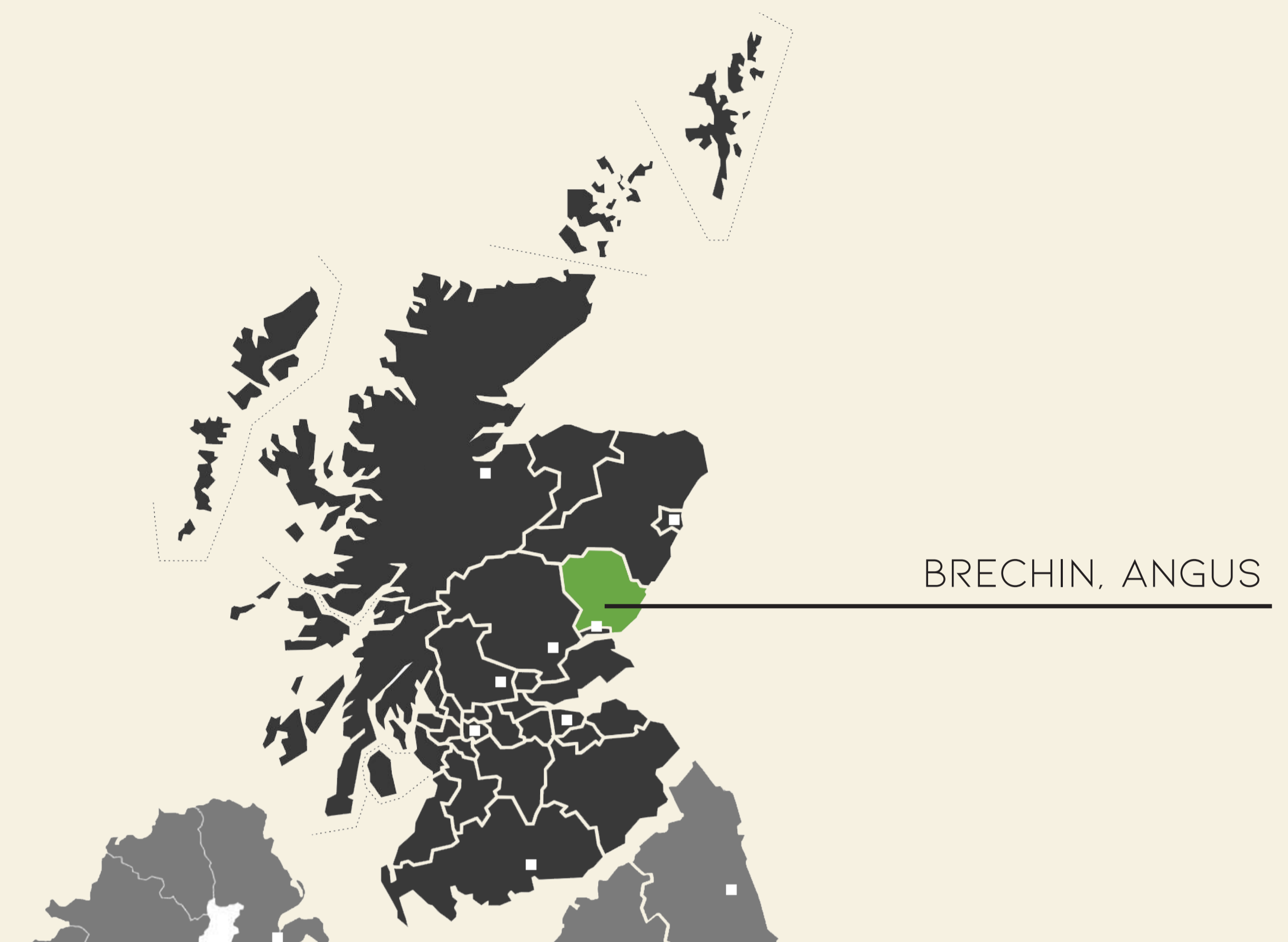


WELCOME

FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2023

THE BRECHIN MECHANICS INSTITUTE, BRECHIN 10AM – 6PM

A BATTERY STORAGE PROJECT OF 249MW, IS BEING PLANNED BY OPDENERGY UK 8, A SUBSIDIARY COMPANY OF OPDE UK AND LOCAL, RURAL ENTERPRISE STRACATHRO ESTATES, ON LAND WITHIN ADDICATE WOOD. THIS IS BETWEEN STRACATHRO AND MUIRTON OF BALLOCHY, APPROXIMATELY 3.5 KM TO THE NORTHEAST OF BRECHIN. A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) IS AN ELECTRICAL DEVICE THAT CHARGES (OR COLLECTS ENERGY) FROM THE GRID OR A POWER PLANT AND THEN DISCHARGES THAT ENERGY AT A LATER TIME TO PROVIDE ELECTRICITY AND GRID SERVICES WHEN NEEDED.



BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT DURING OPERATION

SITE LOCATION

ABOUT OPDENERGY

OPDENERGY IS A MULTI-NATIONAL GROUP SPECIALISING IN THE DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION, INVESTMENT AND OPERATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS WITH AN ESTABLISHED TRACK RECORD IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, ACROSS EUROPE, AND AROUND THE WORLD. WE HAVE COMPLETED A NUMBER OF PROJECTS ACROSS THE UK TO DATE.

STRACATHRO ESTATES IS A RURAL FAMILY ENTERPRISE BASED AT STRACATHRO. THE PRINCIPLE ACTIVITY IS AGRICULTURE BUT RENEWABLE ENERGY THROUGH SOLAR PANELS, WIND, BIOFUELS AND AN ANAEROBIC DIGESTER PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE BUSINESS, TO DECARBONISE THE ENERGY GRID.



BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT - EXAMPLE OF BATTERIES

OPDENERGY HAVE SEVERAL OTHER PROJECTS COMING FORWARD BOTH IN THE BATTERY AND SOLAR TECHNOLOGIES. WE AIM TO SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE OUR PRESENCE IN SCOTLAND, CONTRIBUTING TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SCOTLAND'S NET ZERO TARGETS BY 2030 AND 2045. FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT OPDENERGY AND STRACATHRO ESTATES CAN BE FOUND AT

WWW.STRACATHRO.COM

STRACATHRO BESS

THE SITE AND PROPOSED PROJECT

- THE SITE COVERS APPROXIMATELY 5.2 HECTARES.
- ACCESS TO THE FACILITY WOULD BE FROM THE EXISTING FORESTRY ROAD.
- 83 BATTERY CONTAINERS WITH ANCILLARY INFRASTRUCTURE ARE PROPOSED TO ALLOW FOR THE STORAGE OF UP TO 249MW. THE BATTERIES WILL BE MOUNTED ON DISCRETE CONCRETE PADS THESE ARE EASILY REMOVED ON DECOMMISSIONING.
- THERE WILL BE NEGLIGIBLE TRAFFIC IMPACT WHEN OPERATING, WITH REMOTE OPERATION IN PLACE.
- THE SITE HAS BEEN SELECTED AS IT IS LAND THAT HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY USED FOR COMMERCIAL FORESTRY AND, WITH ADDITIONAL WOODLAND PLANTING WILL BE SCREENED FROM VIEW.
- THE ELECTRICAL CABLES CONNECTING THE SITE TO THE GRID WILL BE BURIED UNDERGROUND TO PREVENT ANY VISUAL IMPACT.
- SUBJECT TO SECURING PLANNING PERMISSION, THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED OVER A 12-MONTH PERIOD. ONCE OPERATIONAL, MINIMAL VISITS WOULD BE REQUIRED, PRIMARILY FOR MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE PURPOSES.
- OPDENERGY TAKES SERIOUSLY TO REDUCING THE RISKS OF ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT AND WILL MAXIMISE THE CONTROL AND ASSURANCE DURING THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE PROJECT.



THE PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT PLAN TO INFORM CONSULTATION

ENVIRONMENTAL & TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- ADDICATE WOOD IS A COMMERCIAL FOREST THAT WAS DAMAGED DURING STORM ARWEN IN NOVEMBER 2021, WITH THE RESULT THAT LARGE AREAS NEED TO BE, AND ARE BEING, CLEARED.
- THE PROPOSED BESS WILL SIT WITHIN ONE OF THESE CLEARINGS AND, WITH ADDITIONAL WOODLAND PLANTING PROPOSED ALONG THE BOUNDARY, BE SCREENED FROM VIEW.
- THE EXISTING FOREST ROAD AND JUNCTION WILL BE USED, THEREBY MINIMISING NEW INFRASTRUCTURE.
- THE WOODLAND AND SURROUNDING AREAS ARE SUBJECT TO A RANGE OF ENVIRONMENT SURVEYS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY, COVERING ECOLOGY, LANDSCAPE, HYDROLOGY AND NOISE TO ESTABLISH A BASELINE AND ENSURE THE PROPOSED PLANS HAVE NO ADVERSE IMPACT, WHILST CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIO DIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT.
- THE FENCE AROUND THE PROJECT WILL EXCLUDE LARGE MAMMALS, MAKING THE SITE LIKELY TO SUPPORT GROUND-NESTING BIRDS.
- CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF THE AMENITY OF NEIGHBOURING PROPERTIES IS BEING UNDERTAKEN TO ENSURE THIS IS PROTECTED.
- THIS APPROACH REFLECTS ADVICE RECEIVED FROM THE CONSENTING BODY, THE ENERGY CONSENTS UNIT, ALONGSIDE GUIDANCE FROM ANGUS COUNCIL ON THE SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEYS AND AMENITY CONSIDERATIONS.
- BY UNDERGROUNDING ELECTRICAL CABLE CONNECTING THE PROPOSED BESS TO THE 275KV GRID, THE AIM IS TO MINIMISE THE VISUAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT.

