

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	Carraig Gheal allocation under UK Renewable FL (2009-0382)
Project Number:	2011-0359
Country:	United Kingdom
Project Description:	The Project is a 46MW wind farm development located on Fernoch Farm in Argyll and Bute, Scotland. It comprises 20 wind turbine generators (WTGs), each rated at 2.3MW, and associated infrastructures, including 40km access tracks. The wind farm covers four square kilometres. The total project costs are estimated at about GBP 87 million (EUR 98 million). The commercial operation date is scheduled for beginning of 2013.
EIA required:	YES
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	YES

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment, including key issues and overall conclusion and recommendation

The Carraig Gheal wind farm project falls under Annex II of Directive 85/337/EEC and 2003/35/EC on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), leaving it to the national environmental authority to determine whether an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required. The EIA process for this project included 2 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), one for the wind farm itself and another one for the West Loch Awe Timber Haul Route and Carraig Gheal Wind Farm Access, which jointly form the access to the wind farm. These were submitted as part of the planning permitting process. As part of the EIA process public consultation was carried out in the form of information exhibitions.

According to the competent authority, Scottish Natural Heritage, the project, including the access tracks, will not have a significant negative impact on any site of nature conservation, notably on the nearby Loch Etive Woods (SCI – UK0012750) distant 3km or on the Glen Etive and Glen Fyne proposed Special Protection Area (UK9020307).

The EIS' conclude that the proposed project would have few significant adverse or permanent environmental effects on the local environment and of these most can be reduced or prevented through mitigation measures. These include a commitment to restricted use of one section of the access road in order to minimize disturbance to the Golden Eagle population, and monitoring of the aquatic environment during road construction.

The implementation of this project is expected to avoid emissions from existing fossil fuel-fired generating plants in the UK of 89 kton CO<sub>2</sub>/yr.

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Social Impact

An annual contribution of GBP 73,000 will be made towards the local community.

#### Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

To inform people about the proposed Carraig Gheal wind farm, public exhibitions were held during March 2004 to inform the local residents.

<sup>1</sup> Only projects that meet the scope of the Pilot Exercise, as defined in the EIB draft Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: above 100,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.