

# GLENSHERO WIND FARM

## Pre-Application Community Consultation (PACC) Report



## 1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This 'Pre-Application Consultation Report' (PAC Report), relates to an application made by SIMEC ('the Applicant') for Glenshero Wind Farm ('the proposed development'). This document details and reports on the consultation process undertaken by the Applicant.
- 1.1.2 A link to the full planning application will also be available at the project website [www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), which is available at the following locations:

The Highland Council Inverness Service Point Town House High Street Inverness IV1 1JJ	Laggan Stores, Laggan Bridge by Newtonmore, Inverness-shire, PH20 1AH	Service Point, Memorial Hall, Fort Augustus, PH32 4DJ
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## 1.2 Project Description

- 1.2.1 The application seeks permission from the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) of the Scottish Government to construct a wind farm with an installed capacity of over 50 MW, comprising 39 wind turbines and associated elements at Glenshero, near Laggan (Glenshero Wind Farm). The application has been prepared in accordance with the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2000 (EIA regulations).
- 1.2.2 The turbines will have a maximum height of up to 135m to the highest point of the blade tip. The proposal includes a network of site tracks, electrical connection works, a control building and substation, and associated temporary construction infrastructure and associated ancillary and engineering works.

## 1.3 Our Approach to Community Consultation

- 1.3.1 As set out in Regulations the minimum consultation activity states that an applicant must consult with community councils and hold a public event. The Applicant believes that meaningful and productive consultation requires a more detailed approach, in undertaking the consultation for the proposed development the Applicant has gone above and beyond the minimum statutory requirement.
- 1.3.2 The proposed development site extends across two community council areas. The majority of the proposed development, including all the turbines and cabling will be located in Laggan Community Council area and consequently Laggan has been the main focus for consultation with the local community. As no constituted community council was in existence throughout the majority of the pre-application consultation, Laggan Community Association acted as the main point of contact for the Applicant. The Applicant understands that Laggan Community Council has recently been established and will write to them on submission of the application.
- 1.3.3 The Applicant has also met the four neighbouring community councils of Stratherrick & Foyers, Fort Augustus & Glenmoriston, Strathdearn and Newtonmore & Vicinity (meeting with Chair only) and kept them updated throughout the pre-application stage of the proposed development.

- 1.3.4 At all stages of the consultation process the Applicant set out clearly the purpose of the consultation. Throughout the process the Applicant emphasised that comments made are not representations to the planning authority and that there would be the opportunity for representations to be made to the planning authority once a planning application is submitted.

## 1.4 Consultation Methodology

### Pre-Consultation Preparation

- 1.4.1 Prior to undertaking formal public consultation, the Applicant undertook desk-based research to identify key stakeholders located within the vicinity of the proposed development. Those identified included:

- Community Councils;
- Elected members for The Highlands Council;
- Local MSPs & MP;
- Community Groups;
- Closest householders.

### Phase 1 Consultation

#### *Letter to Local Representatives – September 2017*

- 1.4.2 The Applicant wrote to Community Councils, Councillors, MSPs, MP and Community Groups to advise them that the Applicant was investigating the potential for a wind farm development at the site location (Appendix 1). We asked the local representatives if they would like to meet us to discuss the project.
- 1.4.3 The first letter also mentioned that the Applicant would be establishing a Stakeholder Advisory Group, however following community feedback and the disperse geographic nature of the site this was not implemented.

#### *Meetings with Local Representatives – October 2017 onwards*

- 1.4.4 Once the project entered the public domain the Applicant embarked on various meetings with the surrounding community groups. A summary of which can be found in Table 1 below. At each meeting the project was introduced, feedback was received and contact details were provided. The EIA Scoping Report was issued to the same community groups in November 2017.

<b>Table 1: Log of Community Groups Meeting</b>	
Community Council/Group	Meeting dates(s)
Laggan Community Association	12.10.17 / 05.02.18 / 09.05.18 / 14.06.18 / 23.08.18
Newtonmore & Vicinity	13.10.17 (Chair only)
Stratherrick and Foyers	28.11.17
Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston	29.11.17
Strathdearn	09.01.18

- 1.4.5 Upon request the Applicant also met with Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018 to discuss the access arrangements for the proposed development.

## **Phase 2 Consultation**

- 1.4.6 A combination of the following methods was used to inform stakeholders about the proposed development, and subsequently to ascertain their views.

### *Letter to Local Representatives – November 2017*

- 1.4.7 RES wrote a 2nd letter to all the Community Councils, Councillors, MSPs, MP and Community Groups to advise them of the date of the public exhibition. This correspondence included an invitation leaflet and stated that a planning application for the proposed development would be submitted in the new year (Appendix 2).

### *Pre-Exhibition Mailing – November 2017*

- 1.4.8 Invitations to the public exhibition event were posted to 917 addresses located within 15km of the wind farm during the week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017.
- 1.4.9 The leaflet (Appendix 3) included basic information about the project, including a location map, details of the public exhibition and the Applicant's contact details. The leaflet stated the Applicants intention to submit the planning application in 2018.

### *Advertising the Exhibition*

- 1.4.10 The Applicant placed an advertisement in local papers to inform the wider community of the public exhibition and that as part of the pre-application consultation. The advertisement was placed for 2 weeks in the Badenoch & Strathspey Herald and The Press and Journal (North), on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November, and advertised the Applicant's postal address and email address for receiving representations (Appendix 4).

### *Door to Door Visits – November 2017*

- 1.4.11 The Applicant undertook door to door visits to properties within Laggan village on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017 to check that they had received the leaflet about the upcoming public exhibition and to enquire whether they would be able to attend and/or had any queries. At properties where no-one was available a letter was posted containing information about the proposals, with contact details where householders could reach the Applicant with any questions.

### *Exhibitions*

- 1.4.12 The public exhibitions took place on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017, in Laggan Village Hall and Fort Augustus Village Hall respectively. The venues were identified through background research and both were selected for their proximity to the site and their accessibility for local people. The public exhibitions were open from 3pm to 7.30pm to enable a wide cross section of the local community and stakeholders to attend, including people returning from work.
- 1.4.13 Six staff members representing the applicant were present during the public exhibitions to discuss the proposals with attendees, covering a range of specialisms, including technical (wind resource and turbine layout), construction, environmental, development and community relations.
- 1.4.14 The events were attended by 57 people at the Laggan event and 14 people in Fort Augustus. Attendees were asked to sign a visitor book on entry to the exhibition.

1.4.15 Information banners covering the following topics were on display at the public exhibition. (Appendix 5):

- About SIMEC
- The Five Pillars of the Alliance
- GREENMETAL
- About the Project
- Why Glenshero
- Site Layout
- Transport & Access
- Environmental Studies
- Investing in GFG's Highland Estates
- Your Views Count
- About RES
- Local Benefits

1.4.16 In addition to the information banners the following visualisations were on display:

- Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)
- Photomontages from a selected four viewpoints (see below) to give the best representation of what the wind farm could look like.
- View from Corrieyairack Hill
- View from Garva Bridge
- View from Footpath East of Loch Spey
- View from Dun-da-Lamh

1.4.17 Attendees were able to discuss aspects of interest and question the Applicant on a variety of issues (summarised in Table 2, Section 1.5 of this report). A feedback questionnaire was also provided (Appendix 6), to elicit responses from attendees about the project. Forty-five questionnaires were completed (with two respondents not answering the final two closed questions), providing the following information:

