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By email to: <u>Nicola.Kennedy@gov.scot</u>

Ms Nicola Kennedy Energy Consents Unit The Scottish Government

26 May 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

Abhainn Dubh Wind Farm, Dingwall: Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report

ECU reference: ECU00003466

Background and Context

1. EPower Limited has submitted a scoping report for a proposed Abhainn Dubh wind farm, near Dingwall, for 22 turbines of up to 200m BTH.

2. Mountaineering Scotland is a membership organisation with more than 15,000 members and is the only recognised representative organisation for hill walkers, climbers, mountaineers and skitourers 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 has comments only on the proposed viewpoints, with reference to Scoping Report Question 5.3, which we have reviewed for their appropriateness to making, in due course, an assessment of the mountaineering impact of the proposed development.

4. Our opinion is that for assessing the potential impact on hillwalkers we endorse the proposed Viewpoints: 5. Ben Wyvis summit; 6. Little Wyvis summit, and 13. Sgùrr a' Choire Ghlais as the highest of the four Strathfarrer Munros in WLA 24 Central Highlands.

Yours sincerely

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