

Appendix 1.2: Statement of Competence

EDF Energy Renewable Ltd

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Draft report

Prepared by LUC

June 2023



EDF Energy Renewable Ltd

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Version	Status	Prepared	Checked	Approved	Date
1.	Final	LUC		L. McGowan	15.06.2023

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Table 1.1: Statement of Competence

Chapter	Qualification / Expertise of Person(s) Responsible
<p>Chapter 1: Introduction</p> <p>Chapter 2: Site Selection and Design Strategy</p> <p>Chapter 3: Development Description</p> <p>(prepared by LUC with technical inputs from Pell Frischmann)</p>	<p>The EIA process was overseen by Kate Wigley BSc MSc MIEMA CEnv of LUC. Kate is a Director within LUC’s Environmental Planning team and an EIA specialist. Kate has 20 years of professional EIA experience, specialising in integrated environmental design and EIA of large-scale onshore wind farms, including the operational Clyde Wind Farm (South Lanarkshire) and operational Glen App Wind Farm in South Ayrshire.</p> <p>Laura McGowan BA (Hons) MRTPI is an Associate Planner at LUC. Laura has over 18 years’ experience as a Chartered Town Planner and has projected managed several EIA projects for onshore wind farms and overhead line grid connection projects in Scotland.</p> <p>The onsite design civil engineering elements to support the EIA Report and application for Section 36 consent were led by Richard Lucey MEng (Hons) Civil Engineering, GMICE, Principal Engineer at Pell Fischmann. Richard has undertaken the lead engineering design role on numerous onshore wind projects and has 7 years’ experience across various aspects of civil engineering.</p>
<p>Chapter 4: Landscape and Visual</p> <p>(prepared by LUC)</p>	<p>The LVIA was undertaken by Chartered Members of the Landscape Institute (CMLI) at LUC.</p> <p>Sam Oxley BSc (Hons) MA CMLI is a Director of Landscape Planning at LUC with over 20 years’ of experience in the field of LVIA and has worked on numerous wind farm and grid connection projects, particularly across Scotland, but also within England and Wales. Sam seeks to use assessment in an iterative way to help feed into the design process and to mitigate potential impacts. She is experienced in working and liaising with a wider team of experts including engineers and architects, to influence project design to minimise environmental impacts, whilst helping to develop practical and workable solutions. Sam is a respected Expert Witness who has prepared precognitions, proofs of evidence and written and graphical productions for Public Inquiries, Hearings and Examinations throughout the UK and Ireland. She regularly acts as a Landscape and Visual Expert Witness for wind farms in Scotland, providing professional advice throughout the appeal process and at both oral Hearings and under cross examination at Public Inquiries.</p> <p>Laura Cargill BSc MLA CMLI is an Associate Landscape Planner at LUC with over 12 years’ of experience in undertaking LVIA’s. Laura has a range of experience that includes: landscape and visual impact assessment; strategic landscape studies; feasibility studies; residential visual amenity assessments; support for landscape and visual expert witness services at Public Inquiries; masterplanning and detailed design; public realm and environmental improvement schemes; and landscape planning advice. Her LVIA work has included wind farms, solar farms, electricity transmission and infrastructure projects, major residential developments, schools and sports arenas. This has given Laura a sound knowledge and understanding of the assessment process, from screening and scoping through to post-planning advice.</p> <p>The preparation of visualisations was led by Susie Duncan BA (Hons) PG (Dip). Susie is an Associate Director at LUC and heads up the 3D Visualisation team. She has over 15 years’ of experience in producing photomontages and 3D digital models used primarily to assess and demonstrate visual impact. This includes the creation of digital terrain modelling for large scale landscape visualisations and verified view photomontages required to accurately illustrate the architectural and planting proposals for proposed developments and masterplans. Susie has extensive experience of the appropriate data use, technical process and presentation formats required for full compliance with all relevant national guidance regarding visualisation production and has carried out peer review on behalf of external clients. She is a proficient user of a number of industry standard and other more specialised 3D software packages and frequently carries out viewpoint photography. Susie has contributed visual content for numerous EIA reports, public</p>

