

## **Appendix 2 Summary of applicants supporting information**

### Planning, Design and Access Statement

This document provides an overview of the applicant, the project team, the site selection and the design principles for the proposal. It also provides a detailed description of the different elements of the development, including an overview of expected construction and traffic management implications, as well as suggested decommissioning and restoration details.

The document provides a summary of the Landscape & Visual Appraisal and the Ecological Impact Assessment, and considers impacts upon matters including amenity, heritage and ecological interests, and infrastructure. It suggests that associated impacts would not be unacceptable.

The document goes on to consider the proposal against relevant planning policies and suggests the proposal benefits from support from the local development plan and complies with the council's supplementary guidance for renewable energy projects. It also suggests that there are a number of more recent expressions of government policy which support the need to address climate change and that these are a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. The document concludes that the proposal aims to maximise the environmental socio-economic and environmental benefits of the development and that potential impacts and effects have been avoided and reduced as far as possible. It suggests this has been achieved through careful siting and design, and various embedded mitigation measures, all of which aim to make the proposed development acceptable in planning terms.

### Landscape and Visual Assessment

This assessment seeks to identify any likely significant adverse effects during the operational phase of the development on the landscape and visual receptors. The LVA concludes that no significant effects are predicted on any landscape character types or landscape designations within the study area and suggests that most of the sensitive Lunan Valley would be unaffected, as would Montrose Basin and the associated coastline. It indicates no significant cumulative effects are predicted in terms of landscape impacts. The assessment identifies that the development is likely to result in some very localised, significant, adverse, visual effects to a number of routes and dwellings within 2km of the turbine. It suggests that the site was chosen to minimise adverse cumulative visual effects, as it has a good degree of separation (circa. 5km) from other wind turbines over 40m in height. The assessment is supported by drawings that identify theoretical zone of visibility of the turbine to hub and tip (ZTVs) and by photomontages and wireline diagrams that provide an indication of the likely appearance of the turbine from different viewpoints.

### Turbine Selection Assessment

This document states that the purpose of the project is to test and prove the concept of using green hydrogen (that is hydrogen produced via electrolysis using electricity from a renewable source) as an alternative to fossil fuels in the distilling industry. It states that the project is the first of its kind in the UK and as such is being sponsored by the UK Government under the Net Zero Innovation Portfolio (NZIP). It indicates that if the project is successful, it has the potential to act as a demonstrator for other distilleries across the UK and to make a meaningful contribution to decarbonising a large and important part of the local Scottish and UK economies. The document suggests that market availability of smaller-scale turbines has reduced and that there are operational constraints that limit the type of turbine that could be suitable at this location. It is indicated that reducing the height of the proposed turbine in this open farmland location would make relatively little difference to visual impacts but would have a significant impact on the performance of the proposed turbine, its ability to make a significant

contribution to decarbonising the distillery, and therefore to the viability and potential success of this important demonstrator project. The agent concludes that the site has been carefully selected having regard to the specific power requirements of the project, the presence of constraints (notably MOD Radar, noise, ecology, continued agricultural use and residential amenity) and lessons learned from previous applications in the area. The document concludes that whilst the proposed turbine will be visible to varying degrees from nearby properties and to those travelling through and working within the local area, its size and position relative to various viewpoints and receptors mean that it will be viewed as a feature of this landscape but will not make this an unpleasant place to live and/or work.

### Ecological Assessment (Parts 1 and 2)

The assessment highlights the baseline ecological conditions at the site and assesses the proposal's impact upon designated nature conservation sites and protected species in and around the site. The assessment concludes that there would be no potential for adverse impacts upon nearby designated sites (with the exception of Montrose Basin SPA, Ramsar and SSSI); habitats; breeding birds; wintering birds (with the exception of grey geese); and protected faunal species (with the exception of bats). It goes on to state that following further assessment, that the collision risk and displacement impacts upon geese (and the Montrose Basin sites) would be negligible and there would be no anticipated measurable adverse impacts to local bat populations arising as a result of the proposed development, either during its construction or operation.