Figure 1.1

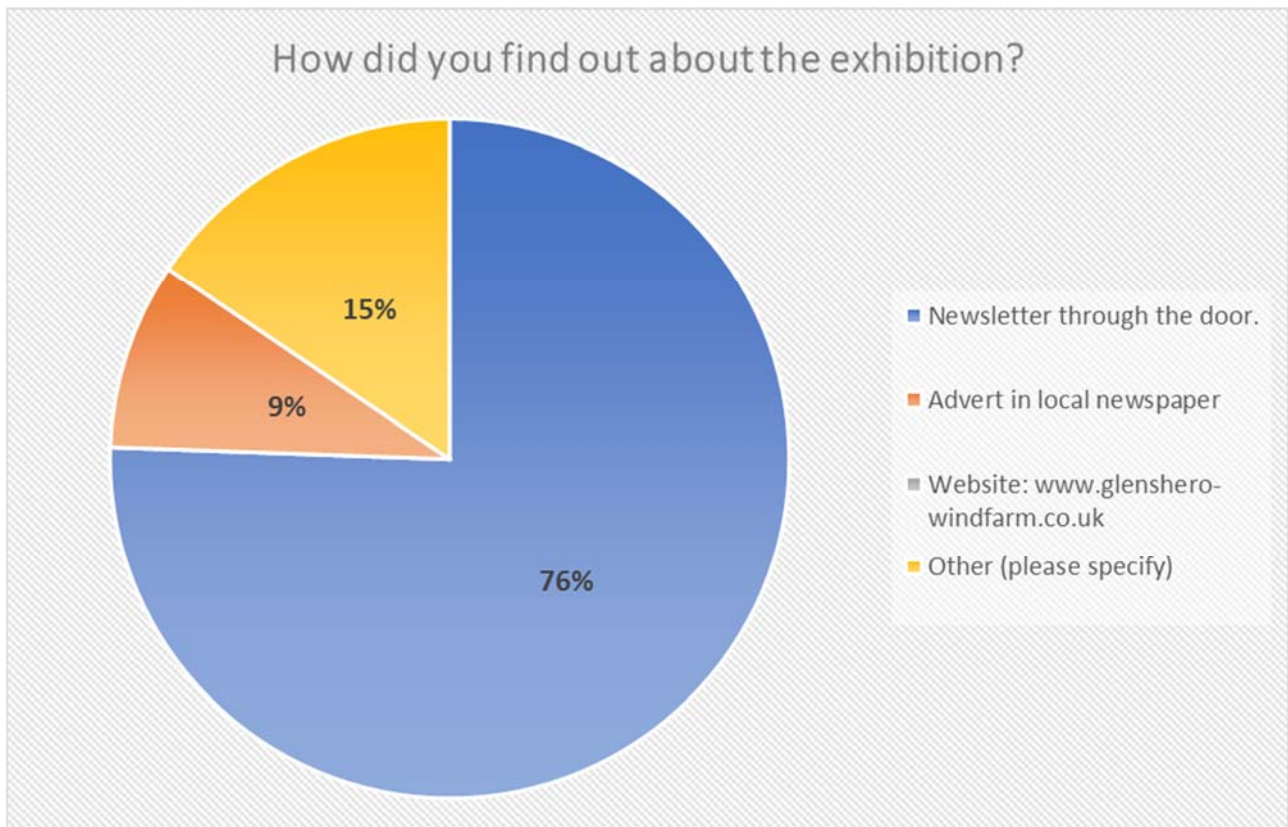


Figure 1.2

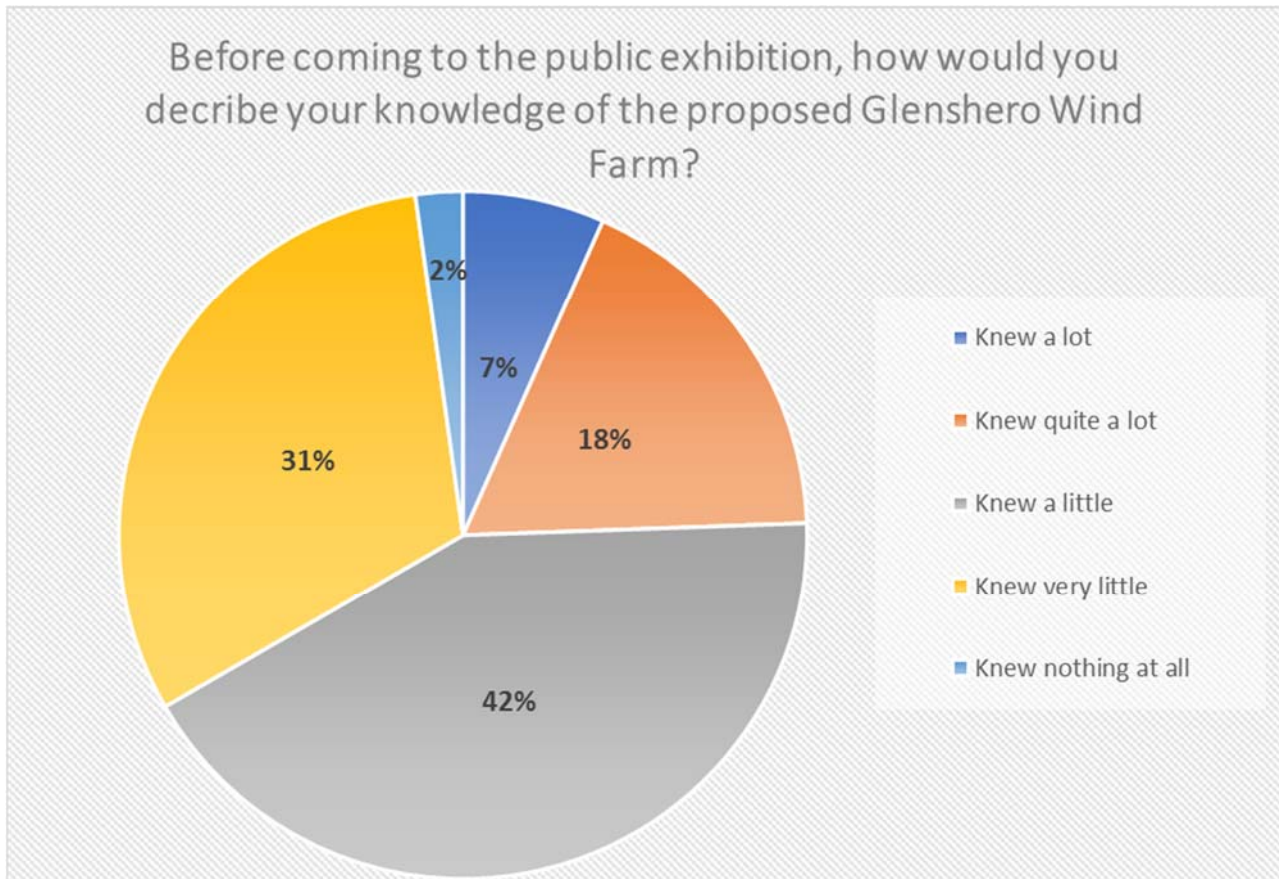




Figure 1.3

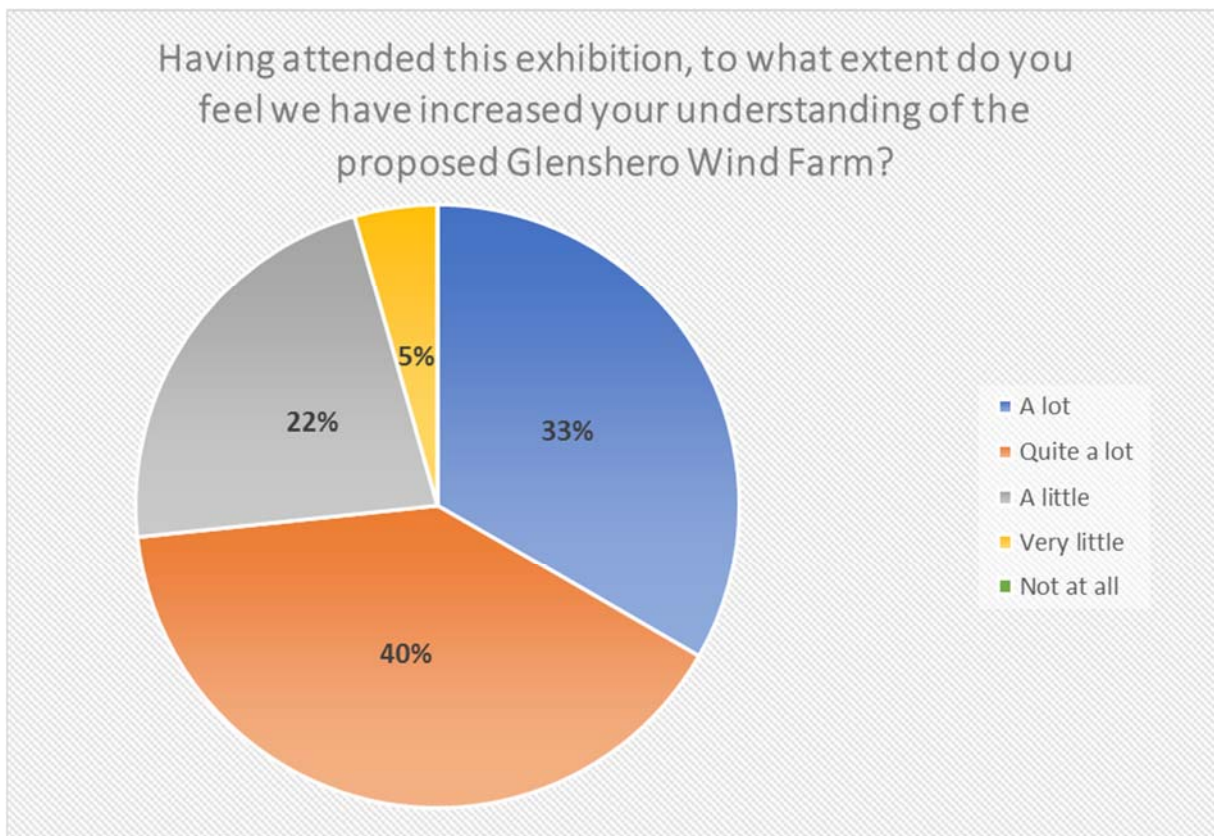


Figure 1.4

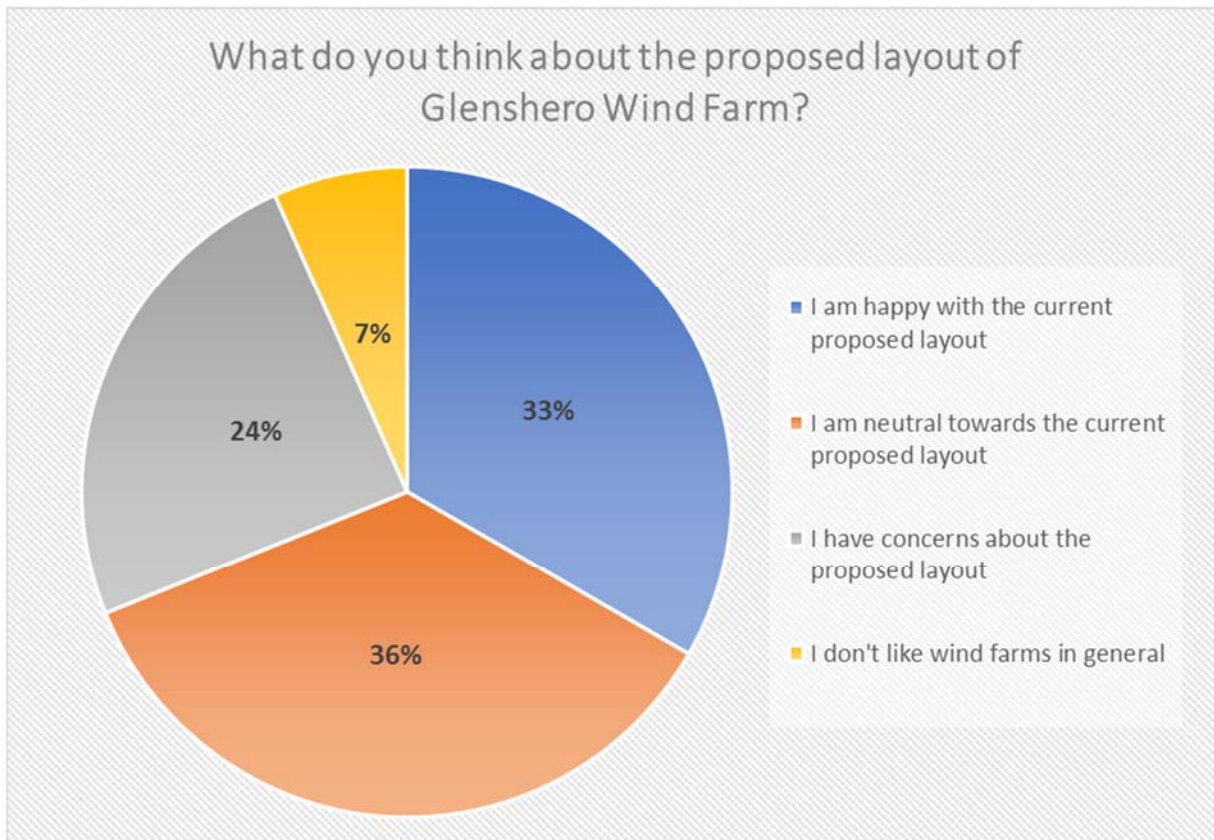


Figure 1.5

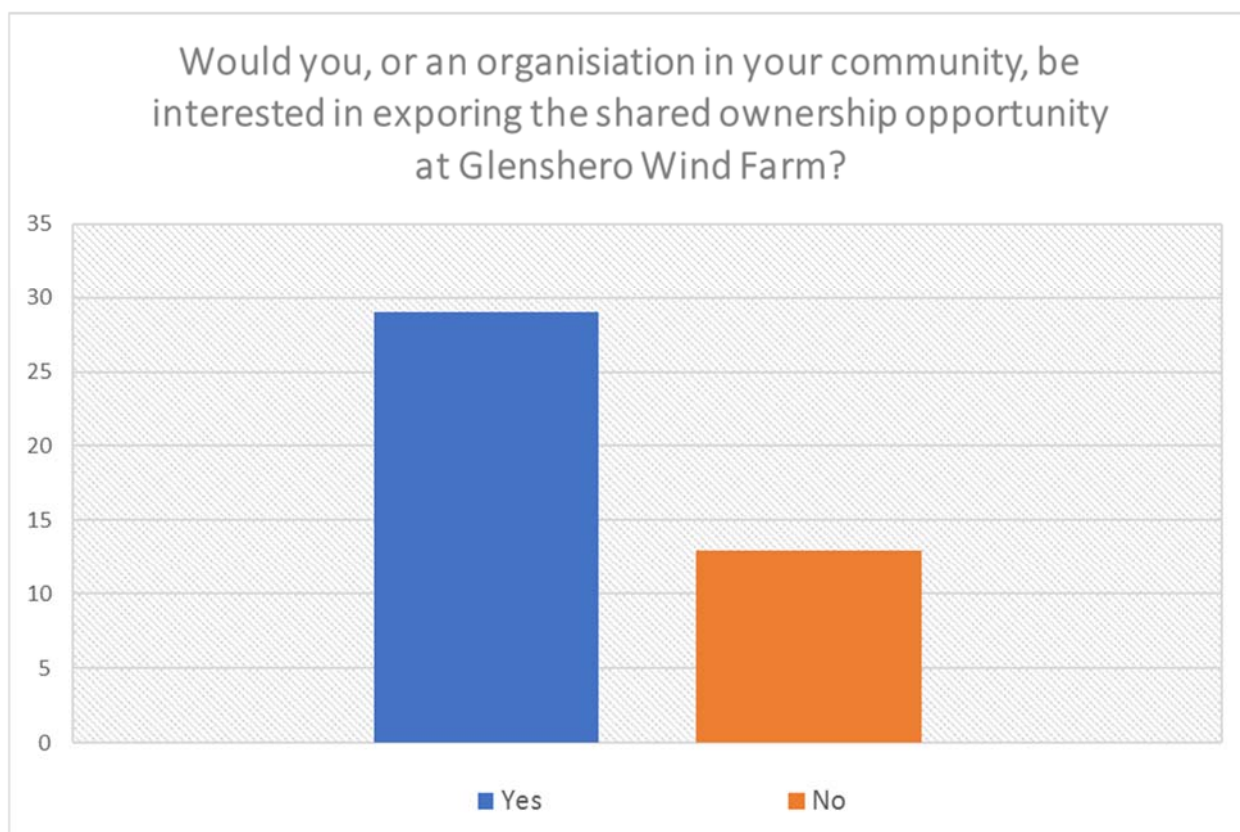
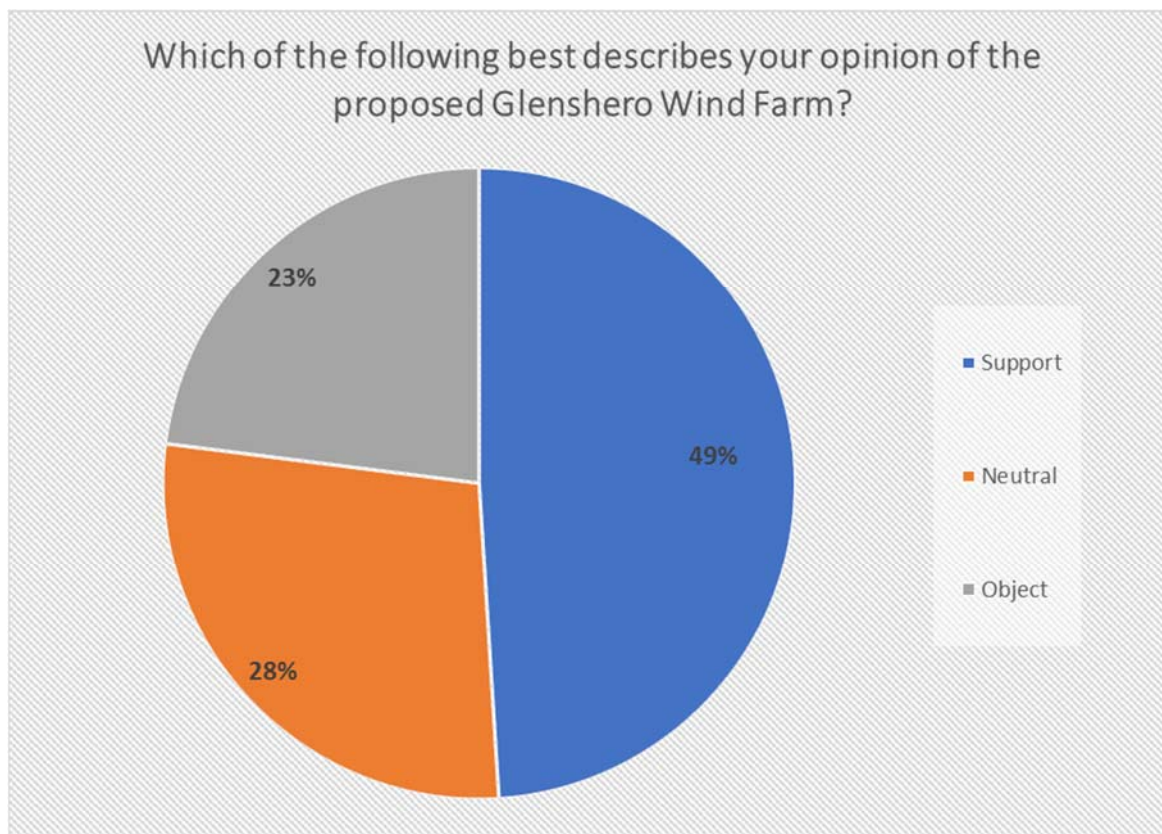


Figure 1.6





### *Website*

- 1.4.18 During the exhibition the project specific website address was advertised on the banners. Prior to the exhibition the website address was also included on leaflets to 917 addresses.
- 1.4.19 The website contains project information such as site location map, proposed number of turbines and key dates for the project. A 'Contact Us' page on the website provides various ways which the public can get in touch should they want to comment or if they require further information in relation to the proposed project.
- 1.4.20 Following the public exhibition, links were added to the website to provide access to exhibition banners and photomontages on display at the exhibition.
- 1.4.21 An image from the website is provided in Appendix 7.

