Nadara Limited

Millennium East Wind Farm

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Non-Technical Summary

664052

OCTOBER 2025

RSK GENERAL NOTES

Project No.: G664052/09/05/06/02 Rev00

Title: Millennium East Wind Farm Non-Technical Summary

Client: Nadara Limited

Date: October 2025

Office: Glasgow

Status: Final

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Non-Technical Summary

1.1.1 This is the non-technical summary (NTS) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA Report) for the proposed Millennium East Wind Farm (hereafter referred to as "the Proposed Development"). The EIA Report is the main document accompanying the application for consent and the NTS summarises its key findings.

1.1.2 The NTS describes the Proposed Development in non-technical language, identifying the likely effects it may have on the environment. It also describes the mitigation measures proposed by Nadara Limited (hereafter referred to as "the Applicant") to avoid or reduce significant adverse effects that have been identified. It will also describe how environmental issues will be managed during construction and operation of the Proposed Development.

1.2 Introduction to the Proposal

1.2.1 The Proposed Development is the Millennium East Wind Farm, a proposed extension to the existing Millennium Wind Farm, located approximately 7.5 km west of Fort Augustus, 8 km north of Invergarry, and 14 km south-west of Invermoriston. The Site Boundary of the Proposed Development is shown in **Figure 2**. Parts of the existing Millennium Wind Farm (wind turbines, access tracks, and other ancillary infrastructure) are located within the Site Boundary.

1.2.2 The Proposed Development would involve the construction and operation of eight wind turbines (three with tip heights of up to 200 m, and five with tip heights of up to 180 m) and associated infrastructure. Each turbine is likely to generate approximately 6.2 Megawatts (MW) of electricity. The total installed capacity of the Proposed Development is expected to be approximately 50 MW.

1.2.3 If consented, the Proposed Development would constitute an extension to an operational wind farm with an installed capacity in excess of 50 MW. Therefore, the Applicant is seeking to secure consent for the Proposed Development under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 (as amended) and deemed planning permission. The application is informed by an EIA Report prepared in accordance with the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Scotland Regulations 2017.

1.2.4 The terminology adopted in the EIA Report is provided in **Table 1.1**

Table 1.1: EIA Report Terminology

Terminology	Definition / Explanation
The Applicant	Nadara Limited (formerly Renantis).
the Proposed Development	Millennium East Wind Farm.

Terminology	Definition / Explanation
	Refers to the Proposed Development comprising new access tracks, wind turbines, and other ancillary infrastructure.
the Site	Refers to everything within the Site Boundary, as shown in **Figure 2**.
the Site Boundary	The Section 36 application boundary, defined by the red line shown on **Figure 2**.
the Study Area	The Site plus any additional area over which desk based or field assessments have been extended. The Study Area varies depending on the nature of the potential effects for each environmental aspect as informed by professional guidance and best practice regarding EIA.
"Wind Farm" and "wind farm"	Wind Farm refers to a specific Wind Farm (e.g., Millennium East Wind Farm) and wind farm is a general term.
"will" and "would"	"Will" is used when writing about what is planned to be undertaken through the EIA Report. "Would" is used when assessing effects, as the Proposed Development does not have consent yet.

1.3 EIA team

1.3.1 The Applicant appointed RSK Environment Limited (RSK), an experienced environmenal consultancy, as the lead consultant to prepare the EIA Report and related assessments which accompany the application for consent to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU). RSK was supported by:

- Stephenson Halliday – provided landscape and visual modelling and assessments;
- Fluid Environmental – provided geology, hydrology, hydrogeology and peat surveys and assessments;
- Avian Ecology – provided ecology and ornithology surveys, modelling and assessments;
- Wind Business Support – provided aviation and radar assessment;
- SCP Transport – provided the traffic and movement assessment;
- Hayes McKenzie – provided specialist noise modelling and assessment;
- Headland Archaeology - provided the cultural heritage assessments;
- RSK Environment – provided shadow flicker modelling and socioeconomic assessment; and
- David Bell Planning – provided specialist planning assessment.

2 PLANNING PROCESS

2.1 Consents and Application

2.1.1 The Applicant is seeking to secure approval for the Proposed Development, by an application under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 to the Scottish Ministers.

2.2 Environmental Impact Assessment

The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017

2.2.1 The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 apply where consent is being sought for developments under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989. The EIA Report has been prepared to identify the likely significant effects that the Proposed Development may have on the environment and people. The purpose of the EIA Report is to ensure that any likely significant effects are fully understood and are taken into account during the design, consenting and authorisation process. The methods and findings of the EIA Report are outlined within this NTS.

Scoping and Consultation

2.2.2 The requirements of the EIA were informed by a Scoping process. A Scoping Report, which was submitted to the ECU in January 2024, considered the potential for environmental effects to occur as a result of the Proposed Development.

2.2.3 The Scoping process involved a review of available documentation, consultation with statutory and non-statutory organisations, and desk-based and site-based surveys. The ECU issued its Scoping Opinion in April 2024, which included feedback from consultees.

2.2.4 The Scoping process concluded that the following aspects would require further assessment, in the form of an EIA, due to the potential to significant environmental effects:

- Landscape and visual amenity;
- Ecology;
- Ornithology;
- Geology, hydrology, hydrogeology and peat;
- Cultural heritage and archaeology;
- Traffic and movement;
- Noise and vibration;
- Aviation and radar;
- Climate change; and
- Shadow flicker.

