Proposed Battery Energy Storage Site, Corriemoillie

PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT

on behalf of Field Corriemoillie Ltd

Prepared by Alpaca Communications | November 2024

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 This Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report sets out how Field Corriemoillie Ltd ("Field") conducted a programme of public consultation stakeholder engagement with regards to its proposal for a battery energy storage system (BESS), Field Corriemoillie ("the Site") on the land to the north east of the existing Corriemoillie Substation. It has been prepared in accordance with the Energy Consent's Unit's (ECU) Good Practice Guidance for Applications under Section 36 and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 (the ECU Guidance).[1]

1.2 This document provides an overview of the consultation programme undertaken, the feedback received, and an explanation as to how that feedback led to changes to the scheme design.

Summary of Consultation

1.3 Field began consultation by submitting a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) to The Highland Council on 23 May 2024. It is noted that applications made under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) are not subject to the same statutory requirements set out within Part 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (the DMP) and revisions detailed within the Town and Country Planning (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Amendments Regulations 2021 (the PAC Amendment Regulations). The Highland Council (THC) nevertheless recommends that applicants follow the TCPA PAN process for Section 36 applications, to ensure interested parties are given appropriate time and notice to input into the planning process.

1.4 Field also carried out a programme of public consultation in line with the recommendations set out in Section 3.2 of the ECU Guidance, as well as the Scottish Government's Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010: community engagement.[2]

1.5 A suite of consultation material was prepared for the Proposed Development, including information brochures, a website, newspaper advertisements and information boards, all of which are presented in this document.

1.6 Two in-person public consultation events were held at Garve Public Hall, Station Road, Garve, Ross-shire from 2pm-7pm on Wednesday 29th May 2024 and Wednesday 21st August 2024.

Approach to Consultation

1.7 Alpaca Communications was appointed by Field to assist with the pre-application public consultation on the Proposed Development. Alpaca Communications is a specialist public consultation agency with broad expertise in advising on and implementing consultation programmes for both private and public-sector clients.

1.8 Field recognises the importance of early and meaningful public and stakeholder consultation to ensure stakeholder perspectives are considered from the initial stages of project planning and design. By proactively seeking feedback in the pre-application stage, Field has been able to adapt

[1] https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/29/section/36
[2] https://www.gov.scot/publications/good-practice-guidance-applications-under-sections-36-37-electricity-act-1989/pages/3/; https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2010/08/pan-3-2010-community-engagement/documents/pan-3-2010-pdf/pan-3-2010-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/pan%2B3%2B2010.pdf

its proposal to address the concerns of, and feedback from, the local community and other relevant stakeholders where possible.

1.9 Field's programme of public consultation ensures the final planning application has been underpinned and informed by an inclusive and thorough consultation process. Field is also committed to continued engagement as the development progresses and after the planning application has been lodged.

2. Policy Guidance

2.1. Field's approach to engagement for the proposals was guided by the principles provided within Section 3 of the ECU Guidance and the Scottish Government's Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010: community engagement.

2.2. As detailed within Section 1.1 above, the Applicant submitted a PAN, as requested by THC, in accordance with the DMP.

2.3. In particular, in relation to the ECU Guidance, the following recommendations have been followed:

- Holding at least two public consultation events prior to submitting the application, with the final public event held at least 14 days after the first public event.
- Publishing on Field Corriemoillie's website and in a local newspaper notice of each event at least seven days beforehand, and which contains the following:
    - a description of, and the location of, the proposed development.
    - details as to where further information may be obtained concerning the proposed development.
    - the date and place of the public event.
    - a statement explaining how, and by when, persons wishing to make comments to Field relating to the proposal may do so; and
    - a statement that comments made to Field are not representations to the Scottish Ministers and if Field submits an application there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the Scottish Ministers.
- Preparation of this Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report.

2.4. In accordance with PAN 3/2010, Field has adopted a positive approach to engagement which met the following key aims:

- Community engagement must be meaningful and proportionate;
- Community engagement must happen at an early stage to influence the shape of plans and proposals; and
- It is essential for people or interest groups to get involved in the preparation of development plans as this is where decisions on the strategy, for growth or protection, are made.

3. Project Overview

3.1 The Proposed Development is on land to the northeast of the Corriemoillie Substation. The site location can be found below in Figure 1.

3.2 The Proposed Development is for the construction of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a capacity of up to 200 MW including associated infrastructure and ancillary works.

3.3 The Proposed Development would charge and discharge from the electricity transmission network via the adjacent Corriemoillie Substation.

3.4 Whilst the exact battery specifications are still to be determined and will be confirmed as part of the detailed design stage during pre-construction, the principal components of the Proposed Development that form the application for planning consent include:

- A BESS compound each comprising:
    - Individual battery storage units arranged into rows.
    - Medium voltage (MV) skids (one per pair of battery storage units), each of which houses two power conversion system (PCS) units and one medium-voltage transformer.
    - Ancillary infrastructure including low-voltage cabinets, auxiliary transformers and underground ducting and cabling.
- A high-voltage substation compound comprising:
    - High-voltage grid transformers
    - Auxiliary transformers and low-voltage distribution infrastructure
    - An on-site substation building, comprising a control room, high voltage switch room and welfare facilities.
- 5 m high acoustic barriers along the southern and south-eastern boundary of the site and 3 m high palisade security fencing.
- Cut and fill / earthworks and foundational civil structures to create level compounds upon which the batteries, substation and other ancillary structures will be located.
- An underground 132 kV grid connection cable between the substation compound and the Corriemoillie Substation.
- Access arrangements, including two separate access points into the BESS compound.
- Stockproof fencing around the perimeter of the site.
- CCTV and lighting columns across the battery and substation compounds.
- Drainage infrastructure, including one attenuation ponds.
- Landscape and biodiversity mitigation and enhancement

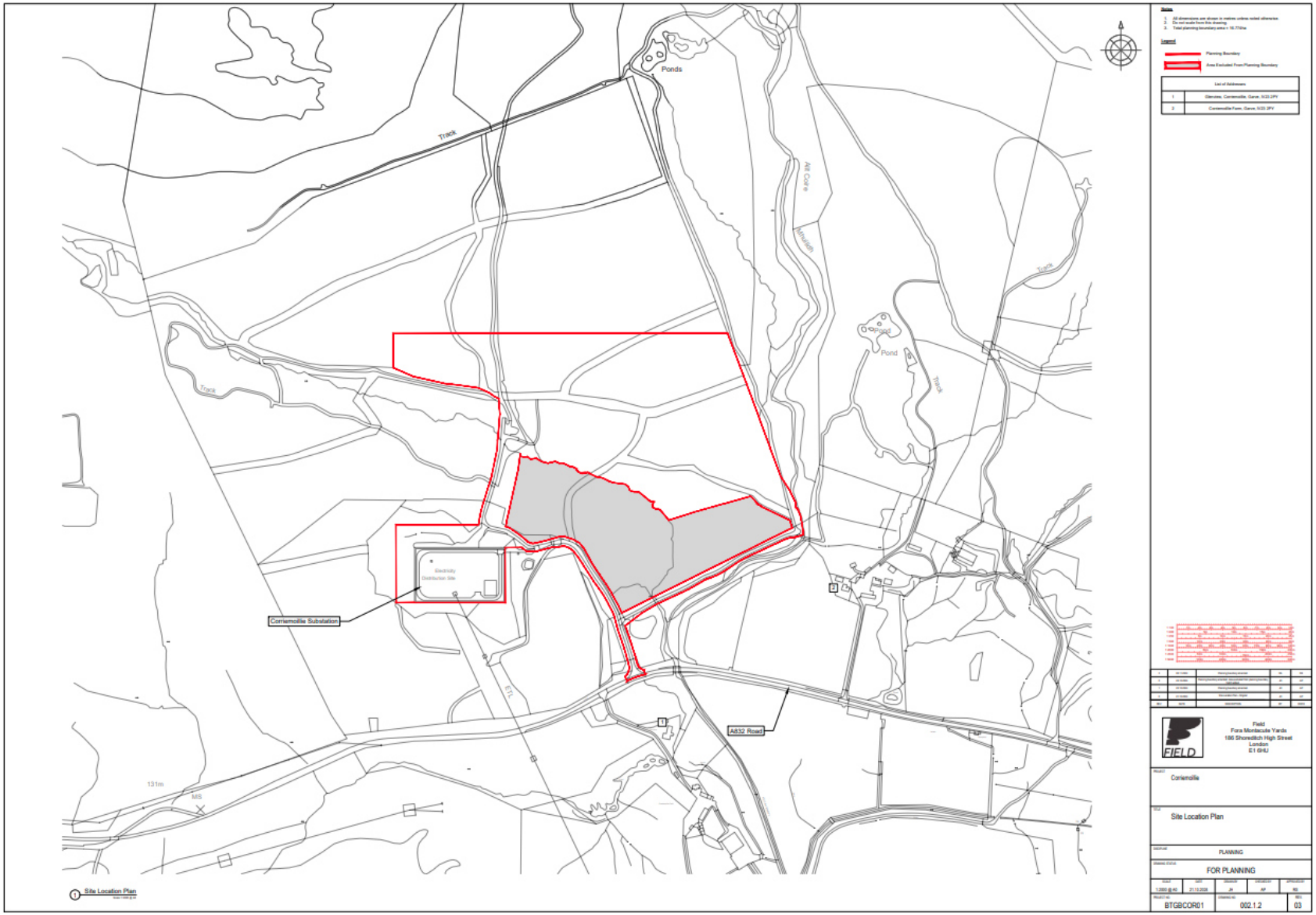


Figure 1: Site location Plan

4. Public Consultation

Consultation Aims

The aims of the consultation were as follows:

- To work with local stakeholders and local residents from an early stage of the Project design to provide them the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Development;
- To raise awareness of the Proposed Development within the local community and to gain their valuable insight based on their local knowledge;
- To gain a firm understanding of the key issues and areas of concern affecting the local community and other key stakeholders;
- To work with key stakeholders to agree key topic areas and associated scopes and methodologies of assessments;
- To ensure the local community and key stakeholders had the opportunity to give feedback on the Proposed Development;
- To provide feedback to the local community based on their comments and concerns;
- To include their feedback within the final Project design, as far as reasonably practicable; and
- To provide a robust planning application including comprehensive assessments and reporting.

Consultation Overview

4.1 Consultation on the Proposed Development began on 21st May 2024, when the development team contacted the site and neighbouring community councils (**Appendix 1**) for a briefing regarding the Proposed Development.

4.2 Field submitted a PAN for the Proposed Development to The Highland Council on 23rd May 2024 (**Appendix 2**).

4.3 Field engaged with the site and neighbouring community councils (CCs): Garve and District CC, Strathpeffer CC, Contin CC and Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon CC with an invitation to the events, a copy of the brochure, and to offer a meeting.

4.4 Field also engaged with the former Ross, Skye and Lochaber MP Ian Blackford, as well as the Caithness, Sutherland and Ross MSP Maree Todd. Both were provided with a copy of the brochure, offered a briefing, and invited to the consultation event.

4.5 Alongside the community councils and local MPs and MSPs (including regional list), Field contacted site ward councillors (Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh) on 24th May, again with a copy of the brochure, invitation to the public consultation events, and an offer of a personal briefing (**Appendix 1**). Tim Eagle MSP responded to the PAN notification, to inform that his colleague Edward Mountain MSP covers this area of the Highlands.

4.6 Members of the Highland Council Leadership Team were also invited to the events, including the Leader of the Council, the Chair of the Economy and Infrastructure Committee, and the Chair of the Climate Change Committee (**Appendix 1**).

4.7 A website for the Proposed Development (**Appendix 3**) was created, which can be accessed at the following address: www.fieldcorriemoillie.co.uk. The website includes an overview of the Proposed Development, details of consultation events, copies of all brochures and information

boards that were available at the consultation events for those that could not attend, a contact email address and feedback form.

4.8 A brochure and invite (**Appendix 4**) were sent out on 21st May to 134 addresses (see **Appendix 5** for postal distribution area). The 134 addresses covered all addresses within a minimum of 2 km radius from the Proposed Development. The brochure invited them to the two public consultation events at Garve Public Hall, Station Road, Garve, Ross-Shire, IV23 2PR from 2pm-7pm on Wednesday 29th May 2024 and Wednesday 21st August 2024.

4.9 Field advertised the public consultation events in a local newspaper (**Appendix 6**). The first public consultation event was advertised in the *Inverness Courier* on Tuesday 21st May, 2024, and the second public consultation event was advertised in the *Inverness Courier* on Tuesday 13th August, 2024.

4.10 Attendees were made aware that pre-application consultation does not remove their right or the potential need to comment on the final application once it is made to the planning authority. Attendees were informed that details of how to comment on the final application would be made available via the project website.