### *Drop-in Session*

- 1.4.22 At the request of Laggan Community Association the Applicant held a drop-in session for members of the public on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2018. The drop-in session was held in Laggan Village Hall between 2.30pm – 5pm and was advertised locally by Laggan Community Association via posters.
- 1.4.23 The drop-in session was an opportunity for residents to receive an update on the proposed development and ask the project team questions. Approximately twelve residents attended and the main topic of interest was access.
- 1.4.24 The Applicant also presented the proposals to residents invited to a public meeting in the evening. A total of approximately thirty residents attended.

### *Summary of Consultations*

- 1.4.25 In summary a number of communications techniques were used as part of the Pre-Application Community Consultation; reaching both nearest neighbours to the site as well as audiences in the wider area. These techniques included:
- 1st Letter to Local Representatives;
  - Meetings with local Community Councils and representatives groups;
  - 2nd Letter to Local Representatives about the Public Exhibition;
  - Advertisements for the Public Exhibition in the local press;
  - A mailing informing local residents about the Public Exhibition via a project information leaflet;
  - A round of door-to-door visits;
  - Public Exhibition event;
  - Project website – [www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)
  - Drop-in Session for residents in Laggan; and
  - 3rd Letter to update to Community Councils regarding planning application progress.
- 1.4.25 The level of consultation undertaken as detailed above is considered to more than adequately address the recommended guidance.

## 1.5 Outcomes and Responses

- 1.5.1 The majority of the queries/topics raised during the consultation were raised verbally during conversations at the public event, door to door visits or meetings with local representatives. In addition, forty-five feedback questionnaires were filled in during the public exhibitions. A summary of the topics raised during the consultation (both verbally and in writing), along with the Applicants response to each issue, can be found in the Table 2.

<b>Table 2: Summary of queries/topics raised during the pre-application consultation</b>	
Topics Raised	The Applicant's Response
Access	<p>The turbine delivery route would come from Corpach and Kyle of Lochalsh, heading to the site along the A82 and A87 respectively, before entering the Site along the existing Stronelairg entrance to the south east of Fort Augustus.</p> <p>The Applicant has received feedback to suggest that the northern entrance would be preferable for some residents. The Applicant has taken this on-board and has designed the access to utilise the existing infrastructure of Stronelairg Wind Farm.</p> <p>The Applicant understands that this is not the preferred route for all those consulted with, most notably Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council. As such we will work hard to agree access arrangements with the Roads Department at Highland Council and local residents to ensure that we further consider any concerns people may have. A detailed Traffic Management Plan would be agreed post consent with the Roads Department and the police.</p> <p>Further information can be found in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, Volume 2: Main Report, Chapter 8 Traffic and Transport.</p>
Landscape and Visual	<p>As is quite typical for any wind farm proposal, there were some comments from residents around the visual aspects of the wind farm.</p> <p>When designing a wind farm the Applicant spent a lot of time studying the area and the various constraints. The layout that has been designed for the proposed development takes into account wind speed, national designations, microwave links, rights of way,</p>

**Table 2: Summary of queries/topics raised during the pre-application consultation**

Topics Raised	The Applicant's Response
	<p>hydrological and ecological features and ornithological considerations.</p> <p>The design aim was to achieve reduced landscape and visual effects whilst achieving an appropriate landscape fit, and avoiding areas constrained by other environmental factors such as ecology, hydrology and archaeology whilst maximising potential electricity generation.</p> <p>Initial site investigations considered a development comprising of up to 54 turbines. As a result of consultation, detailed technical environmental surveys and a thorough design process the number of the turbines evolved down to 39. The final location of the turbines has taken into account the local topography and views into the site from the surrounding area. The turbine heights have been carefully designed to ensure the most appropriate turbine locations can be used whilst ensuring a sensitive design. The height is also comparative to the neighbouring Stronelairg Wind Farm.</p> <p>From the studies we have undertaken and the professional advice we have received, we believe that the current turbine locations and heights proposed are appropriate for a wind farm at this location.</p> <p>We showed four photomontages of the wind farm at the Public Exhibitions as well as the ZTV. It was noted by some attendees that the proposed development was not visible from the surrounding population centres.</p> <p>Further information can be found in the Environmental Statement, Volume 2: Main Report, Chapter 4: Landscape and Visual.</p>

**Table 2: Summary of queries/topics raised during the pre-application consultation**

Topics Raised	The Applicant's Response
Environmental Impact	<p>The Applicant has undertaken a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to determine the likelihood of any potential impacts on the environment.</p> <p>The results of the EIA are described in the Environmental Statement which is available publicly at:</p> <p>The Highland Council, Planning and Development Services, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX</p>
	<p>Laggan Stores, Laggan Bridge by Newtonmore Inverness-shire, PH20 1AH</p>
	<p>Service Point Memorial Hall Fort Augustus PH32 4DJ.</p> <p>The EIAR is also available to download at <a href="http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk">www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk</a></p>
Historic Monuments & Pollution	<p>Garva Bridge was identified by local residents, in addition to our archaeology and cultural heritage specialists, as a significant historic monument locally. As such our Landscape and Visual Assessment has carefully studied this viewpoint to ensure appropriate spacing and where possible reduced the visibility of the turbines from this location.</p> <p>As part of the EIA, a Geology &amp; Water Environment Assessment was undertaken to determine if there would be any significant impacts of the proposed development. The wind farm layout has been carefully designed to minimise the reduce instances where infrastructure is in close proximity to</p>



<b>Table 2: Summary of queries/topics raised during the pre-application consultation</b>	
Topics Raised	The Applicant's Response
	watercourses. As part of the EIA, water quality monitoring was undertaken to determine the baseline quality, prior to construction water quality monitoring will be undertaken again and used to monitor the impact of the construction throughout all stages of construction and operation.
Community Benefit	<p>The Applicant is committed to ensuring that our wind farm benefits the local community in various ways.</p> <p>It is clear from the feedback forms in Laggan that residents feel that they should be the primary beneficiary from any community benefits proposed due to all the turbines being located in their area.</p> <p>It is important to note that voluntary community benefits are not a planning matter.</p>

## 1.6 Summary

- 1.6.1 The Applicant believes that consultation and effective communication is paramount when developing a wind farm.
- 1.6.2 Going beyond the guidance, the Applicant has undertaken a consultation period just over twelve months in advance of the submission of the planning application. The Applicant has used a variety of methods to communicate and engage with the local community and has received feedback from local residents and community groups within the surrounding area. This PACC Report details the consultation activities undertaken. Section 1.5 sets out the comments and queries received and how we have responded.
- 1.6.3 The Applicant has engaged early with the local community to facilitate a constructive consultation process; this has helped us understand and address any concerns as the project developed. Through the consultation process, we have helped the community in understanding the benefits and the potential impacts of the proposed development.
- 1.6.4 In light of feedback from the local community the Applicant has made better informed decisions from the original proposal as set out in Scoping:
- A reduction in the number of turbines from 54 to 39;
  - Access to be taken from the north using existing Stronelaig infrastructure;
  - Ensured views from Garva Bridge have been sensitively designed with appropriate spacing;
  - Avoidance of visibility or limiting visibility from sensitive locations and main population centres including; Laggan, Fort Augustus, Loch Ness, Cairngorms National Park.

- 1.6.5 The Applicant is committed to being a good neighbour and will build on the pre-planning consultation in a number of ways. The company has an 'open door' policy that means anyone can contact the company about the proposed development at any stage and The Applicant will respond in a timely manner. The proposed development Manager's and Community Relations Manager's contact details have been made available for this purpose via exchange of information at briefings, the project leaflet and the project website.
- 1.6.6 The project website will be updated regularly to enable people to keep up to date with the latest news about the proposed development as it progresses.
- 1.6.7 Once the planning application is submitted the Applicant will write out to political representatives and community representatives to inform them that a Section 36 Application has been made.

## **Appendices**

- 1. Introduction Letter**
- 2. Exhibition Invite Letter**
- 3. Exhibition Leaflet posted to residences within 15km**
- 4. Exhibition advert**
- 5. Exhibition information banners**
- 6. Exhibition Questionnaire**
- 7. Website image**

## APPENDIX 1



**Glenshero Wind Farm**  
**c/o Renewable Energy Systems Limited**  
3rd Floor, STV, Pacific Quay  
Glasgow G51 1PQ, United Kingdom  
T 0141 404 5560 E [info@glenshero-windfarm.com](mailto:info@glenshero-windfarm.com)  
[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)

Our Ref: 03144-000908

06 September 2017

Dear [REDACTED],

**Re: SIMEC Group, part of the GFG Alliance, unveils new wind energy project to support development of Scottish Industry**

I am writing to introduce you to an exciting new proposal by SIMEC Group, part of the GFG Alliance, which seeks to strengthen the development of Scottish Industry.