2.2.5 Following the Scoping process, the Applicant undertook further consultation with key stakeholders. This consultation has been integral to the design and development of the Proposed Development, identification of existing environmental constraints and sensitivities, and assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of the Proposed Development. This was undertaken through:

- Informal stakeholder liaison, including meetings and correspondence by letters, emails and by phone;
- The Highland Council's formal pre-application advice service, which involved a discussion of the consenting issues, and was attended by key consultees;
- Two in-person public exhibition events which were hosted in Fort Augustus, Invermoriston, and Dalchreichart (March and September 2024); and
- A project-dedicated website[1].

2.2.6 The consultation activities that were undertaken throughout the EIA process and the outcomes of this engagement are detailed in a standalone Pre-Application Consultation Report (PAC Report), submitted as part of the Section 36 application.

Approach to EIA

2.2.7 EIA is a systematic process which is undertaken to identify, predict and evaluate the significant environmental effects of proposed developments. It should be noted that for the Proposed Development, different technical assessments adopt the same broad approach but may vary in the detail of how they are applied, such as the Study Area, use of established technical guidance, or the criteria used to determine the importance of a receptor and the significance of an effect.

Existing Environment

2.2.8 Baseline studies including desk-based research and field surveys have been completed in order to collect data relating to the characteristics of the existing environment. This enabled the identification of environmental sensitivities that could be affected by the Proposed Development.

Potential Impacts

2.2.9 The characteristics of the Proposed Development, including the project infrastructure, construction and operation activities, and a schedule of environmental commitments, have been considered to identify potential impacts on the existing environment.

2.2.10 The following types of impacts have been considered within the EIA:

- Direct impacts which may occur when some aspect of a proposed development physically impinges upon a valued resource, for instance the proposed construction of a turbine may result in the loss of ecological habitat, or an archaeological site.
- Indirect impacts which could occur in either time, or location, from the source; for instance, construction works on a slope could result in heavy rainfall washing exposed soil into a nearby watercourse, which could affect aquatic life.
- Cumulative impacts are defined as impacts that result from changes caused by a proposed development, together with other past, present or future developments.

[1] Available at: https://millenniumeastwindfarm.co.uk/

Residual Effects

2.2.11 Following the assessment of identified potential impacts, additional mitigation measures were identified, where necessary, to eliminate, minimise or manage the potential environmental effects.

2.2.12 The significance of residual effects, the environmental effects that remain after mitigation measures have been considered, has been presented in the findings of the EIA Report.

2.2.13 Any significant residual effects that the EIA identifies are key to understanding the outcome of the EIA process, because these are given the greatest weight by decision makers and stakeholders when considering an application for consent.

2.3 Planning and Energy Policy

2.3.1 The EIA Report identifies and reviews national policy guidance and local development plans which are relevant to the location and design of the Proposed Development, to establish overall compliance with policy objectives.

2.3.2 A separate Planning Statement assesses the conformity of the Proposed Development with planning policy and other material planning considerations.

2.3.3 National policy identifies a requirement to encourage the use of renewable technologies to tackle the issue of climate change, strengthen the economy and improve energy security. In May 2019, the Scottish Government declared a climate emergency and passed the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act, which legally requires a 100% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2045.

2.3.4 Since the June 2024 statement to the Scottish Parliament, the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2024 has been introduced, which sees Scotland move away from the previous annual GHG reduction targets to a system whereby limits on the amount of GHG emitted in Scotland over a five-year period are established, known as carbon budget targets.

2.3.5 The Onshore Wind Policy Statement 2022 sets out the Scottish Government's ambition to deploy 20 GW of onshore wind by 2030.

2.3.6 The Proposed Development would contribute to national and local emission targets by replacing fossil fuel energy with renewable energy and thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

3 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

3.1 Existing Environment

3.1.1 In addition to its use for renewable energy generation, the Site is currently used for livestock grazing and deer stalking. Surrounding land uses include upland grazing and commercial forestry.

3.1.2 The Site sites within broadly undulating upland moorland, gently sloping downwards from southwest to northeast. The elevations of the Site range from 670 m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) at the mid-western section of the Site, to the Site access junction by A887 at 129 m AOD.

3.1.3 Site access is currently gained by an existing access track leading to the operational Millennium Wind Farm, running southwards from the A887.

3.2 Site Selection Rationale

3.2.1 The overall approach to the Site selection is to identify areas of land where the siting of renewable energy development would result in minimal environmental effects, be free from overriding technical constraints and be economically viable.

3.2.2 Rather than identifying new potential sites for large-scale renewable energy development, the Applicant focused on maximising the renewable energy potential of existing sites within their asset portfolio. This strategy prioritises utilising existing infrastructure to minimise anticipated environmental effects. By adhering to the mitigation hierarchy and the relevant policies outlined in this section, the Proposed Development seeks to effectively avoid, mitigate, and compensate for any expected impacts.

3.2.3 The Applicant's detailed knowledge of the Site, including an understanding of the wind resource and the condition of existing infrastructure, was a key factor in pursuing the Proposed Development. Further technical feasibility surveys and assessments subsequently confirmed the Site's suitability for the Proposed Development.

3.3 The Proposed Development

3.3.1 During the EIA process, the Proposed Development went through a number of design iterations to reduce potential environmental impacts. The alternative design and infrastructure layouts included a variety of potential turbine locations, varying turbine heights, and a number of access route options to and between development infrastructure. **Chapter 2** of **Volume 1** (Main Text) of the EIA Report includes a detailed description of the design evolution.

