

Kilmarnock 500 MW Battery Energy Storage System

Pre-Application Consultation Report

Kilmarnock Energy Centre Limited

September 2023

Quality information

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Revision History

Revision	Revision date	Details	Authorized	Name	Position
P01	29.09.2023	Original	Yes	NW	Project Manager

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1. Introduction

AECOM have prepared this Pre-application Consultation (PAC) report on behalf of Kilmarnock Energy Centre Limited (the 'Applicant'), to accompany the section 36 consent application for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (the 'Proposed Scheme') within the land north of the existing Kilmarnock South Substation (the 'Site').

2. Legislation

2.1 Electricity Act 1989

There are no statutory PAC requirements for applications under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 (Ref 1).

However, the carrying out of PAC with the public is considered good practice and applicants are encouraged by the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) to conduct meaningful engagement at the earliest possible stage with any communities or groups who would be affected by a s36/s37 scheme. The minimum expectation is to hold at least two public consultation events prior to submitting the application. Further information on minimum expectations is provided in Table 1 (Ref 2).

Table 1: Pre-application consultation minimum expectations under the Electricity Act 1989 (Scottish Government, 2022)

Pre-application Consultation	Minimum Expectation under the Electricity Act
Pre-application consultation events	<p>The applicant is expected to hold at least two public consultation events prior to submitting the application. The final public event should be held at least 14 days after the first public event.</p> <p>The public events are to give members of the public the opportunity to make comments to the applicant as regards the Proposed Scheme.</p> <p>At the final public event, the applicant should provide feedback to members of the public in respect of comments received by the applicant as regards the Proposed Scheme.</p>
Notice of the pre-application consultation events	<p>At least seven days before holding a public event, the applicant should publish on the applicant's website and in a local newspaper circulating in the locality in which the Proposed Scheme is situated a notice containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a description of, and the location of, the Proposed Scheme;• details as to where further information may be obtained concerning the Proposed Scheme;• the date and place of the public event;• a statement explaining how, and by when, persons wishing to make comments to the applicant relating to the proposal may do so; and• a statement that comments made to the applicant are not representations to the Scottish Ministers and if the applicant

submits an application there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the Scottish Ministers.

Details of the pre-application consultation events	<p>The applicant should provide the following details at the public event and publish these details on the applicant's website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a description of the development to be carried out;• a plan showing the outline of the site at which the development is to be carried out and sufficient to identify that site; and• details as to how the applicant may be contacted and corresponded with.
Content of public event and pre-application consultation report	<p>The applicant is expected to prepare a pre-application consultation report ("PAC Report") setting out what has been done to accord with the guidance set out above. The PAC Report should be submitted with the application.</p> <p>The PAC Report should contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the dates on which and places where public events were held;• a description of any additional steps taken by the applicant to consult with members of the public regarding the development;• a list of bodies, groups and organisations who were consulted by the applicant and a description of how they were consulted;• a description of any materials sent to consultees and materials provided to those attending public events;• copies of any visual presentation shown or displayed at a public event, and photographs of any display boards or models at public events;• confirmation as to whether consultees and attendees at public events were informed that pre-application consultation does not remove the right or the potential need to comment on the final application once it is made to the Scottish Ministers;• a summary of the written responses to consultations and views raised at public events, including an indication of the number of written responses received and the number of persons who attended the public events;• an explanation of how the applicant took account of views raised during the pre-application consultation process; and• an explanation of how members of the public were given feedback on the applicant's consideration of the views raised during the pre-application consultation process.

2.2 East Ayrshire Council

East Ayrshire Council encourages PAC for all types of applications (Ref 2).

The PAC for the Proposed Scheme has been aligned with the expectations under the Electricity Act 1989 and East Ayrshire Council. The Applicant advertised in advance two public consultation events: the first was a virtual consultation event followed by a public consultation event at Hurlford Community Centre. The consultation events provided a description of the Proposed Scheme and contact details allowing for interested parties to contact the Applicant with questions. A site layout plan was provided

during the in-person public consultation event at Hurlford Community Centre. More details are provided in the following sections of this PAC Report.

3. Method of Public Consultation

The Applicant advertised the consultation events on two platforms (local newspaper and online) as illustrated in Appendix B, to ensure that affected or interested members of the local community were provided with the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Scheme.

3.1 Proposal of Application Notice

A non-statutory Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) was submitted to the Energy Consents Unit and East Ayrshire Council on 22nd April 2022. This notice set out the Applicant's proposed approach to consulting with the public on the Proposed Scheme.

No objection to the submitted PAN was received by the Applicant and as such, consultation events as outlined within the PAN were undertaken.

The submission and PAN forms Appendix A of this document.

3.2 Advertisement

A press release on 27th April 2022 in the Kilmarnock Standard newspaper and a second press release on 28th April 2022 in the Daily Record newspaper and on the Daily Record website summarised the key points of the Proposed Scheme and encouraged feedback (email and postal addresses were provided).

The press advertisements form Appendix B of this document.

3.3 Virtual Consultation Event

A virtual consultation event went live on 10th May 2022 and remained online until the in-person consultation event, held 23rd June 2022.

The virtual room consisted of four presentation boards and a virtual table allowing the public to provide feedback on the event. A dedicated email address was set up so that respondents could email comments directly to the project team. The email address info@weaver-power.co.uk was included on consultation materials¹. A postal address was also provided to allow the public to post feedback on the Proposed Scheme.

The information present on the presentation boards within the event are provided in Appendix C.

The virtual consultation event is illustrated in Plate 1 to Plate 3 below.

¹ During the pre-application consultation process the Applicant was named Weaver Power. The email address provided to the public was applicable during the consultation period. The Applicant's name is now "Kilmarnock Energy Centre Limited", which superseded Weaver Power. This change occurred after the pre-consultation process.