SIMEC in the UK is focused on establishing a portfolio of renewable energy projects in order to provide low-cost, low-carbon power for energy intensive industries. As part of this strategy in 2016 SIMEC, alongside fellow GFG Alliance member Liberty House, reached agreement to buy the iconic hydro-power and aluminium smelting operation at Lochaber, near Fort William as well as the surrounding estate lands. The acquisition of the Scottish Highlands installation secured the jobs of more than 150 workers on-site and hundreds more in the local and regional supply chain.

The latest project proposal, announced today [6<sup>th</sup> September], is for a wind farm consisting of up to 54 turbines on the Glenshero Estate, approximately 9km northwest of Laggan, that could generate up to 178MW following an investment programme of around £170m.

The development of Glenshero Wind Farm will contribute valuable low-cost, low-carbon power for industrial schemes such as the planned Fort William alloy wheels factory and steel mills in Lanarkshire. Under the Glenshero plan, steel for the wind-tower structures could be rolled at Liberty's Dalzell plant in Motherwell and possibly fabricated at a new neighbouring wind turbine manufacturing facility, if this project proceeds.

SIMEC will also be seeking to bring the local community into the project with opportunities for both shared ownership and a local electricity discount scheme for those living closest to the development.

We are keen to engage with the local community from the outset and listen to views as we progress with the design of the wind farm. Over the coming months we will be meeting with a range of community councils and community groups to introduce ourselves, the wind farm proposals and receive feedback on them. We will also be establishing a Stakeholder Advisory Group that will be made up of representatives from the local area. This group will have the opportunity to have an input into the design process as well as engage with the shared ownership offer available at Glenshero.

To take forward the Glenshero Wind Farm plans, SIMEC has appointed leading renewable energy developer, RES, to manage the development and consultation process.

Renewable Energy Systems Limited, Registered in England & Wales Number 4913493  
Registered Office: Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire WD4 8LR, United Kingdom





03144-000908



In addition to the proposals for Glenshero Wind Farm, the GFG Alliance, has also unveiled a broad spectrum of ideas for the use of the surrounding estate lands. These promise to add many more jobs to the hundreds of industrial posts it has already announced for the Highlands. The projects include:

- Major enhancement of the existing hydro power stations and examining the scope for several further small-scale hydro plants around Lochaber and Kinlochleven
- Investments to upgrade housing and visitor accommodation across the estate
- Development of high-grade facilities for tourists including accommodation and outdoor pursuits such as kayaking
- Major improvements to, and expansion of, farming, fishing and forestry across the estate
- A new helipad to serve both business and emergency services
- Support for multiple individual enterprises related to agriculture, sport and recreation
- Improved access to the estate lands through better signage, parking and other facilities and improved management of natural habitats including peatlands

Please find enclosed a copy of the press release issued today by GFG Alliance regarding this exciting new project. For further information you can also visit the project website at [www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk).

We are very interested in meeting with you to introduce ourselves and the project in more detail. I will therefore be in touch to hopefully organise a meeting at a time and location of your preference. However, should you have any questions in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact me on the below details.

Yours sincerely,

  
Community Relations Manager  
E [info@glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)  
T + 

## APPENDIX 2



Glenshero Wind Farm  
c/o Renewable Energy Systems Limited  
3rd Floor, STV, Pacific Quay  
Glasgow G51 1PQ, United Kingdom  
T 0141 404 5560 E [info@glenshero-windfarm.com](mailto:info@glenshero-windfarm.com)  
[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)

06 November 2017

Dear,

**Re: Invite to Public Exhibitions for Glenshero Wind Farm**

I am writing to invite you to public exhibitions later this month (November) to learn more about the plans for Glenshero Wind Farm.

The Glenshero Wind Farm proposal represents an exciting opportunity to support Scotland's industrial growth, as it will contribute valuable low-cost, low-carbon power for industrial developments across the country.

Following constructive preliminary discussions between SIMEC and statutory consultees, as well as the collation of additional information from site investigation work, the original proposal for 54 turbines has now been revised down to 40 turbines. This new design will be shown at the public exhibitions and we are keen to receive feedback on it.

We hope you will be able to come and discuss the proposals with us on one of the dates below. Both events will run from 3.00pm – 7.30pm.

- **20<sup>th</sup> November – Laggan Village Hall, Laggan, by Newtonmore, PH20 1AH**
- **21<sup>st</sup> November – Fort Augustus Village Hall, Church Road, Fort Augustus, PH32 4DG**

Members of the project team will be giving a design presentation throughout the day and will be available to answer people's questions.

The results of the environmental work, together with the consultation feedback gained from these events, will be used to inform the detailed design of the proposed wind farm and reported in the Environmental Statement. This will form part of a Section 36 Planning Application to the Scottish Government that we expect will be submitted in spring 2018.

For further information you can visit the project website at [www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk) or contact me directly on my details below.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

Community Relations Manager  
E [info@glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)  
T [Redacted Phone Number]

## APPENDIX 3



Wind Farm, North Ayrshire. Turbines 100m to blade tip.

### SIMEC invites you to discuss its proposal for Glenshero Wind Farm

SIMEC Group, part of the GFG Alliance, which is already investing hundreds of millions of pounds in Scotland and The Highlands, plans to bring further benefits to the national and local economy by developing renewable energy projects to support manufacturing businesses.

The latest project proposal is a wind farm consisting of up to 40 turbines at Glenshero, approximately 9km north west of Laggan, that could generate up to 168 megawatts of energy following an investment programme of around £150 million. The development of Glenshero Wind Farm, if approved, will contribute valuable low-cost, low-carbon power for industrial developments across Scotland.

**£150m**  
CAPITAL  
INVESTMENT

### Want to know more?

We would welcome the opportunity to share our proposals for Glenshero Wind Farm with as many people as possible, so we will be holding public events on:

**MONDAY**  
20<sup>th</sup> November 2017  
3pm to 7:30pm

**Laggan Village Hall**  
Laggan by Newtonmore, PH20 1AH

**TUESDAY**  
21<sup>st</sup> November 2017  
3pm to 7:30pm

**Fort Augustus Village Hall**  
Church Road, Fort Augustus, PH32 4DG

We hope you will be able to come and discuss the proposals with us. Members of the project team will be giving design presentations throughout the day and are looking for your feedback.

**res**  
power for good



## About SIMEC

SIMEC Group, part of the GFG Alliance, was established over 50 years ago. In the UK SIMEC Energy is focused on establishing a portfolio of renewable energy projects in order to provide low-cost, low-carbon power to industry.

In December 2016 SIMEC, alongside fellow GFG Alliance member Liberty House, completed the purchase of the iconic hydro-power and aluminium smelting operation at Lochaber. The acquisition of the iconic Scottish Highlands installation secured the jobs of more than 150 workers on-site and hundreds more in the local and regional supply chain.

The Glenshero Wind Farm proposal represents an exciting opportunity to support Scotland's industrial growth. Through developing a renewable energy project on the estate and managing the price of low-carbon energy supplied for industrial practices, this will create a platform to explore new business opportunities across Scotland.

Under the Glenshero plan, steel for the wind-tower structures could be rolled at Liberty's Dalzell plant in Motherwell and possibly fabricated at a potential new neighbouring wind turbine manufacturing facility.



Aluminium operations in Lochaber



Smelter workers at Lochaber

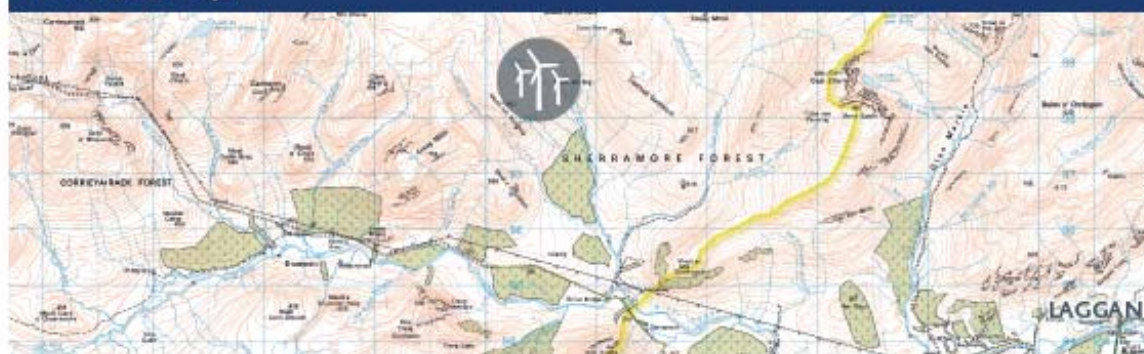
## Glenshero Wind Farm proposal

SIMEC is exploring the opportunity for a wind farm of up to 40 turbines at Glenshero, approximately 9km north west of Laggan.

Initial feasibility work has shown that Glenshero is a good site and we have now undertaken more detailed site investigations and environmental surveys, in consultation with Highland Council and other statutory consultees such as SNH and SEPA, in order to develop the current design. We are keen to engage with the local community to understand people's views and so we would encourage you to come to the public exhibitions advertised.

The results of the environmental work, together with the consultation feedback, will be used to inform the detailed design of the proposed wind farm and reported in the Environmental Statement. This will part of a Section 36 Planning Application to the Scottish Government that we expect will be submitted in spring 2018.

