

Welcome

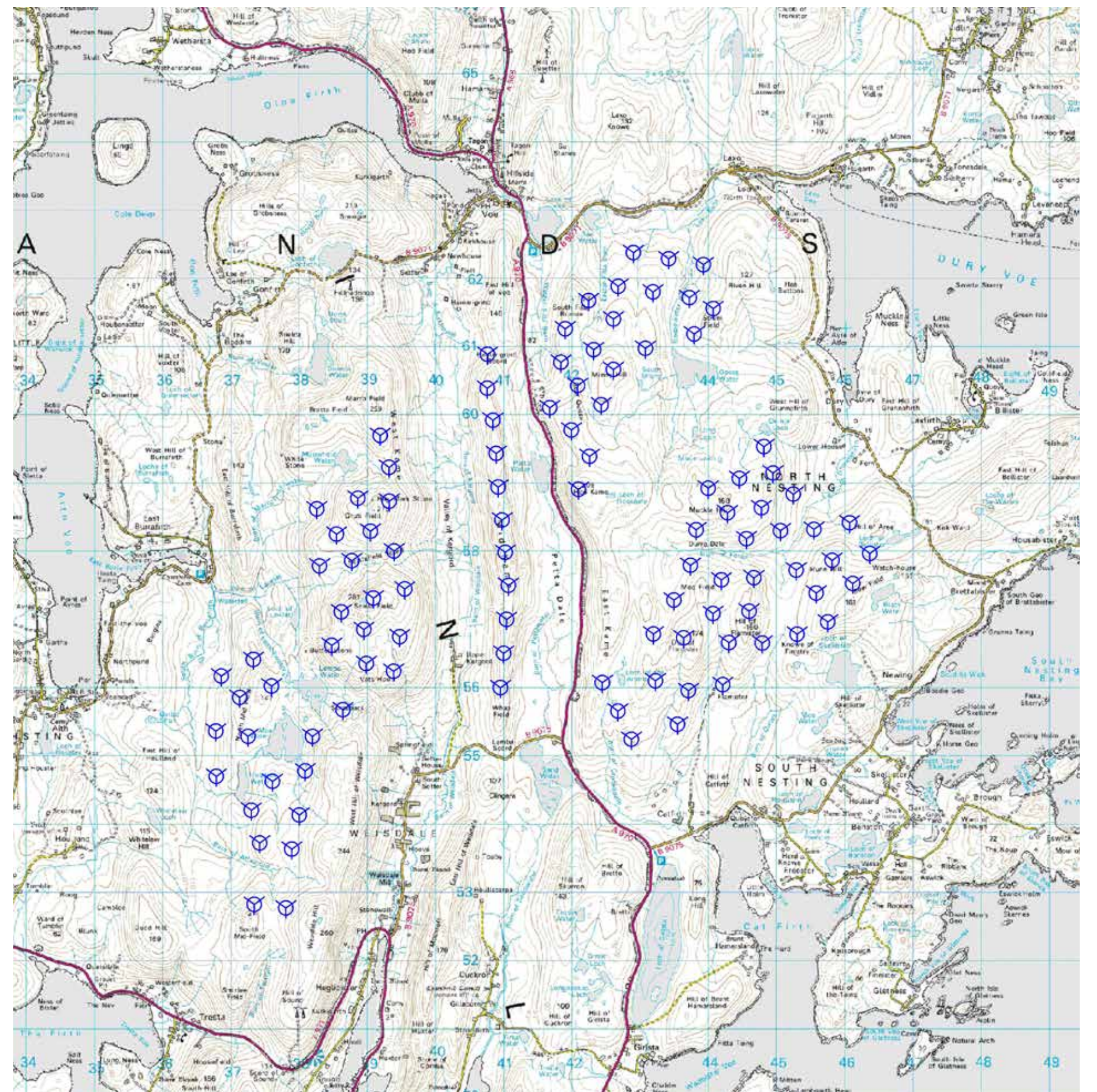
The purpose of today's event is to share with you detail of our variation application for a 10 metre turbine tip height increase and answer any questions you might have. We would also like to share with you an update on the activity on the project in the last 12 months and next steps.

