

By email to: [Econsents\\_Admin@gov.scot](mailto:Econsents_Admin@gov.scot)

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

22 August 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

**Repowered and Extended Ben Aketil Wind Farm, Skye: Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report**

**ECU reference: ECU00004552**


**Background and Context**

1. Falck Renewables has submitted a scoping report to repower the existing Beinn Aketil wind farm, which is part of a cluster of wind farms east of Dunvegan, Skye. The proposed repowering and extension is a wind farm with 10 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 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. Our main concern at this stage is ensuring that the proposed viewpoints and other information will allow a full assessment of the proposed development, with regard to mountaineering and hillwalking interests, should a planning/S.36 application be made.
4. We endorse proposed viewpoints 8 Healabhal Mhor, 12 Beinn Edra and 14 Moineach Mararaulin. The Storr is a more popular hill than Ben Edra and slightly closer and we would like to see it used as a viewpoint (NG495540). We would like to see a wireline from Bruach na Frithe (NG460252). Although somewhat distant it is a popular hill - the most easily ascended of the Cuillin hills – and a wireline would allow an appreciation of the proposed development in context as seen by hillwalkers to complement the road-level view of VP14.
5. In calibrating judgements of visual impact of any proposed scheme against the existing scheme, which has been found to be acceptable and can be observed in operation in the field, hub and blade-tip ZTVs directly comparing the two schemes would be valuable.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Black". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'D' and a clear 'Black'.

**Davie Black**  
**Access & Conservation Officer**  
**Mountaineering Scotland**

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