## Location map



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## Opportunities for local businesses

The wind farm proposal at Glenshero brings with it significant inward investment to the Highlands and SIMEC is committed to maximising the local economic spend, if consented. According to our initial estimates, it is expected that approximately £23.2m will be invested in the Highlands economy through construction and first year of operation.

However, we consider this to be a minimum figure and as we progress through the development of this site we are keen to hear from local businesses that have the skills and experience to help deliver this project, if consented.



48m turbine blade being delivered to Altaveedan Wind Farm

## Shared ownership opportunity

SIMEC are proud to be able to offer the communities around Glenshero Wind Farm the opportunity to invest in the project.

At this stage we looking to start discussions with Local Energy Scotland and interested community groups. We hope that a community share in Glenshero Wind Farm could act as an enabler for wider investment in the local area by the community.

If you would like any further information regarding the shared ownership opportunity at Glenshero, please contact us (see back page).

## Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS)

We will also be implementing an innovative Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) to deliver direct and tangible benefits to people living and working closest to the proposed wind farm. The LEDS scheme will offer an annual discount, to the electricity bills of those properties closest to a proposed Glenshero Wind Farm.

The scheme is open to all residential, business and community buildings (including schools, places of worship and village halls) within a qualifying area for the operational lifetime of the wind farm, with the discount being paid directly to the electricity supplier.

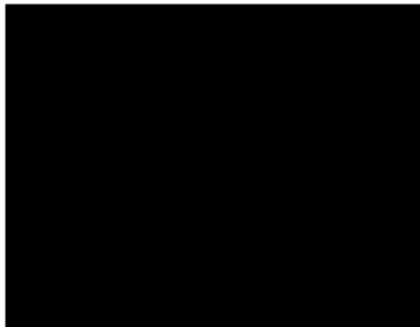


Glenshero Estate

## Investing in GFG's Highland Estates

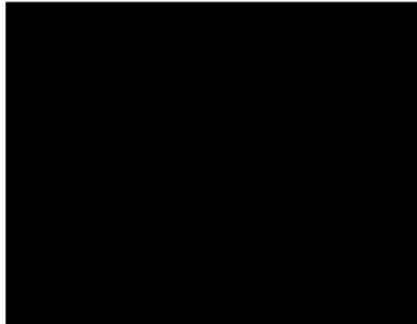
In addition to Glenshero Wind Farm, the GFG Alliance has a broad spectrum of ideas for the use of its surrounding estate lands. These promise to add many more jobs to the hundreds of industrial posts it has already announced for the area.

- » Major enhancement of the existing hydro power stations and the addition of several further smaller hydro plants around Lochaber and Kinlochleven.
- » Investments to upgrade housing and visitor accommodation across the estate.
- » Development of high-grade facilities for tourists such as kayaking and other outdoor pursuits centres.
- » Major improvements to, and expansion of, farming, fishing and forestry across the estate.
- » A new helipad to serve both business and emergency services.
- » Support for multiple individual enterprises related to agriculture, sport and recreation.
- » Improved access to the estate lands through better signage, parking and other facilities.



**Chief Investment Officer for the GFG Alliance and  
Chief Executive of SIMEC Energy**

*Glenshero is a unique project in our portfolio. It would be built in an environment of zero subsidies, using steel rolled and finished in Scotland and then generate clean energy to support Scottish industry. It is also an exciting opportunity for us to work with the local community and encourage their investment alongside our own. This is truly a win-win project for all parties.*



**Chief Executive of JAHAMA Highland Estates,  
the GFG division which manages and develops the estate lands**

*We want to use the estate in the most productive way to maximise benefit for the local economy and residents. Our aim is a joined-up plan with the different elements working together. For example the assets of the estate, in whatever form, would feed into our industrial developments to help us to be even more ambitious in our plans for new sustainable manufacturing.*

## Key facts



Glenshero,  
near Laggan

Up to 40 turbines  
168 MW (megawatts)



£23.2m  
Local Economic  
Investment



Local Electricity Discount  
Scheme & Shared  
Ownership Opportunity



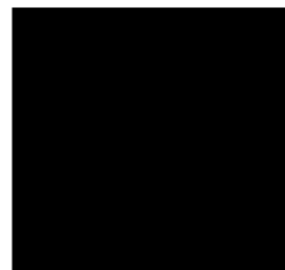
## RES in Scotland

SIMEC has appointed RES to manage the development and consultation process at Glenshero.

RES is one of the world's leading independent renewable energy project developers. At the forefront of renewable energy development for over 30 years, RES is active in a range of renewable energy technologies including both onshore and offshore wind, solar and enabling technologies such as energy storage.

From its Glasgow office RES has been developing, constructing and operating wind farms since 1993 and has a team of over 80 staff in Scotland working across a range of disciplines.

## Contact us



Community Relations Manager  
✉ [info@glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)

If you require information in Braille, large text or audio, please let us know. For those receiving this newsletter by post, we obtained your address through a national postcode database. If you do not wish to receive more information from us about this proposal, please write to us and let us know.

## APPENDIX 4



# GLENSHERO WIND FARM PUBLIC EXHIBITION

SIMEC, part of the GFG Alliance, are in the early stages of exploring the potential for a wind farm of up to 40 turbines at Glenshero, approximately 9km north west of Laggan.

The development of Glenshero Wind Farm will contribute valuable low-cost, low-carbon power for industrial developments across Scotland.

We are keen to engage with the local community and as part of our pre-application consultation we are holding public exhibitions in the local area to enable people to find out more about the proposal and provide us with their views. Staff will be on hand to answer any questions or queries, and questionnaires will be available to gather your feedback.

Comments on the proposal must be provided in writing by either filling out a questionnaire form at one of the exhibitions or by writing to Callum Whiteford, Community Relations Manager, via email at [info@glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](mailto:info@glenshero-windfarm.co.uk) or by post at RES, Third Floor STV, Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1PQ.

Persons submitting comments in response to the Pre-Application Consultation are advised that comments submitted to RES at this time are not representations to the determining authority; there will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should a planning application be made.

For more information on the project please visit our website at [www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk) or contact [REDACTED], Community Relations Manager, on [REDACTED].

### MONDAY

20<sup>th</sup> November 2017  
3pm to 7:30 pm

Laggan Village Hall  
Laggan by Newtonmore,  
PH20 1AH

### TUESDAY

21<sup>st</sup> November 2017  
3pm to 7:30 pm

Fort Augustus Village Hall  
Church Road,  
Fort Augustus, PH32 4DG

## **APPENDIX 5**





## GLENSHERO WIND FARM

### About SIMEC

SIMEC Group, part of the GFG Alliance, was established over 50 years ago.

In the UK SIMEC Energy is focused on establishing a portfolio of renewable energy projects in order to provide low-cost, low-carbon power for industry.

In December 2016 SIMEC, alongside fellow GFG Alliance member Liberty House, completed the purchase of the iconic hydro-power and aluminium smelting operation at Lochaber. The acquisition of the iconic Scottish Highlands Installation secured the jobs of more than 150 workers on-site and hundreds more in the local and regional supply chain.

The Glenshero Wind Farm proposal represents an exciting opportunity to support Scotland's industrial growth. Through developing a renewable energy project on the estate and managing the price of low-carbon energy supplied for industrial practices, this will create a platform to explore new business opportunities across Scotland.

Under the Glenshero plan, steel for the wind-tower structures could be rolled at Liberty's Dalzell plant in Motherwell and possibly fabricated at a potential new neighbouring wind turbine manufacturing facility.



[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)





## The Five Pillars of the Alliance

**Liberty House Group** is an International Industrial and metals business that provides an integrated solution ranging from global metals trading, metal making and processing through to advanced engineering.

**SIMEC Group** is an International energy and natural resources business focused on building a portfolio of extraction resources, sustainable power and supporting the Alliance with an infrastructure and trading platform.

**Wyelands** is a financial services group which includes an Independent bank and a financial advisory services business.

**JAHAMA** operates and owns a wide portfolio of Industrial, commercial, agricultural and residential properties in the UK and overseas.

**GFG Foundation** is a charitable organisation which supports programmes across the globe aimed at closing the Industrial skills gap through creating and nurturing engineering talent.



[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)



## GLENSHERO WIND FARM

### GREENMETAL

#### A new vision for the steel industry

- » GFG's vision is to transform the future of industry by delivering innovative solutions to our customers that enable them to grow and thrive.
- » The strategy for achieving this is called **GREENMETAL**:
  - Using steel manufactured by Liberty in the local market using local materials.
  - Produced using green, renewable long-term sources of power – made available by company SIMEC.
  - Re-invigorating the subsequent engineering supply chain.



[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)



## GLENSHERO WIND FARM

### Investing In GFG's Highland Estates

In addition to Glenshero Wind Farm, the GFG Alliance has a broad spectrum of ideas for the use of its surrounding estate lands. These promise to add many more jobs to the hundreds of industrial posts it has already announced for the area.

- » Working to enhance the estate and its contribution to the community
- » Renovation and Restoration of housing stock, e.g. Mamore Lodge
- » Restoration and Improvement of ecological and environmental features:
  - Riparian planting to protect the river Spey and catchment area
  - Peatland restoration
  - Reintroduction of cattle
- » Protection of history:
  - Listed buildings
  - Bringing back estate tweeds
- » Creation of new enterprises and jobs:
  - Holiday accommodation, grouse, fishing
- » Tree planting: over 100 hectares of new woodland planted this season.
- » Community engagement and initiatives inc heliport, white water course.



