

Kirstin Keyes  
Energy Consents Unit  
The Scottish Government  
5 Atlantic Quay  
150 Broomielaw  
Glasgow  
G2 8LU

CBC House  
24 Canning Street  
Edinburgh  
EH3 8EG

Our ref: 36405

T: 0131 346 9100  
E: [edinburgh@atmosconsulting.com](mailto:edinburgh@atmosconsulting.com)  
[www.atmosconsulting.com](http://www.atmosconsulting.com)

Your ref: ECU00003274

**29/07/2022**

Dear Kirstin,

**Sandy Knowe Wind Farm Extension: Application for consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 and direction for deemed planning permission to construct and operate an extension to Sandy Knowe wind farm with associated infrastructure (ECU application reference: ECU00003274)**

On behalf of ERG UK Holding Ltd (ERG) (“the Applicant”), please find enclosed an application for consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 as amended (the 1989 Act), and a direction under section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (the 1997 Act), as amended, that planning permission is deemed to be granted to construct and operate an extension to the under-construction Sandy Knowe wind farm including battery storage and associated infrastructure with an expected operational life of 40 years (the “Proposed Development”).

The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be up to 21.6MW plus an indicative battery storage capacity of 28.4MW comprising up to six turbines (three turbines with a maximum ground to blade tip height of 125 metres and three turbines with a maximum ground to blade tip height of 149.9m). The Proposed Development will be known as Sandy Knowe Wind Farm Extension.

The Proposed Development lies adjacent to the Sandy Knowe Wind Farm which was consented in July 2020 by Scottish Ministers (ECU Ref: ECU00000660) and consists of 24 wind turbines (at 125m tip height) and associated infrastructure. The anticipated output of the Sandy Knowe Wind Farm is around 86.4MW and the project is currently under construction.

The location and layout of the Proposed Development is shown in the enclosed Figure 1: Site Location, and Figure 2: Site Layout respectively.

This application is accompanied by the following documents:

**1. EIA Report:**

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), presents the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken in accordance with the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, as amended (the “EIA Regulations”) and includes the following:

- Volume 1: Main Report;

- Volume 2: Technical Appendices;
- Volume 3: Figures;
- Volume 4: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Figures and Visualisations;
- Volume 5: Confidential Appendices; and
- Volume 6: Non-Technical Summary.

**2. Other accompanying application documents:**

- Planning Statement;
- Design and Access Statement; and
- Pre-Application Public Consultation Report.

**3. Application Drawings:**

- Figure 1: Site Location; and
- Figure 2: Site Layout.

The application documents have been uploaded to the ECU portal with the exception of confidential information which will be sent directly to statutory consultees.

**Scottish Government Carbon Calculator**

Applicants are required to calculate potential carbon losses and savings from wind farms on Scottish peatlands as set out the ECU's online good practice guidance for applications under Section 36 and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989.

Therefore, the Scottish Government's Online Carbon Calculator v1.6.1 (updated in June 2020) was used to calculate the carbon cost and payback period of the Proposed Development. The online Reference for the Carbon Calculator is GFB5-9F1O-THPY v3.

The estimated payback time of the Proposed Development, using the Scottish Government Carbon Calculator and grid mix of electricity generation, is estimated at 2.6 years, with a minimum/maximum range of 1.8 to 4.9 years.

**Adverts, Publications & Consultation**

The Electricity Works (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 came into effect on Friday 24th April 2020 and are in force until September 2022 at the time of this letter. These allow a temporary relaxation of the usual requirement to make documents available for public inspection and hence hard copies of the application documents have not been lodged at locations accessible to the public.

However, the application documents are available to view on the project website (<https://www.sandyknowewindfarm.com>) and via the Scottish Government energy consents portal (<https://www.energyconsents.scot/Default.aspx>).

The Applicant will arrange for the advertisement of the notice of the application and accompanying EIAR in accordance with the requirements of the Electricity (Applications for Consent) Regulations 1990 as amended and the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

Copies of these notices will be provided to ECU once advertised.

The application will be advertised in accordance with regulations as follows:

- Edinburgh Gazette for one week;
- The Herald for one week;
- The Dumfries and Galloway Standard for two weeks; and
- The notice of the application will be posted on the project website.

The advertisement will provide details of the date by when representations should be made which we will confirm with the ECU.

Prior to the advertisement of the above notices, and in accordance with Regulations 6 and 7 of the Electricity (Applications for Consent) Regulations 1990, as amended, and Regulation 14 of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, as amended, it is understood that the ECU on behalf of Applicant shall serve copies of the relevant documentation via weblinks on the relevant statutory and non-statutory consultees.

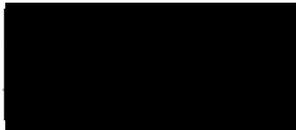
### **Application Fee**

The application fee of £35,000 has been transferred by BACS to the nominated Scottish Government bank account by the Applicant under the reference number ECU36SANDYKNOWEW.

On the basis of the information provided in the supporting documents that are lodged in support of this application, the Applicant requests that the Scottish Ministers grant section 36 consent under the 1989 Act and make a direction under section 57(2) of the 1997 Act granting deemed planning permission for the Proposed Development subject to planning conditions.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information on the application.

Yours sincerely



**Richard Newsham**  
Senior Consultant

**E:** [Redacted email address]

**T:** [Redacted telephone number]

**M:** [Redacted mobile phone number]