First Public Consultation Event

4.11 The first public consultation event was held at Garve Public Hall, Station Road, Garve, Ross-Shire, IV23 2PR from 2pm-7pm on Wednesday 29th May 2024. Nine display boards were presented to the public, which included information about Field, an overview of the Proposed Development and responses to frequently asked questions about BESS technologies (**see Appendix 7**). This event was undertaken during an early stage of the design process and the public were able to provide comments on the Proposed Development based on those early stage design studies.

4.12 Figure 2 below shows a copy of the early stage concept layout which was presented on the information boards. A more detailed indicative layout plan was also presented for discussion in A3 printed format (**Appendix 9**).

Figure 2: Concept design presented at the first Public Consultation Event

4.13 A total of 14 people attended the first consultation event.

4.14 The feedback at the first consultation event can be summarised as follows:

- Concerns over road access and disruption following the installation of traffic signals on the Contin to Garve road;
- Concerns surrounding the 'weak bridge' that leads to Corriemoillie substation that may result in HGV loads needing to be split;
- Interest in the community benefits provided as part of the Proposed Development; and
- Concerns about safety and fire risk.

4.15 Field's response to this feedback is provided in the table below at section 4.27.

Second Public Consultation Event

4.16 The second public consultation event was held at Garve Public Hall, Station Road, Garve, Ross-Shire, IV23 2PR from 2pm-7pm on Tuesday 9th August 2024.

4.17 All political stakeholders (**Appendix 1**) were contacted again on 12th August 2024 to invite them to the second consultation event.

4.18 In response to the feedback received at the first consultation event, 7 additional display boards were presented at the second event (**Appendix 8**). These additional boards contained information regarding;

- Information about the Construction Traffic Management Plan
- Information regarding Field's other sites across Scotland and the UK
- An additional FAQ board, which covered questions relating to Field Corriemoillie as an SPV, the wider benefits of BESS, why batteries are needed in the Highlands, and how noise impact has been assessed and managed
- A blank board for Community benefit suggestions
- Further information about fire safety plans

4.19 An updated layout board provided details of the latest design of the Proposed Development. An updated FAQ board was also produced to replace those presented at the first event.

4.20 A total of 6 people attended the second consultation event.

4.21 The feedback at the second consultation event can be summarised as follows:

- Concerns regarding visual impact of the Proposed Development;
- Concerns in relation to the proposed construction access routes;
- Interest in the types of planting that would be used for screening; and
- Concerns about safety and fire risk.

4.22 Field's response to the feedback provided may be found in the table below at section 4.27.

Consultation Feedback

4.23 Three completed feedback forms were received from attendees following the events. The results are presented below.

4.24 The feedback form included two multiple choice tick box questions and a space for additional comments.

Question 1: Has this brochure been helpful in understanding our proposal?

YES	NO	NO ANSWER
1	0	2

Question 2: With regards to the proposals you have read about within this brochure, are you:

IN FAVOUR	IN OBJECTION	OF NO OPINION
0	3	0

Question 3: Additional comments

4.25 All three feedback forms contained additional comments. **Appendix 10** contains those comments in full, in addition to Field's response.

4.26 Overall, feedback offered constructive insights on the Proposed Development, with respondents sharing addressable perspectives on the scheme.

4.27 Feedback received during the pre-application consultation process for the Proposed Development has provided Field with an understanding of the key concerns of key stakeholders and the local community. The key issues raised and a summary of how Field has addressed these issues is provided below.

Key Issues Raised	Field's Response
Concern over the fire risk on the BESS site	Field is an industry leader in relation to fire safety. Workstreams undertaken by Field in relation to BESS fire safety include: sitting on government working groups to help define BESS fire safety standards, working closely with suppliers to understand the latest BESS safety features and fire safety testing, and engaging with local fire and rescue services. Field has prepared an Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (OBSMP) to accompany the planning application. The OBSMP details Field's approach to battery safety management, including all measures in place to firstly reduce the risk of a fire event, as well as ensure that an emergency event is responded to safely. These measures include careful equipment selection, compliance with relevant guidance and legislation, consideration of fire safety in site design, and ongoing engagement with the local fire and rescue service.
Interest in screening and type of flora to be used	The Proposed Development has been designed to utilise existing landform and commercial forestry along the southern boundaries of the Site, to minimise views of the Proposed Development from sensitive landscape and visual receptors within the surrounding area. In addition to this, further screening is included within the submitted Landscaping Plan, to further minimise adverse landscape and visual impacts. A robust Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) has been completed to ensure the Proposed Development is compliant with national and local planning policy in relation to landscape and visual impacts.

	The Landscaping Plan has been appropriately designed to use native woodland and heathland species to compliment the existing ecological baseline. This includes the creation and retention of wet heathland habitats and native scrub woodland onsite, ultimately resulting in a biodiversity net gain of greater than 10% for the Proposed Development.
Concern about the potential impacts on the A835 caused by construction traffic and transport.	Following further assessment undertaken by Pell Frischmann as the appointed transport consultant for the project, Field responded to these comments as part of the second public consultation event, providing further information on the maintenance and enhancement of the A835. Further information was provided in relation to Transport Scotland's ongoing works along the A835 and ongoing HGV access along the route through any maintenance works. A detailed technical assessment of potential construction traffic impacts has been undertaken within the submitted Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) included within this S.36 application, also concluding that none of the public bridges along the construction traffic route possesses a weight limit.
Interest in broader community benefits	Field has committed to working with the National Schools Partnership to design a school-based education programme for schools surrounding the Proposed Development. The programme, which launched in August 2024, supports educators to offer secondary school students essential information about the various job opportunities available in the energy sector, the required training for these positions, and the pathways to follow for pursuing these careers. Field has identified target schools for the programme, based on a catchment area from the Proposed Development. This demand-led education strategy bolsters the region's capability to maximise the employment opportunities available in the wider energy transition.

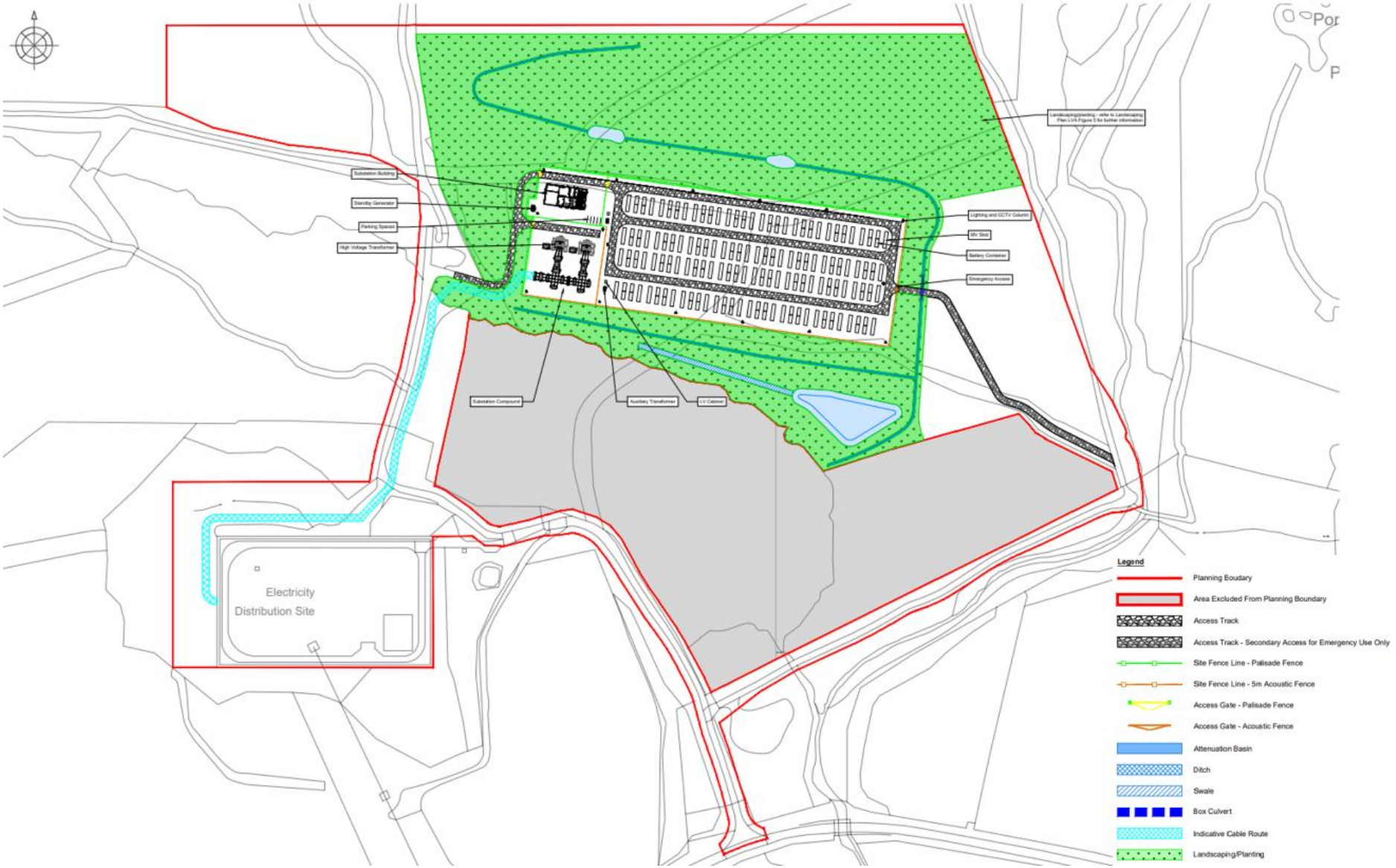


Figure 3: Final Site Layout Plan

5. Other Consultation

5.1 In addition to the public consultation described in section 5, the Applicant has carried out extensive consultation with other relevant stakeholders and government agencies to inform the development of the planning application. This consultation is summarised below, and additional information is available within each relevant technical assessment.

Consultee	Summary	Relevant Assessment
The Highland Council, Planning	Pre-application consultation was undertaken with the Highland Council's Planning team through the PAN consultation process (THC ref. 24/02669/PAN). The subsequent decision notice provided detailed material considerations that would be considered when a planning application is received. Based on the information provided, TNEI have undertaken a Planning Appraisal of the Proposed Development in line with those material consideration raised by the Highland Council, as well as other material considerations which are understood to be relevant. Time constraints associated with the Highland Council's pre-application advice service inhibited the project's ability to complete pre-application advice with the Highland Council in line with commercial restrictions place of the project's programme. It is however understood all technical reporting included within this Section 36 submission has addressed for any concerns that may be raised or recommended during this pre-application advice process.	Planning, Design and Access Statement (TNEI, 2024)
The Highland Council, Environmental Health Officer (North) (EHO)	Pre-application consultation was undertaken with the Highland Council's EHO. The EHO has agreed the methodology for the noise assessment and specified the criteria that are required to be met for the noise assessment. The consultation is documented in the Noise Impact Assessment.	Noise Impact Assessment (WSP, 2024)
The Highland Council, Transport Planning	No formal response or concerns were raised by the Highland Council's Transport Planning Officer during the PAN consultation or determination process. For this reason, no further consultation was undertaken with this consultee with a robust technical assessment undertaken in the form of the submitted Transport Statement and CTMP.	Transport Statement and CTMP (Pell Frischmann, 2024)
The Highland Council, Landscape Officer	TNEI requested pre-application consultation with the Highland Council's Landscape Officer. The purpose of this approach was to agree on selected viewpoints to be included within the Landscape and Visual Assessment (LVA). In absence of a response from the Landscape Officer, the viewpoints included within the LVA have been selected based on the professional advice and assessment undertaken by TGP.	Landscape and Visual Appraisal (TGP, 2024)
Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)	Haydn Evans as the appointed Flood Risk and Drainage Consultant for the project, sought pre-application advice from SEPA via email to review and agree on the proposed flood risk and drainage strategy included within this S.36 submission. SEPA	Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Impact

Consultee	Summary	Relevant Assessment
	subsequently directed Haydn Evans towards the water permitting team at SEPA for further information on regulatory advice and discharge to watercourses. No further drainage advice could be provided at this stage with a recommendation to seek pre-application consultation advice via the Highland Council's formal pre-application advice service discussed above.	Assessment (Haydn Evans, 2024)

6. Design Changes Following Consultation

6.1. Over the course of the pre-application consultation period, Field has made several changes to the site design as a result of stakeholder engagement, the progression of environmental studies and constructability requirements. In addition to design changes, Field has also committed to the development of additional technical assessments to accompany the planning application in response to points raised during the consultation period.

6.2. These changes include:

- Inclusion of a secondary emergency access point into the BESS compound to allow alternative access points to account for prevailing wind conditions, as well as the submission of an Outline Battery Safety Management Plan.
- Embedded biodiversity retention and enhancement to ensure the Proposed Development delivers significant biodiversity enhancements in accordance with relevant policy and guidance.
- Construction of acoustic walls along the southern and south-eastern boundary to reduce noise impacts on surrounding noise sensitive receptors.
- Reduction of the overall development footprint and impact profile through the selection of a smaller candidate battery technology.
- Introduction of an attenuation basin to ensure surface water run-off does not exceed greenfield run-off rate.
- Implementation of looped internal access roads to ensure vehicles can traverse the site in forward gear.
- Submission of a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) to demonstrate there are no significant impacts on traffic during the construction, operation or decommissioning of the Proposed Development.