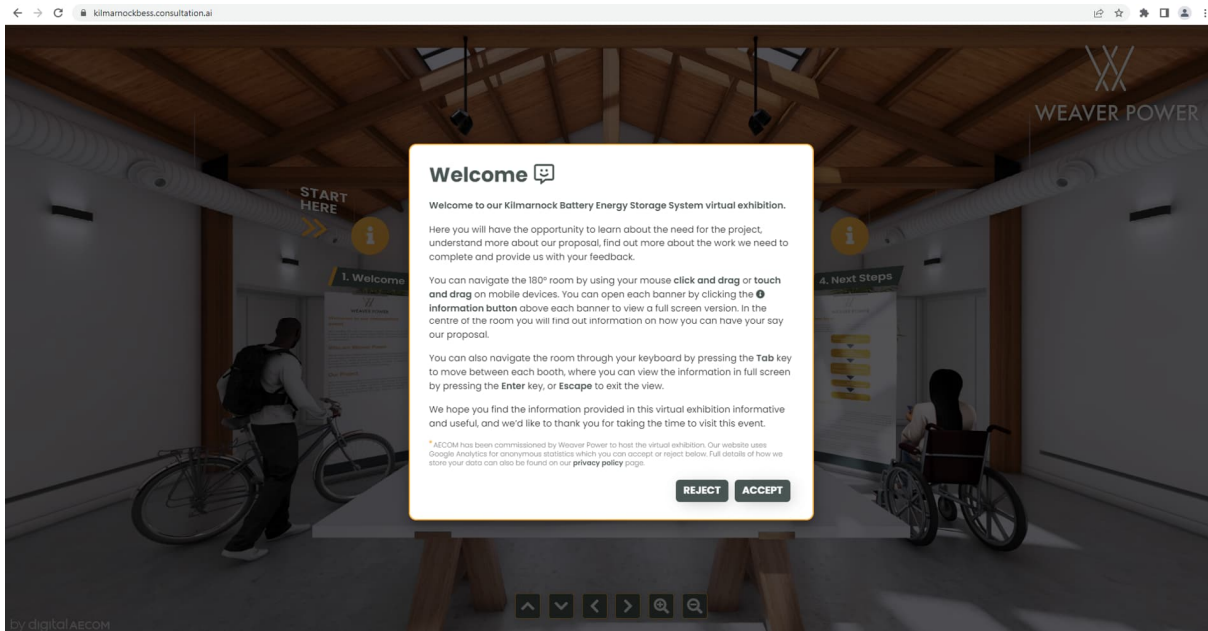


Plate 1: Virtual consultation event welcome message

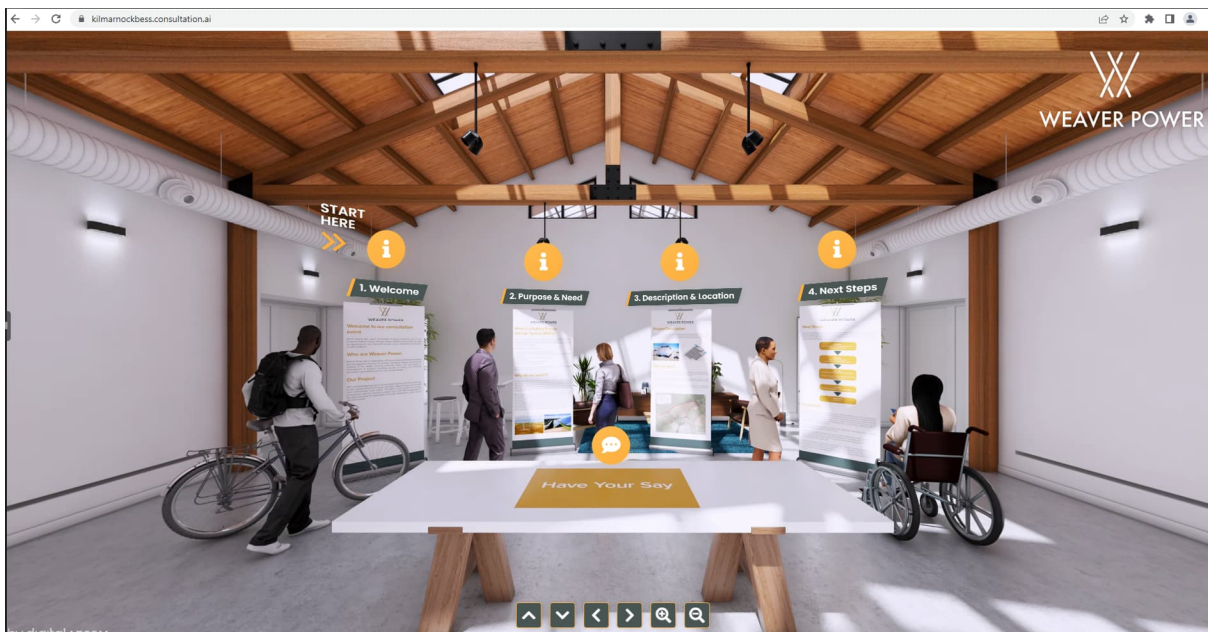


Plate 2: Virtual consultation event room layout

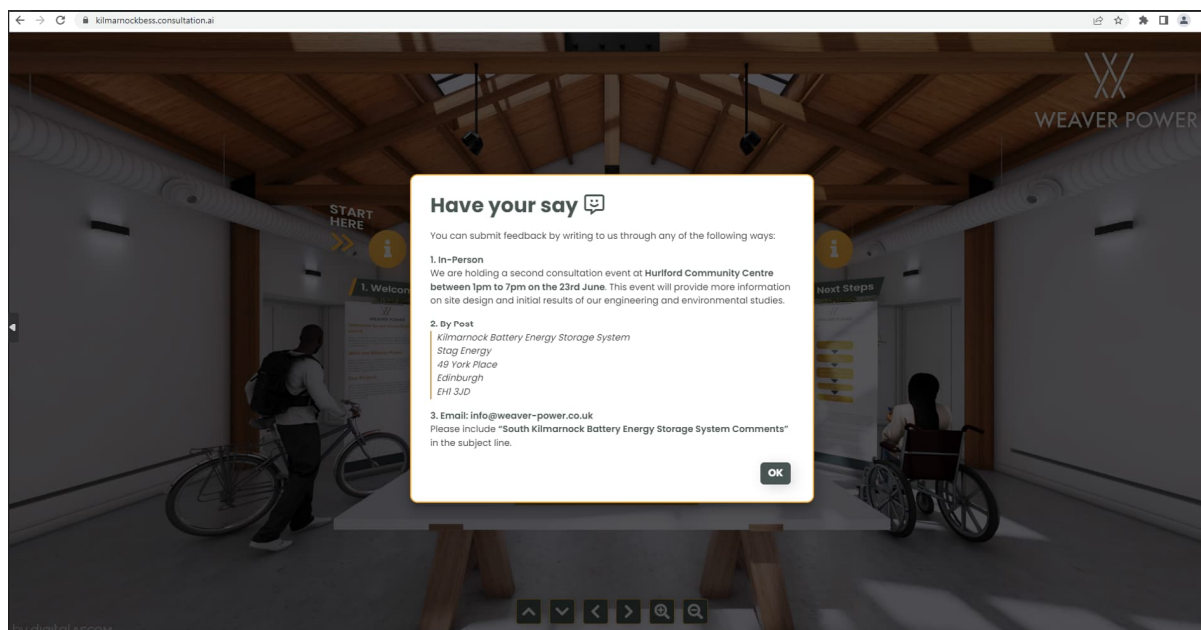


Plate 3: Virtual consultation “Have your say” message

3.4 In Person Consultation Event

An in-person consultation event was held at Coldstream Community Centre on 23rd June between 1pm and 7pm.

The event included six consultation boards, printed indicative site layout plans and comment forms. The information present on the consultation boards within the event are provided in Appendix C. The feedback forms could either be returned during the session or via post.

A dedicated email address was set up so that respondents could email comments directly to the project team. The email address info@weaver-power.co.uk was included on consultation materials.

A photograph illustrating the consultation event is provided in Plate 4 below.



