

# welcome :

**Welcome to the Dunside wind farm community exhibition.** We are in the early stages of the scoping process for a potential new wind farm, called **Dunside**, in the **Lammermuir Hills**.

After you have viewed the information displays, we invite you to complete a short questionnaire before you leave and we welcome any questions or feedback you may have.

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**wind farm**

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EDF Renewables UK, Atria One, Level Seven, 144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8EX



# EDF Renewables UK :

EDF Renewables is one of the UK's and Ireland's leading renewable energy companies, developing, building, operating and maintaining innovative wind power, solar and battery storage projects.



Our rapidly-expanding portfolio spans the UK and includes:

- **37 onshore wind farms** including the 59 turbine Dorenell Wind Farm near Dufftown in Scotland – currently EDF Renewables UK's largest European project
- **two of the UK's largest** offshore wind developments at Neart na Goaithe (NNG) off the coast of Scotland and Codling Wind Park in the Irish Sea
- our first **large scale solar farm** at Sutton Bridge in Lincolnshire
- plans for **a major solar farm and battery storage project** at Longfield in Essex
- **a 22 turbine wind farm** development at Garn Fach in mid-Wales
- our **Pivot Power infrastructure projects** designed to support the needs of the rapidly expanding electric vehicle market and the expansion of essential battery storage facilities



With these ground-breaking projects across the UK and Ireland, our expert team is determined to help England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales to achieve their ambitious low carbon targets.

Our projects are already making an important contribution to the UK's and Ireland's green economy but we want to do even more.



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# Dunside wind farm :

EDF Renewables is in the early stages of developing a potential proposal for a wind farm to the east of the operational Fallago Rig Wind Farm called Dunside wind farm. We wish to ensure that the project is developed with input from local residents and stakeholders in order to ensure that it is suitably designed and identify opportunities to make a positive contribution to the local area.

## Dunside wind farm

In early 2022, EDF Renewables UK is embarking on the pre-planning phase of work by commissioning an Environmental Impact Assessment. Specialists will carry out detailed studies over the course of the year to inform the overall shape of the potential wind farm.

The site that we are investigating is set in moorland in the **Lammermuir Hills**, located within the land of **Roxburghe Estates**. It is envisaged that there is potential for a wind farm with a capacity of around 100MW. The final turbine numbers and sizes have not yet been identified and the design process will be carried out alongside the Environmental Impact Assessment studies being carried out during 2022.

Our exhibitions offer the opportunity for local residents to share their views on the development and highlight what sensitivities and opportunities you feel should be taken into account in the forthcoming design process.

### The Site and Surroundings

The Site is located within the Lammermuir Hills, within the administrative boundary of Scottish Borders Council. The Site comprises a remote upland area on gently undulating moorland dominated by heather. The Dye Water (a tributary of the River Tweed) runs west-east through the Site. Notable hills within the Site include: Meikle Law (468m AOD) in the north-west; Byrecleugh Ridge (440m AOD) in the north; Dunside Hill (437m AOD) in the south-east, and Wedder Lairs (486m AOD) in the west.

The main land uses are sheep grazing and moorland managed for grouse shooting with the adjacent land to the northwest used for renewable energy production (the operational Fallago Rig Wind Farm). The northern Site boundary is also the boundary between the Scottish Borders and East Lothian.



### Access To The Site

Access to the Site is anticipated to mirror that used for Fallago Rig Wind Farm, with access taken from the main road (B6456) to the east of Westruther. Using the existing access will minimise the amount of new infrastructure required to access the site from the public road. New wind farm tracks would need to be constructed onsite to link turbines and associated infrastructure which form the Proposed Development. A new section of track linking Dunside to the existing access to Fallago Rig Wind Farm may also be proposed.



### Grid Connection

The Applicant is reviewing potential options for connection to the electricity transmission network. It is anticipated that the Applicant will connect into the network at the existing Fallago Rig Wind Farm substation which given its proximity to the Proposed Development, would minimise the requirement for extensive new grid connection infrastructure with the added benefit of retaining all required grid infrastructure within the Site boundary and the existing Fallago Rig Wind Farm site.



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# design & environmental considerations : (Environmental Impact Assessment)

A scoping process, to determine the content of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report in support of any future planning application, has been launched by EDF Renewables UK.

## What is EIA?

EIA is the process of systematically compiling, evaluating and presenting all the likely significant environmental effects, both beneficial and adverse, of a Proposed Development, to assist the determining authority in considering the application. It enables the significance of these effects, and the scope for reducing adverse, or enhancing beneficial, effects to be clearly understood. The information compiled during the EIA is presented within an EIA Report to accompany any application for consent.

## Construction Works

It typically takes around 18 months to construct a wind farm of 15–20 turbines. Where possible, construction activities are carried out concurrently to reduce the overall length of the construction programme. Phasing of the construction process may result in civil engineering works progressing in some areas of the Site whilst turbines are being erected elsewhere. To minimise disruption to land use, site restoration would be undertaken as early as possible.

