



Red Rock Power Limited

Benbrack Onshore Wind Farm: Community Information

October 2022



www.redrockpower.co.uk

About Benbrack Onshore Wind Farm

Red Rock Power acquired Benbrack onshore wind farm as an already consented project in February 2021. We are an Edinburgh-based company which owns, operates and develops renewable energy projects including the Afton wind farm in East Ayrshire.



Benbrack is located just south of the East Ayrshire and Dumfries & Galloway border, approximately 6km north of Carsphairn and east of the A713. The project was first proposed in 2012 and secured planning consent in 2017. This consent has since been varied to further optimise the amount of green energy generated. The wind farm will consist of 15 turbines which have a maximum tip height of 149m and a total generation capacity of 67MW, however there is scope within the consents to potentially increase this.

As we prepare for the start of construction, we are eager to ensure that local communities understand:

- our timeline and when potential disruptions may occur.
- the mitigations we are putting in place to minimise any such disruption.
- what to do if you experience any unreasonable disturbance.

While we hope to minimise potential disruptions through our working practices wherever possible, we appreciate your patience and welcome any feedback.

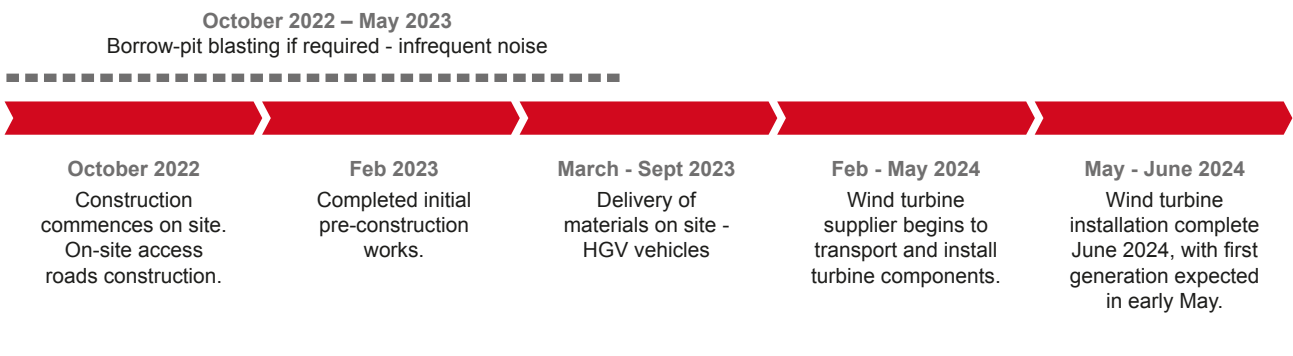
Construction timeline & potential disruptions

Benbrack's Construction Conditions

The wind farm's construction hours, as detailed in planning conditions agreed with Dumfries & Galloway Council, are limited to 7am-7pm Monday to Friday and 7am-4pm on Saturdays, with none permitted on Sundays or public holidays.

It is our intention to minimise disruptions as much as possible; however exceptional works may occasionally occur outwith these times including activity specifically linked to turbine erection and maintenance works, dust suppression and testing of equipment.

Project Timeline



We have provided more information on potential disruptions and where these sit within the parameters of our planning conditions. We kindly ask that you refer to these conditions when considering if such disruptions are unacceptable.

If you would like to make us aware of a disturbance, or perhaps offer us feedback which we can share with the industry and apply to our future projects, please visit our website where a Construction Feedback form is available. We will come back to you within 48 hours and conduct further investigations if required before attempting to resolve the issue.

Visit the Energy Consents Unit to view more information on the wind farm's consent conditions. (EUC reference: ECU00001773)



Potential disruptions to be aware of

Noise

We anticipate potential noise disturbances during construction of the wind farm infrastructure when forming borrow-pits on the site. Borrow-pits provide important roadstone for the site, and their creation reduces the amount of roadstone that needs to come to the site from elsewhere. If formed on site, potential disturbances may include infrequent short blasts during the day, and potentially some limited dust impacts depending on wind direction. As noted above however, using stone that is already on site will reduce the volume of HGV traffic visiting the site from elsewhere. Final studies are currently ongoing to ascertain whether all the required roadstone can come from such sources or if we will be required to import materials from a local quarry.