[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)



# GLENSHERO WIND FARM

## About the project

SIMEC is currently consulting on its plans for a proposed wind farm approximately 9 kilometres north west of Laggan.

Based on initial studies we are proposing a 40 turbine site. It is anticipated that the site would be capable of generating approximately 168 megawatts (MW) equivalent to the annual average electricity needs of approximately 118,000 homes.\*

We have been continuing our site specific survey work and have been engaging with the relevant statutory bodies and organisations to refine our current design.

The results of the site investigations, environmental surveys and feedback received through our consultation process will be used to inform the detailed design of the proposed wind farm and will be reported in the Environmental Statement which will form part of any planning application that is submitted.

Members of the Glenshero team are available to answer any questions that you may have as you go around the exhibition boards.

\*The homes equivalent figure has been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation of the site (based on RES' desk based mesoscale studies we predict that the site will have a capacity factor of approximately 22%) and dividing this by the annual average electricity consumption figures from DECC 2014 (4050 kWh).



[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)



# GLENSHERO WIND FARM

## Why Glenshero

- » Area with potential for wind farm development (Group 3 in The Highland Council Spatial Framework).
- » Turbine array outside designated areas (e.g. nature conservation, landscape, heritage).
- » Through developing a renewable energy project on the estate and managing the price of low-carbon energy supplied for industrial practices, this will create a platform to explore new business opportunities across Scotland.
- » Opportunities to build on existing infrastructure (e.g. Melgarve substation/Beauldy Denny 400 kV, existing track network for access).
- » Possibility to self-supply steel for towers and foundations within UK, in line with circular economy.
- » Opportunities for shared ownership and electricity discount scheme for those living closest to the development.
- » Facilitate further investment in the wider estate e.g. tourism, sporting interest, housing stock, access, hydro schemes.

Key:

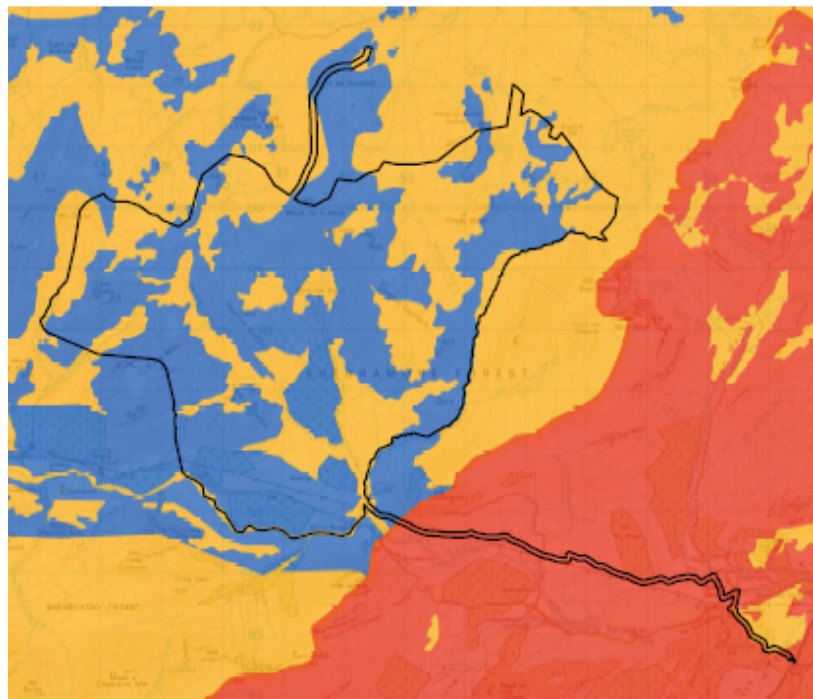
■ Glenshero

Highland Council Consultation Spatial Framework Stage

■ Group 1 – Areas where wind farms will not be acceptable

■ Group 2 – Areas of significant protection

■ Group 3 – Areas with potential for wind farm development



[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)





# GLENSHERO WIND FARM

## Transport and access

Access is one of the key considerations when developing a wind farm.

We will consult with the Roads Department at The Highland Council, the emergency services, the local community and other relevant bodies on our transport plans to ensure that we consider any concerns people may have. A transport assessment will also be undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

Currently there are two possible access solutions. The first option is taking access from north through Stronelairg Wind Farm which is currently being constructed. The second option is from south via Laggan and Strath Mashie.

If the wind farm is approved, a detailed Traffic Management Plan will be agreed with the roads authority and the police. Wherever reasonably practicable we will use materials available on-site and source construction materials locally in order to help reduce traffic movements and maximise local economic spread.



[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)

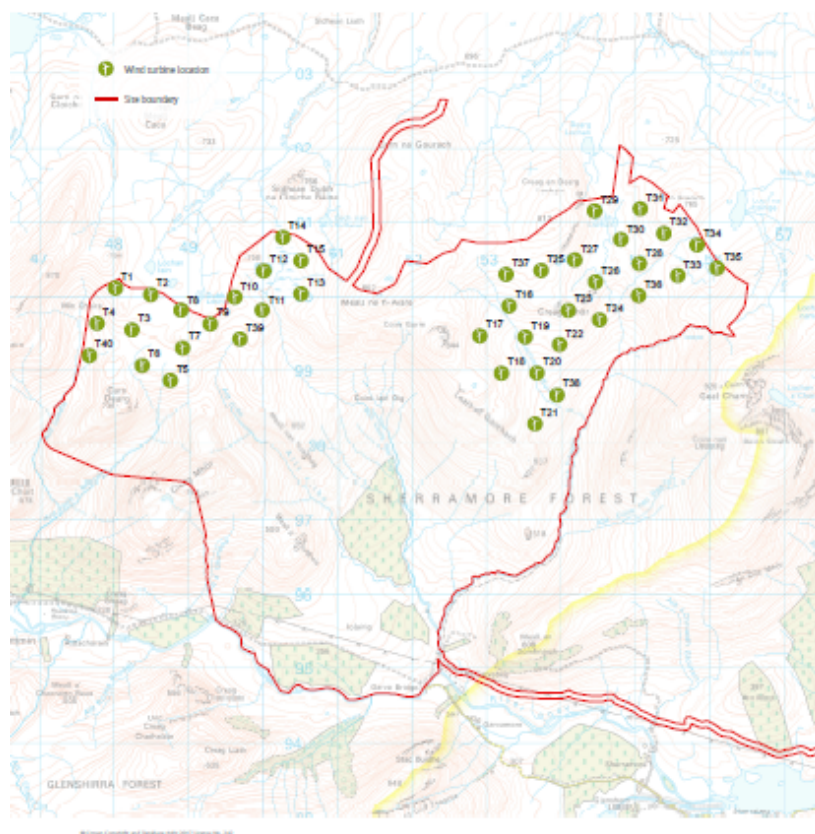




# GLENSHERO WIND FARM

## Site layout

The map below shows the layout of the proposed 40 turbine site. SIMEC is currently consulting on this layout and as such it is subject to change.



[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)



## GLENSHERO WIND FARM

### Environmental studies

As part of the planning process SIMEC is required to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The purpose of an EIA is to investigate any significant potential effects of a development on the natural, physical and human environment.

This scope of this assessment work includes plants and animals, soil, water, air, climate, landscape and archaeology. The interaction between these factors and the development is examined, their significance assessed and where applicable mitigation measures identified to eliminate or reduce potential effects.

A variety of surveys and assessments have been carried out so far including ornithology, hydrology, peat, archaeology and cultural heritage. The results of these surveys will be included in the Environmental Statement which will form part of any planning application that is submitted.

Please ask to see the design presentation for further information on the above.

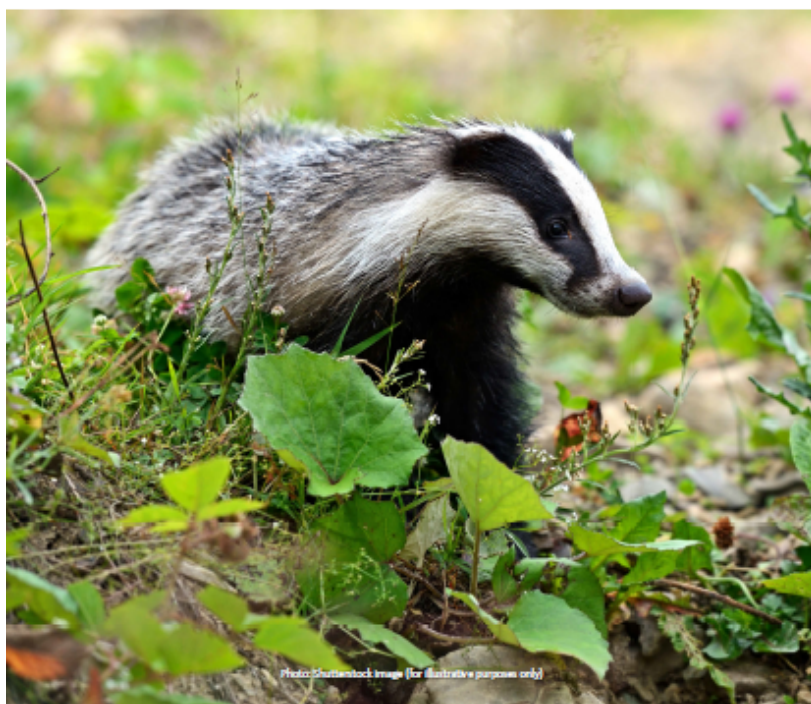


Photo: Shutterstock image (for illustrative purposes only)

[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)



## YOUR VIEWS COUNT

### We believe in meaningful and effective consultation

We believe in meaningful and effective consultation. The aims of our consultation process are to:

- » Engage early with the local community to facilitate a constructive consultation process to help identify and understand concerns.
- » Assist the local community in understanding the benefits and potential impacts of the proposed wind farm.
- » Add value and improve the quality of our proposal through meaningful and productive consultation.