3.3.2 The main components of the Proposed Development, as shown in **Figure 3**, would comprise the following:

- Eight wind turbines of approximately 6.2 MW each, five with a maximum tip height of up to 180 m and three with a maximum tip height of up to 200 m;
- Foundations supporting each wind turbine;
- Onsite distribution sub-station and control building;
- Temporary mobilisation and construction compounds;

- A network of new on-site access tracks and associated watercourse crossings;
- A network of underground cables to connect turbines to a distribution substation;
- Borrow pit extension; and
- Habitat and biodiversity enhancement measures.

3.3.3 The Applicant seeks permission to operate the Proposed Development for 35 years, after which it would be decommissioned, and the infrastructure dismantled and removed, unless permission is sought in future to extend the operational lifespan.

4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section outlines the predicted environmental effects of the Proposed Development. Detailed assessments are included in **Chapters 5 – 14** of **Volume 1** of the EIA Report.

4.2 Landscape and Visual Assessment

4.2.1 The chapter describes a landscape and visual impact assessment (LVIA) of the Proposed Development and the cumulative landscape and visual effects arising from its addition to other onshore wind farms consented, in planning and scoping. The assessment uses an Initial Study Area of 45 km and focusses on significant effects which were identified as more likely to occur within 25 km of the Proposed Development. The approach and scope of the LVIA were agreed with consultees through a Scoping Opinion request and through subsequent correspondence.

4.2.2 The site is 7.5 km to the west of Fort Augustus and coincides with an area of open moorland to the north-east of existing Millennium Wind Farm. The Site coincides with NatureScot Landscape Character Type 220 Rugged Massif - Inverness.

4.2.3 The Proposed Development is located within 12.5 km of Glen Affric National Scenic Area (NSA) with other NSA over 25 km away. It was agreed with NatureScot that a detailed assessment of Glen Affric NSA would not be required but an initial assessment would be undertaken. There are several Wild Land Areas in the LVIA study area. It was agreed with NatureScot that Wild Land Area assessments would not be required but wild land qualities would be a consideration in the assessment of effects on landscape character. It was agreed with consultees that a Residential Visual Amenity Assessment was not required as there are no dwellings within 2 km of the nearest proposed wind turbine. A total of 22 Viewpoints and an additional three illustrative wirelines and visualisations were agreed with consultees and visualisations have been provided for each of these.

4.2.4 The focus of the LVIA has been on operational effects of the Proposed Development. The assessment focusses on effects arising from the wind turbines as they are the more noticeable components. The substation compound and tracks are modelled in nearby views and are assessed as part of the Proposed Development. These components are mentioned where they have a bearing on the assessment of effects judgements.

4.2.5 Construction of the Proposed Development, as well as the decommissioning stage at the end of life of the Proposed Development, would result in Short Term Significant effects on the host Landscape Character Type 220 Rugged Massif - Inverness.

4.2.6 Ground level construction activities and the movement of construction traffic would result in Short Term effects on visual receptors. Significant effects are assessed on users of core paths within 5 km.

4.2.7 During operation there would be Significant effects on landscape character within approximately 6 km of the Proposed Development.

4.2.8 Effects on Landscape Character Type in the wider study area would be Not Significant due to intervening distance or limited visibility of the Proposed Development.

4.2.9 During operation there would be Significant effects on the following visual receptors:

- Dalchreichart receptor group.
- Dundreggan receptor group.
- A887 – for a short stretch at Dundreggan.
- Core path IN16.16.

4.2.10 No significant effects are reported on specific viewpoints or key recreational routes.

4.2.11 No Significant night-time effects are reported on any landscape or visual receptors.

4.2.12 The main cumulative interactions with consented sites would be with Tomchrasky and Bunloinn and with those In Planning at Culachy and Beinneun 2. Other Consented, In Planning or Scoping development are too far away from the Proposed Development and/ or associated with established groups of wind farms to result in notable cumulative interactions from which significant effect could arise.

4.2.13 The cumulative assessment finds that the addition of the Proposed Development would not lead to an increase in the level of significant impacts with either the consented baseline or the other two proposals in planning.

4.3 Ecology

4.3.1 Baseline ecological conditions to inform the design and assessment of the Proposed Development have been established through a desk study review of existing information and ecological field surveys, the scope of which have been informed through consultation.

4.3.2 The Site does not form part of any designated site with qualifying ecological interest, but it is next to the banks of the River Moriston Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which is designated for its populations of Atlantic salmon and freshwater pearl mussel (qualifying features).

4.3.3 Baseline studies have established that the majority of the Site is covered by open upland habitats, including wet dwarf shrub heath, blanket bog, wet modified bog, acid/neutral flush, grassland, bracken and standing water. Coniferous plantation woodland and mixed plantation woodland are present within the northern extent of the Site.

4.3.4 Low levels of bat activity were recorded onsite during baseline surveys, with habitats considered to provide limited roosting and foraging opportunities for bats. Studies established limited suitability for migratory salmonids (Atlantic salmon and trout), in watercourses across the Survey Area, albeit largely in low numbers due to the minor nature of the majority of the watercourses. Opportunities for freshwater pearl mussel are also present, albeit limited. Studies also established the use of the Site by otter, red squirrel and pine marten, but with the application of good practice and embedded mitigation, adverse effects on the populations of these species is not anticipated as a result of the Proposed Development.