Turbine installation is scheduled for Spring 2024 and at this time securing bolts at the base of the turbines may incur some noise disturbance. Installation will mostly take place during construction hours, however there may be some instances where such works will need to occur in the evening or on Sundays if we are at a critical point where ceasing work would create health and safety risks. We will of course engage with the local community ahead of this critical phase of construction, however please be aware that the likelihood of noise being generated outside of working hours is unpredictable and it can therefore be difficult to provide advance warning in every case.

Water supply

The development has and will continue to monitor local water sources to ensure the wind farm's construction and operation does not pollute existing supplies in any way. The risk to water pollution is low, nevertheless as a precaution all necessary measures will be taken to minimise or mitigate any risk and immediate action will always be taken should any event occur in this regard.

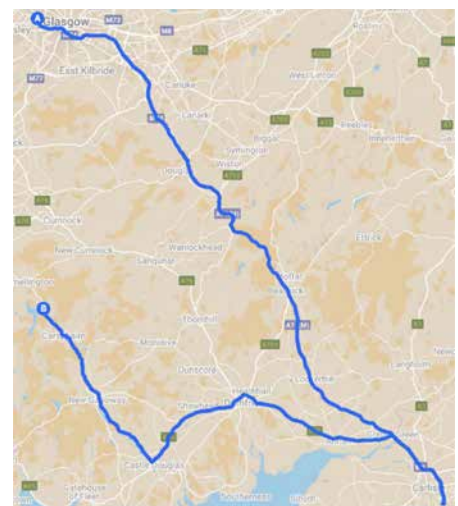
Transport

The highest risk of potential traffic delays on the local road network will take place in early 2024 when turbine components are transported to site. However, to minimise any disruption, our current plan will see these vehicle movements take place at night and for the avoidance of doubt, we do not anticipate the need to make any adjustments to the local road infrastructure.

More information regarding routes and timings will be shared on our website, via local media and community councils in advance of this phase commencing. More generally, a traffic coordination officer will be identified closer to the time to whom all road safety concerns can be referred to.

The project's Transport Management Plan is currently in preparation and will be available for review following its approval by Dumfries and Galloway Council. It will be available for review on the Council's online Planning portal following approval. This outlines that all fabricated components will come from Ayr via the A713 or from Glasgow via the M74/M6 (to Carlisle junction)/A75 junction (between Gretna and Annan) and the A713 junction at Castle Douglas. The transport of the Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) transformer to site is also expected to adopt a route from the north in late 2023.

Roadstone and quarried materials, if not won from borrow-pits onsite, will be delivered from local sources using conventional HGVs throughout March-September 2023, with most arriving from the north and only one from the south (Kirkcudbright).



Frequently-asked questions

What are borrow-pits and how many will the wind farm require?

Borrow-pits are areas within the wind farm site where raw materials such as roadstone can be extracted for use on the construction of the wind farm. This approach avoids importing rock from another source. Creating borrow-pits will incur some noise disturbances but will also reduce the amount of HGV traffic.

It is anticipated that Benbrack will source site won rock from two sources within the site boundary. On completion of the Works these will be restored.

Are there any breeding bird nests on the site?

There have been a number of breeding bird nests on the site and we have made changes to our construction plans to avoid potential interference. A breeding bird protection plan has been created and approved by Dumfries & Galloway Council. We have carried out walkover surveys twice per week during the breeding season and have delayed construction to avoid sensitive periods.

Black Grouse are present in the area and specific measures to minimise any impact on such sensitive creatures are built into our construction plans. These include reducing vehicle speeds and ensuring there is no vegetation clearance or construction within 500 metres of their 'leks' in breeding season.

Will I see the wind farm from my home?

Visualisations of Benbrack are available from a number of different vantage points. Its position on a hill means that yes, the wind farm is visible from a distance but for the most part is concealed by the local landscape. You can view these visualisations by visiting the Energy Consents Unit website or alternatively, please contact community@redrockpower.co.uk with location details and we will endeavour to share a visualisation which is a close representation.

Other than small lights for aviation safety, the wind farm will not be illuminated in any way.

