

By email to: Econsents_Admin@gov.scot

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

17th December 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Lorg Wind Farm Grid Connection

ECU reference: ECU00001789

Mountaineering Scotland is a membership organisation with 16,000 members and is the only recognised representative organisation for hill walkers, climbers, mountaineers and ski-tourers who live in Scotland and 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.

Our interest in this proposal is:

- The preservation of access for hillwalkers heading to summit of the Corbett¹ of Cairnsmore of Carsphairn.
- The visual impact on hillwalkers heading to and from the summit of Cairnsmore of Carsphairn.

The applicant's Scoping Report stated:

"The outline EMP will include draft measures for managing public access during construction (see Appendix B) to maintain access to Cairnsmore of Carsphairn. No likely significant effects are anticipated."

Scoping Report, paragraph 7.9.7

However, the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) submitted makes no reference to public access. I request that the applicant prepares an Outdoor Access Management Plan to set out how public access to Cairnsmore of Carsphairn will be maintained and managed during the construction phase.

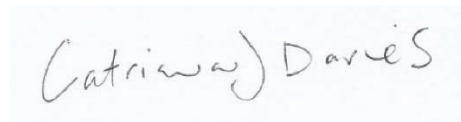
¹ Mountain in Scotland between 2500 and 3000 feet high, with at least 500 feet of descent on all sides.

In our response to the applicant's Scoping Report, we endorsed the proposed Viewpoints 2,3 and 4 as suitable points from which to assess the visual impact of the construction and operation of the proposed development. We also requested that, in the event of the visual impact from Viewpoints 2, 3 or 4 being assessed as significant, an additional Viewpoint of the summit of Cairnsmore of Carsphairn be included.

The applicant advises that, following a site survey Viewpoints 3 and 4, the summits of Craig of Knockgray and Dunool respectively, have been replaced by additional viewpoints on the Core Path CARS/487 Cairnsmore of Carsphairn by the Green Well. The visual impact on the users of this route has been assessed as Moderately adverse and Significant. We therefore request that the applicant now assesses the visual impact from the summit of Cairnsmore of Carsphairn. We consider this to be necessary in order to allow an adequate assessment of the visual impact of the proposal from an elevated position in the landscape.

I trust these comments are useful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Catriona Davies". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Catriona Davies
Access & Environment Officer
Mountaineering Scotland

E: access@mountaineering.scot