Plate 4: Consultation event photograph

4. Public Consultation Findings

4.1 Virtual Consultation Event

Data analytics of users visiting the consultation event are presented in Appendix D. Data shows 36 users visited the virtual consultation event. However, this data is only referring to the number of people that clicked "accept" to be tracked upfront within the welcome message, and it does not therefore include the unknown number of users that viewed the site but rejected tracking.

One email was received from the public, asking for further information on the BESS technology, as shown in Appendix F. The Applicant has responded to this information request. No further correspondence has been received.

4.2 In Person Consultation Event

In total two people from the local area attended the consultation event.

Feedback received from these two attendees was positive and the main conversations held were based on the need case of the Proposed Scheme, additional energy projects within the area and overall program.

No feedback was received regarding concerns on the design of the Proposed Scheme or concerns for the wider environment and nearby settlements.

No feedback was received which requested or necessitated a change in the design of the Proposed Scheme.

No feedback forms were filled out in the event and no subsequent feedback and comments have been received.

5. Conclusions

Under the Electricity Act 1989 Section 36 applications are encouraged to include PAC with a minimum expectation of applicants to undertake two public consultation events.

A virtual consultation event was held on 10th May 2022 and remained online until the in-person consultation event on 23rd June 2022. No emails or postal comments were received from the public.

An in-person consultation event was held on 23rd June 2022 at Hurlford Community Centre between 1pm – 7pm. Feedback received from the two attendees from the in-person consultation event was positive towards constructing the Proposed Scheme. No feedback forms, emails or postal comments have been received on this Proposed Scheme post the consultation event.

While there is no statutory requirement under the Electricity Act 1989 for PAC to be undertaken on s36/37 applications, the Applicant has followed the Energy Consents Units good practice guidance and undertaken PAC. This approach is supported by East Ayrshire Council where PAC is encouraged for all development types.

The limited nature of the feedback received indicates that there is neither significant opposition to the principle of the proposed BESS at this location nor any significant concerns regarding its design, potential impacts upon the wider environment and nearby communities/settlements.

No feedback was received which requested or necessitated a change in the design of the Proposed Scheme.

6. References

- Ref 1 Scottish Government (2022). *Electricity Act 1989 – sections 36 and 37: applications guidance*. Available at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/good-practice-guidance-applications-under-sections-36-37-electricity-act-1989/pages/3/> [Accessed: 09.02.2023].
- Ref 2 East Ayrshire Council (2023). *Guidance for application*. Available at: <https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/PlanningAndTheEnvironment/RegenerationAndTownCentreManagement/Place-based-investment-programme/Guidance-for-application.aspx> [Accessed: 23.05.2023].

Appendix A Pre Application Notice Form

PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (Section 35B)
The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland)
Regulations 2013 (Regulations 4 -7)

**To be completed for all developments within the
national or major categories of development**

Name of Council	East Ayrshire Council
Address	AECOM
	1 New York Street
	Manchester
	M1 4HD

Proposed development at [Note 1]	Land located immediately north of Kilmarnock
	South substation, off Treeswoodhead Road.
	Grid reference is NS 44089 34283

Description of proposal [Note 2]	Installation and operation of a 500 megawatt
	Battery Energy Storage Site

Notice is hereby given that an application is being made to

[Note 3] Council by [Note 4]

Of [Note 5]

In respect of [Note 6]

To take place on [Note 7]

[Note 8] The following parties have received a copy of this Proposal of Application Notice

East Ayrshire Council
Energy Consents Unit

[Note 9] For further details contact

on telephone number

And/or at the following address

[Note 10] I certify that I have attached a plan outlining the site

Signed

On behalf of

Date

PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997
Regulation 6 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland)
Regulations 2013

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

- [Note 1] – Insert postal address or location of proposed development
- [Note 2] – Insert description in general terms of the development to be carried out.
- [Note 3] – Insert Council name.
- [Note 4] – Insert name of applicant and/or agent
- [Note 5] – Insert applicant's and/or agent's postal address
- [Note 6] - Insert form of consultation the prospective applicant proposes to undertake e.g. public meeting
- [Note 7] – Insert date and venue of consultation
- [Note 8] – Insert list of those groups who have been invited to attend
- [Note 9] – Insert details as to how the prospective applicant/agent can be contacted (incl. name, address and tel. no)
- [Note 10] - Attach plan that outlines the location of the proposed development and is sufficient to identify the site

Pre-application Consultation (PAC)

Where PAC is required, the prospective applicant must, under sections 35B(1) and (2) (of the Act), provide to the planning authority a 'Proposal of Application Notice' at least 12 weeks (section 35B(3)) prior to the submission of an application for planning permission. The Proposal of Application Notice must include the information set out in section 35B(4) and in regulation 6, namely:

- i) a description in general terms of the development to be carried out;*
- ii) the postal address of the site at which the development is to be carried out, if available
- iii) a plan showing the outline of the site at which the development is to be carried out and sufficient to identify the site;
- iv) detail as to how the prospective applicant may be contacted and corresponded with; and
- v) an account of what consultation the prospective applicant proposes to undertake, when such consultation is to take place, with whom and what form it will take.

* You should provide an outline of the proposal's characteristics, and the identification of its category (e.g. Major development). Any subsequent application needs to be recognisably linked to what was described in the proposal of application notice.

Submission of an Application after Pre-application Consultation Notice

The submission of the proposal of application notice starts the PAC processing clock. After a minimum of 12 weeks, having carried out the statutory requirements and any additional requirements specified by the planning authority, an applicant can submit the application along with the required written Pre-application Consultation Report. Information in relation to the proposal of application notice must also be placed by the planning authority on the list of applications required under section 36A and regulation 21.

Additional consultation activity (responding to the Proposal of Application Notice)

The applicant is required to indicate in the proposal of application notice what consultation will be undertaken in addition to the statutory minimum. The planning authority must respond within 21 days of receiving the Notice to advise the applicant whether the proposed PAC is satisfactory or if additional notification and consultation above the statutory minimum is required in order to make it binding on the applicant. In doing so, planning authorities are to have regard to the nature, extent and location of the proposed development and to the likely effects, both at and in the vicinity of that location, of its being carried out (section 35B(8)). Additional consultation requirements should be proportionate, specific and reasonable in the circumstances. If there is no response to the proposal of application notice by the planning authority within 21 days, only the statutory minimum PAC activities will be required.

Scottish Ministers expect planning authorities to develop and maintain up to date lists of bodies and interests with whom applicants should consult in particular types of case. These lists should be available to applicants, who can draft proposal of application notices in light of that information. Further advice on planning community engagement activity can be found in Planning Advice Note 81: Community Engagement – Planning With People.

Minimum consultation activity

Consultation with community councils - Under regulation 7 an applicant must consult every community council any part of whose area is within or adjoins the land where the proposed development is situated. This includes community councils in a neighbouring planning authority.

The public event - Regulation 7 also requires the holding of at least one public event for members of the public where they can make comments to the prospective applicant on their proposals. This 'public event' must be advertised at least 7 days in advance in a newspaper circulating in the locality of the proposed development. The advertisement for the public event must include:

- a description of, and the location of, the proposed development;
- details as to where further information may be obtained concerning the proposed development; the date and place of the public event;
- a statement explaining how, and by when, persons wishing to make comments to the prospective applicant relating to the proposal may do so; and
- a statement that comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the planning authority. If the applicant submits an application there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the planning authority.