7. Conclusion

7.1. Feedback highlighted local concerns and perspectives regarding the Proposed Development, offering useful insights for further review. Most feedback related to construction traffic and fire safety associated with BESS technology.

7.2. Field ensured that the concerns and questions of the local community were addressed through the provision of additional information at the second consultation event, as well as detailing further on the ongoing impact assessments in areas of concern.

7.3. In addition to public consultation, Field has undertaken extensive consultation with other key stakeholders, including relevant departments within The Highland Council, as well as Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA).

7.4. The feedback and advice received through consultation with the community and relevant stakeholders has informed the final design and supporting technical assessments to ensure all relevant planning and environmental issues have been appropriately considered.

8. Appendices

- **Appendix 1**: List of contacted stakeholders
- **Appendix 2:** Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) including PAN Covering Letter and Site Location Plan
- **Appendix 3:** Field Corriemoillie website
- **Appendix 4:** Local resident invite brochure
- **Appendix 5**: Local resident invite brochure distribution area
- **Appendix 6**: Public consultation event newspaper adverts
- **Appendix 7**: First consultation event boards
- **Appendix 8:** Second consultation event boards
- **Appendix 9:** A3 printed indicative layout for consultation
- **Appendix 10**: Comments received via feedback form and Applicant's response

Appendix 1: List of Stakeholders contacted

Name	Position
Cllr Raymond Bremner	Leader of the Council
Cllr Ken Gowans	Chair, Economy and Infrastructure Committee
Cllr Sarah Fanet	Chair, Climate Change Committee
Cllr Dr Chris Birt	Site Ward Councillor (Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh)
Cllr Biz Campbell	Site Ward Councillor (Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh)
Cllr Patrick Logue	Site Ward Councillor (Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh)
Cllr Liz Kraft	Site Ward Councillor (Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh)
Ian Blackford/ Jamie Stone (boundary changes for 2024 election)	Site MP (Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross)
Maree Todd	Site MSP (Caithness, Sutherland and Ross
Douglas Ross	Regional List MSP (Highlands and Islands)
Edward Mountain	Regional List MSP (Highlands and Islands)
Rhoda Grant	Regional List MSP (Highlands and Islands)
Tim Eagle	Regional List MSP (Highlands and Islands)
Ariane Burgess	Regional List MSP (Highlands and Islands)
Jamie Halcro Johnston	Regional List MSP (Highlands and Islands)
Emma Roddick	Regional List MSP (Highlands and Islands)
Garve and District CC	Site Community Council
Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon CC	Neighbouring Community Council
Contin CC	Neighbouring Community Council
Strathpeffer CC	Neighbouring Community Council

The below email was sent to all stakeholders listed above ahead of the first consultation event, along with a copy of the consultation brochure. A follow up email was sent ahead of the second consultation event.

Dear XXXXXX,

I am contacting you by way of courtesy on behalf of Field regarding proposals for a battery energy storage system (Field Corriemoillie) on land north of the A832 and east of Corriemoillie Substation, IV23 2PY. The battery will have a capacity of up to 200 MW and will store and provide electricity to create a greener and more stable grid.

***We will be holding our first public consultation event on Wednesday 29th May 2pm-7pm, at Garve Public Hall, Station Road, Garve, Ross-Shire, IV23 2PR**. This will provide the local community with information about the proposal and give them the opportunity to ask any questions they may have.*

Please find attached a brochure with further information about our proposal and public consultation events, which will shortly be sent to local households. We also have a project website which may be accessed at www.fieldcorriemoillie.co.uk.

Please do let me know if you have any questions or if you would like a briefing on the proposal. Alternatively, we would be glad to welcome you at our events.

Appendix 2: Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) including PAN Covering Letter and Site Location Plan

Proposal of Application Notice

The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE
MOLADH BRATH IARRTAIS

The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 as amended by the Planning Etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 and Planning (Scotland) Act 2019

Town and Country Planning (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2021

The Council will respond within 21 days of validation the Notice. It will advise whether the proposed Pre-application Consultation is satisfactory or if additional notification and consultation above the statutory minimum is required.

Please note that a planning application for this proposed development cannot be submitted less than 12 weeks from the date the Proposal of Application Notice is received by the Council and without the statutory consultation requirements having been undertaken. The planning application must be accompanied by a Pre-application consultation report.

The Proposal of Application Notice will be valid for a period of 18 months from the date of validation of the notice by the Council.

Data Protection
Your personal data will be managed in compliance with the Data Protection legislation. You can read our privacy notice for planning related certificates on the Council's website at: https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory_record/1052173/planning_applications_consents_and_notice_of_review ☒I have read and understood the privacy notice.

Contact Details			
Applicant	Field Corriemoillie Ltd	Agent	James McBride (On behalf of TNEI Services Ltd)
Address	Fora Montacute Yards, Shoreditch High Street, London, E1 6HU	Address	7th Floor, 80 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5UB
Phone	07934 144993	Phone	0141 260 0361
Email	[redacted]	Email	[redacted]

Address or Location of Proposed Development
Please state the postal address of the prospective development site. If there is no postal address, please describe its location. Please outline the site in red on a base plan to a recognised metric scale and attach it to this completed Notice.
Land 200 m northeast of Garve, Lochluichart, centered at an approximate National Grid Reference (NGR): NH 35061 64099 and is situated within the postcode IV23 2PY.

Description of Development
Please include detail where appropriate – e.g. the number of residential units; the gross floorspace in m² of any buildings not for residential use; the capacity of any electricity generation or waste management facility; and the length of any infrastructure project. Please attach any additional supporting information.
Construction and operation of a Battery Energy Storage System along with associated infrastructure and ancillary works, earthworks, access, drainage, cable route, landscaping, and biodiversity enhancements.

Pre-application Screening Notice	
Has a Screening Opinion been issued on the need for a Proposal of Application notice by the Highland Council in respect of the proposed development? If yes, please provide a copy of this Opinion.	
☐Yes	☒No

Community Consultation State which other parties have received a copy of this Proposal of Application Notice.	
Community Council/s	**Date Notice Served**
• Garve and District CC • Strathpeffer CC • Contin CC • Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon CC	23rd May 2024
Local Elected Members	**Date Notice Served**
• Chris Birt - Ward Councillor for Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh • Isabelle (Biz) Campbell - Ward Councillor for Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh • Liz Kraft - Ward Councillor for Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh • Patrick Logue - Ward Councillor for Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh • Cllr Raymond Bremner – Leader of the Council • Cllr Ken Gowans - Chair, Economy and Infrastructure Committee • Cllr Karl Rosie - Chair, Climate Change Committee	23rd May 2024
Members of Scottish Parliament and Members of Parliament	**Date Notice Served**
• Ian Blackford MP - MP for Ross, Skye and Lochaber • Maree Todd MSP - MSP for Caithness, Sutherland and Ross • Kate Forbes - Neighboring MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch • Douglas Ross – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands • Edward Mountain – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands • Rhoda Grant – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands • Tim Eagle – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands • Ariane Burgess – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands • Jamie Halcro Johnston – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands • Emma Roddick – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands	23rd May 2024
Names / details of other parties	**Date Notice Served**
n/a	n/a

Details of Proposed Consultation		
Proposed Public Event 1	**Venue**	**Date and Time**
Event 1	Garve Public Hall, Station Road, Garve, Ross-Shire, IV23 2PR	Wednesday, 29th May 2024 from 2 PM to 7 PM
Proposed Public Event 2 *(at least 14 days after Public Event 1)*	**Venue**	**Date and Time**
Event 2	Garve Public Hall, Station Road, Garve, Ross-Shire, IV23 2PR	Tuesday, 9th August 2024 from 2 PM to 7 PM

Publication of Event		
Newspaper Advert	**Name of Newspaper**	**Advert Date**
Event 1	The Inverness Courier	Tuesday 21st May
Event 2	The Inverness Courier	Wednesday 31st July

Details of any other consultation methods (date, time and with whom)
Field Corriemoillie Website - https://www.fieldcorriemoillie.co.uk/ Consultation brochure drop to all properties within **a minimum of** 2 km of the site, **extending up to 5km to incorporate the nearby village of Garve.**

Signed	[redacted]	Date	**14/06/2024**

Covering Letter

tnei

14 June, 2024

Ref: 16621-002-R1

Planning and Building Standards
ePlanning Centre
The Highland Council
Glenurquhart Eoad
Inverness
IV3 5NX

Copy: Sent by email only to -
eplanning@highland.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE (PAN) FOR PROPOSED BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) DEVELOPMENT WITH AN INSTALLED STORAGE CAPACITY OF UP TO 200 MW ON LAND 200M NORTHEAST OF CORRIEMOILLIE SUBSTATION, GARVE, LOCHLUICHART, IV23 2PY.

On behalf of Field Corriemoillie Limited (Field/the Applicant), TNEI Services Limited (TNEI) has enclosed a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) for the construction and operation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with an installed storage capacity of up to 200 MW (the 'Proposed Development') located on land 200 m northeast of Corriemoillie Substation, Garve, Lochluichart (the 'Site').

The Site is approximately centered at National Grid Reference (NGR) NH 35061 64099, the nearest postcode is IV23 2PY, and the total Site area is c. 17.5 hectares (ha) however, c. 11.7 ha of the Site area will incorporate the BESS development area, while the remaining c.5.8 ha will constitute the Indicative Grid Connection and Access Corridor. The Site's location is identified as per the Red Line Boundary contained within the attached Site Location Plan (figure ref. 16622-003-R2) submitted alongside this document, and the completed application form; taken together these documents constitute the PAN Notification request.

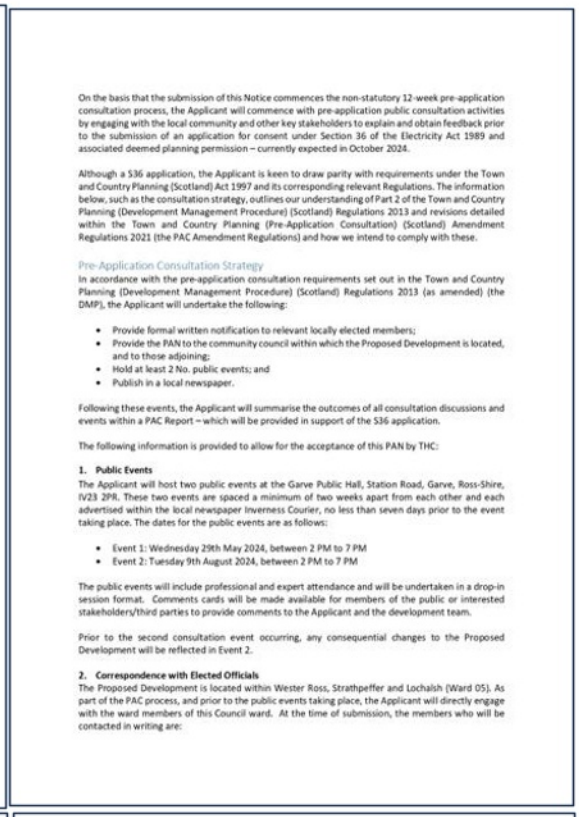
The Proposed Development will have an installed storage capacity of up to 200 MW, subsequently requiring the Applicant to submit a Section 36 (S36) Application under the Electricity Act (1989) to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) for determination by the Scottish Ministers. A PAN is not a statutory requirement for an application made under S36 of the Electricity Act 1989 and is therefore submitted alongside this document under the specific direction of The Highland Council (THC).

As this application includes a S36 submission to the Scottish Ministers under the Electricity Act, the Proposed Development is not a major development as indicated within The Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Development) (Scotland) Regulations 2009. The size and scale of the total Site Area included within this application is however consistent with that of a major development had it been subject to determination under the TCPA.

The purpose of submitting a PAN is to inform THC of the pre-application process the Applicant proposes to undertake ahead of the S36 submission. A Pre-Application Consultation Report (PAC Report) will be submitted alongside the S36 application to detail the outcomes of the pre-application consultation process.

Newcastle
7th Floor, West One
Forth Banks
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE1 3PA

Tel: +44(0)191 211 1400
Email: info@tneigroup.com
Website: www.tneigroup.com



On the basis that the submission of this Notice commences the non-statutory 12-week pre-application consultation process, the Applicant will commence with pre-application public consultation activities by engaging with the local community and other key stakeholders to explain and obtain feedback prior to the submission of an application for consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 and associated deemed planning permission – currently expected in October 2024.

Although a S36 application, the Applicant is keen to draw parity with requirements under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and its corresponding relevant Regulations. The information below, such as the consultation strategy, outlines our understanding of Part 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 and revisions detailed within the Town and Country Planning (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 (the PAC Amendment Regulations) and how we intend to comply with these.

