6 May 2024

Attention: Paul Anderson

Operations Officer, South

NatureScot

SLR Project No.: 405.064791.00001

ECU Reference: ECU00004661

NatureScot Reference: CDM173439

RE: Torfichen Wind Farm: NatureScot Planning Response

This letter has been prepared in response to the planning response made by NatureScot "THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017 ELECTRICITY ACT 1989: APPLICATION FOR SECTION 36 CONSENT FOR THE PROPOSED TORFICHEN WIND FARM IN THE PLANNING AUTHORITY AREA OF MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL." on 21st February 2024.

NatureScot made the following comments relating to SLR's Peat Management Plan[1], prepared as part of the wider EIAR for Torfichen Wind Farm.

"There appears to be an error in the excavated volumes of peat and peaty soils (Technical Appendix 10.2: Peat Management Plan - Annex A). The total permanent access track is detailed as being 12.02km in length (pg 13) but in the calculations this has been recorded as 1,202m instead of 12,020m. So, the excavated area is out by a factor of 10. Therefore 15,866.4m3 and not 1,587m3 will be excavated. This increases the excavated volume by over 37% to a total of over 53,000m3, approximately 10,000m3 over the stated amount to be re-used."

In preparing this response, SLR Consulting Ltd (SLR) has addressed the comments and provided an updated Annex A - Excavated Materials Calculator (attached). The comparison between the previously submitted peat volumes and the updated version are detailed below in Table 1.

Table 1: Excavated Peat Volumes

Layout	Total Excavated Volume (m^3)	Total Re-use Volume (m^3)	Net Balance (m^3)
Annex A - Excavated Materials Calculator v0	38,814	43,557	-4,744
Annex A - Excavated Materials Calculator v1	53,093	57,585	-4,491

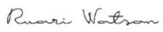
1 SLR October 2023, Torfichen Wind Farm, Technical Appendix 10.2: Peat Management Plan, Version 1

Comparison of the excavated volumes from the original submission and the updated version indicate an increased peat excavation volume with a net balance difference of 253m^3. There is no significant change to the overall recommendations and conclusions of the original report.

We trust that this addresses the concerns raised in the email. If any further clarification is required, please do not hesitate to contact ourselves.

Regards,

SLR Consulting Limited



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Associate

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Attachments Annex A - Excavated Materials Calculator

Infrastructure	Length (m)	Width (m)	Area (m^2)	Average Depth (m)	Number	Total Excavated Volume (m^3)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Area (m^2)	Average Depth (m)	Number	Total Re-use Volume of (m^3)	Notes
Permenant Access Track	12020	6	72120	0.22	1	15866	12020	2	24040	0.30	2	14424	
Temporary Access Track	21	6	126	0.11	1	14	21	6	126	0.11	1	14	
Turbines			707	0.26	18	3306	100	2	200	0.50	18	1800	
Hardstandings			4063	0.22	18	16089	200	2	400	0.50	18	3600	
Temporary Enabling Works Compound			1113	0.10	1	111			1113	0.00	1	0	
Temporary Construction Compound			4148	0.12	1	498			4148	0.00	1	0	
Battery Storage Compound			8851	0.16	1	1416	320	2	640	0.00	1	0	
Control Building and Substation Compound			6318	0.12	1	758	230	2	460	0.00	1	0	
Turning Heads			358	0.44	4	630	84	2	168	0.00	4	0	
Borrow Pit North			91068	0.12	1	10928			91068	0.30	1	27320	
Borrow Pit South			34755	0.10	1	3476			34755	0.30	1	10427	
Totals						**53093**						**57585**	

Total Excavated Volume (m^3)	**53093**
Total Re-use Volume (m^3)	**57585**
Net Balance (m^3)	**-4491**