Applicants will gain less from poorly attended or unrepresentative PAC events and should ensure that processes are put in place that will allow members of the community to participate meaningfully in any public event. The public event should be reasonably accessible to the public at large, including disabled people. It may be appropriate for the public event to take place over a number of dates, times and places. Applicants should ensure that individuals and community groups can submit written comments in response to the newspaper advertisement.

There is a need to emphasise to communities that the plans presented to them for a proposed planning application may alter in some way before the final proposal is submitted as a planning application to the planning authority. Even after PAC, and once a planning application has been submitted to the planning authority, communities should ensure that any representations they wish to make on the proposal are submitted to that authority as part of the process of considering the planning application.

Any personal data that you have been asked to provide on this form will be held and processed in accordance with Data Protection Legislation.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 April 2022 18:52
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Proposal of Application Notice - Kilmarnock BESS
Attachments: Kilmarnock BESS Site Location.pdf; Pre Application Notice Form.pdf

Dear Sir/Ms

Please see attached our proposal of application notice form and associated site location figure. With the protected features on this form I couldn't sign the document (pop up box stated "You do not have the necessary permissions to place signatures in this document"). If there is a way please do let me know and I can complete this.

If you have any questions please do get in touch.

With Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Senior EIA Consultant, Environment and Sustainability
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Appendix B Press Release



ADVERTORIAL **Public invited to share their thoughts on new green energy storage system in Kilmarnock**


There will be online and in-person exhibitions for those interested in viewing the current development proposals ahead of comments

SHARE   

By **Leena Sidat**

UPDATED 12:56, 28 APR 2022



 **Battery energy storage systems enable renewable energy - such as solar and wind power - to be stored and then released when most needed** (Image: Getty Images)

Weaver Power is holding public consultation events to invite members of the local community and other interested parties to find out more about its proposals for a battery energy storage



Treeswoodhead Road.

The development will comprise multiple containerised battery energy storage units with an export capacity of 500 megawatts, along with associated infrastructure and an onsite substation.

The maximum land take required for this site is approximately 12 hectares.

Permanent access to the development would be via the existing access road off Treeswoodhead Road.

An online public exhibition will launch [here](#) on May 10, with a second in-person event planned at Hurlford Community Centre on June 23.

At both events, interested parties will have the opportunity to learn more about the proposed development and provide feedback to Weaver Power.

If you wish to share your views or comments, you can do so from May 10 onwards by emailing info@weaver-power.co.uk, posting to 49 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3JD, or in person at the June event between 1pm to 7pm.

Please be aware that any comments made to the developer are not representations to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) of the Scottish Government or East Ayrshire Council.

When the application is submitted, there will be an opportunity to make representations to the ECU and East Ayrshire Council as part of the planning process.

To access the online exhibition event on May 10, 2022, visit kilmarnockbess.consultation.ai.

Follow Daily Record

Facebook

Twitter

Taboola Feed



Keeping students healthy

ABISMILLIE

Ayrshire College students can now enjoy free porridge and soup in a bid to support good nutrition.

By showing their student card on campus, students are able to take away a free flavoured porridge pot in the morning and a free cup of soup at lunchtime.

The Ayrshire College Student Association secured funding from Ayrshire College's Mental Health Fund, advocating that good nutrition supports health and wellbeing and has a positive impact on a person's ability to learn successfully.

Funding has been put in place to keep initiative running until at least the end of the next academic year, 2022-23.

Charlotte Mitchell, the Ayrshire College Student Association advisor, who submitted the funding application, said: "It's important to us that students are set up for a healthy start at college, and we've had a great response to this initiative so far.

"The porridge pots are sealed so students are able to take them away and enjoy them at a time convenient to them."

Elaine Hutton, assistant principal of curriculum at Ayrshire College, added: "It's fantastic that once again we can offer our students free soup and porridge as they return to on campus learning. I know our students really appreciate this, especially in these challenging times when food and fuel costs are escalating and impacting on household finances."



Ewe must go Lots of fun at a previous Newmilns show

Lots of fun in store at Valley show

Newmilns Show is back this year.

The popular agricultural event takes place on Saturday, June 4, at Loudoun Castle, Galston.

The show field opens at 9am with the horse competitions and cattle and sheep judging starting at 10am.

Unaffiliated jumping and showing classes include mountain and moorland, ridden classes and

classes and children's classes.

British Showjumping classes include qualifiers for the Royal Highland Show.

Industrial Section includes classes in baking and preserves; sewing, knitting, arts and crafts; Floral Art; Children's classes; and the Foursomes competition.

The schools' competition will show

the artwork of hundreds of children from the local schools.

There will be highland dancers, children's races, vintage tractor parade, Crossroads Young Farmers activities including Stockjudging, as well as many other attractions.

Children's amusements, trade stalls and the RHET Countryside Classroom will also be present.

Veterans breakfast returns

The Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Club (charity) has been revived and is currently back in operation.

It is now held at Jay's Cafe, 46 Smith Street, Ayr, on Saturdays from 10am.

Arlene Reid, ex Woman's Royal Army Corps, said: "We are a group of veterans and serving members of Her Majesties Armed Forces and like other Veteran's Breakfast Clubs around the country and overseas, our ethos is mutual support.

"It works because we all have a similar humour and outlook and the social life we now enjoy is like our service days.

"Our club meets every Saturday from 10am at Jay's Cafe, Ayr.

"We also meet socially and we network among the variety of trades we all now work in.

"All services veterans will be made welcome!"

Find out more at www.facebook.com/groups/afvbc.

So far the group has 55 members.



WEAVER POWER

PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENT - KILMARNOCK BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS)

Weaver Power is holding public consultation events to invite members of the local community and other interested parties to find out more about its proposals for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located on agricultural land to the north of the existing Kilmarnock South Substation on Treeswoodhead Road. The proposed site is located approximately 2 km south east of Kilmarnock town centre. The development will comprise of multiple containerised battery energy storage units with an export capacity of 500 mega-watts, along with associated infrastructure and an onsite substation. The maximum land take required for this site is an approximate 12 hectares. Permanent access to the development would be via the existing access road off Treeswoodhead Road.

An online public exhibition will launch on the 10th May on the following web link: <https://kilmarnockbess.consultation.ai/>. A second in person event at Hurlford Community Centre is planned for the 23rd June. At both events interested parties will have the opportunity to learn more about the proposed development and provide feedback to Weaver Power.

Persons wishing to make comment can do so from the 10th May onwards by email via info@weaver-power.co.uk or by post to 49 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3JD or in person at the event planned for 23rd June at Hurlford Community Centre between 1 pm -7 pm.

Note that comments made to the developer are not representations to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) of the Scottish Government or East Ayrshire Council. When the application is submitted there will be an opportunity to make representations to the ECU and East Ayrshire Council as part of the planning process.

