

From: Redacted
To: kate.forbes.msp@parliament.scot; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic
Subject: RE: Eskdalemuir Redacted Report, Review and Comments
Date: 14 October 2025 12:23:31
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[Scott sh AI Briefing for Ministers October 2025 .pdf](#)

Good afternoon Kate,
Following my email yesterday on Eskdalemuir, we have prepared a clearer document which sets out the issues and solution for the issue
Our solution will provide the MoD an enduring solution at no cost to them or the public purse
This solution will provide significant investment and job creation in Scotland and will lead to further investment in the AI sphere
We would request an urgent meeting with you and the FM to discuss this
Kind regards, Red

Redacted -
Section
Director of Civils and Business Development

CWP Energy Limited
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the Freedom of Information Act
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From: Redacted
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2025 1:12 PM
To: 'Kate Forbes msp@parliament.scot'; DFMCSEG@gov.scot
Subject: Eskdalemuir Redacted Report, Review and Comments

Good afternoon, Kate,
Great to see you at Conference, both at our stand and this morning's business breakfast, which I thought went very well
We very briefly touched on the Eskdalemuir conundrum whilst you were on our stand, and I left one of your team with a series of papers which show that the MoD's 20 year objection is baseless and we have proven that turbine noise only radiates 5km from the turbine, and not the 100km the MoD have claimed previously. This is a game changer. This research and findings are produced in the enclosed Redacted report, review and comments, which clearly show that there is NO evidence of turbine noise at 5km from the turbine. This is a game changer and shows that the MoD's repeated concerns about wind turbine noise is false. This report is forwarded by comments from the world leading semiologists and confirm the findings.
The various charts and graphs in the report also show that there is clear other background noise, from the like of forestry operations and quarries in the 100km zone. These activities are unrestricted in terms of MoD consultation in the planning arena; there has never been a consultation process with the MoD or objection from the MoD for any of these. It would appear that onshore wind has been unfairly singled out by the MoD in terms of consultation during the planning consultation, where other noisier activities have been allowed to proceed unhindered. I enclose a plan showing the live quarries in the zone, all of which impact on the array.
The Redacted report, review and comments has now been sent to the MoD for their comment and response; however we have also reiterated that these game changer findings would release significant investment, around £10bn, and green jobs, as shown in the Oxera report, which we commissioned in the summer. It would increase investment, leading to more tax receipts and higher GVA. All of which would lead to significant growth in Scotland.
Whilst this most recent report shows that there is NO evidence of turbine noise at 5km from the turbine, we are still promoting our enduring solution in parallel, as the deep boreholes would provide the MoD and tried and test technical upgrade at no cost to them or the public purse.
We would ask that a formal meeting is arranged with the FM to bring this game changer to his attention and can meet with him at his earliest opportunity in Edinburgh.
Kind regards,
Red

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SCOTLAND'S NEW AI GROWTH ZONE - Removing the MoD Eskdalemuir Block.

Issue

CWP Energy ("CWPE") has commissioned an independent economics and finance consultancy, Oxera, to estimate the loss in investment and tax revenues to HM Treasury from the MoD's longstanding objection to renewable energy projects in the Eskdalemuir area, blocking development within 2m acres. These projects are shovel ready and have grid access and will **create 8500 new construction and 3700 operational jobs.**

According to Oxera, the objection from the MoD is holding up approximately **£3.3bn (GVA) of investment** from onshore wind developers in construction and **£360m/year during the operational** life of the turbines.

This would be associated with **tax revenues** in the range of **£1.2bn** from construction and **£130m/year** during the operational stage and a combined total of **£6.4bn in estimated tax revenues**

Importantly, the M74 corridor has the capacity to deliver Scotland's leading **AI Growth Zone with 6GW of Hyperscale Data Centres, Quantum technologies and giga factories, supported by 6GW of low-cost green energy.** This could generate **over £30bn** of further investment in the UK.

What is Eskdalemuir seismic array?

The Eskdalemuir Seismic Array (EKA) is a seismological monitoring station in the Scottish Borders which forms part of the UK's obligations under the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

A recent 2024 CTBTO paper on 25 Years Progress of the CTBT Verification System (CTBT 2024 Report), states that: *"The majority of the IMS stations reporting to CTBTO use the **borehole method of sensor installation.** CTBT report that it is known in seismological practice that sensor installation below the ground surface has diminished seismic noise levels especially in the high frequency domain"*

Resolving the technical issue

The EKA's operation have been compromised by seismic noise in the vicinity such as forestry, agricultural, quarrying and particularly harvesting activities. MOD have **NOT** objected to these activities.

CWPE and other developers have therefore engaged constructively with the MoD to resolve their longstanding objection to otherwise shovel ready renewable energy projects in the south of Scotland.

CWPE commissioned a leading seismologist previously employed by the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO) and UK seismometer manufacturers as well as the founding Director of the CTBT/IMS, Redacted - Section 38(1)(b) of the FOISA, to design and deliver an upgrade to the EKA. It proposes a full upgrade with new borehole British sensors installed to ensure continued compliance with the IMS's Operational Manual for Seismological Monitoring.



Redacted - Section 38(1)(b) of the FOISA noted the proposed upgrade '*will bring EKA up to date with CTBT standards, provide much needed attenuation from existing anthropogenic noise including forestry, agricultural and traffic noise, and afford long -term future proofing, whilst allowing turbines to be built within close proximity to EKA*'.

CWPE have further commissioned Redacted - Section 38(1)(b) of the FOISA, whose work has previously been referenced by MoD experts, to conduct a real-world assessment of the distance within which wind farm signals disappear.

Redacted - Section 38(1)(b) of the FOISA concluded that in respect of the Crossdykes wind farm, which are the closest turbines to EKA, "*Peaks identified close to the WTs are significantly attenuated at distances of 5.4 km*".

Therefore, turbines sited beyond 5km from EKA will not prejudice MoD operations.

The MoD's approach to finding a solution to EKA is also inconsistent with the significant work being undertaken to mitigate the impact of offshore wind, which will impact the quality of data required for the Primary Surveillance Radars (PSR), through Project Njord.

Alignment to Departmental priorities

In the context of this Government's Growth ambitions, the solution proposed will allow all renewable energy developments within the 100km Eskdalemuir consultation zone to be built, leading to significant and immediate inward investment **in excess of £10bn**, into the UK economy.

This volume of shovel ready renewable energy will also significantly contribute to the UK Government's clean power 2030 mission and reduce electricity bills for consumers.

Next Steps

This mitigation solution is effective, internationally accepted and future-proofed and can be implemented within the year **generating over £6.4bn of tax revenues** over the lifetime of the wind farms, **with £1.2bn in tax revenue** in the first years of construction.

We would welcome a meeting to discuss this further with Ministers and officials.

CWP Energy

CWPE is currently investing £400m with the construction of Sanquhar II renewable energy park in Dumfries. It has secured over 600MW of onshore wind projects in Scotland and have provided over £10 million in community investment funding across our operational wind farms in Scotland.

Annexes

1. Redacted - Reg 36(2) of FOISA
2. Final Technical report on a solution to the Eskdalemuir seismic station
3. Report by Redacted - Section 38(1)(b) of the FOISA and Redacted - Section 38(1)(b) of the FOISA "*Re-Analysis of seismological data to characterize the decay of ground motions induced by wind turbines*"