Pre-Application Consultation Strategy

In accordance with the pre-application consultation requirements set out in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (as amended) (the DMP), the Applicant will undertake the following:

- Provide formal written notification to relevant locally elected members;
- Provide the PAN to the community council within which the Proposed Development is located, and to those adjoining;
- Hold at least 2 No. public events; and
- Publish in a local newspaper.

Following these events, the Applicant will summarise the outcomes of all consultation discussions and events within a PAC Report – which will be provided in support of the S36 application.

The following information is provided to allow for the acceptance of this PAN by THC:

1. Public Events

The Applicant will host two public events at the Garve Public Hall, Station Road, Garve, Ross-Shire, IV23 2PR. These two events are spaced a minimum of two weeks apart from each other and each advertised within the local newspaper Inverness Courier, no less than seven days prior to the event taking place. The dates for the public events are as follows:

- Event 1: Wednesday 29th May 2024, between 2 PM to 7 PM
- Event 2: Tuesday 9th August 2024, between 2 PM to 7 PM

The public events will include professional and expert attendance and will be undertaken in a drop-in session format. Comments cards will be made available for members of the public or interested stakeholders/third parties to provide comments to the Applicant and the development team.

Prior to the second consultation event occurring, any consequential changes to the Proposed Development will be reflected in Event 2.

2. Correspondence with Elected Officials

The Proposed Development is located within Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh (Ward 05). As part of the PAC process, and prior to the public events taking place, the Applicant will directly engage with the ward members of this Council ward. At the time of submission, the members who will be contacted in writing are:

- Chris Birt - Ward Councillor for Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh
- Isabelle (Biz) Campbell - Ward Councillor for Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh
- Liz Kraft - Ward Councillor for Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh
- Patrick Logue - Ward Councillor for Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh

Each elected member will receive notification of the dates for the public events, alongside an invitation to attend. They shall also be advised of the contact information for the Applicant and/or their agent (TNEI). Formal correspondence with elected members will take place in writing via email.

Additional public representatives have also been contacted to request engagement prior to the public events taking place, including the following:

- Cllr Raymond Bremner – Leader of the Council
- Cllr Ken Gowans - Chair, Economy and Infrastructure Committee
- Cllr Karl Rosie - Chair, Climate Change Committee
- Ian Blackford MP - MP for Ross, Skye and Lochaber
- Maree Todd MSP - MSP for Caithness, Sutherland and Ross
- Kate Forbes - Neighboring MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch
- Douglas Ross – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands
- Edward Mountain – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands
- Rhoda Grant – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands
- Tim Eagle – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands
- Ariane Burgess – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands
- Jamie Halcro Johnston – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands
- Emma Roddick – Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands

3. Correspondence with Community Councils

At the same time as the notification to the Elected Officials provided above, written notification of the Proposed Development and the public event details will be given to the following Community Councils (CC):

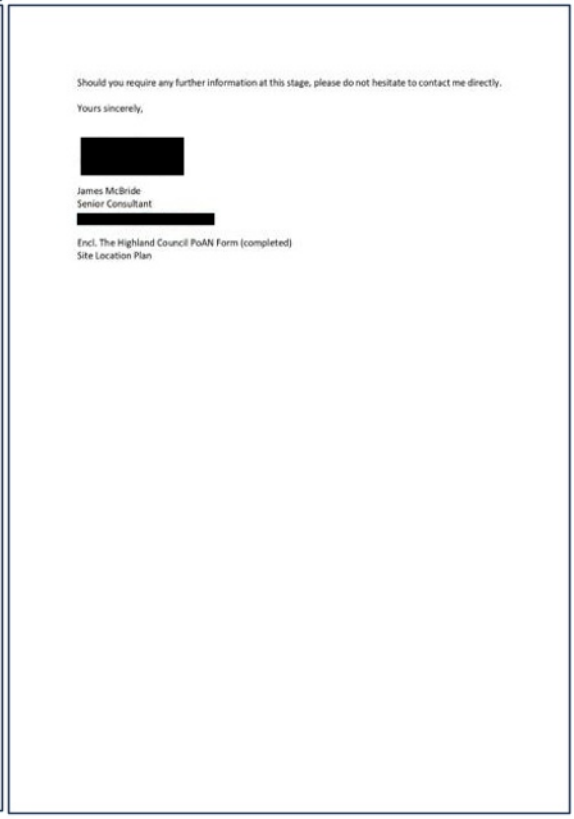
- Garve and District CC
- Strathpeffer CC
- Contin CC
- Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon CC

4. PAC Report

Following the completion of our pre-application consultation activities, we will prepare a PAC Report to accompany the planning application. This will provide a summary of the feedback received, highlighting any specific issues which the public may have raised in respect of the proposed development, and which resulted in modifications to the scheme. Any comments received in writing either during the consultation events, or otherwise will be retained and evidenced within the PAC Report.

Concluding Remarks

We trust that the information provided on our intended pre-application consultation for the Proposed Development is acceptable, and that you can confirm that the formal 12-week application consultation period for these proposals can commence.



Should you require any further information at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

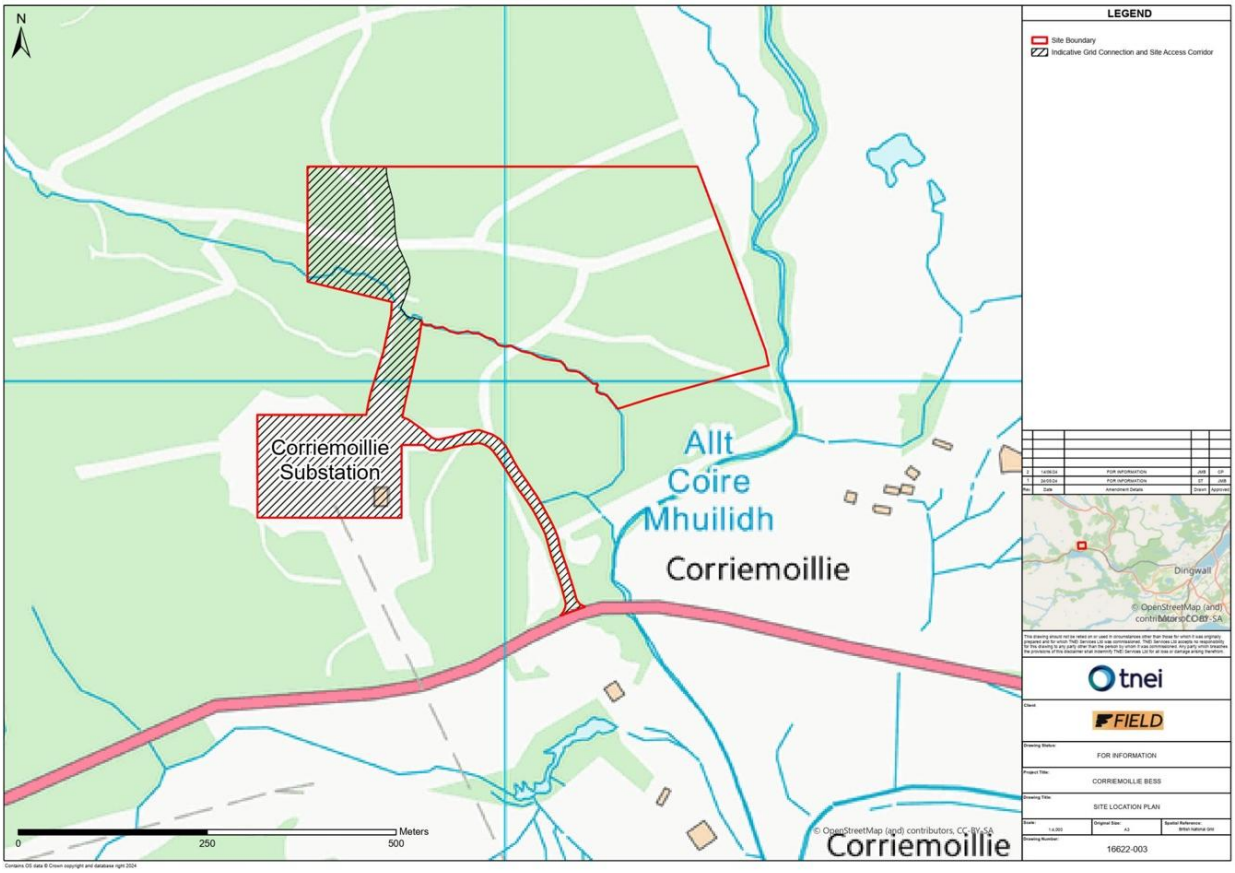
Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

James McBride
Senior Consultant
[redacted]

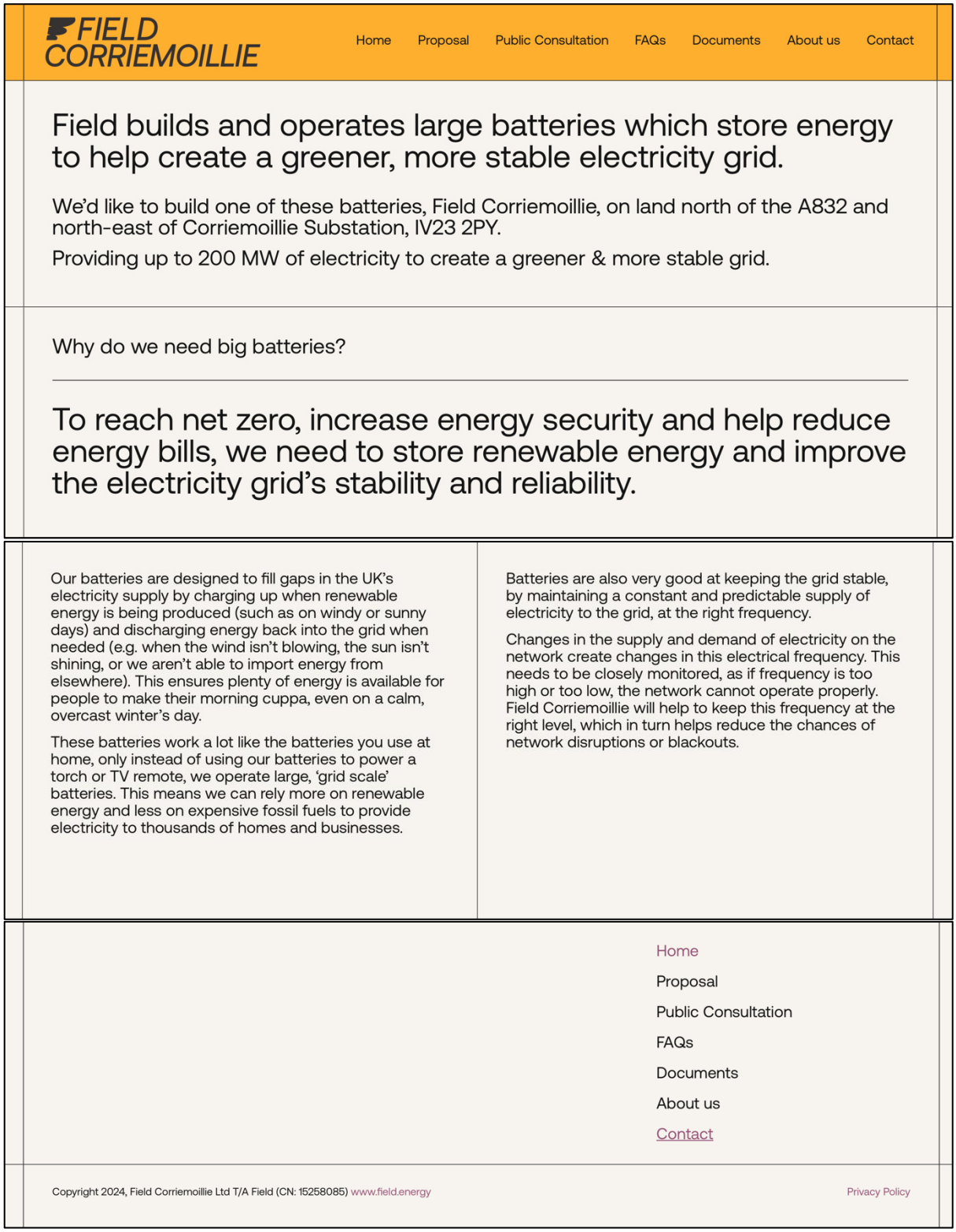
Encl. The Highland Council PoAN Form (completed)
Site Location Plan

Site Location Plan



Appendix 3: Field Corriemoillie Website

Home Page



Proposal Page

FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE

Home Proposal Public Consultation FAQs Documents About us Contact

PROPOSAL

Field Corriemoillie would be located north-east of the existing Corriemoillie substation. The built infrastructure (batteries, cables, access tracks etc.) is proposed to cover an area of approximately 9Ha.

We'll also provide landscaping to reduce visual impacts and biodiversity enhancements so we are having a positive ecological effect on the land we use.