COMPONENTS OF THE BESS

- BATTERY STORAGE CONTAINERS
- INVERTER/TRANSFORMER STATIONS
- MV SWITCH ROOM
- SPARES CONTAINERS
- CONTROL ROOM
- STEP-UP SUBSTATION FACILITIES
- UNDERGROUND CABLES CONNECTING INTO THE EXISTING 275KV ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE
- SECURITY FENCING
- CCTV CAMERAS AND SECURITY LIGHTING
- VEHICULAR ACCESS FROM AND UTILISING AN EXISTING FORESTRY TRACK
- LANDSCAPE AND BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENTS

PROPOSED BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM – AN OVERVIEW

- THE REDUCTION OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, IMPROVED GRID STABILITY, MINIMISED ENERGY LOSSES, AND ENHANCED RENEWABLE ENERGY INTEGRATION.
- COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS TO SUPPORT EDUCATION PURPOSES.
- SECURITY WILL BE VIA REMOTELY MONITORED INFRARED CCTV.
- IF CONSENTED, WORK WOULD START BY 2031, UNLESS AN EARLIER ENERGISATION DATE CAN BE SECURED. COMPLETION AND CONNECTION TO THE GRID WILL BE 12 MONTHS LATER, BY 2032.
- NO PERMANENT LIGHTING IS PROPOSED – THERE MAY BE SOME BULKHEAD LIGHTS ON THE INVERTERS WHICH WOULD BE SWITCHED ON IF THERE WAS A NEED FOR ANY EMERGENCY WORK IN THE DARK AND THEY ARE THERE ONLY FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY PURPOSES.
- THE LAND WILL BE RETURNED TO FORESTRY USE ON DECOMMISSIONING AFTER 25 YEARS. THERE WOULD BE A PLANNING CONDITION TO THIS EFFECT, IF THE PROJECT IS APPROVED.



SITE SURVEY PLAN

SUMMARY

- A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) OF UP TO 249MW BETWEEN STRACATHRO AND MUIRTON OF BALLOCHY, APPROXIMATELY 3.5KM TO THE NORTHEAST OF BRECHIN.

- THE BESS IS NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE TO MITIGATE THE INTERMITTENCY OF RENEWABLE ENERGY, BY STORING EXCESS ENERGY WHEN PROJECTS GENERATE MORE THAN NEEDED AND RELEASING IT WHEN DEMAND EXCEEDS GENERATION. THIS ALLOWS FOR A MORE STABLE AND RELIABLE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, REDUCING THE RELIANCE ON FOSSIL FUEL-BASED BACKUP POWER.

- EXTENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL AND AMENITY SURVEYS ARE UNDERWAY TO INFORM THE LAYOUT OF THE BESS AND LANDSCAPING TO ENSURE THE PROJECT INTEGRATES INTO ADJACENT WOOD AND WILL NOT IMPACT ON THE AMENITY OF THE AREA AND NEIGHBOURING HOMES. THIS SURVEY INFORMATION ALONGSIDE PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL BE LODGED WITH THE ENERGY CONSENTS UNIT FOR APPROVAL LATER THIS YEAR.

- THE PROJECT WILL ENABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY ENHANCED LAND.

- A TREE BELT WILL BE PLANTED TO REDUCE ANY VISUAL IMPACT ALONG THE SOUTH AND EASTERN BOUNDARIES.

- THE PROJECT WILL HAVE A FINITE LIFESPAN OF 25 YEARS WITH COMPLETE SITE RESTORATION THEREAFTER.

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS: PLEASE COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE BEFORE YOU LEAVE OR GO ONLINE AT WWW.STRACATHROBESS.CO.UK TO SEND THE QUESTIONNAIRE. IT WILL BE OPEN UNTIL THE 15TH OF NOVEMBER 2023.

FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF THIS CONSULTATION EVENT, A FULL PLANNING APPLICATION IS PLANNED TO BE SUBMITTED TO ECU BY NOVEMBER 2023.



BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE UNIT