4.3.5 The Proposed Development design has inherently sought to minimise losses of those habitats considered to be sensitive, like blanket bog (particularly priority peatland) and heath, although some losses are unavoidable. The design of the Proposed Development has also considered the location of key bat habitat features (woodland edge) with

appropriate stand-off buffers adopted between turbines and such features in accordance with NatureScot guidance. The number of watercourse crossings has also been minimised. Good practice measures, including pre-construction surveys and appointment of a suitably qualified Environmental Clerk of Works (EnvCoW), will also safeguard protected species during the construction and operational phases of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, habitat restoration measures will be undertaken in accordance with a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP).

4.3.6 Effects on the River Moriston SAC (and its qualifying species) are considered as part of the application. Information to inform a Habitats Regulations Appraisal is provided within the assessment, with no evidence found to suggest the integrity of the River Moriston SAC would be adversely affected by the Proposed Development. Risks to other designated sites with ecological interests are discounted due to distance and lack of connectivity to the Proposed Development.

4.3.7 The Proposed Development provides an opportunity to deliver habitat improvements at the locality, including peatland restoration and native woodland planting; such measures are detailed in an outline Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan (oBEMP) which is included in the application. Cumulative effects. i.e. by considering the Proposed Development alongside other developments in the vicinity of the Site, during construction and operation have been assessed, no significant cumulative adverse effects are anticipated.

4.3.8 No significant residual effects upon any important ecological feature are therefore predicted to occur (alone or in combination with any other wind farm development), and there will be habitat improvements as a consequence of the Proposed Development.

4.4 Ornithology

4.4.1 The ornithology chapter considers the potential significant effects on important ornithological features associated with the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.

4.4.2 The assessment was based upon comprehensive baseline data, comprising specifically targeted ornithological field surveys of important and legally protected ornithological features identified during desk study and consultation feedback. It drew on pre-existing information, where appropriate, from other studies, survey data sources and was based on standard EIA guidance published by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) and relevant NatureScot guidance.

4.4.3 Two and a half years of ornithology surveys were carried out to support the application, with the survey scope agreed, at start of the process of baseline data gathering, with NatureScot. Surveys consisted of Vantage Point flight activity surveys, moorland breeding bird surveys, Annex I and Schedule 1 breeding raptor surveys, breeding black grouse surveys, breeding diver searches and scarce breeding bird surveys.

4.4.4 The Site (and adjacent habitats) support a relatively limited range of ornithology species regarded as ‘Target Species’, as evidenced from baseline surveys (and desk study records). Standard mitigation adopted would include embedded mitigation through Proposed Development design (avoidance), good practice control measures including production of a Breeding Bird Protection Plan, pre-clearance surveys and appointment of an Environmental Clerk of Works to oversee the implementation of the ornithology

mitigation measures. Following the application of the proposed mitigation, no significant adverse direct and/or indirect residual effects on ornithological features (including qualifying features of the West Inverness-shire Lochs Special Protection Area (SPA)) are anticipated as a result of the Proposed Development. Precautionary additional mitigation in relation to sites with black grouse activity would however be adopted to reduce the potential for unnecessary disturbance/ potential displacement. Habitat enhancement opportunities detailed in an outline Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan would also be implemented to improve habitat conditions on-site for many important ornithological features.

4.5 Geology, Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Peat

4.5.1 This chapter assesses the potential effects of the Proposed Development on hydrological and hydrogeological receptors. It has considered potential effects that could arise during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development.

4.5.2 The assessment is based upon comprehensive baseline data comprising desk study information, hydrological field surveys, peat depth surveys, and peat landslide hazard risk assessment surveys; and is accompanied by an outline Peat Management Plan, watercourse crossing assessment, groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystem (GWDTE) assessment and private water supply assessment. The assessment of important and legally protected soil and water features is based on standard EIA guidance.

4.5.3 The Site supports the following sensitive receptors: modified peat, watercourses, water bodies, potentially groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems (GWDTE) and shallow and deep groundwater. Overall, the effects from the Proposed Development to the water and soil environment was assessed to be minor and not significant. The Proposed Development has been designed to minimise impacts on peat resource as much as practically possible, taking into consideration a variety of environmental and design constraints on Site, and the implementation of mitigation hierarchy. Construction techniques to reduce peat excavation, such as the use of floating tracks, are proposed where engineering requirements allow.

4.5.4 Standard good practice measures to be adopted during construction include the production and implementation of a Drainage Management Plan and a water quality monitoring plan. An Environmental Clerk of Works and Geotechnical Engineer would be appointed to oversee the implementation of ecological and hydrological best practice measures. The Peat Management Plan would be implemented and would include appropriate reuse of peat onsite to reinstate temporary infrastructure and concurrent translocation of peat for the restoration to bog. Depending on the degree of success of the translocation and additional bog restoration, minor adverse effects on peat could become minor beneficial. Additional specific good practice mitigation includes micrositing where possible following further detailed ground investigations and subsequent detailed infrastructure specification and design post-consent.

4.5.5 With the application of the proposed standard good practice measures and embedded mitigation, no significant adverse direct and/or indirect effects on soil or water features as a result of the Proposed Development are anticipated.

4.6 Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

4.6.1 This chapter assesses the potential direct and indirect physical impacts related to construction of the Proposed Development on the fabric of heritage assets within the Site. It also considered impacts on the settings of heritage assets within and outside the Site that could affect heritage assets' cultural significance.

4.6.2 A desk-based baseline assessment including a 'Stage 1' Setting Assessment was undertaken to identify known heritage assets and the potential for currently unrecorded heritage assets to be present within the Site, as well as assets in the wider landscape which may be impacted by the Proposed Development through changes to their setting. A final list of assets was agreed with Historic Environment Scotland and the Highland Council and taken forward for detailed assessment as part of the EIA.

