

By email to: Eleanor.Mckechnie@gov.scot

Ms Eleanor McKechnie
Senior Case Officer
Energy Consents Unit
The Scottish Government
5 Atlantic Quay
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8 August 2023

Dear Ms McKechnie

Barachander Wind Farm, nr Taynuilt: Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report

ECU reference: ECU00004865

Background and Context

1. GreenPower International has applied for a scoping opinion for a wind farm on moorland west of the B845, south of Taynuilt. The scoping layout is for 11 turbines of 180m BTH.
2. Mountaineering Scotland is a membership organisation with more than 16,000 members and is the only recognised representative organisation for hill walkers, climbers, mountaineers and ski-tourers who live in Scotland or who enjoy Scotland's mountains. We represent, support and promote Scottish mountaineering, and provide training and information to mountain users for safety, self-reliance and the enjoyment of our mountain environment.

Assessment

3. Mountaineering Scotland's concern at this stage is ensuring that the proposed viewpoints will allow a comprehensive assessment of the proposed development from a mountaineering/hillwalking perspective should an application be made.
4. The proposed site is a fairly gentle, undulating moorland planted within the past year with a mix of commercial conifers and native broadleaves. The mountaineering concern at this site is proximity to Cruachan. The nearest turbine is only c.6.5km from Cruachan summit.
- 6.. We endorse the viewpoints VP08 Beinn Duirinnis, VP09 Beinn Cruachan, VP10 Cruachan Dam, VP12 Beinn Sgulaird, and VP16 Cruach Mor. We suggest that that VP20 Clachan Hill should be replaced by the much more popular Munro of Beinn Bhuidhe (NN203187) which is at a similar distance and direction.

Yours sincerely...

D. Black

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