Appendix C Virtual Consultation Event Boards



WEAVER POWER

Welcome to our consultation event

We're holding this virtual consultation event to introduce you to our proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and provide you with an opportunity to learn about the project, ask us questions and provide us with feedback.

Who are Weaver Power

Weaver Power are an independent, UK based company providing expertise and management services to provide innovative energy development projects in the rapidly evolving electricity sector. Our main focus is development of projects providing security of supply via electricity generation, grid stability services and energy storage.

Our Project

We're developing proposals to construct and operate a BESS on land near to the existing Kilmarnock South Substation approximately 2 km south east of Kilmarnock town centre. The BESS would enable the storage of electricity with the capacity to export up to 500 MW (megawatts) to the electricity grid, the equivalent of enough electricity to power up to 252,000 homes.



WEAVER POWER

What is a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)?

BESS can store renewable power generation at times of excess supply and generate when renewable generation is lower than demand. BESS projects are zero carbon and provide the UK with much needed fast response flexible generation to support ongoing renewable penetration growth.

We anticipate the BESS would comprise

- Multiple containerised battery storage units and inverters
- 400 kV step-up transformer and switchgear (to allow connection into the nearby substation)
- Underground cables to connect to the nearby substation
- Accessways
- Landscape and biodiversity enhancements
- Security fencing and welfare facilities

The battery technology type for the development will meet all relevant safety standards and will ensure the highest level of performance.

Why do we need it?

The UK's electricity network has traditionally relied on fossil fuel power plants, many of which are being decommissioned as they reach the end of their operational life cycle and no longer meet the required environmental performance standards. In 2019 the UK Government committed to achieving a net zero greenhouse gas emission target by 2050. The Scottish Government is looking to better this timetable and has committed to achieving net zero by 2045.

BESS technology has a key part to play in supporting the roll out of a greater amount of renewable energy generation and meeting our net zero targets. Significant amounts of offshore wind farm generation will connect to the Scottish electricity grid by 2030 and beyond. Due to the intermittency of wind farm generation, Scotland will at times produce more electricity than is required to meet demand, and at other times not produce enough. By storing this excess energy generated BESSs can help ensure that homes and businesses can be powered by renewable energy when the sun isn't shining, or the wind isn't blowing. By managing these peaks and troughs battery storage systems provide a way to control and maintain a reliable, secure and sustainable supply of energy.

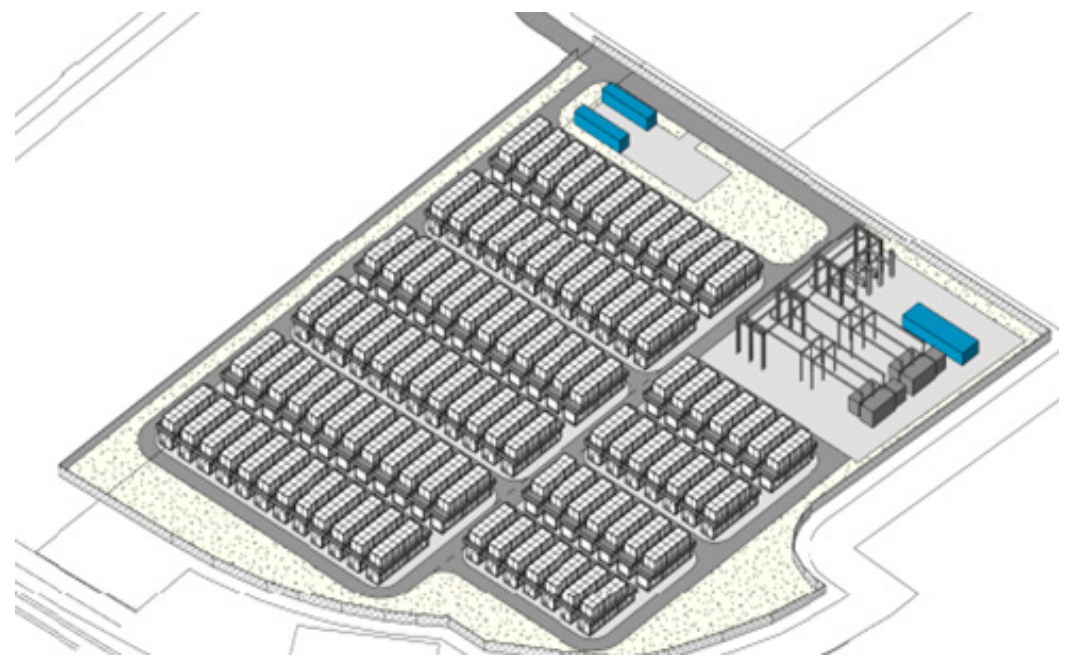




WEAVER POWER

Project Description

The Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) would comprise the storage of electricity with the capacity to export up to 500 MW (megawatts) to the electricity grid. At this stage, the final design remains under development, however, a visual representation of what a BESS typically looks like is shown below.