The story so far

Viking Wind Farm is a joint venture between the Shetland community and SSE. In May 2009 a Section 36 planning application was submitted to the Scottish Government for the construction of 150 turbines. This was followed in September 2010 by a revised application, reducing the number of turbines to 127. Of these, permission was granted for 103. Since receiving planning permission the project team has been working to refine the project and deliver Shetland's first, large-scale, operational wind farm by 2024. Following a change in UK Government energy policy, remote UK island wind projects such as Viking Wind Farm can now compete for a contract in the Contract for Difference (CfD) auctions. The next auction is scheduled for spring 2019.

The wind farm site

The wind farm zone extends from Voe and Laxo in the north to Weisdale and Catfirth in the south; from Aith in the west to Brettaberister in the east. The central point lies west of the main road along the Lang Kames, to the south of the loch at Petta Water. The wind farm zone extends to about 10,424 hectares in total. In addition, there are seven areas of hill land scattered around the north, west and central Mainland which will host wildlife conservation measures under the Habitat Management Plan.



The project at a glance

- 103 turbines
- Maximum output of 457MW
- £5,000 per MW a year paid annually into a community benefit fund
- Carbon payback of less than one year
- Construction of Viking will create over 140 jobs
- Creation over 30 full time jobs in operation

What we are proposing

Viking Energy is submitting a variation application under Section 36 of the Electricity Act. The proposed varied development would increase the maximum tip height of the turbines, from 145m to 155m. It is proposed that the maximum rotor diameter would increase from 110m previously consented, to a maximum of 120m. It is important to note that no changes to the footprint of the development are proposed.

Why increase the tip height

- The aim of the proposed variation is to increase the energy generation potential and efficiency of the site.
- Turbine technology has moved on since Viking wind farm received consent in 2012. Increasing the tip height allows us to take advantage of the best turbines now available in the market.
- Larger blades capture more wind energy increasing the energy output of the wind turbines, which in turn makes the turbines more cost competitive.
- Market-leading turbines will help secure the future of the site which will bring a wealth of socio-economic benefits to the Shetland community, including the creation of jobs and opportunities for local businesses and suppliers during the construction phase and for the lifetime of the project.
- In addition to the revenue generated for Shetland Charitable Trust, Viking wind farm has made the commitment to deliver community benefit. This is a voluntary payment and will deliver a community benefit fund of £5,000 per MW annually over the life of the wind farm. This variation will help to maximise this.



Environmental Impact Assessment

Due to the small nature of the planning variation no EIA screening or scoping has been carried out prior to the planning application submission. The proposed variation has been discussed with the Energy Consents Unit (ECU), Scottish Government, Shetland Islands Council (SIC), Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). These conversations formed the framework for the EIA.

The Shetland community has been involved in every stage of the development of Viking wind farm and it is important to share our plans and receive your feedback.

Over the last 6 months a number of environmental surveys and impact assessments have been undertaken by professionally qualified specialists to assess the potential effects of the proposed tip height variation. The results of these assessments will be reported within an EIA Report. The key aspect of the assessment activities is to assess and present the 'worst case scenario' for consideration in determination of the application.

What has been assessed

- Landscape and Visual Assessment
- Noise
- Ornithology
- Cultural Heritage
- Archaeology

Consideration of technical feasibility and environmental constraints identified through rigorous and extensive survey effort, in combination with consultation with various statutory and non-statutory environmental agencies, has led to the current application. This will be presented in the Section 36c submission to be made to Scottish Ministers in October 2018. At that point the tip height variation being proposed will be open to public consultation and comment from a wide range of consultees with the final decision to be made by the Scottish Government.



The Viking Wind Farm Habitat Management Plan

The Viking Wind Farm Habitat Management Plan aims to deliver targeted conservation actions for certain important species of birds and to enhance peatland habitats (especially blanket bog) in Mainland Shetland. Key species include:

- Whimbrel.
- Merlin.
- Red-throated diver.
- Other peatland birds, including Arctic skua, golden plover and dunlin.
- These six species are considered to have greatest priority because studies have shown that they have specific conservation problems in Shetland.



Merlin, red-throated divers and whimbrel will be helped by habitat improvements



An example of a high-quality diver lochan surrounded by blanket bog with no erosion



Ollaberry crofter Peter Brown on the eroded hilltop at Mid Kame with Sue White, peat expert Dick Birnie and Graham Fraser from the Scottish Agricultural College

Which habitats have greatest importance for the Habitat Management Plan?

