



**Energiekontor UK Ltd**

**Manquhill Wind Farm**

**PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE**

**September 2025**



# CONTENTS

|          |                                         |            |
|----------|-----------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>INTRODUCTION</b>                     | <b>1-2</b> |
|          | Introduction .....                      | 1-2        |
|          | Planning History .....                  | 1-2        |
|          | Project Description .....               | 1-2        |
|          | Energiekontor UK Ltd.....               | 1-3        |
| <b>2</b> | <b>THE SITE AND ITS CONTEXT</b>         | <b>2-4</b> |
|          | The Site.....                           | 2-4        |
|          | Context.....                            | 2-4        |
| <b>3</b> | <b>APPROACH TO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT</b> | <b>3-5</b> |
|          | Introduction .....                      | 3-5        |
|          | Engagement Approach .....               | 3-5        |
|          | Consultation Process .....              | 3-6        |
| <b>4</b> | <b>CONTACT DETAILS</b>                  | <b>4-9</b> |

**Appendices**

Appendix 1.1 – Location Plan

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## Introduction

- 1.1 This Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) relates to a proposal by Energiekontor UK Ltd for the development of a wind farm of up to 8 wind turbines, including associated development such as crane pads, access tracks, a substation and temporary construction compound and battery storage facility ("the Proposed Development") at Manquhill Dunscore ("the Site" as illustrated on the Location Plan drawing at Appendix 1.1). Assessment of the technical, environmental and commercial constraints of the Site is currently ongoing and will inform the final design of the wind farm.
- 1.2 The purpose of this PAN is to outline our approach to consultation during the pre-application stage in order to comply with the requirements for meaningful community engagement.

## Planning History

- 1.3 Planning permission has previously been granted for an 8-turbine wind farm with a 200m maximum height to vertical blade tip at Manquhill by the Planning and Environmental Appeals Division of the Scottish Government (Dumfries and Galloway Council reference 23/0692/FUL and DPEA reference PPA-170-2179). This new proposal seeks to increase the heights of the turbines from 200m to 220m.

## Project Description

- 1.4 As set out in the Schedule of Regulations 2(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Development) (Scotland) Regulations 2009, Manquhill Wind Farm is defined as a 'Major Development', as the capacity would be, or would exceed, 20 megawatts (MW).
- 1.5 The Proposed Development at Manquhill would consist of:
  - **Wind turbines** – It is proposed to erect up to 8 wind turbines on the Site. The turbines would be of a typical modern design comprising a three bladed rotor hub mounted on a rotatable nacelle (containing a gearbox and a generator), tower and foundation. Final turbine selection would be made following the grant of planning permission following a tendering and procurement exercise. The EIA will therefore be undertaken on the basis of a candidate turbine design consisting of:
    - Maximum height to vertical blade tip of up to 220m;
    - Turbines would generate power for all wind speeds between 4m/s and 25m/s; and
    - At wind speeds greater than 25m/s (gale force) the turbines would shut down for self-protection.

- **Site access** – access to the Site will likely be taken from a minor road connected to the B729.
- **Site tracks** – to provide access for construction and maintenance vehicles from the site access to the substation and wind turbines. These would be installed at the commencement of the construction phase and would remain until the end of the decommissioning phase. They would have a 5.0m running width with local widening on corners and would be surfaced with coarse aggregate. Depending on localised ground conditions they would either be cut into, or floated above, the ground.
- **Temporary construction compound / storage area** – to provide a secure area for site office facilities and storage of materials and components. To be constructed adjacent to the site track, with a 50m x 30m hardcore base, surrounded by a security fence and locked gates. The fence and gates would be removed at the end of the construction phase and the hardcore base retained but allowed to re-vegetate.
- **Crane hardstandings and outrigger pads** – to provide a level and firm base for the cranes at the location of each turbine. Each would be a maximum of 45m x 25m and surfaced with coarse aggregate.
- **Transformer housings** – the transformers to step up the voltage exported from each turbine (from 690V to 33kV) would either be placed within the wind turbines themselves, or in a small secure external transformer housing placed next to each wind turbine tower, depending on the final turbine choice.
- **High voltage and control cables** – to form power and control circuits linking each turbine to the on-site substation, cables would be placed in trenches (dimensions to be determined by ground conditions but typically 0.5m wide x 1m deep) routed alongside the tracks.
- **Substation building** – a 15m long by 10m wide single storey building, housing the switchgear and control equipment plus secure storage space.

