



THE MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND

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5/10/11

Angus council
Planning Service
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Dear Sir / Madam

Cormaud Wind Farm Scoping Response

Please accept these comments from the Mountaineering Council of Scotland (MCofS). The Mountaineering Council of Scotland (MCofS) is the representative body for hill walkers, climbers and ski tourers, and is the only national representative body of the sport of mountaineering in Scotland. We have 11,000 members, and are recognised by the Scottish Government as representing the interests of all mountaineers. The north of Angus area is important for mountaineering both for residents of Angus and visitors. The MCofS interest in wind farms lie primarily in issues of public access and conservation. The latter includes biodiversity, soil and landscape.

2.11 Project Decommissioning

We would expect to see plans for a full restoration of the site, at least visually. Hill tracks have an impact on the landscape disproportionate to the land-take, and hence plans should be made to fully restore the site visually at a minimum.

5.2 Geology, Soils and Hydrogeology

We would expect to see a full report on the presence of peat and turbine location planning influenced by the findings.

5.6 Landscape and Visual

Tracks have a significant impact on landscape and visual amenity from some distance. For this reason LVIA must fully consider their impact in addition to that of the turbines, this includes visualisations in the visualisations.

5.6.3 We agree with the scope of the potential effects except the following; that there would be a permanent effect if the tracks constructed for the wind farm were not removed during decommissioning.

5.6.4 The “detailed study area,” irrespective of distance due to the sensitivity and popularity of the receptor locations, should include the following hill walking viewpoints: Dreish / Mayar NO271736 / NO241738, Ben Tirran NO373746 and Creag Leacach NO155745. It would be expected that turbine location and design would be influenced by the potential impacts at these sites.

5.8 Land Use, Socio-Economics and Recreation

5.8.3 We accept that utilisation of the area under construction during the construction phase will need to be restricted, however the track should not be treated as part of the construction site when not actively under construction.

Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss these issues further.

Yours sincerely

Hebe Carus (Ms)
Access & Conservation Officer

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