### Turbine Manufactures Noise Details

The document provides the turbine manufacturers predicted sound power levels of the proposed DW61 wind turbine model with trailing edge serrations. The document notes the information is derived from analysis of sound measurements performed by an independent noise measurement institute according to the methodology set out in International Standard IEC 61400-11.

### Industrial Noise Assessment

This document provides an assessment of the industrial noise levels predicted from the development, specifically expanding on potential noise emissions predicted from the hydrogen plant. It indicates this project is the first of its kind in the UK and therefore presents slightly unusual technology and detailed sound power information is not available for all the equipment. However, the assessment suggests that the majority of the plant equipment would be housed in a container, and it is only the externally mounted elements of the cooling system which generate any noticeable levels of noise. The document concludes that noise could be controlled by way of a planning condition and mitigation could easily be employed to reduce typical operational noise levels to an acceptable level. The document also concludes that construction noise associated with the development is considered unlikely to be significant.

### Air Quality Information

This provides an air dispersion and quality assessment report and considers the existing baseline air quality of the site. It concludes that the proposal would not have a significant impact at the nearest designated ecological receivers or on designated species within 15km of the site and the impact of NO<sub>2</sub> on human receivers would be negligible.

### Emissions Impact Assessment and Flue Calculations

This document indicates that based on the analysis undertaken, the NO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the hydrogen plant fall below any of the requirements for undertaking detailed modelling and the

system is not situated near any sensitive receptors. Therefore, it suggests that it is not necessary to undertake any further detailed dispersion analysis. The assessment indicates that the combustion of Hydrogen does not release any CO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>x</sub> or SO<sub>x</sub> and therefore the calculation of any of these has been disregarded as insignificant in the calculation of Air Quality. It notes the Environmental Quotient for NO<sub>2</sub> was calculated as being 0.085 from the proposal. In terms of cumulative Environmental Quotient the assessment notes, as there are no additional emissions to be considered from the plant, the EQ<sub>air</sub> is also calculated to be 0.085.

A chimney height calculation was also carried out and submitted alongside the application to inform the most appropriate boiler flue height. This concludes that a height around 12m from ground level should be proposed to provide a suitable discharge height.

#### Road Construction Accommodation Works – Initial Access Review

This suggests that all equipment, other than the wind turbine, can be delivered by conventional means using the existing road infrastructure without any impact. It identifies a number of potential delivery routes for the wind turbine and suggests that this can be done without significant accommodating works and without unacceptable impact on the road network.

#### Agents additional information

Correspondence from the agent was provided which states that a shadow flicker assessment was undertaken for properties at Mountboy and Cothill. It indicates that property at Mountboy would not be affected by shadow flicker, but that properties at Cothill would experience minimal shadow flicker disturbance, with an annual total of 16.6 hours and 29.9 respectively, which is below the accepted threshold of 30 hours per annum. It is indicated that the two properties at Cothill are both owned by the applicant and occupied by people employed or otherwise associated with the distillery, and the occupants of both properties have provided letters of support for the project and its objectives. It is indicated that should a shadow flicker issue arise despite the predictions, this would be addressed by the applicant.

The correspondence also notes that the hydrogen produced by the project's electrolyser and then fed into the burner will have a purity of 99.9999% and the burner would be equipped with a flue which would reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. It goes on to note that taking a conservative value the proposal would result in a 50% carbon saving compared to the current boiler and the project would result in a reduction of approx. 320 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/a. The correspondence concludes that having designed the plant in consultation with SEPA, the applicant can confirm that the plant can and will be operated within the limits applied by SEPA in relation to emissions.

It provides additional wireline drawings from Lunan Bay, Mountboy, and Cothill and indicates that the assessment of landscape and visual impact is as reported in the Landscape and Visual Assessment and Planning, Design and Access Statement.