- Peatland habitats have a variety of native moorland-type vegetation and largely cover the extensive hinterland and hills.
- Blanket bog habitat is the priority habitat because extensive areas of it in Central Mainland suffer from serious peat erosion, particularly on the higher ground. This erosion threatens a habitat recognised as having international importance in its own right, and leads to significant loss of sequestered carbon locked up in the peat, contributing to carbon dioxide pollution and climate warming.

Shetland Windfarm Environmental Advisory Group

Once the Plan has been agreed a Group will be set up representing both land and environmental interests to oversee delivery of the HMP.



Severe peat erosion in the hills of North Nesting

This Exhibition

Exhibitions such as this are a very important part of the planning process. The purpose of this exhibition is to engage with the local community and interested parties about our proposals and the work we have undertaken so far. The exhibition is a chance for us to share our plans and is an opportunity for people to raise questions, concerns, ideas or comments.

Once submitted, the planning application will be available to view at:

- www.energyconsents.scot

In the meantime we will be sharing updated information on the project site at:

- www.vikingenergy.co.uk



Comparative photograph taken from the Kergord Valley, showing the proposed difference between the consented 145m tip height and the proposed 155m maximum tip height. More detailed comparative visualisations will be available in the application.

Keeping in touch

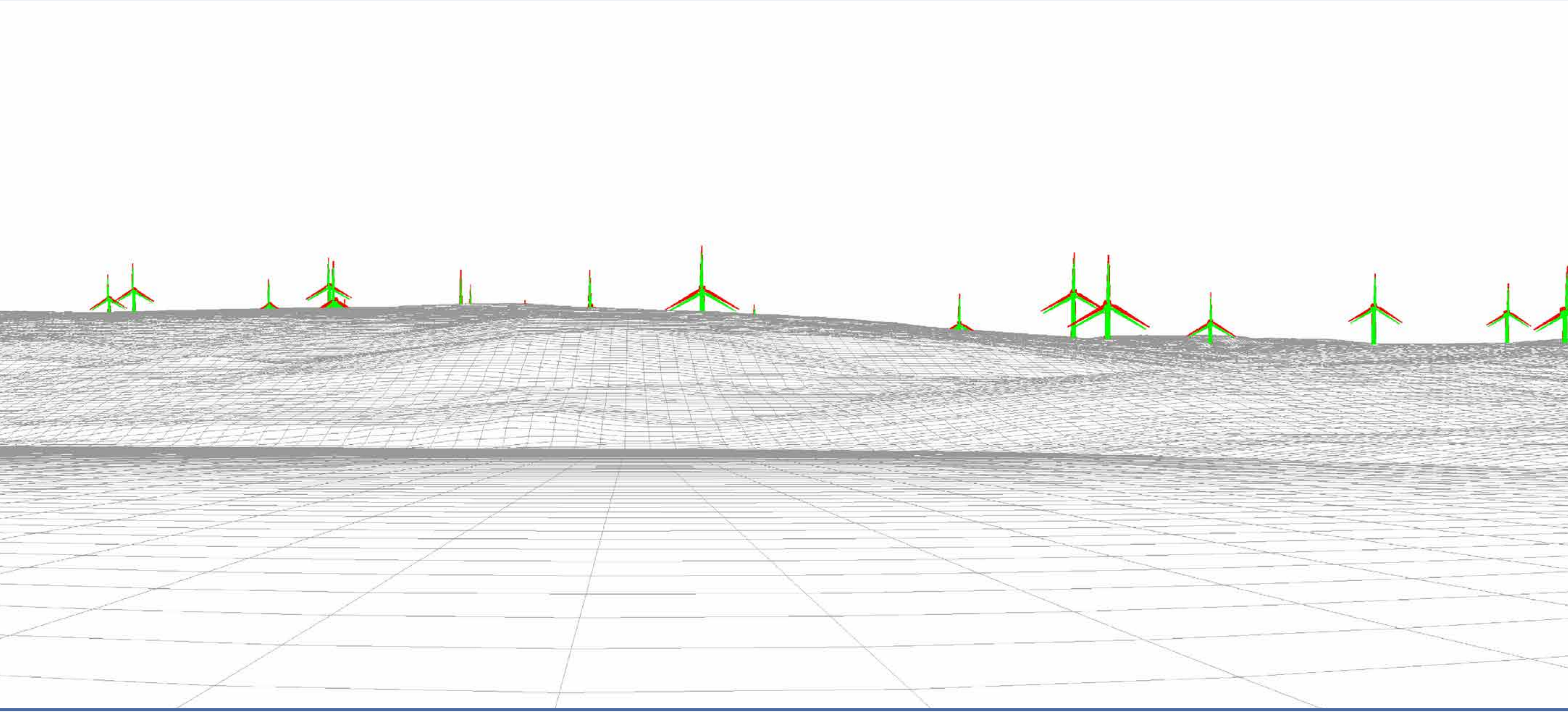
Please take the opportunity at this exhibition to speak to our project team today and ask questions about the proposal. Viking Energy would welcome the submission of comments in respect of the proposal, if you have a few minutes please complete the exhibition feedback form.