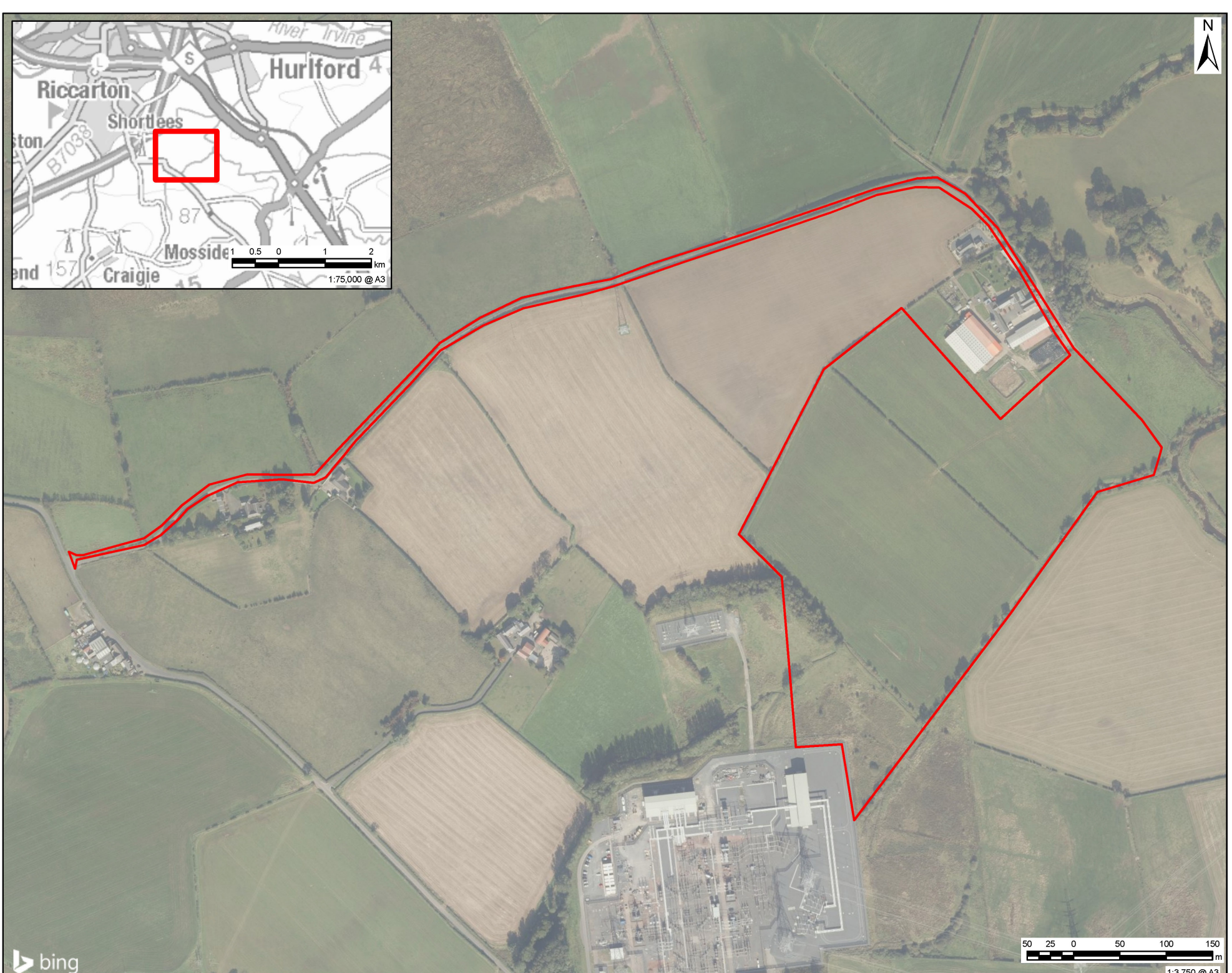


Site Location

The BESS site is located within East Ayrshire, on land immediately north of Kilmarnock South Substation, off Treeswoodhead Road. The site would be located on agricultural land at Braehead Farm, approximately 2 kilometres south-east of the town of Kilmarnock.

The connection from the BESS to Kilmarnock South Substation would be by an underground cable. The underground cable would be the most direct route between the BESS and Substation, estimated to be 200 metres in length.

The indicative application boundary of the Site (which will include landscape and biodiversity enhancement) is illustrated below and represents the worst-case scenario and the largest footprint required.





WEAVER POWER

Next Steps

Because the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) has a planned electrical export capacity greater than 50 megawatts (MW), consent is required from the Scottish Government under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989. East Ayrshire Council are a key consultee and their views on our application will be considered by Scottish Government.



Feedback

This consultation event is an opportunity for you to make comments to us on our proposal before we make our application. We welcome all feedback from the local community and interested parties and would especially like to hear if you have concerns that we can address as we finalise the design or how we construct the scheme. Please do let us know if you wish to see something specific mentioned within the planning application. By telling us your concerns we can attempt to tackle the main issues that have been identified.

To provide feedback please click on the table in the middle of the room where it says “Have your say” and provide your comments by the 7th June.


We are holding a second consultation event at Hurlford Community Centre between 1pm to 7pm on the 23rd June. This event will provide more information on site design and initial results of our engineering and environmental studies. This event presents another opportunity for you to provide feedback on our planning application.

Once the application for Section 36 consent has been submitted, it will be publicised, and you will be able to read full copies of the reports online and make comments via the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) or local planning authority website. Please note that comments made in response to this consultation are not representations to the ECU of the Scottish Government or East Ayrshire Council.

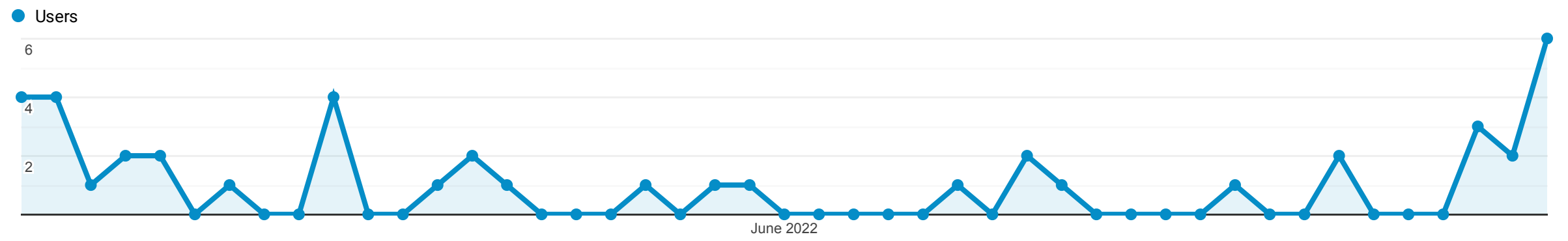
Appendix D Virtual Consultation Event Audience Overview Analytics

Audience Overview

May 10, 2022 - Jun 23, 2022

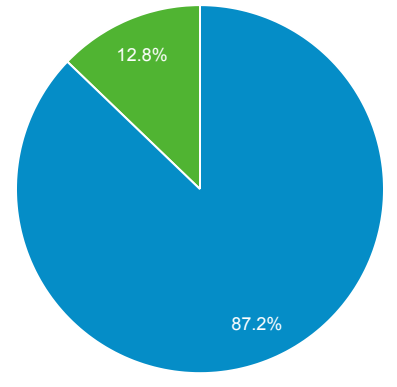

All Users
 100.00% Users

Overview



Users 36	New Users 34	Sessions 49	Number of Sessions per User 1.36
Pageviews 176	Pages / Session 3.59	Avg. Session Duration 00:02:23	Bounce Rate 24.49%

■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor



City	Users	% Users
1. London	9	23.08%
2. Kilmarnock	6	15.38%
3. Glasgow	4	10.26%
4. Ayr	2	5.13%
5. (not set)	1	2.56%
6. Andover	1	2.56%
7. Birmingham	1	2.56%
8. Burnley	1	2.56%
9. Gloucester	1	2.56%
10. Harlow	1	2.56%

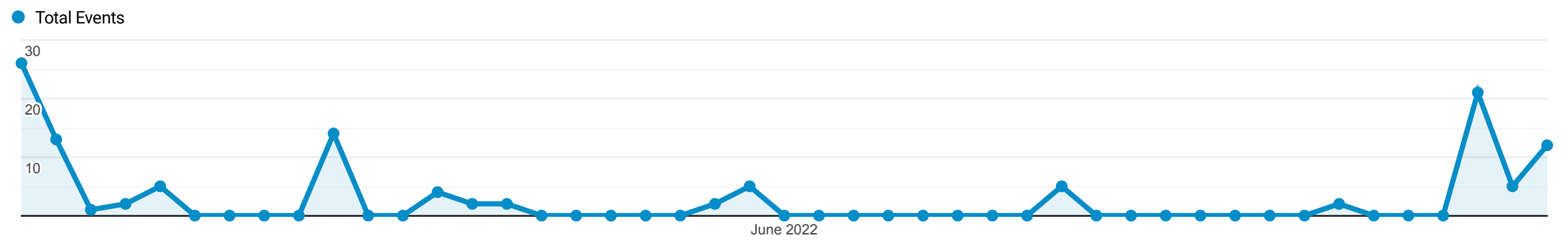
Top Events

May 10, 2022 - Jun 23, 2022

All Users
100.00% Unique Events

Explorer

Event



Event Action	Total Events	Unique Events	Event Value	Avg. Value
	121 % of Total: 100.00% (121)	95 % of Total: 100.00% (95)	0 % of Total: 0.00% (0)	0.00 Avg for View: 0.00 (0.00%)
1. 3. Project Description & Site Location	43 (35.54%)	31 (32.63%)	0 (0.00%)	0.00
2. 4. Next Steps & Feedback	31 (25.62%)	23 (24.21%)	0 (0.00%)	0.00
3. 1. Welcome	24 (19.83%)	21 (22.11%)	0 (0.00%)	0.00
4. 2. Project Purpose & Need	23 (19.01%)	20 (21.05%)	0 (0.00%)	0.00

