

Environmental considerations

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

As part of the planning process RES will undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The purpose of an EIA is to investigate any significant potential effects of a development on the environment and, where applicable, identify mitigation measures to eliminate or reduce potential effects.

In August 2021, RES submitted a Scoping Report to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) and other key consultees (including East and South Ayrshire Councils, NatureScot, and SEPA), setting out the proposed scope of the EIA environmental assessment work. RES will continue to engage with key consultees as part of this process, to keep them informed and discuss findings where necessary.

Survey work

RES already has a good understanding of the site due to a wealth of data gathered over the years from previous survey work associated with the Keirs Hill Wind Farm proposal. However, further environmental surveys and technical studies have been undertaken over the last few months including:

- » Landscape & visual
- » Ornithology
- » Ecology
- » Archaeology & Cultural Heritage
- » Hydrology, Hydrogeology & Geology
- » Traffic & transport
- » Noise

Over the next few months RES will assess the findings from this new data, as part of the EIA process, which will be used to help develop the design in relation to environmental considerations. The findings of the EIA will be presented in an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA-R) which will accompany any application submitted to the Scottish Government.



Photo of Hill of Towie Wind Farm, Moray for illustrative purposes (turbines 100m to blade tip)