If you have any queries or require further information please do not hesitate to contact us:

- by email: info@vikingenergy.co.uk
- online: www.vikingenergy.co.uk



Viewpoint 2: Aith Pier, Photomontage



Viewpoint 2: Aith Pier, Wireline View



Section 36C Variation Viking Wind Turbines (155m Tip)

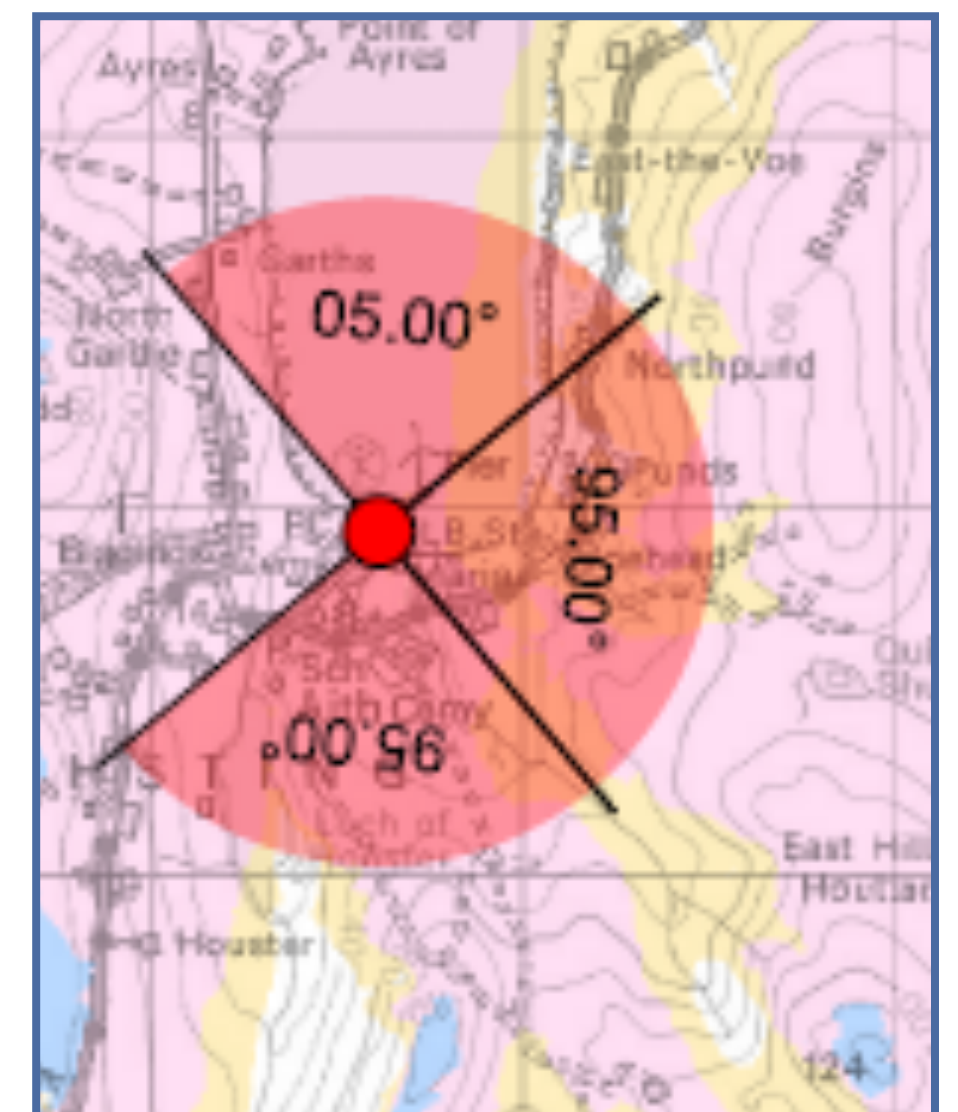


Consented Viking Wind Turbines (145m Tip)

