

Ben Sca Redesign Wind Farm - Erection and operation of a wind farm for a period of 40 years, comprising of 9 wind turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 149.9m, access tracks, borrow pits, substation, control building, and ancillary infrastructure.

Planning Authority Reference 24/01404/FUL

Struan Community Council, wish to comment on the Application as follows and would request scrutiny be given to the following points prior to this application gaining consent:

In addition to this Application for Ben Sca, there are several other developers and operators of wind farms looking to upgrade, replace or build from new within the North West of Skye, on the basis all are consented this will result in there being in the region of 100/150 wind turbines of circa 140m to 200m in height, all in a small area in and around Struan fundamentally changing the whole look and feel of the area.

The construction phase will result in a significant number of AIL and HGV movements during construction. The proposal does not adequately assess the impact of these movements in terms of journey time delay, noise and risk, nor does it adequately consider the cumulative impact of what will be a several year construction program when the other planned developments are taken into account. In fact, in a recent survey conducted by the Community Council in respect of another Wind Farm Development locally, of 88 responses received from local residents 60 of these registered concern about the level of disruption to the locality.

Consequently, it is our contention in relation to the movement of AILs and HGVs that all the Developers with intentions to repower or construct post the SSE repowering application being consented should be required to come together to submit a comprehensive Joint Traffic Management programme that should be agreed with all local communities prior to submission to Highland Council and/or the ECU (whichever ultimately has the decision on consenting any of these Applications).

Furthermore, the statement in TA9.1 - 3.2.1. refers to the A850 but fails to take into account that all development traffic will also use the A87 from Kyle/ Broadford to Sligachan, and this is where the peak AIL and HGV movements will take place.

The Community Council would request that you take due consideration of the points raised, in addition, request that you take full notice of all submissions from members of this Community in respect of this Application, prior to making your decision.

Alasdair Morrison
Secretary
On behalf of Struan Community Council