Rows 1 - 4 of 4

Appendix E In-Person Consultation Event Boards



WEAVER POWER

Welcome to our consultation event

We're holding this consultation event to introduce you to our proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and provide you with an opportunity to learn about the project, ask us questions and provide us with feedback.

Who are Weaver Power

Weaver Power are an independent, UK based company providing expertise and management services to provide innovative energy development projects in the rapidly evolving electricity sector. Our main focus is development of projects providing security of supply via electricity generation, grid stability services and energy storage.

Our Project

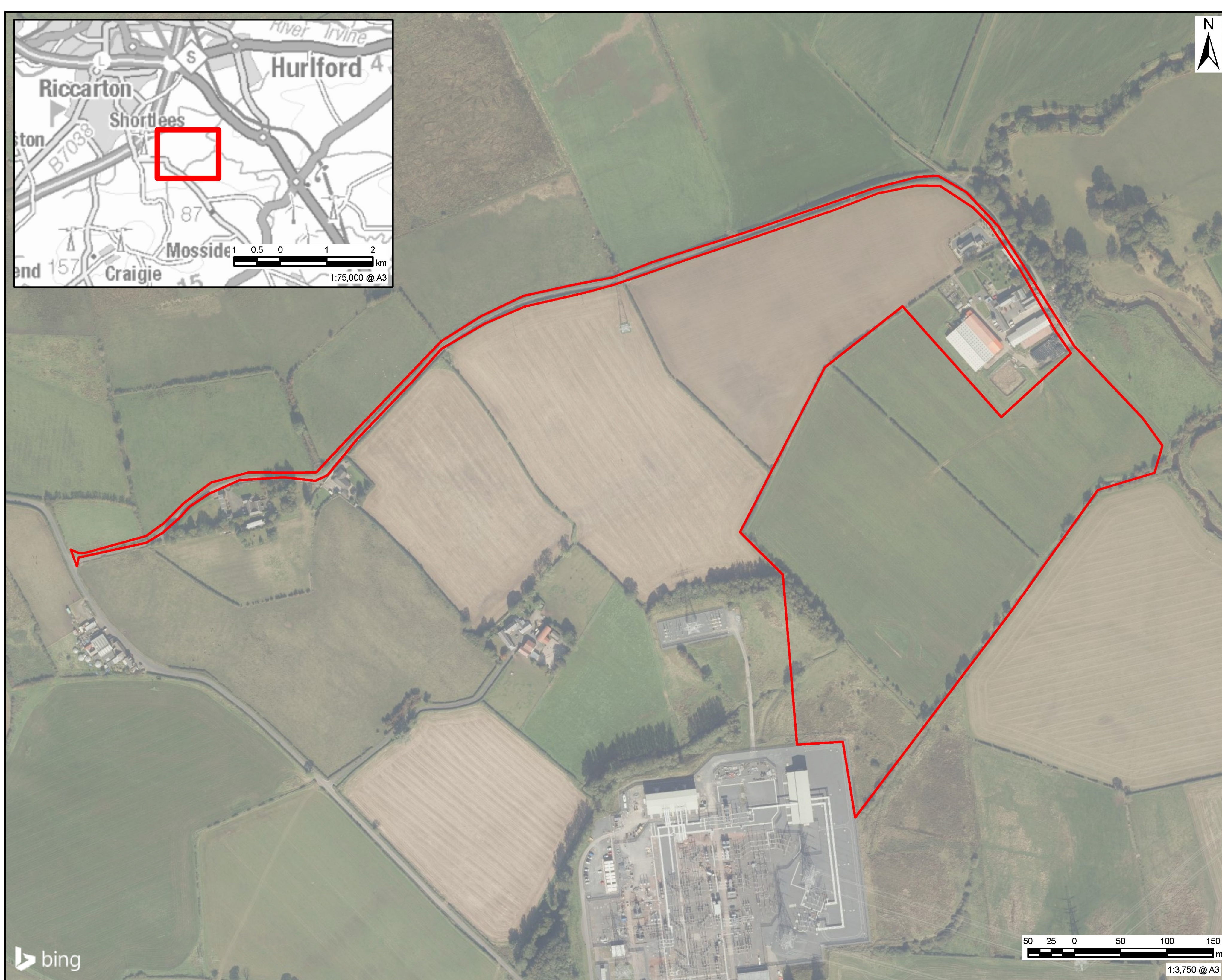
We're developing proposals to construct and operate a BESS on land near to the existing Kilmarnock South Substation approximately 2 km south east of Kilmarnock town centre. The BESS would enable the storage of electricity with the capacity to export up to 500 MW (megawatts) to the electricity grid, the equivalent of enough electricity to power up to 252,000 homes.

Site Location

The BESS site is located within East Ayrshire, on land immediately north of Kilmarnock South Substation, off Treeswoodhead Road. The site would be located on agricultural land at Braehead Farm, approximately 2 kilometres south-east of Kilmarnock.

The indicative application boundary of the Site (which will include landscape and biodiversity enhancement) is illustrated below and represents the worst-case scenario and the largest footprint required.

The site location was selected due to its proximity to the existing Kilmarnock Substation. This means landscape impacts are minimised and allows for effective delivery of services to National Grid.



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WEAVER POWER

What is a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)?

BESS can store renewable power generation at times when more power is being generated than is needed then release this back to the grid when demand is greater or when there is less renewable generation. BESS projects are zero carbon and provide the UK with much needed fast response flexible generation to support ongoing renewable penetration growth.

Subject to the final design, the proposed BESS will comprise of the following:

- multiple containerised battery storage units and inverters
- 400 kV step-up transformer and switchgear (to allow connection into the nearby substation)
- underground cables to connect to the nearby substation
- accessways
- landscape planting and biodiversity enhancements
- security fencing and welfare facilities

The battery technology type for the development will meet all relevant safety standards and will ensure the highest level of performance.

Why do we need it?