Drawing No. - 117045-D-LV4.7.2.3b
Revision - 0,0,1
Date - 31.08.2018

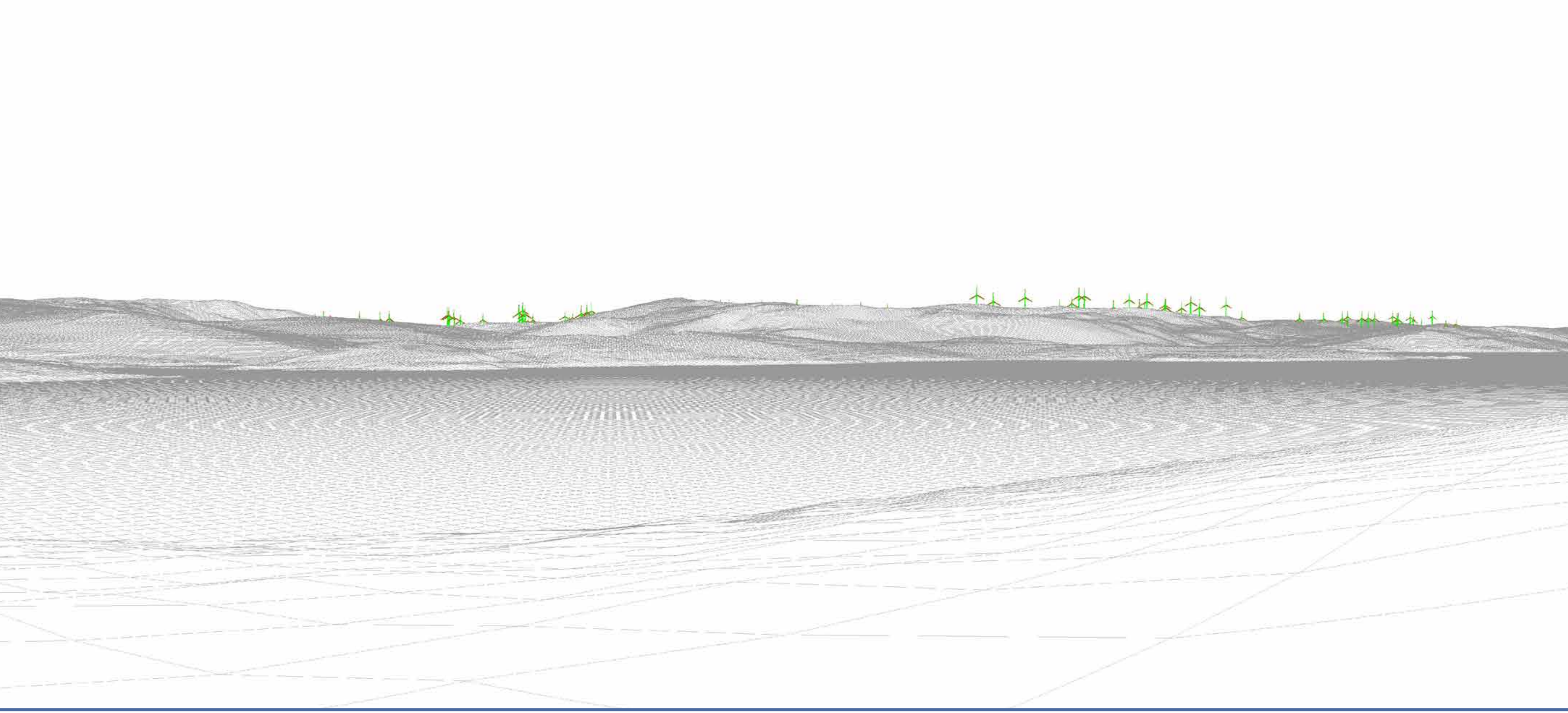
OS reference:
Ground level:
Direction of view:
Nearest turbine:

