Scheme of Community Liaison

Fred. Olsen Renewables

Crystal Rig IV

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1. Introduction

Crystal Rig Wind Farm is located approximately 11km south of Dunbar and 16.5km north-west of Duns, within the Scottish Borders. The project sits within a large landscape and benefits from well- contained views.

The original 25-turbine Crystal Rig Wind Farm first commenced operation in 2003, at the time it was the largest onshore wind farm in Scotland. A further 60 turbines were added in 2010 and a further six in 2015.

Crystal Rig IV is an 11-turbine extension. This will form a natural expansion of the existing site. Combined, the wind farm will generate 262.5MW of electricity – equivalent to powering more than 200,000 homes annually.

To date, Crystal Rig Wind Farm has delivered more than £2.6m in community benefit funds to groups in East Lothian and the Scottish Borders. Crystal Rig IV will see over £8million distributed locally throughout the lifetime of the project.

A condition has been applied to the consent for Crystal Rig IV. This states:

> *No Development shall commence until the Company submit a scheme of liaison for the exchange of information with relevant community councils in writing and for the approval of the Planning Authorities. The scheme shall also define the composition of the liaison group, the management arrangements and frequency of meetings. The Company shall thereafter carry out its obligations under the approved scheme.*

Therefore, this document sets out how Fred. Olsen Renewables along side its contractors will maintain close liaison with community representatives, landowners and statutory consultees throughout the construction and duration of the project.

It will detail the community liaison that will be undertaken by the team, the proactive approach that underpins all of the Fred. Olsen Renewables activity and the nature by which information shall be shared with the aspiration of establishing and maintaining strong relationships with the public, local communities, community groups, elected representatives and the media.

This approach will be underpinned by a commitment to:

- Seeking to ensure that everyone affected by the project is aware of what is happening in advance of works being carried out
- Providing community members with a consistent point of contact throughout construction and operations
- Being a responsive, responsible and accessible developer

It is acknowledged that community engagement is vital to ensuring that the project runs smoothly and to the timescales proposed.

2. Overview

Fred. Olsen Renewables has been developing and operating wind farms in the UK since the mid-1990s. With over twenty-five years experience in consenting, developing and operating wind farms we are one of the very few developers that take a project all the way from site identification and development, through to operation.

We are currently one of the leading independent power producers in the UK and engagement with key stakeholders and the local communities surrounding our sites is at the heart of all we do. By being involved in every aspect of a wind farm's lifecycle, from site selection to planning, construction and operation, we are not only experts in developing successful projects, we are good neighbours.

The construction of Crystal Rig Wind Farm IV will be supported by a dedicated full time resource. This resource will manage and co-ordinate communications and engagement with the public, community bodies, elected representatives, statutory consultees and other groups affected by the project.

This team will take a proactive approach to providing information, undertaking two-way communication and building relationships with the public, local community groups, elected representatives and the media – working to ensure that everyone affected by the project is aware of what is happening in their area in advance of any works being undertaken.

It is appreciated that by building community understanding throughout the construction process is vital in ensuring that the project runs smoothly and to the timescales proposed.

3. Aim of the Scheme of Liaison

It is intended that this document will support the work of the project team throughout the construction phase of the project.

This plan will be updated should project timescales change significantly and it will seek to build upon the existing relationships that Fred. Olsen Renewables has in place locally through the operation of the existing Crystal Rig Wind Farm.

This Scheme of Liaison will detail the community liaison that the dedicated team within Fred. Olsen Renewables will undertake by establishing and maintaining strong relationships with the public, local communities, community groups, elected representatives and the media – ensuring that everyone is aware of what is happening in their area in advance of any works being carried out.

Establishing a Community Liaison Group

Many communication methods will be used throughout the construction process. However, it is also intended that a Community Liaison Group (CLG) will be established to complement the wider activities.

The CLG will provide a forum for those who know the area best to feed their local knowledge into the construction process and share construction updates and planned activity – helping to shape engagement and communication activity.

In the first instance it is anticipated that the following community councils will be invited to participate in the CLG. The composition of the CLG can be shaped as construction progresses – helping to ensure that all relevant communities have a voice at the table.

****UPDATE****

A CLG has been formed. The groups that currently comprise the community liaison group include:

- Lammermuir CC
- Abbey St. Bathans, Bonkyl and Preston
- Garvald and Morham
- Cocksburnpath and Cove
- East Lammermuir Community Council
- The Innerwick Forum

The following meetings have been undertaken to date.

- November 2022
- January 2023
- March 2023
- June 2023
- April 2024
- August 2024

It is anticipated that the CLG will meet every 3-4 months and that meetings may be held more regularly during period of prolonged construction and anticipated disruption.

Participation in Local Groups and Forums

In addition to holding our own meetings, the Fred. Olsen Renewables team actively participates in local groups and forums pertaining to the construction and ongoing operations at Crystal Rig. This includes:

- Lorries in our Lanes
- Biodiversity Group
- Traffic Group
- Attendance at community council meetings
- Attending one-to-one meetings with local residents and intersted parties

4. Anticipated priority community issues

Given the nature of the project, the anticipated issues that are most likely to be raised during the construction of this project are:

- Construction Traffic (noise, volume, speed, type, dust, experience with other developers)
- Construction programme (duration of works)
- Environmental (disturbance or damage to flora and fauna)
- Contamination (from construction activities into local water courses)
- Cumulative impact (other developments in area)
- Tourism/recreation (effect on visitors to the area)
- Employment and materials are sourced locally or imported into the area
- Energy supply (cost of electricity to the customer, security of supply)
- Health and Safety (members of the public and the workforce)

The construction of this project will be undertaken in line with the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment reported through the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). The EIAR assessed the potential for impacts on the natural and built environment from the proposed development and detailed specific mitigation to be implemented in order to limit or remove these identified potential impacts.