## Landscape Effects

Predicted changes on both the physical landscape of the Site and landscape character within the 45km study area will be identified in the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment. However, it is anticipated that potential significant direct and indirect effects will be limited to a more focused area within circa 20km of the Site.

## Cultural Heritage

The consideration of impacts upon cultural heritage features will be an important design consideration for the wind farm. The assessment will draw upon desktop research, evaluation of visualisations of layout options and field studies to identify impacts and inform design decisions. This will allow for the verification of all known heritage assets, confirming their interpretation, location and likely sensitivity to change, and the potential effects on those assets to inform consideration of any potential mitigation measures.

## Noise

An assessment of the potential for the wind farm to introduce noise impacts will be undertaken as part of the EIA. It is anticipated that significant noise impacts upon residential receptors will be minimised through wind farm design and turbine choice. If consented, the wind farm would have strict noise limits placed upon it by planning condition which the operational scheme would be obliged to operate within.

## Ecology and Ornithology

Effects upon Ecology and Ornithology will be assessed in the EIA. Studies relating to sensitive species and habitats will continue throughout the year.

**The EIA will also include assessments relating to hydrology and peat, traffic and transport, aviation, and shadow flicker.**



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# benefits of Dunside wind farm

(Community Involvement & Support)

EDF Renewables would establish a local community benefit fund when the wind farm becomes operational.

The fund value would be in line with the **recommended Scottish Government guidance**, which is currently £5,000 per MW installed capacity each year for the lifetime of the wind farm.

The fund would be designed to meet specific local objectives and would be administered locally at arms' length from EDF Renewables UK in line with Scottish Government guidance.

## Community ownership

EDF Renewables UK supports the principle of community investment in our wind farms and would welcome the views of local community groups on this.

## Community liaison

As part of our public consultation, we will be liaising with various stakeholders including local residents and Community Councils. We will be hosting further exhibitions before any planning application is submitted.

## Supply chain opportunities

If the application is successful, our contracting strategy encourages packages of work on the construction of the wind farm to be made available to local suppliers and contractors.

## Environmental benefits

Dunside wind farm has the potential to make a lasting and valuable contribution to the Scottish Borders, generating clean, green energy; empowering local communities and supporting Scotland's net zero carbon targets.

Clean energy has the potential to fully power our lives: from keeping the lights on, to providing new forms of transport. At EDF Renewables UK we want to make it accessible and affordable for everyone and we want to do it by building a business that attracts and retains the best talent. Should this development proceed, we fully expect Dunside wind farm to play a vital role in our mission for a greener and cleaner Scotland.



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# development process :

A **scoping process**, to determine the content of an environmental impact assessment (EIA) in support of any future planning application, has been launched by EDF Renewables UK, for the potential scheme sited on land owned by Roxburghe Estates.

The project is at the EIA scoping stage, and an EIA Scoping Opinion from the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit has been requested. This request was supported by an EIA Scoping Report. The number and size of turbines that will be proposed in the final application has not been determined at this early stage.

EDF Renewables UK is now embarking on an extensive consultation exercise with local residents, community groups and other stakeholders in order to listen to the views of local people and understand how communities can benefit from the development. The feedback that we receive will feed into the final application which is expected to be submitted in spring 2023.



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# what happens next?

As the potential Dunside wind farm is expected to have a generating capacity of over 50MW, any application would be made to the **Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU)** under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989.

The information shown at this exhibition reflects the early stage that we are at in the development process. The survey work for most EIA topics is ongoing and the wind farm design will progress as our understanding of the environmental characteristics of the site further develops. Additional consultation will be held prior to any application submission and public exhibitions will be organised at the time of submission. At that time, the EIA will be complete and a final design, informed by the environmental studies and feedback received, will have been chosen.

Thank you for taking the time to read about our proposed Dunside wind farm during your visit. We are pleased to respond to any questions and would be grateful to receive your feedback.



## Next steps include:

- Please complete a **feedback form**
- EDF Renewables UK will **listen to and consider all feedback given**, collating a consultation summary which will be submitted alongside the planning application (Section 36 Application to the Scottish Government).
- The design of the wind farm will be **developed throughout 2022**
- **EDF Renewables UK** will submit a Section 36 application to the Scottish Government in the Spring of 2023 at which time, further public exhibitions will be held. At these exhibitions, the design will be completed and we will be able to show illustrations of the proposed development.
- **2022/2023 Scottish Borders Council** will be a key consultee for the S36 application. The council will evaluate the application and the planning committee will decide whether to object to it or not. If the council objects to the application, it would be determined by Scottish Ministers following a Public Local Inquiry.

If you have any further questions, please get in touch:

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Website: [www.dunsidewindfarm.co.uk](http://www.dunsidewindfarm.co.uk)



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