434650 E 1155954 N
1.73 m AOD
95°
2.2 km







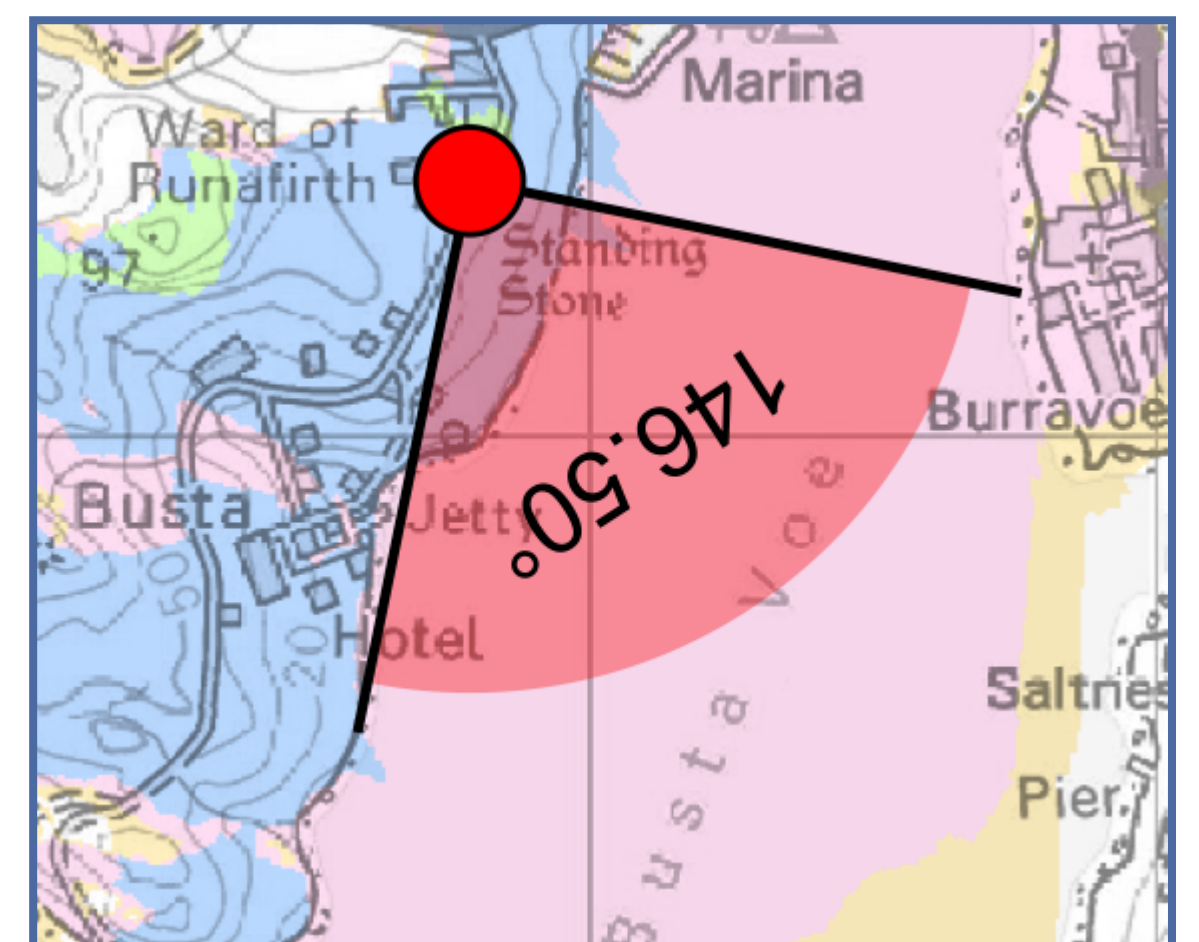
Viewpoint 14: Busta Junction, Brae Photomontage