Before we submit a planning application we will create a Pre-Application Community Consultation (PACC) Report, that documents the community engagement process and any steps we have taken to adapt our proposal.

At this stage we are inviting you to submit comments directly to RES. Once an application is submitted there will be the opportunity to submit representations to the Determining Authority. Listening to what the local and wider community have to say about our proposals is an integral part of the consultation process and we welcome your comments and suggestions.

We are keen to understand your views on the proposal and the information available at this exhibition.

Please take a few minutes to fill out a feedback form with your comments.



Photo: Shutterstock image (for illustrative purposes only)

[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)



## ABOUT US

### Commitment to excellence

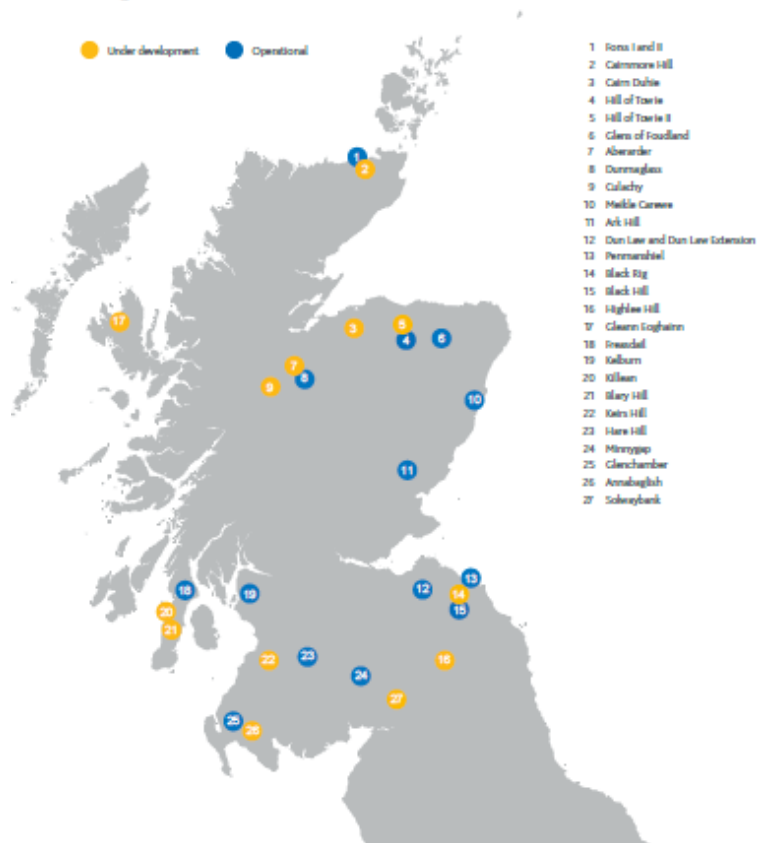
SIMEC has appointed RES to manage the development and consultation process at Glenshero.

RES is one of the world's leading independent renewable energy project developers with operations across Europe, the Americas and Asia-Pacific. RES is active in a range of energy technologies including onshore & offshore wind, solar, energy storage and transmission & distribution.

At the forefront of renewable energy development for 35 years, RES has developed and/or built more than 13,000 MW of renewable energy capacity worldwide. In the UK alone we are responsible for approximately 10% of the current wind energy capacity.

From its Glasgow office RES has been developing, constructing and operating wind farms in Scotland since the early 1990s. RES has developed and/or built fourteen wind farms with a total generation capacity of 290 MW.

Drawing on decades of experience in the renewable energy and construction industries, RES has the expertise to develop, construct and operate projects of outstanding quality. We work closely with communities, local authorities and independent experts to ensure our wind farms are built to the highest standards.



[www.res-group.com](http://www.res-group.com)



## GLENSHERO WIND FARM

### Local Benefits

#### Opportunities for local businesses

The wind farm proposal at Glenshero brings with it significant inward investment to the Highlands and SIMEC is committed to maximising the local economic spend, if consented. According to our initial estimates, it is expected that approximately £23m will be invested in the Highlands economy through construction and first year of operation. However, we consider this to be a minimum figure and as we progress through the development of this site we are keen to hear from local businesses that have the skills and experience to help deliver this project, if consented.

#### Shared ownership opportunity

SIMEC are proud to be able to offer the communities around Glenshero Wind Farm the opportunity to invest in the project. At this stage we looking to start discussions with Local Energy Scotland and interested community groups. We hope that a community share in Glenshero Wind Farm could act as an enabler for wider investment in the local area by the community. If you would like any further information regarding the shared ownership opportunity, please ask a member of the Glenshero team.

#### Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS)

We will also be implementing an innovative Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS) to deliver direct and tangible benefits to people living and working closest to the proposed wind farm. The LEDS scheme will offer an annual discount, to the electricity bills of those properties closest to a proposed Glenshero Wind Farm. The scheme is open to all residential, business and community buildings (including schools, places of worship and village halls) within a qualifying area for the operational lifetime of the wind farm, with the discount being paid directly to the electricity supplier.



[www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)



## APPENDIX 6



### Glenshero Wind Farm Public Exhibition Questionnaire Laggan Village Hall - 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017

SIMEC wants to fully involve your community in the design of the proposed Glenshero Wind Farm. We are keen to hear your views on our proposal and we would appreciate it if you would take a minute to provide us with some feedback.

**1. How did you find out about the exhibition?**

- ☐ Leaflet through the door
- ☐ Advert in local newspaper
- ☐ Website: [www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.glenshero-windfarm.co.uk)
- ☐ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Before coming to the public exhibition how would you describe your knowledge of the proposed Glenshero Wind Farm?**

- ☐ Know a lot
- ☐ Know quite a lot
- ☐ Know a little
- ☐ Know very little
- ☐ Know nothing at all

**3. Having attended this exhibition, to what extent do you feel we have increased your understanding of the proposed Glenshero Wind Farm?**

- ☐ A lot
- ☐ Quite a lot
- ☐ A little
- ☐ Very little
- ☐ Not at all

**4. What do you think about the proposed layout of Glenshero Wind Farm?**

- ☐ I am happy with proposed layout
- ☐ I am neutral towards to the proposed layout
- ☐ I have concerns about proposed layout
- ☐ I don't like wind farms in general

PTO





Layout comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Do you have any comments regarding the two proposed access routes at the proposed Glenshero Wind Farm?

Access comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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6. Would you, or an organisation in your community, be interested in exploring the shared ownership opportunity at Glenshero Wind Farm?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7. Please provide us with any further suggestions that you may have regarding the design or the proposed benefits associated with Glenshero Wind Farm:

8. Which of the following best describes your opinion of the proposed Glenshero Wind Farm? (please tick one)

☐ Support

☐ Neutral

☐ Object

If you would like to be kept informed about the proposed Glenshero Wind Farm, or you have indicated that an organisation in your community would be interested in the shared ownership opportunity, please leave your details here:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_


Address: \_\_\_\_\_


*Thank you for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire.  
Your feedback is important to us.*



## APPENDIX 7


# GLENSHERO WIND FARM



 GLENSHERO WIND FARM

CONSULTATION


INVESTING IN THE HIGHLANDS

 NEWS

ABOUT SIMEC

CONTACT US

Glenshero Wind Farm > GLENSHERO WIND FARM



A+ A A-

## Glenshero Wind Farm

The Glenshero Wind Farm proposal represents an exciting opportunity to support Scotland's industrial growth. Through developing a renewable energy project on the estate and managing the price of low-carbon energy supplied for industrial practices, this will create a platform to explore new business opportunities at Lochaber and across Scotland.

SIMEC is exploring the opportunity for a wind farm of up to 40 turbines at Glenshero, approximately 9km north west of Laggan.

Initial feasibility work has shown that Glenshero is a good site and we have now undertaken more detailed site investigations and environmental surveys, in consultation with Highland Council and other statutory consultees such as SNH and SEPA, in order to develop the current design. We are keen to engage with the local community to understand people's views and so we would encourage you to provide us with feedback.

The results of the environmental work, together with the consultation feedback, will be used to inform the detailed design of the proposed wind farm and reported in the Environmental Statement. This will part of a Section 36 Planning Application to the Scottish Government that we expect will be submitted in summer 2018.

To take forward the Glenshero Wind Farm plans, SIMEC has appointed leading renewable energy developer, RES, to manage the development and consultation process.



### Location Map



Click on image to enlarge.

