

The need for onshore wind

National Development

We are facing a climate emergency and at the same time seeking to enhance the security of our energy supply. Onshore wind can help address both of these. This is recognised by the Scottish Government's National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4)¹ which was published in February 2023. NPF4 is Scotland's long-term spatial planning strategy and categorises onshore wind projects with a generating capacity in excess of 50 MW as National Development. In principle, it supports all forms of renewable energy generation including onshore wind.

Low-cost electricity

Onshore wind projects like Carn na Saobhaidh, alongside other renewable energy technologies, are the cheapest form of new electricity generation. They can be deployed quickly and delivered at lower costs than hydro, marine technologies, and nuclear.

Improved performance and output

Turbine technology has advanced considerably in recent years, meaning that turbines are now more efficient which enables them to generate a significantly greater amount of renewable electricity per turbine. Modern taller turbines provide more electricity, which helps address the climate emergency and the security of our energy supply. The 200m turbines proposed at Carn na Saobhaidh would allow for far greater benefits in terms of renewable electricity generation per turbine than smaller turbines would.

Energy security

Harnessing the UK's wind energy increases energy security by reducing our reliance on imports and builds our resilience to sudden fossil fuel price fluctuations and the uncertainty of global markets.

Unlocking vital investment

Onshore wind has the potential to deliver significant economic benefits to local communities and economies through the investment it generates during development and construction. Beyond the local community, wind farms can drive investment across the wider economy. The skills, expertise, and manufacturing capacity built through projects like Carn na Saobhaidh are part of a broader opportunity that sees Scotland and the wider UK continue to be a leader in clean energy.

¹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-planning-framework-4/>



Carn na Saobhaidh Wind Farm Proposal

www.carnnasaobhaidh-windfarm.co.uk