How do I comment on the proposals

We are keen to receive comments and views from the local community and interested parties on the indicative proposals outlined.

Comments can be submitted as follows:

- **By post** - complete a comments form and post it to our Liaison Manager (details below)
- **By email** - contact our Liaison Manager to request an electronic comments form which can be submitted directly by email (details below).

Contact Us:

SSE takes a proactive approach to engaging with communities, ensuring that local people and organisations are involved at an early stage. The purpose of our exhibitions is to allow communities to learn more about the proposals, ask any questions and feed into the projects at an early stage of development. All feedback that we receive will be considered as we progress with the design of the project.

Balmacaan Contact Details

Balmacaan wind farm proposal
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Balmacaan Wind Farm Proposal

Drumberg wind farm, near Alyth, Perthshire – 16 turbines [blade tip height of 100 metres]
SSE Renewables is the renewable energy development division of SSE. The company is responsible for the development of onshore and offshore wind farms in the UK, the Republic of Ireland and Europe, as well as developing hydro and marine projects.

We are committed to helping meet Scotland’s climate change targets and believe that renewable energy plays an important part in this.

The proposal

We have been exploring a potential wind farm site at Balmacaan which is situated on the north-west side of Loch Ness, north of Invermoriston. The proposal is still in the early stages of design and we are undertaking surveys to identify environmental constraints on site. At this stage the number of turbines proposed for the wind farm is uncertain. Based on the initial environmental data gathered so far we have developed an indicative layout of around 130 wind turbines (with a tip height of approximately 135m).

One of the benefits of constructing and operating a wind farm in this location is the capacity to make use of existing infrastructure and access tracks created for the existing hydro electric schemes on Balmacaan and Invermoriston Estates.

Development process

Over the coming months we will develop the design for the proposal in response to feedback from statutory and non-statutory consultees, including local communities and interested parties. The findings from this consultation and the technical and environmental surveys will help us to create a final design for the proposal.

If the proposed submission is greater than 50MW the final design will then be submitted to Scottish Ministers for determination. If the proposal is less than 50MW then The Highland Council will determine the application. The diagram above identifies the three key opportunities for public consultation.

In recognition of the part that communities play in hosting renewable generation projects, we establish long-term community funds to support community projects and initiatives throughout the life of the wind farm. During the construction period local companies would be given the opportunity to offer their services and in addition to this there are likely to be longer-term roles required as part of the operation and maintenance of the wind farm. Roles and services that may be sourced locally will relate to the on-site and ancillary works and will depend on the skills and services available. We are keen to ensure that communities receive meaningful long-term benefit from projects in their area, and that they will create genuine short and long-term local employment opportunities, which will help to strengthen communities and encourage local economic growth.