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	exhibitions, consultation documents and public inquiries within the onshore and offshore Renewables sector.
Chapter 5: Cultural Heritage (prepared by LUC)	The cultural heritage assessment was undertaken by LUC. The chapter was prepared by David Bull BA (Hons) MCifA . David is a Principal Historic Environment Consultant at LUC who is an archaeologist with over 22 years' experience in the sector. The cultural heritage assessment was overseen by Steven Orr MA (Hons) MSc LRTPI FSA (Scot) . Steven is the director of LUC's historic environment team and is a highly experienced town planner and landscape archaeologist with expertise in research, policy development and EIA.
Chapter 6: Ecology (prepared by LUC)	<p>This Chapter was prepared and overseen by professional and experienced ecological consultants with appropriate memberships of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (MCIEEM), and experience of Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) in the context of wind farm EclA. Field surveys and data collection were undertaken by ecologists who had extensive experience and/or training in undertaking baseline ecological surveys for renewable energy projects (particularly wind farms), and in the assessment of ecological impacts in the EIA context.</p> <p>Steve Jackson-Matthews MSci (Hons) CEnv MIEEM MEECW is Director of Ecology at LUC. He is the Project Director responsible for all ecological inputs to this project. Steve has 18 years' ecological consultancy experience and has worked extensively within the planning system, undertaking ecological assessments for a wide range of developments across the UK and Ireland. As a specialist in the planning system, Steve routinely project manages EclA and Habitat Regulation Assessments to a range of developments, including onshore wind farms and linear developments (onshore cables from offshore and overhead lines) projects.</p> <p>Helen Embleton BSc (Hons) MEnvSc is a Principal Ecologist with LUC. She is the project Manager responsible for the day to day management of the project. Helen has 17 years' experience within ecological consultancy and has extensive experience in managing ecological surveys and reporting to inform planning applications across the UK and Ireland. Helen has also designed, managed and delivered many EclAs, Habitat Regulations Assessments, Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, Species and Habitat Protection Plans, and prepared and discharged the requirements of European Protected Species (EPS)/ Badger licences.</p>
Chapter 7: Ornithology (prepared by MacArthur Green)	<p>Rafe Dewar, Member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. BSc. (hons) Zoology; MSc. Environmental Sustainability, was the ornithology lead on this project. Rafe has 18 years ecology consultancy experience, leading on ornithological and ecological impact assessments for onshore and offshore renewables development, HRAs, and Habitat Management Plans.</p> <p>Surveys by Wood Group UK Limited (hereafter referred to as 'Wood') were undertaken between September 2020 and August 2021. The data was provided to MacArthur Green in shapefile and excel format. Appendix 7.1 Annex F contains an overview of the Wood personnel (and their qualifications) involved in these surveys.</p>
Chapter 8: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Peat (prepared by Kaya Consulting Ltd and East Point Geo)	The hydrology, geology, water resource assessments and peat surveys were undertaken by Kaya Consulting Limited. The lead author is Dr Sally Stewart MCIWEM C.WEM of Kaya Consulting Limited. Sally has 21 years' consultancy experience in hydrology, geomorphology, and environmental impact assessment. Sally has extensive experience of undertaking EIA for onshore wind farms, as well as for housing, mixed use and linear development projects (e.g. overhead lines, roads). Dr Callum Pearson BSc, MRes, PhD is a Senior Hydrologist with Kaya Consulting Limited with over 8 years of academic research and consultancy experience in hydrology and EIA. Callum reviewed the EIA chapter.

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	Dr Andy Mills CGeol FGS of East Point Geo delivered the peat assessment, including the Peat Management Plan and Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessment. Andy has 24 years' experience assessing peatland geomorphology and extensive experience of supporting EIA of peatland sites for onshore wind, as well as authoring the Scottish Government guidance on assessing peat landslides and working with NatureScot on stability aspects of peatland restoration
Chapter 9: Noise and Vibration (prepared by Hoare Lea LLP)	The noise and vibration assessment was undertaken by Matthew Cand of Hoare Lea LLP (HL). Matthew (Dipl. Eng., PhD, MIOA) is a full member of the Institute of Acoustics. He is an Associate Director at Hoare Lea LLP who has responsibility for running the environmental noise group, which has a focus on Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs). He has over 17 years' experience in the assessment of environmental acoustics and has conducted more than 50 noise assessments for EIA of Wind Farms. Matthew is an expert in the assessment of wind farm noise and is one of the authors of the Institute of Acoustics Good Practice Guide (IOA, 2013). He has also been engaged as expert witness at planning inquiries and noise nuisance cases.
Chapter 10: Access, Traffic and Transport (prepared by Pell Frischmann Consultants Ltd)	The Access, Traffic and Transport assessment has been prepared by Pell Frischmann Consultants Ltd. The assessment has been carried out by Stephen Cochran BSc (Hons) , Chartered Member of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CMILT) and a Member of the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (MCIHT). The technical reviewer is Gordon Buchan BEng (Hons), MSC, CMILT, FCIHT , Divisional Director of Pell Frischmann. He has over 25 years of undertaking the transport assessments associated with new developments and has worked on renewable energy and energy distribution projects across the UK, Ireland and Northern Europe.
Chapter 11: Aviation (prepared by WPAC)	The Aviation chapter was written by Cdr John Taylor RN (Ret) . He has over 33 years' experience in Air Traffic Control service delivery and regulation and was head of ATC and Fighter Control for the Royal Navy. Since 2008 he has advised the wind industry on the interaction between wind turbines and aviation and he and his team have assessed over 3000 potential wind turbine sites and provided expert witness evidence at a number of inquiries in England and Scotland. He has also provided safeguarding advice to various organisations including Renewable UK, The Crown Estate, local authorities and the UK and Welsh Governments.
Chapter 12: Other Issues (prepared by LUC with inputs to carbon balance assessment from East Point Geo)	The assessment was completed by LUC and overseen by Kate Wigley BSc MSc MIEMA CEnv and Laura McGowan BA (Hons) MRTPI (see above). Climate change was overseen by Joanna Wright of LUC. Joanna is a Director of Environmental Planning with LUC, with an MA in Geography, an MSc in Environmental Impact Assessment and an MSc in Carbon Management . Joanna has over 20 years' experience in the management and co-ordination of EIAs for onshore wind farms in Scotland, and is a Fellow of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) and a Chartered Environmentalist. The carbon balance assessment was overseen by Dr Andy Mills CGeol FGS of East Point Geo (see above).
Chapter 13: Summary of Significant Effects (prepared by LUC)	The summary chapter was completed by LUC and overseen by Kate Wigley BSc MSc MIEMA CEnv and Laura McGowan BA (Hons) MRTPI (see above).

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