Field Corriemoillie will be made up of the following components:

Battery energy storage units, which will be used to store the energy from the grid.	**Power conversion systems** (including inverters and transformers), which convert energy from alternating current to direct current, so that it can be stored by the batteries.	An **on-site substation,** which either steps up or steps down the voltage of the energy being stored.	An underground **cable connection** to connect the battery to the existing Corriemoillie substation.

Site **access tracks** to allow vehicles (including emergency vehicles) to safely get around the site.	**Drainage arrangements** to allow surface water to drain from the site at the same rate as the existing fields.	**Site security**, including CCTV, fencing and lighting.	**Landscaping** to reduce visual impacts and contribute to biodiversity enhancement.

Working with local communities

Our batteries will provide huge benefits to the UK, and we take great care to make sure this is not to the detriment of the communities that host them.

As a responsible developer and operator, listening to local communities matters to us, as it allows us to understand and respond to local issues, and ultimately build better battery sites.

We engage early with communities throughout the development process, oversee the construction on-site and we're responsible for the project once it's in operation. We're part of communities for the long-term.

Home
Proposal
Public Consultation
FAQs
Documents
About us
Contact

Privacy Policy

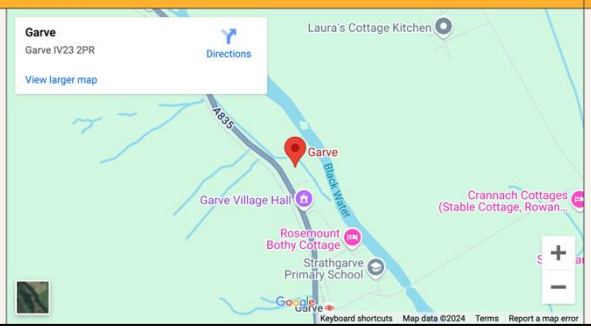
Public Consultation Page

FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE

Home Proposal Public Consultation FAQs Documents About us Contact

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

We held two public consultation events, on Wednesday 29th May and Tuesday 20th August 2024, 2pm-7pm at Garve Public Hall, Station Road, Garve, Ross-Shire, IV23 2PR.



FAQs Page

FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE

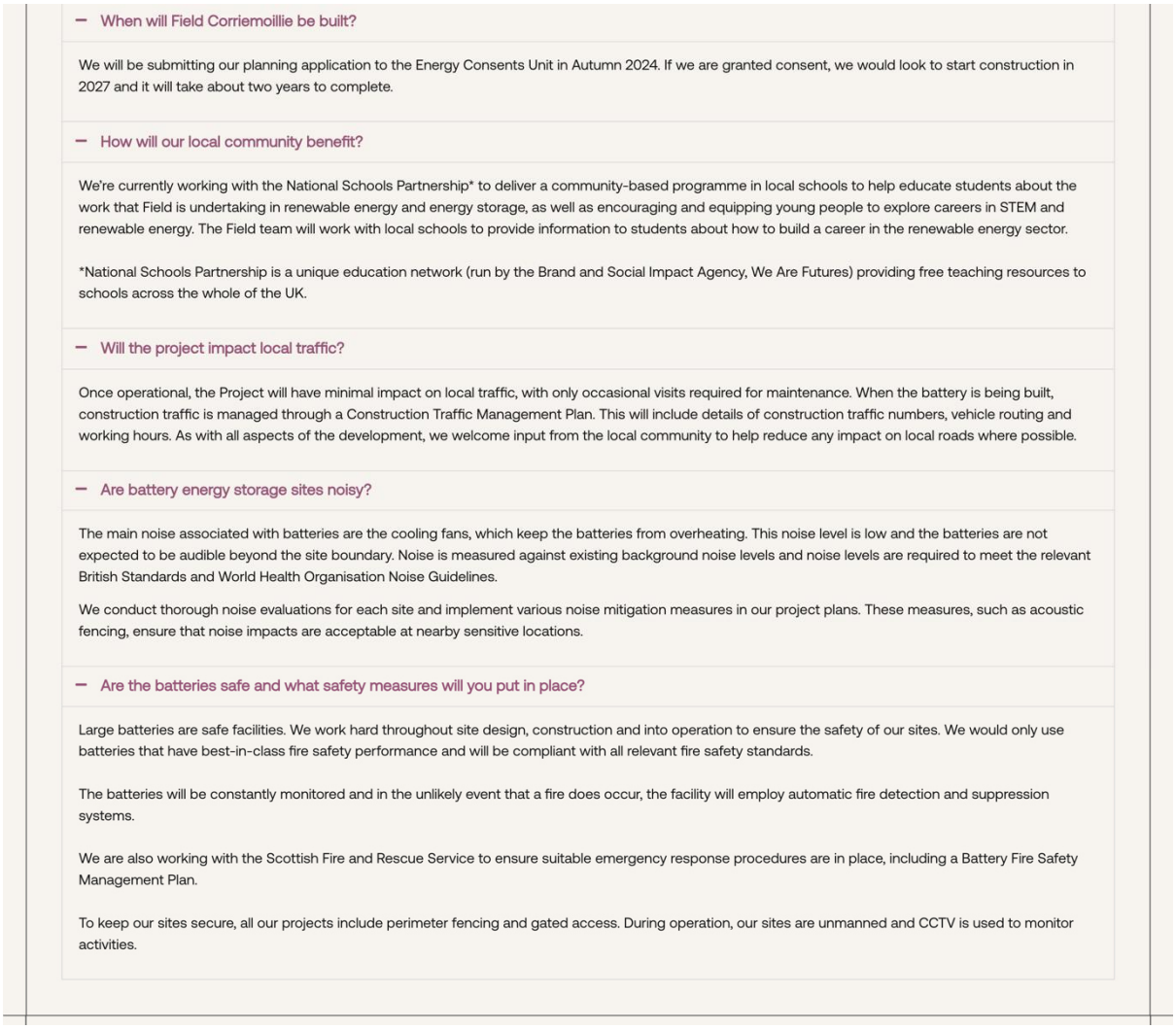
Home Proposal Public Consultation FAQs Documents About us Contact

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

– What makes Field a committed and responsible developer for the long term?

Field is a developer/owner/operator, which means we are responsible for the project throughout its entire lifecycle. This differentiates us from many developers who look to take the project to shovel-ready status – that's securing land, grid connection and planning permission, and then sell the project on.

We will be working with the community during early design and development, construction, and throughout the operation of the project.



– When will Field Corriemoillie be built?

We will be submitting our planning application to the Energy Consents Unit in Autumn 2024. If we are granted consent, we would look to start construction in 2027 and it will take about two years to complete.

– How will our local community benefit?

We're currently working with the National Schools Partnership* to deliver a community-based programme in local schools to help educate students about the work that Field is undertaking in renewable energy and energy storage, as well as encouraging and equipping young people to explore careers in STEM and renewable energy. The Field team will work with local schools to provide information to students about how to build a career in the renewable energy sector.

*National Schools Partnership is a unique education network (run by the Brand and Social Impact Agency, We Are Futures) providing free teaching resources to schools across the whole of the UK.

– Will the project impact local traffic?

Once operational, the Project will have minimal impact on local traffic, with only occasional visits required for maintenance. When the battery is being built, construction traffic is managed through a Construction Traffic Management Plan. This will include details of construction traffic numbers, vehicle routing and working hours. As with all aspects of the development, we welcome input from the local community to help reduce any impact on local roads where possible.

– Are battery energy storage sites noisy?

The main noise associated with batteries are the cooling fans, which keep the batteries from overheating. This noise level is low and the batteries are not expected to be audible beyond the site boundary. Noise is measured against existing background noise levels and noise levels are required to meet the relevant British Standards and World Health Organisation Noise Guidelines.

We conduct thorough noise evaluations for each site and implement various noise mitigation measures in our project plans. These measures, such as acoustic fencing, ensure that noise impacts are acceptable at nearby sensitive locations.

– Are the batteries safe and what safety measures will you put in place?

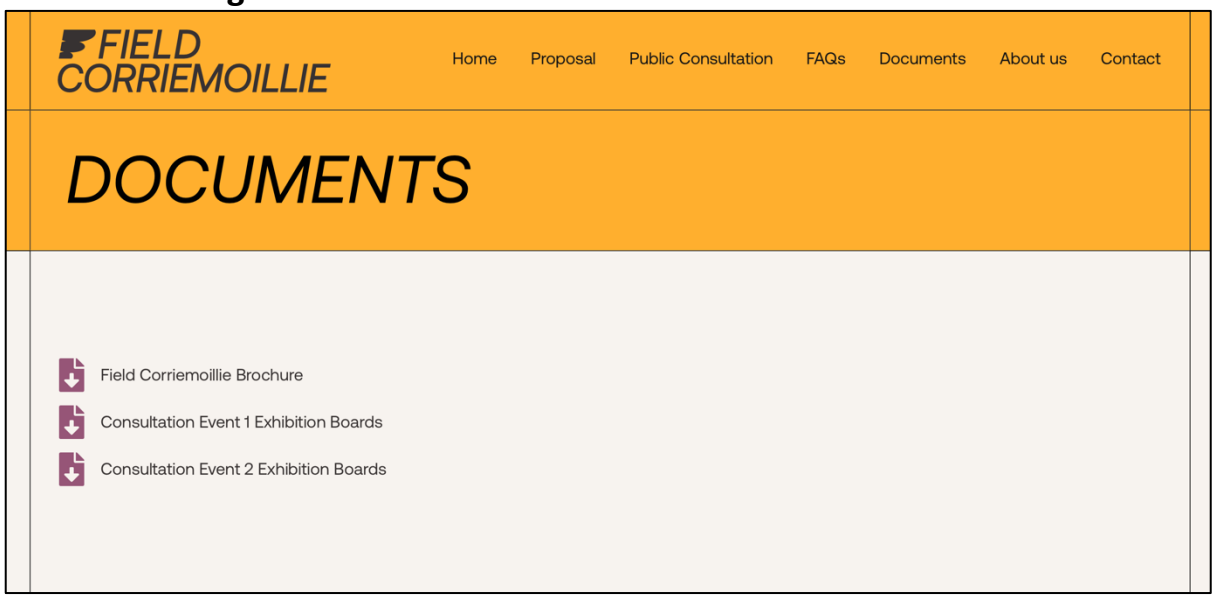
Large batteries are safe facilities. We work hard throughout site design, construction and into operation to ensure the safety of our sites. We would only use batteries that have best-in-class fire safety performance and will be compliant with all relevant fire safety standards.

The batteries will be constantly monitored and in the unlikely event that a fire does occur, the facility will employ automatic fire detection and suppression systems.

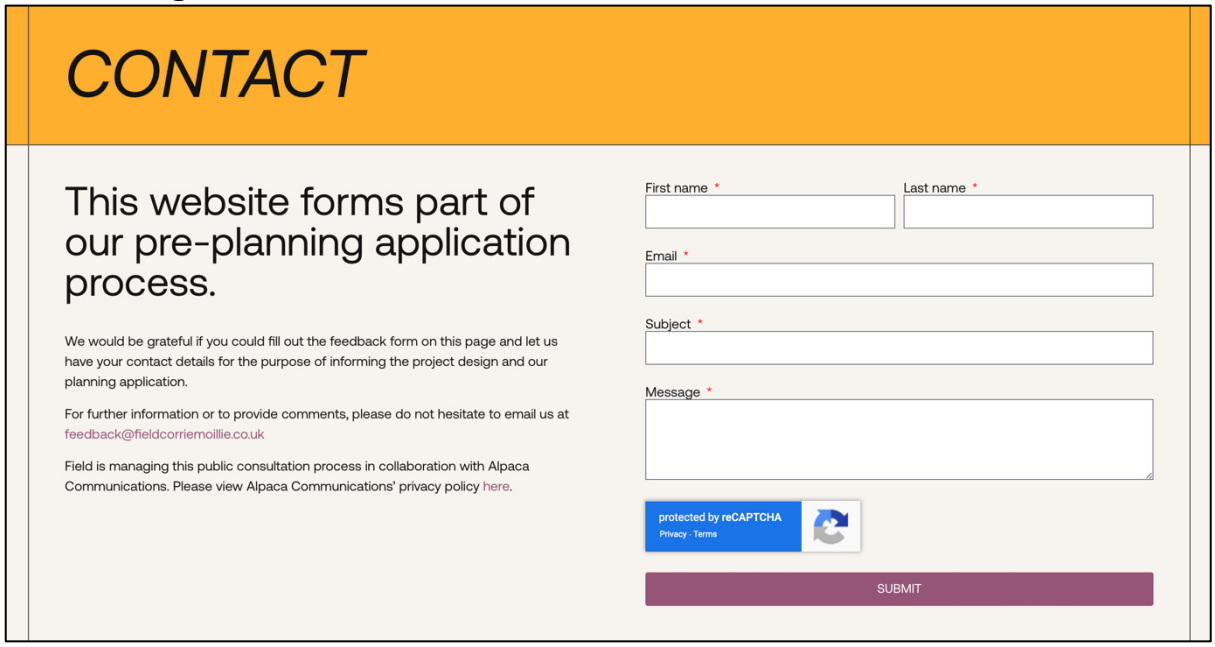
We are also working with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to ensure suitable emergency response procedures are in place, including a Battery Fire Safety Management Plan.