4.6.3 There are nine known heritage assets located within the Site, none of which would be directly/indirectly physically impacted through construction of Proposed Development infrastructure.

4.6.4 There is potential for direct physical construction impacts upon two known heritage assets within the Site as a result of micrositing (should this occur), or through accidental damage during the construction phase which without mitigation would be of up to minor adverse which is not significant:

- MHG56580 Possible shieling hut - S of Glenmoriston; and
- MHG53757 Ceann a' Mhaim Cairn Rows.

4.6.5 No direct physical impacts upon known heritage assets are anticipated as a result of Habitat Restoration and Enhancement proposals.

4.6.6 The archaeological potential of the area where infrastructure is being proposed is considered to be negligible for previously unrecorded sites of cultural heritage interest of all periods. It is considered that any previously unrecorded remains of any period, if present within the Site preserved beneath peat, are likely to be of no more than Low (Local) importance; most likely to relate only to upland grazing or shooting activity, which is therefore considered 'worst case' for the impact assessment of archaeological potential. Direct physical impacts on unexpected archaeological remains may be of up to minor adverse significance, which is not significant. The implemented programme of mitigation that was agreed with The Highland Council during construction of the operational Millennium Wind Farm comprised a watching brief over groundworks at eight discrete locations in the lower elevations of the Site during the wind farm construction. No archaeological remains were identified. As such, no additional mitigation is proposed for the Proposed Development in relation to direct physical impacts upon unexpected archaeological remains.

4.6.7 Should micrositing be proposed, further consultation with the Highland Council will be required. Where construction impacts are unavoidable, these will be offset by excavation and recording of the remains in accordance with the latest policy, advice and guidance.

4.6.8 Protection is recommended in the form of fencing for two heritage assets which have the potential to be accidentally physically impacted during construction:

- MHG56580 Possible shieling hut - S of Glenmoriston; and
- MHG53757 Ceann a' Mhaim Cairn Rows.

4.6.9 The scope of additional mitigation is to be specified in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). The WSI will be agreed with the Highland Council in advance of construction and secured as a condition of consent.

4.6.10 Implementation of the proposed programme of mitigation would result in residual physical construction effects of no significance which are not significant.

4.6.11 A 'Stage 1' Setting Assessment found the potential for impacts on the cultural significance of two Scheduled Monuments through changes within their setting. The assets were agreed with the Highland Council and Historic Environment Scotland for further assessment and are assessed in detail in the chapter, supported with photomontage and wireline visualisations:

- EIA Report **Volume 2b**: NatureScot Visualisations:
  - **LVIA Viewpoint 12**: Old Military Road north of the A87. (Photomontage from centre of Scheduled Monument SM11484 Fort Augustus-Bernera Military Road, 1890m W of Ceannacroc Lodge)
  - **LVIA Viewpoint 17**: Loch Cluanie. (Photomontage from Loch Cluanie car park on A87 to the west of Scheduled Monument SM11484 Fort Augustus-Bernera Military Road, 1890m W of Ceannacroc Lodge)
- EIA Report **Volume 2d**: Cultural Heritage Visualisations
  - **CHVP01 Figure 9.3**: Photomontage from Scheduled Monument SM794 Torr Dhuin, fort, Fort Augustus
  - **CHVP02 Figure 9.4**: Photomontage from valley of the River Oich looking north-west towards Scheduled Monument SM794 Torr Dhuin, fort, Fort Augustus
  - **CHVP03 Figure 9.5**: Photomontage from eastern end of Scheduled Monument SM11484 Fort Augustus-Bernera Military Road, 1890m W of Ceannacroc Lodge

4.6.12 Of the two assets agreed for detailed assessment in this chapter, effects of no significance have been identified upon both, as follows:

- Scheduled Monument SM794 Torr Dhuin, fort, Fort Augustus; and
- Scheduled Monument SM11484 Fort Augustus-Bernera Military Road, 1890m W of Ceannacroc Lodge.

4.6.13 In respect of the setting of heritage assets, no additional mitigation beyond that embedded in the design is proposed. No residual effects are identified.

4.6.14 No cumulative effects have been identified.

4.6.15 No significant residual effects upon cultural heritage have been identified through the EIA as presented in the chapter.

4.7 Traffic and Movement

4.7.1 The potential effects of the Proposed Development during construction on the road network and its users were assessed, following industry good practice and focusing upon the changes in traffic flows along specific sections of roads along which general and heavy goods vehicle (HGV) construction traffic would pass.

4.7.2 The Proposed Development would lead to a temporary increase in traffic volumes on the A87, A82, A830 and A887 during the delivery of turbine components and other

construction materials onsite, particularly during the peak period of construction which is predicted to occur in month seven of the 17-month construction programme.

4.7.3 A range of mitigation measures are proposed, including the implementation of a Construction Traffic Management Plan and an Abnormal Load Transport Management Plan which would be agreed in advance with the Highland Council and Transport Scotland. The Applicant would establish a Community Liaison Forum in collaboration with the Highland Council and local Community Councils. The forum would allow the community to be kept up to date with project progress, allow communication on the provision of transport-related mitigation and publicise the timings of turbine component deliveries. The Community Liaison Forum would be maintained until construction is complete and the Proposed Development is operational.

4.7.4 The proposed mitigation would reduce the effects from abnormal loads and general construction traffic on the local road network to not significant. The anticipated effects would be temporary and reversible.

4.8 Noise and Vibration

4.8.1 This chapter assesses the potential noise and vibration effects associated with the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the Proposed Development, in line with relevant policy and guidance.

