



The Granary
West Mill Street
Perth PH1 5QP
Tel: 01738 493 942

By email to moray-west.representations@gov.scot

20th August 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

Pre-application Consultation for Moray West Offshore Windfarm

Mountaineering Scotland wishes to inform you of what we regard as an omission in the EIA for the transmission infrastructure associated with the proposed development. It concerns the Landfall Area for the Offshore Export Cable Corridor and the Onshore Planning Application Boundary.

There is a sea cliff at Redhythe Point which is a popular low to middle grade climbing venue with around 50 documented routes. This crag and associated area called "The Widow" is popular with beginners and used for instruction and courses, including use by Glenmore Lodge, the National Outdoor Training Centre.

The pre-application consultation process with local communities and other key stakeholders did not identify this popular climbing venue situated at the eastern edge of your area of search, and consequently did not identify any mitigation proposals for this area, unlike Sandend Beach which was removed from the Onshore Planning Boundary.

Mountaineering Scotland was alerted to this proposal only very recently, and subsequently contacted the developer with our concerns. A conversation with the representative of the developer assured us that the intended focus for development would be further west from this climbing venue at Redhythe Point. This was due to the topography of the coast and technical operational considerations for a transmission cable.

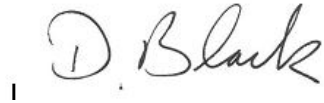
It would be our expectation, following on from the conversation and subsequent email confirming the points above, that this omission would be identified in any forthcoming planning application. Subsequently we would expect early engagement with the rock climbing community to discuss any potential direct or indirect impacts on the safety and security of the documented climbing routes through horizontal directional drilling construction techniques.

Mountaineering Scotland is a membership organisation with over 13,000 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, and acts to represent, support and promote Scottish mountaineering. Mountaineering Scotland also acts on behalf of the 80,000 members of the British Mountaineering Council (BMC) on matters related to landscape and access in Scotland,

and provides training and information to mountain users to promote safety, self-reliance and the enjoyment of our mountain environment.

We would be happy to be an initial point of contact for any future discussions about the climbing crag at Redhythe Point, and involve local knowledge and expert opinion where required to help in the assessment and mitigation of potential impacts.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Black". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small vertical line to the left of the first letter.

Davie Black
Access & Conservation Officer
Mountaineering Scotland