We plan to operate, construct and complete the project in line with EIAR recommendations. The following documentation and information will also be used during the construction design process.

A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be developed to inform the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), East Lothian Council and Scottish Borders Council of the proposed environmental management and construction methodologies to be employed during the construction of the consented wind farm and to allow discharge of pre-commencement planning conditions where applicable.

The Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will include the following sections:

- Traffic Management Plan – The plan will be agreed upon with the relevant authorities and bodies to minimise any disruption to local networks, while protecting the safety of the public and construction teams.

- Environmental Management Plan – A full suite of environmental surveys will be undertaken throughout the construction phase to inform the contractor and to continually update the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)

All appropriate documentation will be available for review / download at www.crystalrigwindfarm.co.uk.

Developments affecting construction

Due diligence will need to be undertaken to ensure a rounded understanding of other activities that are happening locally, to ensure minimal disruption to local residents. The full extent of activities will be made available locally with updates communicated as they arise. The communication methods will be agreed with the Community Councils and other local groups.

5. Channels of communication

Fred. Olsen Renewables wants to build and maintain relationships with the communities neighbouring the Crystal Rig IV Wind Farm. We are committed to utilising many different channels of communication to ensure that all audiences can be reached during the construction process.

This includes:

Tool	Description	Contact Details
General contact	The project team will be available at a dedicated email address and telephone number. These communication channels will be promoted on all materials to provide the community with a readily available means of communicating with the project team.	General email address: communities@fredolsen.co.uk General telephone number: 07435 763 900 Traffic telephone number: 07435 284124
Project website	The project website will be updated regularly.	www.crystalrigwindfarm.co.uk
Project manager	The project manager, Kevin Burns, is based at the Fred. Olsen Renewables office in Stirling and can be reached by email.	kevin.burns@fredolsen.com
Community Liaison Group	A forum, in the first instance that will largely comprise community councils. Allowing local knowledge to be fed into the construction process and share construction updates and planned activity – helping to shape engagement and communication activity.	
Community Information Sessions	The project team will build on the community information that has been shared to-date. These sessions will be open to all stakeholders and interested parties. These sessions will be held in various locations, in agreement with key community groups. These	Information will be available at www.crystalrigwindfarm.co.uk

	sessions will be timed around key project milestones.	
Project newsletters	Targetting a wider area – focussing on residential homes and local businesses – providing regular updates on project milestones and advising of key future activity.	Available to download at www.crystalrigwindfarm.co.uk Will be distributed by post. The first newsletter was issued in August 2024.
Community meetings	Actively seeking meetings with the community. Holding events to communicate key construction milestones and forthcoming activity. Attending community meetings as requested.	
One-to-one meetings	Actively seeking meetings with key individual stakeholders. Attending meetings as requested with individual interested parties.	
Traffic management notification	Detailed Maps, timetables and schedules related to traffic management will be made available to the community for review and feedback before contruction work commences.	The site civil contractor will be contactable to discuss these matters once they are hired. FOR contact; kevin.burns@fredolsen.com
Text alert service	Establishing a text alert subscription service for local residents in order to provide 'as it happens' updates/ critical alerts / advance warning of potential roads disruption.	The facility to sign up will be provided on the website www.crytalrigwindfarm.co.uk The text alert service was launched in July/August 2024.
Email alert service	Establishing an email alert susbcription service for local residents in order to provide 'as it happens' updates/ critical alerts / advance warning of potential roads disruption.	The email alert service was launched in July/August 2024.

Newspaper advertising	Advertising will be used to communicate key project milestones and anticipated disruption.	
Media contact	Fred. Olsen Renewables will seek to establish good relationships with the editorial departments at local newspapers – ensuring that the key project milestones are communicated, alongside any potential disruption.	

6. Communication & construction schedule

As the project progresses an updated timetable will be provided on a quarterly basis.

This will be the subject of discussion with key stakeholders, statutory consulees and the community. It will also be updated and available on the dedicated website - www.crystalrigwindfarm.co.uk.

At this stage it is anticiapted that the following timeline of activity will apply:

****UPDATED AUGUST 2024****

July 2024	Enter site and compound mobilisation. Preparatory works ahead of tree felling undertaken late July.
August 2024	Site preparation. Transportation of timber off site begins early August.
September 2024	Timber transportation off site. Site preparation.
October 2024	Timber transportation off site. Site preparation.
November 2024	Timber transportation off site. Site preparation.
December 2024	Timber transportation off site. Site preparation.
2025 KEY DATES	
June 2025	Turbine delivery
July – October 2025	Turbine installation
2026	Q1 – Operational

7. Conclusion

This document is intended to detail the Fred. Olsen Renewables commitment to working closely with the local communities surrounding Crystal Rig Wind Farm, clearly communicating with these communities throughout the construction of the project and ensuring that community members are in a position to easily access the Fred. Olsen Renewables team, should they wish, to receive further information, raise concerns or have their questions answered.