4.8.2 Noise generated during the construction phase, including traffic and site activities, is predicted to have minimal impact on nearby receptors. The large separation distances between construction areas and noise-sensitive properties mean that construction noise effects are considered to be not significant. Measures to mitigate construction noise, such as adopting best practicable means, will further ensure noise impacts remain minimal.

4.8.3 Decommissioning noise is expected to be similar to or lower than construction noise and will be subject to similar mitigation measures. These impacts are also therefore concluded to be not significant.

4.8.4 Noise from the wind turbines during operation has been assessed using standard predictive models under worst-case conditions. The analysis shows that operational noise levels will comply with the most stringent industry-standard noise limits at all identified receptor locations. Accordingly, operational noise effects are concluded to be not significant.

4.8.5 The contribution of the Proposed Development to cumulative noise levels would be negligible. The cumulative noise impact of the Proposed Development is therefore also considered to be ‘Not Significant’.

4.8.6 Several other potential considerations, including vibration effects and noise from the proposed substation are determined to be not significant based on screening factors, such as the large separation distances between sources and sensitive receptors.

4.8.7 The study concludes that all noise and vibration effects from the Proposed Development will be not significant.

4.9 Aviation and Radar

4.9.1 No aviation impacts are anticipated for all phases of the Proposed Development; commissioning, operation and decommissioning.

4.9.2 The Proposed Development is remote from all aerodromes. The nearest significant aerodrome is Inverness Airport, over 60km to the north-east.

4.9.3 The Aviation Stakeholders consulted within the scoping process were the MOD, National Air Traffic Services (NATS), Highlands and Islands Airport Limited (HIAL) and the airports at Glasgow, Edinburgh, Prestwick and Aberdeen. No concerns were raised during the scoping submission or within further consultations on the proposed aviation lighting scheme. The Applicant has also independently assessed the potential effects, with no anticipated aviation impacts.

4.9.4 The Site is beyond the limits of physical safeguarding surfaces for all aerodromes. There are also no potential impacts to key military or civil radar installations. The Site lies within an area identified as of low priority for military low flying and is beyond the limits of safeguarding areas for any navigational aids or radio communication stations.

4.9.5 The CAA and all other relevant aviation stakeholders have approved a lighting scheme consisting of visible spectrum lighting on four of the eight turbines.

4.10 Climate Change Mitigation

4.10.1 A Greenhouse Gas (GHG) assessment was carried out utilising the Scottish Government's Carbon Assessment Tool in order to assess the GHG emissions and savings associated with the Proposed Development.

4.10.2 No adverse effects related to climate change are predicted as a result of the Proposed Development. Therefore, no additional mitigation measures are proposed.

4.10.1 Emissions associated with the construction, operation, and development of the Proposed Development are projected to be offset 0.6 years after the Proposed Development becomes operational against a fossil fuel mix of electricity, or 1.2 years against a grid-mix of electricity due.

4.10.2 The Proposed Development is predicted to deliver total emissions savings of 2,479,023 tonnes of CO_2 equivalent over its 35-year operational lifetime, against a fossil fuel mix electricity generation.

4.11 Shadow Flicker

4.11.1 Shadow flicker occurs when the sun passes behind a wind turbine's rotating blades which causes brightness levels to vary periodically at locations where they obstruct the sun. As the blades rotate, the shadow flickers on and off which causes the shadow flicker effect. This occurs under specific conditions, such as geographical positioning and the time of day. Inside buildings, the flickering shadows seen through windows can be a nuisance for residents, particularly if they occur for extended periods daily or annually.

4.11.2 In this assessment, a 'worst-case' scenario model was used to estimate potential shadow flicker effects. It was found that no sensitive receptors or residential dwellings fall within

the Zone of Potential Shadow Flicker (ZPSF). The nearest residential receptor is approximately 3.1 km away from the nearest turbine, well outside the ZPSF.

4.11.3 Therefore, no shadow flicker effects or impacts on any residential receptors are predicted, and no mitigation would be required.

5 NEXT STEPS

5.1.1 The Energy Consents Unit will consider the findings of the EIA Report, of which this NTS forms a part, together with other documents submitted as part of the Section 36 application for the Proposed Development. Once the application has been submitted, comments can be made to the Energy Consents Unit – see details below.

5.2 Contact Details

5.2.1 Anyone wishing to submit a representation can do so by email to representations_mailbox@gov.scot; or by post to the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU, identifying the application and case reference number (ECU00005013), and specifying the grounds for representation.

5.3 Further information

5.3.1 During the consultation period, a copy of the application, with a plan showing the land it relates to, together with a copy of the EIA Report discussing the Applicant's proposals in more detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, will be available for public inspection in person, free of charge, at:

- Memorial Hall, Canal Side, Fort Augustus, PH32 4BD,
  Opening hours: Tuesday to Thursday, 09:00 – 14:00 (To arrange a viewing please contact Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company on 01320 366800 or contact @communitycompany.co.uk)
- Invermoriston Community Shop, Invermoriston, IV63 7YA,
  Opening hours: Daily, 07:00 – 17:30.

5.3.2 The planning application documents can also be viewed on the project-dedicated website at https://millenniumeastwindfarm.co.uk/ or at www.energyconsents.scot under application reference ECU00005013. Copies of the EIA Report may be obtained from: Nadara Limited at a charge of £2,000 per hard copy, and £15 on USB stick. Copies of this short Non-Technical Summary are available free of charge. Should you wish to request any further information, please contact the Applicant via the project-dedicated website at https://millenniumeastwindfarm.co.uk/contact/.

