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By email to: econsents_admin@gov.scot

Mr Mark Ashton
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Longmore House
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Edinburgh
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Enquiry Line: 0131-668-8716
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Our case ID: 300019418
Your ref: ECU00001800
29 May 2019

Dear Mr Ashton

[The Electricity Works \(Environmental Impact Assessment\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2017
Electricity Act 1989 Section 36 and Schedule 8: Application for the Proposed Kirkan
Wind Farm in the Planning Authority Area of the Highland Council](#)

Thank you for your consultation which we received on 23 April 2019. We have considered it and its accompanying EIA Report in our role as a consultee under the terms of the above regulations and for our historic environment remit. Our remit is world heritage sites, scheduled monuments and their setting, category A-listed buildings and their setting, and gardens and designed landscapes (GDLs) and battlefields in their respective inventories.

You should also seek advice from the Highland Council's archaeology and conservation advisors for matters including unscheduled archaeology and category B and C-listed buildings.

Our Advice

We are content that sufficient information has been provided in the EIA Report to come to a view on the proposal. In our view, the proposed development does not raise issues of national significance for our historic environment interests. We therefore do not wish to object to the application. Further advice is provided in the Annex below.

Our comments should be treated as a material consideration, and this advice should be taken into account in your decision making. Our decision not to object should not be taken as our support for the proposals. This application should be determined in accordance with national and local policy on development affecting the historic environment, together with related policy guidance.

Historic Environment Scotland – Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH

Scottish Charity No. **SC045925**

VAT No. **GB 221 8680 15**



Further Information

This response applies to the application currently proposed. An amended scheme may require another consultation with us.

Please note that a new Historic Environment Scotland Policy for Scotland (HEPS, 2019) was adopted on 1 May 2019, when it replaced the Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement (HESPS, 2016). HEPS is a strategic policy document for the whole of the historic environment and is underpinned by detailed policy and guidance, including our Guidance Notes series. All of these documents are available online at www.historicenvironment.scot/heps.

Technical advice is available through our Technical Conservation website at www.engineshed.org.

Please contact us if you have any questions about this response. The officer managing this case is Urszula Szupczynska who can be contacted by phone on 0131 668 8653 or by email on Urszula.Szupczynska@hes.scot.

Yours sincerely

Historic Environment Scotland



ANNEX

Proposed development

We understand that the proposed development consists of up to 17 turbines of up to 175m in height, to be constructed in the project area approximately 5.8km north west of Garve, Highlands.

Our interest

We note that there are no scheduled monuments, category A-listed buildings, Inventory gardens and designed landscapes or Inventory battlefields within the project site boundary. Therefore, we are content that the proposal will not have any direct impacts on sites within our remit.

Our key interests in this case are the potential setting impacts and cumulative impacts on nationally important heritage assets situated in the vicinity of the proposed development.

We note that the EIA Report identified Fairburn Inventory Garden and Designed Landscape (GDL), located 15 km away from the site, as one of the heritage assets that could be affected by the proposed wind farm. In terms of environmental effects after considering mitigation, the assessment predicts slight negative effects on the setting of this GDL. It is stated in the assessment that the key views from the Fairburn House over the designed elements of the GDL would remain unaffected, and similarly, lines of sight drawn towards Fairburn House along the driveway within the GDL would remain unchanged. While it is confirmed that there would be distant views of turbines from within farmland elements of this designed landscape, and obliquely from the driveway within its designed landscape element (Viewpoint 7: Muir of Fairburn), it is concluded that neither of these visual impacts would be significant in EIA terms.

Based on the information provided in the EIA Report, including the supporting visualisations, we concur with the conclusion of the assessment that the overall effect on Fairburn GDL would not be significant.

Finally, we are content that the application does not raise issues of concern regarding impacts on the setting of any heritage assets within our remit.

Historic Environment Scotland's position

In light of the information provided, Historic Environment Scotland does not object to the proposed development as we do not consider that issues of national interest are raised in this case.