To keep our sites secure, all our projects include perimeter fencing and gated access. During operation, our sites are unmanned and CCTV is used to monitor activities.

Documents Page



Contact Page



Appendix 4: Local Resident invite brochure

FIELD

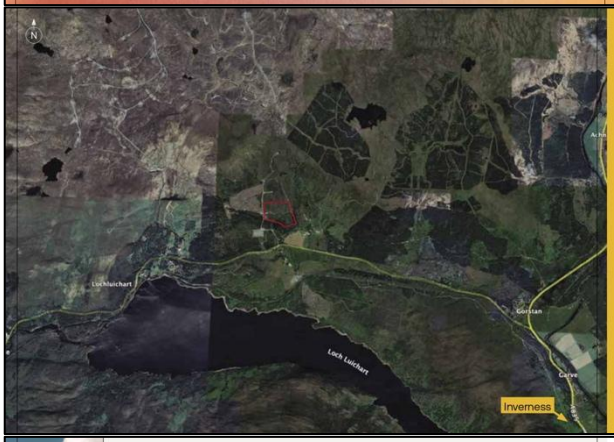
FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE BATTERY STORAGE

Providing up to 200 MW of electricity to create a greener and more stable grid

We are holding two public consultation events on:

Wednesday 29 May 2024 2pm-7pm | **Tuesday 20 August 2024 2pm-7pm**

Garve Public Hall, Station Road, Garve, Ross-Shire, IV23 2PR



WHAT ARE WE PROPOSING TO BUILD AND OPERATE?

Field builds and operates large batteries which store energy to help create a greener, more stable electricity grid.

We'd like to build one of these batteries, Field Corriemoillie, on land north of the A832 and east of Corriemoillie Substation, IV23 2PY.

Field Corriemoillie would connect directly to Corriemoillie substation, and would be capable of storing up to 200 MW of electricity. This is expected to avoid up to 1.4 million tonnes of CO_2e emissions during the first 20 years of operation. This would be achieved by supplying the grid with electricity stored when renewable energy generation is high, therefore reducing reliance on high carbon energy sources when renewable generation is low.

Our first site was Field Oldham, a 20 MW battery which has been operating since Autumn 2022. Field Corriemoillie would join Field Oldham and Field Gerrard's Cross (operational April 2024) as part of a nationwide network which, together, will help the UK reach net zero.

WORKING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Our batteries will provide huge benefits to the UK, and we take great care to make sure this is not to the detriment of the communities that host them.

As a responsible developer and operator, listening to local communities matters to us, as it allows us to understand and respond to local issues, and ultimately build better battery sites.

We engage early with communities throughout the development process, oversee the construction on-site and we're responsible for the project once it's in operation. We're part of communities for the long-term.

WHY DO WE NEED BIG BATTERIES?

To reach net zero, increase energy security and help reduce energy bills, we need to store renewable energy and improve the electricity grid's stability and reliability.

Our batteries are designed to fill gaps in the UK's electricity supply by charging up when renewable energy is being produced (such as on windy or sunny days) and discharging energy back into the grid when needed (e.g. when the wind isn't blowing, the sun isn't shining, or we aren't able to import enough energy from elsewhere). This ensures plenty of energy is available for people to make their morning cuppa, even on a calm, overcast winter's day.

These batteries work a lot like the batteries you use at home, only instead of using our batteries to power a torch or TV remote, we operate large, 'grid scale' batteries. This means we can rely more on renewable energy and less on expensive fossil fuels to provide electricity to thousands of homes and businesses.

Batteries are also very good at keeping the grid stable, by maintaining a constant and predictable supply of electricity to the grid, at the right frequency.

Changes in the supply and demand of electricity on the network create changes in this electrical frequency. This needs to be closely monitored, as if frequency is too high or too low, the network cannot operate properly. Field Corriemoillie will help to keep this frequency at the right level, which in turn helps reduce the chances of network disruptions or blackouts.

STORING ENERGY IN THE HIGHLANDS

Scotland has set a target to become net zero by 2045, with a reduction in greenhouse gases of 90% by 2040*. Batteries enable much greater use of renewable energy, and therefore play an important role in helping Scotland reach net zero.

Batteries are a vital part of how we can make the most of renewable energy, which is why we believe that they can play a part in Highland Council's "Future Highland" Programme. The Highland Council stated in their Net Zero Strategy (2023) that:

"The Council's "Future Highland" Programme sets out a vision of Highland, a centre for global renewable energy, by capitalising on our areas of immense natural capital to deliver alternative energy solutions including developing solar, hydrogen, Hydro, wind and wave solutions."

*https://www.gov.scot/policies/climate-change/

FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE

Field Corriemoillie would be located approximately 200m to the north-east of the existing Corriemoillie substation, connecting to the substation with an underground cable. The built infrastructure (batteries, cables, access tracks etc.) is proposed to cover an area of approximately 9 hectares.

We'll also provide landscaping to reduce visual impacts and biodiversity enhancements so that we are having a positive ecological effect on the land we use.

Field Corriemoillie will be made up of the following components:

- Battery energy storage units, which will be used to store the energy from the grid.
- Power conversion systems (including inverters and transformers), which convert energy from alternating current to direct current, so that it can be stored by the batteries.
- An on-site substation, which either steps up or steps down the voltage of the energy being stored.
- An underground cable connection to connect the battery to the existing Corriemoillie substation.
- Site access tracks to allow vehicles (including emergency vehicles) to safely get around the site.
- Drainage arrangements to allow surface water to drain from the site at the same rate as the existing site.
- Site security, including CCTV, fencing and lighting.
- Landscaping to reduce visual impacts and contribute to biodiversity enhancement.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What makes Field a committed and responsible developer for the long term?

Field is a developer/owner/operator, which means we are responsible for the project throughout its entire lifecycle. This differentiates us from many developers who look to take the project to shovel-ready status - that's securing land, grid connection and planning permission, and then sell the project on.

We will be working with the community during early design and development, construction, and throughout the operation of the project.

When will Field Corriemoillie be built?

We will be submitting our planning application to the Energy Consents Unit in Autumn 2024. If we are granted consent, we would look to start construction in 2027 and it will take about two years to complete.

How will our local community benefit?

We're currently working with the National Schools Partnership* to deliver a community-based programme in local schools to help educate students about the work that Field is undertaking in renewable energy and energy storage, as well as encouraging and equipping young people to explore careers in STEM and renewable energy. The Field team will work with local schools to provide information to students about how to build a career in the renewable energy sector.

*National Schools Partnership is a unique education network (run by the Brand and Social Impact Agency, We Are Futures) providing free teaching resources to schools across the whole of the UK.

Will the project impact local traffic?

Once operational, the battery will have minimal impact on local traffic, with only occasional visits required for maintenance. When the site is being built, construction traffic is managed through a Construction Traffic Management Plan. This will include details of construction traffic numbers, vehicle routing and working hours. As with all aspects of the development, we welcome input from the local community to help reduce any impact on local roads where possible.

Are battery energy storage sites noisy?

The main noise associated with batteries are the cooling fans, which keep the batteries from overheating. This noise level is low and the batteries are not expected to be audible beyond the site boundary. Noise is measured against existing background noise levels and noise levels are required to meet the relevant British Standards and World Health Organisation Noise Guidelines.

We conduct thorough noise evaluations for each site and implement various noise mitigation measures in our project plans where necessary. These measures, which can include acoustic fencing and bunding, ensure that noise impacts are acceptable at nearby sensitive locations.

Are the batteries safe and what safety measures will you put in place?

Large batteries are safe facilities. We work hard throughout site design, construction and into operation to ensure the safety of our sites. We would only use batteries that have best-in-class fire safety performance and will be compliant with all relevant fire safety standards.

The batteries will be constantly monitored and in the unlikely event that a fire does occur, the facility will employ automatic fire detection and suppression systems.

We are also working with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to ensure suitable emergency response procedures are in place, including a Battery Fire Safety Management Plan.

To keep our sites secure, all our projects include perimeter fencing and gated access. During operation, our sites are unmanned and CCTV is used to monitor activities.

FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE
Battery storage

FEEDBACK FORM

To return your completed feedback form please tear it from the brochure and pop it in the post by **Friday 30th August 2024**. Alternatively, you can return your form via email to **feedback@fieldcorriemoillie.co.uk**.

Title: Name:
Address: Postcode:
Email: Telephone:

1. Has this brochure been helpful in understanding our proposal? ❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Not sure
2. With regards to the proposals you have read about within this leaflet, are you:
❑ In favour ❑ In objection ❑ Of no opinion
3. Please use this space to provide any comments on the proposal. We would welcome your feedback on all aspects of the emerging design shown in the brochure.

Please provide your contact details if you wish to get a response. Any information provided will only be used for the purpose of the planning application to the Local Planning Authority and will not be disclosed with any third parties. Your contact details will not be listed on the planning application documentation. Field is managing this public consultation process in collaboration with Alpaca Communications.

Instructions
To return your feedback form, please fold and put it in the post to us.
If you'd like more space to share your thoughts, send us an email, or just write your comments down and pop them in an envelope with 'FREEPOST ALPACA COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED' written on the front. You don't need any further address or stamp.
Any queries or problems? Get in touch via feedback@alpacacommunications.com.

FOLD HERE

Freepost
ALPACA COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED

INDICATIVE TIMELINE

Early 2024	29 May 2024	20 August 2024	Autumn 2024	Early 2025	2027 onwards
Early environmental assessments and design work	Public consultation event 1	Public consultation event 2	Submission of planning application	Determination of planning application	Construction and operation

JOIN US AT OUR PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS

We're on a mission to build the renewable energy infrastructure needed to reach net zero, starting with battery storage. Your feedback can help us to improve our proposals for Field Corriemoillie.

For further information, please visit our website at **www.fieldcorriemoillie.co.uk**.

We're holding two public consultation events at Garve Public Hall, Station Road, Garve, Ross-Shire, IV23 2PR:

Wednesday 29 May 2024 from 2pm-7pm
Tuesday 20th August 2024 from 2pm-7pm

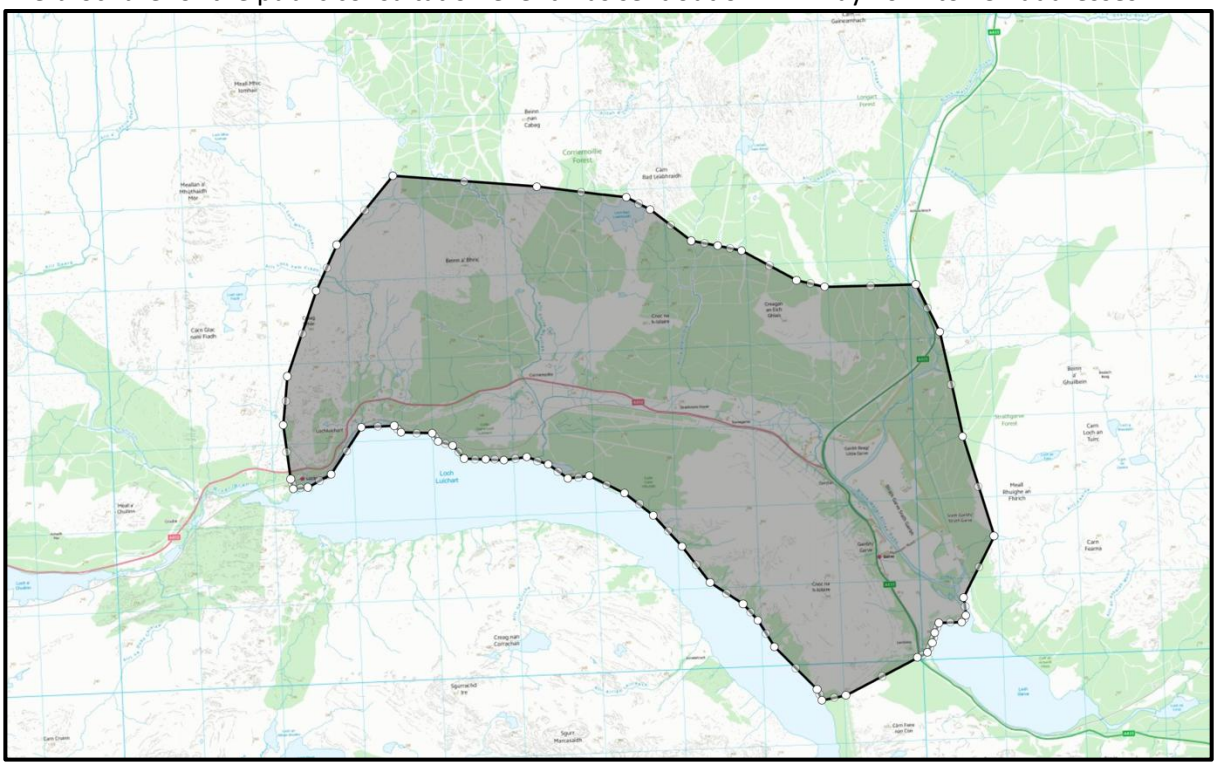
You can submit your feedback to us or write to us via:

Email: **feedback@fieldcorriemoillie.co.uk**

Freepost: **Alpaca Communications Ltd**

Appendix 5: Local resident invite brochure distribution area

The brochure for the public consultation event was sent out on 21st May 2024 to 134 addresses.

