

CASE STUDY – FEED-IN-TARIFF SCALE WIND

KEY DATA

- Located 6km south-west of Stonehaven, Aberdeenshire
- Single 330kW turbine (Enercon E33)
- Consented March 2013



FERNIEBRAE WIND TURBINE CLIENT: E-GEN PARTNERS LTD

e-Gen Partners Ltd are a collaborative partnership based in Scotland focussed on developing renewable energy sites working with landowners to share the benefits of renewable energy and agricultural diversification.

Green Cat Renewables have been involved and have provided the technical support in the development of the Ferniebrae wind turbine from the initial site identification, project feasibility, environmental assessment and management throughout the planning process through to a successful decision.

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

There were a number of development issues associated with this project which required detailed assessment and consultation, these were:

- Telecommunications links crossing the site
- Telecommunications masts adjacent to the site
- Impact upon sensitive cultural heritage features
- Noise impact at third party properties
- Impact upon AD Radar at RAF Buchan

THOROUGH CONSULTATION

Through a process of thorough consultation with the relevant consultees and detailed project design a suitable wind turbine scale and location was found which minimised the impact upon the nearby sensitive cultural heritage features, is located outwith any interference zone of the telecommunications links crossing the site and the masts located to the south of the site and meets noise constraints at the nearest 3rd party properties.

The initial planning application proposed a single turbine of 67m to tip height, during the planning consultation the Ministry of Defence raised an objection despite out initial assessments showing that the turbine would not be within line of sight visibility to the AD Radar and RAF Buchan. Consultation with the MoD was undertaken and suitable mitigation was found to be possible by reducing the turbine tip height. The application was subsequently amended to a tip height of 54m. The MoD withdrew their initial objection and with no other outstanding issues the application was consented under delegated powers.