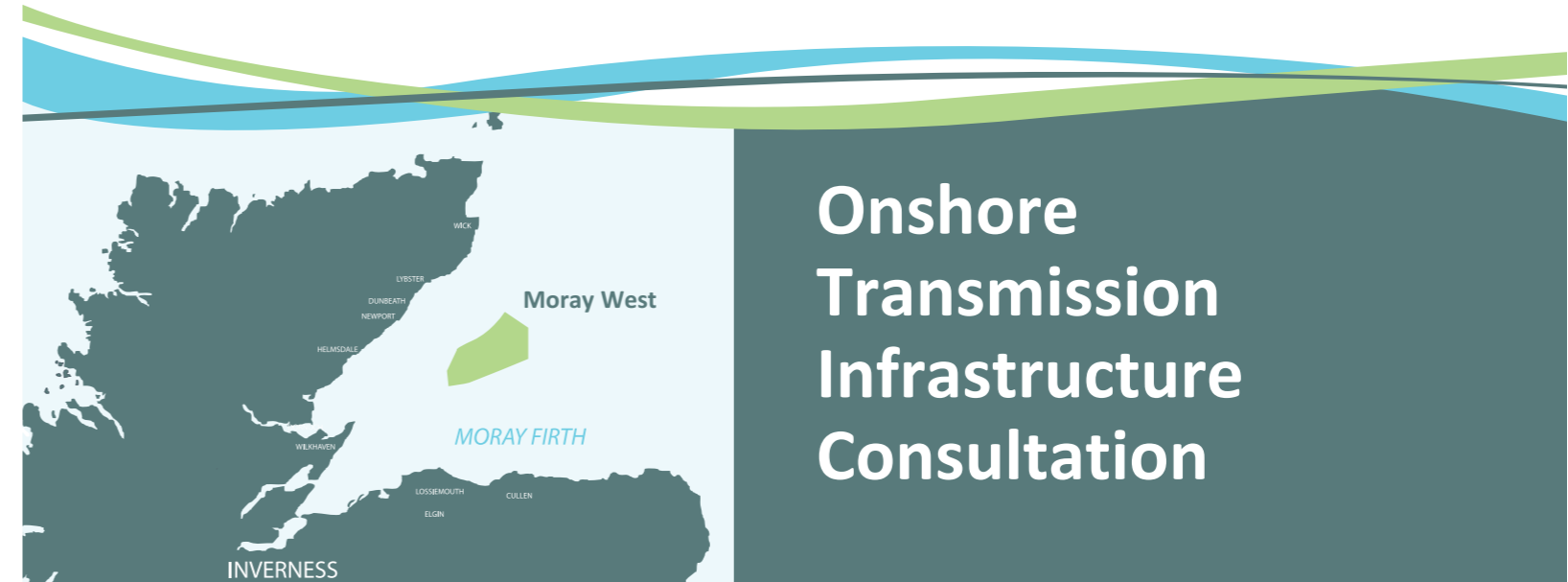
You should submit your views by 4 May 2018.

We will be using your feedback to prepare a pre-application consultation report which will be submitted along with our outline planning application.

Comments and responses to this consultation are not formal representations on the planning application. These can be made to Moray and Aberdeenshire councils after the planning application is submitted.

If you have any questions please contact [info@moraywest.co.uk](mailto:info@moraywest.co.uk)

EDPR (UK) is part of EDP Renewables, a leading global renewable energy company headquartered in Madrid. It operates around the globe with its global offshore wind headquarters in Edinburgh.



In 2010, the Crown Estate awarded the rights to develop offshore wind in an area of the Moray Firth.

We initially developed the east part of this area, where construction is due to start this year.

We are now planning to develop an 85 turbine windfarm in the western sector, 31.5 kilometres off the Moray coast, which will generate enough electricity to supply the average electricity needs of 850,000 homes.

The windfarm will contribute to achieving Scottish Government targets for reducing carbon emissions and generating the equivalent of 100% of Scotland's gross annual electricity consumption from renewable sources by 2020.

This leaflet provides information about our plans for the onshore transmission infrastructure that will take the power from landfall to the National Grid. We will submit an outline planning application for these assets in Spring this year.

As part of our consultation with the local community we are keen to hear your views on these plans and would encourage you to visit one of our planned exhibitions below:

**Tuesday 27 February 2018, 12 noon to 8pm**  
Old Coach House Hotel,  
High Street, Buckie, AB56 1AR

**Thursday 1 March 2018, 12 noon to 8pm**  
Station Hotel, 22 Seafield Street,  
Portsoy, Banff, AB45 2QT

**Wednesday 28 February 2018, 12 noon to 8pm**  
Royal Hotel, Church Street, Keith, AB55 5BR

**Wednesday 7 March 2018, 12 noon to 8pm**  
Sandend Village Hall, The Bents,  
Sandend, Banff AB45 2UF

[www.moraywest.com](http://www.moraywest.com)





### Onshore Transmission Infrastructure

In order to convey the electricity generated by the proposed windfarm to the National Grid, new onshore infrastructure is required including:

- An underground cable landfall at the coast
- 2 Onshore underground circuits to transmit power to the National Grid
- A new electricity substation in the vicinity of Blackhillock

The study area shown on the opposite page is very much larger than required. Your views are sought on the landfall, the cable route and the location of the substation.

### Cable landfall

Two offshore cables buried below the seabed will bring the power generated ashore. Given the location of the windfarm and the proposed point of connection with the existing electricity network, the proposed landfall will need to be on the coast between Findlater Castle and Redhythe Point.

At the landfall, 'horizontal directional drilling' can be used to allow the installation of two ducts several hundred metres long, using a drilling rig located onshore. In some locations, trenches offer an alternative. In the case of trenching, once the cable is installed it is covered so that the shore returns to its previous state and the cables will be invisible to shoreline users and submerged to a depth that there will be no impact on the marine environment and its users.

Once installed, you will not be able to see cabling. The offshore cables are joined to the onshore cables using two underground 'transition jointing bays'. Other than the surface access covers, these will also not be visible.

### Onshore cable corridor

The onshore cable circuits will be routed inland terminating at a substation in the vicinity of the current National Grid assets at Blackhillock, about 1.5 kilometres south of Keith.

The final route of the cable will depend on environmental surveys, technical considerations and feedback from consultation. The detailed location shall be subject to a full planning consent in due course. Our current understanding is that the development will occur within the study area shown on the map opposite.

The cable will be in sections of 750m to 1000m, connected by underground jointing bays, where only the surface access covers will be visible. Whilst the current application boundary is in the order of 500m, in reality the general working corridor will be in the order of 30m once design is finalised. Details of what will be included in this working corridor will be set out in the documents supporting our forthcoming planning application.

### Onshore substation

A new substation is needed to transform the electricity before it enters the National Grid.

The location of the new substation is yet to be decided. However, it will be within the study area marked on the map to the south of Keith and is likely to extend to up to 6 hectares. If air insulated switchgear is used, the equipment will be larger and usually outside. If gas insulated switchgear is used, it will be smaller and contained within a building.

Further underground cable circuits will connect the new substation the short distance to Blackhillock where the electricity will be fed into the grid.



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