## Energiekontor UK Ltd

- 1.6 Energiekontor UK Ltd is a wind energy development company with offices in Leeds, Glasgow and Edinburgh. The company was formed in 1999 and develops onshore wind farms throughout the United Kingdom. The company has built eleven wind farms in the UK with many more in the development process.
- 1.7 Energiekontor UK Ltd is part of the Energiekontor Group. The parent company, Energiekontor AG, was established in 1990 in Bremerhaven in Northern Germany. It has since grown to become one of the leading wind energy companies in Europe, having built more than 100 wind farms across the continent.

## 2 THE SITE AND ITS CONTEXT

### The Site

- 2.1 The Site is located approximately 11km west of Moniaive, 8km east of Carsphairn in Dumfries and Galloway on land north of the B729.
- 2.2 The site is characterised by commercial coniferous woodland toward the south-eastern part of Dumfries and Galloway and the Southern Upland Way runs adjacent to the Western boundary. The topography of the area is relatively complex with elevations at the site ranging from 290m AOD (metres Above Ordinance Datum) to 400m AOD.
- 2.3 At a local level, the Manquhill Site is located within an upland landscape context. Plantation forestry is the predominant ground cover. The surrounding area is sparsely settled and the site is visually contained by the surrounding topography including Benbrack to the north, Auchrae Hill to the west, Carroch Hill to the south and Cornharrow Hill to the east.
- 2.4 There are no notable settlements within 5km of the Proposed Development. The Site is located within an open moorland landscape context. The Site is characteristic of a simple upland landscape and comprises coarse unimproved grassland used for grazing and coniferous plantation forestry. Residential development within the locality of the Site is limited to a small number of scattered dwellings / farmsteads linked by minor roads.

### Context

- 2.5 There are a number of wind farms, either operational or within the planning system, within the surrounding area. These include the operational Blackcraig development (7 km southwest), consented Fell Wind Farm (4 km west), the consented Cornharrow Wind Farm adjacent to the East and Mochrum Fell Wind Farm (7 km southwest) currently at appeal.

## 3 APPROACH TO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### Introduction

- 3.1 Energiekontor UK Ltd is an experienced wind developer that places community and stakeholder consultation at the heart of the development process. As a responsible developer we recognise the need for early and transparent engagement and believe we have an obligation to create an engagement process which captures local concerns at an early stage so that they can be fed into the design process. This section describes the approach to consultation and methods that will be undertaken as part of the pre-application process for Manquhill Wind Farm.

### Engagement Approach

- 3.2 As Manquhill Wind Farm represents a Major Development, Energiekontor UK Ltd is obliged to carry out Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) with the local community and submit a PAC summary report as part of any future planning application. As a prerequisite, an applicant must provide a PAN setting out how it intends to carry out consultation and engage with the community local to its proposed development. The provision of this PAN fulfils this requirement.
- 3.3 Best practice guidance exists in Scotland on community engagement, in particular *PAN 3/2010 Community Engagement* which highlights the need for individual developments to have a tailor-made approach to community consultation. PAN 3/2010 sets out 10 'National Standards' for community engagement to plan, monitor and evaluate engagement. These are:
1. **Involvement** – Identify and involve the people and organisations who have an interest in the focus of engagement.
  2. **Support** – Identify and overcome any barriers to involvement.
  3. **Planning** – Gather evidence of need and resources to agree purpose, scope and actions.
  4. **Methods** – Agree and use methods of engagement that are fit for purpose.
  5. **Working Together** – Agree and use clear procedures that enable participants to work together effectively and efficiently.
  6. **Sharing Information** – Ensure necessary information is communicated between the participants.
  7. **Working with Others** – Work effectively with others with an interest.
  8. **Improvement** – Develop skills, knowledge and confidence of the participants.

9. **Feedback** – Feed results back to the wider community and agencies affected.

10. **Monitoring and Evaluation** – Monitor and evaluate whether engagement achieves its purpose and meets the national standard for community engagement.

3.4 In addition, Energiekontor UK Ltd will draw on the SP=EED (Successful Planning = Effective Engagement and Delivery) approach devised and produced by Planning Aid Scotland to effectively audit the consultation process and to describe it in the PAC Report.

3.5 Energiekontor UK Ltd will work closely with Dumfries and Galloway Council to identify local community stakeholders, drawing on their knowledge to build of a good understanding of the community. We will ensure that all sectors of the community are involved in the process, identifying any hard to reach individuals or groups with particular requirements.

3.6 Energiekontor UK Ltd is also working closely with statutory consultees and other technical stakeholders as part of the range of environmental studies required to identify the potential environmental effects of the Proposed Development.