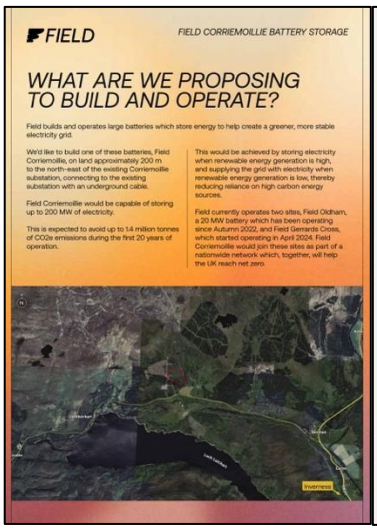


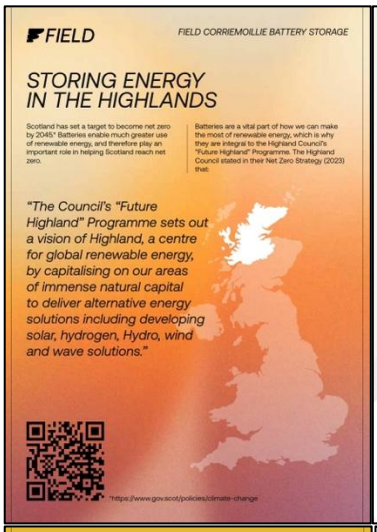
Appendix 6: Public consultation event adverts

Advert posted in the *Inverness Courier* on the 21st May 2024.

Advert posted in the *Inverness Courier* on the 13th August 2024.

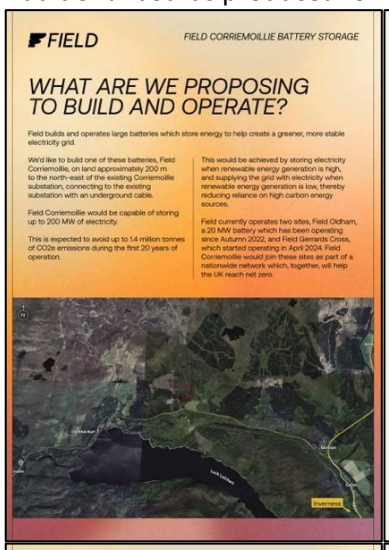
Appendix 7: First consultation event boards

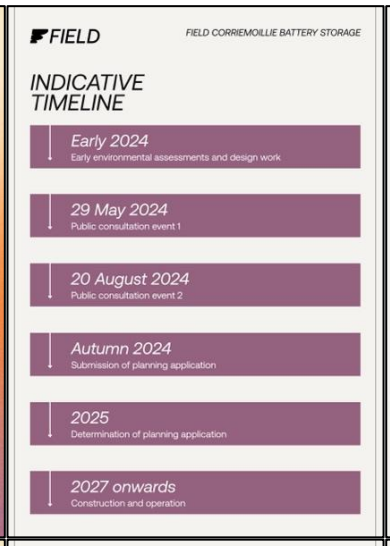


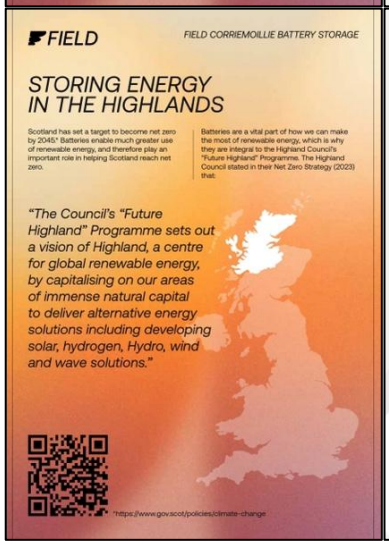


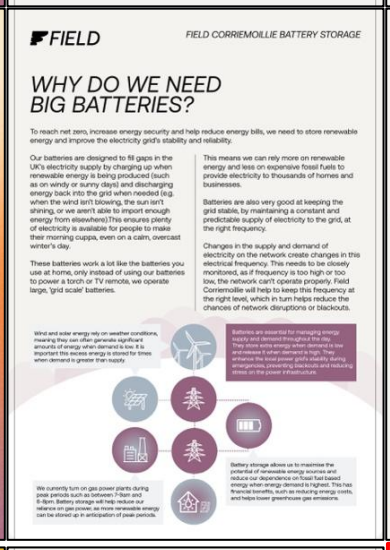
Appendix 8: Second consultation event boards

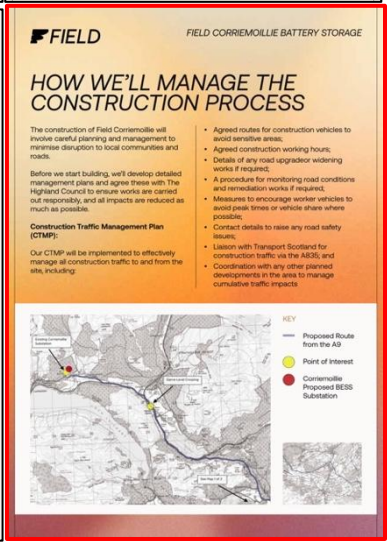
Additional boards produced for the second consultation event have been outlined in **red**.











FIELD

FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE BATTERY STORAGE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How will noise impacts be assessed and managed?
Noise impacts are an important consideration for any new development. For Field Corriemoillie, we have carried out baseline noise surveys to understand the existing background noise conditions around the site. We'll carry out a detailed noise assessment to model the predicted noise levels from the operational battery equipment against existing background levels.

This assessment will identify any potential noise impacts on nearby noise-sensitive receptors like homes. Where potential impacts are identified, we'll incorporate mitigation measures into the design, such as acoustic fencing, earth bunding, and careful orientation of equipment, to ensure operational noise meets relevant regulations.

During construction, noise will also be carefully managed and monitored through our Construction Environmental Management Plan to minimise temporary disturbances to local communities.

How does this help Scotland's energy security?
Scotland has set an ambitious target of becoming net zero by 2045. Achieving this will require a massive increase in renewable energy generation and widespread electrification of transport and heating.

However, this transition also creates challenges around managing Scotland's energy security and resilience as we need more electricity and become more reliant on weather dependent renewable resources like wind and solar power.

Projects like Field Corriemoillie act as giant electric reservoirs, charging up when renewable energy is being produced, ensuring a steady supply of electricity, regardless of the variable renewable conditions. They allow more renewable energy to be used and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

By storing the abundant Scottish renewable energy for when it's needed, batteries will play a vital role in keeping the lights on across the country as we decarbonise towards a net-zero future.

Why do we need batteries in this area?
The Highlands has an abundance of renewable energy resources like wind, hydro and tidal power.

Locating the batteries in close proximity to the Highlands' renewable assets like wind farms ensures this stored energy can be utilised as efficiently as possible, with minimal transmission losses.

At a local level, we've selected a site as close as possible to the existing Corriemoillie substation, which prevents the need for unnecessarily long and intrusive grid connection cables or overhead lines.

Will the project impact local traffic?
Once operational, the battery will have minimal impact on local traffic, with only occasional visits required for maintenance.

When the battery is being built, construction traffic is managed through a Construction Traffic Management Plan. This will include details of construction traffic numbers, vehicle routing and working hours.

As with all aspects of the development, we welcome input from the local community to help reduce any impact on local roads where possible.

Why is Field Corriemoillie its own company only founded in November 2023?
Field Corriemoillie Ltd is a company set up within the Virmati Energy Ltd (trading as Field) group. It is industry standard for projects to have their own company, known as a special purpose vehicle (SPV), for legal and financial reporting as well as auditing reasons. Field Corriemoillie still remains part of Field's portfolio of projects and is managed through Field's main office. Whilst the SPV was set up in November 2023, to align with financial reporting timelines, Field has been developing and working on the project since 2022.

FIELD

FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE BATTERY STORAGE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When will Field Corriemoillie be built?
We'll be submitting our planning application to the Energy Consents Unit in Autumn 2024. If we are granted consent, we would look to start construction in 2027 and it will take about two years to complete.

How will our local community benefit?
We're currently working with the National Schools Partnership* to deliver a community-based programme in local schools to encourage and equip young people to explore careers in STEM and renewable energy. Field will work with local schools to provide information to students about how to build a career in the renewable energy sector.

Will the project impact trees or ecology?
We carry out full ecological surveys to identify any potential ecological impacts, and we provide biodiversity enhancements to compensate for any impacts that do occur. This is typically through the planting of native species as part of our landscaping, which will also help to minimise any potential visual impacts.

Will the project cause flooding or impact drains?
Because our projects contain electrically sensitive equipment, flood risk is a key consideration during site selection and project design. We carry out detailed flood modelling to ensure equipment is located outside or above any modelled flood depths, which also ensures there is no increase to flood risk on or off-site.

Existing flood risk at this site is low. We design andbuild appropriate drainage infrastructure to ensure surface water run-off remains at an acceptable level and does not increase the risk of flooding. These will include rural sustainable drainage solutions, such as swales, which can collect and discharge water into existing drainat no greater rate than the current greenfield situation. Our flood risk assessment and drainage strategy will consider any consequential impact. On nearby areas prone to flooding to ensure the development does not worsen any areas susceptible to flooding locally.

How are cumulative impacts assessed with other developments in the area?
We are aware of several other developments proposed in the surrounding area. We are working with other developers where possible to ensure that cumulative impacts, particularly in relation to noise, traffic and visual impacts, are appropriately managed. The final details of these mitigation measures will be agreed before construction starts, when the exact timelines for all projects are known. We welcome any feedback or knowledge from the local community about other proposals you are aware of, so that we can ensure these are appropriately considered.

Are the batteries safe?
Grid-scale batteries are safe facilities. We work hard throughout site design, construction and into operation to ensure the safety of our sites. We only use batteries that have best-in-class fire safety performance and will be compliant with all relevant fire safety standards.

The batteries will be constantly monitored and in the unlikely event that a fire does occur, the facility will employ automatic fire detection and suppression systems.

We're also working with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to ensure suitable emergency response procedures are in place, including a Battery Safety Management Plan.

How will the site security be managed?
The security and safety of our battery storage facilities is extremely important. Field Corriemoillie will have robust security measures in place, including:

- Perimeter fencing and secure gated access to prevent unauthorized entry
- 24/7 CCTV monitoring of the site
- Appropriate security lighting to aid CCTV coverage
- Routine inspections and maintenance by Field's operational staff.

*National Schools Partnership is a unique education network (run by the Brand and Social Impact Agency, We Are Futures) providing free teaching resources to schools across the whole of the UK.

FIELD

FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE BATTERY STORAGE

WHAT OUR BATTERIES WILL LOOK LIKE

Our battery units will be housed in secure cabinets, similar to those shown in the images below, which were taken at our Field Newport site. These allow for a modular design where individual battery racks can easily accessed during routine inspections and maintenance.

Field Corriemoillie will comprise multiple battery cabinets arranged in rows, known as 'strings'. These will be connected via underground cables to other important electrical infrastructure like transformers, an on-site substation, and underground cabling to the main grid connection point at the existing Corriemoillie substation.

To reduce visual impacts of the proposal, earthworks and native landscaping will also be incorporated to help screen and soften views of the site.

The visualisation shows how Field Corriemoillie battery storage could look from surrounding viewpoints, once operational. While the infrastructure will be visible, our design aims to minimise impacts on the local landscape as much as possible.

FIELD

FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE BATTERY STORAGE

OUR OTHER BATTERY SITES

Field's experienced team manages each battery storage project's full lifecycle. With projects going through every stage of development and operation, we apply learnings and best practices across our portfolio to ensure reliable, safe and sustainable facilities. A brief overview of three of these sites is included below:

Field Oldham
20 MW, near Manchester
Operational

Field Oldham started operating in 2022 and can produce up to 20 MW of electricity. The site is located in a warehouse in the Greater Manchester region.

Field Auchterarw
50 MW, near Fort Augustus
In construction

Field Auchterarw will be capable of producing up to 50 MW of electricity once operational. Located near Fort Augustus, Field is continuing to work closely with The Highland Council, with the project expected to start operating in late-2024.

The project demonstrates Field's expertise in developing battery storage on greenfield sites while prioritising landscaping and biodiversity measures to complement the surrounding environment. We've worked closely with the local community to manage traffic impacts, including implementing a one-way system for construction traffic to half the number of construction vehicles on a sensitive local road in response to concerns raised by the community.

