About the project

Welcome to the first edition of the Musdale Wind Farm Newsletter from Vattenfall.

Vattenfall is in the early stages of exploring the potential for a wind farm at Musdale, approximately 5.5km south east of the village of Kilmore and 9km south east of Oban.

Early stage of development

The site has long been identified for wind power generation, with areas of the site subject to a previous proposal by another developer. One of the key strengths of the Musdale site is the surrounding landform which helps contain the extent of visibility across the wider area.

Following some initial feasibility work we recently submitted a Scoping Report to Scottish Ministers and other key consultees, including local Community Councils, seeking feedback on the proposed environmental work for Musdale Wind Farm.

The Scoping Report presents an initial 26-turbine layout which utilises modern, efficient turbines with individual generating capacities of approximately 6MW and maximum blade tip heights of up to 200m to optimise the excellent wind resource available.

The site also has good access options, is positioned a good distance from residential properties, and lies outwith any national or international designations.

Over the next few months we will undertake further technical and environmental work to build our understanding of the site. The findings from this EIA work – together with feedback from key consultees, the local community and wider public – will help to shape and develop the design.

In light of the ongoing Covid 19 situation, we will be conducting some of the initial engagement and consultation around Musdale Wind Farm remotely, in line with the Scottish Government's Covid-19 guidance on pre-application consultation events. Face-to-face engagement will commence as soon as it is once again safe to do so.

Site location map

To view more detailed maps of the site, please visit the project website at: www.vattenfall.co.uk/musdale.
Early engagement

We are encouraging the local community (and wider public) to share their views with us on the proposal at this early stage.

Online exhibition

We will be launching an online exhibition and consultation on **Tuesday 8th December 2020** via the project website at [www.vattenfall.co.uk/musdale](http://www.vattenfall.co.uk/musdale) to engage with people on the proposal.

The exhibition will provide a variety of information for people to learn more about the project, as well as an opportunity to arrange one-to-one calls with the project team during the consultation period to discuss the project and ask questions. Hard copies of the online exhibition information will be available upon request, from the date of the event, by calling 01434 611300.

We want to hear from as many people as possible during our online exhibition and consultation. Your thoughts, views and ideas can help us understand what matters to you and your community, and how we can develop the best possible proposal.

Commenting on the proposal

Anyone wishing to provide feedback on the proposal should submit comments in writing to Vattenfall via the online exhibition survey, by email to musdale.windfarm@vattenfall.com or by post to the Musdale Project Team at:

Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd.
St Andrew's House
Haugh Lane
Hexham
Northumberland
NE46 3QQ

The consultation closing date for feedback to Vattenfall on the proposal is **Tuesday 2nd February 2021**. There will be a further opportunity to comment on the project later in the design development process.

Any comments submitted to Vattenfall on the proposal during the consultation are not representations to the determining authority (Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit). Should a formal Section 36 application for consent be submitted there will be an opportunity at that time for people to submit formal comments to the determining authority.

Keeping you informed

- For regular updates please visit the website at: [www.vattenfall.co.uk/musdale](http://www.vattenfall.co.uk/musdale) or get in touch using the contact details opposite if you would like to be added to our newsletter mailing list.

- Follow: 🌐 Vattenfall UK 🐦 @VattenfallUK
Delivering meaningful benefits

Musdale Wind Farm will help towards meeting the Scottish Government’s net zero 2045 target and could also deliver a range of more local benefits.

Climate change emergency

Climate change has passed a major tipping point in society and it is now, without any doubt, understood to be the biggest issue that mankind faces. Carbon dioxide levels in the air are at their highest in 650,000 years¹ and 18 of the 19 warmest years on record globally have occurred since 2001².

In May 2019, the Scottish Government declared a climate change emergency and made amendments to their Climate Change Bill to set a 2045 target for zero net emissions. To achieve this, transport, heating and industry will become increasingly electrified, meaning demand for electricity could double by 2050³.

Renewable energy is a vital part of our future energy mix to tackle climate change and reduce carbon emissions. Onshore wind has an important role to play in this as the cheapest way to generate electricity in the UK.

Musdale Wind Farm could be capable of generating enough to power the equivalent of 117,500 homes⁴, making an important contribution towards climate change targets whilst also generating affordable renewable energy for businesses and consumers.

Community investment and local supply chain

Vattenfall has clear values and an ethos that places emphasis on working closely with local communities to make sure that we are developing projects that can bring a lasting sustainable benefit.

We are committed to following the prevailing Scottish Government guidance on community benefit and exploring the possibility of offering a more flexible package of benefits for Musdale Wind Farm, tailored to the community, rather than simple annual monetary payments.

We want to ensure maximum impact of community benefit contributions and will be undertaking further consultation on this during 2021. Vattenfall is also considering offering the local community an option of Shared Ownership (investment) in the wind farm.

In addition, we’re committed to giving local businesses the opportunity to work with us and our contractors during the construction and operation of our wind farms.

¹ https://scrippsco2.ucsd.edu/faq.html
² https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/global-temperature/
³ Climate Change Act https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27
⁴ https://www.renewableuk.com/page/UKWEDEExplained
Introducing Vattenfall

We are one of Europe’s largest producers and retailers of electricity and heat.

For more than 100 years, we have powered industry and supplied electricity to peoples’ homes, and we now employ more than 20,000 people across Europe and the UK. Today, our goal is to make fossil free living possible within a generation, and so, from Sweden to Scotland, we are investing in renewable energy and innovation.

Vattenfall Group is a Swedish company and we’ve had an extensive presence in the UK for over a decade. We have grown our wind business from one project in 2008 to 11 today, investing more than £3.5 billion in enough wind to power 700,000 homes, and we continue to grow in district heating and power networks to make fossil free living possible within one generation.

We are proud to be developing Musdale Wind Farm, and in so doing make a significant contribution towards Scotland’s energy and carbon emissions targets.

Vattenfall’s wind farm expertise extends across Europe, with wind farms in Sweden, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands and the UK.

We also generate electricity from many other energy sources, including over 100 hydro plants. In fact, the name Vattenfall is the Swedish word for waterfall.

More than wind

Vattenfall’s activities extend beyond harnessing wind and water to generate electricity. For example, we’re working with partners to develop fossil free steel, and we’ve helped build one of Europe’s largest electric vehicle charging networks.

Here in the UK, we also design and build electric network infrastructure and are bringing low carbon heating solutions to developers and cities across the country.

Environment

The environment on and near our wind farm projects is important to us too. At Vattenfall, we have our own internal bioscience research and development team. Their work helps us improve how we protect the natural environment when we build and operate our developments.

For Musdale Wind Farm, we will be undertaking a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in order to identify, assess and propose mitigation for any potential impacts of the development on the physical, natural and cultural environment.