## Consultation Process

3.7 As set out in The Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006; the minimum consultation activity (Regulation 7 of the Development Management (Scotland) Regulations 2013) states that an applicant must consult with community councils and hold a public event. This is a minimum level of consultation activity which Energiekontor UK Ltd will also strive to go beyond.

### Our aims

- 3.8 The aims of Energiekontor UK Ltd in undertaken pre-application consultation are to:
- To widely inform the local community about the Proposed Development, its potential effects and the associated benefits.
  - To receive feedback from the community early in the process and make full use of opportunities to address concerns through design or mitigation.
  - To improve the quality of the final planning application by tailoring it to local circumstances.
  - To work with the community to define the structure of community benefits offered as part of the Proposed Development.

### Who will be consulted

3.9 The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 provide that applicants should consult with every community council whose area is within or adjoins the land where the proposed development is situated, and in doing so to give a copy of the PAN to such community councils.

3.10 The PAN will therefore be served on the following community councils:

- Carsphain
- Glencairn

3.11 Other key stakeholders at the district and regional level include:

- Local ward Councillors
- MSPs, MPs and MEPs
- Statutory and non-statutory consultees
- Local media

#### Consultation methods

3.12 Energiekontor UK Ltd will use the following methods of consultation:

|           |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1.</b> | <b>Method</b>              | <b>Community Council Meetings</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|           | <b>Stakeholders</b>        | Local community councils.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|           | <b>Rationale</b>           | Identify key individuals and organisations who will be involved in the consultation process.<br><br>Outline the proposed approach to consultation outlined in the PAN and seek feedback.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|           | <b>Further Information</b> | Letters will be sent to all the community councils surrounding the site alongside the PAN.<br><br>Energiekontor UK Ltd will extend offers to meet with community councils to discuss the emerging proposals and approach to consultation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>2.</b> | <b>Method</b>              | <b>Public Exhibitions</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|           | <b>Stakeholders</b>        | All.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|           | <b>Rationale</b>           | To present information on the Proposed Development in an accessible way, to receive direct feedback from the community and to discuss any potential concerns.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|           | <b>Further Information</b> | Energiekontor UK Ltd will provide exhibition material relating to the proposed development at two events, dates to be confirmed to the community in due course. The events will include a facility to send feedback and ask questions as well as contact information for the proposals to be discussed further.<br><br>A public notice will be placed in the Galloway Gazette at least one week prior to the exhibition opening which will include the following details: |

|    |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    |                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A description of the proposed development and its location;</li> <li>- How (including by what electronic means) further information may be obtained concerning the proposed development;</li> <li>- Date, time and place of the event(s);</li> <li>- Statement explaining how and by when comments to Energiekontor UK Ltd on the proposal should be made; and</li> <li>- Statement that comments made to Energiekontor UK Ltd are not representations to the planning authority and that these can be made once a planning application has been submitted.</li> </ul> |
| 3. | <b>Method</b>              | <b>Meetings</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|    | <b>Stakeholders</b>        | Key stakeholders (MSPs, MPs, community councils, ward Councillors).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|    | <b>Rationale</b>           | To provide information on the proposed development to ensure key stakeholders are able to discuss and comment on the emerging proposals.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|    | <b>Further Information</b> | Energiekontor UK Ltd will extend an offer to meet with key stakeholders to provide a briefing on Manquhill Wind Farm to ensure that they have the information that they require to respond to any enquiries from constituents.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 4. | <b>Method</b>              | <b>Mail drops / emails / letters</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|    | <b>Stakeholders</b>        | Residents living closest to the Manquhill Wind Farm site                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|    | <b>Rationale</b>           | <p>To keep those residents living closest to the Manquhill Wind Farm site updated with the timescale the project and disseminate key information in a meaningful way.</p> <p>To provide a point of contact within Energiekontor UK Ltd for local residents.</p> <p>To keep interested parties updated as the project progresses.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|    | <b>Further Information</b> | <p>Mail drops will be sent out to those houses and businesses that are located the closest to the Manquhill Wind Farm site.</p> <p>Energiekontor UK Ltd will keep a database of those wishing to be kept informed of the Proposed Development in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

3.13 Energiekontor UK Ltd will summarise the above methods of consultation and provide detailed findings within the PAC report submitted with a future planning application.

## 4 CONTACT DETAILS

4.1 For further information please contact:

**George Oldroyd**

*Project Manager*

E: [George.oldroyd@energiekontor.com](mailto:George.oldroyd@energiekontor.com)

**Appendix 1.1**  
Location Plan

---