6 Figures

Figure 1: Site Location

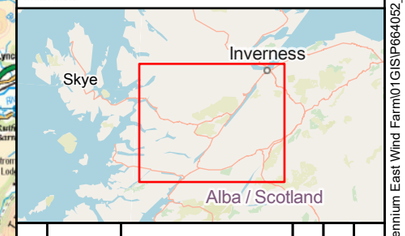
190000 200000 210000 220000 230000 240000 250000 260000 270000

840000 830000 820000 810000 800000 790000 780000

Legend:

Application Boundary

Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936
Units: Meter



Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App
01	03/02/2025	Revised Inset Map	DL	SA	JS
00	18/09/2024	Location	DL	SA	JS

Millennium East Wind Farm

RSK nadara

TITLE: Figure 1
Site Location

ID:Site_Location

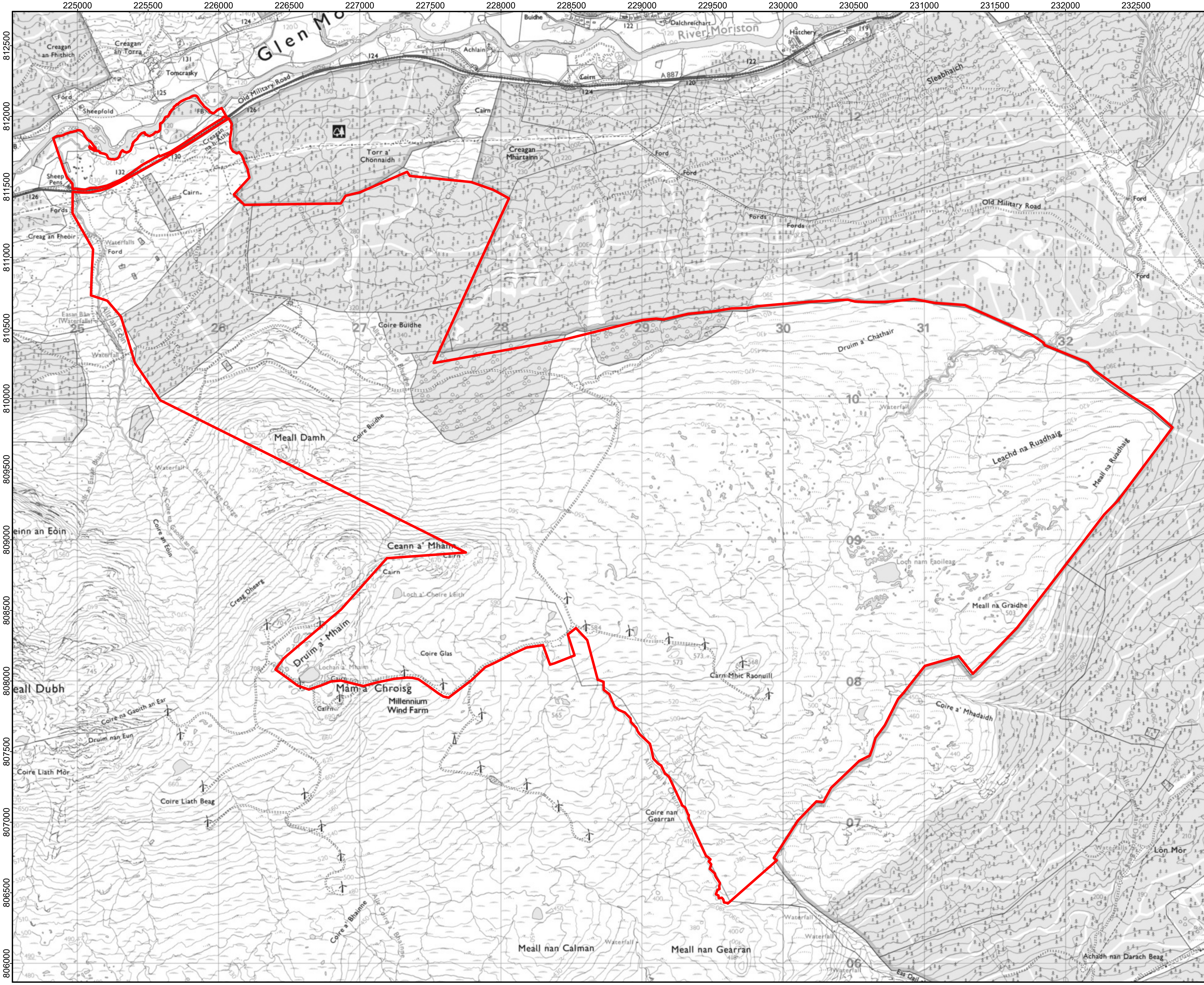
0 5.5 11
Kilometres

Scale: 1:280,000 @ A3

REV 01

Path: C:\Users\DLewis\RSK Group\RSK Environment GIS Projects - 664052 - Millennium East Wind Farm\01GIS\P664052_EIA.aprx\Site_Location

Figure 2: Site Boundary



Legend:

Application Boundary

Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936
Units: Meter

Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App
01	30/05/2025	Revised Template	DL	SA	JS
00	18/09/2024	RLB	DL	SA	JS