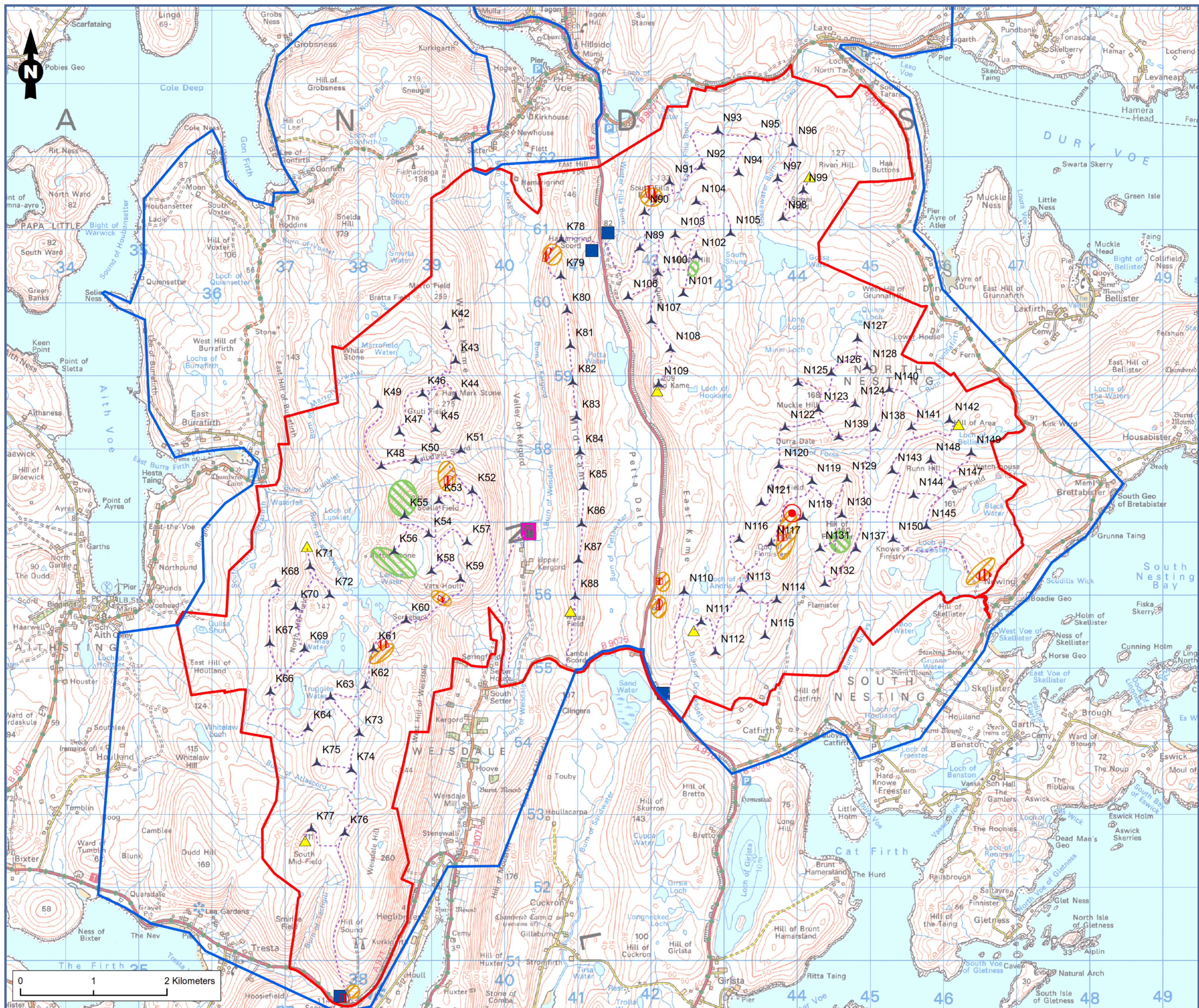


Viewpoint 14: Busta Junction, Brae, Wireline View

-  Section 36C Variation Viking Wind Turbines (155m Tip)
-  Consented Viking Wind Turbines (145m Tip)

Drawing No. - 117045-D-LV4.7.14.3	OS reference:	434825 E 1167463 N
Revision - 0.0.1	Ground level:	32.9 m AOD
Date - 31.08.2018	Direction of view:	146.5°
	Nearest turbine:	8,8 km


















Site Layout

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LEGEND

- | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
|  | Site Boundary Consented S36 |  | Borrow Pit Search Area |  | Substation |
|  | Site Boundary Reduced Unofficial |  | Secondary Borrow Pit Search Area |  | Construction Compound |
|  | Converter Station Platform |  | Turbines |  | Access Tracks |
|  | Converter Station |  | Permanent Met Masts | | |
|  | Converter Station Access | | | | |
|  | Borrow Pit Extraction Area | | | | |