



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

By email to [econsents\\_admin@gov.scot](mailto:econsents_admin@gov.scot) and  
[jsomerville@rsk.co.uk](mailto:jsomerville@rsk.co.uk)

Energy Consents  
Directorate for Energy and Climate Change  
Scottish Government

15 June 2018

Dear Sir

**ELECTRICITY ACT 1989  
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)  
REGULATIONS 2017**

**SCOPING OPINION REQUEST FOR PROPOSED SECTION 36 APPLICATION FOR KIRKAN  
WIND FARM, NEAR GARVE, HIGHLANDS. ECU00000563**

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Kirkan Wind Farm Scoping Report.

Coriolis Energy is consulting on the Scoping report for Kirkan wind farm, near Garve, with up to 19 turbines of up to 175m blade-tip height. This would sit adjacent to the operational Corriemoillie and Lochluichart wind farms.

Mountaineering Scotland 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 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 have assessed the scoping report only in relation to landscape and visual impacts upon mountaineering and consequential impacts upon tourism.

Contrary to the assertions in Section 3.3.5 there is evidence from reanalysis of data within Biggar Economics' 2017 report, that there is an adverse impact upon tourism specifically from wind farms built in landscapes defined as of high quality. This analysis is published on the Mountaineering Scotland website:

[https://www.mountaineering.scot/assets/contentfiles/media-upload/Wind\\_farms\\_and\\_tourism\\_in\\_Scotland\\_-\\_a\\_review\\_Nov\\_2017\\_20171106.pdf](https://www.mountaineering.scot/assets/contentfiles/media-upload/Wind_farms_and_tourism_in_Scotland_-_a_review_Nov_2017_20171106.pdf) and  
<https://www.mountaineering.scot/assets/contentfiles/pdf/Wind-farms-and-tourism-in-Scotland-Supplement-December-2017-20171121.pdf>

A substantial number of viewpoints are proposed which are relevant to mountaineering interests and this is welcomed. We ask why Mountaineering Scotland has been omitted from the list of non-statutory consultees in Appendix 1.

Viewpoints 6, 7, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16 and 17 raise no issues.


Viewpoint 10 is named as Beinn a' Bhathaich (NH 362434) but we assume this is actually Beinn a'Bha'ach Ard (NH 360434).

We have reservations about the following viewpoints.

- Viewpoint 9 (Creag Ruadh) is the shoulder of a hill. The similarly sighted Corbett summit of Sgurr a'Muillin (NH2655) would seem a more logical choice.
- Viewpoint 13 (Leathad Buidhe, Beinn Eighe NNR) is at 36km distance and, even with 175m structures, we have doubts about the ability of any visualisation or wireline to adequately represent the image received by the human eye at this distance. Nonetheless, if Viewpoint 13 is included we think there should also be a viewpoint representing An Teallach, whose Munro summits lie closer at c.30km from the proposed development..

We hope this will help inform your Environmental Statement .

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 stylized 'Black'.

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