Millennium East Wind Farm

RSK nadara

TITLE: Figure 2
Site Boundary

ID:Site_Boundary

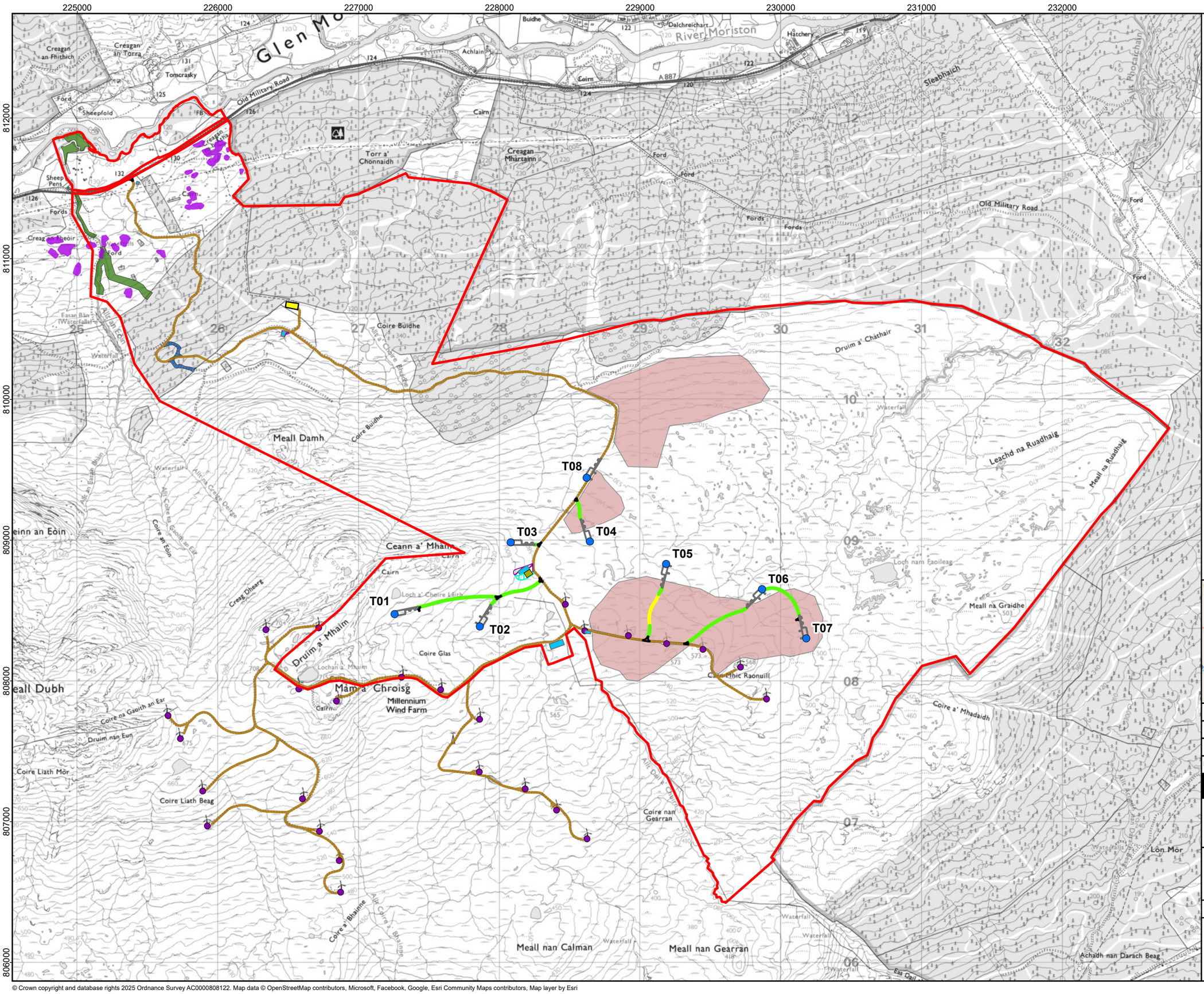
0 0.5 1
Kilometres
Scale: 1:25,000 @ A3

N E S W

REV 01

Path: C:\Users\DLewis\RSK Group\RSK Environment GIS Projects - 664052 - Millennium East Wind Farm\01GIS\P664052_EIA.aprx\Site_Boundary

Figure 3: Site Layout



Legend:

- Site Boundary

Proposed Millennium East Wind Farm components:

- Proposed Turbine Locations
- Turbine Hardstanding
- Junctions or Turning Head
- Borrow Pit Extension
- Floating Track
- New Track
- Temporary Mobilisation and Construction Compounds
- Substation

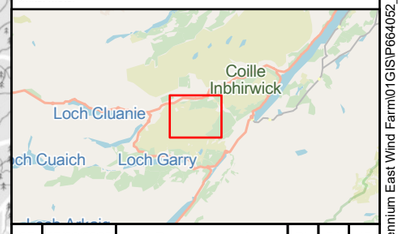
Outline Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan (OBEMP) Areas:

- Native Woodland Planting Search Areas (0.9 ha)
- Peatland Restoration Search Areas (143.2 ha)
- Riparian Woodland Planting Search Areas (6.49 ha)
- Bracken Treatment Areas (3.8ha)

Existing Millennium Wind Farm components:

- Existing Wind Turbines
- Existing Wind Farm Track
- Existing Borrow Pit
- Existing Substation

Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936
Units: Meter



Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App
07	27/06/2025	Revised Legend	DL	SA	JS
06	12/06/2025	Compound added	DL	SA	JS
05	30/05/2025	BESS removed	DL	SA	JS

Millennium East Wind Farm

RSK nadara

TITLE: Figure 3
Proposed Site Layout

ID:Site_Layout

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Kilometres

Scale: 1:25,000 @ A3

REV 07

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