Field Gerrards Cross
20 MW, Buckinghamshire
Operational

Field Gerrards Cross started operating in April 2024 and can produce up to 20 MW of electricity. The site occupies an existing industrial site alongside an operating water treatment plant.

With automated systems, industry-leading safety protocols, and 24/7 remote monitoring in place, Field Gerrards Cross and Field Oldham highlight our commitment to safe, responsible operations.

FIELD

FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE BATTERY STORAGE

FIRE SAFETY MANAGEMENT

Safety is our top priority. We take a comprehensive approach to fire risk management through careful design, operating procedures, and emergency planning.

Battery Design and Safety Systems

- Batteries must be compliant with all relevant fire codes and safety standards, and we'll only use batteries with the highest fire safety ratings and performance will be used.
- Battery containers are fitted with early fault and fire detection technology, internal fire suppression systems, and reinforced casing to ensure fires do not spread to other units.
- Appropriate separation distances are provided between battery strings, access roads, and surrounding properties to ensure firebreaks are in place.

Emergency Planning and Response

- A detailed Battery Safety Management Plan is being developed, which will be agreed with relevant authorities before the project starts operating. This identifies potential hazards and associated safety mechanisms for the long-term operation of the Project.
- Field is continuing to engage with the National Fire Chiefs Council and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service across our portfolio of projects, including regular on-site consultations and site familiarisation visits. An Emergency Response Plan will be prepared in consultation with the Fire and Rescue Service for use in the unlikely event that there is an emergency on site.

Construction & Operation Oversight

- 24-hour surveillance and fault detection systems will ensure any faults are identified, isolated and responded to as quickly as possible, including de-energisation when necessary.
- Field will undertake routine site inspections, maintenance and testing throughout the life of the project.

Field is committed to implementing industry best practices and working closely with fire authorities to ensure the safety of our facilities, our staff, and local communities. We welcome any further inputs as we finalise the fire safety approach for Field Corriemoillie.

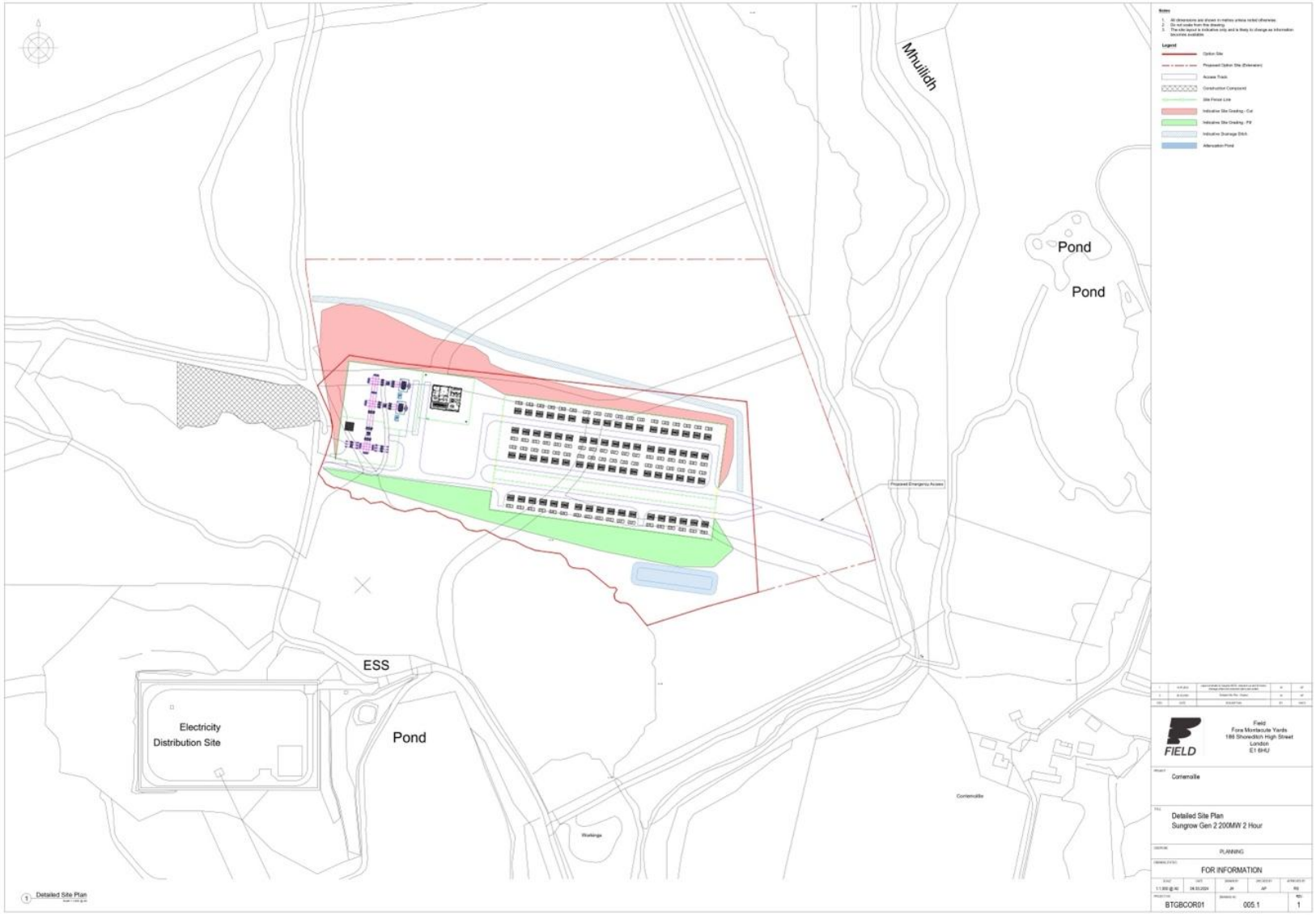
FIELD

FIELD CORRIEMOILLIE BATTERY STORAGE

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

We are interested in hearing from the local community on potential community benefit suggestions within the local area. Please provide your suggestions on the board below, using the pens and sticky notes provided.

Appendix 9: A3 printed indicative layout for consultation



Appendix 10: Comments received via feedback form and Applicant's response

COMMENTS RECEIVED	FIELD'S RESPONSE
I object to a lithium bomb being installed in a beautiful scenic area. Especially to serve the green propaganda machine of the elitist hypocrites. Install it in the English cities it is going to service.	**Battery storage in the Highlands** Scotland has set a target to become net zero by 2045. Batteries enable much greater use of renewable energy, and therefore play an important role in helping Scotland reach net zero. Batteries are a vital part of how we can make the most of renewable energy, which is why they are integral to the Highland Council's "Future Highland" Programme. **Battery safety** Field takes a comprehensive approach to fire risk management through careful design, operating procedures, and emergency planning. Field is an industry leader in relation to fire safety. Workstreams undertaken by Field in relation to BESS fire safety include: sitting on government working groups to help define BESS fire safety standards, working closely with suppliers to understand the latest BESS safety features and fire safety testing and engaging with local fire and rescue services. Field has prepared an Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (OBSMP) to accompany the planning application. The OBSMP provides full details on Field's approach to battery safety management, including identifying all potential safety risks that may arise from the Proposed Development as well as the proposed measures in place to avoid and mitigate risks. These include consideration of risks relating to, but not limited to, fire events, site security and emergency access.
This BESS on a shoestring will expose the community to the risk of fire and toxic fumes, all for greed. Destruction of habitat for money - Jessie will be turning in her grave.	**Battery safety** Field takes a comprehensive approach to fire risk management through careful design, operating procedures, and emergency planning. Field is an industry leader in relation to fire safety. Workstreams undertaken by Field in relation to BESS fire safety include: sitting on government working groups to help define BESS fire safety standards, working closely with suppliers to understand the latest BESS safety features and fire safety testing and engaging with local fire and rescue services. Field has prepared an Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (OBSMP) to accompany the planning

	application. The OBSMP provides full details on Field's approach to battery safety management, including identifying all potential safety risks that may arise from the Proposed Development as well as the proposed measures in place to avoid and mitigate risks. These include consideration of risks relating to, but not limited to, fire events, site security and emergency access. **Ecological surveys and biodiversity** We have conducted full ecological surveys to identify any potential ecological impacts. The Proposed Development has been designed to utilise existing landform and commercial forestry along the southern boundaries of the Site, to minimise views of the Proposed Development from sensitive landscape and visual receptors within the surrounding area. In addition to this, further screening is included within the submitted Landscaping Plan, to further minimise adverse landscape and visual impacts. A robust Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) has been undertaken to ensure the Proposed Development is compliant with national and local planning policy in relation to landscape and visual impacts. The Landscaping Plan has been appropriately designed to use native woodland and heathland species to compliment the existing ecological baseline. This includes the creation and retention of wet heathland habitats and native scrub woodland onsite, ultimately resulting in a biodiversity net gain of greater than 10% for the Proposed Development.
I am writing with my feedback on behalf of 5 residents of Corriemoillie Lodge, IV23 2PY, an historic former shooting lodge less than 1/2 mile from your proposed site. Your brochure has "suggested" your proposal but is severely lacking in information about actual site size, number and size of battery containers, health and safety measures etc.. so our answer is NO We are SERIOUSLY OPPOSED to this development **Comments**: Potentially very hazardous installation to have within a small community and very close to our property with children Thermal runaway risk of major uncontrollable lithium-ion fires	**Battery Safety** Field takes a comprehensive approach to fire risk management through careful design, operating procedures, and emergency planning. Field is an industry leader in relation to fire safety. Workstreams undertaken by Field in relation to BESS fire safety include: sitting on government working groups to help define BESS fire safety standards, working closely with suppliers to understand the latest BESS safety features and fire safety testing and engaging with local fire and rescue services. Field has prepared an Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (OBSMP) to accompany the planning application. The OBSMP provides full details on Field's approach to battery safety management, including identifying all potential safety risks that may arise from the Proposed Development as well as the proposed

Fires can't be controlled and have to burn themselves out and can re-ignite days later Forest / hillside location potential spreading wild fires No mains water to help tackle / contain a blaze – irresponsible site choice How will water be contained to prevent water course chemical contamination? Toxic fumes blowing west to local properties including ours! At your consultation you said your batteries would NOT go on fire - you CANNOT say this for sure! You said you don't even know the source of your batteries yet! Chemical seepage and soil contamination Noise Visual impact to ever growing industrialisation of this beautiful area Emerging technology with little knowledge of true impact Eyesore on landscape This proposal by energy traders is purely for profit, not for climate change, net zero targets or for any benefit to the local people affected. Poor quality promotional material, website and consultation reflects a low cost driven company which is very worrying for such a potentially dangerous installation. Company with no history or experience of BESS installations and with an extremely poor track record financially. **Questions**: Please confirm the exact size of the site, (9 hectares?) the number of battery containers (40?) and the size of these containers (40ft x 3m high?) Has the land for this development been bought outright or leased? and if the latter, for how many years? At the consultation you said there would be no attempt to put out a fire if one should take place - is this still the case?	measures in place to avoid and mitigate risks. These include consideration of risks relating to, but not limited to, fire events, site security and emergency access. **Visual Impact** Field has carefully considered potential visual impact. The proposal also includes a Landscaping Plan to demonstrate how the development will be effectively screened. The Landscaping Plan has been appropriately designed to use native woodland and heathland species to compliment the existing ecological baseline. This includes the creation and retention of wet heathland habitats and native scrub woodland onsite, ultimately resulting in a biodiversity net gain of greater than 10% for the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development has been designed to utilise existing landform and commercial forestry along the southern boundaries of the Site, to minimise views of the Proposed Development from sensitive landscape and visual receptors within the surrounding area. In addition to this, further screening is included within the submitted Landscaping Plan, to further minimise adverse landscape and visual impacts. A robust Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) has been completed to ensure the Proposed Development is compliant with national and local planning policy in relation to landscape and visual impacts. **Field's experience** Field is a leading developer, owner and operator of grid-scale batteries across the UK and Europe. Field's aim is to develop battery projects that reduce climate change emissions, support the stable operation of the electricity grid, and bring down electricity prices for consumers. Field currently has 13 BESS projects: 2 in operation, 6 in planning and 3 in construction. Field is committed to maintaining high standards across all aspects of the project, including safety, quality, and community engagement, regardless of cost. **Response to questions:** The size of the Proposed Development is approximately 9 ha, however the built infrastructure will be less than this. We are proposing 128 battery storage units, arranged in pairs. The approximate dimensions of each battery storage unit is 6.1m x 2.9m x 2.4m high.

What H&S measures are you planning to contain contamination of air, land and waterways?	The land for the proposed BESS is subject to a 40 year lease. Fire and safety concerns have been addressed earlier in our response. The Proposed Development will comply with all relevant planning and environmental legislation to prevent contamination of air, land and waterways. This includes potential construction impacts, whereby the Proposed Development would be subject to a Construction Environment Management Plan to prevent impacts on the surrounding environment throughout the construction period.