The UK's electricity network has traditionally relied on fossil fuel power plants, many of which are being decommissioned as they reach the end of their operational life cycle and no longer meet the required environmental performance standards. In 2019 the UK Government committed to achieving a net zero greenhouse gas emission target by 2050. The Scottish Government is looking to better this timetable and has committed to achieving net zero by 2045.

BESS technology has a key part to play in supporting the roll out of a greater amount of renewable energy generation and meeting our net zero targets. Significant amounts of offshore wind farm generation will connect to the Scottish electricity grid by 2030 and beyond. Due to the intermittency of wind farm generation, Scotland will at times produce more electricity than is required to meet demand, and at other times not produce enough. By storing this excess energy generated BESSs can help ensure that homes and businesses can be powered by renewable energy such as solar and wind generation, even when the sun isn't shining, or the wind isn't blowing. By managing these peaks and troughs battery storage systems provide a way to control and maintain a reliable, secure and sustainable supply of energy.



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Project Description

The Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) would comprise the storage of electricity with the capacity to export up to 500 MW (megawatts) to the electricity grid.

The connection from the BESS to Kilmarnock South Substation would be by an underground cable. The underground cable would be the most direct route between the BESS and Substation, estimated to be 200 metres in length.

At this stage, the final design remains under development. An indicative plan of where the position of the battery energy storage units will be positioned within the landscape is available for viewing on the table within this event. Within this plan you will see the area that has been designated for ecological enhancement as this project strives to generate 10% biodiversity net gain.

A visual representation of what a BESS typically looks like is shown below



Timeframe

Weaver Power would like to commence construction in 2024. The construction of the BESS is anticipated to take up to 36 months. However, it is important to note that the intensity of construction will vary during this period for example the delivery of equipment will likely be over a period of 6 -12 months.

Construction will take place between Monday and Friday between 0700-1900, then Saturday 0800 – 1600. There will be no construction work taking place on Sundays and bank holidays.

Due to the electrical connection capacity availability, the construction could be phased. For example, 300 MW becoming operational in 2027, with the remaining 200 MW coming online in 2028/29.

The site will remain operational for 25 years.

Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)

A CEMP is a document that will be agreed with key stakeholders and will set out measures to prevent and reduce effects on the environment and local community during construction. This document ensures compliance with current legislation and ensures construction staff follow the measures outlined within the plan.

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WEAVER POWER

Next Steps

Because the BESS has a planned electrical export capacity greater than 50 megawatts (MW), consent is required from the Scottish Government under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989. East Ayrshire Council are a key consultee and their views on our application will be considered by Scottish Government.



Feedback

This consultation event is an opportunity for you to make comments to us on our proposal before we make our application. We welcome all feedback from the local community and interested parties and would especially like to hear if you have concerns that we can address as we finalise the design or how we construct the scheme. Please do let us know if you wish to see something specific mentioned within the planning application. By telling us your concerns we can attempt to tackle the main issues that have been identified.

To provide feedback please email info@weaver-power.co.uk or post your comments to 49 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3JD

Once the application for Section 36 consent has been submitted, it will be publicised, and you will be able to read full copies of the reports online and make comments via the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) or local planning authority website. Please note that comments made in response to this consultation are not representations to the ECU of the Scottish Government or East Ayrshire Council.

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WEAVER POWER

Where we are at

We are currently finalising the design based on desk-based studies and site visits as well as taking account of any consultation responses from this event. We are undertaking specialist studies to ensure the potential effects of this battery energy storage system (BESS) on the environment and local community are understood so we can develop appropriate mitigation measures.

Traffic Considerations

There will be a slight increase in traffic during construction. It is likely construction traffic to access the site would travel along the A76 and at Crossroads Roundabout take the A719 and turn of at Sidehead Terrace Road and continue straight till the site is accessed. Site visits are currently underway to determine the best access route to the site. The volume of traffic generated would likely see an increase of 40 HGV trips per day during peak construction. The delivery of materials to the site will be spread out during the construction period to reduce traffic impacts. A compound which includes a staff welfare facility and parking area will be set up on the Site which is where staff and construction vehicles will park.

Once operational the site will not generate an increase in traffic in the local area as this site is not manned. We anticipate maintenance checks on the site would be once a week and to carry out this work only one vehicle, likely a van will be required.

Flood Risk Considerations

The site is located immediately west of a river named Cessnock Water, this area is located within a flood zone. The Proposed Development will avoid this area for development. To reduce flood risk a drainage impact assessment is currently being prepared and sustainable urban drainage solutions will be proposed to reduce flood risk effects. These measures can include for example the creation of a pond to allow excess water to drain into.

Noise Considerations

The nature of a BESS is such that it is not likely to cause significant noise during operation as noise generating equipment is limited. Noise monitoring at nearby properties has been undertaken to determine the existing background sound levels within the surrounding area so that we can predict noise levels generated by the BESS.



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WEAVER POWER

Visual Amenity Considerations

The Proposed Development is comprised of battery energy storage units, which look like shipping containers. These containers are not very tall and would be around 4m in height. A fence would surround the site for security reasons. Landscape specialists have undertaken a site visit and are working with the design team to propose landscape planting to surround the site. As the trees grow this will increasingly screen views of the Proposed Development.

Biodiversity Considerations

Riccarton Moss (Crossbush) Local Wildlife Site (LWS) lies immediately north-west of the Site. This LWS has a raised bog habitat and is important for bird species when flooded. Water does not flow between the LWS and the Proposed Development. The noise generated from construction activities would be temporary and mainly beyond 500m of this LWS and therefore no significant adverse effects are anticipated.

Experienced ecologists undertook a survey of the Site and along Cessnock Water. Within this survey, the ecologists found evidence of otter activity. Weaver Power are committed to protect wildlife and a minimum 30m buffer around areas of woodland, tree lines, hedgerows and watercourses will be in place to avoid impacts on wildlife.

Biodiversity Net Gain

Biodiversity net gain is an approach which aims to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than beforehand. Weaver Power are committed to provide biodiversity net gain. These plans are still under development, but it is considered likely ecological enhancements would be made through the planting of native wildflower areas and hedgerows.

Socio Economic Benefits

The development will provide socio and economic benefits in the form of:

- Direct effects: employment opportunities during construction, operation and decommissioning;
- Indirect effects: employment opportunities created in the supply chain by those providing services during construction, operations and decommissioning;

Contracts will be placed locally where possible, noting some contracts will be constrained by the specialist nature of equipment.



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Appendix F Feedback Information Request

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 May 2023 15:52
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Kilmarnock Battery Energy Storage System ECU00003454 - request for information

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 2:33:33 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Kilmarnock Battery Energy Storage System ECU00003454 - request for information

Dear [REDACTED]

I was reading your application for a BESS facility which says that the site area is 15 hectare for a 500 MW facility. I am hoping that you could answer the following questions:-

- what are the dimensions of a BESS container?
- how many BESS containers do you anticipate having on the site?
- how many MW (or KW) of energy does one BESS container store if the batteries are full?
- what is the MW (or KW) energy consumption of a typical UK household per hour/per day?
- how many typical UK houses could be powered by one full BESS container for one hour/one day?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

[REDACTED]



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